

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL CLUB

DRIBBLING BALLS

Vol. 9 No. 1

Here we go again, the moment nobody's been waiting for - the return of M.U.B.C.'s official organ, Dribbling Balls. This year we have planned a great number of exciting surprises (some of which you may even hear about in D.B. if there are any witnesses) along with the regular (?) match reports, tournament reviews and scintillating feature articles (if the editor can find anyone to write them). In our next exciting episode it is hoped a 1980 review of the year will appear (well, some hope it will appear, others favour some sort of fire in the editor's office), but we start off the year with the all new lemon charged biodegradable, one of the price of one, tournament report from

** Swan Hill - 1980-81 **

This was not one of your regulation more successful type of tournaments. We entered 5 teams and came home with 3 wins from 15 games. Only the Womens C grade team managed to win a game that counted, while the Womens B and Mens A Reserve chipped in with a win in consolation games. Mens A and B teams failed to get off the mark mainly due to the fact they kept losing. Penetrating, in depth and revealing match reports will not be given here because the editor was too hot to do anything like write down the scores. A brief resume of each team's performance will substitute. Team reports are not in any particular order, except Mens A comes first because they're the best and lost by the most.

MENS A

I'd hate to say we were outclassed for most of the weekend, 'cause it's true and I don't want Dribbling Balls to become associated with accuracy. In defence we lacked strength to stop players like John Revels and Peter Ali, skill to stop players like Ross Close and Ray Wood and Barry Cable's tractor to stop Cal Bruton. Aside from all this we weren't too bad until we ran out of gas, especially in the games against Swan Hill and Odd Balls, where we acquitted ourselves well for about 20 minutes of each game. Most players were consistent rather than brilliant and the tournament could best be described as worthwhile experience.

MENS A RESERVE

We seemed to lack a little height here, which gave us a few problems despite our high skill level. The team hustled very well e.g. when the ball hit the floor the scene resembled people fighting for the last cream biscuit at a committee meeting. Unfortunately this alone wasn't enough to get us to the finals in the par for the course stacked A. Res grade. Our effort in the game against Bendigo was pretty handy and the victory in the last game was a good one.

WOMENS B

For the 43rd tournament in a row we had to play Preston, this time first game up. This proved to be bad news as we went down in what can be described as an ordinary performance. The two games after this both showed marked improvement with the emphasis on basketball fundamentals and not getting heat stroke. The Sunday night game we won looked really good, then again it was pretty dark. Obviously the coach's non-speeches had the desired effect.

MENS B

Once again we were very unlucky to lose a couple of close games, being reasonably undersized compared to the opposition. The coach tried every piece of trickery and cunning he knew, then got out of bed and went to the game. This tournament was valuable experience for the team who can look for a little success in future outings.

WOMENS C

This was without a doubt the most successful team of the weekend. Winning the first game in fine style the team was combining well. This continued into the second game where we led for all but the last minute and lost by only 1 point in a real heart stopper. There was tension right to the end - would our coach panic, would the opposition coach succeed in his attempt to place the timing apparatus in the scorer's stomach via his earhole, will Flash Gordon? Oh well, we played very well and were unlucky to lose. A good team effort all weekend.

In the absence of actual game reports it was decided to print a serious (disastrous) critical appraisal of all the weekend's participants. We also introduce the inaugural MMEOW (MMEOW stands for Most Memorable Effort of Weekend - it has nothing to do with a cat with a speech impediment). As usual the editor accepts no liability for reputations damaged or created and is taking the next bus out of town. The list is in (some sort of alphabetical order)

Betty - in his element in A. grade. There were plenty of names to drop. MMEOW - providing showers in his motel room free to any revenue supplement. Average : 6.4 phone calls per day.

Mary Bourke - Excelled herself with a superb I.V. warm up having bronchitis and several other respiratory ailments. Also had a very useful horn. MMEOW - not dying Ave : 214 coughs per day.

Bourke St. - Also used the tournament as a warm-up for Warnambool (see below). MMEOW - turning up after a very torrid Christmas dinner. Ave : 11 cans of coke per day.

Warwick Bray - Displayed total mental cohesion despite driving 220 miles with Jane Graeme. Spent rest of the weekend physicing up for the trip home. MMEOW - nobody seems to know. Ave : 5 players per side.

Bernice Burke - A real goer with boundless energy ... drew had the headache on Sunday night. Gave valuable help to brother Paul by tying his boot laces .. to a bus. MMEOW - not stuffing her knee. Ave. 3 per day.

Paul Burke - Was super keen until he found out there was no surf on Lake Boga. Confined to sidewalk surfing and combing his hair MMEOW - not applicable Ave. very.

Ann Compton Hustled round the court really well especially after pushing Desdemona the last 60km. MMEOW being able to sleep next to Marg. Av. 5'4" per day.

Henry Cooper - Behaved himself admirably all weekend (i.e. struck out). Has finally obtained his degree - Bachelor of Sleeping Arrangements. MMEOW - Coaching Carey. Ave : 4.5 tries per night.

Abba Crombie - Unknown quantity except for the on-court performance as team big man. Uncanny sense of direction - couldn't find our campsite in 3 days. MMEOW - remembering to go home Ave : 2 appearances per day.

Davo - Great effort on court, despite pining for the fjords of Adelaide - or was it Canberra. Still appears to be growing taller, his scalp has pushed its way through the top of his hair. MMEOW - picking a fight with Russell Simon - Ave. ?? per !!

Drew - Qualified for astronaut's licence when faked out in Bulleen game. Qualified for miner's licence a couple of seconds later. Lucky to survive. MMEOW 1½ gainer with pike off blackboard into a pool of sweat on the floor. Ave : 6 rings per court.

