

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL CLUB  
DRIBBLING BALLS

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Well, sports fans, as always we have a big Dribbling Balls for you this edition. A full colour pin-up of James Crawford dunking, an exclusive interview with Dr. J and a chance to win a free trip to the L.A. Olympics are just some of the things that aren't in this edition. We do have more match reports however...

C.Y.M.S. Championship (Sun. 29/4)

C.Y.M.S. 70 d. Uni 62

We had no hope in this game from the moment 10 guys turned up to play it. We played in our usual manner (poorly) for the first part of the game until the deficit became quite large, but a comeback was sparked by some very good work from Betty in offence (hard to believe but true). Burkie also made a couple of nice drives and we were only 4 down at half time 30-34. The second half we played catch up. Well, almost catch up. In fact we coasted for about 15 minutes and then put in for a while, but we didn't really make much impression. Les dominated defence, while J.C. hit 15 for the half in offence but the result was never in doubt. C.Y.M.S. really are a shack of pits (wangled turds there) and one day we will probably lose our tempers and punch them out I think.

J.C. 17, Burkie 11.

M.B.A. A GRADE (Mon. 30/4)

Uni 43 d. Albatross 32

Mein gott, what a surprise - fancy beginning the season with a win! The opposition, not known for their fair play, were not impressed - beaten by lowly University! Albatross (do you get wafers? - Ed.) somewhat confounded by our newfound vigour and trailing all night, made some attempt to forcibly inflict bodily harm on Wacker and Phil (probably failed for want of a body in both cases - Ed.) However, this over-zealousness was not rewarded, and they suffered all night from the aggressive rebounding of Terry, Tony, Luke and Phil. Wacker hit with two long three point "bombs" from the top of the key and Uni led 24-14 at half time. We consistently penetrated inside the key all night - probably the main reason for our win. In fact we scarcely missed out hot shot shooter, Gary (understandable - Ed.). All played well in a feisty, enterprising and ebullient performance. Yet again camaraderie was paramount.

V.W.B.A. DIV 2 (Wed. 2/5)

Werribee 32 d. Uni 17

Well, a 15 point loss is quite significant when you only shoot 17 points for the game. That gives a fair idea of how far we were away from winning this game and how well we played. We scored the first basket then went to pieces against a zone press. There were occasions when we played properly against it which usually resulted in Gillian scoring off an open layup, but these occurred with monotonous irregularity. Given that we play a zone press ourselves there are no excuses for throwing (and no chance of catching) some of the bad "loopy" passes we threw. Half time saw us down 11-22. In the second half our defence improved quite a lot (just as well, too) but our offence had decided to absent itself, the result being a 6-10 scoreline for the half. Our inability to get away good, quick shots against their zone was particularly disappointing after specifically practising this on Monday night. I think this game showed up our talent for being psyched out and a big effort is now required to get back on the winning list.

V.B.A. DIV. 2 (Wed. 2/5)

Monash 32 d. Uni 17

I didn't receive a report for this game. Might have had something to do with

the fact we only scored 4 points in the first half, but I'm only guessing.

C.Y.M.S. Championship (Sun. 6/5)

Oakleigh 68 d. Uni 63

Well, what's better than throwing away a winning lead at the end of the first half? How about doing it again at the end of the second! That's the sad story of this game. We opened up on fire with Simon and J.C. burning in offence and quickly ran up a 15 point lead after 12 minutes. At half time we had made a sufficient number of mistakes to bring the score back to 29-29. The second half was an instant replay. Simon was still scoring freely and Les was doing a nice job and we got away to an 8 point lead. Bowlesy was doing well on the boards and in offence, making four out of four from the line and things were looking good. That was our mistake. Unfortunately the Colliewobbles struck as usual and we threw the game away. The foul count of 18-8 for the half gave them about 20 unearned free throws which probably cost us the game, although our general hopelessness in tight situations can't be discounted as a contributory factor. Sometimes we even amaze ourselves.

Simon 23, J.C. 10.

