

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL CLUB

DRIBBLING BALLS

Vol. 6 No. 10

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C.E.B.A. B GRADE (MON 10th)

Great win - 68-20, and it looks as though the seconds may win through to the finals, this season. Peter Dyer is back after a bout of injured ankle and showed some of his form of old with strong rebounding. Having lost two games this season we now reign third on the ladder.

V.A.B.A. Div 2. (WED 12th)

Uni 86 d Sth. Melbourne 49

Henry's inaugural effort as coach of the firsts resulted in a resounding victory for us. We totally outplayed the opposition in every facet of the game in the first half to lead 43-20 at the change. The second half brought more of the same and despite a slow start we recovered to again hit 43 points, making a massive total of 86, easily our best this season. We were all psyched up to win, as this game was vital to our chances of staying in the four for the rest of the season. Haggis annihilated the Sth. Melbourne defence with accurate long range shooting, and a tip in. Skippy did like wise with his usual pot-pourri of drivers and shots from his favourite position - that is, on the court. Andy his the boards well and everyone else contributed. The win left us a game and a half clear in fourth place with only three rounds remaining before finals.

Haggis 15, Skippy 20, Graeme B. 12, B.B. 11, Andy 10.

COLLINGWOOD ASSOC. (SUN 16th)

Uni 41 d R.C.H. 17

Having acquired the "dubious duo" of Ryan and Sievers to replace "Marshall" Dillon and Lou Jenkins (couple of Newman toughs!) we set about the task of building up to a very good win. Cathy McNeil put into practice the potential she possesses and played an excellent and most encouraging all round game. Julie Sievers also showed good form by playing with a lot of purpose and endeavour. Lynda, Jane, Sue and Helen provided solid support and we ran out comfortable winners.

I.V. PRACTICE GAME (SUN 16th)

Rusden 22 d Uni Girls 13

With a full roll up apart from Woody who has been sidelined with an injured neck (Haggis?), the I.V. team had their first opportunity to play together, test offences and test man-to-man defence. The results were encouraging and enlightening. Having had only three training sessions our state of preparedness for this game was not well advanced. Although we lost, the potential is there amongst the players to become a very good team. We are still learning with patience and application I have no doubt that we will be a far better team by I.V.

I.V. PRACTICE GAME (SUN 16th)

Uni men 55 d Rusden 43

This was a good win for the I.V. squad minus four in their first game together. We ran well and controlled the game in the first half to lead by six at half time. Rusden fought back in the second half and tied the score at 41 all. We then put on some real pressure for the last few minutes to clear out to a 12 point win, avenging our 17 point loss of a month ago. Skippy hit 19 and Andy Bett played an excellent defensive game holding Peter Mann to two points in the second half. Of the non-firsts, Andrew Fithall did everything that was asked of him, and impressed the spectators quite a lot.

V.A.B.A. DIV. 2 (WED 26th)

Melbourne, Auburn to Ref's 63 d Uni 58.

Well, with a chance to clinch a place in this year's finals, the scoreline tells the story. Melbourne led by 5 or 6 points for most of the first half until Zeke went on a rare shooting spree and hit baskets from all over the place, despite a crook-leg, black eye.....

This brought us back to even the score. While all this was going on B.B. decided he didn't like the game much, and so had himself thrown off after two minutes on the court. With the half time score at 25-31 and the foul count at 16-5 as the referees played their usual "let's make it easy for Melbourne" game, half the Auburn Division One team strolled out to court nine to lend a hand to our opposition. The second half was a fairly typical one for us as Skippy missed his usual four lay-ups in a row, we lost the ball a few times in the back court and blew a winning chance or two. We won the second half scoring 33-32 and the total foul count 28-15 (much better than last time we played Melbourne when it was 29-13).
Lightning 14, Skippy 13, Zeke 12.

MONASH TOURNAMENT (SAT. 29th)

Our I.V. coaches decided it would be good to have a game or two at Monash in their little tournament. This amounted to both teams playing three games on Saturday arvo. The women won one of their three games, and lost their semi final by one point to LaTrobe after being four points up with one minute left. As far as guide to I.V. form it was clear that the girls were becoming used to playing together and will continue to improve. The form of new addition Jean Prior was especially encouraging, as she showed uncanny ability to collect rebounds and fouls.

The men had easy wins in their first two games, inspired by Henry's moving pre-game speech: "Let's run". With this behind us we took on Monash in the semi and did lots of running, most of it chasing Monash players. Haggis had done a disappearing act which left us with only five players - four and a half if you count Andrew Fithall and his arm. With the half time score at 34-14 we improved a bit in the second half to lose 65-40. Henry and B.B. led the scoring for the day, and if the whole I.V. squad had been playing the result may have been different.

A date to note down is September 30, on which the M.U.B.C. annual dinner will be held. Tickets soon available at about \$7 each. See Haggis or Julie for more details.

Next week's Dribbling Balls will be devoted to a special pre-I.V. issue. Don't miss it, even if you aren't going to Canberra.

STOP PRESS: Our sometime resident Yank, Les Walker, has made a surprise return to Melbourne after spending 8 months at home in Indiana, U.S.A. Les was no doubt drawn by the coming I.V. and is about to enrol for a Ph.D. He'll be a great asset if he can get into shape by I.V. time and division 2 finals time.
