



Special problems create Technological Solutions

By: Missy Wilburn

This year, RCHS has expanded the boundaries of technology to go beyond computers and printers. A Special Problems and Technology course taught by Mr. Pat Greene has been added to the curriculum to give students an opportunity to utilize technology involving their career fields.

Special Problems is a hands-on course that allows students to explore the latest technology and how it could possibly affect society. Independent research projects are completed using prior knowledge of Math, English, Science, and even Social Studies skills.

Using mathematical and geometric skills, students in CAD (Computer Aided Drafting) create blue prints. Photography students complete in-depth historical research of their focus area. English skills are commonly applied to a news broadcast. Extensive knowledge of chemistry is needed in the darkroom to create chemical reactions in order to develop a photograph.

Christopher Phillips spends class time drawing floor plans on a computer. He designs a house from foundation to finish with CAD (Computer Aided Drafting).

"What I learned in this class has made me choose CAD as a career," said Phillips.

Motion pictures can be made with the film editing equipment Josh Bray uses. Bray edits football games and news broadcasts for his grade.

"The fact that it's hard and nobody else can do it is the coolest thing," Bray says.

In a television production lab Brittany Owens writes scripts, video-tapes, and reports to put together a news broadcast.

"I really enjoy the behind the scenes work. It makes you realize how much effort goes into television," Owens said.

Jennifer Carmack creates web pages for people to visit and find out about Special Programs and Technology. With a click of the mouse using Netscape Composer (a web page design program), Carmack creates a classroom the world can watch.

"It puts information on the Internet that may be useful to someone else," Carmack said.

Travis Burton digitally edits photographs using Photo Studio technology. From there, slide shows are presented on television screens instead of a white background.

"I can use these skills in college presentations. It's the cool way to present information with all kinds of great effects that can be added in," Burton says.

John Abrams develops film in the dark room after a day of shooting pictures around the school.

"At the end of it, I see my work. That picture is 100% of my work," Abrams stated.

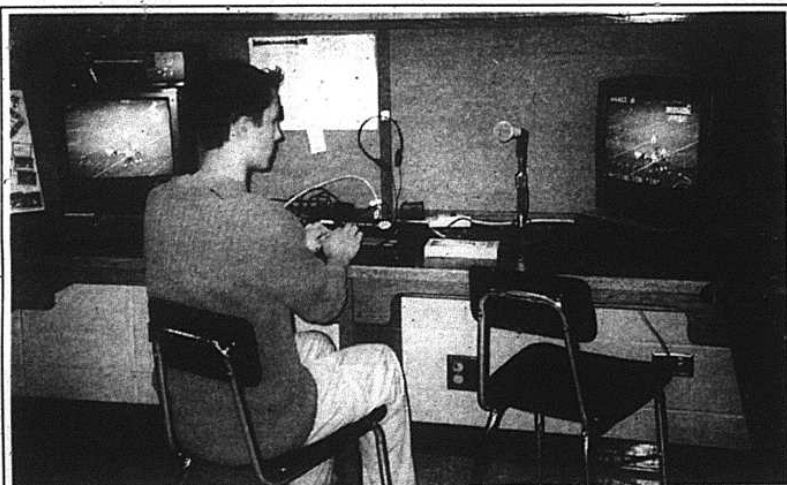
Students in Special Problems and Technology have completed either Communications Systems or Technology Education. All students design their own lesson plan focusing on their area of interests.

Instructor Mr. Pat Greene said, "Technology and communication are the future and thanks to this class these young adults will be better prepared for it."

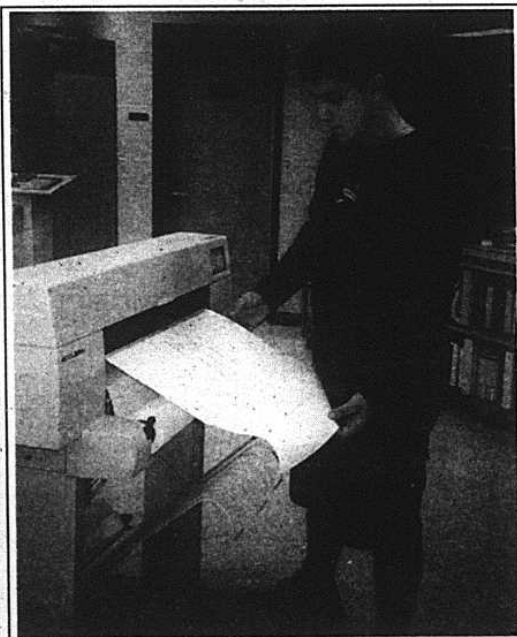
For more information, contact Mr. Pat Greene at 606-256-4816 between 1:30 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. or visit the RCHS website at <http://www.rchs.rockcastle.k12.ky.us/>



Melissa Baker develops film for slide presentation.



Josh Bray edits football film footage.



Christopher Phillips developing floor plan blueprints for house design.