

# School heifer top of class



LEFT: Ballarat Grammar students Matt Pearson, Ali Miodragovic and Kiah Sutherland with judge Ross Canning. Their teacher Matt Dickenson was more than pleased with the result. Mr Dickenson said the students worked hard on the school's farm during the week to prepare the cattle for competitions, having attended the National Beef, Bendigo and Sydney Royal Shows in 2013.

**A** DEDICATED group of school students claimed the top prize in the 2013 Australian Lowline On Farm Challenge.

An impressive 15 studs and almost 100 head of cattle were entered in the Southern Region Promotion Group's inaugural on-farm challenge.

However, it was an entry from Ballarat Grammar that impressed judge Ross Canning the most.

Mr Canning, a Western District beef producer and renowned stud beef judge, took on the task and named 22-month-old heifer Ballarat Grammar Gwendolyn the overall winner.

Students Matt Pearson, Ali Miodragovic and Kiah Sutherland attended the presentation with their teacher Matt Dickenson and were more than pleased with the result. Mr Dickenson said the students worked hard on the school's farm during the week to prepare the cattle for competitions, having attended the National Beef, Bendigo and Sydney Royal Shows in 2013.

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The cattle program is part of Ballarat Grammar's VCE agriculture course, which has 60 students. Their passion for agriculture is enhanced and has seen a number take up agricultural studies at universities in

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Australia and New Zealand.

Although Ballarat Grammar took home the title of highest scoring entry of the On Farm Challenge, accolades were shared among breeders.

Peter and Jeanette Stebbins, Ardrossan, cleaned up with their bull entries taking home first place in two of three classes.

Ken and Jill Lorrains, Whitby Farms, also had a good day, taking home first places for their nine-month-old bull calf and four-year-old cow Whitby Farms Lilly.

Tonia and David Goodman, Billabour, used the competition as a learning opportunity, having only been breeding Australian Lowlines for a short time. "We have the scores and now we can go home and look at the cattle and learn," Mrs Goodman said.

● Full results: [www.lowlinecattleassoc.com.au](http://www.lowlinecattleassoc.com.au)

