



HITTING OUT: Harry Bouchier is aiming for the top. Picture: RAOUL KOCHANOWSKI

Young gun Harry is fast making a racket

IT has been a successful year for rising Tasmanian tennis player Harry Bouchier.

The 14-year-old Friends student has had his most successful year to date, winning multiple junior tournaments around the country as well as his first Open Tournament last weekend.

Bouchier started 2010 with his first national title when he won the U14s National Grass Court Championships with ACT's Ryan Frawley.

This was the beginning of a solid run of results for Bouchier as he progressed into the latter stages of many mainland tournaments, including the quarter-finals of the U16s National Clay Court Championships in April.

In July, Bouchier had the



TENNIS

Nick Hudson

opportunity to travel to Europe with a group of some of Australia's best 14-year-olds and two Tennis Australia National Academy coaches.

The group spent a week in a training camp before competing in a three tournament series on European Clay.

Bouchier managed one semi-final appearance and two second round appearances over the three tournaments as well as taking out

the U14 Doubles title at the LBS Cup in Germany with Ben Dallinger from Western Australia.

"There wasn't a huge difference in standard in Europe but there was a far greater depth in talent in the tournaments which made them a lot more difficult," Bouchier said. "But overall I was pretty happy with the way I played there."

"Playing on the European clay really helped me develop my tennis and I have been able to bring that experience back home. I feel my game has really improved."

Now Bouchier hopes his form continues as he approaches the U14 Australian Boys Championships at Melbourne Park in December.