



Melbourne University Basketball Club

"Dribbling Balls"

President's Report

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Finally, we are playing some serious basketball after a long summer and interrupted season due to the Grand Prix, Easter and the Labour Day long weekend.

Many of you will have noticed that the Big V year has started and we are now heading into Round 3. The women have had two wins against quality teams, while the boys started strong but had a tough double header straight up in round two with two narrow losses.

Although both teams have had away games to start the year, the home games and massive double headers started this past weekend on Sunday 7th April. Other theme nights for Saturday night doubles will be announced shortly, but the rumour going around is that our first Saturday night double header on 4th May may be themed "May the 4th be with your Toga". Come along and support the teams and dress up and there may even be a prize for the best costume!

Other domestic comps are also edging closer to finals with many MUBC teams looking to compete in the post-season. A shout out to MUBC's Thursday night A grade men who have finally made finals in their comp after 12 long seasons! Good luck to all teams!

For new members, given finals are getting underway, it means that the new season is just around the corner. So make sure you are getting along to training and putting your name down to get placed in a team.

New domestic teams will be announced at training on 20th April 2013 where afterwards we will head down the road to the Clyde for a parma and pot to meet your new team-mates

Rhia Mikkor
Club President

Upcoming Events:

20th April 2013 -
Winter teams announced
The Clyde from midday
Big V
Women v Keilor at 6.30pm

21st April 2013 – Big V
Men v Southern Pen at 1pm

4th May 2013 –
Big V Double Header
May the 4th be with your toga
Women at 6.30pm
Men at 8.30pm

Join the Club – officially!

IN order to get selected into a team for Melbourne University Basketball Club, you need to be a paid up and registered member!

Subs fees help the Club to cover court booking fees, team entries into various competitions and ensures that you are covered by insurance should you get injured at training.

As we understand that many of our members are students, we do our best to keep our fees pretty low and haven't increased membership in at least 5 years.

Subs fees are:
Students - \$70
Non-students - \$130

Non-students are required to pay extra for the access to the Sports Centre.

In order to sign up, just go to the website, www.melbourneunibasketball.org.au and find the membership / Join the Club page. Follow the prompts and transfer your money - its that easy!

Subs need to be received by April 13th, or else a \$10 late fee will be incurred.





Around the Club – Community News/Gossip

Wedding Bells

Despite living in Trinidad for the past few months, MUBC veteran Matthew Hillbrich just can't escape the gossip column. Matty (finally) popped the question and we would like to congratulate Matt and the beautiful Stacey on their engagement!



Positions Available

Looking for an easy way to make some money??

MUBC are looking for a Big V Game Night Manager and Court Announcer. The game night manager is basically responsible for being at home games and keeping things under control, making sure both teams have change rooms and distributing/collecting votes from coaches. It's a pretty easy job and it would be great if someone was willing to come along and get shown how its done.

We also need a court announcer for Big V home games to call out the players and make sure we have some good tunes during warm-ups and time outs.

Both roles can be paid positions if someone is willing to fill the roles permanently. Contact James at jfidler@hotmail.com for more info.

Player Profile – Anjali Goundar



*Anjali Goundar -
Supercoach!*

Meet Anjali Goundar – Anj is on the committee as Assistant Secretary and despite signing up as a player, has spent many seasons as a coach in the women's program!

Age: 30

Started playing basketball: 1993

Joined MUBC: 2006

Singlet number: 31

Best basketball memory: Getting a huge block in front of a huge crowd during a half time showcase in a game between the Whittlesea Pacers and a US College team, the Arizona State Sun Devils. Crowd went wild.

Best game: My first MVP performance in a 1997 A grade grand final.

Best asset: It used to be my vertical jump but now it's the fact that people think I'm taller than I really am.

Favourite pre-game food: I never eat before a game.

Favourite drink at the bar: This year its Canadian Club and Dry.

Most embarrassing moment: My overreaction when I blew my knee out for a second time...the entire stadium knew I'd injured myself and I almost broke my hand by repeatedly hitting the ground in frustration.

Best holiday destination: Galapagos Islands...I got to see lots of (blue-footed) boobies.

Favourite MUBC event: It's the Rat for me too...

Best song to dance to: I don't dance...but if I'm drunk enough, old school Destiny's Child.

Funniest MUBC member: I think I'm pretty funny...to laugh with and at!

Best coaching tip: Keep your head up.



