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School Rover

Issue 04, May 25, 2007



YUBBA 'GABBA DO

What an amazing experience for 'young-bloods' who formed the Djarragun College team to add to their sporting resume an historic event. Congratulations to organizers for the Sporting Academy who successfully effected a major milestone in its short history at the College.

Playing curtain-raiser to a National League fixture in Brisbane would be the dream of many hopeful sportspersons. Here, some as young as thirteen have earned the privilege of public scrutiny in front of some 50,000 avid spectators.

This is not an event that can be trained towards with certainty. Being thrust into a raucous stadium amassed with strangers would beggar even a veteran to public assemblies. A simple game can be magnified into an unnerving encounter with forces from without and within. What fleets through the mind of a teenager who, within the spate of two hours, becomes public spectacle to a crowd that would eclipse the total of his own home community, fifty to one hundred times.

Glowing reports from AFL manager of the Sporting Academy, **Mr. Steve Daniel** attest to the behaviour, conduct and attitude of the team members.

Patrick Atu really liked the trip which was his first visit to Brisbane.

*"When we got into the stadium, it was big with lots of crowd. I felt nervous like a heavy shame. The game was played in the late afternoon and they had the lights on. Lots of cameras were flashing. I met the Brisbane Lions player, Jonathan Brown because I got a cut on my face from a head clash in the third quarter. Later, we watched the Brisbane Lions lose their game against Collingwood. We flew down to Brisbane by plane on Saturday about four in the morning. We arrived there at 8:15 a.m. We stayed at the Backbackers and we played at the pool table and also went swimming in the pool. We went to the Brisbane Southbank which is like a man-made beach for a walk around. I hope I get a chance to go on another trip. I like to thank **Mr. Ben, Mr. Jason and Mr. Steve Daniel.**" **Patrick Atu***
Unfortunately, Patrick doesn't feature in the group photograph above because he was busy acquiring stitches for his facial wound.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

The biggest disease in the world is 'indifference' (RIZWAN)

FREE workshops @ Cairns Libraries!

City Library, Meeting Room 1

Circus workshops:

- 5-9 years - 2nd July, 10am-12pm
- 10-16 years - 3rd July, 10am-12pm

Writing with Trudi Trewin:

- 8-12 years - 4th July, 10-11am

Bookings: 4044 3727

Information: 4057 2214

DREAM FLIGHT

Many of us take for granted these days a flight in an aeroplane. About twenty Djarragun students were selected to take advantage of the Dream Flight programme. The students spent an overnight stay in the Dormitory before an early start to the airport last Saturday, May 19.

Three teachers were also involved as part of the logistics which included truncated passages of sleep deprivation, the forfeit of a Friday evening 'r' and 'r', plus their Saturday morning and afternoon.

Reports back included a comment about the entertaining pilot who had convinced his passengers to feverishly flap their arms to assist lift-off and to hold their breath at the point of landing.

The flight to Townsville followed the contours of the coastal stretch until a figure of eight was completed over the city and then the return to Cairns.

Win a \$3,000 Toshiba laptop

Dear schools, parents and network administrators,

Members of Cairns Libraries can participate in the Online Databases Challenge and win a laptop. If you could please distribute this information through your networks, that would be greatly appreciated!

Online Databases Challenge

As a member of Cairns Libraries, you can win a \$3,000 Toshiba laptop and accessories by correctly answering the four Challenge questions at http://www.slq.qld.gov.au/whats-on/competitions/odc_2007.

All answers can be found by browsing the State Library's free electronic database, Newsbank. This can be accessed by going to www.cairnslibrary.com.au, clicking on **Ask Librarians Online**, then **Online Databases**, then scrolling down to **Newsbank**.

The Online Database Challenge runs from **Monday 21 May to Friday 20 July 2007**.

Best wishes!

