



Alan Davidson Shield Cricket – Final 16

On Tuesday 23 February, 12 eager cricketers along with Mr Wells and Mr Harvey made the journey to Cobarr to play Mudjee High School in this state-wide knockout competition. The game was once again scheduled to be a day/night match, and the Willyama boys were quietly confident heading into the match after their dominant display against Cobarr at the end of last year. So after some minor trailer issues (there was 10 minutes or so when it looked like our boys would be playing with no gear when the lock on the trailer broke), joint captain Tobias Hack won the toss and elected to bat on an “unusual” wicket.

Heath Caldwell and Cameron Mackay applied themselves well in the early overs, seeing off the new ball, however with Mackay’s dismissal, things went from looking promising to very dismal as the score went from 0/8 to 4/14 in the space of 3 overs. Jordan Vella was watching his partners drop like flies at the other end, until Ryan Lehmann came in and blasted one to the boundary. However, Lehmann went for one too many and was caught playing a reckless shot with the score on 28. Vella was next to go after a patient 10, and when Cody Schorn went with the score on 40, it looked like it was going to be an early night for the boys. Ed McInnes strode to the crease for his first bat in Davidson Shield cricket, and looked at ease, picking off the 1’s and 2’s, while dispatching the bad ball to the boundary. The lower order batted well around Ed to enable Willyama to reach 65, with Ed being left stranded on 18 not out. It was a great innings by Ed, and despite 65 still being well below a par score, it gave the Willyama boys some runs to play with and something to bowl at.

After enjoying a bite of Subway for tea, Willyama entered the field full of enthusiasm and worked hard at trying to defend such a small total. The Mudjee openers were both classy batsmen who represent the Western Region side, so it wasn’t going to be easy. And after Mudjee got to 23 with relative ease, the Willyama boys could have been forgiven for giving up. But giving up is not in these boys nature, and in what was a somewhat surprising move, Tobias Hack brought himself on and picked up an even more surprising wicket. Co-Captain Tom Derham then rattled the other opening batsman’s stumps, and when Ryan Lehmann took 2 wickets in 2 balls, the game was well and truly there for the taking. Unfortunately, the Mudjee boys dug in and scratched their way to victory, but not without some major heart palpitations by the more fancied side.

STUDENT EXCHANGE SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Student Exchange Scholarship Applications are now available for students between 15-18 years of age and offer the unique opportunity to live and study overseas for a semester or year. The deadline for this is Friday 30 April 2010.
www.studentexchange.org.au

COMMENT ON DRAFT NATIONAL CURRICULUM

The Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority (ACARA) recently published the draft K-10 national curriculum in english, maths, science and history. Comments and suggestions from all of the community are welcome until 23 May 2010. The web address is: www.australiancurriculum.edu.au. This is a unique opportunity for you to express your views on the draft curriculum materials that will be used in all Australian schools from next year.



WILLYAMA WHISPERS

Principal: Tony Hicks
PO Box 708
BROKEN HILL NSW 2880
Phone: 08 8088 1055
Email: willyama-h.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Website: <http://www.willyama-h.schools.nsw.edu.au/>

Term 1 Week 5

Friday 5 March 2010

PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

Thank you to the families who have returned the surveys on the proposed homework centre. We will be finalising the structure for this centre in the next week, so your input is very much appreciated.

One of our focus areas this year is that of attendance. It is extremely important that students attend school every day. Failure to do so can lead to students falling behind in their studies becoming disengaged with school.

If your child is away from school because of illness or other reasons it would be greatly appreciated if parents/caregivers could write a note or contact the school as soon as possible.

LIONS YOUTH OF THE YEAR QUEST

Once again students from Willyama High were well represented in this competition. Raynor Hicks and Caitlin Jinks, both in Year 12, competed against students from Broken Hill High for this prestigious award on Thursday 24 February, 2010. Raynor was awarded the most outstanding Public Speaker on the night with Broken Hill High taking the overall trophy home for the first time in a number of years.

The Quest is designed to encourage, foster and develop leadership in conjunction

with other citizenship qualities in our youth at the age in which they are about to enter the field of employment or higher education.

The Youth of the Year Quest provides students with the incentive to pay greater attention to the general qualities so vital in developing our youth into first-class citizens. The qualities sought after, apart from academic attainments, are those of leadership, personality, sportsmanship, public speaking and good citizenship.

Both Caitlin and Raynor presented themselves to the judges in a dignified and professional manner. They both deserve to become the leaders of tomorrow. As a community we can feel secure that our future is in their hands. Congratulations and well done girls.



