

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL CLUB
DRIBBLING BALLS

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Who said 13 was an unlucky number? Everyone missed the Dribbling Balls exclusive, when in the last edition, released the night before the Melbourne Cup, we tipped the winner of the Cup, number 13, What A Nuisance. Where was the tip? Didn't anyone notice that the last edition was Volume 13 Number 13? What more could you ask for? Besides, what else could you say about Dribbling Balls but What A Nuisance...

V.W.B.C. DIV 4 (Wed. 2/10)

Sunbury 48 d. Uni 27

Not the greatest start to a new season, but a start nonetheless. After running our man to man offence against the same team last week (in a grading game) with a surprising level of competence combined with the inclusion of Debbie Kool from the thirds and the return of the dynamic J. Knight we were expecting greater results. As it turned out the opposition were the ones to run fast breaks, play aggressive defence, block shots, frap doodle, whiz bang, loop the loop and all the rest. Down 23-8 at half time, the second half saw a bit of pride and self respect show through which was promising, but we still got crapped on to the tune of 48-27.

Kylie 12, Lissa 7.

V.W.B.C. DIV 4 (Wed. 9/10)

Uni 48 d. LaTrobe 23

Well after last week's drubbing and a dismal attendance at training during the week, the coach was not extremely confident. But having seen the opposition crumble against man to man defence at I.V. we picked them up at the first bounce and led 23-4 at half time with the whole team (all five of them) putting in well. Offensively we were still very disciplined and unorganized however. We stayed with our man to man defence for the second half, which saw LaTrobe play man to man defence too. This was the biggest mistake apart from them showing up at the start of the game (what a nasty thing to say, then again it's LaTrobe). Offence was now much more organized with Killer O'Brien and Lethal Evans scoring 15 and 12 points respectively for the half. This was a much improved effort this week, with all 5 players i.e. Woody, Rose, Debbie, Lissa and Kylie, contributing to the win.

Lissa 18, Kylie 17.

V.B.A. DIV. 4 (Wed. 23/10)

Uni 65 d. Yarraville 34

The boys really like the summer season, there are less players on the bench, none in fact, no need for warming up although Bowlesy slam dunked about 8 times. After 10 minutes Uni led 13-2 and by the end of the first half led comfortably 32-15. Amazing as it seems, every player was an offensive threat, with Bowlesy and Pendles combining well inside and Henry, Trevor and Fish hitting continually. The second half was a demolition job, with strong rebounds and fast breaks. Captain Basketball turned up and got into the action with a couple of fouls then proceeded to settle in. Overall, an excellent team win. P.s. Fish played an excellent first game in the seconds but is he a guard or a forward?

Henry 20, Pendles 16, Bowlesy, Simon, Fish 8, Trevor the rest.

V.W.B.C. DIV 4 (Wed. 23/10)

Uni v. Bayside

After a concerted effort by both coach and players to iron out a few wrinkles in our offence, the team was exuding confidence and looking for a good win. It was pouring with rain outside, but that didn't dampen our spirits as we intended to pour on the baskets. After 5 minutes of doing just that (we led

5-0) the stadium's roof began to give way, probably due to our bone crunching rejections, thunderous slams and powerful rebounding. This led to the water streaming down the walls of the stadium to flood onto the court at a rate faster than we could run fast breaks. The refs, fearing for their safety (i.e. they couldn't swim - only the lowest type of creature could drown in the depth of water on the court), blew their whistles and called the game off. All in all, it was the most sensible thing to do, which is most surprising considering some of the decisions we have had to put up with from these hydrophobic dry land beings. But why this week, when we would have won easily? And I was a bit pissed off especially when Kylie wanted a lift back to college immediately, which meant getting pissed on by the rain when running (or should that be wading, paddling, swimming or maybe windsurfing) to the car (boat?).

C.Y.M.S. Championship (Sun. 27/10)

Uni 72 d. Segarsonics 50

So they finally got a new team into A Grade that wasn't comprised of head beaters, thugs and sub-moronic mono-nueronal forms of life. Not only that, they looked like they could play basketball. Somewhat surprisingly, we played fairly well all things considered. I mean it was late Sunday night, Harry Fowlup was reffing, anything could have happened. Never mind though, we ran the ball really well and played fair defence to boot. Rick was unconscious (similar to his state on Saturday morning after the old coin bouncing game apparently) and scored basket after frap after doodle. Simon also shot well, J.C. threw some nifty passes Chris tried to break three ribs getting a charging foul then came back to make a couple of vital drives when we were under pressure. From 31-16 up at half time, we ended up winning 72-50, even if they did have their own drink cooler. Les blocked his usual 27 shots for those who are interested in the statistics of the game.

