

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL CLUB
DRIBBLING BALLS

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On behalf of the editorial staff and contributors, I'd like to wish all newcomers to the basketball club a very hearty welcome. This is probably the first Dribbling Balls you've ever read, and in all probability will be the last if you're at all discerning about your reading matter. Then again, for those whose literary inclinations extend no further than reading the inside of smutty birthday cards in the newsagency, you should have a long and fruitful association with Dribbling Balls. Now read on, but just remember, if there's something you don't understand, do not adjust your set, the fault is in the correspondent's mind. Of course, you could always ask an established club member, but they don't understand either...

V.W.B.C. DIV 4 (Wed. 30/1)

Uni 41 d. ANZ 19

After an appalling game last week when we had the post Christmas "go slows", we managed to get it together for a good win. We all hit the panic button when Brian taught us a new offence in the minute before the clock started, but he knew what he was doing and by the second half we had it running well. Rose and Kylie hit some lovely long shots and some good strong defence from us showed a fine game all round.

Rose 12, Kylie 10, Woody 7.

V.W.B.C. DIV 4 (Wed. 6/2)

Uni 28 d. La Trobe 12

This was our last game for the season (we have a bye next week). If the team who is fourth on the ladder (we're fifth) loses a couple of games we'll sneak into the finals so here's hoping for an upset. This was an enjoyable game. Kylie had travelled up from Ballarat for the match and by the second half the Vicrail (STA) dust had worn off and she hit 10 points, then we took her back to the station. Thanks for coming Kylie (or however you reacted - Ed.) We tried a press on them and they crumpled under it, throwing lots of passes out of court. Mandy played a great game at both ends and dropped 11 points into the basket - top stuff. All in all it looks like we'll be a tough team to beat in the winter season. Mention must be made of Judy Knight's excellent scoring record. She has been top of the Division 4 scoring list for a lot of the season. Unfortunately she's gone on holidays for a couple of weeks and might get pipped at the post for the trophy.

C.Y.M.S. Championship (Sun. 17/2)

Jetz 56 d. Uni 48

Well sports fans, as Coach Simon said, this wasn't a bad game all things considered. We don't usually beat Jetz (the top team) and this game was no exception, we did however get a little bit closer this time by not letting them take the lead by 20 points in the first few minutes. In fact with a first half typified by strong man to man defence we led 18-16 at the change. The second half was a more free scoring affair and our defence was a little less effective as we trailed by 6 or so for most of the time. Chris Morrey hustled well and Rick did a few useful things (like getting cleared to Melbourne Tigers) but we took too many bad shots in offence towards the end. Never mind, we may still make the finals yet with only 5 games to go.

J.C. 11, Simon 7.

V.W.B.C. DIV 2 (Wed. 20/2) SEMI FINAL

Knox 36 d. Uni 32

In a surprise finish on the ladder we came third rather than fourth at the end of the regular season and faced second team Knox in the semi. We started very well with good man to man hustle and Gillian scored our first 5 points as we

zipped off to a 5-0 lead. From this point we maintained that break with Bridget hitting a few nice jumpers from the top. Unfortunately we had a little sleep in offence and defence as the half drew to a close and managed to trail 16-18 at half time. After half time the little sleep turned into something which resembled national hibernation week as we turned a 2 point deficit into 10. It must be said that the opposition shot very well from distance but we did not play offence too well. Late in the half a great drive by Carmel and a long bomb from Bernie inspired a comeback but we made a couple of vital mistakes in offence when we had the difference down to 2 with a minute or so to play. We were 4 down at the end of the game and hence the season. It was a disappointing end to a season which has been very good, but we can look forward to a tough Winter season with a fair amount of optimism now. Congratulations to Jean, Bridget, Gillian, Spike, Carmel and Bernie for their efforts this season.

