



# Foundation of quality career

## Junee apprentice region's best

FEW Riverina residents can honestly boast they are the best in their field, but Junee man Rhys Scott has a medal to prove it.

The 18-year-old second year apprentice bricklayer was last month named by WorldSkills Australia as the region's best young skilled tradesperson in his field of expertise.

In order to take out the title Rhys had to prove he had both the outstanding practical skills and supreme knowledge needed to be a top bricklayer.

"We had to brick this really fancy wall, it's a bit hard to describe but it was a bit tricky," he said.

"There were seven of us in our TAFE class who were involved and they also looked

at our marks.

"We waited three months after that and then there was a big presentation in Albury and I was the gold medallist for the region."

While competing against hundreds of the Riverina's best and coming out on top is an enormous achievement, the competition does not stop there.

Rhys is now preparing to compete in the national round of the WorldSkills competition in a bid to secure a place on the Australian team, the Skillaroots.

The team will compete against some of the world's best young skilled tradespeople at the Skills Olympics to be held in London in 2011.

But for Rhys, the accolades

keep on coming.

It was also recently announced that he was judged The Group Training Association of NSW disability apprentice of the year

Now just two years into his training, Rhys is thrilled with his accomplishments and said he had never expected to reach such a high level so early in his career.

"I love what I do," he said.

"When I got into bricklaying I never thought it would be something I could compete in against apprentices from across Australia."

Rhys will represent the region in the national WorldSkills competition to be held in Queensland in February 2010.



RISING TO THE TOP: Junee's Rhys Scott has been named as the region's best young tradesperson in his field.