



BUCKLED DOWN: Batemans Bay's Ben Buckley in the B grade finals of the Australian Waveski Titles.

# New wave of Bay talent

## WAVESKIING

BATEMANS Bay Waveski riders Brandon Small and Ben Buckley have just returned from the 2007 Australian Waveski Titles held in Wollongong last week.

The first three days of competition were held at Sandon Point in messy four to five foot surf conditions, and the last two days in clean three to four foot waves at East Corrimal.

The two boys surfed well against the cream of Australia's Waveskiers, Brandon progressing to the fourth round of the Open, the semi-finals of the Seniors division and running a close third in the B grade final.

The Bay's Ben Buckley was, at 16 years old, the youngest competitor in the event and had some great heats.

Buckley made it to the third round (knocking out his father

along the way) of the Open event.

He surfed a heat against past World and Australian champions Dave Dinning and Rees Duncan, and ran a very creditable fourth in the B Grade final in his first ever Australian Titles event.

These results are impressive considering the distance these competitors live from major population centres where the competition is much stronger.