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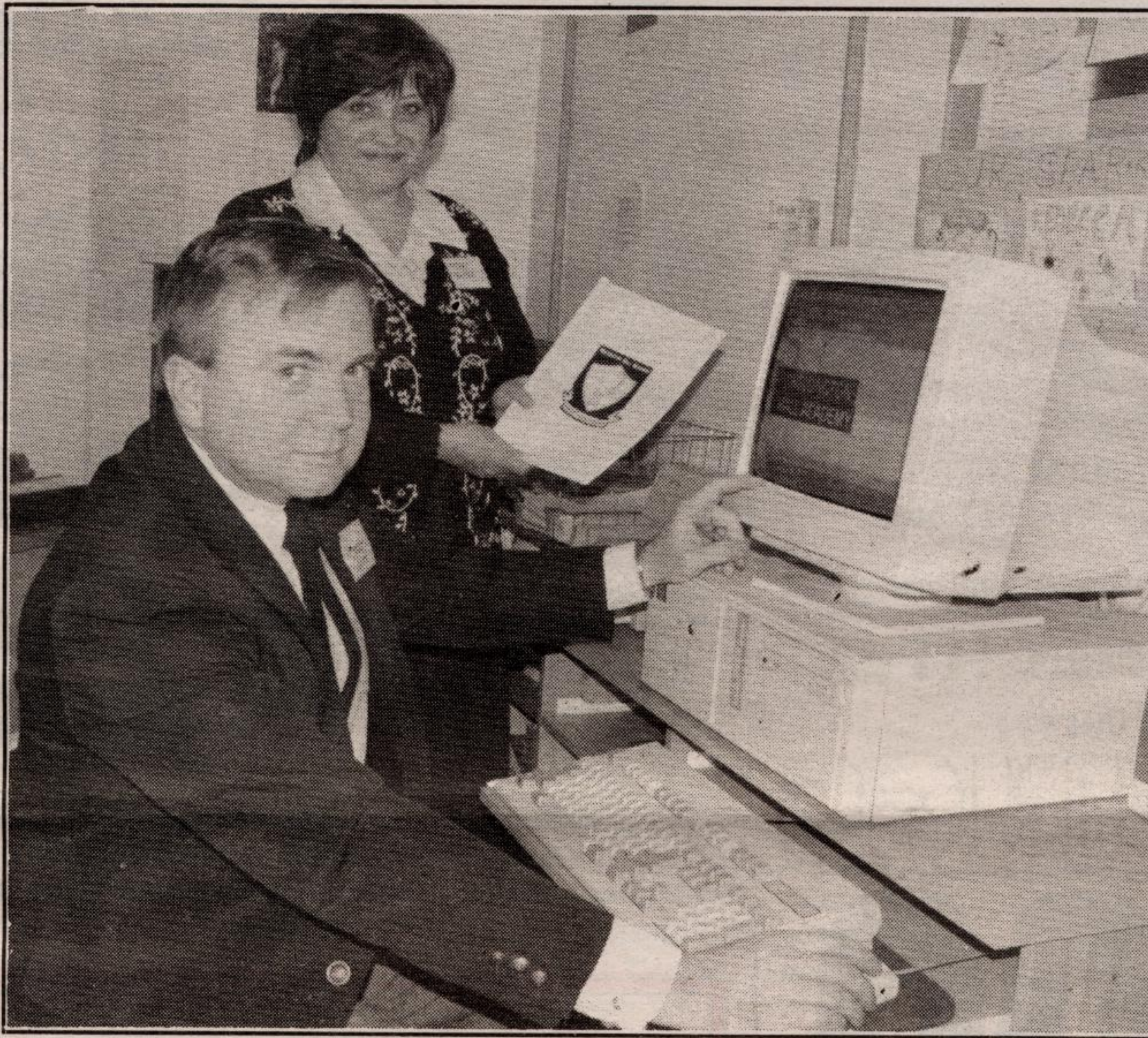
Critic speaks up, wins first

Kudos to Rockwood student Michael Tilson, whose humorous look at annoying commercials garnered him a first place public speaking award in an oral communications competition last Tuesday at Rockwood Centennial School.

Michael, whose speech-making skills have placed him in the finals in the past, was named winner from a pool of 11 students representing Grades 4, 5 and 6. Grade 5 student Margaret Evan was runner-up with a speech on chimpanzees.

In his speech Michael rails against pointless, repetitive commercials with silly jingles, lampooning a diaper commercial and one for an airline featuring a dog relieving himself on a plane.

Michael competed at the East Wellington finals in Hillsburgh after press time on Tuesday.



WELCOME! Wellington Hall Academy teachers Mr. Dewey and Mrs. Manford show the school's new computer which was just added to the expanding school. The school held its kindergarten registration and open house last Sunday. (Eve Martin photo)

New staff hired for Rockmosa

BY FRANCES NIBLOCK
 The Rockwood Miller

New staff have been hired to run the Township-owned, money-losing Rockmosa Community Centre. Eramosa Council has accepted a caretaking tender and hired two people to run the bar and the kitchen in a major management change, following November's sudden and unexpected resignation of long-time Rockmosa manager and cleaner Ruth Steel.

As restructuring plans were worked on, Council assumed more control of the 40-year-old facility and had volunteers from the community run the bar and the kitchen.

Reeve Rick Hughes, chair of the Rockmosa Advisory Committee, said the intent is to make Rockmosa more user self-reliant with a more aggressive marketing plan for both Rockmosa and the adjacent playing fields.

"We're looking at the whole thing as just one package rather than just the hall on its own," Hughes explained Friday, adding rate-payers were concerned with the amount of money the Township poured, and continues to pour, into the hall.

"Something had to be done. I mean, if you look at what the Township had to cover in operating deficits from Rockmosa for the last six years, we were a long way towards building a new hall."

Rockmosa had an operat-

ing deficit of \$30,200 with revenues of \$17,000 last year and the hall was not booked for half of its available rental dates. In addition, Council spent \$65,000 for a new floor and heating system in the hall and discussed spending \$75,000 for a new roof.

"We're left with a hall that was built with a lot of community sweat and tears and what we're trying to do is bring the operating costs of that facility down and increase the revenues," Hughes said, noting that it costs the Township \$90 a day to keep Rockmosa operating.

The janitorial contract, \$4,000 a year with additional charges for cleaning per rental, was awarded to Lee Ann Pollard and Robert Ostrander. Rockwood resident Doug Robb, a former member of the Advisory Committee, was hired to run the bar. Rosa Kliese of Rockwood was hired as booking agent, kitchen supervisor and will also do some marketing.

Break-in at Eramosa P.S.

ERAMOSA P.S. NEWS

BY KELLY WOODS & ANDREW ARMSTRONG

Here's the latest news from Eramosa school.

Our school recently had a break-in so we've been unable to do the article for the paper. The vandals took two computers, our fax machine,

colour printer, and four doors were damaged.

We've had our yearly speech competition:

First place winner is Katie-Lynn Parkinson; second place is Sarah Parkinson, and third place is Andrea Jackson. All contestants did a terrific job.

Volleyball tryouts went

successfully. We have some fantastic athletes, and we hope they will represent our school well at the Erin Jambooree.

All classes are looking forward to our Valentine's Day parties.

We have a P.D. day on the 14th so we'll have the parties on the 13th.

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