

# Students share podcasts on school's Web site

By **GENEVIEVE REILLY**  
greilly@ctpost.com

TRUMBULL — Jon Mark clicked his computer mouse and waited until an announcement over the school loudspeaker was done.

"Can you ask me that question again?" said Shawn Tait, who was being interviewed by the Trumbull High School freshman last week for a new podcast to be added to the school's Web site.

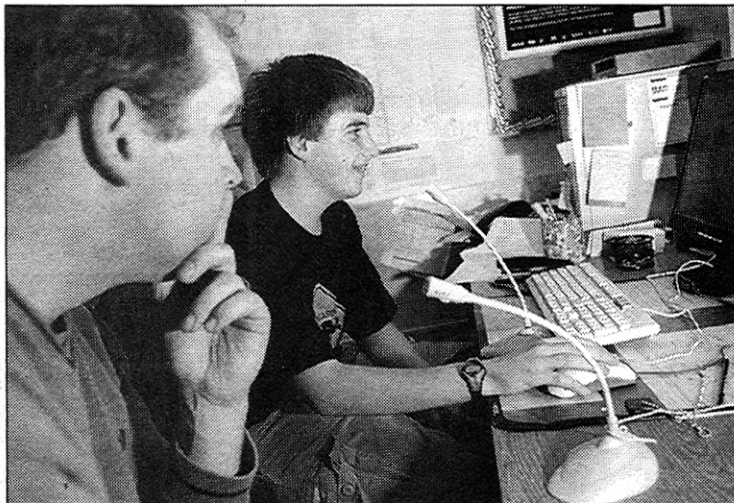
"Don't worry, we can cut and paste," teacher Catherine Larson assured him.

Interruptions aside, the process of creating a podcast — a small MP3 audio file — took less than 10 minutes.

While most people with MP3 players, such as the ubiquitous iPod, fill their portable players with tunes, Trumbull High students have the option of adding interviews with students and teachers. The program enables members of the school community to learn more about events and changes at the school.

"We started this last year," Larson said, adding that, so far, there are five podcasts in the Web site's archives.

The podcasts can also be lis-



Whitney Kidder-Alvarez/Connecticut Post

**Trumbull High School sophomore Jon Mark interviews Shawn Tait, the school's audio and visual director, for a podcast.**

tened to on a computer.

During Tait's interview on Thursday, he talked about the recent upgrades made to the audio-visual studio at Trumbull High.

At one point, Larson frantically motioned to a visitor entering the computer lab not to let the door slam shut.

"It can really be hard to find a time when you aren't interrupted," she said.

Mark and Tait spoke into slim microphones on the desk

in front of them, while the computer recorded the interview.

"This is a great program," Mark said. "It's really pretty simple."

Once the interview is done, the intro music is added and it is moved to an RSS-based file.

"It allows programs like iTunes to get our product," explained freshman Ben Woessner, 15.

And with the new iPod video, pictures can be added,

said Nicole Mihalko, 16.

The junior said she often urges friends to download the podcasts. "I tell them, 'You'll learn some stuff.'"

The subject depends on what is happening at the school.

"We try to do current events," Mihalko said. "It depends on what is going on."

Other podcasts include an interview with Principal Robert Tremaglio, school store manager Corey Matias and the adviser to students in the "We the People" competition, as well as an excerpt from last year's competition.

The ideas aren't too hard to come by, Larson said. Getting a student to conduct the interview, however, is another question.

"Nobody wants to have their voice recorded," she said.

Mark has done three of the podcasts so far.

"I volunteered last year and they keep bringing me back," he said.

To listen to or download a podcast, go to the Web site, [www.trumbullps.org/thspodcast/index.htm](http://www.trumbullps.org/thspodcast/index.htm).

*Genevieve Reilly, who covers Trumbull, can be reached at 330-6256.*