

# Curtain raiser a great experience for young stars

A SOUTH West team which fielded nine Busselton players in an AFL curtain raiser at Bunbury on the weekend was victorious by more than 10 goals.

Coach, Busselton's Brad Fraser, said his team "smashed" the Peel and Lower South West team.

Both sides were formed by the South West Academy of Sport from its SWAS football program and used the match as an opportunity to showcase its talent.

"There was a lot of talent out there," Fraser said of the curtain raiser to the NAB Challenge match between the Fremantle Dockers and Carlton.

In the first quarter the opposition came out of the blocks quicker than the South West boys, however the side managed to absorb the pressure from the opposition in the first frenetic six minutes of play.

Led by Brayden Lawlor, Mitch Fraser and Jacob Kosicki with a forward target of Dylan Ness, the boys managed to keep the Peel and Lower South West side to one point to their 10.

In the second quarter the South West team created total mid-field dominance, led in the ruck by Will O'Deay.

"With many attacks spring-boarded from the half back line, led by Jason Fish and backed up by entire backline, the team managed to hold the opposition scoreless in the quarter while piling on four goals," Fraser said.

The Peel and Lower South West team scored just one more point for the whole match in the third quarter as the South West team continued to be clinical, not only in their defence, but their offence.

"By the third quarter, because we were so far in front, I encouraged the guys to take a breather and look



Busselton player Mitch Fraser was among the Busselton players in the South West Academy of Sport Football Program curtain raiser to the AFL NAB Cup match at Bunbury on the weekend.

PICTURE: JAMES WORSFOLD

over the fence and take stock of the situation — there were 2000-3000 people there watching," Fraser said.

He said he wanted them to enjoy the moment, why they were there and with the pressure well and truly off, they were set up for the last quarter.

Rapid play ensued and the SW team went on to win comfortably and show off the skills of all 21 players that participated.

Outstanding contributors were O'Deay, Mitch Fraser, Fish, Brayden Lawler and Lachlan Macale.