

# Wood named to lead State football team

WHILE getting into a State team is an accomplishment on its own, up-and-coming Australind footballer Ben Wood also has the honour of being named captain of a West Australian side.

The South West Academy of Sport player is currently leading his A-grade WA team through the School Sport Australia Football Championships in Canberra.

Held annually, the tournament sees hundreds of students from throughout Australia battle for national supremacy on the football field.

Wood, who was "over the moon" about being named captain of his under-15 team, said his position as captain meant he had had to step up and take on a leadership role.

The teenager is well prepared for the competition, having concentrated on developing his skills under the guidance of SWAS coach Paul Fimmano.

Speaking before he flew to Canberra on Friday, July 22, Wood said he was looking forward to "seeing what the other teams are like and seeing how we'll go against them."

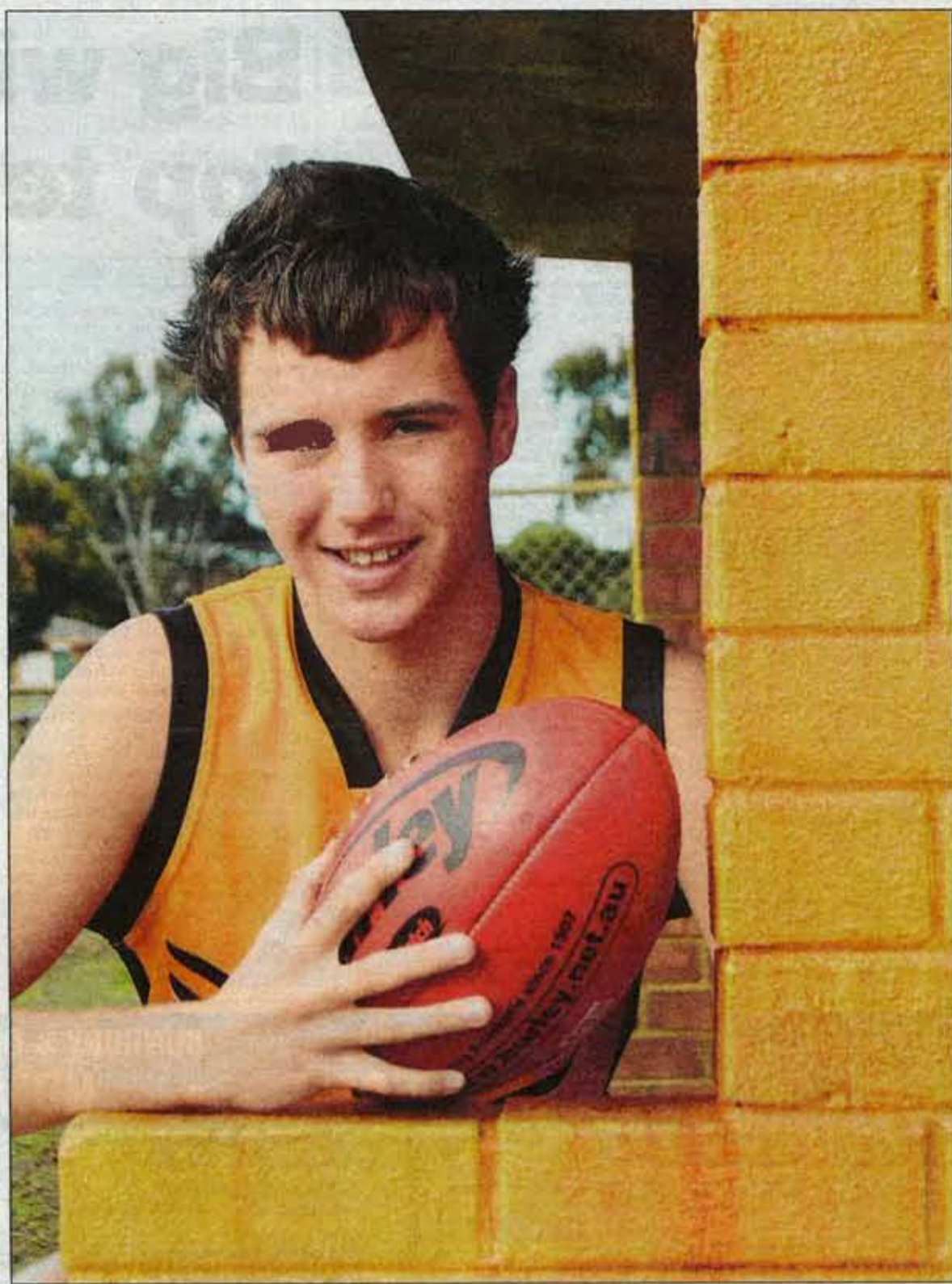
Also set to don the black and gold colours of Western Australia in Canberra are Connor Blakely, Travis Cleggett, Jordan Fimmano and Ben Wood.

Academy football head coach Jamie Douse congratulated Blakely, Cleggett, Fimmano and Wood on their selection.

"Their selection is indicative of their hard work, particularly over the last 12 months, both on and off the park," he said.

"We wish all four boys the best of luck."

South West Academy of Sport footballer Ben Wood is captaining his WA side at the School Sport Australia Football Championships in Canberra this week.



South West Academy of Sport scholarship holder Breanna Dixon recently shone at an international event in Malaysia.

## Sprinter leaves rivals in her wake

A FIVE-medal haul at a recent international meet in Malaysia has highlighted South West teenager Breanna Dixon's gift for track and field events.

The 15-year-old from Collie outshone her competitors to bring home gold and silver from the MSSM-WALAA-SSSC International Little Athletics Championship.

The annual event between Australia, Malaysia and Singapore gives emerging athletes in under 14 and under 15 categories the chance to put themselves to the test on the world stage.

This year's event in Kuala Lumpur proved especially memorable for Dixon, who excelled despite trying hot and humid conditions.

Dixon, who also competed in the 2010 event in Singapore, finished first in her 200m event, and second in long jump, 400m, 4x100m and 4x400m.

"It was tough — especially the conditions," she said.

"I was really thrilled to win."

Now back home, the talented sprinter is concentrating her efforts on securing a spot in Athletics Australia's under 17 development squad, which supports aspiring athletes to reach the next level of competition.

"Selection for the squad is mainly based on performance and results at the Australian junior championships in March," Dixon said.

## Tee off to boost Academy coffers

TIME is running out to be part of a golf day that will raise money for the South West Academy of Sport.

People have until August 18 to register their teams for the 2011 SWAS Corporate Golf Day, which will be held at the All

Seasons Sanctuary Golf Resort on September 1. Teeing off at 11.30am with registration and a light lunch, the event will see teams of four participate in a friendly and fun-filled game of golf before the afternoon wraps up with a barbecue dinner and presentation of prizes.

It will be the second time the event has been held, but this time around the golf day will act as a fundraiser for the academy.

"We are pleased to bring the golf day back for a second year," she said.

"In its inaugural year, the event proved to be a fun way for

people to network or treat employees to some well-deserved time out of the office."

To register for the SWAS Corporate Golf Day, email SWAS on info@swaswa.com.au or phone 9795 4504.

Registrations close Thursday August 18.

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