

Students promote smokefree school

By LIANA THOMPSON

BALLOONS, bikes and barbie girls were part of the first Smokefree Lip-sync competition at Taumarunui High School recently.

Sponsored by Health Wai-kato, the competition was aimed at promoting a smokefree environment by presenting important messages in a fun and entertaining way. The actual competition hit off with both students and staff lip-syncing to hits such as 'Barbie Girl', 'Livin' on a Prayer' and 'Bootylicious'.

Through all of the laughter, the message of the importance of a smokefree lifestyle was not lost, with short health notices and informative video clips presented by student M.C. Lauren Gram. Up for grabs for participation was a brand new mountain bike, which went to student Charone Takao.

Meanwhile the overall winners were the Bootylicious trio of Kuru Ketu, Danielle



BOOTYLICIOUS: Winners Kuru Ketu, Danielle Jones and Rina Hepi take out the Taumarunui High School's new Smokefree Lip-sync competition.

Jones and Rina Hepi, who won \$100 with their original rendition of the Destiny's Child hit.

Organiser Chris Patten says the reason behind the event was to have fun, fun,

fun, crazy fun and to promote a smokefree school. Lauren agreed and added she couldn't understand why students were smoking: "It's just dumb!" The event was topped off by teachers, Mr Van

Deventer and Mr Evanson having their heads shaved to raise money for The Cancer Foundation.

Organisers were happy with the event's success they are looking at next year.

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