



DJARRAGUN COLLEGE

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School Rover

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GARAGE SALE : MAY 12

This very worthwhile venture prompted a lot of enthusiasm and some intense work from students and staff alike. It was a fundraising event to assist in the costs for Uncle Phillip Epseg for treatment at a Melbourne clinic for the care of Cancer patients. The first phase of treatment has been completed and Uncle Phillip has

returned to Cairns, showing a remarkable recovery..

It is great to see him back on campus, although he is not ready to go back to work. He is continuing follow-up treatment with a machine that has been located at the school for that purpose.

As steady flow of people on the day made for a successful outcome for sellers and buyers alike. The range of supply was astounding and the generosity of people was truly apparent.

Exhausted shoppers (left) Ms Mbongeleni Chigeza & Ms Apaula Tafea test out the furniture for prospective bargain hunters.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY -

"What we know is really not much. What we don't know is enormous!"

L. Turner

FLASHPOINT



Even the fly on the wall can be left slightly bewildered by the activities in the Computer lab where Mr. **Aaron Agius** has a successful following from amongst the Suns and Comets creating animated clips. Clinically, labelled 'Simple Flash Animation', it only requires a stretched five minutes to determine that this is a misnomer, if ever there was one.

Tackling the jargon is the first challenge. Identifying layers, creating buttons and applying other cryptic anagrams become a study in concentration that leads into the portals of a mystery cyberspace - the galactic Black Hole in miniature, lurking behind a cursor.

A hefty tome ambitiously titled, "Teach Yourself Flash MX in 24 Hours" almost sarcastically composites the chapters as 'hours'. In Hour 8, one can dabble with motion tweens to create animations. Virtually, in the same breath, it reminds us that in Hour 7, one had completed 'Animation in the Old-fashioned Way'. (I only have Charlie Chaplin to thank for my perception of old-fashioned animation.) By the 9th Hour, one can be 'Using Shape Tweens to Morph' - a morph being a kind of animation that naturally changes one shape to another. By this stage, one is possibly beaming in and out of an illusionary state, hoping to define the parameters of telepathy or searching the telephone book for John Edward's number.

As one approaches the dreaded 12th Hour, one is working indepth - 'Using Layers in Animations'. Task 1 invites one to 'use two layers to animate two circles'. If your head is not already working in circles - the circles are going to be moving, as well. This is when rationality is struck by the 'Pause button', self-hypnosis wrestles with an x-factor and consciousness swims in its own simulation. Then when suspense is at its poignant peak, the 'Masked Layers' enter the scene. By now, you will be disappointed that these are not your prized Australorps in disguise. Egg in your face, again !!

Wherever Peter Pan is, this would not be foreign territory. What appears like haphazard script actually generates an image (and one that moves). Shapes can be tailored and actions predetermined. Colour is an extraneous variable; then, comes subtext, morphing and sound.

Like all good Westerns, the cavalry always trundles over the nearby ridge to ease the dilemma of the beleaguered. Mr. Aaron has installed a tidy set of tutorials that trains the novice through the gambit of the above-mentioned. Unfortunately, it appears that there will still remain in existence that odd slow-coach or two.

Some of us have trouble just logging in, so the availability of provocative terms like Quicktime and Flash carry the ring of salvation. To help one further, certain tasks 'can be done in any order' - (which is what some of us were doing anyway). However, the results are not what was planned for, anticipated, nor desired.

Cecil B. de Mille would, undoubtedly, cast envious lenses at the cinematographical menu being delivered to many unsuspecting diners in our computer cafe. Mind you, it's easier said than done and, if he had the tufts to hand, occasionally, **Mr. Aaron** would be seen tearing his hair out in his own animated sort of way. Thankfully, a comforting percentage of the media-manics have thrown results to him to finally propel him into his verbal reverie - "WOW !! How cool is that, champ!!"

READING BETWEEN THE LINES



At the middle of the day, a noticeable feature to the School programme validates a concerted drive to improve the reading skills for all students.

