

<http://www.9news.com/news/local/article.aspx?storyid=111852&catid=346>

Students engage in heated courtroom debate

JEFFERSON COUNTY - While the high school basketball championships are getting a lot of attention this weekend, there is another group of high [school students](#) competing in a tournament based more on skills of the brain rather than brawn.

The courtrooms in Jefferson County are the scene of this year's mock trial championships.

Eleven teams from every part of Colorado have spent months preparing for Saturday. All of the teams plead the same case before a real judge and a jury made up of members of the bar.

"What they learn in here are these skills of advocacy, thinking on their feet, responding positively to what may not be the best circumstance, the best event... making lemonade out of lemons," attorney and coach David Arkell of Colorado Academy said.

One of the teams will advance to the national championships in Atlanta later this year.

Last year, a team from Denver's George Washington High School came in 5th in the national competition.

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ORY



ecurb wrote:

why dont they be taught the truth about the justice system instead of pretending to be something that they are not.

3/15/2009 2:38 AM PDT on 9news.com

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TS80129 wrote:

Who cares?

3/14/2009 9:14 PM PDT on 9news.com

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LarryQ wrote:

Competition, discipline, teamwork, listening to authority - there are plenty of things that sports teaches. There are also lots of kids who would have dropped out of school if it weren't for sports.

Why do we have to put down one activity to applaud another?

Congrats to the advocates AND the athletes competing this weekend as well as those who worked hard and competed all year long.

3/14/2009 7:29 PM PDT on 9news.com

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laceysmom wrote:

It's nice to see these kids learn a real life skill. I know people take sports seriously, however what will that get you in the long run?? These kids are learning a real skill.

3/14/2009 6:43 PM PDT on 9news.com

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rbonilla wrote:

nice to hear.....

3/14/2009 6:11 PM PDT on 9news.com

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