

# Surfer wins academy's top award

TEEN surfing sensation Creed McTaggart has taken out the South West Academy of Sport's top prize.

The young gun was crowned the SWAS Sports Star of the Year at the academy's annual awards last Friday.

During the red carpet event, McTaggart was also named the Male Individual Athlete of the Year — the double win capping off a stellar year for the WA Junior Surfer of the Year.

His achievements over the past 12 months included representing Australia at the Quiksilver ISA World Junior Surfing Championship in Peru.

McTaggart was one of a number of outstanding individuals who received awards at the event.

Up-and-coming tennis player Louis Asser was presented with the Emerging Star Award and footballer Scott Jones won the Male Team Athlete of the Year Award.

Hockey talent Keeley Allsop claimed the Female Team Athlete of the Year Award.

Hurdler extraordinaire Shenae Peterson was presented with the Female Individual Athlete of the Year Award and SWAS tennis coach Christina Ladyman was honoured with the Wally Foreman Award.

Netballer Jessica Brindley won the academy's inaugural Community Achiever Award.

SWAS chief executive officer Bernice Butlion said talent alone was not enough to succeed in sport.

"It takes hard work, determination and commitment to reach the top," she said.

"SWAS athletes have been working hard all year, juggling training and competition with school and other commitments.

"Their awards are very well deserved and we look forward to following their sporting achievements into 2012."



South West Academy of Sport chief executive Bernice Butlion congratulates Creed McTaggart on being crowned the SWAS Sports Star of the Year last week.