

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL CLUB

16

DRIBBLING BALLS

VOL. 14 NO. 3

1/6/88

Welcome to another Dribbling Balls. What a feast we have this time in. Two all beef prattles, special discourse, let us whinge, pickled come ons open sesame son....

VBHBA C Grade Men (Thu. 31/3) SEMI FINAL

Uni 49 d. Baker Institute 44

I can't really remember much of this game except that in continual Uni fashion we tried our best to throw the match away after half time. The game was close throughout except when we would race out to a handy lead which we would just as quickly lose. We finally managed to hang on but we would have to play much better if we were to win the next week in the grand final.

Nick "Coco" Cohen 16, Nick ("Cuckoo" - Ed.) Wade 15.

VBHBA C Grade Men (Thu. 7/4) GRAND FINAL

Uni 47 d. KPMG 42

In Pendles' pre-game briefing he told us not to feel confident but to feel desperate. These words of wisdom (from Gary's mouth!?) were not without good reason, after all KPMG had easily despatched us by 15-20 points in both games this season and had finished the season undefeated. We kept pace with them early with Nick W getting on track hitting two jumpers and a 3 point bomb and we trailed 11-9. However KPMG moved into top gear and sprinted away from us with their big centre doing a real job all over the court (ours did that once but we rubbed his nose in afterwards and that soon fixed the problem - Ed.) They moved out to a lead of 12 and it looked as though this game would be a repeat performance of the previous two. Inexplicably however, instead of falling in a heap we picked up our game in defence and rebounding. Nick W continued to drill baskets and Coco scored with some great drives to trim the lead to 4 points trailing 27-23 at half time (Nick W 15, Coco 6, Abba 2). Pendles came out at half time breathing fire and proceeded to dress down the players (so to speak). This obviously had a marked effect as the second half Uni side was a completely different outfit from that in the first half. We ran a sensational defence and picked up the tempo of the game with Coco running some great fast breaks and Abba and Ed doing a real job inside. Nick W also came back into the game with the second longest three pointer seen in quite a while - over 6 foot outside the 3 point line. Ed was firing and threw up some amazing baskets including finger rolling the ball over the ring then running around the other side to catch it and put it in the basket. We managed to stretch the lead to 6 points but KPMG fought back to level. The lead see-sawed until Ed demoralised the centre, taking him out of the game with one of the biggest in your face stuffs ever seen at Albert Park. We were up by 1 point with 40 seconds to play when Nick W managed to get free and hit a jump shot. KPMG took the ball up looking for a 3 pointer however they missed and Nick W was fouled while rebounding. He hit both 1

and 1 giving us a 5 point lead with only 20 seconds left. The game was virtually over, but Ed decided to rub it in by rejecting a 3 point attempt into the far pavilions. All the players put in a great performance during the season. The team was Ed Chen, Nick Cohen, Dave Crombie (Hi Mrs. C. - Ed.), Brett Currie, Dave Liddle, Dieter Lim, Steve Randall, and Nick Wade. On behalf of the team I would like to thank all the spectators who supported us during the season and the finals.

Nick W 22, Nick Coco 13, Abba 7, Ed 5.

MBA B Grade (Mon. 25/4)

Uni 39 d. Injeanious 32

A huge crowd was in attendance to witness the rematch of the two teams relegated from A Grade. Uni a motley crew reduced to the basic 5 by disease and absenteeism : 2 dads (Scott B-W and Phlatulant Fil) and 3 freshers (Marco Amillo, Tim Smyth and Matt the Lesser Scholes). Injeanious' idea of basketball is to pass the ball inside to their big men (doomed from the start - Ed.) particularly ex-Carlton footballer David McKay. This night they had added even another big man. Unfortunately Uni did so well on the defensive boards that Injeanious' "O" was non-existent, and we even managed to set up about 5 successful fast breaks. Score at half time 23-10. Of course the game was all over and Uni just had to play steady ball in the second half to win. Great first up game by Tim who made some huge offensive rebounds.

Scott 14, Tim 10, Marco 8, Fill 5, Scholes the lesser 2.

VBA Div 2 (Wed. 27/4)

Uni 67 d. Sunbury 42

This game was a disgrace. We should have won by 125 rather than 25. Sunbury had 5 very average players only and we quickly decided that we could coast to a win so why bother trying too much. Jane, Dave and Ian exploited their major height advantages in good offensive performances and Col hustled a bit, but really Ray, there's no action left in this game...

