

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL CLUB
DRIBBLING BALLS

VOL 15 NO. 1

30/1/87

Well, there were a few match reports lying around from last year, so what else could I do but start another volume of Dribbling Balls. We'll try and do better this year, but the track record is not good. D.B. may be brilliant, but I know where the smart money is. By the way, D.B. is still waiting... Rupert Murdoch, have you lost my phone number?

C.Y.M.S. Championship (Sun. 9/11)

Uni 74 d. Segarwankers 63

What a slashing win this was in the battle for top place on the ladder. We were level on wins with these guys but they were no match for us really, well maybe a little bit. Without Bowlesy or Ian Burns and with Rick rooting his ankle in the first 5 minutes we were a little undersized but Les, Chris, Mongrel and Simon picked up the slack really well. In offence Simon and Haggis went well in the first half shooting a good percentage, while Mungus and Chris were fantastic during the second half, especially when things got tight. Good defence enabled us to stay 6 or 7 in front for most of the second half and in the end we withstood the pressure and near brawl which was started as usual by the mono-neuronal life form with red hair from the opposition, to run out convincing winners. Well, we were convinced. I don't know how long this can continue, but we've got a bye next week, so, one more week on top.

Chris, Mungus 18, Simon 12, Haggis 11.

C.Y.M.S. D GRADE WOMEN (Sun. 9/11)

Uni drew with Wolves

(Unfortunately, in the process of moving, Michelle lost this match report - apologies to Toni who had written a really wonderful, inspiring report). The opposition started with only 4 players and although they weren't very fast they were very tall. Our fast moving game seemed to have little effect in the first half as we were down by quite a bit at half time (nice accurate description). However, for the first time this season we played as a team and fought back strongly to be one point up with 5 minutes to go. However, with 2 minutes until the siren blew an unbelievable shot was put up and gave them three points. A nice interception by Toni, resulting in a classic layup and basket levelled the scores just as the game finished.

C.Y.M.S. D GRADE WOMEN (Sun. 16/11)

Uni 17 d. B.Beas 9

In this great game of ours (basketball), there is nothing quite like a team realising its full potential (and this was nothing like a team realising its full potential), however, things looked on the improve. Fresh from last week's bye, and a draw the previous week, we had the rest of the competition worried. A lightning start saw us tear away to an 11-4 lead at the change, with Michelle dominating the scoring with 9 points. An effective defensive move by the opposition saw Michelle sustain a forearm to the head early in the second half, putting her out for the rest of the game. This, coupled with a more aggressive style of play saw us slump to a lead of only four points with five minutes to go. Thirteen second half fouls by the B.Beas put us to the line enough to secure our first victory, by 8 points.

Michelle 9, Toni 4, Louise, Jane 2.

V.B.H.B.A. B GRADE WOMEN (Thu. 27/11)

Argentina 21 d. Uni 18

The stories that had been told about our opposition were, to say the

least, intimidating. However, surveying the girls, of whom only four had turned up, we could hardly believe our ears. Even Michelle had a height advantage. The first half was very competitive, strong defence and steady offence applied by both teams. The half time score was 12-10 with Uni leading. However, the real action started in the second half. In an attempt to tire them out we employed a press, but it's difficult to work effectively with an elbow in your stomach. Although we may have had a height advantage, we couldn't break down the language barrier to understand what they were saying. Unfortunately, the ref understood English and penalized us for one of our supporter's over-enthusiastic commentary on the game. Somehow they managed to get an extra person on the court, even though it would be difficult to produce a witness to say her name was on the scoresheet to begin with. But the person who really shone in the second half was the ref. Calling 3 intentional fouls, a disqualifying foul and a technical foul on the bench. Jacqui and Janet were both fouled off (Jacqui with 6 fouls - seems to be a common occurrence for this team) and our reserves literally dragged off the bench for the last 10 minutes. Both Sue Ellen and Karen were injured, but by some uncanny luck had both put their names down just in case. Obviously the opposition's coach must have been worried, suspecting a secret weapon. Both played good tight baseline defence, basically because neither could move. Terri left the court in disgust, but not before she tried to return the opposition's numbers to their original four. Argentina obtained their last seven points from the foul line and we lost 18-21 (yeah, but who won the Falklands war, eh? - Ed.) Janet, Jacqui, Terri 4, Sue Ellen, Janine, Michelle 2.

The night didn't end there, but as usual back in the bar. Dave Liddle left that night 24 cans heavier. The main point of discussion was of course, the game. Karen suggested that we lodge an official complaint that if we have to play on half-size courts against half pint teams with a half wit referee, then we should only play half price admission and registration! How about it Henry? (I haven't heard that expression for years - Ed.) Argentina's coach Mick ??? still threatened by Terri's anger, didn't come to the pub that Saturday after training. As he snuck off in his hearse, waving goodbye, Dragon watched him run into a telephone pole. Divine retribution??

C.Y.M.S. Championship (Sun. 30/11)

Jetz 68 d. Uni 65

This was quite a reasonable game, as would be expected from the battle for top spot on the ladder. Jetz have done a little recruiting adding another Div 1 player to their ranks and a close contest eventually went against us. We trailed by 2 at half time and our chances of snatching a victory at the end were not helped by some questionable intentional fouls. Not to worry, we are still in the four. Mungus worked hard and shot well in offence, and the team played quite well as a team.

Mungus 18, Rick 16, J.C. 11, Simon 9.