Eye of the Fids - MUBC Top 10 Big V Moments

As we count down to the first home double-header of the season, now seemed like as good a time as any to count back through some of the most memorable matches we've seen in our 13 years of VBL/Big V competition.

10. **A Strong Beginning - 2000 Division 1 Men – Grand Final Series: Horsham d Melbourne University**

The Black Angels first graced the court in VBL competition back in the year 2000, and what a splash they made in their first season, with Lucien Boland and Jamie Cemm leading the team all the way to the grand final. While the Black Angels were heavily favoured to win, they were up against a highly talented Horsham team that included youngsters Aaron Bruce and Liam Norton. However, it was another Hornet, Brett Goodgame, who dominated a highly entertaining match at the Sports Center, pouring in 30 points to win his team the match. While the Black Angels didn't win the championship, the grand final series gave us the first big crowd at the sports center and certainly started something special...

9. **Ollie's Farewell Game - [17/6/2006 – Division 1 Men – MU 112 d Southern Peninsula 96](#)**

In what was a pretty miserable season for the Black Angels, this game provided the high-point. With star player Andrew Olechnowicz played his last game before heading overseas on military service, the Black Angels took on old rivals Southern Peninsula at the sports center, in what must be close to the most physical contest we've ever witnessed. 4 unsportsmanlike fouls were called in the first quarter alone (3 of those on Southern Pen) in a match that more closely resembled rugby than basketball. Finally, the Sharks coach erupted, yelling at the refs and getting ejected, then smashing a window on his way out the door. The Black Angels took advantage, with Ollie the main beneficiary, as his finished up with a club-record 41 points in his final game for the team.

8. **Claire Steps on the Line - [30/7/2006 – Division 1 Women – LaTrobe University 63 d MU 62](#)**

This was the first ever match-up between two uni teams at the Sports center, and the stakes couldn't have been higher- in a phenomenally competitive division (in which each team won at least 6 out of 20 games), this game took place on the very last day of the season, with the loser destined to finish in last place. The Black Angels built a big lead in the first half, before falling apart in the third quarter. In the final term, Claire Pownell was phenomenal, dragging the team back into the game, and winning herself some free throws to tie the match with just seconds remaining. She made the first... and the second... but was called for stepping on the line on the second shot. This unfathomable call gave LTU a 1-point victory and early bragging rights in the rivalry between the two uni clubs.

7. **The (in)famous Pub Crawl Game - [29/6/2002 – Premier League Men – MU 90 d Sunbury 88](#)**

Believe it or not, it took until the third season of VBL action for MU to run a pub crawl prior to a match as a way of bringing in the crowd – and what a game we started with! While my memory is a little bit hazy, the stats confirm the little bits I do remember. From the first whistle, the Black Angels dominated, jumping out to a 68-38 half-time lead, at which point the crowd basically gave up on watching the match and resumed the pub crawl. However, the second half saw an unbelievable Sunbury comeback – the Black Angels scored just 22 points for the half as the Jet guards (Nathan Sellwood and Luke Valentine) torched them all over the court. As the crowd got restless and Sunbury hit the front, coach Tony Holden called a time-out. At that point, a certain club member (who will remain nameless) jumped onto the side of the court and flashed the players from the sideline. This drastic action got the result it deserved, as the Black Angels somehow managed to rally and win the game. Pub crawls have been a fixture of the season ever since, but I don't think we've ever quite managed to top that first match, on or off the court...

6. **Scotty and the Black Angels Crowd demoralise Buster - 2002 Premier League Men - Semi Final Series Games 1 and 3 – [MU 122 d Sherbrooke 83](#) and [MU 110 d Sherbrooke 109](#) (@ Sherbrooke)**

Hard to split these two matches from the same series, so I've included them together. The Black Angels were definitely the underdogs in this match-up, but had a secret weapon for game 1 at the Sports Center as word spread around before the match that the Suns hulking import (and league MVP), 'Buster' Watkins hated being called by his given name. Of course, this led to the inebriated MU crowd chanting "Terrence... Terrence" throughout the entire match (or every time Watkins touched the ball, at least). It worked (backed by some tough MU defence) – after scoring heavily in the first quarter, Sherbrooke fell apart in the second half, making just 1-19 three-pointers as the Black Angels took a 1-0 series lead. After Sherbrooke won game 2, the deciding contest was a tense contest throughout – the Black Angels led early on, before a big third quarter gave the Suns what appeared to be a match-winning lead. However, the Black Angels rallied down the stretch, and finally took the lead on a Scott Cuffe buzzer-beater. 'Buster' scored 65 points in games 2 and 3, but the Black Angels went through to the grand final.

