

# Melbourne University Basketball Club

## Dribbling Balls

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c 115/1993

Now I know it's been a while since the clubs' photocopying allocation has been troubled with an edition of DB but look at this way, you haven't had to read it.

Besides, there's a whole new audience out there, people who haven't experienced the sheer joy of picking up a new copy, lovingly turning each fresh page with the expectation of discovery and the excitement of seeing their name in print. People who haven't bathed in the eloquent prose contained within these pages. It is to those people that we dedicate this issue.

## **Warrnambool 1993**

### **MUBC B3 Men**

#### **Terang (very early Sunday morning)**

Mist swirls, frost bites, a lone dingo cries in the distance, Converse crunch up the gravel path. It's quiet, too damn quiet ...

Layups, c'mon layups, has anyone seen Al yet. Introduce the MUBC team to each other. Doesn't Mazenod look suspiciously like Thursday ANZ "A" grade. Game time, let's go.

Goal for goal for most of the first half, Simon playing great "D", gets steals and a few layups. Rahul hitting baskets from anywhere, Al and Arco teaming well inside, lots of boards, John's knee lasts five minutes (End of tournament, welcome to cheer squad). Second half we mix up the defence, M2M works well. Nick, Steve and Ben playing solid off bench. Team (and coach) realise a win is possible, start storming back from about ten down. Mazenod steady and hold on to win by five. (Mazenod go on to play in grand final)

#### **Terang (later that day)**

The MUBC Women get beaten by a team that looks surprisingly like the team that played before them (later investigations reveal that to be the case). Mazenod coach seen recruiting a certain MUBC player (no names, just phone numbers RB!)

The boys start like they left off the last match, lots of breaks, lots of shots, they're just not dropping. Al checks hoop for Glad Wrap at timeout. Keep mixing "D" up. We play a zone, they catch up. We play M2M, they don't. Simon, Nick and Ben playing great "D". Simon controlling point extremely well. Al and Arco hitting them inside the paint. Two minutes to go, we're up. Huge rebounding and controlled effort by team. Al gets a couple of baskets from rebounds off own shots. Arco hits foul shots minus one contact lens (use the force Luke). We win by a couple of points.

### **Tech School (Sunday morning)**

Aren't lino floors wonderful. All those lines to play with. Isn't concrete soft. An all out effort being displayed by the team. An annoying three point shooter is keeping Croydon in the game. Simon and Rahul running ball well. Ben forces turnovers and hits a couple of turn around jumpers. Their ball handling crumbles under full court defensive onslaught and steal (FCDOAS) by AI who probably would have dunked if he'd been to sleep the night before. I call a stupid timeout with thirty seconds to go when ten points up, the ref glares, we win, who cares, it's Mac time.

### **For The Record**

**The Team:** Ben Swartz, Simon Gaymer, Nick O'Brien, Arco VanDen Heuvel  
Steve Randall, Rahul Baswani, John Scales, Alistair Elliot

**The Coach:** Michael Scales

**Game 1:** Mazenod (aka ANZ "A" grade) d MUBC

**Game 2:** MUBC d White Ghosts (aka Pirhahnas)

**Game 3:** MUBC d South Croydon (aka South Croydon)

### **Highlights**

- The Bill Lawry Memorial Formation Cheer Leaders and Statistics Squad (New Delhi Sub Branch) for ...
  - a) introducing the all yodelled "got him ... "
  - b) keeping match stats, including the all new FU's and whinges
- The number of NBL players who eat MacDonalds for breakfast
- Pat Lawrence setting a new world record by taping his ankle at 10:00 am for a 5:00 pm game (I'd hate to think what he does before a night on the town)
- Ben Swartz going camping without any camping gear whatsoever

## **VBHBA - D GRADE WOMEN GRAND FINAL THURSDAY APRIL 8TH 1993**

Another Dream Team ... going into the Grand Final we'd suffered only one loss for the season and that was the game the coach played in! Didn't have a chance then.

Grand Final night had grown colder since the curtain raiser. It had been positively balmy when the A Grade Women had cruised to a comfortable 3 point win earlier in the evening. The coach of this team though was dressed for the occasion. Move over Pat Reilly, one masseur sandal, Uni shorts and a jumper that once belonged to Spike is a much better look. It even makes Alex look shabby.

The pre-game address went almost as smoothly as said coach when she got a word in between "I think I drank Mildura water and it's made me sick", "Are we playing on a real court" and "I'm so nervous , I've been to the toilet five times since I got here ".(An effort that requires a medal in itself - Ed).