Dave, Graeme 15, Col 11, Ian 10, J.C. 8, Tim 4, Les FF24 2.

MBA B Grade (Mon. 2/5)

Uni 47 d. Elwood 38

The stewards should have been called in for this one! Rags to riches after half time. An evenly contested first half, with Uni doing poorly on the defensive boards. About 50 fast break opportunities were wasted and we only trailed 15-21 at half time. Coach hauled the boys over the coals at the interval and they came out frothin' at the mouth (not all that unusual - Ed.) Our zone D extended into a spread, long bombs hit the bucket with boring repetition and not a fast break was wasted. About 3 minutes in we already led 24-23. Clarkie the Lesser hit 3x3 and Scott B-W was performing like a Collingwood 6 footer. Carey and Marco contributed well in the second half. Easy win in the end.

Clarkie the lesser 15, Scott 11, Carey 7, Marco 6, Scholes the lesser 4, Tim 4.

VWBC Div 2 (Wed. 4/5)

Uni 49 d. Geelong 28

This week's big ball game clash fixture event extravaganza showdown saw first placed Uni take on third place Geelong on the newly renovated court 2 astro thunderdome rebound ace controversy arena venue in what promised to be a game of basketball. We picked up man2man and jumped them with some good defence, a perfect transition and a couple of fast breaks to Al and Gill. At 8-0 they called a time out and went to a man2man, a move which did not prove to be the turning point of the game. Our defence stayed on top and our movement of the ball from defence to offence was fast and often caught Geelong on the hop. Carmel picked up 8 for the half in a good display of running while Gill picked up 6. The 26-7 halftime scoreline was a good indication of the difference between the two sides. We started the second half where we had left off with Fran doing well with a couple of drives to the basket, Anne picking up a couple of fast breaks and Bernie controlling our half court offence and making friends with number 4 from Geelong. Things looked set for an enormous win, when the coach had a spontaneous aneurism in his substitutional cerebral hemisphere and proceeded to imbalance the side with gay (i.e. happy) abandon. At one stage Fran became so frustrated she slammed her own head into the floor (the noise was very loud, I guess the floor was hollow). Somehow Spike snuck onto the court with about 5 minutes remaining and shot about 9 points, said she would have shot more but that no one would pass her the ball when she's on the bench. In the end we won by 21 points and played some great team basketball, especially in the first half. The main worry for the team at the moment is Scapini's head band (I thought it was a fine young assistant band - Ed.), we're currently checking the club constitution regarding its eligibility and expect a decision from a duly formed club committee sub committee in approximately ..... (fill in your own estimation) months.

Spike 11, Carmel Anne 8, Gill 6, Scheps 5, Fran Bernie 4 Al 3

Yawn, here's another report of the same game....

VWBC Div 2 (Wed. 4/5)

Uni 49 d. Geelong 28

After last week's debacle when everyone turned up to play at 9 p.m. (in their matching tops and all) and found the game over, this game was approached with all the enthusiasm of Gary Pendlebury at a bucks turn. Robert wanted a man to man full court from the word go (what's it got to do with him - Jean P.) and within 2 minutes we were about 12 points up with Gillian connecting on a few of Spike's "Dean Uthoff" passes and collecting 6 points for the half. Carmel then decided that she needed some extra work in offence and proceeded to drive to the basket, miss the shot, rebound it three more times, fake, take a step back and put in the fade away (while everyone else looked on). Meanwhile Geelong had forgotten what defence was all about

and were playing more and more like their NBL counterparts every minute. It was 27-7 at half time. Second half was an interesting affair with Spike and Carmel playing 7.5 minutes between them (Robert has no idea what to do with 8 players) and our defence and fouls shooting going the way of Rob's brain. Still, Geelong persisted in running away from the ball at every opportunity and we got a few second, third and eighth shots away. Overall a bloody awful game really, but we won so retired to Pete's Bar (who is Pete anyway?) for a few tins and a quiet personal assault on the coach. (Some things never change - Ed.)

