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■ Top skills ... Hayley Renouf takes part in the Queensland Pro-Am Lifeguard Championships.

■ lifesaving

Lifesaving skills show in state bid

CABOOLTURE lifeguards Ashley Gordon and Alicia Kirk staked their claim for state team selection during the Royal Life Saving Society of Queensland's Pro Am Challenge on Sunday.

The event at the Caboolture Regional Aquatic and Leisure Centre featured almost 50 competitors vying for a Queensland spot ahead of the National Challenge in Canberra in January.

Gordon, a national champion, won the 100m obstacles

and the 50m and 100m mannequin tow in the over-30 division. Kirk won the under-19 line throw division in her sixth year contesting the event.

Kirk trains under Gordon and her mother Katrina at the Caboolture centre, alongside rising talents Caitlin Chippendale, Jessica Cockett, Josephine Wood and Ryan Chapman.

Two other local standouts were Damian Gray and Karalee Johnson, who train

under Michael Darben at the Burpengary Aquatic and Fitness Centre.

On Thursday night, the Caboolture pool also hosted the RLSSQ Secondary State Championships.

More than 100 competitors hit the water in obstacle races, line throwing and patient carries and tows. Sunshine Beach HS took home the overall trophy, with Taylor Redwood showing exceptional skills in all pool events.



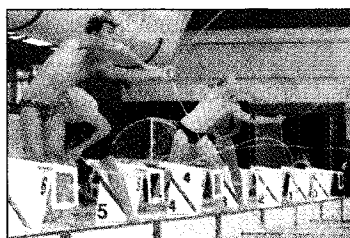
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■ Relaxing ... Adam Douglas of Ashgrove floats by.



JW155676

■ Big smiles ... Karalee Johnson and Jo Boustead.



JW155676

■ Line throwing ... Jarrod Poort, Ryan Chapman, Ty Collins and Joshua Stone.



JW155676

■ Great skills ... Sarah Windsor and Rob Reid.



JW155676

■ Roped in ... Natalie Glossat of Redcliffe.