



FOCUS: Margaret River surfer Creed McTaggart, 16., was one of four local surfers recognised through the South West Academy of Sport scholarships. Photograph: Surfing WA / Marz.

Creed enjoys perfect break back home

By Kate Jowett

CREED McTaggart has returned to the west after a summer of surfing alongside some of the country's top young talent.

Creed returned to Margaret River on Friday after enjoying the surfing action at Snapper Rocks, in Queensland.

The 16-year-old's busy schedule continued on the weekend with the opening round of the Brownes Chill WA Junior Surfing Titles at Trigg Point.

"I made the finals," he said.

"But on the day of the finals there was no surf so it will be carried on to the next round which is at Margaret River.

"It will be good to have a contest at my home break."

Travelling and competitive surfing go hand in hand, which is one of the reasons Creed was so pleased to receive a South West Academy of Sport scholarship.

It is the second year in a row he has received the funding to help with the expenses of his sport.

Creed's father and coach John McTaggart said the scholarship last year had been very useful.

"He competed in the world titles in Ecuador and just the airfares alone were \$3000," he said.

Creed said he was extremely grateful for the support of his parents.

"I really want to thank them," he said.

"They do so much for me, it is a really big deal."

Creed studies at home to accommodate his intense train-

ing and competition schedule.

"I'll be getting into a bit of school work while I am home," he said.

Creed said his ultimate goal was to be part of the World Championship Tour.

"When I was at Snapper Rocks I was watching the surfers leading up to the Quiksilver Pro and what they were doing.

"I really want to get stuck into my training and get some good results and hopefully I can be out there in the future."