

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL CLUB
DRIBBLING BALLS

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Hello there. Welcome to the second Dribbling Balls for 1987. As you will see, as you progress through it, most of it is the raving of your much loved Editor. Now whilst this is quite acceptable to an already inflated ego, if the situation doesn't change soon I'm going to have trouble fitting my head through standard size doorways. So would somebody please write something and save my over-worked imagination for more important things like next week's psyche essay...

C.Y.M.S. Championship (Sun. 1/2)

Uni 74 d. Footscray Yaks 56

This game showed just why we are in second place on the ladder. There are teams worse off than us. Rick was awesome around the basket and with Simon in fine touch we romped away to an unassailable lead. Yaks made a couple of feeble attempts to assail said lead, but there wasn't enough time left for us to crack under pressure.

Rick 21, Simon 14, J.C. 9, Les 8, Chris 5, Mungus 4, Paul 3.

C.Y.M.S. Championship (Sun. 8/2)

I can't remember who 85 d. Uni 74

Too long ago for details this game. Maybe I'll just guess. We didn't play good defence. Despite even team scoring we couldn't cope in offence against man to man defence. It basically came down to the fact that either we weren't good enough or they were. Can't recall which was really the case, and don't particularly care.

J.C. 16, Mungus 13, Burkie 12, Rick 10, Chris 8, Les 6.

C.Y.M.S. Championship (Sun. 1/3)

Oakleigh 65 d. Uni 60

When things go well for this team they really go well. Like in the first half of this game, where we shot well, played a little defence and led 35-26 at the break. When things go bad for this team the wheels really fall off, like in the second half of this game, where we shot poorly, played less than a little defence and allowed the opposition to outscore us 39-25. Never mind that they had more blacks than your average chess set, we should have done better than this. We didn't really have all that many offensive contributors, although Mongrel shot some nice baskets and Rick popped a couple, but our main downfall seemed to be that we were soundly beaten on the boards. Never mind that those blacks can jump, oh just never mind...

Mungus, J.C. 18, Rick 12, Bowlesy 6.

This next match report is actually written by someone else, and isn't about the C.Y.M.S. Championship men's team. You don't believe that? Wait 'til you read the report...

V.B.A. DIV. 2 (Wed. 4/3)

Uni 70 d. Diamond Valley - Eltham 55

If you are going to write a match report (counts out most of our readers - Ed.) you may as well write about a victory, and what better sort of victory to write about than one of ours (counts out the rest of our readers - Ed.). In the second round of the winter season, the firsts had their first second division win (!!! - Ed.) after successfully challenging during the summer. It is probably worth mentioning for posterity that LaTrobe was one of the teams we replaced in Div 2. It is probably also an appropriate time to thank the coaches

of the head variety, Henry and Riq, for their work in getting the team out of Div 3. But what about the game, I hear you say. Quite frankly the finer details of the game escape me, but I do seem to remember something about a few beers afterwards. We must have played well because we won, so what more need be said?

Ian 16, John Zimmerman (Didn't he change his name to Dylan? - Ed.) 15 Riq 13, Mr. Walker 12, FF24 10, Col 4, Burkie 9.5 for style, distance and accuracy.

C.Y.M.S. Championship (Sun. 15/3)

Jetz 62 d. Uni 59

You know, I really got quite a surprise when I looked at the ladder after this game and saw that we were in third position and with one game remaining could not be dislodged from the four. I mean, I can't remember the last time we won a game in this comp. This loss was no different than any other we've experienced. We led 19-9 against the top team here before surrendering meekly to trail 38-32 at half time. If it wasn't for Les the game would have been over at this time. The second half was pathetic until Rick told us we couldn't win when we were 10 points down with three minutes to play. It was then we played our only basketball for the half and almost snatched a win. Well, at least we made it respectable.

Les 14, Rick 11, Paul, Mungus 10.