Spike 11, Carmel Anne 8, Gill 6 Scheps 5 Bernie Fran 4 Al 3

VBA Div 2 (Wed. 4/5)

Uni 57 d. Broadmeadows 40

In the end the moccasin wearers were well and truly banished, although it was a fairly tough struggle for us. Again we looked like we might bury them at any time, but resisted the temptation to do so. A 36-25 half time lead was maintained through the good work of John Dillon and Tim Morphy in the second half. The game provided few highlights, although I seem to recall Col frap doodling a few leapy leaders.

J.C. 13, Dave 12, Tim 11, Johnno 8, Col 6.

MBA B Grade (Mon. 9/5)

Uni 79 d. Heroes 32

To say the least, "Heroes were pathetic". Not a lot to say about this game, or do if you were a post player, just grab the defensive rebound or loose ball and throw a long pass or set up a fast break. Fastbreak, run and gun! Defence got a little slack after half time (37-9) with people not pressurizing wide on "the spread" (is that "Brehmer-speak" or what? - Ed.) All played well and certainly many perfect executions of fastbreaks from the backcourt. Maybe Heroes need to change their team name?

Carey 23, Marco 18, Clarkie the Lesser 18, Scott B-W 13, Phil 3, Scholes the Lesser 2, Miscellaneous 2.

VBA Div 2 (Wed. 11/5)

Sandringham 72 d. Uni 41

Well, didn't we have a dirty game down here in Sandringham? Yes. A combination of factors caused us to lose this one, bad court, shocking lights, crook nets, they were heaps better than us, we were heaps worse than them. Not to mention sheer bad luck. Graeme did two or three nice things, which put him two or three ahead of everyone else. Thirty-one points is rather a lot to lose by really, but let's face it - we deserved it.

Graeme 11, Ian, J.C. 6.

MBA B Grade (Mon. 16/5)

Uni 36 d. Albatross 33

Good effort this by only 5 players! The game wasn't as close as the scoreline indicates - we led by 9 points with 3 minutes to go and the opposition scored on the buzzer to narrow the final

margin to 3. Scott B-W, Phil and particularly Matt the Lesser Scholes dominated the defensive boards - a few timely rebounds in offence made the difference! Clarkie the Lesser and Carey were fed well on the fast break all night, but despite scoring a few critical baskets, many opportunities were wasted with the final shot taken under pressure or the ball becoming bogged down deep in the key. We led by 6 with 9 minutes to go and extended our lead to a match winning break in 3 minutes of pressure basketball. Great game by Matt and his best since joining the club (could he be emerging from brother Greg's shadow? Oh yeah, Greg doesn't cast a shadow - Ed.) Really it was one of those nights when the ball just wouldn't drop - but we still won.

Carey 12, Scholes the Lesser 8, Clarkie the Lesser 7, Scott 6, Phil 3.

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Carey 12, Scholes the Lesser 8, Clarkie the Lesser 7, Scott 6, Phil 3.

VBA Div 2 (Wed. 18/5)

Uni 83 d. Knox 63

Well, Dragan lined up for Knox, so we couldn't let them win, could we? No. An awesome first half onslaught from Jane Graeme with 18 points and J.C. with 12 took us to a 44-30 break. We failed to bury them completely in the second half after getting out to a 25 point break then relaxing, but who cares? I don't think Dragan got too many points, and that was all we were worried about.

J.C. 25 (5x3), Graeme 24, Les 8, Col, Johnno 7.

CYMS A Grade men (Sun 22/5)

Jetz (2) 79 d. Uni 77

I promised Simon I would print a report on this game, despite the fact his stupid team has just beaten us for the second time in succession. Still, this game just goes to show what happens if you let some big dope from the opposition take control. It's even

worse if he's got skill. I don't care. Wait 'til next time. Great game from Burnsy in a fine return to form.

Ian 22 J.C. 19 (5x3), Mungus 14, Ruq 12, Les 10.

CLASSIC COMMENTARY : The competition lives. There were some real classics, especially from the All star game. But we start this week with the Sydney v. Nth Melbourne game, and the first one this week is a special one for FF24...

Mark Chester - "He's a smart player - I've never seen him foul out" (on Marc Ridlen's 4th foul v. Nth Melb)

Mark Chester - "The State Sports Centre's gone absolutely beresk!" (when Sydney and Nth Melb tie after 4 quarters)

Mark Chester - "If you're gonna drown on the way here then maybe it's not worth it." (on getting to game in Sydney's rain)

Now from the All Star game, what a selection...