5. **THAT Werribee Loss...[2003 Premier League Men Grand Final Games 2 and 3 – Werribee d Melbourne University](#)**

Of all the grand final losses the club has experienced, this might be the one that hurts the most. Led by Scott Cuffe, the Black Angels easily won game 1 of the grand final series and travelled to Werribee expecting to close out the series. However, game 2 got out of hand with a series of "interesting" (code for egregiously bad) foul calls going against the Black Angels, leaving them several players down in the last quarter. Werribee got the win in dubious circumstances and were able to back it up the following day – but even today, Werribee supporters at the game will admit they got lucky, while the loss was a bitter pill for the Black Angels that was only partially erased by the championship the following year.

4. **The Invincibles - [2009 Division 2 Men – Grand Final Game 3: MU 84 d Horsham 80](#)**

This Black Angels team deservedly won the grand final in a nail-biter at the Sports Centre, capping off a truly dominant season in which their only loss came in game 1 of the grand final series. This match was phenomenal throughout, with the Black Angels awesome trio of Scott Cuffe, Nick Masunda and Tom Bicknell combining for 67 points and 34 rebounds. Horsham stuck around though, and even had a chance to tie the game inside the last minute on a Tim Pickert shot. There remains some controversy over whether Pickert might have been fouled, but no call was made, and the Black Angels closed out the win in front of a huge sports center crowd to secure a second championship for the club. 2009 represents the only season in which both the mens and womens teams have played in the grand final – so the celebrations afterwards were suitably enormous, even if the decision to remain at Star Bar until after 4am was regretted by a few the following day...



3. Norty saves the day - AKA the Warrnambool Miracle Part 1 - [2010 Division 1 Men – Semi-Final Game 3: MU 83 d Warrnambool 79](#)

An unbelievable ending to a great series. Despite a fantastic home crowd at the Sports Center (led by a certain heckler who spent the whole weekend harassing Nathan Sobey), the Black Angels trailed by 13 points with 1:38 to go in the game, before Liam Norton took control of the match. Norton scored 11 points in the last 90 seconds, taking advantage of a Warrnambool choke (which featured the great Bobby Cunningham missing 2/2 free throws), to tie the game on a layup with 1 second left that sent the crowd absolutely beserk. The match went see-sawed through two overtimes before the Black Angels finally prevailed – paving the way for a second consecutive grand final win two weeks later.

2. Back From the Dead - AKA The Warrnambool Miracle part 2 [2009 Division 2 Women – Semi Final Game 3: MU 56 d Warrnambool 55 \(@ Warrnambool\)](#)

You could make a case for either number 2 or 3 on this list going ahead of the other, but for me, this game wins out simply because it was so unexpected. Warrnambool (featuring 2 WNBL players) were basically undefeated throughout the year (their only loss prior to the semi-final series coming in a game in which they were low on numbers due to state team commitments), and had won game 2 of the series by a ridiculous 43 points. Plus, MU had to show up again on the Sunday undermanned, with starting guard Shannyn Kelly dislocating her shoulder the night before. MU somehow managed to hang on all match, even after star player Claire Pownell fouled out just after half time, but it still took an amazing sequence of events to get the win – Warrnambool had the last possession but missed the open shot, before WNBL superstar Louise McLean gave up a foul contesting the rebound and giving Simone Steele the chance to shoot free throws with 1 second on the clock. She made the first to complete a phenomenal individual effort (including a then club-record 28 points) as the Black Angels bench went crazy. An unbelievable victory inspired by former MUBC player Louise Pownell getting engaged via a beach-front proposal before the game, as well as the wisdom of the Cheeseworld Oracle, and the legendary hash-stack.

1. The First Championship - [2004 Premier Division Men - Grand Final Game 2: MU 111 d Southern Peninsula 104](#)

While it wasn't the most thrilling finish we've seen, this game remains the most memorable simply for the celebrations that went along with it. After 3 grand final losses in 4 years, the Black Angels finally, finally, won their first Championship. Scott Cuffe scored 31 points and Liam Norton scored 28 as a dominant MU team completed a clean sweep of the grand final series – but it wasn't easy, as Matt Willmott hit 8 x 3-pointers for Southern Pen in the deciding match to keep it close right up until the last few minutes. Some of the others on this list might have been better matches, but I can't remember any being this tense, or featuring as high a standard of basketball, and none at all saw a better party afterwards, so this one gets the top spot!



by Organisateur de choses amusantes!



