



ADP STUDENTS: Alice Agnew, Ross Matton-Johnson and Chris Ingham working on their volleyball skills.



CULTURAL EXCHANGE: Students from Japan's Inokuchi Senior High visit Elizabeth College.



SECURE: College police officer Brendan Smith, Kate Meijers, Jasmine Laredo, security officer John Klapsis and Tim Self.

College just keeps growing

ORIGINALLY just a small weatherboard school, the future of Elizabeth College seemed bleak in the 1970s when the Education Department decided the school would gradually be closed down.

However, student numbers continued to grow during the intended cutback period and Elizabeth College has now established a reputation as a college of choice in the greater Hobart area.

Today, EC has more than 1200 students from diverse nationalities who study a vast range of subjects.

To accommodate the growing numbers, the college has been updating and expanding its facilities.

On May 8, Senator Eric

Abetz and Graeme Sturges MHA launched the \$1.7 million theatre, domestic and commercial kitchens, and the innovative Tang Cafe.

Other areas that have been completed include the gymnasium, library, technology classrooms and staff and student amenities.

Future improvements, together with new science labs, more staff parking and grassed areas for students are on the drawing board to be completed within the next five or so years.

EC Redevelopment Committee chair Dr Dianne Purnell said that with many expansions completed and more to come, EC looked to fulfil the learning needs of all present and future students.

Survey finds satisfied students

MOST Elizabeth College students value their school highly and believe it to be a leader among colleges in the Hobart area, a recent survey found.

The survey revealed that there were several significant reasons for people choosing to come to Elizabeth, one being its closeness to either their home or the city.

Many also said that the fact their friends chose to attend Elizabeth influenced their decision.

Although responses were

varied, every student surveyed felt that the college was not only seen as a facility of academic excellence but also as a school that excels on the sporting field.

The survey also quizzed students about how secure they felt at school.

Every person polled said they always felt safe and secure on the school campus, largely because of the on-site college security and the acclaimed Police in Schools program.

More than 75 per cent said

Elizabeth College was supportive of their future career decisions and acknowledging that the new developments, skilled and experienced staff and wide range of services available were important factors in creating an encouraging and stimulating environment.

Students were also surveyed on their exam preparations.

"It's especially important to have a tranquil atmosphere with the exams approaching," year 12 student Paul Crosswell said.

Several students mentioned that the weekly enrichment program was helpful in reducing their stress levels.

Permanent staff counsellors and group advisers who assist students in managing their work, attendance and general welfare were also cited as greatly beneficial to the psyche of the school.

Elizabeth College principal Graeme Young said: "I am very pleased with the favourable response, and it was not entirely unexpected."

ECADP underpins sporting success

THE Elizabeth College Athlete Development Program comprises more than 240 students.

Stand-alone programs include basketball, hockey, rugby, soccer, tae kwon do, volleyball and weightlifting.

Many state, national and international-standard athletes have been involved in the program.

Participants take part in a three-hour session each week.

This involves a one-hour technical session, where the athlete is placed with the best available coaching staff for skill development.

Another hour is dedicated to strength and conditioning.

Finally, students are involved in a one-hour tutorial that focuses on the social, physical and psychological issues specific to their sport.

One example of success is the EC volleyball program. It boasts more than 120 players

in its junior development program; 40 players from the program are in state teams, seven are trying out with the Australian Institute of Sport (two are full-time members at the AIS).

Year 11 student Chris Ingham and part-time Elizabeth College student Joshua Thorpe were recently selected to participate in a national training camp and trial for the national junior men's team at the AIS.

Thorpe was accepted for the national junior team and will travel to New Zealand this month.

Meanwhile, the weightlifting program has produced several junior national champions and Australian representatives. Jay Soria will compete at the national under 20s senior championships this month while Troy Davies won a bronze medalion in the national under 16 titles in April.

Intercollege triumphs

MORE than 200 students from Elizabeth College went to Launceston for the annual inter-college sports day.

Activities varied from network games to sports such as Australian Rules football.

EC once again showed its sporting prowess, winning "scalps" (awards presented to victorious teams) in netball, indoor cricket, table tennis, ten-pin bowling, soccer, volleyball and network games.

One of many successful

teams on the day was the women's netball team, which went through the day undefeated, cruising to the final and ultimately to the scalp.

Participant Leigh Johnson described the day as "an extravaganza of sporting talent and well worth the three-hour trip".

Next year, EC will have its sights firmly fixed on the football and basketball scalps — the only ones missing from the cabinet.

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