

TRIVIA NIGHT

A huge night was had by all who attended (over 160 people), congratulations to Tony and the Firsts for organising one of the best nights ever held by the club (well, since I've been around anyway).

It was great to see a whole bunch of new faces, as well as the usual crowd, with everyone bringing along heaps of family and friends. The winning team was Liddle's Losers- just proving that the questions were far too dated (further evidence of this being that our team came second and we had Howie)! But seriously- a truly excellent night was had by all, and plenty of money was earned for the club (and for the bar judging by the state of most people by the end of the evening).

The raffle was a big hit and fittingly, went to one of the club's stalwarts in Boomer.

The night started early for a couple of girls- Michelle Chan and her faithful sidekick Miranda, (who has been surprisingly absent from our games lately- she's not embarrassed by any chance Michelle?) who had pre-dinner drinks at home and had to be helped upstairs before the trivia could even begin. They didn't say much during the night, just smiled a lot.

Well there was trivia and there was food, not to mention money and champagne being given away willy-nilly. What better formula for a great night out. Again, congratulations to Tony and all the firsts for a really well organised, well run, totally enjoyable night.

Everyone had such a good time that going straight home was simply not an option. Most headed to 'Twister' in St. Kilda, but the line there wasn't moving and people were impatient to get to the bar, so the Ritz was the next closest place to go. Stu even talked them into giving us a group discount, so in we rocked. We danced until closing and then most returned to Jan's place, where the night got really interesting, even complicated for some, wouldn't you say Paddy?

A Tiger and Paddy re-run (a-la the Johnston St. stagger) was underway, alas his 'penised' hands (refer to Quotes file) were straying! He was overheard to say "I've gotta go, everything's just getting too complicated", before leaving. This was cleared up the next morning, when pressed for details Anna said, "Just call him Mr. Hands".

Well if that wasn't enough, just a short distance away in the privacy of the next bedroom, Jan and Simon were sleeping. (Yeah, sure). We were going to list Sime's conquests of the last few months but we wanted to keep the newsletter down to a manageable size.... (We're not going to mention Jan's "almost" starting 5..).

Women's IV '95

As usual the guys are yet to get their act together and submit a report, but you'll probably get to hear about them in the next issue.

The team: Nat Johnson, Kim Jachno, Michelle "Tiger" Hansen, Anna Rattray, Debbie, Amanda Barrett, Tash Sullivan.

I don't know if I'm the best person to be writing this report as my objectivity left me at the tournament. However, as the disgruntled benchwarmer I suppose I had the best view of the games.

Well, the summary of women's IV '95 is, once again we failed to qualify for the Australian University Games- but nobody can blame me.

Actually we got pretty close. After Day 1 we were undefeated and looking good. The first game of Day 2 was against our obvious rivals Monash Clayton, this was our first loss and was only by 1 point, a margin that was to haunt us for the rest of the tournament. Regardless of the loss we ended up on top of the section, walking easily into the final 8. This is where disaster struck. After holding a 9 point lead to Deakin Geelong we lost the game by 1 point. The next game against the undefeated Ballarat Uni was always going to be

tough. Again we managed to build up a handy lead, and then to squander it, another loss. By morning of Day 3 we had won 2 lost 3 and needed a big win over Deakin Warrnambool to make the last 6. However another 1 point loss resulted in the end of IV '95.

We played a great tournament, probably ended with a positive percentage and a minor 7 points total from four losses has got to say we were definitely a threat. A huge special mention must go to Nat Johnson for a sensational tournament, great job, Nat!!! Well done to everyone, we'll get 'em next year. Thanks to Tim Nolan for coaching.

-Tash Sullivan.

"CROSSBALLS" WINNER FLIES TO MALAYSIA

Yes that's right (we told you there'd be an ace prize for the first person to hand in the completed "Crossballs") Jan is currently in Malaysia- actually this is unrelated to her "Crossballs" prize which awaits her on her return. Runner up was Ze, 5 minutes too late. In the event that Jan fails to return and claim her prize, it will be awarded to Ze (Chocolate bars don't go off, do they?).

3 On 3

This was held on the 22nd of July instead of regular training, organised by Michael and Adrian to raise some funds and give everyone some great competition.

The competition started off a little shakily with Michael requesting everyone's attention to spell out the rules and then not understanding them himself! But by the middle of the competition the rules were pretty well defined. The competition was intense and very physical from the outset. The men's A grade section was full of class (or

was that arse?) the eventual winners showing their dominance from the start. The B men was a physical contest with the girls firsts representatives (S.A.S.- Sally Mc Mahon, Sally Bickerton and Anna Jarman) leaving the men more than scared, just ask Jason "Bouncy" Teh who managed to spend a lot of time on the floor, learning the hard way that S.M. doesn't muck around. The women's competition was tough, with some top hustle proving that defence wins games. A tightly fought section was played out and won by the most determined, deserved side.

