

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL CLUB

DRIBBLING BALLS

Vol. 9 No. 6

We got a new Dribbling Balls for you. Actually it's an old Elmore James Dribbling Balls. This is called "I must have wrote somebody wrong." And while we're doin' the blues thing, here's a tournament report Dicky Betts wrote off our second album, it's titled "In memory of Wang 81."

Well having got the introduction out of the way (the intro was by the Allman Brothers Band\* who are helping the editor to Fillmore spaces this week) a brief word or 10 about Wangaratta seems in order.

It was pretty clear by the end of day one that the men's seconds and women's firsts and seconds were unlikely to be mounting serious challenges on the finals. Despite the dynamic coaching of Robyn Whiteside the women's seconds had a little trouble winning games although they got very close in their first game in the cow shed. Despite having to recruit four players the men's seconds were beaten quite convincingly in all their games, not withstanding the youthful brilliance of our mighty mite of the mat and Normal's 35 foot banked basket. Despite the Sifflettes not turning up for half of the first game after being delayed in some Brunswick Op shop, the women's firsts couldn't win this game either. They did alone by winning one later on, obviously inspired by the coaching of the Club's poet lariat. Actually the Sifflettes deserve special mention. It is wonderful to see four graduates of the Al Grassby School of Dressing together at once. Their songs are a lovely joy to behold if you're into the music of the Indiana Home for the Criminally Insane Glee Club. Altogether they're about as entertaining as the Marcel Marceau Radio Show, then again, whatever would we do without them?

Despite losing in the quarter finals last year the men's firsts were still confident they could it again this year. They did. Victories by 40, 40 and 20 in the rounds led us to Oakliegh Wolves in the quarters and they managed to sink us 50-49. The game was turned into a thriller when we came back from 7 down late in the game but too many mistakes early in the piece had cost us our chance to win. Footnotes: 1 Craigieburn made semis after we beat them by 20

2 Oakliegh won the whole comp beating Frankston by 1 point in double overtime, their third 1 point win for the weekend.... a message there perhaps?

Wangaratta social notes have been cancelled due to lack of participants, Mal and his joke list, Pauline and her fear we wont recognise her as a person, a rather stormy Monday and numerous other reasons which defy mention including the quote of the weekend: "I can't get the candle out", said by anonymous of Altona.

\* The Allman Brothers Band appears by courtesy of Capricorn records, Macon, Ga., except for Duane Allman and Berry Oakley who are dead and don't appear very much at all these days.

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VBA Div. 2 (Wed. 11/3)

Uni. 45 drew with Eltham 45

What a way to finish the season. This was a depressingly woeful performance and only a similar standard effort by Eltham saved us from defeat. There were really fore muckups in this game than you could shake Kal's 10 foot pole at. Oh well, look at the bright side, a draw was enough to keep us on top of the ladder, and as there are no finals over the summer season we can claim the champion's mantle. This is a just reward for the effort put in by most of the team during summer, but now we have to d the g's in the very much harder winter competition.

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VWBA Div. 4 (Wed. 11/3)

We lost.

The scoreline tells the story, another slightly less than inspiring performance by those members of the team not at the trots as a disappointing but mercifully short season draws to a close. We were a little undersized which didn't help, but our lack of skills in offence was the most glaring fault of the evening. Trish continued her good form of the last few weeks and Mary hit some miracle baskets late in the game but it was a pretty dismal result.

VBA Div. 5 (Wed. 11/3)

Uni 47 d. Reservoir 47

The men's seconds (plus specially invited guests and friends) played well enough to win but that's about all. Captain Comedy, Skippy and Boy Danger led the way with the help of three mystery guests from the firsts, who looked about as interested as Eric Pearce at an AC/DC concert, and eventually managed to run away with the game in the last couple of minutes. It would be nice if some of the other seconds had a run with the team during the winter season.

CHS A Grade (Sun. 15/3)

Oakleigh 74 d. Uni 53

The addition of Alan Westover and Joe Benussi to the team which beat us by one at Wang was enough to ensure Wolves of beating us by a lot more here. Captain Ka-boom came back into form which was most welcome and Lards came back which was most surprising. That just about sums up the game and its highlights except for J.C. informing the ref what he thought about the refereeing display being given, politely of course.

Collingwood Men (Sun. 15/3)

Uni 39 d. Youth 38

In the all new combined open grade we played the same old Youth side (yawn). The game was the usual low key affair (yawn). We shot some nice baskets, mainly through the agency of Roy, Drew and Normal then let them catch up to make it a really exciting finish (yawn). This whole competition is pretty crock and there should be some terrific games against some of the other teams there. Really, I can hardly wait (yawn).

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Seeing as I've run out of match reports (keep sending them in folks, well - start sending them in folks) it is a good time to welcome all new members to the club. If this is your first meeting with Dribbling Balls don't let it put you off. You probably won't understand much of it, heavens knows I don't, then again, who cares? Keep your eyes out for Dribbling Balls since it usually contains the coming (?) social events and other (not very) vital information.

The first paid political announcement concerns the club AGM on 4/4/81 at 2:30. Come to the outgoing committees final fling of their term - free ballot papers for all. Following this laugh a minute, sure fire entertaining extravaganza, which is so well organised it makes the MLP look like a political party. The 1981 Fresher's Tournament will be held. A classic sporting event to be followed by a non-stop BBQ (probably another classic sporting event). See Henry Cooper, John Campbell or Bernadette Burke if you want to play or help out here. For that matter see any committee member, whoever they are. Actually they're all on the club notice board outside the gym, well their names are there. That just must be enough for this edition of D.B. We'll cop you later on at the AGM/Fresher Tourney.