

Academy backing for young stars

By HANNELORE HEPBURN

THREE talented local athletes were among the 20 young scholarship winners inducted into the South West Academy of Sport last Thursday.

Clifton Park's BMX star Lauren Reynolds, Australind's little athletics sportsman Thomas Quaife and tae kwon do talent Jasmine Klumpp of Roelands were introduced to the academy and presented with a certificate by board member and South Western Times group editor Wayne Vitali.

Since its inception last year the individual scholarship program has doubled from 10 to 20 to assist South West athletes achieve their potential by providing high level support, including access to specialist services such as nutritionists and sport psychologists.

Academy CEO Bernice Butlion said the pool of talent in the South West was amazing and the academy wanted to acknowledge and support as much of the talent coming up through the ranks as possible.

"We hope these scholarships help the athletes on their path to success," she said.

Roelands teenager Jasmine Klumpp took up tae kwon do aged 10 years, together with her brother and mum, and held her black belt at age 14.

She said highlights of her career so far were winning the National Championships last year and taking part in the 2008 World Junior Tae Kwon Do Championships in Turkey.

Jasmine said the scholarship was a great help with her personal development, travel and support.

She said her ultimate goal was to present Australia at the Olympics.



Tae Kwon Do athlete Jasmine Klumpp was among the 20 South West Academy of Sports scholarship winners.