V.B.A. DIV. 2 (Wed. 18/3)

Uni 65 d. Kilsyth 45

After a sensational first few minutes where we raced to a 10 point lead, courtesy of some good hustle from Burkie and Col, not to mention the Graeme Jane steal, fast break and dunk (fairly impressive - Bill Palmer), we settled into coast mode for most of this game. Once again good defensive pressure and control of the defensive boards gave us the edge and made our offensive game look good. (Any editorial cracks about how offensive our game is will be treated with the contempt they deserve). (Oh, so who's that aimed at then? - Ed.) The highlight of the game, apart from Jane's monster slam, was the outlet pass from an unnamed guard to Ruck, who was running the break somewhere in the vicinity of court 8.

Jane 20, Riq 16, "The Marshall" (James Arness? - Ed.) 12, FF24 5, Les, Burkie, Col 4.

C.Y.M.S. Championship (Sun. 22/3)

Uni 103 d. Swann 74

What we needed the week before the finals was a tough workout. What we got was a Sunday stroll around the picture-skew environs of court 1 Albert Park. In true Uni fashion we only had 5 players (the rest are saving themselves for finals), but really, 5 is just the right number for a game like this, 'cause everyone gets to score heaps. The first half saw us exploit the lack of height of our opponents, mainly by throwing the ball in the air to Rick who was in fine touch and contributed a modest 22 points for the half. Les chipped in with another 10, while Bowlesy picked up the bricks lobbed in by the guards as we cruised to a 57-32 half time lead. In the second half the opposition went spastic, obviously they'd been watching too many highlights tapes, and scored quite a few points. Rick asked us to concentrate on defence, but we ignored that ridiculous request, I mean give us a break - this is Sunday night, the home of run and gun. Come on, you go to Albert Park on Sunday night, nobody asks you to play defence. Change the rule. Highlights of the second half included Burkie hitting his first ever three pointer, another 10 from Les and four 3 pointers from J.C. as we cruised over the ton. It's a pity we don't

play this team in the finals.

Rick 26, J.C. 24 (incl. 6 three pointers), Les 20, FF24 17, Burkie 16 (incl. 1 three pointer).

AUDIENCE REQUIRED : For a brand new, all original, repeat of a tired old theme in television. Yes it's the new ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING SHOW. This is always a wild, laugh a minute gathering where last year's committee tries to account for all the strange things they did and all the money they spent, and explain exactly why 11 people gather in dingy surrounds once a month under the pretext of scoffing Tim Tams and cake. Anyway, it's on again this year, on April 4, 12:15 p.m. in the Board Room of the Sports Union (upstairs at the Trinity College end of the Beaufort Gym). All your favourite segments will be shown including "Media Watch - Treasurer's Report" where Henry asks Mattman difficult questions about mistakes in the income/outcome statement, "Red Faces" - a game show where we try to discover the identity of this year's female junior rep and who voted for her, and the big event of the show, "Bowlesy's Wheel" where lucky contestants can win a place on the new committee if their lucky number comes up. All that and it's free! All you need to do to be a part of this entertainment extravaganza is be seated in the studios of M.U.B.C. (i.e. the board room) by 12.15 on April 4 and you're guaranteed a jolly old time (see following article).

JOKE OF THE MONTH : "What's got 50 legs but can't walk after 6 o'clock?" It's obvious really, the Basketball Club Pub Crawl. Yes, it's on again, the traditional celebration after the A.G.M. - a tour of Carlton and district, taking in various points of cultural and architectural interest. Buffs are to gather together (I've always wanted to write that, but now I wish I hadn't) at the Clyde upon the conclusion of the A.G.M. for departure to part or parts unknown about 2:30 p.m. Come along and have a lemon squash or whatever tickles your fancy, it's a unique way to meet other club members. Everyone is welcome, and unlike the last pub crawl, we actually plan on leaving the Clyde this time. Remember, MUBC - the club that put the crawl into pub crawl.