The winners of the A men's section, "Tim's Hangovers" (refer to Moe report) were a sick, sorry slick combination of Adrian Frankling, Neville Ashley-Cooper and Tim Nolan. B men winners were the Astro Creeps, comprising Jason Teh, Rowan White and Tom King, whose "69" offence obviously worked wonders. The women who emerged champions were Sue Randall, Anna Rattray and Michelle (the self confessed chucker) Chan.

A giant thank-you to all the ref.s who copped more than their fair share of trashtalk throughout the competition (not to mention at the pub afterwards). (*Oops- I think she means me, sorry Jas!*) These wonderfully talented people included Tash Sullivan (*notice how she puts her name first, straight after "wonderfully talented"!!!*) Jason Teh, Ashley Martin, Sally McMahan, Ken Secondname'stoobloodylong, Howie, Patrick Lawrence and Adrian Frankling. Much thanks and appreciation to Adrian and Michael for running a very successful competition.

MOE-

Just like the heading, the Moe tournament was huge, both on and off the court. This weekend had everything from ambulances to tech fouls by the bagful.

It was great to see so many MUBC players make the trip, we were by far the largest group there and made sure everyone knew about it. Even playing the local teams, we

had the largest (loudest anyway) cheer squads.

One of the first games of the weekend was US versus US in the B men's division. What was meant to be our A grade team (they were dropped to B grade due to a lack of entries in A) played the team we had actually entered in B grade- who were relegated to 'B2' and had to wear the lovely white singlets.

It was a really great game, B2 battling hard to keep in touch in the first half, actually took the lead in the second. The 'fans' were cheering wildly- "Lets go B2, lets go" (much to the disgust of the B1 men). The game went down to the wire (well, pretty close) with the B1 guys coming out on top in what turned out to be one of their tougher games for the tournament.

Mixed success for the rest of the day- a couple of the men's teams had to play all 4 of their games on the first day. The C grade guys losing 4 from 4 (consistency being the name of the game). Physically Moe is always a tough tournament (no fouls, no travels, clock doesn't stop unless there's a death on court etc.) so it's no wonder that some teams struggled under the footy match conditions. The B2 guys won 2 and lost 2 (one of those losses being the narrow loss to B1) so were unfortunate to miss the finals. The B1 guys did well, dropping just one game for the tournament.

While the B women were quietly going about the business of winning games and playing some great basketball, there was controversy aplenty in the 2 C grade women's teams. A certain surprising decision on the split up of players left one in particular upset enough to pull out of the tournament, leaving our C2 team with only one inside player, and with a decided lack of height (7 players in the short-very short category), one medium sized player with the flu was left to do all the jump balls, inside play etc. Despite this we managed 1 from 2 on the Saturday and were looking forward to our 9am Sunday game (not!).

The C1 women won 1 from 3 and unfortunately missed the finals. The B women did superbly, going into the finals firm favourites (in our eyes anyway).

The Sunday morning games were a much quieter affair, as most of the spectators stayed in bed (and certain players wished they could have, too). A huge thank-you goes to Jason Teh for getting up and driving us to our 9am game (we're not going to thank Ze because he complained about it all day) and thanks to coach Herm for actually turning up (lesser men wouldn't).

We can at least say we made the finals, although we were eliminated in the semi at 11.15 by the lumberjacks (by which time it was too late to go back to sleep). But the C2 girls were far from disappointed, after all the controversy- we made the finals while the C1 missed out.

Our other finalists did considerably better, both the B1 men and B women moving through to their respective grand finals.

After fortifying ourselves on vegie soup at the pub, we all headed back to the stadium to watch the outstanding skill and talent of our B men and women.

First up were the girls and in a hard fought game (it was hard fighting the urge to punch the ref.s) and with an opposition that seemed determined to stop the clock (remember- clock only stops if there's a death on court at Moe), the ref.s decision to victimise Gill Payne in the fouls department seemed quite amazing (we all know what a little roughnut she is). This didn't deter the girls though. With inspired cheering from a large group of very vocal spectators, our girls rose above it all and played themselves well and truly back into the game. A few turnovers by the opposition and some great transition saw Uni take the lead and with a few seconds to go, a tech foul that sent Sally McMahan to the line sealed the game for us. MVP for the B women's division went to the aforementioned Sally M., most deservedly too.

