

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL CLUB  
DRIBBLING BALLS

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Most of this issue of Dribbling Balls has been written before Intervarsity, which is probably just as well, when you consider the shape most people will be in after Intervarsity...

V.W.B.C. DIV 2 (Sun. 4/8)

Kilsyth 44 d. Uni 31

Well, whoever wins this game makes the finals, and whoever doesn't doesn't. We didn't so we won't. But there's more to the game than just that. Five players plus 1 coach plus 1 supporter made the long trip to Kilsyth to play the curtain raiser to the big SEBL game, and didn't the huge crowd (approx 7) love it. We played very well in the first half scoring freely against their man to man and we only trailed 17-20 about the time Jean's hangover started to dissipate (i.e. half time). In the second half our passing decided that since it was going to take so long to get home it would leave early and we would catch up later. This reduced our chances of winning to about the same as the chances of finding intelligent life at Deakin Uni. When Jean fouled out we were left with four and failed to do much good, despite 2 screaming three pointers from Bernie. The good thing about the game was it meant no game on the following Wednesday so we could all go out for dinner.

C.Y.M.S. Championship (Sun. 4/8)

Uni 74 d. RMIT 27

In the battle of the institutions, we not only confirmed our intellectual superiority, but won the game as well. With Coach Simon on a kultural exchange trip to Newcastle for the weekend (well it is only 8 hours from Swan Hill), we really let our heads go. Bowlesy was awesome under the boards, scoring numerous baskets by handing the opposition posts the ball and putting them through the hoop. Les was only average i.e. very outstanding, and the rest was history. We still give ourselves a chance of just missing out on the finals.

C.Y.M.S. Championship (Sun. 11/8)

Uni 72 d. St. Albans 37

You know what I really hate? When the coach says in the pregame address, "We should cream these guys. Go out there and shoot heaps of baskets." I hate it because we always go out there and let them score heaps of baskets while we stuff up in offence. This week we went out there and let them score heaps of baskets while we stuffed up in offence. We were behind 15-16 at one stage, but thought better of losing and outscored them 57-21 from there. Les was sick, Simon told him so, and it was a lucky thing for the opposition, because if he was well he would have shot 139 points, taken 83 rebounds and blocked 51 shots. As it was he only did about half of this. He was however contributing when most of us weren't at the start of the game. There was some good shooting from Simon at times (10:22 p.m. and 10:43 p.m.), great second half by Haggis, also good effort by Rick who discovered the kinematic principle that if you get closer to the basket you're not as far away when you shoot. A slightly easy win for the lads.

Rick 21, Les 20, Haggis 12.

V.W.B.C. DIV 2 (Wed. 14/8)

Uni 37 d. Frankston 17

Well, what a bummer. Fancy having to play a game on a Wednesday night instead of going out for dinner. Oh well, let's look at the bright side, the coach was only there for the first seven minutes. After that we cruised away to an easy victory. Carmel was the offensive whiz (even though she was sober this time), top scoring for the game, while everyone else contributed evenly to the point output. The highlight of the game occurred before the team even got onto the

court when Anne provided us with the quote of the day (week, season, year...) when she pointed out to Jean that "Training's on Monday, night Jean." Talk about laugh, I haven't seen Jean so speechless since she slid under the table at the Provincial Hotel Ballarat trying to say "Bunny number five.."

Carmel 11.

C.Y.M.S. Championship (Sun. 18/8)

Uni 52 d. Jetz (2) 40

What an absolute shocker of a game. We played badly for a while, then we played worsely, then we didn't do so good as that. Jetz were on the bottom, but that sort of thing's never stopped us before. Lowlights included a multitude of baskets missed from close range, heaps missed from middle range and lots missed from long range. This team is very good at supporting each other though, I mean when one starts playing badly everyone else decides to as well, just so the first one doesn't feel terrible about it all. The only question about this game is who was first. Anyway, we were behind 33-31 during the second half but some nice baskets from Simon outside and some nifty right handed finger rolls from Chris Morrey off the drive allowed us to somehow win in the end. What Simon said after the game was very relevant and probably worth repeating. He said "Never ...", or was that "Always ..." Oh who cares. Harry Fowler also proved that he is almost as good a referee as he was a coach. What a bonus.