SCAT MEETING

At the end of last year, I was selected to be a part of the NSW State SRC Conference Action Team comprising a group of 20 NSW Government School students selected to be a part of an organising committee for the NSW Student Representative Council Conference to be held in Sydney mid Term 3.

From the 16th to the 19th of February, the SCAT group had their initial meeting in Sydney to discuss the organisation for the upcoming conference. We discussed the conference theme and interviewed various guests who would like to hold workshops or present ideas to the annual conference at Vision Valley in August.

At the conclusion of this four day meeting, the students visited the channel 7 breakfast show studios of "Sunrise" at Martin Place. The students were given the opportunity to be on the morning show that was broadcast across the nation.

At the conclusion of our TV appearance, we were lucky enough to meet the Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, who was being interviewed inside the studios.

Mr Rudd was more than happy to meet and greet us and discuss why we were in Sydney. It was the highlight to the Friday morning being able to speak to the nation's top leader.

There are more 2 meetings in Sydney before the conference in Term 3. Hayden Zammit



NEW TEACHERS PROGRAM

Teachers beginning their career at Willyama High School have been undergoing training in how to foster and develop the schools value system with our students.

Respect, responsibility and co-operation are the values that underpin our behaviour in Willyama High. Every member of the school community must conduct themselves within the parameters of these values.

Discipline in the school is driven by the values and will be a learning experience for some students.

We welcome on board our new teachers and hope that their experience at Willyama is rewarding.



RUGBY LEAGUE CUP

On Tuesday 2 March the annual Rugby League Cup was held at Tom Knight Oval in Cobar. Twelve dedicated Willyama students braved the sudden cold temperature change along with the nasty screaming of their alarm clocks to catch the 3.45am Countrylink Coach to Cobar. The journey to Cobar was very much a sleepy affair with a quick stop at a roadhouse where some felt that an ice cream for breakfast was the next breakfast of champions.

Arriving in Cobar at about 9am, most boys were keen for a cereal breakfast

which was followed up with them receiving their field positions and football jerseys. Shortly after it was game time! Games were modified to 2 x 15 minute halves and our players were broken down into two separate teams which were placed 3 and 4 at the completion of the days matches. Teams comprised of players from Cobar High School, Nyngan High School, Wilcannia Central School, Menindee Central School, Willyama High School and Broken Hill High School. Whilst Nyngan took out the event, our teams managed to grab a load of points every match, but with a lack of reserves, the fuel tanks soon started to run dry and by the end of the day our line of defence proved the weakest link. There is no question about the attacking ability of our Willyama students as they had no problems crossing the try line, however our defence was to be our downfall where any small gap was punished with 4 points by the opposing attack.

The boys did the school and themselves proud with their performances, and their behaviour and the spirit in which they played the game was exceptional. Highlights included Sam Paewai, Regan O'Donnell and Harley Olds' ability to run at the defence like they were Mack trucks, continually breaking the opposition's line. Captain of Willyama High Trevor Harris, had an uncanny ability to run around his opposition and never get caught which was a fantastic asset to his team. His excellent communication skills proved why he was the lead man for the team. Beau Kennedy's new found fitness was something not even he saw coming. Beginning the match as a forward, Beau was set the challenge of playing as full back, which is where his time off the bench ended. Luke Lines and Carson Banning worked like energiser bunnies all day with all but no time off the field, but a huge work rate was still accumulated. Luke's effort made even more impressive by way of a restricted preparation time. Jarrad Burcher caught the eye of Country Rugby League personnel after great hands and fast footwork made his opposition look fit for a retirement village, scoring a lightning try past the Cobar defence, and within 10 minutes, backing up to save a certain opposition try through unyielding pressure and a textbook one on one tackle. Josh Caruana showed his class in the game with an all round effort that only finished when the final whistle blew. After a 20+ hour day for many of the boys, and after many hours of hard hitting football matches it was very pleasing to see so many backing up for school the next day, proving their determination, spirit and passion and how proud they are to attend Willyama High School. Thanks must go to Ken Kennedy and Jake Caruana from Country Rugby League for organising the event and Darren Bennett for his expertise in rugby league coaching and team management. With limited time, Darren turned 15 individuals into a points scoring team. With his sound advice and continual motivation, Darren was the driving force behind the team's successes. The boys next game will be in the next few months against Broken Hill High School. Training will continue on Monday afternoons from 3.45pm.

Mr T Mortimer