



ACN 063 049 669

Maher Road, P.O. Box 771, Gordonvale, North Queensland 4865  
tel. (07) 4043 3777 fax (07) 4056 6111 email [admin@djarragun.qld.edu.au](mailto:admin@djarragun.qld.edu.au)

website: <http://www.djarraguncollege.qld.edu.au>

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# School Rover

Issue 14, Nov. 16, 2007

## THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

The first step in the acquisition of wisdom is silence, the second listening, the third memory, the fourth practice, the fifth teaching others.

**Solomon Ibn Gabriol**

# ACADEMIC CHALLENGE

Another bout of team activities sent the Middle school



students through temporary mental reflux. The Dining Room again reverberated with war cries by the Vikings, Warriors and Knights teams, histrionics from **Mr. Gio Douven** and unusual body gyrations by **Mr. Daniel Hollis**.

Panels of six representing the three respective teams raced to beat the tambourine to answering questions on General Knowledge, Sport, Science, Maths, English and Indigenous Studies. Intermittent novelty acts broke the passion of the





strictly academia. The mildly suggestive 'hippop' by **Tyomi Solomon** drew strong contrast later by the 'hip hop' duo, **Cayden Satrick and Bradley Miller**. **Ms Leeann Standen** resurrected the 'Chicken Dance' and prompted some of the staff to join her in a 'Can Can' sort of parade. **Israel Graham** and **Titus Tamwoy** guzzled on the microphones as the latest craze in musical ensembles ingrained itself into the Djarragun ethos.

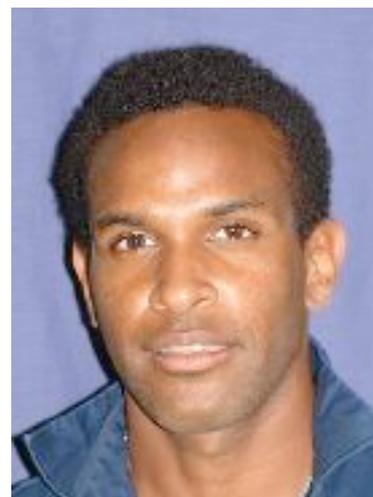


Other group games included the Hoop Hop where a team holding hands in a circle raced to have all its members pass through the hoop. Such a ruckus of bodies jumbled itself into a medley of capers, quizzes and comedy. This time round the session was so jam-packed with action, time forced the Challenge into a second sitting a few days later.



## LAWRENCE WAIGANA

More often than not, hidden away in a nondescript corner of the campus is 'The Shed'. Operating under several guises, it accommodates a variety of eclectic activities. Apart from the woodwork, metal fabrication, stained glass creations, mechanics, welding and maintenance, it harbours an assortment of busy, industrious artisans - a hive not unlike Santa's little operation way up on the North Pole. One particular set of nimble hands has caught the attention of his mentor, **Mr. Joe Tamburin**, who sings his praises with gusto of one of the Three Tenors. This is his song.



There is a young man whose application in the workshop is incredible. Enrolled in the Certificate 1, Engineering Course, he shows plenty of innate ability, sensible behaviour and realistic focus. He is reliable, punctual, polite and even better still, enthusiastic. One could go off on retirement and know that this young fellow would continue unsupervised and to conclusion whatever task he was engaged in at the time.



Lawrence is the first student that I have worked with who shows real integrity. He is meticulous with measurement and attentive to the details which are ground rules stuff when working with materials that cannot be wasted. Precision and exactness are crucial to high quality results. Where other students make attempts, Lawrence makes successes.

Lawrence has worked on multiple projects. He operates the welding gear very competently and took little time gaining mastery over this type of industrial equipment. He seems able to absorb information and acquire skills with amazing finesse. He engages himself actively and it becomes a pleasure to teach



him because one can be assured of his focus. You know that your words are not wasted on the desert air and this is one student who takes up the challenge not just for entertainment but for genuine learning and the acquisition of specific skills. Whoever is lucky enough

to engage Lawrence in the future will get more than he or she bargained; Lawrence will produce the goods and prove a valuable asset to any staff and workplace.

Here is a softly spoken, quiet achiever. You will see him engaged in a variety of activities around the school. He has sporting acumen, musical accomplishment and singing ability. He never draws attention to himself and is happy to participate in the most mundane chores that crop up around the school.



His handiwork includes a trailer for a generator. This he constructed from start to finish with Mr. Joe Tamburin providing the supervision. He welded the metal cleats which join the roof trusses. These joint pieces had to be measured and cut on the ground to specific angles before they took their places between the beams so that the roof would maintain a uniform gradient. A coffee table metal frame has a wooden kidney shape top and the base escapes the straight-lined angular look in favour of very fluid curves and fingered extensions. Large metal benches were produced for other VET tutors to furnish their respective workshops. An ornamental tree of beaten metal endorses Lawrence's range of media with which he can apply himself. The mechanic pit gave him his chance to work with wet concrete and moulds. Installation of the stained-glass windows into the library add credence to his versatility.