« Let's Get Trivial »

Pencil it in guys and girls - or tap it into your smart phones. One of the highlights of the MUBC social calendar is coming soon - Trivia Night!

When: Friday 17th May 2013

Time: Doors open at 7pm, with trivia commencing at 7:30pm sharp

Location: The Clyde Hotel (Elgin Street)

Tickets: \$20 – Available at trainings from Saturday 20th of April, or at the door. A pre-purchased ticket will get you in the raffle for a door prize.

Provided: Some nibbles. The Clyde will be offering \$15 steaks and parmas for the evening, as well as drink specials on beers and ciders.

What to bring: Yourself, your team mates, and some gold coins to participate in bonus prizes. (Maximum of 10 per table – if you have more than 10, drop some friends, you are too popular).

Our annual Smut Quiz will be hosted by special guest,

Smut Master Melanie Fidler.

If you have any smut, please send it her way!

There will be lots of prizes on the night:

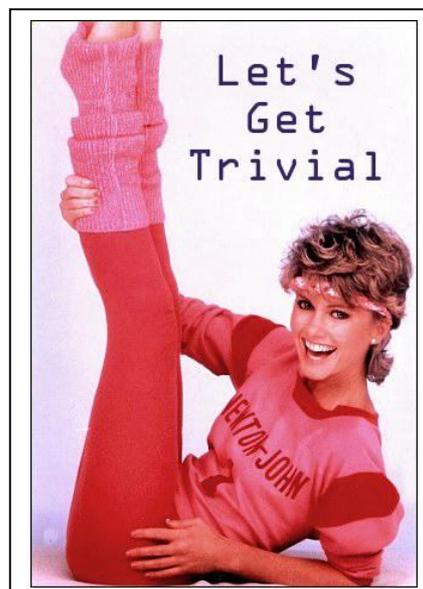
- * Door Prize
- * Winner of Smut Quiz
- * Best Team Name
- * \$1000 Cash to the Raffle Winner
- * Overall winning team

And more ...

Each MUBC team is required to sell one book of 10 raffle tickets for our "Reverse Raffle" – be it to team mates, friends or family members. They are \$10 each and the prize is \$1000. There are 201 tickets. The 201st being auctioned off on the night. Tickets are \$10 each and the books will be distributed to each team at training on Saturday 20th April. To be returned to Kylie Turnley or Sofia Soltys by **Friday 17th of May at 7pm**. Any unsold tickets will be available to purchase on the night before the raffle is drawn.

If you have any questions at all – or would like to volunteer on the night please contact us at social@melbourneuniversitybasketball.org.au

Looking forward to seeing you all there! Lets Get Trivial!





Melbourne University
Basketball Club
C/O Melbourne
University Sport
Tin Alley
Parkville 3010

Contact:
Rhia Mikkor

Phone:
0417 328 371

E-Mail:
ree_zee@hotmail.com

Photo Shoot

Melbourne Uni Sport have recently had a promotional photo shoot to represent all MU Sporting Clubs.

The face of MUBC is now our very own 'it' couple Nathan Luke and Caitlyn Mackenzie. More photos will be available shortly but this is just a sneak peak!



Domestic Finals are here!

Congratulations to all domestic teams that have made finals in the CYMS, MSDBA and VBHBA competitions. It has been a long and interrupted summer season but hopefully we can take home a few prizes for the year!
Teams playing in finals include:

CYMS - Sunday:

A Women – MU2 and MU3
B Women 2 – MU5
C Women – MU6
AR Men 1 – MU2
AR Men 2 – MU3

MSDBA – Tuesday:

A Men – MU A
B Women – MU2

VBHBA – Thursday:

A Men



Check out the fixtures at www.sportingpulse.com.au or on our website to find out game times and support your fellow club members!

We're on the Web!

Go to:

www.melbourneunibasketball.org.au

or

*See us on facebook at Melbourne
Uni Basketball Club*

Got something to contribute?

Got something you want to read about in the MUBC newsletter? Want to write a report on how your team is going or on that big tournament?

Everyone is welcome to contribute!

Get in touch via ree_zee@hotmail.com