Rick 20, Simon 16, J.C. 14.

V.W.B.C. DIV 2 (Wed. 30/10)

Knox d. Uni

Well, I have never seen a side start the game with so many big girls on the court (well, not since the men's one we fielded against Monash at I.V. this year). I mean, I don't know what they put in the water out there, but it certainly seems to make those hormones flow. Never mind, we played a good first half and a fair second half and lost convincingly. Some stunning refereeing was a highlight of the game. Bernie played a good game, but all in all we were slightly outsized.

V.B.A. DIV. 4 (Wed. 30/10)

Uni 37 drew with LaTrobe 37

After one game, it was a rare sight, Melb Uni seconds on top of the ladder. How long could it last? About one game. LaTrobe, those old foes were in second position and it was an epic for sure. Forget last week, after 10 minutes we trailed 12 nil. We went to man to man, and in the ensuing battle we crept back to lead 23-17 at half time with Pendles hitting well along the baseline and Tony and Henry looking dangerous outside. The second half was a disaster, LaTrobe became more physical and we looked slow and ineffective in offence. With 3 minutes to go we trailed by 5 points. it was then that the boys responded in very untypical fashion, with Pendles and a LaTrobe player exchanging pleasantries, with the Uni player making both fouls after being on the receiving end (well early on anyway). Then LaTrobe responded with an outside basket. Then that champion Mr. Henry "Coops" Cooper hit a great basket. A steal and Trevor "Give it to me" Smith shoots a basket just inside the three point line. Finally, Tony "Tiny" Lewis is fouled by a LaTrobe fist and two shots are taken. The first was there, the second was not. A draw from the jaws of defeat. Overall, a poor game, particularly in the second half. We can do much better.

Henry 10, Pendles 9, Tony 8.

V.W.B.C. DIV 4 (Wed. 30/10)

Uni 42 d. Broadmeadows about 12

It started off as just another Wednesday night, except that coach Connors was absent - who needs a coach? We needed a bodyguard! The start of the game was delayed because one of the Broadmeadows ladies was told to cut her nails. When offered scissors, she replied "No, I'll chew them off." We initially thought she was talking about her nails, but we now think she was talking about her arms. We started in a man to man and things were going well in offence, despite a few odd elbows and backhanders. Then one of their ladies tried to trip (or kick?) Kylie as she was trying to drive into the key, so she was sent off (the opposition, not Kylie). Not content with being sent off, she spat at the umpire and hurled abuse. We said "Thanks very much" and sent in a few more free shots. Mandy was collecting heaps of baskets under the ring, and Lissa didn't punch anyone out. Rose shot well while Woody tried to control the team - things were getting out of hand by the time the opposition's side had been reduced to one player, the others all being fouled or sent off. Such an enjoyable game.

Mandy 16, Kylie 10, Lissa 8, Rose 7, Woody 1.

C.Y.M.S. Championship (Sun. 3/11)

Oakleigh 79 d. Uni 74

Fair performance this one. Missing Les, Simon and Haggis the rest of us were determined to show that they were useless and win convincingly on our own. We failed. We started brilliantly as Burkie hit two in a row from the corner, J.C. hit his first of 4 three pointers for the half and we led 10-0, then continued to dominate at 20-10 before managing to trail 35-42 at half time. The wheels fell off the wagon somewhere there. In the second half we stayed in touch with Chris continuing to show fine touch around the basket and quietly accumulating points, Pendles running well, Bowlesy crashing the boards and Rick starting to connect, but our customary lapse saw us 10 down with 5 minutes to play. If Simon was there he would have said "Come on, we beat them from further behind than this with less time left last game, let's do it again." But he wasn't, so he didn't and neither did we, although we gave them a decent sized scare, as J.C. connected on two more three pointers making 6 for the game, Chris dobbed another basket and all of a sudden it was 71 all with not long left. Despite a 26 foot jump shot from Rick we managed to lose by five. It wasn't our fault though, I mean if Simon and Haggis had been there and shot 10 each and Les had blocked 10 shots we would have won by 35 points.

