

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL CLUB
DRIBBLING BALLS

Vol. 9 No. 14

VBBA Div. 3 (Wed. 10/6)

Uni. 74 d. Sth. Districts 16

What a thriller for the crowds this game was. Had everyone on the edge of their seats right to the final buzzer. By putting in an amazing amount of effort in defence in the first half we managed to keep the other side down to 2 points, but with our shooting percentage under the basket running at somewhere like 3% we only managed to shoot 30. The greatest trouble in the second half seemed to be staying awake, and 'bludging' defence as substitute coach J.C. so aptly called it let the opposition score 14 points. With numerous fast breaks and Jean backing up well our final score lay at 74. Evidence of pathetic umpiring- we only totalled 4 fouls. A disappointing game after a great weekend. Bridget 22, Jean 18, Jenny 13. (Would all correspondants please note that Bridget's name is spelt with an "e" as in Budget - Ed.)

VBA Div. 3 (Wed. 10/6)

Uni 48 d. Reservoir 38

The seconds have now won 3 in a row and are beginning to resemble a team on court. Again we played a poor first half to trail 19-24 at the change. Simon gave us the extensive roasting we deserved and we came out and outscored Reservoir 13-2 in the next 5 minutes we never looked like giving away. Paul Burke again ran hard for the entire game and combined well wity (well he may have been witty but I meant to type "with" - Ed.) Davo and Trev on the fast break. Simon and Roger played strong inside games and were well fed by Skippy who made some of the best assists we've seen from him in a long time. It was good to see the team keep control against defence from a team not noted for its subtlety.

Captain Cucumber 11, Haggis, Skippy, Roger 7, Paul 5.

VBHBA A Grade (Thurs. 11/6)

Uni 41 d. VRI 32

At last our first win for the season! In this very rough grade we manage to put in one good half each week - finally we put in 2 consistent halves. Strong work on the boards by Jane, Phil, Dave and Bill allowed us to dominate this part of the game - pity we didn't capitalize by putting the ball in the basket! Everyone made a contribution to the final result, with Tony playing his best game of the season. Jane scored well but even he wouldn't have shot 40% (he couldn't shbot 40% of a tinnie! - Ed.). Jane 17, Bill N. 8, Tony, Bill D. 6. Ps. The coach indicated himself at least partly pleased by the result. He would like some assistance from firsts and seconds players to stay in this grade! Any takers?

VBHBA C Grade (Thurs. 11/6)

Uni 42 d. Martins 35

Here the team turned in a fantastic game (this being the impartial view of an independent observer). Despite close contest in the first half we were 6 points down at the break. An aggressive man-to-man defence at the start of the second half saw us run up team fouls at the rate of knots, and put Bill and Matthew on the bench with 5 fouls. However we worked back to level scores, then changed to a zone press and continued to fly ahead. Coach says lots of nice things to all players in the team for a great effort, and reminds them they are all under contract (Cop that in your Bray-ball! -Ed.) Scott 14, Carey, Rod L., Lightning 6, Stan, Warwick 4, Matt 2.

Collingwood Semi-Finals (Sun. 14/6)

Both the men's team and the women's team won their respective semis in fairly convincing style. The girls had a very satisfying win against Spotty's team to qualify

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for the prelim. final and the boys played badly enough to keep their game close for 20 minutes before winning easily and making the grand final. They love Uni people down at Collingwood - a couple of really popular wins.

VBA Div. 2 (Wed. 17/6)

Uni 34 d. Preston 29

Well, Preston were on top before this game and we were pretty low on the old list there, and things didn't look like changing too much when we jumped to a 4-10 deficit. Things changed though as we recalled some of the things we learned at training about defence and we outscored the northern rabble 17-2 for the rest of the half to lead 21-12 at 1:30a.m. (i.e. half time - we were running a little late on court 1). Those who were not used to seeing Uni sides play were confident that this was a winning break but more experienced watchers knew better, and we didn't let them down. As they played man to man we used every trick we knew to throw away the ball and the lead. Our defence was still OK but our offence had got tired and gone ~~hr~~ home to bed. They got within 3 a couple of times but Les who had spent the last 35 minutes warming up caught fire and we survived in what could best be called a defensive game. Nice to have a win - we should play good teams every week. Also nice to say hello Roger and Skippy. J.C. 10, Les 6 (all in second half - good pressure stuff Dr. Hawk!)

VBHBA C Grade 1861981 (This date is upside down!)

Uni 33 d. GCH 25

Well, once again the team of rising stars combined to produce a great come-from-behind win. Half time saw us holding a 6-9 winning deficit. A second half change to man to man defence saw us hit 8 points to hit the lead, and there we stayed, to finally win by an easy margin. Highlights of the game were a great defensive effort by all, and Bill MacNeill's 13 points in the second half.

Bill 13, Rod, Rod 6 (and no, my typewriter does not stuttutter - Ed.)

Collingwood Women - Preliminary Final (Sun. 21/6)

Uni 24 d. Northcote Park 22

We dominated just about every facet of this game for approximately 36 minutes then in true Uni style tried to throw away an 8 point lead in a display reminiscent of some of the club's great collapses of the past. The scores were tied with a minute to go, from that time on we had roughly 304 foul shots for zero successes and a new ulcer for the coach. Finally with 5 seconds remaining some idiot from the opposition fouled Bernie who converted 2 foulshots and we won. Fantastic Footy Flashbacks eat your heart out - we at Uni have Brilliant Basketball Bomboufs. Oh well, lets win the final, eh?

VBA Div. 2 (Wed. 24/6)

Diamond Valley 57 d. Uni 47

More sensationally consistent stuff from the men's firsts - the team you have when you're not having a team - the team you can rely on and expect to do the thing you least expect. We sort of lost this game in the first half when we held them to a half-time break of 38-26. Second half wasn't much better, every time we got close we had a bigger fade out than the Invisible Man. Skippy's effort was good, but we still lost. J.C. 11, Henry, Jane 10.

FOUL SHOTS : Just a couple of quickies this week in F.S. - like we really have a good crop of nominees for the Brown Paper Bag Award this year - add to Nal and Paul B. the name of a certain A. Bett who won last week's cheap ~~park~~ port comp. Laugh?..

Keep those reports coming in gang - you're doing real well doing now, although there seems to be a strong correlation between winning games and writing reports.

Don't forget the Car Trial - Sun. July 5 - be there or be lost somewhere!

Don't forget Basketball Marathon - July 16-18. More details when there's more room to wr