MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY BASKETBALL CLUB DRIBBLING BALLS

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As Editor of this journal, I always worry about the readers and writers at this time of year. Exam pressure must be tremendous these days. Take this first article (please)....

VWBC Div 4 (Wed. 18/10)

Uni 51 d. Werribee 45

There are lots of choices about what you do with your basketball. No one else controls it - though it may seem like that at times. To make the best of your basketball, and to be able to make choices, you have to know at least a little of how it works - what food it needs, what exercise, why smoking and alcohol and other drugs can damage it. You have to decide what risks you'll take; what risks don't seem worth it at any price. Every year 122 million basketballs are born. Think of that. It means about 232 every minute, four every second. The earth is bombarded with basketballs, but for each team, that birth is an awesome moment, a time of change and new chances, a time for love and excitement and fears, and often despair. Now matter how the birth occurs, basketballs have just one thing in common - they were made the same way and nurtured in their mother's body until ready to explore the world. Basketball can be made to sound very simple - just a matter of putting all these bits and pieces together. But skills play an even bigger part. It's great for basketballs if their team takes time to plan. There's a catch though - no matter how you plan you can't be sure of what will happen. Having a basketball changes your life in all sorts of unpredictable ways - that's one of the biggest upheavals of parenthood. Don't fret, whatever you do. Basketballs take years to grow up, and it's never too soon, or too late, to relax and enjoy them. (This article's a classic example of why some basketballs should be put down at birth - Ed.)

Tania 14, Emma, Kim 13, Michelle 9, Tracy 2.

VBA Div 3 (Wed. 18/10)

Uni d. Bayside

The lack of match reports for the men's seconds have been obvious by their absence lately. This is because the team believes in the philosophy of no wins - no reports. This has led to the environmentally sound policy of saving trees due to the paper saved in not printing them. This has all changed now however, with a stirring win in convincing fashion. There were highlights aplenty as we outrebounded, outran and generally did things that we usually watch other teams do to us. A consistent team effort saw no real stars in a much needed win, dare I say, with more to come? I think I mentioned it once but I'm sure I'll get away with it.

CYMS A Reserve Ladies (Sun. 22/10)

Uni 29 d. PFBYC 19

The horse's team (this girl has a reputation for kicking people but not the ref!!!) came out playing a man to man right from the start. Horse wasn't playing, their defence was lousy, our press



worked well and we shot more goals - sorry, baskets - than they did (once Tania started looking at the ring in the second half) - so we won, with nine players.

Tania 16, Pauline 5, Janet 3, Terry Canhardly 3, Max 2.

CYMS B Grade Men (Sun. 22/10)

Uni 43 d. Macrophages 38 Well once again the B men do their best to snatch defeat from the jaws of victory. Yet each week we seem to hang on just long enough to win - the clock must be defective. Each week we go through a ten minute dead patch. I swear that if the team was the Titanic it couldn't hit an iceberg during this period. We then go on to hit enough points to fall in, er, win at the end. If you know an answer to the problem come and see us - although I suppose we do still win, mostly. (Try more three pointers - Ed.)

Dave L. 13, Nick 12, Steve 8, Dave M. 6, Rob 2.

MBA A Grade (Mon. 23/10) Caulfield 57 d. Uni 47

We played, we led, we lost. Caulfield, last season's premiers, owe their success to three brilliant little men (one's plenty as far as I'm concerned - Ed.) We did a great defensive job on them all night. Our first half was magnificent, but why did it have to stop? Everyone scored at least 4 points, with first gamer Grant Parker hitting two three pointers. Tim and Marco were killing the opposition going baseline against their zone. Uni leading 35-25 at half time. They switched to a man to man D - we lost!

Scott 9, Grant 8, Marco 8, Tim 8, Lonni 6, Carey 4, Phil 4.

VWBC Div 2 (Wed. 25/10)

Uni - not enough lost to Knox - more than enough

Once again we faced the adventurous task of playing a 7.00 game way out whoopy, almost off the planet (that's a home game for some of this team - Ed.) This in itself posed a number of problems, some of which were solved...

Problem 1: The coach is not feeling "Spot on" so to speak.