J.C. 20, Chris 19, Rick 15, Pendles 10, Paul 8, FF24 2.

V.W.B.C. DIV 2 (Wed. 6/11)

Uni 32 d. Melbourne Tigers 31

Well the team really has this business down pat now. Start slowly and let the opposition race away to a convincing lead, wait for the coach to run off to his game, tail between legs, predicting doom, then start playing. I mean when I was there the team was heaps behind, and after I left, they started playing well. A good coach has to know when to make the moves I always say. According to the post mortem held in the Pete's Bar branch of the Clubrooms after the game, it was never in doubt from the moment I left. Bernie and Anne both shot well, the forwards did their thing that it is that forwards do when they do it, whatever it is, I've never been able to work it out, but apparently you have to have them. Ha ha, only joking Ladies. Anyway, after crawling back to 17 all at half time, Anne hit 7 of our first 9 points for the second half while Jean and Bernie finished the job off at the end as we recorded a crushing 32-31 victory. Nice one team.

Anne 13, Bernie 11, Carmel 4, Jean, Spike 2.

C.Y.M.S. Championship (Sun. 10/11)

Footscray 75 d. Uni 60

This game was lost through bad shooting. Our shots started off bad and got worse as the game progressed. Everybody missed baskets they would normally put away as easily as they would half a dozen pots and a bottle of red on Friday nights now that we have late night closing at the Clyde. Anyway, we played like it was 7:40 a.m. the morning after the Friday night and got our bottoms kicked. We made a couple of comebacks at various stages but never looked like winning. Bowlesy was perhaps our best player with a strong effort on the boards and Burkie hustled hard, but the rest of us were below our best.

Simon 11, J.C. 10, Les, Rick, Paul 8, Bowlesy, Chris 6, Pendles 3.

Hi, I Mean, Bye, I'm Gary : Yes folks - it's on. Saturday, December 14 at the New Marconi Ballroom, the band they said couldn't be made, the music they hoped wouldn't be made, at the venue that still hasn't been made.... it's Hi, I'm Gary with special guests The Hepcats (or vice versa, who cares?) Yes, the big one year anniversary of last year's big, big, big, and I think I can say big, MUBC Christmas party. Hi Im Gary are using this as their big farewell gig next year, and at \$5 a head it's the cheapest chance you'll have to get along there and encourage them (to get it over and done with). Not only but also on the bill are the extremely dynamic and hypnotic Hepcats. Yes, the very same band who at their last major gig had 300 semi naked I Claudius clones and one completely naked Fisher non-clone dancing on the tables in a scene described by local authorities as "Seven paddy wagons to the Oasis right now." This event is guaranteed to outroyal Rock with the Royals - if not completely satisfied, just return the unused portion of the concert and we'll forget you were ever there. If you only do one charitable thing this year, go along to the gig and humour these two great bands. There will also be a special appearance by an as yet unknown, unnamed and probably unfunny comedian, so the bands won't be the only laughs on the night. Read what the critics have said :

"All I can say is - no comment!" - Jack Little
"This Saturday night at Festival Hall - be there" - Jack Little
"This is a band that's 33 and in the twilight of it's career" - Bill Palmer
"Matter of fact, I wish I was 33" - Mal Short
"Get down to the New Marconi Ballroom, and while you're down there.." - FF24
"I have to go to the toilet" - Spike
"If I block supply, will it stop them from playing?" - Malcolm Fraser
"Well may we say "God save Queen" for nothing will save Hi I'm Gary" - Gough
"I'll have another scotch thanks" - Sir John Kerr
"Do I have to shoot half a dozen tinnies again this year?" - Henry Cooper
"The only thing bigger than this concert is Jeff Kennet's mouth" - John Cain
"If you don't go to the concert, I'll fix you up out the back" Jeff Kennett
"Do I really have to marry Guiseppi's daughter to book the hall?" - Smithy

Yes, you can't afford to miss your last chance to see the tag team match of the century, Hi, I'm Gary and the Hepcats versus the unmasked assassin and the ugly public. December 14 - BE THERE!