

YOUNG LEGAL EAGLES SOAR AT MOCK TRIAL COMPETITION



Mock trial finalists from Chevalier College and St John Paul College.

Inter-school legal rivalries came to a fierce head at the grand final of the annual schools' Mock Trial competition held at Sydney University on 11 December.

Every year the competition, organised by the Law Society of NSW, attracts year 10 and 11 students from 170 schools.

Chevalier College in the Southern Highlands faced a team from St John Paul College in Coffs Harbour in a complex criminal case regarding consorting of convicted offenders. Magistrate of the Children's Court of NSW Elizabeth Ellis presided over the case, along with Dr Virginia Marshall and Dr Peter Hansen as acting judges.

The Chevalier College team argued strongly for the prosecution and, although the defendant was deemed not guilty, Chevalier was awarded the 2015 competition prize for their excellent cross-examination and strong overall performance. Lead barrister Harry Fenton claimed the Sydney University Best Advocacy Prize for his exceptional address and closing speech to the jury. ■