



Tops: Tom Lees and Jaxon Morton of Mazenod College. Picture: Lee Griffith

## Students dabble in shares and win

■ Nick Sas

As the sharemarket tumbled this week and investors the world over turned to their financial advisers, two unassuming high school students may have been better qualified to hand out advice.

Mazenod College students Jaxon Morton, Year 10, and Tom Lees, Year 11, this week finished first and second in the nation in the Australian Securities Exchange sharemarket competition in which more than 18,000 syndicates took part.

Contestants were given a virtual \$50,000 to invest in Australian shares over 10 weeks.

With investments in Tatts Group, Tabcorp, Treasury Wines and Coca-Cola Amatil, Jaxon finished \$4899 up.

Although investing in alcohol and gambling companies raised an eyebrow from his business teacher, David Hiatt, Jaxon said he rightly assumed they would be insulated from the impact of financial turmoil in Greece and the French election.

"For me it was all about timing," he said.

"I used a buy and hold strategy and stuck to it even when the energy and minerals sectors were up."

Tom finished \$4352 in the black with a mock portfolio including telcos Telstra, TPG Internet, SGT (Singapore Telecommunications) iiNet and Network Ten.