Kristie Jones
Children's Librarian
Cairns Libraries

AUSTRALIAN FOOTBALL LEAGUE

AFL Students Trip to Brisbane -

Brisbane Lions v Collingwood Magpies

Team Name - Djarragun College

Colours - Brisbane Jumpers, Yellow shorts and socks

Coach : **Ben Tiller**

Team Manager : **Stephen Daniel**

Runner : **Jason Phillips**

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Adric Morris | 11. Comrie Tabuai |
| 2. Keiran Johnson | 12. Mimo King |
| 3. Maxwell Luke | 13. Repu Kris |
| 4. Neil McGreen | 14. Manuel Tabuai |
| 5. Paul Walit | 15. Alister Bowie |
| 6. Kareem Tabuai (Capt.) | 16. Charlie Dau |
| 7. James Gaidan | 17. Gehmat Hobson |
| 8. Alton Matthew | 18. Patrick Atu |
| 9. Adam McGreen | 19. Eliza Jackonia |
| 10. Jafar Croker (Vice Capt.) | |
| 20. Raymond Cooktown | |

DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

Students were treated with a captivating session by Jake, Breeze and Smiley. These talented pooches are employed by the Department as detector dogs for chemical residues.

Greg Horrocks and **Ian Rodger** from DPI, together with Cameron Buswell from RSPCA made presentations to the students to raise awareness of the roles of animals in our society and also our responsibility towards looking after pets at home and in the community.

Jake (a black labrador) was the first to face the audience and showed its ability to play and retrieve a rag toy and a rubber object.

Denna Auda acted as Assistant and set up a target under a hollow brick. There were five other similar bricks. When Breeze was brought onto the scene, she sniffed two bricks and then started clawing at No. 3 brick - which was the correct one.

WRITER'S CRAMP

THURSDAY'S ASSEMBLY

Today, we had an assembly for the International delegates who visited our school.

First, the Aboriginal dancers came to do the first three dances. It was amazing to see Michael and Ayden dancing. They were excellent dancers. When they finished dancing, the Eastern Island girls' group danced and the Western Island boys' group danced. After the Eastern Island girls' group came on and danced. They all were excellent dancers.

Then the New Zealanders came up. The man talked in his language to show respect. They gave a gift to Ms Jean. When they were ready to go, the two ladies sang a song. When they went, the head leader in the girls' group took the visitors to eat some food and drink.

They came from all different countries and that was the end of assembly. We came back from assembly. Ms Michelle put up some words about the visitors. Then we wrote about the stuff that we saw at assembly. It was the greatest assembly I ever saw in my life and the visitors were amazed about the whole assembly. It was so amazing to see the people amazed about everything on this special day.

Breanna Yeatman



Laurianna Baira (l) and **Daisy Noah** (r) host some of the visitors to the school after a recent presentation.



DARE TO ACHIEVE

Ten students have been selected from the DTA programme to engage in an upbeat bivouac, honing skills to peak levels. They will follow a four week rotation of teambuilding activities and initiative games.

The group did rope courses in the first week up at the Djarragun Farm. In week 2, they hiked up to Pete's Falls in the Goldsborough Valley carrying with them Trangias (camping cooker) and backpacks. until they reached the waterfall where they enjoyed a swim. They were responsible for carrying all the gear.

In week 3, there will be preparatory work for canoeing skills prior to endeavouring a trip by sea kayaks from the mouth of Deeral to Yarrabah. It should take four days. It will be fully remote so they will be carting all the medical, rescue equipment, EPIRB and communication satellite telephones and flares.

The supervisors are **Tim Trehearn** (The Northern Outlook) and **Daniel Hollis** (Djarragun teacher).

The boys involved are from Years 8 and 9.

Mark Tomarra	9	Grayson Hart	8
Kieren Johnson	9	Ted Dau	8
Passi Namai	9	Comrie Tabuai	8
Newman Billy	9	Fredson Akiba	8
Charlie David	9	James Gaiden	8



We hope they won't be up the creek without a paddle. Some preliminary practice runs prepared the small group for its venture from Deeral along the water course to eventually terminate at Etty Bay.

ANIMALS AT THE ZOO

Boarders had the opportunity to visit the Kuranda Zoo on the weekend. **Passi Namai** provides a brief report on the afternoon excursion -

"One of the creatures we saw, at first, looked like a big stone. I saw the shape of the front of it and realized that it was a hippopotamus. We were walking around to the lion's arena at 10:30 a.m. and we saw the brown bear swimming in a small pool. We threw meat over the fence for the lion and small cubs rushed out (3 males and 2 females). We watched them eat and two began to fight over the kaikai. We went to the cheetah area; two of them were lying down together. We then went down to see deer that bunched up in two groups of five. We walked then to the emu compound but we wanted to see the lions show which wasn't until another 17 minutes. We took off to see the peacocks and then the emus (parents and three babies). Later, we spotted another big emu.