Yvonne Furey - Rolled down the road from Red Cliffs to enjoy the cooler climate. Not only that, she brought a supporter with her. MMEOW - not drinking 99c port. Ave : 1 game per day.

Haggis - Endeared himself forever in the hearts of 6 of us by providing the double lilo for some Lake boga debauchery. We all thank you. MMEOW making a very successful bus trap. Ave. 3 hacks per foul.

Jenny Hamster - What can you say that hasn't been said before? She practised for Warrnambool, then for I.V. and then for next year's Swan Hill. MMEOW - going home to Melbourne at 2 a.m. with Phil. Ave. 1 hour sleep per night.

Hari Carey Helenis - The club's only true avant garde, art nouveau, quasi-autonomous basketballer. When he calls on a fast break everyone listens - MMEOW the whole weekend. Ave. 0 socks per game.

Howie Hughes - Officially declared the club bankrupt after paying out \$250 to enter the tournament and winning back \$0. Very busy looking for sky scraper in Swan Hill to jump off. MMEOW - not writing a cheque. Ave. 50c per door knock.

J.C. - Wore anti-spook socks but still couldn't stop Cal Bruton. Gave club its most enjoyable tourney every by completely losing his voice on Sunday. MMEOW - not talking for 24 hours (pending ratification as personal best time). Ave. 40 gestures per minute.

Jerry - Exiled from St. Mary's after telling one of the nuns about his habits. Had a haircut and grew a beard to disguise himself from the MUBC Spanish Inquisition. MMEOW - Easy rider with pack and guitar. Ave. 1 L-plate per wheel.

Judy "Not To" Knight - Was basically rebuilt after being shirt fronted by Doris. We can make her better, faster, stronger just not any taller. MMEOW - being adopted as one of mum and dad's children. Ave. 2'6" per parent.

Jan Langdon - Returned to Swan Hill after Perth drug raid. That seems to have turned hair even blonder. Fun to be around. MMEOW - getting into her swimsuit. Ave. 7 propositions per day.

Jane "Billy" Graeme - The warm up king had his tournament wrecked when he was told no dunking was allowed. Our only graduate from the Jacqui Marshall school of diving. MMEOW - who wants to know? Ave. 1.25 somersaults per belly flop.

Janne MacEowan - Suffered some disorientation as she didn't know what state she was in, what state she wanted to be in or who she wanted to be in that state with. MMEOW - stroke of the Lake Oga crew. Ave. 4 decisions per day.

Pauline Murphy - Off to a slow start after travelling up there with NUBC's Cheech and Chong. Couldn't work out how to lie down on her back on Sunday night until Henry assisted her. MMEOW - 3rd degree burns Ave. 4 Altona jokes per day.

Normal - At his brilliant bionic best. Nobody understood anything he did, said or thought. If he was any faster he'd be moving backwards. MMEOW - still trying for one ... Ave. 24 per day.

Mary Preece - Member of the Swan Swimming Pool Suicide Squad famed for their zone defence off the high board. MMEOW - dowsing Roy and J.C. with Coca-Cola then trying to set them on fire. Ave. 30 miles per hour.

Roy Pearce - Little dynamo with the quick wit but slow reflexes. As a consequence of both was seen to take shower in Coke (see above) MMEOW - bringing up the 400 light year service on the Space Invader machine. Ave. 4 Contractual Obligation recitals per day.

S.E.G. Voted team thug after having ear pierced with a conductor's punch. Still retained Captain Comeback title despite writer's cramp and air mail tongue. MMEOW : But only when it's red ?! Ave. 3 beer gargles per song.

Waldo "Jasper" Scarrot - Miracle recruit of the weekend. The player they said couldn't be made, the baskets they said couldn't be hit, the rebounds they said couldn't be taken. They were right. MMEOW - miracle pass to the Captain. Ave. 1 ear plug per ear.

Doris Schluter - Aggressive little player ... on the court too. Also quite a vocal supporter and referee baiter. MMEOW Ironing out Judy. Av. P/S ratio greater than 2:1.

Karen Shaw - Another player with bags of talent. Her performance does not seem to have been hampered by recent interstate trip. MMEOW - unprintable. Ave. 2 handballs per game.

Skippy - Was a real bundle of life, energy and excitement when he happened to be awake. Reads books to create pseudo-intellectual image. MMEOW - discovered that Plato was not really a new dishwashing liquid. Ave. 40 winks per hour.

Rod Trevena - Pogoed around the court in fine style he's very tall for his height. Otherwise lived a rather hermit like existence in a gypsy caravan. MMEOW stuffed if I know. Ave. 3 meals per day.

Julie Walker - Mum did it again brought along a passenger and took home a daughter ... her first legitimate one. MMEOW - not needing the memorial oxygen bottle during games. Ave. 1 kid per tournament.

Les Walker - Presumably played a part in the acquisition of another kiddie, or was it a management decision? Also had the best pump at the camping ground.
MMEOW - Driving the Kombi there and back. Ave. 1 tent per hurricane.

Jane White - Making comeback after serious back injury, obviously revelled in the conditions (i.e. no apples to pick). Refreshing to see real karikaze basketball again. MMEOW - some quiet whale playing. Ave. 1 fall per murder.

Robyn Whiteside - Member of the Warrugal Mafia which infiltrated Swan Hill. Reportedly went close to turning a colt into a gelding MMEOW - disposable
Ave. 8 out of 10.

Woody - Always ready to come to the rescue with cheese, tomato, bikkies and peanuts when the troops were in dire need. Possesses a very handy esky.
MMEOW - inflating the double lilo at Boga. Ave. 200 calories per day.

Well there you have it, sports fans, Dribbling Balls back with vengeance. Don't forget to watch for the 1980 review - out soon - and keep those contributions (monetary or literary) rolling in. We'll be back soon with some more stuff!