C.Y.M.S. B Grade Women (Sun. 6/5)

Uni Geri's 49 hobbled all over Sonics 29

Yes, hailed as the team most likely to fail in 1984, we fooled everyone and entered in B grade. See us dazzle them with our lack of pace and thrill the crowds with our amazing variety of support girdles. Well, in fact, we must be doing something right. Coach Phil had obviously put a great deal of thought into his pep talk (seriously folks, he'd actually written it out). Inspired, we hit the court with a vengeance to lead 19-18 at half time. And I've heard of coaches making people sick before (I really don't know what you're talking about - Ed.), but really Karen, that's taking it a bit far. See how quickly the ref lets you have a sub if you threaten to throw up on him. The second half saw a marked improvement, especially as Phil promised not to write another pep talk if we won. Bernadette and Bridget settled into some fast (and I use that word only in its loosest sense) breaking and Anne hit some handy baskets, but Bernadette's big 3 pointer (on demand) wasn't enough to gain that elusive 50 points. Looks like it could be a good year, especially with planning for end of season celebrations (commiserations?) well under way. (Please note J.C. that Jean hit another free throw)

Bridget 18, Bernadette 16.

M.B.A. A GRADE (Mon. 7/5)

Caulfield 42 d. Uni 30

Well, what does one say? Two easy fast breaks and three easy jump shots later, Caulfield are leading 10-0. University is unbelievably lethargic and the opposition's man-to-man defence has us in a state of utter chaos, dishevelment, incoordination and muddle. Should one diagnose delusions of grandeur after 2 easy wins?? This game could be over. Needed one miracle - not cheap these days and not easy to come by! Arise Dr. Tony Penington and perform your impersonation of Albert Schweitzer, Superman and The Brotherhood of St. Laurence all rolled into one (can't he do Groucho Marx? - Ed.). Drive to the basket my son, ignore the useless rabble around you and score! Tony struggles alone! Half time : Uni 12 - Caulfield 27. Coach has good idea (but decides to stay for the rest of the game instead - Ed.) - everyone will follow an opposition player around and then at least they will be moving. This simple ruse convinces the opposition we are playing man to man defence. Ho, ho, ho, how naive can they be? They become useless rabble like us too - perhaps worth remembering for next time! Somehow they haven't trampled us into the ground and we actually outscore them 18-15 in the second half. Well, there is always next week and we need you Gary. All played badly except Tony.

Tony 14.

V.W.B.A. DIV 2 (Wed. 9/6)

Uni 41 d. St. Kilda (3) 27

As is usually the case, we play all our best basketball when the coach isn't around. After last week's woeful performance we took on one of the top 4 teams and reduced them to a useless rabble. The first half saw Spike return to form with 8 points, and a marked improvement in the defence department as we led 19-13 at half time. The opposition stayed with us for the first 6 minutes or so, then we made use of our superior fitness and ran all over them. Bridget hustled very hard and ended up with 10 points for the half, ably assisted up the court by Bernie, while Annette found the range from the corner as we raced away to a 14 point victory. It was good to see some of the things we'd been practising done well i.e. the shooting, but a disturbing number of mistakes in offence i.e. passing etc. are still stopping us from shooting 60 points in a game of this type. Still, it's great to be back on the winning list and staying in touch with the four.

Bridget, Spike 10, Annette 6.

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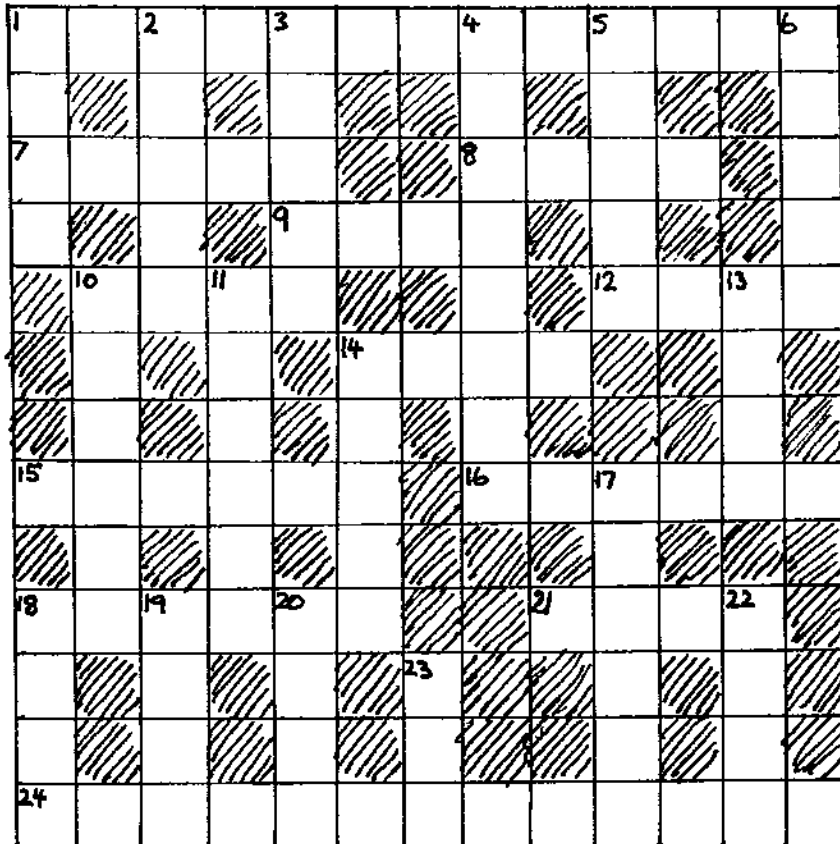
Fiji 1985 - The Second South Pacific Universities Sports Championships are being held in February next year, and we have the option of entering teams should we so desire. WOULD ALL FEMALE PLAYERS IN THIS CLUB PLEASE NOTE THIS. Despite the fact that several announcements at trainings and in Dribbling Balls were made last year, some girls still claim they weren't told about last year's competition. No excuses this year ladies. Get your act together now if you're interested in going. That goes for guys too. The dates are 5/2/85 to 12/2/85 (Tuesday to Tuesday) and the cost is \$770 ex-Melbourne. So start saving now, it's only \$20 per week if you start now! Anybody who is interested in going to Fiji next year or wants some more information, see J.C. as soon as possible so we can work out whether or not we should enter teams.