The game began in much the same way all games begin. The Ref threw the ball up. For our team though, that was where the similarities ended. For the first time all season we managed to tap the ball to someone on our team and we scored a couple of baskets inside the first five minutes. That could have been our downfall. (You just know when someone says something like "*That could have been our downfall*" that this match report doesn't have a happy ending - Ed). The game plan all season went something along the lines of score a maximum of three points in the first ten minutes, then completely shock the other team by actually playing basketball and win by twenty points. It was a formula that worked and we stuck to it through to the semi final. Not tonight though, we scored about eight points in the first ten minutes and kept them to much less than that and then decided to have our lapse so we could go into the half time break with a comfortable deficit of two points.

Well that was what we thought. Silly us believed the scoreboard which said (talking scoreboards? - Ed) 13 to 15 when we left the court at half time and had cunningly changed to 11 to 15 by the time the second half was about to begin. (Well, It was being operated by refs !)

We spent the second half making the game exciting. It was a case of us playing OK "D", they'd throw up a brick, we'd let them get the rebound, they'd shoot, we'd foul or they'd make the basket. That's OK though, we collect fouls (It was only a matter of time before the sarcasm crept in - Ed). At the other end they were playing a funny looking zone and it seemed to me a case of we knew how to play against it if only they would play where they should. I mean, everyone in a Uni team knows that when the ball goes one side they whole zone shifts/adjusts. Midway through the second half they had only scored four points, unfortunately we had only scored one. The coach was trying her bet to remain composed, it wasn't working. She was threatened with a tech by one of the referees when, after one of her more eloquent moments she was heard to delicately point out that "*she had to take three f...ing steps to get f...ing fouled*". Kicking her one masseur sandal at the other ref was probably not so bright either but he was only the one stuffing up the scoreboard and that that was another player on four fouls. Meanwhile the game continued. We had gone to a M2M and it was working. They weren't scoring, neither were we. It was time to do something. With 5:38 left on the clock we had a time out. I wonder who actually believed the coach when she said that nine points in five minutes was nothing even though we'd managed only three for the half so far. We became a scoring machine. Carolyn Pickburn and Mick Scales (Oops, am I allowed to say those two names in the same breath this week - not being one to gossip (To fully appreciate the relevance of this aside, one must take into consideration the actual date of this match report, as opposed to the date that you are most likely reading it - Ed)) Anyway, Carolyn and Mick stopped reading their papers, Caty scored, Phillipa scored, Lisa scored, Phillipa scored, Carolyn scored, Mick scored, and with not long to go, Karen Gillies lets fly with a three pointer. Before I tell you whether it went in or not, guess which of these thoughts were going through the coach's mind.

- a) Yes, that's your shot Karen, I'm sure it will go in
- b) Oh no, you wouldn't
- c) Don't shoot!!!
- d) Karen, you could do this with your eyes closed

SWISH, the game is tied. The last minute was incredibly scrappy. They scored again. We got some more fouls for our album, we scored again. We had a shot that maybe we should have made with ten seconds to go, it missed ...

## OVERTIME

Setting the scene again. Scores 23 all. Team fouls lots each, personal fouls, Jo had 4, Karen had 4, Caty had 4, Phillipa had 4. Lisa and Sue hadn't been trying. Not true, they just managed to avoid the ref's eyes when they blew their whistle and picked a Uni players number. The coach had two things to say during the break, keep scoring and *"it would be rather handy if those people with four fouls didn't get any more."* For the first time all season everyone in the team appeared to be listening. Guess again, ten seconds into OT, Jo was sitting down and it wasn't because she was tired. Not long after that Karen joined her on the bench, followed by Phillipa and with not long to go, Caty. Oops, might be a bit tough from here. And it was. We went down by three. As always a great controlling game by Sue with both her bowel and the ball. Shooting the lights out was Lisa, defensive specialist Karen Gillies did it again, forcing turnovers and shooting that three. Jo and Caty took rebound after rebound, Jo after missing everything from the foul line all night banked two to keep the scores level and Phillipa was as always indescribable, making moves Jordan would have been proud of.

We almost did it. So we'll have to do it then in "C" grade next season

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# Tournaments

There are several weekend tournaments coming up over the next few months. For those of you that have never been to a basketball tournament before, the idea is that you get to play three or four games over the weekend (more if you make finals) against teams from both Melbourne and Country areas, play with other MUBC people that you might not otherwise get (want) the chance to play with and generally have a good time.

The only charge the club makes is to partially cover the cost of team entry (usually in the vicinity of \$80.00 to \$100.00 per team) by asking for an \$8.00 entry fee per player.

