

The mock trial season ended for Perkins County when the Black team lost to Dundy County/Stratton #1 in a close trial in Region 3 finals Tuesday, Nov. 17 at the Dundy County Courthouse in Benkelman.

“Representing the respondent Kev Inruser, the Black team gave an excellent performance, maybe the best all year,” said Coach Don Harris. “But Dundy County/Stratton was also very good. They are to be congratulated and we wish them well in state competition.”

“We felt like we were doing the tough side of the case but we did everything well,” he added. Harris and co-coach Diana Tate were optimistic about the outcome because of the students’ performances and the improvements they had made on the respondent case.

Amara Meyer had to step into the part normally played by Jeannie Kuskie who was ill.

“Amara had only 12 hours to prepare, and did very well,” said Harris.

Harris also complimented Kalyn Hanson, Jenni Sis and Candace Lee, who he believes gave her best performance of the season.

“Candace’s leadership was very important to our success this year,” he said.

The performance judges complimented the cross examinations of all three attorneys, an area targeted by Harris and Tate for improvement this year.

Harris looks forward to another successful season next year although the team will lose five experienced seniors.

He expects juniors Jeremy Hagan and Ben Ross and sophomore Tori Osler as well as returning Red team members and other prospective members to step into their roles in 2010.

“There will be no shortage of talent next year, and while they may be inexperienced in the beginning, mock trial has a way of making you grow up fast,” Harris said. “They can be an excellent team again.”