

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL CLUB
BENCHING BALLS

Vol. 9 No. 11

VBA Div. 2 (Wed. 22/4)

Eltham 51 d. Uni. 48

On a substandard court with substandard refs we produced an exceedingly substandard performance. The first half was characterised by a total lack of offensive success and the fact that we trailed only 12-21 ~~ix~~ at half time was a minor miracle due to a late flurry of baskets. We didn't look too flash in the second half and the fact that we were only one point down with less than a minute to play is incomprehensible. It was a pisser of a game.

CEIS Championship (Sun. 26/4)

Uni. 58 d. St. Pat's 48

First game of the season and we romped in against last season's B Grade premiers, which is just as well I suppose. Actually it wasn't much of a romp as we let a 13 point second half ~~k~~ lead slip to 3 with a minute to go before a few steals and tech fouls gave us a comfortable victory. J.C. 18, Mal 15, Lards 11.

Collingwood Men's A (Sun. 26/4)

Uni. 68 d. Gov. 38

The first half of this game shaped up as the Tom and Jerry Show - without Tom. A continuous procession of layups saw the half time score 36-24 and Jerry having 18 points to his credit. The second half was an improvement as Bill wouldn't pass Jerry the ball and neither would anyone else. The opposition eventually applied their collective I.Q. of 23 to the problem and ended up getting sent off (most of them, anyway). Jerry 26.

VBA Div. 2 (Wed. 29/4)

Coburg 58 d. Uni 47

This game was another in a series of second division disasters which so far have masqueraded as the winter season. Miraculously we started quite well with Henry, Jane and J.C. hitting baskets consistently and defence doing well enough to give us a 4 point break for most of the first half. Unfortunately Coburg remembered how to play and we fell in a heap to trail 23-27 at half time. We ripped away to a 2 point lead in the second half with some good basketball early, then played rubbish basketball for the rest of the game. Mal hit some nice shots but we never looked like getting closer than 4 points as we were killed on the boards, having rebounds ripped right out of our hands, and Mark Holland ran rings around our guards to hit 24 for the game. It's almost time we got off our bums and started winning games. Henry 14, Mal 10, J.C. 8.

VBA Div. 3 (Wed. 29/4)

Uni. 27 d. Wolves 25

Under threat of becoming known as the women's 8ths (after the previous week's performance) the seconds were determined to beat a strong Wolves side. Lards was a welcome inclusion in the team (making his nth comeback to serious basketball) as he increased not only our average height and age, but also our effective elbow strength. For a change we controlled the ball quite well and hustled sufficiently in defence to make Wolves earn their baskets. A 4 minute freeze gave us a satisfying win. Gary Russell also made a useful debut, playing a solid game at both ends of the court. Kremen 8, Davo 5, Haggis, Lards 4.

VBHBA C Grade (Thurs. 30/4)

PWD 51 d. Uni 32

The new lolk (never could spell lolk - Ed.) improvers found themselves unable to combine sufficiently well in defence to stop the geriatric but effective PWD side. We need to work a little harder on talking in defence, and blocking rebounders off the boards. Bill MacNeill showed glimpses of form with some nice rebounds and 9 points. Carey, Warwick 6, David 5 (and some good rebounds), Rod McBride 2.

CYHS Championship (Sun. 3/5)

Nth Melbourne 49 d. U: 47

A very brief report of this game appears, to avoid embarrassing two very experienced players who made totally avoidable mistakes in the last minute of the game which cost us our chance of victory. You should know better you naughty boys!

VBHBA C Grade (Thurs. 8/5)

Uni 32 drew with Lyall 32

The game was close all the way with the difference in scores rarely being more than 4 points. Abba Crombie took many strong rebounds in offence and defence, Rod Trevena played his normal rugged game at high post and forward, while Bill MacNeill and Carey provided the outside scoring power. We came back from 4 points down with 90 seconds left with a strong zone press to level the scores on the siren. Abba 8, Carey 6, 18 evenly distributed (inc. a last second basket by Matt 'Bomber' Wellington).

CYHS Championship (sun. 10/5)

Wolves 81 d. Uni 59

When Betty bombed in our first two baskets we looked surprisingly competitive, then he fell and broke a fetlock so we had to bring the screens out and destroy him. We managed to trail 20-42 at half time, certainly a deficit to build a good loss on. Unfortunately in the second half Lards and J.C. found the basket with 15 and 14 points respectively and although our defence was still woeful we played a 39-39 half. Bad game. Lards 20, J.C. 18.

FOUL SHOTS: Well how's that for a catchy name for a new D.B. feature section? All that remains now is to find something to write in it. I'm open to suggestions from all you readers of rhyme and perusers of prose out there - let me know what you want to read here and I'll see what I can do about it. Or better still, write it yourself and I'll print it (probably - Editorial scandal permitting). While on that particular tack, a few match reports have started to drift in to me which is pleasantly surprisingly nice to the extent of making me delirious (no doubt some of you cynics out there will say (my typewriter seems to have the stutters) I got to that stage years ago) - keep on sending those reports in - like the Lake Boga air mattress - there's room for more.

DID YOU KNOW THAT... (there's another catchy name for a report)... two Sundays ago at Collingwood Henry Cooper set what we believe is a club record for the most points ~~xx~~ scored in a single half. He bombed in 35 points in the first half, and would have surely have broken the game scoring record had he not sprained his ankle early in the second half and finishing with 37 points from 22 minutes play. This was a superb effort, deserving highest praise, especially when you remember the clock doesn't stop down there. As a footnote, we believe the record for one game is 40 points and is held jointly by Skippy and Captain Cosmic. No correspondence entered into. Well, all good things must come to an end, and so must D.B. Cop ya later....