

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL CLUB  
DRIBBLING BALLS

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In line with the Dribbling Balls policy of bringing you the best in basketball literature, we've invited a series of well known celebrities to write the introduction to each edition of Dribbling Balls. First cab off the rank is well known basketball fan, some time author and plagiarist, Stratford on Avon's starting guard, William Shakespeare. Take it away Will...

To be or not to be, that is the question. Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer the slings and arrows of outrageous contempt...

Ah, well, thanks for that Will, very catchy I'm sure, but not really what we had in mind. Keep working on it though. Perhaps that guy Bacon will do better next edition. For now, read on says the umpire...

V.W.B.A. DIV 5 (Wed. 28/9)

A.N.Z. 23 d. Uni 21

Once again we had a slow start. None of our shots would go in and most of theirs did. However, with five fabulously fit, fast, frisky guards (Carmel, Ann, Lesley, Ellen, Linda) playing excellent defence and three tall, towering, tenacious, tactical forwards (Mary, Rhian, Jencie) taking most rebounds we managed to keep their score down. With a couple of minutes to go our man to man pressure had them flustered and we obtained a few steals enabling us to level the score. Unfortunately we fouled their best shot who got both free throws and we lost by 2.

Carmel 12, Rhian 4, Mary 3, Ann 2.

COLLINGWOOD B GRADE WOMEN (Sun. 2/10)

Uni 22 d. St. Joseph's 9

This was an abysmal effort and it was just fortunate that we woke up in the second half. St. Joseph's could hardly catch the ball, had one person who could dribble and one who could almost shoot. The only thing they had over us was their head and shoulders. We had the shortest team on earth - we all went off to join the circus after the game (we heard they needed some midgets). The half time score was 4-2 with us doubling their score! Mattman handed out the no doze at half time (he should have just set his clock radio alarm - Ed.) and we tried a new offence which seemed to work better. Lesley made some nice baseline moves and Woody at high post made some drives to the basket. Sue and Sue found the ring and we finally made the score look a bit more respectable. Here's hoping we can look better than that in the future or we won't be able to stay in the four.

Woody 12, Sue Haluhan 6, Sue Harman 6, Ellen & Fiona 4 fouls (ruffians)

V.W.B.A. DIV 5 (Wed. 5/10)

Uni 31 d. E.E.A.M.A. 24

A good win and finally no slow start. Mary and Rhiann jumped very well and had no trouble rebounding. Ellen made some long bombs at the right times and with Lesley, Ann and Carmel controlled the ball well against their zone press. We almost gave it away with some silly passes but we steadied at the right time and had a comfortable win. Also the coach did a good job of minding the baby possum down his jocks I mean up his jumper.

Ann 12, Carmel 7, Ellen 6, Mary 4, Rhiann 2.

C.Y.M.S. Championship (Sun. 9/10)

C.Y.M.S. 104 d. Uni 89

A rather free scoring game this one. C.Y. started the game with 5 midgets on the court, consequently Betty almost won the opening jump ball. By the time they brought on their taller players we were well in command. Their idea of

defence suited Haggis down to the ground as they let him shoot heaps of baskets from 15 feet unguarded. Simon and J.C. also contributed heavily in offence while Betty dominated every rebound that he took. Bowie showed great endeavour to hustle up and down the court and we led by the amazing 58-39 half time scoreline. In the second half we ran into a little trouble when Betty fouled out, then Simon fouled out, then Bowie fouled out, leaving Haggis and J.C. to play the last 7 or 8 minutes of the game by themselves. These two fought back against the opposition full court press and even levelled the score at 75 all. Unfortunately the two man full zone press didn't work and we lost fairly comprehensively in the end. According to old club rule 27 (b), the three bounders who fouled out owe Haggis and J.C. at least three pots each.

J.C. 31, Haggis 24, Simon 21, Betty 10.

V.B.A. DIV. 2 (Wed. 12/10)

Uni 43 d. Oakleigh 32

This game was as slack as one might expect the first game of the spring season to be. Oakleigh didn't bother to field any of their good players, rather their Div 4 team which had just finished the grand final in that comp. After a blinding first half we trailed 12-14. In the second half we tried a little bit for a while, Haggis shot well from distance, Les played well at both ends and Simon also put in successfully. Skippy has withdrawn his clearance application to Sandringham now that he's found that he can dunk on court 34.

Les 10, Haggis 8, Simon 7.