C.Y.M.S. D Grade Ladies (Sun. 7/12)

Jaguars 38 d. Uni 18

For our second last match of 1986 we played the Jaguars, who won the match 38 to 18. Five players turned up, Toni, Michelle, Teresa, Michelle, Kerri and Andrea. At half time the score was 13 to 8, with Toni brilliantly scoring all the 8 points with confidence and ability (that'll never catch on - Ed.) In the second half Michelle really got going and shot 8 points, putting in a few classic long shots. We played a better team game in the second half, however we only had 4 players for most of the second half so we did not manage to get on top of the Jaguars. We seemed to be equal in skill to the Jaguars, but they played

a better team game and were more confident and aggressive. We will win next time. (What a nice match report, and it was typed too! - Ed.)

C.Y.M.S. Championship (Sun. 14/12)

Uni 61 drew with Princes Hill 61

Well, this was another typically close and exciting game, the sort we always turn on when Darryl comes to watch. In fact, Bowlesy brought a veritable armada of supporters along. Unfortunately for the first 10 minutes both teams played like they'd never seen a basketball before. Things sparked up a bit after that and a close tussle developed. We trailed by 3 at half time, with only Bowlesy and Simon showing much form. In the second half things livened up a bit, and teamwork made a brief appearance. We had the game won several times, we also had the game lost several times, so a draw was probably a fitting result. This leaves us in second place on the ladder, 1 point clear of Princes Hill.

Rick, Simon, J.C. 10, Mungus, Chris 9, Les 8, Paul 3, FF24 2.

Due to the fact that people are on holidays and spend more time than usual in Pete's Bar and sitting around at home in the sun, a higher percentage of braincells become cooked. The result of this is evident in the following Player Profiles submitted by people who for reasons which are fairly obvious prefer to remain anonymous.

Player Profile : David Crombie

Nickname : Abba

Height : Tall

Weight : Not so thin

Favourite Drink : Green tins he subsequently crushes with his fist

Ambition : To hit Terri back harder (ambition or death wish?- Ed.)

Greatest Achievement : Terri (he said it!)

How he likes his women : Pass (Pass wind? Pass out? Pass port?
Your guess is as good as mine - Ed.)

How his women like him : Just as he is (ohh!) Please note that Terri was watching as we did this, so the tameness is due to threats of violence.

Player Profile : Mick Lewis

Nickname : "Haven't got one"

Height : Pass

Weight : Pass

Favourite Drink : Anything that's placed in front of him

Ambition : To be a pirate on the Broadmeadows midnight train

Greatest Achievement : Champagne white water canoeing in a hot-air balloon (I know where he got the hot air from - Ed)

How he likes his women : "Naked, two eyes, definitely not overweight, boy this is hard..." (that's a good way of putting it)

How his women like him : "This could get pretty ugly" (That's what all the girls say - Ed.)

SWAN HILL TOURNAMENT : Well, what can be said about Swan Hill that hasn't already been said several times in the past 12 years? Not much, but it is surprising that some people never learn from some of their previous efforts/mistakes. Not mentioning any names, but really Mal, shooting all those can can be bad for your health. On the other hand, showing up for breakfast the next day was a pretty gutsy performance.

And while we're not mentioning names, it was good of Bowlesy to bring several parties back to our quiet campside just as sleep was approaching. I mean, otherwise we wouldn't have had the complete works of Monty Python at 4 a.m. Sunday. Still, you've got to look at the bright side, at least Fish wasn't there, so we only had the "money" song once. And did Mungus really try to jump on Michelle? I don't believe it. Well, something must have happened, because Michelle's just given me a Swan Hill report....

These match reports will be basically match reports on the grounds that any social comments may incriminate me and I'm sure someone else will be happy to do that...

Footscray Yaks 58 d. Uni 18

The score for this game is a pretty fair indication of how it was played. Considering they were a Sunday night A grade side, and we, a revamped Thursday side, this is hardly surprising. Even if we had played well it wouldn't have made much difference. Jacqui played particularly well in red and white stripes courtesy of an afternoon at Lake Boga. Judy decided a change was in order, and Sue and Sue Ellen played inside as Terri refused to. Karen was recruited from the sidelines to play her first game of basketball - somehow I doubt that she got a good impression from our effort (was she really wearing Schepini's briefs? - Ed.) After watching one of the opposition run straight into a wall it may be suggested that perhaps the walls could be moved a bit further away from the edges of the court. I think that we were just relieved that there was no scoreboard at the Tech school and left rather quickly, for the next game of course (they play the games in pubs now, do they? - Ed.)

Buckettes 22 d. Uni 15

This game was played well, however it wasn't really played as a team. Terri intercepted well and shot over half the points for the game. Jacqui worked consistently at high post, while Sue took control as point. Kerri's foul shooting was very impressive, a good reward for her drives to the basket. In defence, Sue Ellen and Michelle kept hassling and stopped a lot of the opposition's outside shots. Of course, a team of champions (which we were) doesn't necessarily make a champion team and a little bit of teamwork would have gone a long way.

Shaft 25 d. Uni 20

After a slow start whereby Shaft led 8-0 6 minutes into the game, we played reasonably well for the rest of the game. Terri's shooting was spot on, maybe she should have a few (?) pots before the game more often. Karen showed after only three games, a marked improvement and could easily become a handy addition to club. Our defence was consistently good, people blocked out getting a number of rebounds, quick outlet passes and a few fast breaks, even though the court seemed too long for Michelle's long court passes. Unfortunately our offence left a bit to be desired. We came back to within a point of the lead, but maybe it was the alcohol consumed or the lack of sleep that eventually told on us. It was nice to see almost all of the rest of the club there to support us. Even though we lost every game I think we all enjoyed ourselves (some more than others perhaps!).

DRIBBLING BALLS : Needs you! Well not so much you as your reports. Follow Michelle's lead, write the first thing that comes into your head, and give it to J.C. or someone else who will give it to J.C. Anonymity is assured! All will be printed. The cheque's in the mail....