Problem 2 : Debbie Kool is in Melbourne somewhere but hasn't been "spotted" for days.

Problem 3: If Deb could be "spotted" how do we get her to Knox?

Problem 4 : How do we get to Knox?

Problem 5: There is no problem 5 and it has no spots. Problem 6 : Our measle-y coach isn't going to be there.

So four of us travel in the luxury of the Martian mobile through peak hour traffic from the other side of town to meet the others there. The game is pretty irrelevant except that we had trouble spotting the ring through the tall timber. If you're sick of spots,

just ask Robert how many he's seen lately!!

CYMS A Reserve Ladies (Sun. 29/10)

Uni 32 d. Sophisticats 26

In the first half there was lots of shooting but not much scoring, lots of fouling but not much whistle blowing. In the second half



we had two refs which didn't make a whole lot of difference, just as much shooting and fouling but more scoring - well, more than them anyway and that's all that counts. I don't know who scored what because by some mystical intergalactic force the score sheet vanished from the face of the basketball court. So playing were:

Woody, Janet, Pauline, Terry C., Teresa (Green - Ed.), Tania.

CYMS C Grade Men (Sun. 29/10)

A Maroon & white team 51 d. Uni 40
I promised Paul I'd write this report because he hit 13 points including a three pointer. The coach kindly asked at the end of the game how he managed to pull so many shots out of his This team must be one of the few in the club that only has students in it. The Fab Four who turned up were Paul, Lester, Dr. David and Number 33 ('cause I don't know his name). Obviously worried about their exams the next day, they decided to turn their minds off and play basketball (all forwards are they? - Ed.) Enlisting the help of coach Randell, the Fab Four played an ordinary first half to be trailing 28-18 on the buzzer. Second half not much changed except the opposition stopped hitting their idiotic 3 pointers from 5 feet outside the line. What else is there to say, especially after spending most of the game talking to the only other spectator (and

she was being paid to be there).

Paul 13, Steve 12, Dr. David 9, Lester 6, No. 33 2.

CYMS B Grade Women (Sun. 29/10)

Melb Uni 26 d. Holland Park 25

- 1. None of us were really fired up because :
 - a) it was too late
 - b) the ref was 10 minutes late
 - c) the coach is a girl.
- 2. The opposition:
 - a) were from Uncle's Coffee House
 - b) wore stars and stripes
 - c) were shorter than us
- 3. We won because :
 - a) they had difficulty lifting the bricks before throwing them
 - b) we were taller than them
 - c) we shot more points than they did
 - d) the Martians were on our side
- 4. Janine didn't realise it was so close because :
 - a) the score board was wrong
 - b) Tania was cheating on the bench
 - c) she was at home with a sore ankle
- 5. The points were scored by :
 - a) Michelle, 13 (3 x 3 pointers)
 - b) Jenny, 5
 - c) Tracy, 4
 - d) Carolyn, Kim 2
 - e) all of the above (- Ed.)



MBA A Grade (Mon. 30/10) Smegmen 62 d. Uni 52

This game was lost because, against much taller opposition, we struggled on the boards all night. The unexplained absence of Tim and Lonni cost us dearly. With the basic 5 we were unable to apply any pressure on their dribblers. Good effort from everyone with excellent games by Michael and Mark. Carey hit 3 x 3 in the second half. They had trouble against our man to man D in the second half; maybe next time. A game that should have been won.

Carey 18, Michael 15, Mark 8, Phil 7, Scott 4.

VBA Div. 2 (Wed. 1/11)

Uni 0 did not play Werribee 0
This was a game of no halves. We arrived for our 8:30 Albert Park
game to find the 8:00 game in full swing. This was not really a
problem, only the teams scheduled to play the 9:00 game thought we
were a bit rude to ask if they could play half court while we
played at the other end. Fortunately a solution was found and our
game was rescheduled to court one, unfortunately games were already
being played there for the rest of the night, so we watched the
women's game then rescheduled ours to Pete's Bar.

Graeme 0, Rick 0, Greg 0, Mal 0, J.C. 0, Henry 0.