C.Y.M.S. Championship (Sun. 24/2)

Uni 94 d. Abbotsford Cobras 70

As you can tell from the scoreline there wasn't much defence played in this game by either side. We played fairly consistently in offence in both halves, although different players tended to dominate by scoring heaps in one half and none in the other. At half time we had cruised away to a 40-24 lead with Rick being unstoppable for 18 points and Chris Morrey 14. In the second half we outscored them 54-46 with Haggis hitting 18 for the half and throwing a goodly number of assists as well in a brilliant display. Les was consistent in both halves which is more than most of us can say, but that's Les for you. Four games to go now and we are apparently 1 game clear in fourth spot. Isn't it exciting!

Rick 22, Haggis 18, Chris 14, Les 13, J.C. 12.

C.Y.M.S. Championship (Sun. 2/3)

Bisleri Lions 78 d. Uni 62

Well, we are busy setting ourselves up for another last minute 0.01% miss out out on the finals on percentage effort here. It would have been nice to have won this game but alas, such was not to be the case and we are now probably only equal fourth on the ladder. The first half of the game was reasonable and although we trailed 36-42 at half time we still appeared to have a chance. Looks can deceive though. After 10 minutes of the second half it was clear that we were not sufficiently talented or motivated to win, aside from that we had everything going for us. At times we played without discipline and teamwork, while at other times it was just a shambles. Still, it's only a game, and what else would you do at 10 p.m. Sunday night?

J.C. 20, Rick 13.

V.W.B.C. DIV 2 (Wed. 13/3)

Uni 27 d. Preston 26

What a game to open the winter championship season with. We took on the summer season premiers Preston without Spike (was she still hung over from Saturday night at Ballarat?) and Anne (whose efforts are beginning to make V-Line look reliable), then lost Judy with a twisted knee about 7 minutes into the game, so we were back down to our usual 5 player situation. This was obviously all a trick by the players to get out of playing man to man defence, and it worked. After trailing 8-2 in the early stages our defence held them to 2 points for about 10 minutes and with Carmel showing the way in offence we clawed our way back to trail 9-10 at half time. In the second half we let them slip away to a 22-16 break, but this was just our little way of lulling them into a false sense of security. Going for the press in the closing stages of the half we soon had a game where the lead changed hands a number of times. Bridget made a couple of pressure shots and with Bernie worked very hard in defence and pressured the opposition into mistakes, Gill and Carmel played the second row very well and Jean was fantastic at both ends of the court with her

rebounding, defensive help and drives to the hoop, earning 12 fouls shots for the game (and making 5). So it was we hit the front with a minute to play and held on for another run of the mill win (I was going to say amazing, but this team makes it happen so regularly it almost ceases to amaze).

Jean 7, Gill, Bridget 6, Carmel, Bernie 4.

COMMENCEMENT TOURNAMENT : This fabulous event will be held on Saturday March 23 in the gym. This is an event primarily for newcomers to the club, but we need people to coach teams and play in them. See Henry for more details if you are interested in this. There will be a BBQ during the tournament.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING : Yes Virginia, there is an M.U.B.C. committee, and they get elected at the A.G.M. which is probably not in itself a terrific reason to come along to the meeting, but I can't think of a better one off the top of my head. Although it might be different this year with controversial issues such as change of uniform rearing their (dare I say ugly? I think not if Jean's involved) heads. There will also be the Ian Bett Memorial Clag and Scissors constitutional amendment session - bound to be a winner. The meeting will be held on Saturday March 30 in the Board Room of the Sports Union building, starting at 12:00, i.e. sandwiched between men's and women's training so everyone can attend. If none of this is sufficient to inspire you to attend, try this next notice for size...

PUB CRAWL : Is not only a game you play on the floor at Bernadette's place, but is what is happening the afternoon of the A.G.M. It is not an alternative to the meeting, rather the troops will assemble at the Clyde any time after the A.G.M. and depart for place or places unknown at 2:30 p.m. on 30 March after women's training is complete. This is a good way to meet some new people around the the club, which in itself is merely an excuse for having another pub crawl. Yes indeedy, this is bound to be another top notch social event not to be missed. Read what they said about the last one :

Rick : "Jug of milk please."