M.B.A. A GRADE (Mon. 19/8)

Powerhouse 74 d. Uni 56

Funny how University holidays seem to affect the numbers turning up to play. It is hard to win with only five players. And it's even harder to win when Warwick f...s up his ankle two minutes into the game. The return of Coach Phil (no, he didn't break a leg at Bulla) added some height to the side ('some' being the operative word) but the absence of Terry, Brett and Andrew, ... neddless to say. Powerhouse played a soft man-man D after we were reduced to four, and it gave everyone (well, the four of us anyway) a chance to drive one on one, one on two, one on three, one on four and occasionally one on five to the basket, with mixed success. It was good practice if nothing else, as everyone concentrated on their individual skills and weren't too worried if it didn't work out because we were never in the hunt anyway. Late in the second half, Warwick, with the aid of his personal physician and faith healer (plus a wet towel) pulled on his socks and shoes and limped gingerly back onto the court. He stationed himself outside Powerhouse's key and commenced to do an imitation of the Statue of Liberty - minus book, torch and toga ... even managed to score his only two pounts for the game ... Not a bad effort that. Coach Phil was even discussing nailing Warwick's shoe to the same position in future games! Does tend to make the opposition hurry back into defence that. Who said Coach Phil had as much tactical nouse as a prostitute on the corner of Russell and LaTrobe streets ... nonsense. I guess we can look forward to a few more players next week? Although, it will still be Uni holidays. Never mind, there's a party at Warwick's place on Saturday, 'Crimefighters' theme, heard it was to start at 9:15 but Warwick decided to change it to 10:45 so it didn't interfere with his normal Saturday activities!

Mick 22, Mark 16, Steve 10, Coach Phil 6, Warwick 2 (we thought it was a 3 pointer)

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I know you'll probably find it as hard to believe as I did, but Rob Sweetten just handed me 6 pages of women's thirds match reports covering the last 2 or three months. Amazing. Still, I haven't got anything better to contribute, so here goes nothing (and that's overrating it)...

V.W.B.C. DIV 6 (Wed. 12/6)

Uni 34 d. Another team by a lot  
Sung to the tune of "American Pie", verse 4 (this is copyright infringement of the song published in Dribbling Balls, Vol 12 No. 20 - Ed.)

And there we were all in one place, the women's thirds setting the pace,  
Dominating every aspect of the game,  
So come on, run the breaks, crash the boards,  
And let's cause turnovers by the hordes,  
'Cause in a zone press our defence really burns.  
And when I check the ol' score board,  
The opposition's always hardly scored  
No other team in sixth division  
Can stop these girls from winning.  
And when eventually the finals come round  
This team of stars will be championship bound  
By crikey their coach will be particularly proud  
The day that they win the flag!

chorus

Sue and Jill, Kaylene and Max,  
Debbie, Sally, Lyn and Jack,  
Leanne and Lisa complete the pack,  
Singin' this will be the team for the flag,  
This will be the team for the flag.

Repeat until 18/9/85

V.W.B.C. DIV 6 (Wed. 19/6)

Uni 43 d. Russo's 14

After getting to the game slightly later than usual, without my watch and parts of my knee caps, courtesy of an extortionist disguised as a taxi driver, I was relieved to find the team all fired up and ready to fill in their names on the scoresheet. It was a typical pregame scenario with one ref, no scorers and the other team having five players and no coach. By gee I get annoyed when this happens coz it means that, oh sorry, you want to what? You want what actually happened in the game do you? Well that's fine by me and I'm sorry to have wasted your time as I have thus far, so here we go... It was a very good game (for us), everyone contributed, and Jill and Kaylene were there before the game started (this is usually a good sign). But seriously though folks, this was a very disciplined performance from the gals, with turnovers (T) and missed easy baskets (MEB) kept to a minimum. Sally kept up her good form and with Lisa, have capitalized on their promotion to the starting five with a fine display of outside shooting. Once againg Kaylene and Lyn burned up the opposition around the basket as they continue to dominate our games at both ends of the court. Jill hit her straps again from the perimeter, and by crikey I'm a particularly pleased coach.

Kaylene, Sal 10, Jill, Lissa 8, Leanne 3, Jack, Lyn 2.

