



Melbourne University Basketball Club "Dribbling Balls"

President's Report

In this Issue:

- CYMS finals (p1)
- Around the Club (p2)
- Player profile - (p2)
- Feature Story:
Toga Night (p3-4)
- Special Report - Dean
Vickerman interview
(p5)
- Trivia Night (p6)

It's been another big month at MUBC and welcome to the May newsletter edition!

Thank you to all members who have signed up to the Club through the membership page on the website. It has been fantastic to see so many new and old members sign up and payments made so efficiently.

Last weekend saw the start of the new domestic season for CYMS. We have 11 men's teams a 8 women's teams competing at CYMS which is amazing. Good luck to all teams throughout the season and keep coming along to trainings to get to know your teammates.

Grand Finals were also held at CYMS in April, with A and B grade women each making the final, as well as both AR men's teams. Unfortunately, all teams came up a little bit short but we are sure that there will be more success this season!

Hopefully, a lot of you were able to make it down to May the Fourth Be With Your Toga Night on 4th May for the Big V Double Header last weekend. It was a great night with a shoot out and half time chat with NBL import, Adam Ballinger whose blog you can read in this newsletter. It was also great to see some brave faces in toga's. On behalf of the players, it is great to have your support and hopefully we see you at the many more double headers to come in the next couple of months.

Trivia night will also be on 17th May at the Clyde so get along for an awesome night and the chance to have a few drinks and win some prizes!

Let's Get Trivial!

Rhia Mikkor
Club President

Upcoming Events:

**Friday 17th May 2013 -
Trivia Night**
The Clyde from 7pm

**Saturday 18th May 2013 –
Domestic Training cancelled
Big V Double Header**
6.30pm Women v Chelsea
8.30pm Men v Warrandyte

**Saturday 25th May 2013 –
Big V Double Header**
6.30pm Women v Coburg
8.30pm Men v Sunbury

CYMS Finals

CYMS Grand Finals were held on 28th April at MSAC.

MUBC had four teams compete in the grand finals:

Melbourne Uni 3 A Women , B2 Women, AR1 Men - Melbourne Uni 2, AR2 Men - Melbourne Uni 3.

Unfortunately, neither team was able to take home the big prize. Even worse for Uni was that both the A Women and AR1 Men were beaten by Breakaway (old and ex MUBC players)!

It was great to see so many spectators at the games.

Hopefully we have a strong Winter 2013 and see some more trophies go to MUBC!

Congratulations also to MUBC's Sophie McAllister (right) and Maree DeWijn for sharing the MVP award for the Winter season for the whole A Women competition.

Results:

AL – BREAKAWAY 49 d MELB UNI (3) 34
BL(2) – CITY LIGHTNING 62 d MELB UNI (6) 39
ARM(1) – BREAKAWAY (2) 58 d MELB UNI(2) 33
ARM(2) – FILTHY MONKEYS 72 d MELB UNI(3) 47

Also, bad luck to the MSDBA Tuesday Night Women's B grade girls who also went down in their Grand Final recently. But fantastic effort getting moved up to A Grade this season and good luck!





Around the Club – Community News/Gossip

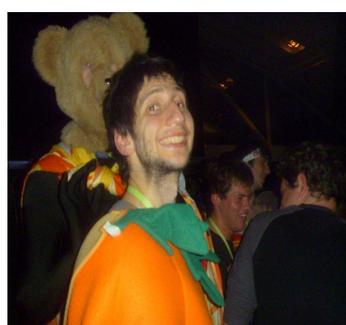
New Arrivals!

Congratulations to ex-MUBC member and former head men's coach, Glenda DeMarinis and her partner Peter on the safe arrival of their baby girl, Isabella Rose on 26th April 2013.

Also, on the baby-wagon, another former MUBC player Sam Fearn (nee Sterling) also gave birth to a baby girl, Matilda Clare on May 10th.

We are all very excited about your new arrivals!