Bush Dance - This was a sensational success. Everyone involved deserves a big pat on the back, especially those who worked hard to sell tickets, harder to collect money and even harder still to carry their eskies into the ballroom. Special thanks to the Real Men for sitting on the door all night (especially Henry) and only stamping Bowlesy's face with the giraffe stamp. Special thanks to Bowlesy for organizing the pyramid races, and for not throwing me off the top of our pyramid, and to he and Tony for yet again letting us destroy his house at the after dance party. Extra special thanks to Woody for being a good organizer and harasser. And a humungus (tent) thanks to Mattman whose overall organization of the entire event was superb. A job very well done Matt!

Bye-Bye Tony, Bye-Bye Graeme - There will be a party at 10/207 Barkly St. Brunswick (and isn't that all the time?) to celebrate Tony and Graeme's departure. The party will be a pyjama party which should be a highlight in itself, but I don't know what it's got to do with travelling around Australia. Other highlights will include the open pyramid races down Luscombe St. and the Jim Beam "Soft like a sledge hammer" drink mixing competition. What more could you ask for. No one admitted without pyjamas (although it's an interesting thought). This Friday 18/5 rage will be your last chance to farewell these two intrepid explorers before they depart on a grand tour of Australia.

Due to an unprecedented lack of demand, there has not yet been an appearance of Crossballs this year. Well, no more Mr. Nice Guy. Crossballs returns this issue with a vengeance. Yes the basketballer's cryptic crossword is back as big and as bad as ever, to tantalize you, to taunt you and to send you to sleep. Go to it, if you dare. Answers will be available next edition or in the Clyde at 9 p.m. Friday night when Haggis, Woody and Judy have attacked it, which ever comes first.

CROSSBALLS



ACROSS

1. Sloppy play from twin babies? (6,7)
7. Down a direct line holds the lowest point of a shot. (5)
8. Public spreads out to watch match. (4)
9. In making a mess is very courageous. (4)
10. A throw for nothing. (4)
12. Disturbed owls are at a disadvantage in sprints. (4)
14. Site of drawn games. (4)
15. Get the team fired up presumably. (6)
16. Send around company, the reserve perhaps. (6)
18. Emphasize this common type of fracture. (6)
21. See 2 dn.
24. Looking after the shopping - centre's violation! (6,7)

DOWN

1. Some bad, unknown offensive play. (4)
- 2 & 21 ac. Sneaky sort of foul shot? (5,4)
3. Property of posts in popular gear. (5)
4. Officials may help get player employed. (8)
5. Relies on a shot off the backboard. (5)
6. The Spanish weapon used for making room. (5)
10. Fifty involved in brawl under the path of the shot. (6)
11. Church of England use exit to enthuse crowd. (6)
13. Frank is free for a shot. (4)
14. Layers of seats fall from the eyes I hear. (5)
17. Pure sounding when pursued the ball down the court. (6)
18. Clean up after drug test. (4)
19. These hold up net as shot just misses. (4)
20. Team of fifty out of skid. (4)
22. Losing duck feathers! (4)
23. Catch one at each end. (3)