V.W.B.C. DIV 6 (Wed. 24/7)

Uni a bloody lot d. Midgets by 38 points

Well, what's been happening in the last week or two? Mmmm, let's see. A bye, a draw with a fairly ordinary side (our first and only unwin), a very conclusive demolition of Latrobe, another bloody bye and lastly and/or most recently a mammoth win over a team of, sorry a team called Midgets. What a game we played. From the start we were hot, with Max and Debra leading the onslaught and setting the pace for a high scoring night, where the word "defence" seemed to go over the other team's collective heads. Jill and Lisa maintained the rage in the guard spots, while Kaylene and Sally were quite happy playing

their customary excellent games. Special mention to Leanne who dominated the boards at both ends, scoring well and generating many fast breaks with some excellent long court passing. The second half was more of the same as we switched our offence against their 1-3 defence, and then blew them away with our supra-duper-mega-pressure 1-3-1 zone defence. Thanks to Jack, who despite being unable to play 'coz of an injury type affliction, came down to the game anyway and did the scorebench duty.

Debra, Ellen, Jill, Kaylene, Leanne, Lisa and Sally all scored a lot. STOP PRESS!! I've found the scores...

Deb 13, Leanne 12, Kaylene, Max 8, Jill, Sal 6, Lisa 4.

V.W.B.C. DIV 6 (Wed. 31/7)

Uni 38 d. Sth Camberwell 20

How exciting its another of dem women's thirds report and what a quarter/third of a game it was too as is often the case we really lept out of the barrier and absolutely blitzed the udder team for about 10-15 minutes until we were about 20-something to about 2 or 3 or 4 or something and wound up about 23-5 up at halve time with really top halves from Lisa who had really done plenty good and Leanne who did carry on from where she had done gone and done in the last game and she also done plenty good work but however not wiffstanding up the other halve which was a disappointment to both of me and the whordes of spectatorer as we resorted to playing the oppositions brand of undisciplined-rabble-basket-rubbish-ball and just got plenty fouls but with the scoring being evenly shared in this half except for the players playing who scored less than some others wwho had scored more than them except that whilst scoring had scored less than some other players who were playing and so next week were going to play two first halves.

Jill 8, Leane, Lisa 7, Debbie/Deb/Debra, Kaylene, Max 6, Sally 2.

P.s. I'm never writing a match report during a college ball again!  
(P.p.s. Hallelujah - Ed.)

V.W.B.C. DIV 6 (Wed. 7/8)

Uni 42 d. S.Y.'s 16

Well then viewers, we were paying the bottom side so I thought "We will apply ourselves and play a disciplined game with offensive and defensive targets to achieve". Wot 'appened? We achieved all the targets, we played a disciplined game, and I was happy. Wot 'appened at the customary post-match debriefing? (Bridget has lots of those - Ed.) My team was heard to say to their loyal, true blue, dinky-di, white-hat-wearing, good guy coach - "What a fucking boring game that was." Well I never!

Lisa 14, Leanne 10, Deb 7, Kaylene, Max 4, Sue 2, Jack 1.

P.s. Thanks for scoring Mal.

V.W.B.C. DIV 6 (Wed. 14/8)

Uni 39 d. Russo's 17

By crikey I hate playing this side, one of their players is the division's leading scorer and she shoots out of her bum with a disgusting degree of consistency, and not only that but she's really nasty and has a classic Jeff Fenech profile, and and and she's absolutely bloody neurotic and so are all her miserable, whingeing, bitchy teammates. However, despite this, we started the game slowly and went into the pavilion 14-12 up at the long break. This rather lack lustre first half had done little to alleviate the coach's failing health and he threatened to die on the sidelines (you mean like most of his jokes? - Ed.) if things did not change. For some unknown reason things did change, defence lifted, Deb and Max found their range, Leanne and Jackie took over the boards and Lisa connected with a couple from outside and a couple of breaks. Consequently we blew Russo's away, scoring 25-5 in this half, and we held that horrible little thing (you'll go blind - Ed.) for them scoreless for the half, with Jackie at one stage even helping her to the bench. Also thanks to Jill who came and scored after she had rendered herself unplayable by

