

Redhill pupils win moot contest

NTANDO MAKHUBU

GAUTENG'S Redhill High School trounced schools from across the country to emerge victors in the third annual National Schools Moot Competition over the weekend.

Beating KwaZulu-Natal's Crawford College in the finals, the Morningside, Joburg, school managed to out-argue all other schools to the finals, which were held at the Constitutional Court of South Africa in Joburg yesterday.

The final round saw the two schools square up against each other under the judgeship of law experts from the Constitutional Court.

Their argument, on teenage pregnancy, was heard by Constitutional Court Deputy Chief Justice Dikgang Moseneke, Constitutional Court judges Justice Edwin Cameron and Justice Johann van der Westhuizen, the director of the Foundation for Human Rights, Yasmin Sooka, and Ann Skelton, professor of law and director of the Centre for Child Law at the University of Pretoria.

Contestants gathered at the University of Pretoria for an opening ceremony on Friday morning. Semi-finals took place on Saturday and the finals yesterday.

Project manager at University of Pretoria's faculty of law, Cheryl-Lee Botterill, said: "Bringing schools from all nine provinces together is an exciting process, because it not only allows them to debate together, but it also allows them to sit together and look at issues objectively."

The event brings together pupils from former Model C schools and from previously disadvantaged communities, and they get to share ideas and gain from each other's experiences.

The contestants are from Grade 11, and make it to the final stages after internal competition elimination processes at their schools.