

Local students lead maths competition

KATANNING Senior High School students showed off their maths skills recently by leading the State in a team maths competition.

The combined year eleven and twelve team is currently two points clear of three Perth schools after two rounds of the Mathematical Association of WA's upper secondary competition.

The final round was held last week and the students are eagerly awaiting the results to see if they have emerged as the champion mathematicians.

Head of mathematics Bruce Seymour said the school had performed remarkably well against the bigger Perth schools.

"Katanning is only a small school compared with the Perth Schools involved but they have really done well," he said.

The students did a round of questions, which were provided online, every fortnight and the time constraints meant the students were under pressure to finish the questions.

Mr Seymour said the questions ranged across a broad range of mathematical subjects.

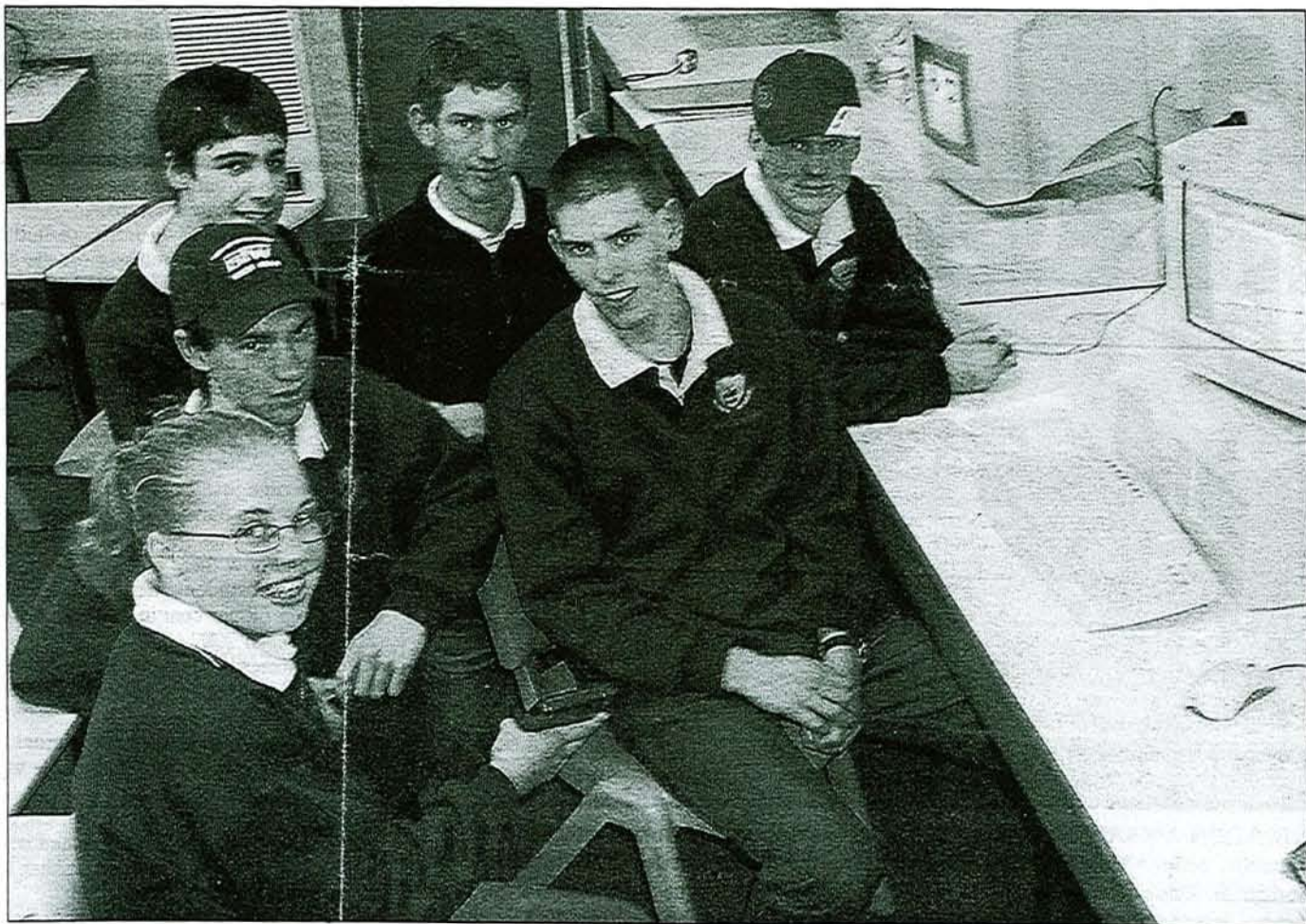
"It is an extensive test of their maths skills, some of which they have learned in their TEE classes."

"The questions are pitched at the high level of students and all our participants were A grade students."

The students were tested on their knowledge of algebra, general number skills with problem solving, fractions, geometry, patterns and simultaneous equations.

Visiting Swedish exchange student Jens Kultima said the competition tested more than the group's maths skills.

"When two people disagree on the answer you have to compromise and there is a fair bit of team work and cooperation," he said.



LEADING THE STATE: Students at Katanning Senior High School are currently leading the State in a maths competition. The team is Sarah Watson, Daniel Baxter, Bradley Walker, Brendan Day, Jens Kultima and Tai Bell. Mathew Rundle was absent.