



**WORTHY WINNERS:** (From left) Comquiz champions Goh, Khaw and Chun lifting their trophies while Ng (right) and Dr. Lee hand over a cheque for RM15,000 in merit scholarships to the trio at Inti College in Kuching yesterday.

# Chung Hwa trio emerge tops in IT quiz

**KUCHING:** Three students of Kuala Lumpur's Chung Hwa Independent High School, who spent five months brushing up on their IT knowledge, were duly rewarded yesterday.

Christopher Khaw Lok Eng, Goh Say Tar and Chun Ee Wen emerged champions in ComQuiz 2003, an IT quiz organised by Star Publications (M) Bhd and Inti Foundation.

Goh, 17, who was also Kuala Lumpur's top scorer in the preliminary round held in June, said the team started its preparations in March.

"We stayed back every week after school to practise for the quiz and our teachers helped us a lot," he said.

Chun, 18, said they surfed the internet and borrowed books from the library to read up on the latest developments.

Khaw stressed the importance of having a passion for the subject.

"We are really into IT," Khaw, 17, said.

As champions, they walked away with a plaque, prizes and Inti College merit scholarships worth RM5,000 each. Their school received a challenge trophy,

computer, printer and scanner.

SM St Michael of Perak, represented by Marc Cheong Chi Yan, Suventheran Thangavelu and Karthik Kayaroganam, emerged first runner-up.

The team from SM Ibrahim of Kedah comprising of Lim Kher Sham, Tan Shern Shiou and Sumithra Appava clinched third spot in the finals at Inti College Sarawak.

The first and second runners-up received plaques, prizes and merit scholarships each worth RM3,000 and RM1,000 respectively.

Prizes were sponsored by Inti College, Brunfield (Information and Communication Technology), Microsoft, Acer, Eastpak, Nestle Products Sdn Bhd, Staedler Marketing Sdn Bhd, Sanford and Wrigley's.

ComQuiz 2003 attracted 470 teams from 167 schools involving more than 1,400 students during the preliminary round on June 28.

The Star group chief editor Datuk Ng Poh Tip said that although there was a slight decrease in the number of schools participating compared

with previous years, the students were more focused this time and this boded well for Malaysia's future.

"Equipped with knowledge and skills, our children will be able to chart new frontiers for Malaysia. To enable them to be more competitive, students must take the initiative to acquire more information and knowledge, particularly in information technology through competitions such as this," she said.

She added that ComQuiz, since its inception in 1990, aimed to complement the government's efforts to increase computer literacy among students and promote greater appreciation of IT.

"Information technology is dynamic and influences almost every aspect of life," she said.

Inti College Sarawak principal Dr Lee Fah Onn said that ComQuiz provided a platform for students to learn the intricacies of computing and IT.

He believed this would advance the IT capabilities of the younger generation, which in turn would have far-reaching benefits for the nation's future workforce.