

Computers to play a role in R.F. Hall scholar's future



By Bill Rea

Being skilled on computer is a big asset these days, and Samantha Martin has it.

She also has a record of academic success to back her up, and she's planning to make use of it.

Martin, 17, graduated this year from Robert F. Hall Catholic Secondary School in Caledon East with a 95.2 per cent average. That put her at the scholastic top of Hall's Class of '15.

Her top six courses in her last year were year book, English, writer's craft, communication technology, art and religion.

Martin's plans for next year include taking the three-year graphic design program at Georgian College.

"I really like computers," she said. "I picked up computers really, really fast."

Martin had a simple explanation for the secret to academic success.

"Hard work and dedication," she said. "I spent so many hours just working on things."

"I want to be successful," she added, commenting there were times she felt like packing things in, but she overcame the urge.

She also said she found little time for sports or extra curricular activities at school, as she was more into academics. "That was sort of like my main focus," she said, adding she did find time to take guitar lessons.

Martin said she was a little surprised that she was at the top of her graduating class.

There are a lot of smart people in my school," she remarked. "I'm glad all my hard work paid off."

"It was my goal to get it by Grade 12, but I got it in Grade 11 as well," she added. "I still wanted it."