



Young football players got the chance to shine at the AFL match in Bunbury recently.

## Academy young stars on display

FANS that arrived early to the recent NAB Challenge match between Fremantle and Carlton in Bunbury were given a glimpse of the next generation of football stars, including young guns from Manjimup.

Members of the South West Academy of Sport's football squads played a curtain-raiser before the game between Fremantle and Carlton on Saturday, March 14.

The showcase of talent provided good exposure for the athletes who combined to form two teams — Bunbury-Busselton and Manjimup-Leschenault.

The players from Manjimup were Riley Hutchinson, Mitchell Muir, Kadogen Combes and Ben Farquhar and the team was coached by Wayne Barnden and Graham Jeffery.

South West Academy of Sport chief executive Bernice Butlion said the day presented a great opportunity for the young football players.

"They were able to show their skills in front of a large crowd and big names



Manjimup-Leschenault player Mitchell Muir and Bunbury-Busselton's Brandon Hughes play in the curtain-raiser game.

of the game like Chris Judd and Matthew Pavlich," she said.

The hard-fought match between the academy's football squads — won by Bunbury-Busselton — warmed up the

crowd before the Dockers scored a 43-point win over Carlton. The main game attracted about 10,000 people to Hands Memorial Oval and was the first time in more than 10 years that Bunbury had hosted an AFL match.