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Montana State University Law School's moot court finals to select representatives for regional competition

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FOR RELEASE FRIDAY, OCTOBER 16

The Montana State University Law School's moot court finals to select the school's representatives in the regional competition are scheduled for 10 a.m. Saturday in the Music School auditorium, Dean Robert E. Sullivan announced. The public is welcome, he said.

Associate Justice Hugh Adair of the Montana Supreme Court, Dist. Judge W. W. Lessley of Bozeman, and Franklin S. Longan of Billings, president of the Montana Bar Association, will be the judges.

Students participating are Charles Angel, Missoula; Ted Corontzos, Great Falls; Richard Dzivi, Kalispell, and Arthur Ayers, Billings. They reached the finals through an elimination contest within the Law School.

Three of these students will be selected Saturday to make up a team to represent MSU in the Northwest Regional Moot Court Competition at Moscow, Idaho, November 21. They will also be competing Saturday for cash prizes awarded by the Montana Bar Association.

The law schools in each of the 10 judicial districts in the United States will argue the same legal problem, Dean Sullivan said. Survivors of these regional meets will compete in the national finals in New York City in December, sponsored by the Bar Association of the City of New York.

The fictitious case to be argued this year involves the constitutionality of a state statute authorizing the removal of a child from his parents' custody following a social worker's inspection without a warrant of the child's home. Ayers and Corontzos will act as counsel for the respondent, and Angel and Dzivi will argue for the appellant.

The principal purpose of the moot court program is to develop proficiency in legal research, legal writing, and oral argument, Dean Sullivan said.

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