The B1 men's grand final performance, although not as exciting due to the fact that they never let the opposition get a look in, was also brilliant. They were playing the local Moe boys who had quite a lot of supporters, even making as much noise as us in the first half but strangely silent in the

second, once it became obvious that the locals had no hope of stopping our boys, who won comfortably in the end. MVP went to Nev who worked hard in all of their games. Congratulations to all the B men and women. *(Stu's outstanding shooting must rate a special mention as he was one of the last to leave the nightclub, as usual)*

OFF COURT-

Well being a short tournament (just one night) you wouldn't think there'd be much gossip, right? Wrong! The traditional Chinese dinner was held in Morwell (closer to "the Dome"- priorities!!!) and it was here that the drinking began in earnest. And then the drinking continued in earnest, and then... There were 4 confirmed hurls resulting. The most prolific being that of the fearless leader of the women's firsts- Tim Nolan, who by all accounts bounced just fine for the 9am game on Sunday. *(Not that he made it to the nightclub-ED)*. Others included rookies Michelle Chan and Anna Rattray- way to learn the evils of first tournaments- and Jan gets a special mention with the "all over Jason's hand as he's looking after you" spew. The frivolity could not be denied and "the Dome" was the place to be *(hang on, haven't you left something out here Tash- wasn't that Rowan you picked up at the restaurant before we even made it to the Dome???)* Everyone showed their groovy dance moves, except the rookies who spent the entire evening sitting on the floor in the ladies. Matt and Ellen found that dancing together was more fun than dancing apart (especially while connected at the lips) they were being shown the way by Tash and Rowan, of course. No further goss until back at the motel- Anna feels out of place sharing a bed with Simon and Cathy who were reputedly quite close, but next morning he's swapped beds and is found hugging Jan (probably checking that she's still alive I guess).

Moe tournament- good friends, good music, good food and some good basketball- what more could you ask for? Some decent ref.s perhaps? Yes Moe has the worst ref.s in the world and so here is the

MUBC tech foul role call for Moe '95:

Jan Long (always top of the list when it comes to techs)

Jason "Jesus" Teh

Herman "Rocky" Tokatlidis- the "o" in Moe took a nasty right hook, but hey, it had it coming.

and Simon Gaymer- who nobody could believe would get a tech so they blamed it on spectators (but we know the truth).

Hopefully, there'll be a Morwell tournament in September and we can do it all again.

Quotes File

Jan: on spending the night with Simon- "It's not a very nice thing to do."

Paddy: "I've got penised hands and basketballers knees" (Meaning pianist)

Michelle Chan: "I'm not really a driver, I'm more of a CHUCKER" *(Yeah we noticed)*

MOE QUOTES-

Sam: "That girl over there looks like a lumberjack"

Jan: "But she's alright"

Anna to Tiger: "While we were scoring...."

Claire: "Gee, Gecko's got some good moves" (Then looks at Sam) *(Ha Ha Ha)*

Match Report Sunday D-Grade Women

WE KICKED MONASH BUTT!

Unfortunately they did manage to score, but not until halfway through the second half. Maria played beautifully- steals were the order of the day and she didn't miss a drive (if only she could dunk!). Anna got so many steals it almost looked like she was on their team, the amount of times they gave her the ball. Huge efforts from Shirley and Jo also. For a team of only 5 we did

well to win by 28 points. (Jason and Rowan kindly pointed out that we could've won by more if I'd hit more than 2/7 3-point shots, but Jason's team got beaten by RMIT so what would he know?) Great effort team.

Thursday C-Grade Women

While perhaps not as satisfying as demoralising Monash, a one point win on the siren still rates pretty highly. As is usual in MUBC women's teams, our tallest player was a good foot shorter than theirs, and with the ref. telling Shir! not to "bum her out of the way" it was always going to be tough. Although she was their top scorer, some tough defence saw her denied most rebounds and kept us in the game. Unfortunately, hitting our shots (especially foul shots) was a problem and with 3 minutes to go in the game, we were 7 points down. Desperation became the name of the game and a full court man was called. Under pressure the opposition crumbled and we started hitting our shots. With 40 seconds to go we were only 1 point down. Some good pressure defence again got us out of trouble with an interception and easy lay-in for Sam (which I missed). Fortunately getting the rebound and shooting over a player twice my height to make the basket. (That's why I'm still alive) A great team effort- let's keep it going for the finals girls.

Note: anyone who wants to submit a match report should do so (don't wait for someone else to write one (Tash) because they might not bother and then you'll only ever get to hear about my teams). Just hand in a few details to Tammy, Tash or Sam. It'd be good to get any match reports, whether the game was good or not!