The only other fixed cost for the weekend is your stadium entry (\$4.00 to \$6.00 per day). Transport, accommodation, meals, drinks etc are, of course, not free but by sharing a ride, getting 3 or 4 of you into a Hotel/Motel/Caravan/Tent/Friends House/Car Back Seat/Local Lockup, the weekend need not cost a fortune.

If you would like to go to any of the tournaments below, or if you would just like to get more information, please see either Sally McMahon (Saturday morning, Monday night trainings or A/H: 376 7119) or David Morosoli (Saturday morning, Monday night trainings or A/H: 318 2271).

Tournaments **REALLY** are good fun.

## Tournament Time Table - June to September

Tournament	Date	Entries Close	Cost	Info
Portland	June 12/13/14 (Queens B'day)	May 21st	\$20.00	The \$20 covers both your team entry fee and stadium entry fee for the weekend
Bendigo	June 12/13/14	May 28th	\$8.00	This is the inaugural Bendigo Senior tournament. Traditionally, the club sends teams to Portland on this weekend (as we will do this year). However, if there is enough interest in Bendigo, we will also enter a team here
Moe	July 17/18	June 18th	\$8.00	
Morwell	September	???	\$8.00	More details later

Please Note: We require a \$5.00 deposit when you put your name down for a tournament. This is to discourage people from entering their name and then pulling out at the last minute. As you can see, entries are due in two to four weeks before the actual tournament and as such, our team lists need to be completed by then.

## COMMITTEE

The Annual General Meeting of the basketball club was held on April 3rd at which the committee for 1993 was elected.

President	Matt Scholes	882 6134
Vice President	Carolyn Pickburn	489 9172
Secretary	David Liddle	376 5072
Assistant Secretary	Karen Burgess	376 9356
Treasurer	Gillian Payne	376 9356
General Rep (Female)	Sally McMahon	376 7119
General Rep (Male)	David Morosoli	318 2271
Junior Rep (Female)	Rebecca Stockdale	525 2705
Junior Rep (Male)	Adrian Frankling	663 5741
Social Secretary (Female)	Paula Hosford	525 2705
Social Secretary (Male)	Greg Scholes	347 0958

The Committee meets (usually) on the first Tuesday of the month. All club members are welcome to attend, particularly if you have a matter you wish discussed. Alternatively, you can ask any of the committee to raise a matter on your behalf (contact either the General Reps or Junior Reps first). Minutes of each meeting are posted on the club notice board - located next to the club cupboard at the rear of the East\West courts. Next meeting: June 1st at David Liddle's - 18 Collett Street, Kensington 7:30 pm

### Coaching Co-ordinator

The coaching co-ordinator is a committee appointed position responsible for the allocation of coaches to teams and teams to coaches. He/She is also available to act as an intermediary between a player and a coach if any dispute may arise. Michael Scales has been appointed as coaching co-ordinator, so if you've got a problem with your coach or if you would like to coach a team yourself, talk to Mick.

## Social

The next event on the MUBC Social calendar is a BBQ to be held after training on Saturday, May 15th at the Sports Union BBQ area (adjacent to the running track). Sausages 50¢, beer and soft drink \$1 per can. The BBQ will start after the first training session from 11:00 am and run right through until after the second training session. Basketball videos will be running.

Another up coming event will be the club tennis day, details of which will be available shortly.

If you have any ideas for a social event, or if you are having a party that you would like to involve the club in, contact either Paula Hosford or Greg Scholes

## HOME GAMES

Both the Men's and Women's firsts play home games at the University. The men playing VBA 2nd division and the women playing VWBC Championship. Games are played in the East gym on Wednesday nights and all members are welcome to come along and support the teams. Entry is free. It is a good opportunity to see the club's highest level teams play, particularly for those who aspire to this standard.

Date	Time	Team	Opponent
12.05.93	8:10 pm 9:20 pm	Men's 1sts Men's 2nds	Melton Scoresby
19.05.93	8:10 pm	Men's 1sts	Auburn
26.05.93	8:10 pm	Women's 1sts	Broadmeadows
02.06.93	8:10 pm	Men's 2nds	Oakleigh
09.06.93	8:10 pm	Women's 1sts	Sunbury
16.06.93	8:10 pm	Women's 1sts	Eltham
23.06.93	8:10 pm	Women's 1sts	Keilor
30.06.93	9:20 pm	Men's 2nds	Sandringham
21.07.93	8:10 pm	Women's 1sts	Ballarat



Medieval pickup battles