



Family members sharing the joy with Izwan.

## Five UMS grads awarded for academic excellence

By HAYATI DZULKIFLI

KOTA KINABALU: Happiness, surprise and smiles were written on the faces of five Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) graduates after they were announced as having the best academic achievement, including in co-curriculum activities.

Mohammad Izwan Ahmad, 23, from Putatan, who majored in Food Science and Nutrition, was the recipient of the Royal Educational Award in the Bumiputera category.

A former student of La Salle and Mara Junior Science College, Izwan scored straight A's in the PMR examination and ten aggregates in the SPM examination.

"In order to have good time management, I set my own study schedule and force myself to follow it.

"My success is also due to the full support given to me by my family and my beloved wife, Nur Halinna Abdul Rahman," he said.

Second among four siblings, Izwan's ambition is to become a lecturer in his alma mater (UMS).

Yeap Leng Siew, 23, from Kuala Lumpur,

was the recipient for the same award in the non-Bumiputera category.

"I feel very happy and proud of myself as I did not expect to get this award. I wish to thank my lecturers, family and friends for this award.

"The most difficult part is preparing for the examinations. But fortunately, due to my concentration during lectures, I managed to do well," she said.

Second among four siblings, Yeap who is now working for a private company in Singapore has decided to gain some work experience before doing her Masters degree in Biotechnology.

Melissa Thong Chui Ken, recipient of the Chancellor's Gold Medal, said she has also decided to take up a job offer from a bank in Cyberjaya to gain some experience before she decides to go for the Masters degree in International Financial Economics.

The other top graduates were Lilawati @ Lilah Shuhaimi (TESL) who received the Vice-Chancellor's Gold Medal and Teng Yi Yong (E-Commerce) who bagged the Alumni Gold Medal.