CYMS Championship Men (Sun. 5/11)

Jetz (1) 73 d. Uni 71 As Sandy always says, we never beat Jetz (when it counts). A slow start which was typified by Mungus who was waiting for the game to commence on court one while we were ready to start on court 9, saw us leap to an early 12 point deficit. We maintained this, although Matt the Lesser Scholes made 3 impressive baskets to keep us from falling further back. Towards half time Rick fired up and in a late flurry of baskets finished with 15 for the half as we trailed by only 4 at the change, 31-35. In the second half we trailed by 8 or 10 for most of the time despite the fact that Mungus, Rick, Bowlesy and J.C. scored more freely, but just when it seemed all over a late rally saw us break the Jetz two and a half minute freeze twice to level the score at 71-71. They scored with 40 seconds left then we missed then we caused another turnover to have possession from the side line, in the front court with 8 seconds left. We had a time out, set the play, ran it perfectly but the shot rolled around the rim and fell out. We lost (but only to keep Sandy happy).

Rick 23, Mungus 16, J.C. 13, Bowlesy 8, Matt 6, Greg 5.

Against our better judgement, Dribbling Balls is fabulously amazed to present the sequel to last week's premiere...

B'BALL PLAYHOUSE - EPISODE 2

Before this episode begins, I feel I must say that episode one would have been funny, well made more sense anyway, if only it hadn't ended up in the washing leaving only a washed out remembrance of a once glorious tome. Anyway, enough bullshit and



on to this week's episode... er....

Now that you've recovered from the thrills and spills of the last exciting episode, and despite numerous requests to the contrary, B'ball Playhouse once again makes its mark on the MUBC community.

In today's episode we find one of our principle characters in a bit of a quandary...

Shazza: "Drongo, what should I wear out tonight?"

Drongo: "Not the tyres on the car again!"

Shazza: "Nah, be serious."

Drongo: "Well what about that backless, frontless, sideless thing

you wore for me last night?"

Shazza: "You mean a belt?"

Drongo: "Yeah!"

Well, will the excitement ever begin? Will Drongo survive Shazza's reply? Will she have one? Will we ever develop a plot? Does anyone care? More next week (sorry). (Who says real men can't spell postrance - postrami - pastrami?)

Now, just what we need in Dribbling Balls is another quiz. At least this one isn't asking for entries or offering a hokey prize...

THE GREAT SATURDAY SAUSAGE SIZZLE QUIZ

- 1. How many different types of sausage were there?
- 2. Who was there with a broken leg?
- How much did a beer cost?
- 4. How much is the key deposit for the BBQ?
- 5. How much did a sausage cost?
- б. What was the name of the grasshopper.
- 7. How many dogs were there? (This is not a trick question)
- 8. Which two committee members were not there?
- 9. Who cleaned the BBO?
- 10. Who was the last to arrive?
- 11. Who did Henry get to lie on her back with her mouth open?
- 12. Who was the last to leave and at what time?
- 13. Why wasn't Rick there?
- 14. Why was Tania late?
- 15. Where did we get the sausages from?
- What did Mike predict for tomorrow's weather?
- On a scale of $\tilde{1}$ -10 how cold is ice when it's down your jocks? 17.
- 18.
- How many times was the ABBA tape played? Who were the anti-cancer council reps who attacked Sally? 19.
- 20. Who's been to more club functions than games?

ANSWERS TO THE GREAT SAUSAGE SIZZLE OUIZ

Five 2. Ben 3. Fifty cents 4. \$20 5. Fifty cents. 6. Kevin.



Is he a fungi? A frayed knot. 7. One and a half 8. Judy and the one who never turns up anyway. 9. Andy - he has the stains to prove it 10. Simon B-G, isn't that always the way with coppers (Actually, your fearless Editor turned up after SBG on the way to write an essay and have a quick beer and a bucket of ice tipped down his back - Ed.) 11. Atom - it's O.K., she's a dog 12. I don't know, I wasn't there 13. He was out with a balloon. 14. Martian daylight saving starts early. 15. Cathy's dad. Thanks Cathy's dad. 16. Nothing, no one asked him. 17. Ask your social secretary 18. The whole time 19. Michael and Sally Ann 20. Karen (functions 3, trainings 1, games 0).