Next to them was the lion's cage. There were seven big lions in one cage and three babies in another. Close by were two cheetahs in a cage and one rhinoceros that was separated from the others.

In the next area, we saw something big and grey in the shade. This animal was BIG. We went to the tiger cage just waiting for the Lion show to start. We came upon the spider monkey cages. Another monkey had a fringe on top. Two baboons were in one cage and the zoo will be introducing bigger ones in the future.

By now, we went to the tiger cage. It came out and walked to its kaikai so we were able to take a lot of photos. When the trainer put the meat on top, the tiger stretched and jumped up to get it. It was bigger than us. They fed it beef.

Dallasa Gibuma took off when the emu ran along the fenceline. **Laurianna Baira** jumped as soon as the tigers headed towards her part of the fence. **Fredson Akiba** was frightened by the baboon. Two buses carrying around thirty students finally packed up and headed back to the Dorms." **Passi N.**

One can imagine a collective sigh of relief when the residents of the zoo realized that the animals had all gone (Jokes). Maybe, in a later issue, we might have some photos to garnish the page.

CAST OUT

The small Drama group with **Mr. Spike** is gradually making headway. Initial appearance of the group found most wanting in the control department. Each possessed an overdose of playfulness but were lacking composure. Some liked the attention to the detriment to effective and convincing performance. Thankfully, many have cottoned on to the discipline required to convince a live audience (albeit their peers who can apply savage scrutiny). Natural talent is evident in a few players like **Henry Tabuai** and **Elijah Tapim**, who have the confidence and nous to create a 'scene' at the drop of the proverbial hat. Henry takes on the trickster role



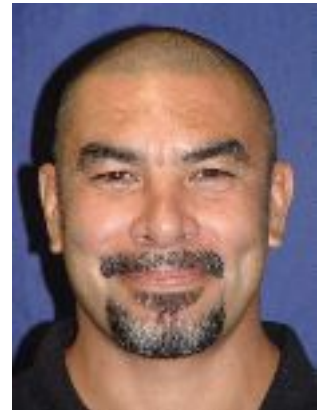
(not unlike Mahoney in Police Academy) and Elijah appears more like the stolid, enquiring policeman - something along the lines of Lieutenant Columbo. The girls are emerging from their thespian purdah and a couple of directors are already wielding their own batons. **Allena Tabuai** can produce a threatening face that would intimidate Medusa. **Dallasa Gibuma** maintains a vibrant personality; she shows that she enjoys herself; her alertness and drive are true evidence of someone who can cope with the "Ready, camera, ACTION" routine.

Sheldon Given throws a laconic blanket over the show. The wry grin always suggests a brewing menace that the Coyote saves up for the elusive Roadrunner. **Gehmat Hobson** had his small group gripped in silent concentration while he expounded on his experiences playing AFL at the 'Gabba last weekend.



GRADUATIONS

Congratulations to members of our staff who recently celebrated their graduation ceremonies. Above is Mr. **James Koroma** sharing the historic moment with Mr. **Chris Chigeza**. Other graduates included Ms **Leanne Standen** (below l), Mr. **Warren Eyre** (below r.) and Ms **Aimee Wockner**.



HATS OFF TO MR. TEKOA

In a rare moment of relaxation, Mr. Tekoa was captured by our roving photographer reminiscing on a bygone moment when he had joined an American Indian in the 'Mana' dance performance (on the screen). Part of his busy schedule involves interviews for new enrolments and initial contacts with parents in the communities. As the College Dean, **Mr. Tekoa** oversees the discipline process in the school and works in close negotiation with the counsellors and pastoral care advisors.



As a rabid supporter of colours across the border and across the Tasman, he baits (in sporting humour) those who like being goaded into parochial passions during the seasons of the State of Origin matches or the Test series. Of course, his commitment is patently evident in the coaching sessions he conducts - be it Rugby Union or Rugby League. His influence towards inspirational participation and achievements is presently reaping rewards in the number and calibre of successful players.

SEBA RAIZA DAVID : Condolences to the family of Seba who recently passed away in Cairns. Seba, a young mother (20 y.o.) is a past student of Djarragun. She had endured heart complications all her life. However, she maintained a keen zest to life and a happy disposition. Her younger sister, Maluka currently attends Djarragun.