

GOLF

Smashing up the ranks

TOP YOUNGSTER'S HANDICAP HAS DROPPED FROM 38 TO 7

Kristine Tarbert

TYLAH Saifolo had already excelled at swimming and tennis before she was selected in the golf program at the Western Sydney Academy of Sport.

Tylah started off competing in swimming and tennis at an early age but only started golf last year.

"It was just to do something a bit different to what other kids did. It seemed like a lot of fun being able to smash a ball," Tylah said.

Since training with her coach, George Serhan, Tylah's handicap has dropped from 38 to 7.

She plays Saturdays at Wallacia Ladies Golf Club and has won three trophies for doubles as well as the Junior Encouragement Award.

"I felt privileged to have the opportunity to train with the academy. It helped me a lot socially and with my golf," she said.

Tylah has qualified for Combined High Schools swimming, tennis and golf at

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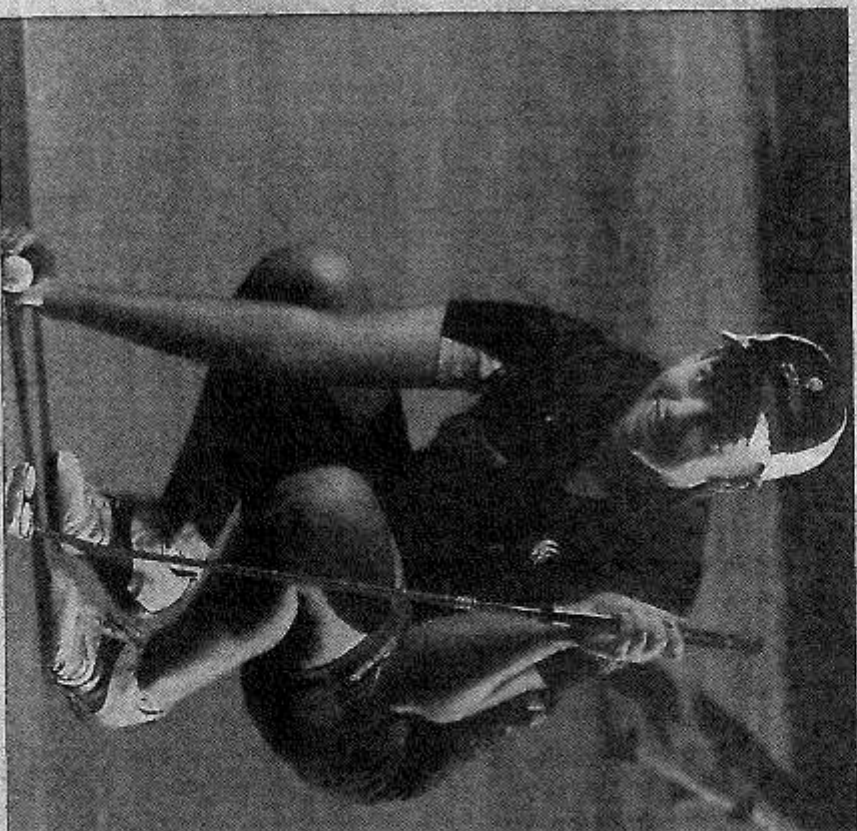
both regional and state levels and was runner-up at the state championships in golf in Dubbo last week, after a Talent Assessment state championship camp the week before.

"Being able to reach states in golf helped me see how much I'd achieved in just a year," Tylah said.

"I would love to be on the LPGA in the future, but I would like to reach my full potential. If I don't become professional then I don't want to be the best I can be."

Tylah is the latest nominee for the *Parrish Press* Junior Sports Star award, sponsored by Rebel.

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Tylah Saifolo is a member of the Western Sydney Academy of Sport.

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