Graeme McNaney - "It's show time here at the glass house." (as the wave goes round in the all star game)

Graeme McNaney - "No score in this match yet." (10 seconds into the game)

Graeme McNaney - "He's just so far hanging in the air." (on a Crawford dunk)

Bill Palmer - "Uthoff showing why he's one of the all time leading rebounds"

Graeme McNaney - "Crawford was fouled in the act of slamming"

Bill Palmer - "We're going to get some pyrotechnics from him" (on Joe Hurst's appearance)

Graeme McNaney - "That's a nice little shot - it's missed-airball!" (on a James Bullock miss)

Bill Palmer - "How's the eye Joe?!" (Hurst slams after eye trouble)

Bill Palmer - "360! It was a 360!" (Hurst's dunk)

Bill Palmer - "Showtime! That should be worth more than 2 points" (same 360 from Hurst)

Bill Palmer - "Keep him on the court Cal!" (Hurst again)

Bill Palmer - "Huge block by Davis, suspiciously high above the rim"

Bill Palmer - "Nothing better to do, let's lob one up from the sideline." (Hurst's long shot)

Bill Palmer - "There's a lot of ambrosia in that well" (the south bench)

Graeme McNaney - "There's the cream of the NBL on display" (as the cameras pan across the cheerleaders)

Bill Palmer - "I think the ring wanted to get out of the way of that one" (a Uthoff dunk)

Bill Palmer - "Long fingers from James Crawford" (who slammed over Uthoff)

Bill Palmer - "Six-ten guys don't go out there to shoot" (on a Dennard 3 pointer)

Bill Palmer - "He needed another three feet on his arms." (Dennard's finger roll is short)

Bill Palmer - "Make some room for yourself Dean" (Uthoff)

Bill Palmer - "Uses a little reversed English off the glass" (a Carfino lay up)

Bill Palmer - "Elevator arm of Simmons" (on a rebound)

Bill Palmer - "Ugh! On contraire!" (when Hurst didn't try something spectacular)

Bill Palmer - "Joe Hurst is pretty accurate - that's an air ball."

Graeme McNaney - "Threw up a little frap doodle that time." (an Al Green lay up)

Bill Palmer - "It was that little extra bit of defensability" (why North won)

Four classic exchanges from the Eastside - Perth game...

Bill Palmer - "You stand between your man and the ball when the shot goes up"

Graeme McNaney "They have to block out more too"

Bill Palmer - "That's what I was describing - succinct as always Graeme"

Graeme McNaney - "Little easy shot"

Bill Palmer - "That wasn't an easy shot"

Graeme McNaney - "The only man in foul trouble on the court is Tiny Pinder"

Bill Palmer - "And he's not on the court."

Graeme McNaney - "I think Eastside have got this" (7 up, 11 mins left)

Bill Palmer - "Oh Graeme, Graeme"

And more from the same game...

Bill Palmer - "He takes pleasure in getting out into the pastures and frolicking." (on Darren Lucas)

Bill Palmer - "The basket doesn't count - he didn't make it anyway."

Bill Palmer - "Can't get more accurate than when it goes through the middle of the hoop."

Graeme McNaney - "He's the invisible man when he gets in the key- they can't find him" (Lucas)

Graeme McNaney - "Arne Duncan with another of those snakes and ladders moves."

Graeme McNaney - "I think 8 points will be enough but don't write off Perth" (on Eastside's lead)

Bill Palmer - "Foul called on Lucas, there's no doubt about that- foul's on Bruton."

Bill Palmer - "When Dean Uthoff takes a 3 pointer it's all over."  
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How about all that then. Keep sending the contributions, articles are welcome too. We'll finish off with a bang - here's a list of the club committee members. Hassle these people - they love it.

President : Geoff Bowles

Vice-President : Judy Knight

Secretary : David Liddle

Treasurer : Nick Wade

Assistant Secretary : Michael Johnson

Social Secretaries : Trevor Andrew, Cathy Kennis

General Reps : David Morosoli, Gillian Payne

Junior Reps : Rebecca Isaacs, Matthew Scholes

PROGRESSIVE DINNER : Yes we are having one and it starts at 7:30p.m. in the kitchen of the Sports Union on Saturday June 18 (at least I think that's the date, but i've lost my bit of paper. Never mind, if you want to make sure, ask a committee member (see above. Come on along, these are great fun. Really...