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School Rover

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THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

"Cherish each hour of this day for it can never return."

Og Mandino

AFL CRUSADERS

The road to success is oftentimes hard and arduous but there are sure fire ways to counter the 'tyranny of distance' along the Development Road to the tip of Cape York Peninsula. **Alfred Bond** puts his stamp of approval upon a typical Australian outdoor feature of nature that fell across his path on the way to Bamaga.. Dust, sweat and gears are major concerns for travellers through a wilderness terrain that can shatter nerves, rattle suspensions and literally take one's breath away. Tourists take on such journeys for a challenge but the Djarragun AFL teams had to embark on the endurance trip as an affordable means to attend an Aussie Rules Contest in the Northern precinct.



The Annual event has enticed teams from Djarragun in the past and the taste of success has tantalized the appetites of successive groups.

This year both boys and girls fielded 15-a-side teams and powered through the respective contests. The boys fought for the Chris Johnson Cup in which they were defeated by just one point by the team from Tagai College from Thursday Island.

This time around, it was the Year of the Girls and the Angie Nadredre Cup fell into Djarragun hands.

Captain for the Djarragun boys was **Eddy Daniel** and the girls were headed by **Carmille Pearson**.

Dennah Auda made the following brief comment :-

"We went to Bamaga for the CHRIS JOHNSON CUP. On the way there, we stayed overnight at Archer River then got up the next day and left for Bamaga.. When we got there, we stayed overnight at the Bamaga School. The interesting part was when we had got into groups and were talking about the WHICH WAY? OUR WAY programme that Mr. **Rick Hanlon** had organised at our game. The next day, we went to our game and played NPA first and then Tagai. Next, we ended up winning to bring the cup home."

Willy Wosomo also threw in his quick impressions of the trip North - "This was my first trip to the Chris Johnson Cup. I enjoyed the troupie ride across the Archer River. I was in the AFL troupie with Sheepie. This was only my second time to Bamaga and I know only a few boys there. I played in the forward line and sometimes in the backs. I scored one point.

There were ten people in the troupie including the driver. It was a rough ride and I don't think my body would like to suffer all the same pain because it was hard to sit down for a while.

I would like to say thank you to **Mr. Steve Daniel** for helping to take us on the trip."



Yoshabel Kebisu, Patricia Anau & Aston Wilson are trimmed garnishes settling into the ambience with all the composure of endorsed veterans of the culinary art.

The guardian angel hovering at close quarters is, of course, the ubiquitous **Ms Peggy Chigeza**. Djarragun students have the distinct advantage of absorbing an intriguing menu that has floated along this incomparable tributary of the Zambezi River to replenish our tables in Aussieland. Her cuisine is superlative when appropriately served with a refreshing drink with a Shona twist.

Layla Dodd, Eddy Mau & Vanessa Ambrym made up the second trio sector of the group.



BRISBANE CONVENTION CENTRE COOK OUT LOOKOUT

When the sun goes down and the evening aura fills with the taunting aromas of sumptuous digestibles, apparitions in perfect white magically materialize to orchestrate a banquet.

Look closely and you will recognize a few familiar faces top-decked with chef caps. Clinical, crisp and crimped, they look as well-served as the their creations.

When the flour has settled and the last bubble has deserted the punchbowl, one last six-pack trudged back to a welcomed resting place, pleased with a hard day's work and eager to do it all over again next day.



SPRINGBOARD



The Djarragun participants have been divided into different groups - campfire, agriculture, healthy living, etc.



(Top) Willy Wosomo block laying a barbecue setting
(Above) Tim Tipoti, James Gaidan & Eddy Daniel 'tittle-tattling' - 'tattling' means putting the security strips on library books

On October 15 Brian Dwyer provided some comments - **Brian Dwyer** : working with Healthy Living group.

"I chose the group because I think it is important for children to appreciate that a healthy diet and lifestyle is essential for overall happiness. I come from Florida, USA. I live in Tampa. and I have been working in Construction for Hyatt Hotel in Clearwater Beach, Florida for two years.



Thomas Mundraby - plumbing maintenance to Aquaculture pond
We self-nominate to Springboard - by specifying how we see ourselves fit for the programme and how we can see benefits from our contribution.