HOW YOU SCORED :

- O You weren't there and you probably didn't do the quiz anyway.
- 1-3 A lucky guess
- 4-17 You must have been there and had a good time
- 18-19 You wrote this quiz
- 20 Either you were the last to leave or you cheated

Dribbling Balls doesn't usually do cheerios or lost and found. Here's a good example of why...

<u>FOUND</u>: One pair of black Jockette brand men's briefs - medium size. Would the person who left these behind after the Keilor Tournament please see me. Cathy Kennis. (Is this another Cinderella story? - Ed.)

Considering the huge response to the last D.B. "Who am I?" it's time for another legend (?!) in the club to have their dirty washing aired. There were no correct entries (in fact there were no entries - Geoff wasn't allowed to) so Andrew Jirik wins because he was the mystery person and he knew who he was....

WHO AM I? I am a girl, but not as big a girl as some of the members of this club. I have been known to smoke a little, talk a little and drink a lot. I made my TV debut in the audience of "Countdown" in 1984. I have climbed walls, dunked balls and sung in music halls, and possess photgraphic proof of the first two feats. I have attended half a dozen IV's, not all of them with the Basketball Club. I enrolled in IV 101 but deferred. I've seen "Bruce" in concert and I eat cheese and strawberry jam sandwiches. My favourite film is "The Sound of Music".

Answers to be in writing (preferable on green paper) to Michelle or Tania.

CLASSIC COMMENTARY: We wind up the year with a plethora of left over classic comments. Watch for the year's best next edition. But first from the all star game, the finals, Melbourne and Sydney, Perth and Nth Melbourne and Canberra and Nth Melbourne...



- "The Alabama Slammer gets them onto the board for the first time" Graham McNaney as Crawford opens the scoring for the South
- "The South team's cheating there, they ran a play" Bill Palmer
- "Ball had reached the apex of its ballistic trajectory" Graham McNaney on a goal tend
- "Shane Heal says "Get me out of here!"" Bill Palmer as Atkinson dunks over Heal
- "Jump hooker from McKay that was presumptuous" Bill Palmer
- "Margin 31 no 21 there goes my maths again" Graham McNaney
- "You and your arithmetic" Bill Palmer "Where's the calculator?" Graham McNaney
- "A little kung fu there" Bill Palmer as Everett does a high kick
- "Some North players could fall out of the boat and not hit the water at the moment" Bill Palmer as North shoot badly
- "The Newcastle shoop sharter doing well" Graham McNaney on Jerry Everett's form
- "Keogh and Joyce going hammers and tong" Bill Palmer
- "It had reached its apex" Bill Palmer on a goal tend "That's the one" Graham McNaney in reply
- "Everybody's jumping on everybody else" Bill Palmer as Ellis gets crunched
- "You'll never see a bigger clutch basket than that ever" Bill Palmer as Fisher scores to win the game
- "They were in the ideal situation to get the rebound but they didn't" Bill Palmer as Gaze and Giddy muck each other up
- "That's going to be a foul on somebody" Bill Palmer as Simmons and Ridlen tangle
- "Leading scorers Keogh and Morrissey with 6, Ridlen has 7" Graham McNaney
- "He can shoot over the stadium and still make it" Graham McNaney as Gaze makes on over tall timber
- "Can't get much more high percentage than that" Graham McNaney as Simmons slams one
- "He just snarkled that in" Bill Palmer on a Simmons rebound

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- "Simmons and Gaze are their two conduits to the score board" Bill Palmer
- "The Electrolux man vacuums off the back board" Bill Palmer on another Simmons rebound
- "Don't come in here with that stuff" Bill Palmer as Crawford rejects a shot
- "No peeking pass to Exum" Bill Palmer on Mark Leader's pass
- "Played with the Globetrotters from 1980 back to 82" Graham McNaney on Tiny Pinder
- "You worry me every time you do that little subtraction in your head Graham" Bill Palmer on Graham's arithmetic
- "Falling back fade away jumper" Graham McNaney as Bruton scores
- "They're just discussing the geopolitical situation" Bill Palmer as Pinder and Wright get face to face
- "62-52, 63-52, that's not my maths, that's the score board" Graham McNaney
- "He's about 6 foot 6 both ways" Graham McNaney on Scott Fisher
- "It's all happening" Graham McNaney as Crawford charges
- "What is it? Turnover town in tinsel city or something?" Bill Palmer
- "Super game in front of this capacity, sell out, no seats left crowd" Graham McNaney
- "In other words it's a full house" Bill Palmer in reply
- "Crawford is up in the stratosphere at the moment" Bill Palmer
- "Crawford should have a nose bleed he's been up there so often" Graham McNaney
- "Crawford snorkels in another rebound" Bill Palmer
- "A big savage monster rebound from Tiny Pinder" Graham McNaney
- "Perth have scored 19 points this quarter. Is that right?" Graham McNaney
- "No" Bill Palmer in reply
- "The 6-10 man doesn't normally do that and preferably shouldn't"
 Bill Palmer as Borner loses the ball dribbling



