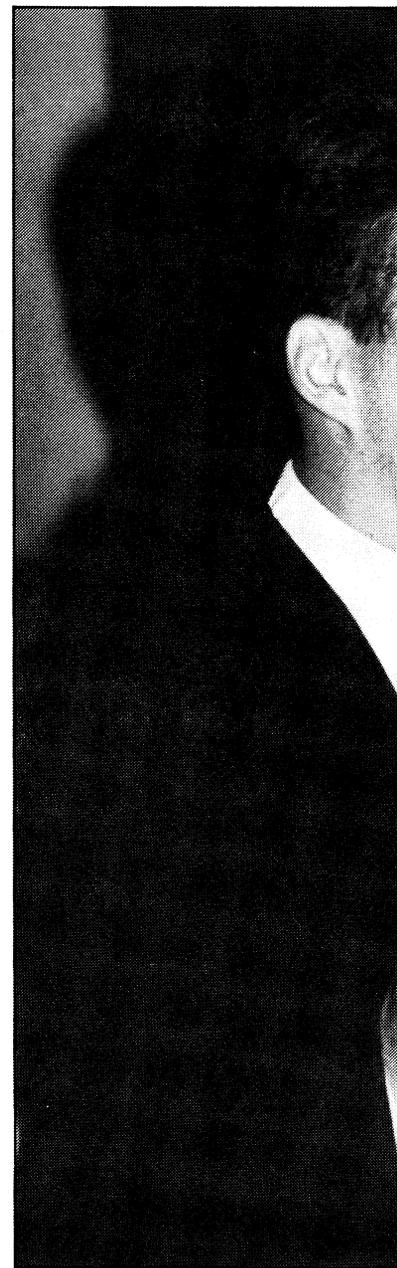
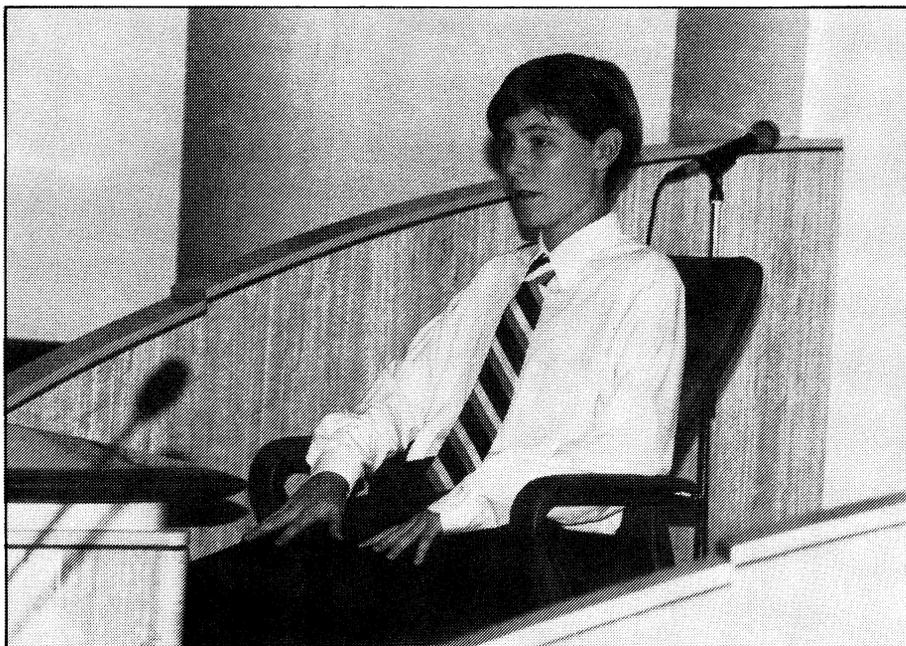


Of cannabis, tomatos

Alex Duffield of Manzie Court was found not guilty of unlawful cultivation of a prohibited plant, namely cannabis, in the Supreme Court last month. That cannabis was found in Duffield's home was not in dispute. The dispute arising out of the trial was who was responsible for the plants. Duffield, a keen gardener, claimed that her grand-daughter, Robin Budd of Nader Court, had been growing the cannabis and had told Duffield that the plants were tomatos. The evidence of Detective-Sergeant Impy Biggs was critical to the prosecution case. Impy-Biggs claimed he had seized 21 cannabis plants from Duffield's home, but the analyst's certificate stated that six of the plants were dead, leaving a total of 15 plants. As Elka Adams, counsel for the defence, pointed out to the jury, that made the difference between a traffickable quantity and a commercial quantity under the *Misuse of Drugs Act*. The Chief Justice presided and, after hearing the jury's verdict, awarded the **1992 Ansett Inter-School Mock Trial** grand final to Sadadeen Secondary College. The prize for the outstanding performance of the grand final went to Ben Boyd of Darwin High School who played the role of the somewhat



and criminality...

overzealous Detective-Sergeant Impy-Biggs. Ben will spend a day in the Supreme Court with Justice Sir William Kearney. It is the first time since the inception of the competition in 1989 that the shield has gone to Alice Springs. The Attorney-General, Daryl Manzie, congratulated the teams on their high standard of advocacy and said he was proud to be a Territorian at times when young people displayed such talent. The competition was sponsored by the Public Purposes Trust, Ansett (who donated airfares for the students) and Butterworths (who donated book prizes). We take this opportunity to thank the Chief Justice, Justice Kearney, the Court Users Committee, and Geoff Barbaro who provided the topical case material. We also thank the practitioners who were coaches and Mock Trial Magistrates in both Darwin and Alice Springs throughout the competition. Photos (clockwise from p6): 1. the defendant; 2. Impy-Biggs; 3. counsel for the prosecution; 4. counsel for the defence; 5. the victors with President, John Stirk, Attorney-General, Daryl Manzie and the Chief Justice.

