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Montana State University Moot Court team in national finals

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The Moot Court team representing the Law School of Montana State University, Missoula, has been invited to participate in the finals of the national Moot Court Competition in New York City for the second time in as many years, according to word received by Dean Robert Sullivan. The national finals will be December 18 to 20.

In 1956 the MSU Law School team defeated teams representing the University of Idaho and the University of Washington for the right to represent the Northwest Region in the national finals. At that time they were defeated in the second round of arguments by the team that was crowned national champion.

This year the teams representing the MSU Law School and the University of Washington Law School argued to a tie in the regional competition in Seattle. For lack of a satisfactory way to break the tie, the two teams were declared co-winners of the Northwest Region and each school was invited to send a team to the national finals.

Pairings for the preliminary argument in the one-loss elimination tourney have been announced by the sponsors of the competition, Dean Sullivan said. MSU has drawn a bye in the opening round and will advance to the second preliminary round unopposed. Winners in this second preliminary round will advance to the quarter finals.

The members of the MSU Law School team are Douglas P. Beighle, Deer Lodge; George C. Dalthorp, Wibaux; and Charles W. Willey, Missoula. Beighle received a B. S. in business administration from MSU in 1954. He will graduate from the Law School in June 1958. Dalthorp, a 1955 graduate in applied science of Montana State College, Bozeman, will graduate from the
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MSU Law School in June 1958. Willey received a B. S. in agriculture from MSC in 1954. He will graduate from the Law School in June 1959. All three are married.

The competition, in which over 90 law schools throughout the nation take part each year, is sponsored by the Young Lawyer's Committee of the Assn. of the Bar of the City of New York. In this year's competition, the case United States v. Ohm is argued. It concerns the government's right to revoke a security clearance to a person working on top secret government contracts. In addition to the oral arguments, briefs are also submitted. In the final scoring, the score on the brief counts one-third and the score on the oral argument counts two-thirds.

The MSU Law School has earned the right to participate in the national finals both times it has entered the regional competition. Although only a three-man team participates in the inter-school competition, the selection of the team is made from a series of arguments within the MSU Law School each spring in which all members of the first and second year law classes must take part, Dean Sullivan explained.

Two teams of two men each are selected at the conclusion of the intra-school arguments and are opponents in the school finals which are held during the Homecoming weekend at the University in the fall, Dean Sullivan said. From these finals, a three-man team to represent the MSU Law School in the regional competition is selected.

Invitations have been extended to all the law schools in the Northwest and it is anticipated that the MSU Law School will be hosts in Missoula for the regional arguments to be held in November 1958.