



Beauty in the eyes of Jessica

by Amanda Perry

WAXING, tinting, manicures and makeup are just some of the beauty treatments Jessica Whatman had performed under intense scrutiny to win a regional title.

The 21-year-old recently won first place in the Regional WorldSkills Australia Beauty Care category, which meant taking part in a one day competition where judges watched her every move as she performed a variety of beauty treatments on a model.

A facial, eyebrow wax and tint, lash tint, evening makeup, waxing and manicure were among the

treatments, but it was keeping a steady hand during the French polish that was most difficult.

"The French polish was probably the hardest because it was nerve wracking and I was shaking," Miss Whatman said.

"They watched us like a hawk."

Now a third year apprentice, Miss Whatman secured her job at The Beauty Room in Richmond two years ago, ahead of 64 other applicants.

It was whilst studying at Ultimo TAFE that she was urged by her

teacher to enter the WorldSkills competition, which is a fantastic addition to her resume.

Miss Whatman will travel to Brisbane in May next year for the Nationals, which is held over three days.

Potential prizes include a scholarship to work and study overseas.

But before then, the beauty therapist will have to learn some new skills to be able to compete, including the application of acrylic nails and hot stone massage.



Twenty one-year-old Jessica Whatman won first place in the WorldSkills Australia competition in the beauty care category.

Photo: Kylie Pitt