



Junior champion Daniel Pritchard, 15. Christine Tew from Upwey won gold at the World Transplant Games on the Gold Coast last month.

Pictures: ROBERT MCKECHNIE N12FP402

Just rewards for top stars

A GOLD medal winning athlete and a blind cricketer are *Free Press Leader's* top 2009 sports stars.

They received the top honours at a glittering gala event at Etihad Stadium hosted by Leader last week.

World Transplant Games athlete Christine Tew was our Senior



Sports Star with Tecoma schoolboy Daniel Prichard taking out the jun-

ior honour. Tew, a two-time kidney recipient, won three gold and one silver at the World Transplant Games last August.

She scooped gold for high jump, as well as discus and shot put, both of which were new world records, and won silver for javelin, which was a new Australian record.

Daniel, an Upwey High School student, was named the Victorian Blind Cricket Association's rookie of the year as well as the emergency player for the Victorian Blind Cricket Team at the national championships in Sydney in January.

The 15-year-old was also a member of the Victorian Goalball Team

and played in the National Goalball Championships. Goalball is a fast and bruising sport played by blind and vision-impaired people that is fast-paced and relies on hearing.

Daniel was born with a hereditary eye disease causing permanent retinal detachment and subsequent vision loss.