- "We saw 40 rebounds between Crawford and Pinder, 21 and 19 to each of them" Graham McNaney
- "Carroll hit by Crawford not hit as in hit" Graham McNaney
- "Crawford heads and shoulders above the defence" Bill Palmer
- "An all half court pass all half court that's good" Graham McNaney
- "A no peeky, 2 hand backward flip sounds like a diving exhibition" Bill Palmer on Leader's pass to Dillon
- "Degree of difficulty was huge" Graham McNaney on the same play
- "Two will drop out and two will go three" Graham McNaney describes the end of the semi finals
- "Exchanging telephone numbers I think" Bill Palmer as Borner and Pinder face up to each other
- "Perth's going to have to get some outside three pointers" Bill Palmer as Perth trail by 30
- "If Sydney get back from 62 down they deserve to win" Graham McNaney
- "So much for my magic pencil here" Bill Palmer as Davis has 4 fouls rather than 5
- "Make it 42 I think my maths are right" Graham McNaney "Make it 43 your maths are wrong" Bill Palmer in reply
- "Forty-five the margin, I think it's academic now" Graham McNaney in the fourth quarter
- "Oh do you think so Graham? That's one of the bigger statements you've made this year" Bill Palmer in reply
- "He's drawn the foul again for the first time" Graham McNaney as Dillon fouls
- "Little bunny hop stop this time" Bill Palmer as Exum travels
- "Fisher is detained and derailed slightly" Bill Palmer on the foul
- "Tim Dillon with a classic springbok jump down the space line for a jam" Bill Palmer
- "Smythe was way up there, nowhere near the ball" Bill Palmer on the same jam

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- "Canberra's been the Gobi desert as far as North Melbourne's concerned" Bill Palmer on North's losing record
- "It's just going to get squeezier and squeezier near the basket" Bill Palmer as North can't buy an outside shot
- "Into the land of the giants presumptuous? Moi?" Bill Palmer as Marty Clarke is comprehensively blocked
- "Stay out of there Marty" Bill Palmer as Clarke is swatted again on the very next play
- "Giants out by two, nothing separating these teams" Graham McNaney
- "He really did cock himself" Graham McNaney as Atkinson leaps
- "There's a lot going on that just meets the eye" Bill Palmer in the game 2 pre-match blurb
- "He acknowledges the referee's wise wisdom" Bill Palmer as Tad Dufelmeir and Bill Mildenhall discuss a call
- "It won't hurt after the pain stops" Graham McNaney as McEachin hurts his finger
- "Flying frap doodle doesn't go" Bill Palmer as Smythe misses
- "Cottrell ever awkward, that was one of the more awkward shots" Bill Palmer
- "Willie says 'No thank you we don't want any of that in here'" Bill Palmer as David Graham is swatted
- "Another see-saw for your stat book Graham" Bill Palmer as the lead changes
- "He gave him about 30 head pumps he looked like a milking machine" Bill Palmer as Borner fakes Simmons
- And one minute's worth of two hours of classics in the SBS coverage of SEABL (the worst commentary in the history of sport)...
- "I don't believe the oom pah music" Milton O'Brien
- "They're leaving the gaps open" Lauren Lord
- "It can go either way at this stage" Lauren Lord as it's 117-117 in extra time
- Watch for the best nominations for the year in the next Dribbling Balls. May even be a competition for Bowlesy and Mal to win...

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