

State honours a test against elite

SOUTH West Academy of Sport athlete Callum Richardson has come a step closer to his dream of representing Australia in soccer.

The 13-year-old talent from Australind represented WA in the under-14 team at the recent 2009 FFA National Youth Championships for boys in Coffs Harbour.

The selection into the State team followed intensive try-outs where he caught the eye of the officials.

The championship which saw 384 players from around the country face-off for national title honours, is part of the FFA talent identification and provides talented young guns with an opportunity to make an impression on a national level.

Richardson used the chance to step up and showcase his skills during eight days of soccer.

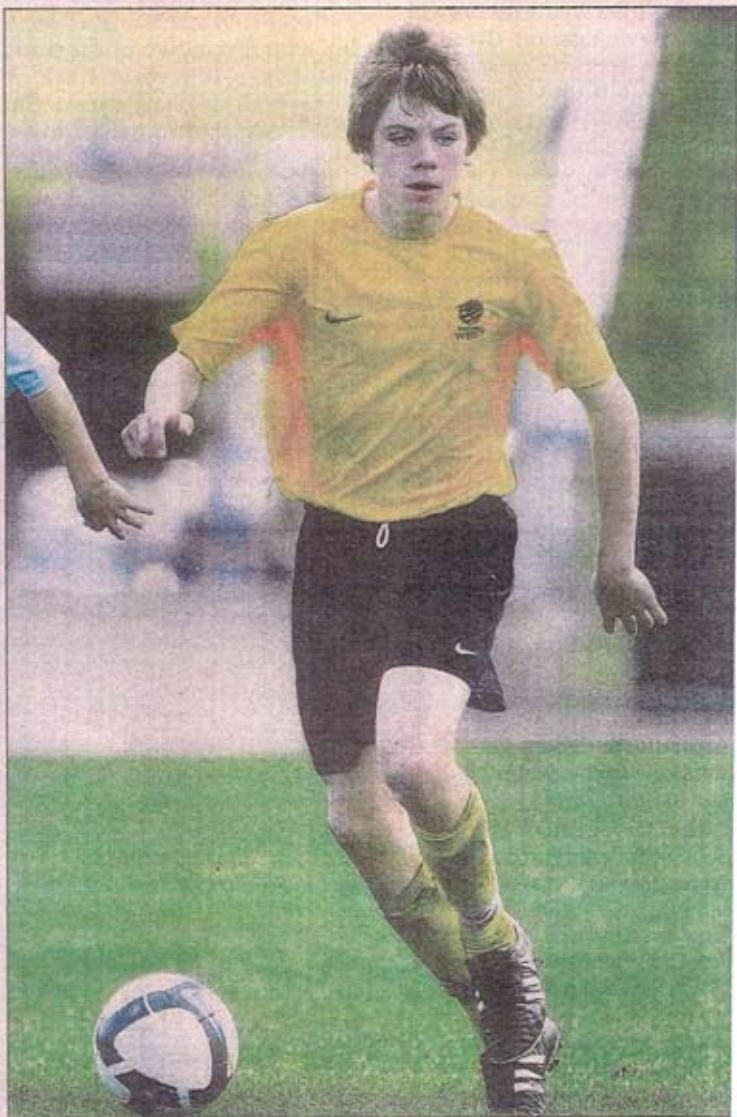
"It was definitely a good experience to play at such a high level," he said.

"It was good being able to test your skills against all the other States and see how you measure up.

"It was just great being able to play soccer every day."

Academy head soccer coach Perry Krakowczyk congratulated Richardson, who is currently trying out for the National Training Centre program, on his achievements.

He said that it had been a while since regional players were selected to represent the WA State team and Callum made the squad through hard work and determination.



Australind young gun Callum Richardson was recently part of the WA under-14 soccer boys competing at the national championships.