I will be involved in six sessions which last for two days at a time. I find the biggest challenge is deciding the direction on which to take the students for successful engagement. The students appeared interested in the fact that we were from the United States. I have never interacted with an indigenous group such as this and it became a mutual learning process. The others in my group **Michelle McGowan, Trevor Kemp and Jenny Arias** and facilitator, **Michelle McCarthy**."



Jamaica Beard, Rittia China, Samara Nish & Flora Walit making posters promoting healthy food

Trevor Kemp came from Melbourne and is a general foreman looking after siteworks - managing contractors and time management elements of industry.

Opportunity to work with Indigenous students was his motivation. Trevor thinks that all the students were really impressive. Their confidence rose particularly on the second day.

Michelle McCarthy : Facilitator - worked on keeping the projects on task and resolved any safety issues. Originally from England and now New Zealand, she works with Impact - a training company which runs the Springboard programme. "I get to see the project from start to finish -seeing the progress each week and seeing the children gaining confidence, talking with the delegates and coming up with their own ideas."

The end of this day's programme culminated in a full group assembly. The various groups outlined their achievements for the day which included the making of calendars for 2010 using the artwork designed in that particular group. Brought out to public mention was the drawing of a shark by **Phillip Whap**.



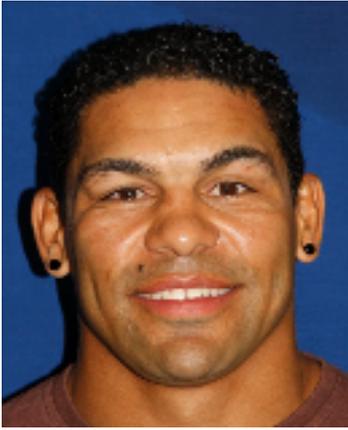
Leesa Baira using the computer art pad for calendar designs

One group set about creating a playground for the Primary school. **Craig Waldon** reported - "First, we made plans and worked on prices and spoke to VIS constructions for materials. We made a garden for vegetables and used tyres for the borders.

We made a cubby house out of timber and the rest of the group made a 50 metre gravel bike track. It isn't finished yet and will take another couple of weeks to complete."

The international composition of the group drew members from Mexico, Switzerland, England, USA, Spain, Scotland and Puerto Rico.

ROD JENSEN



Known widely in this region for his football prowess, Mr. **Rod Jensen** has joined the Djarragun staff as head of the Sports Academy. This is another busy sector of the school and his work here will demand many of his acquired skills and natural talents. Welcome, Mr. Rod to Djarragun.

HOSPITALITY - PRIMARY STUDENTS STYLE

Delegates from DEEWR (Dept. Education, Employment & Workplace Relations) recently used the school facilities to convene one of their inhouse workshops. This was a wonderful opportunity to showcase the skills in hospitality by our Primary students. Ms **Peggy Chigeza** performed one of her numerous magical acts and out came the goodies that sustained part of a National body.



CONSTRUCTION



Primary Library shapes up for a 2010 Opening

Like the inexorable suburban sprawl, the college campus is literally extending horizons. Current projects are coming to completion at astounding speed. Closing the gap between Gordonvale and Edmonton, Djarragun may well assume a pivotal role as the diminishing canefields sprout additional units to our educational complex.

The Primary Library (above) is a structure that is emerging quietly in relative obscurity. Below, the massive Multi-purpose Hall will soon enclose sporting courts and offices and a voluminous assembly facility. The approach to the Primary school will be enhanced by an undercover walkway to counter the Wet season.



Rachel Pau, Adrian Dau & Stephen Auda come out armed to the teeth with sandwiches and nibbles for the day's guests

Rachel Pau : "It was a good experience. We served people who worked for Kindergartens all around Queensland and the Torres Strait. It was the first time for all of us. We got our uniforms from the Home Ec. Room and we served morning tea for two days. We'd like to do it again."

Adrian Dau : "I got picked because I was good in class for Mr. G .and so he picked me."

Stephen Auda : "I was a bit nervous but it will be easy next time. I served cupcakes and fruit."