



Speech by

JO-ANN MILLER

MEMBER FOR BUNDAMBA

Hansard 30 October 2003

JACARANDA FESTIVAL

Mrs MILLER (Bundamba—ALP) (7.07 p.m.): Last weekend the Jacaranda Festival was in full swing in Goodna in my electorate. It is a celebration of our multicultural diversity and a celebration of our schools and the talents of our students. It is our time of year to say to Queensland, 'This is us, this is who we are, and we are proud of it.'

This year I once again participated in the festival parade, only this time I was joined by Jess and Sarah, year 12 musicians from Redbank Plains State High School. We had a great time on the float, talking to many thousands of people who came out in the heat of the day to cheer us on. Next year I understand that our high schools will play a big part in the parade event. The primary schools were great in the parade. I make special mention of Kruger State School. They won the march category and were absolutely fantastic. There must have been over 60 students in the march. I thank the school community, the principal, teachers and students for such a great turnout. The parents were also very proud of their children.

The Bremer TAFE won an award for its float. I am pleased that Mike Guy is back at Bremer TAFE. He was there with his team on the float, as always, supporting our community. I would like to thank the Goodna Jacaranda Festival Committee, its sponsors, the schools, the Goodna RSL and everyone who attended for making the festival such a great success, even though there were three storms and a bit of rain.

Doc Joy White have once again worked their magic. This week I was privileged to attend three school annual award nights—the Westside Christian College at Goodna, the Bundamba State Secondary College and the Redbank Plains State High School. As I could not get leave of the House, I was unable to attend St Peter Claver College awards, but they knew I was with them in spirit. Let this House know that we have enormously talented young people in the electorate of Bundamba. When I talk about my kids, I do not mean my two beautiful daughters who have birthdays this week but all of the kids in my electorate. I was fortunate to present the arts, cultural and biblical studies award to some 47 students at Westside College. I congratulate all of the students at the college on their efforts and success this year.

On Tuesday evening, I attended Bundamba State Secondary College and was delighted to present the Jo-Ann Miller Encouragement Awards. They are very special to me personally. The Billi Brown Drama Encouragement Award went to Alicia Eyres, the Literacy LEAP Award to Amber Toeieiu and the Special Education Award went to Kenneth Utz. I would like to congratulate the school.

On Wednesday evening during the parliamentary dinner break I went hurtling down the Ipswich Motorway to attend the Redbank Plains State High School awards ceremony. Again, special awards were the Wingate Business Award which went to Candice Adolfsen, the Billi Brown Junior Drama Award to Emily McKenzie, the Billi Brown Senior Drama Award to Amanda Jensen as well as the Jo-Ann Miller Apprentice and Trainee Awards. The trainee award went to Beau Garrett and the apprentice award to Robert Campbell.

I would like to thank Billi Brown for his continued support of our young actors and look forward to a visit to our schools when his work commitments allow. He is an absolute legend among our students. I would also like to thank the principals, teachers, teacher aides, registrars and their staff, cleaners, janitors, the P&C, the school volunteers, the parents and grandparents, who all support our schools. Most of all, I would like to thank the students themselves. To our students I say: you are an inspiration to me, you are talented and you are Queensland's and Australia's future.