Hansard 19 July 2000

MITCHELTON STATE HIGH SCHOOL, TOUR BY CRICKETERS

Mr WILSON (Ferny Grove—ALP) (10.14 a.m.): The spirit of innovation and initiative is truly alive at Mitchelton State High School. During the recent school holidays, a mixed team of 12 cricketers from Mitchelton State High School's Excellence in Cricket program and two teachers toured Scotland and England. Students from Year 9 to Year 12 competed against regional under 17 representative teams from East, North and West Scotland, Wales and the Lyne Cricket Club. Mitchelton beat East Scotland by seven wickets, North Scotland by eight wickets, were narrowly defeated by 10 runs in one game against West Scotland, lost two other games against West Scotland, drew the game against the Lyne Cricket Club, and unfortunately the game in which they were ahead against the Welsh junior side was washed out. People were so impressed by the performance of the Mitchie side they commented that they thought they were playing a Queensland representative team.

Each player personally raised $3,500 through odd jobs and part-time work to pay for the trip. Local businesses also helped with funding. The team also visited all the sites in Edinburgh, London and, of course, Old Trafford and Lords. There was nothing but praise from the host sides for the excellent behaviour of the players. They were great ambassadors for the Mitchelton State High School, Queensland and the sport of cricket. Congratulations to the players, the Deputy Principal, Simon Riley, and head of Maths and Physical Education, Amanda Nuell-Munroe. Well done.

The Excellence in Cricket program is the first and only course of its type in Queensland schools and is approved by the Board of Senior Schools Studies. There is no doubt about it; State schools are great schools. Under the excellent leadership of the Principal, Terry O'Hanlon-Rose, his staff and a very active P & C, the future looks very bright indeed for the Mitchelton State High School.

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