

EIGHT MILE PLAINS

Nimble fingers net second spot

STUDENTS GAIN KEYBOARD SKILLS

THE students of 4C at War-rigal Road State School have typed their way to success by claiming second place in the Most Words Typed in Queensland category of the Typing Tournament: Quarter 1 Typing Challenge.

Deputy principal Karen Coombes praised the students and classroom teacher Sam Heron.

She said more than 750 schools in Australia took part in the competition.

"As part of our ICT (Information Communication Technology) program, we are developing keyboarding skills for our students," Ms Coombes said.

"We have just begun using the Typing Tournament program and have been run-

WHAT'S THE AIM

What: Second place in the Most Words Typed in Queensland competition
Competition: 750 schools
Aim: To teach children to type properly and accurately, enabling them to concentrate on what they are writing and not where respective keys are on a keyboard

ning an in-school competition to see which class has the fastest typists."

A competition spokesman said the tournament's aim was to teach children to type properly and accurately, "setting their minds free to think about what they are typing rather than trying to find the keys to press".

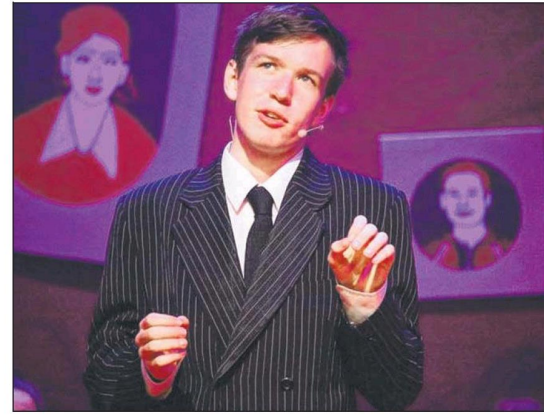
"Many children learn bad keyboarding habits through their early exposure to technology, causing them to develop poor keyboarding skills that stay with them," the spokesman said.

"These ingrained bad habits limit their ability to express themselves as keyboards are designed to be used typing with all 10 fingers correctly without looking at the keys.

"These days, with so much of our working lives spent using a keyboard, it is more important than ever that children learn to type properly. Adults who are unable to type efficiently lose thousands of hours from their lives as they hunt and poke at the keyboard."

MACGREGOR

Show was a scream



The Macgregor State High School community came together to enjoy the musical, *The Addams Family*, performed by students late last month. Sandy Collins, pictured, played Gomez Addams in the show.

RUNCORN

Musical students on song

MORE than 500 students from 16 schools attended the Karawatha District Instrumental Music Workshops hosted by Runcorn State High School earlier this

month.

Students were tutored by instrumental music teachers, university music students and professional musicians.