

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL CLUB  
DRIBBLING BALLS

VOL. 9 No. 13

VBA Div. 2 (Wed. 27/5)

Box Hill 72 d. Uni 53

This was our big test to gauge how competitive we'd become in Div. 2. We failed. Box Hill seemed to have multiple choices for scoring baskets and we couldn't come up with any answers to their strong forward play. We were reasonably competitive for the first 10 minutes or so but faded badly to be more than 10 down at half time. The second half was the same as the first i.e. dismal. Les and Drew did OK and Nal hit some nice baskets on the end of some J.C. assists but we was whumped. Nal 16, Les 13, Drew 10.

VBBWA A Grade (Thurs. 28/5)

Kordialac 39 d. Uni 31

We looked to have a good chance of winning this game during the warm up, then their fourth player turned up and we knew trouble loomed. Phil started the boys in a zone defence which was ineffective - we went to a man-to-man and came from 9 down to be 3 up ten minutes into the second half. This looked uncomfortably like heading us to a victory, but in true Uni style we just managed to snatch defeat from the jaws of victory. Phil's rebounding was the only sign of strength in a weakened side. Henry 11, Andrew 8, Phil 5, Bill 4, Tony 3.

Collingwood Women (Sun. 31/5)

Gov D. Uni(2) by T.K.O. in round 12.

There are some really nice people who play at Collingwood - unfortunately they're all in our teams. This game was about as much fun as playing water polo against a team of piranah fish while you're wearing concrete swim fins. When Fran was flung to the floor the coach was not going to let the team back onto the court, but the clock ran out anyway during a time out. Typical. Where was girl danger when we really needed her?

Collingwood Men (Sun 31/5)

Uni 73 d. Deviants 14

If last week's opposition were bad, this week's were laughable. But seriously, folks what can you say when Jeremy gets a tap in...?

CMS Championship (Sun. 31/5)

Thornbury d. Uni by more points than I've had beers.

At the start of the game we went troppo, and - whom bang we led 8-0. This was clearly too much of a shock for us and we prodeeded to lose by something like 20 points. Bowie's pacemaker broke down, Davo tried to relocate the team bench six rows back and ten seats to the right (near a certain unnamed spectator - what will happen now that Nal is gone??) and Rob decided that studying for his Kalpractice 101 exam would be more fun than playing. Captain Crapped-off played well (then again, I'm a crawler).

VBA Div. 2 (Wed. 3/5)

Uni 50 d. Chelsea 47

Once again we showed decidedly non- Uni type form by leading all the way then winning in a tight finish. The game itself lacked highlights as we would get to 8 up then make enough mistakes to drop 6 or 7 pointds again. Drew's form was very good and Nal hit some handy baskets, while Les remembered how to rebound in the last 2 minutes and pulled down some screamers when it really counted. A 3 point win was as much as we deserved. Drew 14, Nal 12, Henry 11.

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VWBA Div. 3 (Wed. 3/6)

Uni 34 d. \*\*Insert team name of your choice\*\* 29

After a slow start start we managed to pull ourselves together (I miss all the fun -Ed) and with the help of regular subbing on and off the bench (a good place to sub from-) managed to pull away to a 17-12 lead at half time. Good feeding from defensive rebounds was creating opportunities for fast breaks. The second half was not exactly brilliant but we managed to hang on to the lead and finished up winning by 34-29. Jenny, Bridget 7, Jean 6.

\*\*\*\*PORTLAND\*\*\*\*

The Sixth South-West Classic will go down in the annals of club history (i.e. DB) as the tournament which broke the hoo-doo's. The club hasn't had a grand final winning team at any open tournament since Devonport in the early 70's, and have lost 5 grand finals in 5 years at Portland. This year the Women's A Grade team played superbly all weekend to finish undefeated premiers of A grade. They did not have one easy game, and had to fight hard to win each encounter against some handy opposition. The Grand Final was typical of their efforts. We started slowly against local favourites, Swanee, and struggled to be down 15-13 at half time. A change to combination zone press/man-to-man defence saw us 2 up after 30 seconds of the second half. From that point we were never headed and showed great courage and composure to win by a comfortable (nerve racking) 32-27. There's no doubt that the defence played by the team in the final and for the whole weekend was the reason we won, though not wishing to discount the fine efforts in offence. These included Bridget's 15 and Bernie's 9 in the final, and Jenny and Marg's domination of the semi-final. Ann had the happy knack of hitting the crucial baskets for us and the excellent work of Meg and Woody coming off the bench made it a true team effort. While it's not really appropriate to single out one player for praise above the rest, one can't ignore Bridget's form during the weekend and the fact that she was named A Grade MVP and Grand final MVP - enough said.

The Men's A Grade team performed fairly but lost the grand final, mainly due to a lack of height. New recruit Dale also took the A grade mvp. Congrats all round.

FOUL SHOTS: Another contribution this week - SHAME WARWICK SHAME.

At 4:00p.m. in the afternoon all was quiet in the tightly knit loyal club. Then the Warwick Bray tent crumbled and with it the very foundations of the club. Warwick Bray (who shall hereafter be known simply as Judas) formed a splinter group from NUBC. Hearing of the splinter group Henry Cooper arrived with chocolates and Fanta but it was too late, Judas and his disciples had left, so Henry went to bed, J.C. was nowhere to be found, and Ann (the ex-president) left the tent, leaving huddled in the corner, a disillusioned young b-baller Abba Crombie a mere shadow of his former self. Abba was asked for comment but the tears welled up in his eyes and biting his lip he said, "Warwick Bray, the bastard, I'll never play again...Henry!" But Henry slept on, and J.C. was still nowhere to be found. A sleepless night was spent while all silently prayed for the return of Warwick Bray, where had we gone wrong? Surely it wasn't how we play basketball. Rumours of World Series Basketball were spreading and Henry slept on. Rod Trevena went to the toilet in honour of Warwick, and Gary stroked his moustache as the full enormity of the situation hit him (leaving Abba with a bruised fist). Even Dale "I hardly know the bloke" was walking around dazed and confused. Jenny summarised the situation in one word, "Pithy"!! Felicity, suspected of being a Bray sympathiser, was seen accepting \$3.00 from a disciple and was overheard to say, "I used to live in Fitzroy (Street) and \$3.00 is a lot of money, it's about time Warwick paid." How has Bray corrupted the innocent virtually overnight...?

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Well, what can I say after that lot, except maybe... Are you tired of NUBC? Then UNCLE WARWICK WANTS YOU ! Join the disciples and play BRAY-BALL. Toodloo gang.....