



Eco rappers whip up storm

By **JAYNE HULBERT**

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A GROUP of Fitzroy School children came up trumps in a national rap competition and yesterday one of their idols came to school to tell them the good news.

And not only did the four boys get to meet Che Fu, they got to rap with him.

Sean Hone, Luke Abbott, Danyon Doeg (all 10) and Fraser Wood (9) could not wipe the smiles of their faces from the moment Che Fu walked into their classroom.

The New Zealand musician was there to let the boys know they were the North Island winners of a nationwide competition to write and perform a rap with a glass recycling message.

The four called themselves The Storm and penned their rap The Grizzly Bear over the past couple of months.

In front of their gob-smacked class Che Fu made the win announcement.

"I've got some exciting news. There's a bit of a storm going on around here," Che Fu said.

The boys' prize is to record their rap with Che Fu in an Auckland studio later this month. They will also attend a function at Parliament next month.

The win was then announced to the whole school at a special assembly.

Che Fu told the school the boys'

lyrics were great and they showed a lot of talent.

"You should be very proud of them."

The four young rappers then performed in front of the school with Che Fu backing them up.

After the assembly the boys said they couldn't believe they had done so well.

"My lips are so sore now from smiling so much," said a grinning Danyon. The boys said they had worked hard on researching their

lyrics and had e-mailed various councils to find out how they managed glass recycling and visited the New Plymouth District Council facilities.

"The labour paid off," said Luke.

The competition was organised by the Glass Packaging Forum, a voluntary group that assists recycling operators with the recovery of glass.

The forum is backed by New Zealand producers of glass containers and is keen to help councils find local solutions for surplus recovered glass.

Glass Packaging Forum general manager John Webber said the idea for a competition was a way to get the recycling message to young people, by young people.

The contest was open to 9 to 15 year olds and more than 60 schools entered.

VERSE TWO FROM THE GRIZZLY BEAR

**Make sure that your rubbish is separated
Otherwise your recycling is contaminated
With billions of people and resources getting low
Save our planet don't let it overflow
You don't want your children living in a rubbish dump
Recycle, recycle, come on get pumped
So get your rubbish ready for the recycling plant
Help New Zealand out, I don't want to hear 'I can't'.**



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Young Fitzroy School rappers The Storm (from left) Luke Abbott (10), Sean Hone (10), Fraser Wood (9) and Danyon Doeg (10) with Che Fu. The boys are the North Island winners of a competition that will see them record a rap with Che Fu.
Photo: CAMERON BURNELL



Fairfield pupils rap up music award

By **SAM STEVENS**

A SURPRISE rap on the door at Fairfield School yesterday was followed by a surprise visit from a well-known New Zealand rapper.

Pupils at the Dunedin school could not believe their eyes when Che Fu, one of New Zealand's most successful male recording artists, visited the school to present pupils with a national music award.

Members of Wireless, a rap group which was yesterday named South Island winner of the Class Rap competition, received a further surprise when they were called on to perform their song, *Shatter*, to a special school assembly with only Che Fu providing "beat-box" accompaniment.

Wireless members Sam Petrie, Jackson Free and Corey and Scott Donaldson (all 12) said they were "in shock" and "speechless" after winning the award.

Corey and Jackson said they would have to rehearse the song before they recorded it with Che Fu in Auckland later this month. The school would also receive a cash prize, to be presented by Environment Minister Trevor Mallard in Wellington on July 1.

Che Fu said the group took first place because it had an "awesome, tight rapping style", which sounded well rehearsed.

A similar presentation will be made to the North Island winner today.

More than 250 pupils, aged

between 9 and 15, from 60 schools around the country entered the competition, which was run by the Glass Packaging Forum.

The unassuming musician, who has three sons "and one on the way", said he enjoyed working with school children, and would like to see similar music competitions run in more New Zealand schools.

"It's good to support recycling, and to do something positive for music in schools," he said.

Glass Packaging Forum, spokeswoman Lyn Mayes said the competition aimed to raise awareness of the need to recycle, and Class Rap song lyrics related to the recycling and reuse of glass products.





Wireless and unplugged . . . Recording artist Che Fu (centre) with Fairfield School pupils (from left) Corey Donaldson, Jackson Free, Sam Petrie and Scott Donaldson after he presented them with the South Island Class Rap award at the school yesterday. Below: Fairfield school pupils applaud the rapper.

PHOTOS: PETER MCINTOSH