Ms Sherral Aird has her hands full with a flighty crew



which sometimes resembles a team of newly-harnessed broncos all chafing at the bit. Literally, she herself, can be lost for words.



However, good things come to those who wait - and the results are beginning to show. Working with students who customarily practise reading as furtive scans across a page is immediately challenging - for the student as well as the teacher. So it is great to compliment a few of the boys from the Years 8 & 9 group who have progressed from one phase up to another. **Charlie David,**

Bradley Miller, Ted Dau and Murphy Tabuai have broken the ice and moved into the arena of confident readers.

Even the struggling participants have shown quick grasp and adept reiteration of a whole menu of pizzas from an Eagle Boys flyer. **Frank Charlie** surprised himself by eclipsing his challengers in a speed reading race using a paragraph that initially presented as a slight tongue-twister.



Congratulations to boys like **Zane McGreen** whose strong voice is gradually mastering the correct pronunciation of established English morphemes and phonemes. Several have taken on the challenge with enthusiasm and are good prompts for others

The boys themselves are realizing the improvement in their own abilities and are now faced with the revelation that reading competence is within their reach.





DU CAFÉ

Another little enterprise has hit the school campus. **Ms Rosemary Morrison** and **Ms Peggy Chigeza** have the Hospitality Class steaming its way through the Latte and Espresso lane. (At left) **Anai Ganaia** is attending to the caffeine fixes for **Mr. Frank van Pamelan** and **Mr. Philemon Chigeza**.

Only weeks ago, **Mr. Joe Tamburin** reclaimed the verandah outside of the old Tuckshop to cordon off an area that will host the Djarragun Coffee Shop. Muffins and cookies are being served in a limited mode at the moment by the enthusiastic students. Initial trials are being directed to members of staff and it hasn't been too long in the waiting to identify satisfied customers and a regular morning queue.

DJARRAGUN CROSS COUNTRY



Feet pounding the turf once again indicated another cross country jaunt for Djarragun students. With no specific training for the event, runners negotiated the course on natural talent and personal reservoirs of adrenalin.

As any friendly games would espouse, the track was bespeckled with a range of animated figures covering the distance at varying speeds. The really time-focussed ones expended their energies with the urgency of Olympians, some just raised a sweat and the rest were satisfied with a healthy constitutional walk or subsided to an obligatory loiter.



The fun element to the event was maintained and students didn't cower under pressure to enjoy a minor departure from the norm for a couple of hours.



TRAFFIC HAZARD

All Djarragun College Transport drivers are to **avoid** using the **Bruce Highway / Maher Road** intersection. This intersection is rapidly becoming far too dangerous. It is only a matter of time before a major accident occurs there. College vehicles coming from a southerly direction, or from the Farm, are to use the Traffic Light intersection and travel through Gordonvale.

College vehicles going to Cairns are to travel through Gordonvale and use the traffic light intersection. Vehicles returning from the north (Cairns) may turn left into Maher Rd. to return to Djarragun College, as there is a pull off lane provided.

I have also been notified by Queensland Rail that there will be increased Train Traffic, including the reintroduction of the Tilt Train, passing our school.

This also affects our use of the Bruce Highway /Maher Rd. Intersection. I urge all staff members to use utmost care when using this Intersection when leaving school at the end of the day.

Thank you for your cooperation.
Simon Cotton (Deputy Principal)



*(left) Oliphanu Elisala & Mariza David strutting.
(below) Eastern Island boys*



Delegates attending an educational conference in Cairns took the time to visit the school. Though it was brief, Djarragun students pulled out all stops to stun an appreciative audience including representatives from Canada, New Zealand, Chile and Mexico. Primary School singers strained out every crotchet of the School Song and the dancers pummelled the stage into glottal shock dimension.

The Aboriginal Dance troupe was endowed with its latest addition in the form of **Ned Ingui**, who has possibly secured the title of our first cultural cross-dresser - and he danced to the great delight of enamoured spectators. (Move aside, Gulpilil !!)

A Maori vote of thanks completely in the language of the Land of the Long White Cloud fluttered through the speakers; then we abandoned an episode in a sensitive and meaningful assemblage.

