

The article below from the June 4 edition of the Northern Times, is about Marsden High student ALEX WOOD. Alex was from Newington primary school and is currently in Year 9. In Year 7 and 8 Alex was a part of our **Pinnacle program** for gifted and talented students Alex is also part of our **Talented Sport** program, specialising in Touch football and Oztag. Alex decided to attend Marsden High after attending numerous open days at different high schools. Alex was particularly interested in the sports opportunities offered at Marsden. This year he has enjoyed the wide ranging choices of elective subjects for Year 9.

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Kate Bastians

**BUMPING** shoulders with a much older opponent is a scary proposition for most teenagers.

Not for Alex Wood. The 14-year-old has been selected in the NSW U18 team for Ultimate, a team sport where points are scored by passing a disc, or frisbee, between teammates into the opposing team's "end zone".

He played against adults in his first official tournament as a 13-year-old and coach Alex Ladomatos said Alex never uses age as an excuse to perform less well.

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Picture: ADAM WARD

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JUNIOR SPORTS STAR

## Ultimately, sky's the limit for talented Alex

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"Alex always puts in 100 per cent," coach Alex Ladomatos said.

Alex is this week's nominee for the *Northern District Times* Junior Sports Star award, sponsored by Rebel.

He is all set to compete at the Australian Youth Ultimate Championships at Al-

bert Park in Melbourne this weekend.

Alex said he had been around the Ultimate scene since he was born, watching his father Simon play at a national and international level.

"I have found it to be one of my most favourite sports in the world," he said.

"It is a sport that anyone can play really, which is why it is so much fun."

Alex said he could not get enough of the game and wants to take it as far as he can.

"I am aiming to make the Australian U19 team that will go to the World Championships in 2016."

If you are interested in playing, email development@ufnsw.com.au

Junior Sports Stars and Young Achievers are athletes aged 10-16 who live in the newspaper's distribution area. To nominate a young star, fill in the form on page 47 or enter online at juniorsportsstar.com.au



Ultimate ace Alex Wood.