Lawrence has a good sense of leadership. He is a fine role model and assumes an active position when younger students need attention and supervision. His supportive nature provides a natural guidance quality and he teaches by example. Though he doesn't think himself a leader, he possesses those attributes that prompt inspiration in others.

Congratulations, Lawrence, for providing a shining example that has not gone unnoticed especially by your supervisor in the Engineering Department. Let's hope his song has many more verses yet unsung.

*A tribute rephrased from Mr. Joe Tamburin*

## HEALTH

Students have access to a range of services to help keep their wellness status on the positive end of the scale. The School Nurse, Ms Sue Clarke maintains a busy schedule attending to a vast range of complaints from minor abrasions to dental appointments.

The school doctor visits the college regularly and any student who wishes to avail of his service can be rostered on for an appointment.

In this age of strong awareness of congenital ailments and debilities resulting from lifestyle mismanagement and the influx of fast food invasion, indigenous people, in particular, have fallen victim to an inordinate number of health and wellbeing issues.

In recent weeks, Year 8 students were given the School Tuberculin Survey Attendance form to have filled out and signed by parents and guardians. Permission was needed in order to administer the Tuberculin tests.

## VOLLEYBALL

Thursday (8th Nov.), there was a Sports Academy Students vs Gordonvale Police volleyball game organised for 1:00 - 1:40 p.m.. Due to a crammed timetable for seniors at present, the game has been organised for middle school academy students with primary students and non-academy middle school able to observe. There was a full school BBQ on the day. Lunch and drinks were provided for everyone.

**ROSEMARY TABUAI**



Recent past student, **Rosemary Tabuai**, will work as an intern with CYI (Cape York Institute) until late February 2008.

Rosemary is from the Eastern and Western parts of the Torres Strait and grew up here in Cairns. In 2001 she was dux of Djarragun College Primary School, and in 2006 was Dux and Head Girl of the Senior School.

Rosemary is an active member of the community, volunteering widely throughout Cairns in both outreach and committee representation roles. In 2007 Rosemary was announced Junior Citizen of the Year for Cairns, recognising her involvement in local Indigenous and youth affairs, and her academic achievement. Also in 2007, Rosemary was selected to attend the National Youth Roundtable, and be a member of the Roundtable for the year. As part of her involvement in this program she is working with a group to promote the message *Stronger Families, Strong Youth*.

Rosemary will be commencing a law degree in 2008.

## ROCK AND WATER PROGRAMME

The following staff undertook training recently :-  
 Jade Allgood Terri Armadio Malo Chan Foon  
 William Clarke Maree Cotton Simon Cotton  
 Kerry Dobson Virgil Gill Michael Hansell  
 Deb Hancock Rob Hodge Warren Eyre  
 Franko Honsa James Koroma Michael Doherty  
 Estelle Neilson Graeme Patterson Sam Pau  
 Cate Robinson Jack Russell Gilon Sam  
 Kaylene Schumacher Rudra Singh Lifu Sipi  
 Harry Tenni Craig Thistlethwaite Kris Wheeler  
 Aimee Wockner

Other people from outside the school who joined the workshop were -

Robert McBride Shane Little

The dates of this workshop were Sunday 28th October, 29th October and 30th October inclusive. New teaching and boarding staff took part in this professional development. For other staff it was optional. The workshop aimed to promote skills to deal with all of the challenges that come up in life and in this school.

The workshop was conducted by the programme creator, Freerk Ykema who kick-started his educational initiative in the Netherlands to specifically target behaviour modification in youth by building self esteem, mental grounding, mutual respect, support and self-assertion.

## AFL game vs Abergowrie

A squad travelled to Watson Park in North Cairns to play against an Abergowrie College team. This challenge match was organized by the Cairns AFL to promote the Kickstart programme that is presently emerging in North Queensland.

This was a friendly match which Abergowrie went through to win. Best players for Djarragun were **Kieran Johnson, Kareem Tabuai, Toshie Wigness, Paul Walit and Neil McGreen**.

Members of the team :-

Kareem Tabuai (capt.)	Neil McGreen
Raymond Cooktown	Manual Tabuai
Kieran Johnson	Maxwell Luke
Paul Walit	Alton Matthews
Gehmat Hobson	Passi Namai
Comrie Tabuai	Alex Namai
Eliza Jackonia	James Gaidan
Aiden Hart	Marcus Satrick
Charlie Dau	Gausa Toby
Eddie Daniel	Adam McGreen
Toshie Wigness	

**Mr. Stephen Daniel**

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**VOLLEYBALL GIRLS** (below) got to hold the trophy after a successful season. Coach Mr. **Aisea Pulini** was proud of the efforts by the girls to reap triumph in his first year coaching at Djarragun.

