

Women's C Grade (Thurs. 9th).

The women's thirds (comprised mainly of women's seconds at the moment) had a fairly comfortable victory, winning 56-11. Jan hit 20 points for the first time since the Wollongong I.V. last year and the team just coasted to another win. One hopes that some of the regular thirds return soon from wherever they are so as things can get back to normal.

Women's Fourths (Sun. 12th)

Unfortunately Betty couldn't scrape up enough players to field a team in the first game of the new season. This in itself is interesting, because he told us that all his players were going to quit when he stopped coaching but maybe they've left early or perhaps it's just the "rural holiday syndrome". Who knows, we gave a walkover anyway.

V.A.B.A. Div. 2 (Wed. 15th)

Uni 41 d Nunawading 39.

We jumped to 10-2 deficit in the early minutes of the game, due mainly to the fact we were getting thrashed on the boards. Betty took a time out and made some subs and we fought back well and the rest of the game was a basket for basket tussle. Our man to man defense looked much better than our zone and although offense was a bit scrappy we held our own. Betty hit the winning basket under pressure with 10 seconds to go, and we escaped with a much needed victory. No one was outstanding and everyone contributed something, and this is leading to much better team play and team spirit than we had last year. We have now won 3 and lost 2 for the season.

Graeme B. 13, Haggis 9.

V.W.B.A. B Reserve (Wed. 15th)

Vikings 25 d Uni 21

The seconds couldn't maintain their winning streak - their equal longest in the past three seasons - when they lost their first game in two weeks. Mary played another good game, showing just what you can do if you bring two runners instead of one, and Sue did the job as substitute coach.

V.W.B.A. A Reserve (Wed 15th)

The women's firsts notched another victory with a win over Birds (I think) the newly promoted team. We were always in control of the game and the margin at the end should have been much wider than it was. Debbie, Terri and Helen controlled the boards well and Lois was a veritable dynamo around the court.

V.A.B.A. Div. (Wed 15th)

Varpas 42 d Uni 38

A typically close game for the seconds, who are playing some very close games this year without winning a lot. Easy shot 22 points including 8 baskets in a row from 25 feet. This is the second time this year he's done something like this and if he keeps improving at this rate there'll be no stopping him in a couple of years time.

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There is a lot of activity off the court at the moment. The coaching situation is still unresolved as far as men's head coach goes. We are looking at importing an American, and local lad John Maddock has been mentioned but nothing is certain.

On the women's scene Jan and Ann may be taking charge of the thirds and fourths depending on certain circumstances. One of these is the return of Les Walker from the States. Les is still hopeful of returning before the Wangaratta tournament but is having trouble finding enough money to get here. If Les doesn't get to Wang. Henry and John will be the only members of last year's infamous "Wangaratta Five" to make this years trip. There may have been one more, but Haggis is going sailing with Woody and so is unavailable. We tried to work out when Haggis last missed a tournament but I don't think club records go back that far.

The Dribbling Balls congratulations department has been very busy lately. Steve Nolan turned 21, Haggis and Henry finally found a house and Ray earned a double dose for announcing that he was now a Ph.D. and that he and his wife were expecting child no. 3. Story is that he rang home from Wollongong on Thursday during last year's I.V. and found out that one was on the way. He then spent the rest of the night buying champagne and disposing there of with a little help from some friends. The rest of the story is history. Ray also requested that no more Dr. Watson jokes be made in his presence.

Still talking of Ray and Haggis, both have enrolled for part time Arts degrees and are to be admired for their continuing quest for knowledge - and another I.V. or two. Unfortunately Betty didn't get a place out at Monash to do his masters degree. Pity.

Some coming attractions are the Sale tournament (24,25,26, March), a day at Ray's down at Airy's Inlet on March 5, Henry's moving out party on Feb 24 and a weekend at Ann's Shoreham place on Feb 25 & 26.