V.W.B.A. DIV 4 (Wed. 12/10)

Uni 34 d. Tax Ramblers 14

This team may have known all there is to know about bottom of the harbour schemes, but when it comes to basketball they got a bit of a shock when they came up against us. We were in fine form from the start making basketball look easy, fast breaks, slippery Sam's, long shots and even the occasional dunk from Jenny as we romped along to an 18-0 half time lead. Davo then decided to give us some practice at playing person to person defence and we continued to play well. Unfortunately we did let them score a few baskets and we had a typical University dull spot (the A.G.M. isn't on 'til April - Ed.) where the offence didn't set up and thus stagnated a bit. We also lost concentration toward the end and put a few stupid fouls on the sheet, but overall a great effort.

Jenny 10, Woody 8, Fiona 6, Jacqui 5, Judy 3, Serena 2.

V.B.H.B.A. C GRADE WOMEN (Thu. 13/10)

Uni 27 d. A.N.Z. 6

What a magnificent effort. We had a few transport problems with Belinda's carload getting a better offer from a tall guy in a Commodore (lucky it wasn't a BMW - Ed.) and Lesley accidentally getting to the game on time (she thought it was 7:30 not 6:40). We took the court (not really we actually played on it) with a gutsy man to man defence due to the fact that most of us were guards. We proved that you don't have to be over 5'5" to play this game by stealing the ball and intercepting their passes and rapidly putting 10 points on the board. At half time ANZ hadn't scored and we had 15 points notched up. The ball seemed to find the basket more easily than it usually does with Lissa (our tallest player) playing well on the inside and Lesley and Belinda making some nice baseline cuts. The multiple guards, Max, Woody, Fiona and the two Sue H's took it in turns to run fast breaks and control the offence and all in all it was a stunning effort by the whole team. Well done troops.

Lissa 10, Ellen 5, Woody 4, Sue H 2, Sue H 2, Fiona 2.

C.Y.M.S. Championship (Sun. 16/10)

Oakleigh 71 d. Uni 59

There is no doubt that the highlight of this game was the performance of the world famous deaf ref in his Sunday night comeback game. From the opening jump he had both teams completely baffled, not to mention confused and frustrated.

Tech fouls and ejections were frequent for both teams as he made up his own rules. Some people were getting three shots to make two, some were getting three steps to make two, it was a pleasure to watch all this. As for the game, it was the usual abomination on most peoples' part, although Bowie put in and Les played a superb defensive game as well as dobbing 15 second half points to be our major (perhaps only) scoring threat. It was worth turning up for the game just to see him in action.

Les 23, Haggis, J.C. 8.

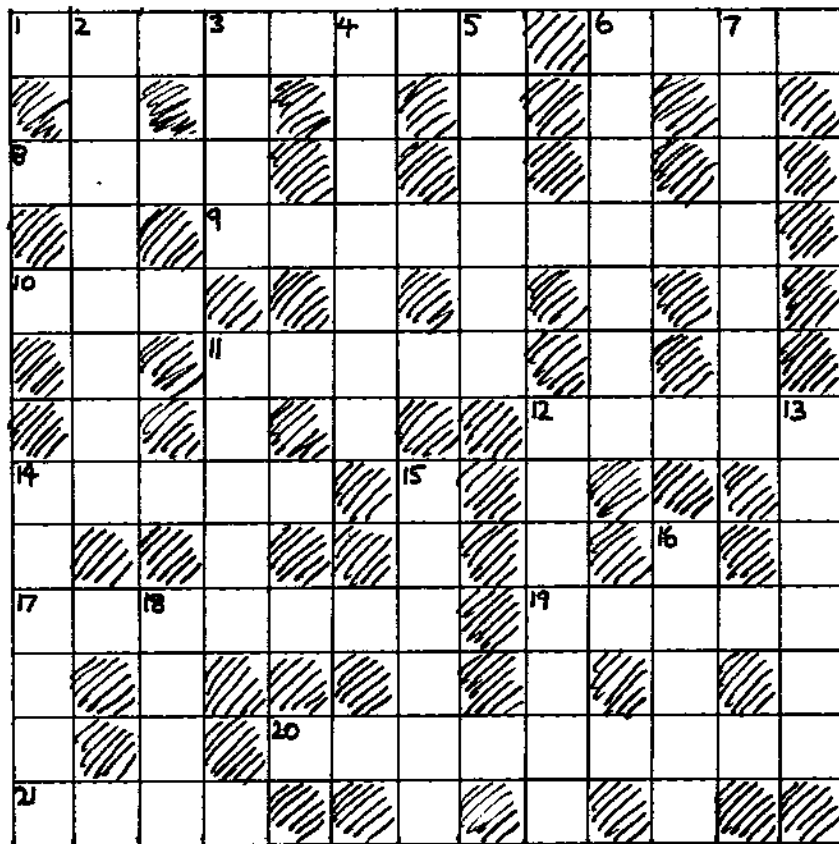
As promised in the last Dribbling Balls we now publish the results of the Real Basketballers competition, or as Wacka called it "What?". Yes, the competition that was about as popular as skin diving at Werribee, the competition which has given new meaning to the word apathy. We didn't need a barrel to draw out the winner, a coin was quite sufficient. See if I think up any more great competitions. Anyway, third prize of nothing goes to no one because there were only two entries. Second prize of nothing went to the pathetic effort from Gary O'Brien who says : "Real basketballers wear mouthguards, cause I just got one." Rivetting stuff that was. First prize of a bottle of the world famous M.U.B.C. port goes the joint effort of Tony Lewis and Geoff Bowles, who had the right idea, got pissed and wrote the following piece of ????

