

A shot in the arm for the law fraternity



Judge Baratang Mocumie of the Free State High Court, Tshepang Moeti of the NPA, Thabo Moloi teacher at Lerato-Utando High School, Zanele Moloi and Kwanele Mazibuko. Picture Dumelang Reporter

The NPA and The Department of Education team up to inspire students.

THE National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) together with the Department of Education and the University of Pretoria held the Provincial finals of the moot court competition on Saturday were learners tabled their cases at the Bloemfontein High Court.

The competition is in its third year running and this year marks the second year that the Free State province is participating.

"Our involvement is mainly training the learners and mobilising them to be part of this moot court" said Tshepang Moeti of the NPA.

A moot is a role play exercise, where the participants play the role of the lawyers or prosecutor in a fictional court case.

During the weekend, teams were arguing the case of 'Miss Nadia September' who was suspended by her school for two years after she fell pregnant.

"The competition is aimed at creating awareness in schools and communities in South Africa about the constitution and the values that it embodies through active participation" these were the words of the Department

of Education spokesperson, Howard Ndaba. Ndaba said they aim to encourage talented young people to consider pursuing a career in law.

After all the arguments were concluded in front of the judges, the verdict was Zanele Moloi (18) and Kwanele Mazibuko (19), are both guilty of winning the moot court competition in the province.

The two pupils from Lerato-Uthando High School in Harrismith, have been sentenced to represent the province in the national competition in August.

"I feel very great. To tell you the truth I had no interest in law at all. But after this, I'm definitely going to study law" said Zanele Moloi.

Her partner in crime, Kwanele Mazibuko, was also happy with the ruling of the highest court in the land of the Free State. "I'm so happy, extremely happy. I can't even explain it" said Mazibuko.

One of the presiding judges, Adv Berenic Claassens spoke to Dumelang News on how they came to their ruling.

"It was very enjoyable and very rewarding to see the

learners of this age so grown up and having the confidence to speak like real law practitioners" said the advocate.

Claassens is confident that if the learners were to pursue law as a career, they will make good lawyers.

Zanele Moloi was also chosen as the best oralist of the competition.

Speaking to the people's paper Moloi said "I was not expecting to be chosen as the best oralist, but to me it means a lot. We will do our province proud."

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