

# Corey's flying

The *Castlemaine Mail* Junior Sports Star of the Week is talented cyclist and keen footballer, Corey Nichol.

The 11 year old Castlemaine North Primary School student has been competing on the cycling circuit for six years now and during that time has developed into quite a talented young rider.

Corey is currently racing as a top age Under 13 rider and is really enjoying the challenges offered in local and regional competition.

Corey said his commitment to cycling sees him train almost every day and he is currently competing in track competition in Castlemaine on Tuesdays and Saturdays and in Bendigo every Thursday.

The young cyclist has had a huge year on the bike.

He competed in the State Road Championships at Wangaratta in July and really enjoyed the challenge of racing in the tough Under 13 competition.

Corey has also rode well on the local scene and beat the Under 13 Road Hillclimb and Road Time Trial records at his club.

The young rider capped off the 2011 road season by winning the Castlemaine Cycling Club's Under 13 Road Championship and also took out the Under 13 Ag-

gregate for the third year running after another consistent year on the bike.

Corey also competed in the Victorian State Schools final which was held in Lygon Street, Melbourne and coincided with the Herald Sun Tour in October.

More recently, Corey was thrilled to win three silver medals at the Country Track Titles held at the Darebin International Sports Complex (DISC) in Melbourne.

The sportsman also enjoys playing football and recently enjoyed his third season with the Winters Flat Junior Football Club in the Castlemaine District Junior Football League.

Corey said that he played in the Under 10.5s and Under 13 competition and loves playing footy with his mates.

Around a month ago, Corey also started mountain bike riding with the local Central Victorian Rocky Riders Mountain Bike Club and has enjoyed the club's weekly competition.

Corey said he was delighted to win one of the club's open weekly dirt crits and looks forward to continuing the sport next season.

Corey said that his next challenge is to race the Christmas carnivals track series and he plans

to compete at all four events in Horsham, Bendigo, Shepparton and Wangaratta and hopes to post some good results.

Castlemaine Cycling Club coach Ken Maddern said Corey is riding very well and shows great commitment.

"He is facing the same hurdles this year that Sean Finning faced at the same age," Mr Maddern said.

"Corey's handicaps see him having to chase down riders from 60 to 100 metres back which is a similar challenge to what Sean faced and look how far he has gone. If Corey can keep forging ahead like Sean he will have a bright future," he said.

For being featured as our Junior Sports Star of the Week, Corey wins a \$30 voucher from Action Auto Centre, Castlemaine and can call into our office at 29 Templeton Street, Castlemaine to pick up his prize.

The Castlemaine Mail and Action Auto sponsor the weekly Sports Star of the Week Award, and invite members of the public to nominate any youngster under the age of sixteen who is doing their best at their chosen sport by calling our editorial staff on 5472 1788 or filling out the nomination form on this page and dropping it into our office.



Castlemaine cyclist Corey Nichol is flying high on the cycling circuit and is proudly pictured with some of his awards including his Road Championship sash and the aggregate shield.



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