

RECIPE FOR SUCCESS

By Ryan Marciniak, S6

NOTRE Dame's own Casey Mulholland has shown she has the recipe for success as she took third place in the Scottish final of a UK-wide competition for the county's most talented young cooks.

After winning the Gourrock Rotary International's Young Chef Contest in November, sixteen year old Casey, an S5 pupil, continued her success by chopping, slicing and dicing her way to the third spot against six other top chefs in the Regional Final in Livingston on Saturday, March 5th.

"I was really happy to be ranked," said Casey. "I enjoyed the competition and it was great to be involved in."

Notre Dame's Casey had already proven she certainly can handle the heat in the kitchen as she topped the table against seven other young chefs from across the West of Scotland during the District Heats in East Kilbride.

On that occasion, culinary Casey was tasked with preparing three courses in just two hours - and on a budget of just £15.

However, the talented young chef rose to the challenge and dazzled the judges with her tasty starter of barbecue ribs, followed by loin of cod with Parma ham and, for dessert, chocolate and hazelnut steamed pudding with orange syrup.

Casey admitted: "I was a wee bit nervous." Her nerves obviously didn't show though as the judges were impressed by her culinary skills, particularly praising the S4 Notre Dame pupil on her organisation and knife skills, and awarding her first place.

Looking towards the Regional Final, Casey's proud teacher Ms Spence, Notre Dame's Principal Teacher of Hospitality and Food Technology, said: "Casey has done fantastically well and her practical techniques are outstanding.

"She was up against seven other schools in the latest round. She's done very well to get to this stage. I'm really proud of her."

However, despite her culinary talents, Casey says her recent successes in the kitchen have not changed in any way her ambition to become a youth worker in the future.

"I really enjoy cooking but I don't want to do it for a job. I don't think I'd enjoy it so much if I was doing it all do, so I want to do youth work. But I'll always keep cooking."

Asked what advice she'd give to younger pupils, talented Casey said: "Find something you enjoy doing and then work really hard at it."