VIDEO-DRONE : My very good friends, are you tired of seemingly interminable basketball videos? Have you got square eyes after watching the highlight tape 57 times on the O Week table? Are you sick and tired of people barring up every time Doctor J. appears on the screen? Bored shitless by groups of people shouting "Get that out here" every time Kareem is seen playing defence or "Nice one Charlie" when Charles Barkley completes the best missed dunk of the month? Yes? Well don't go to Melba's Hotel on a Wednesday afternoon between the hours of 5 and 7 p.m. because all your favourite people will be in the lounge providing more of the same while the N.B.A. game of the week is shown on Mr. Bond's Sky Channel. Yes indeedy, Fish, Bowlesy, J.C., Dr. T, Smith and Ruck are just some of the many celebrities who have been observed partaking of the games from time to time, and even if you don't like basketball, it's fun to sit around and watch these people drink lemon squash because they've got a game at Albert Park that night. But sequentially folks, do yourself a favour and come own down to Melba's, see some good basketball and escape the rat race for an hour. Besides, if we can get enough people there on a regular basis, there's a chance of snapping up some sponsorship. Whacko! Wait a minute, what's this....

WE WERE WRONG : Hard to believe but true. Due to a programming oversight, the basketball at Melba's seems to have been discontinued for the moment. We don't really know why, but don't go down there for a couple of weeks, because it's not on. Stay tuned for further details...

FURTHER DETAILS : Even our "We Were Wrong" was wrong. Bowlesy tells me there is a game on this week, he thinks. Well I'm not prepared to vouch for either of those statements. We'll let you know if we ever work out what's happening at Melba's.

DON'T MENTION THE WAR : And don't mention Warrnambool either. Such was the catchcry of several people after the traditional Australia Day Weekend Tournament, or more specifically, after the also traditional Australia Day Weekend Cocktail Party. This was a bad event when it was for one night only, but for two nights... forget it. Some idea of the magnitude of the event may be gained by noting that Fish's all purpose blender broke at one stage, declaring that every one had had enough and it wasn't going to make any more daquiris. We aren't sure whether this was inspired by the fairly revolting Yoplait daquiri or the patented method of bulk daquiri mixing where all the fruit, rum and anything else handy gets thrown into a bucket, the blender is then switched on and thrown into the bucket as well. Not a pretty sight. Speaking of which, who put Slammer in charge of the bar? They've got a lot to answer for. Still there were many contenders for the title of Best and Most Trolleyless. Janet was there singing swing low sweet chariot as they came for to carry her home, Graeme and Jackie were, er, um, well, and not only that but more, and the list went on and on. Perhaps the best evidence of the damage done was at the men's firsts early game that next morning, where the performance of the majority of the team gave new meaning to the word "mediocre". Thank goodness all that happened on the Sunday night was that silly can shooting thing. Scales and Driscoll put in a performance that could best be described as indescribable. Silly twisted boys. Just in passing (out), nobody made the finals. Can't work out why.

BALLARAT : Gets colder and more miserable each year, but we keep going there. Why? Don't ask stupid questions, it's because of the thrill of victory, the agony of defeat, the search for the ultimate basketball game, and because they've got a bar in the stadium now. Again nobody made the finals, although the men's C grade team were close, as were the women in the B grade team, as were Sue Ellen, Andrew J, Michelle and Steve the Skywanker (or did I get those in the wrong order?). The men played A grade and were not disgraced against very strong opposition comprising five Division 1 sides. An 11 point loss to Broadmeadows was their closest game, but there were several good individual performances. Ian Burns played very well in each game and put in one of the best halves of basketball ever produced by a Uni player in the game against Ballarat, and Andrew Bett showed us that he's been lost to mainstream basketball much earlier than should have been the case. Steve Randell hit a clutch basket with 2 seconds left to give his team the chance for an extra time victory, Slammer played a whole game without falling over, Mark Fennell didn't. Oh, the highlights go on and on. It was all lots of fun, and I hear the Skywankers lost in the semi finals. Never mind lads, maybe ther'll be a D Grade you can enter next year.