



Photo: MURRAY WILSON

Bottled innovation: Chrissy Way, left, pours a drink of B Fast for Hannah Simonsen, right, as Shiela Bulado looks on.

Girls milk it and roast the opposition

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For adding a splash of organic milk to their blend of white chocolate coffee, three Feilding High School pupils have picked up a slice of national recognition.

Hannah Simonsen, 17, Shiela Bulado, 18, and Chrissy Way, 18, and their company Caffeinate Me won the enterprise technology prize at

the national Young Enterprise Scheme awards in Wellington.

The company was set up as part of a technology class project and the savvy students have sold 110 bottles this year.

But because all three are going their separate ways at year's end, the company is to be wound up.

Hannah said the coffee idea came from a brief to develop something chilled for younger coffee lovers.

The group received sponsorship at

for low-fat organic milk and, after a bit of experimentation, came up with the winning formula under the trading brand B Fast.

"It's kind of like a milkshake but better. It's got more of a kick coffee-wise," Hannah said.

Next year, Hannah is off to Taunanga on a gap year to work for IHC before she starts travel industry training, Shiela will study science at Massey University and Chrissy will take up a kitchen apprenticeship at

Sky City in Auckland. They said the project taught time management and co-operative working skills.

The group was assisted by Feilding High School technology faculty head Bronwen Beaver, who said the three pupils worked hard over the year to come up with a viable business model. "They did it all themselves. They did it very well."

Regional Economic Development Agency ran the Manawatu young enterprise scheme.