Jean : "Where are the new tops? Where's Bowles? I'll have a beer, coach."

Bowlesy : "Bummy number eight. Oh shit. Toilet talk. Team scull."

Fish : "Thidth glurggle sprofts."

Woody : "It's not easy feeling green."

Bridget : "If I was drunk I'd fall down. See."

Pauline : "Do lemons have legs? No? In that case I think I just squeezed a canary into my drink."

Judy : "I'm not drunk, but why is the ceiling on the floor?"

Pendles : "Hi, who am I?"

POSTCARD OF THE MONTH : This month's coveted postcard of the month award goes to that wonderful wandering waffler of witticisms, Tony Penington, who is apparently in New Guinea at the moment. We have much pleasure in reproducing his postcard here in Dribbling Balls, but I gotta say, I don't know what he's drinking over there, but we just have to get some for our next party...

Match Report : Villagers and 1 Australian (several) v. Villagers and 2 Australians (more).

Mitripela bin kaun long wanpela ples long Chimbu provins long lukin wanpela mumu*. Mipela bin kaikaim sampela pik na Hoinkim sampela bia na olgeta bin mekin sing sing (one of my favourite prisons - Ed.). Mipela bin singin "Waltzing Matilda" na olgeta i bikim tumas. Taim bilong slip ol : pisim mipela, mipela i go long evanpela hous i gat tok save "Catholic Chruch". Wanpela man i askin mipela, nupela likim meri o nogat, tasol mipela dokta, na mipela save samting long dispela samting. I gat planti V.D. long P.N.G. Mipela tok nogat. Morning behaim, mipela kamap, na Bruce i trouat bikes em bin drinkim tumasbia mipela lukim outsait na ol i plei basketball. Ol i askin mipela tok orrait bikos mipela save, no kan kisim V.D. long play basketball. Em gutpela plei tasol Bruce i no plei gutpela bakos empilim trouat i yet.

Lukim Yupela Tony.

* Cooking in a hole in the ground with heated rocks.

Well, what can be said after that lot? Bugged if I know, so I'll talk about something apparently unrelated. I made the big effort to check out the O Week table in the Union Building this week, and I must say I was impressed. We have launched the club into the electronic age and set it on a collision course with who knows what. Smithy and Fish had the video and monitor set up, showing continuous hours of N.B.A. highlights. Hundreds more freshers than we have ever had before seemed to flock along and sign up, and all was going well until the day after Hi I'm Gary at the Stockade, when Bowlesy took over the table. N.B.A. highlights soon became the Gridiron, followed by Hari Rap then 99 Luft Balloons. Bowlesy was in his element, but I think we may have recruited some of the wrong people, like the guy who wanted us to lobby Channel 9 and get the American Football on earlier at night. Geoff certainly does have the Midas touch when it comes to recruiting though..."Can you tell us about the club?"... Geoff shoves newsletter in their faces..."You can read, can't you?"...Bloke is taking a long time to fill out information form, and writes down that he's an Engineering student..."Why didn't you tell us you were an Engie? We would have filled the form out for you." Basil Fawty eat your heart out. All this is soon forgotten though, as Bill Palmer's face fades from the screen for the umpteenth time that day and Nena's appears. Bowlesy is no longer worried about recruiting...

BUNNY NUMBER SEVEN : Calling bunny number twelve. This may not mean much to you if you weren't at Ballarat last weekend. Come to think of it, it may not mean much if you were at Ballarat. Never mind. Do you wake up in the middle of the night imagining the sound of running water? Check to see if Mark Fisher is in your room. Are you in a taxi with John McKelvie? Have you got an umbrella? Is there life after death? Ask Fish any morning. For more information on what happened at Ballarat, read the next issue of Dribbling Balls, where there may be a comprehensive report if anyone writes one.