

Young cyclist in fast lane

CYCLING: South West Cycle Club cyclist, Bradley Linfield demonstrated he can mix it with the best junior riders in Australia and New Zealand when he claimed second place at the recent Canberra Junior Cycling Tour.

After a slightly disappointing National Championships last September, Linfield has been training hard in recent months.

The 16-year-old gained confidence in the first road stage in Canberra when he was able to comfortably match the efforts of the riders from the eastern states and NZ.

Using this confidence to his advantage, Linfield rode aggressively.

But found it hard to establish and maintain a gap on the large bunch of 70 odd riders in the first road race or criterium event.

Persevering with the aggressive tactics, he got into the right move on the second day of the tour.

He established a tour winning break with Alex Morgan from Blackburn Cycling Club.

The pair held off the bunch with an advantage of close to one minute.

From there, Linfield needed a good performance in the final individual time trial and he didn't falter, with a solid ride and fourth placing on the stage good enough to confirm his overall second place.

Linfield followed this up with a dominant performance in the Santos Central Districts Tour in South Australia last weekend where he won 3 of the 4 stages and claimed the overall tour victory and King of the Mountains prize.

Linfield, who is a product of the Department of Sport and Recreation's South West Junior Elite Talent Squad and a South West Academy of Sport Scholarship holder, will take a short break now.

He will soon start preparing for the State Championships and will hope to repeat his recent success at the National Championships in Canberra in September.



Bradley Linfield.