Real basketballers ...

- ... own at least 35 basketball T-shirts, but don't let on they can't read the captions on them
- ... don't sweat
- ... don't change their jocks after Friday training - it's amazing how long they last when you don't sweat. Even if they do sweat they don't get any on their club T-shirt
- ... can spell Intervarsity even if they can't make the team
- ... drive European cars, but can't afford to get them serviced
- ... work with computers, and so does Trevor Andrew
- ... play defence in 3 on 2, it saves them from embarrassing attempts at dribbling
- ... don't take a step backwards to shoot from the 3 point line
- ... only take 2 pairs of socks to tournaments, whether they intend to use them or not
- ... don't tape their ankles, it's not cool to try hard enough to need it
- ... can't dunk, but like to play at Portland so they have an excuse
- ... don't get 5 fouls in 7 minutes - if you can't get them in 6 you shouldn't be playing the game
- ... put in at training (whenever Henry/Easy/J.C. is watching)
- ... don't wear white windcheaters, and even if they do, they don't wear cryptic badges on them (that almost lost you the competition - Ed.)
- ... go "skins" at training (see below)
- ... have hairy chests (see above)
- ... prefer hook shots
- ... stay in the club tent at tournaments, but never refuse a party in a Portland motel
- ... get to training early on Fridays, but only to watch the girls discocising
- ... play for the Teddy Boys
- ... make witty and informed contributions to Dribbling Balls (you must be joking - Ed.), even if the Editor only prints those he can understand
- ... don't enter dumb competitions (unless there is a prize, and by the way, Ed, what did we win?).

So there you have the winning entry. The presentation will be made at a time thought to be suitable by myself. Judges' decision is final, no correspondence will be entered into (just like the competition itself).

## CROSSBALLS



### ACROSS

1. Penalty, especially at Thanksgiving, we hear. (4,4)
2. The side for your disturbed mate. (4)
8. Put this back on the ball when shooting. (4)
9. Somehow use taxi meter to break dead lock! (5,4)
- 10 & 3 dn. Court delimiter from Ivan Lendl in Europe. (3,4)
11. Every court has one of these. (5)
12. Sort of pass the potato chip? (5)
14. The least unusual way to intercept the ball. (5)
17. Amputation may help this offensive manoeuvre. (4,3)
19. The game calls for two of these. (5)
20. Strange place to play your away games. (2,3,4)
21. Sole reason to be defeated. (4)

### DOWN

2. Put pen top on your adversary. (8)
3. See 10 ac.
4. Job of the pugilist is scoring points. (7)
5. Move violently towards easy victory. (6)
6. Coach for one who uses public transport. (7)
7. Behind by how much - a Rolls Royce followed by organs? (7)
11. Rebound because there's nothing much to do, I hear. (5)
12. The cost of offensive fouls. (7)
13. Moved the ball on some time ago, I hear. (6)
14. A good place to teach basketball skills. (6)
15. Yes, fat guards are responsible for this! (6)
16. Premiers finish here, but there's no pot of gold. (2,3)
18. Sent out to get these accessories. (4)