Player Profile – Daniel 'Claw' Sneddon



*Daniel Sneddon –
best dancer at
MUBC!*

All round good guy and current coach of the women's Tuesday night team and assistant with the men's Big V team. Hopefully, we see Claw back on the court soon!

Age: 22

Started playing basketball: 5 years old (I scored 2 points in my first season and was the bona fide spud of the team)

Joined MUBC: 1st year uni, 2009

Singlet number: Most recently 13

Best basketball memory: Winning a gold medal at unigames in Perth 2010, and emerged from obscurity (that being a lemon playing for Darebin) to actually contribute in the win.

Best game: In the individual sense probably when I scored 46 vs Deakin in unigames in 09, Callum Repper (who saw me play for the first time in this game) said "I've never seen someone score so many points using only his right hand." Jason Conway added "Everything he did looked so strange, but it just kept going in."

Best asset: Here I'd appeal to the words of our wise big V coach Andrew Walker: "Claw, everything you do on a basketball court is awkward - but I still rate you as a player."

Favourite pre-game food: A mandarin. Always a mandarin. The pregame fruit of champions.

Favourite drink: Vodka and lift – stop with the judgmental looks – I'm proud of my girly-drink habits

Most embarrassing moment: I assure you it takes a lot to embarrass me, but whilst on a date with a lovely young lady (funnily, just days before my injury), who I was exceptionally interested in, I ran over an echidna (dont ask how) and absolutely killed the mood (pardon the pun). Nothing terrifies a girl more than running over a cute little animal –I'd strongly advise against it. For the record I felt really bad about it too so I'm not a monster with no feelings!

Best holiday destination: Of the ones I've been to, probably Cancun in Mexico – but I'm itching to go to Mali and Burkina Faso (as anyone who knows me already knows)

Favourite MUBC event and why? Probably trivia night and because the question was asked last year "What is the capital of Burkina Faso?" (Ouagadougou of course), absolutely made my night. Good nights are had at all events, but only trivia night can provide such a moment.

Best song to dance to: Cant reduce this to just one, Feta kai Psomi (by So Tiri, of course) and Billie Jean – if either come on I will dance wherever I am. Currently an enormous fan of Gentleman by PSY (better than gangnam style!).

Funniest MUBC member and why? Philpot. Never have I come across a man so hilariously quotable!. Also keep an eye on Jack Railton-Woodcock, this cuddly giant is very quick witted.

Best Coaching Tip: The very essence of your character is observable in your jumpshot. Aim to improve this every day and you will not only score more points but also become a better person. Hard work always, always, always pays off.

Best Unigames Memory: Aside from the gold medal win, it would have to be the week long relationship that Philpot and Bozzle had as roommates in 2011. Not only was Bozzle the most burdensome roommate after flooding the room while having a good nights 'rest' in the shower with it turned on, dialogue like the following was common and incredibly entertaining:

Philpot: "Bozzle vacuum up all this crap on the floor!" *Bozzle begins vaccuming*

Philpot: "Bozzle would you turn that thing off I can't hear myself think!"

May The Fourth Be With Your Toga Night!

Welcome to Big V double headers at MUBC!

We like to draw a crowd, have a great theme, serve some drinks, heckle on the sidelines and have an awesome night.

MUBC kicked off the first Saturday night double header of the year in style on 4th May with our Toga Night theme!

NBL import Adam Ballinger also came along and participated in a half time shoot out with our very own club members, including Pete, Sof and Bec. Adam's blog post about MUBC is below.

Well done to the Big V girls who won a tight contest against Blackburn but unfortunately, despite a strong game by the boys, they went down by a few points to a red hot Mildura outfit.

Thanks to everyone who came along, helped out and made it an awesome night kicking on to The Clyde after. It makes a huge difference playing in front of a big crowd, so please keep coming along and showing your support.

Keep an eye on the Events Calendar for news of our next double header.



The Toga boys enjoying the games!



Pete and Soph with Adam Ballinger



The girls get ready to go

Check out Adam's story from the game on the next page!



Interview with ex MUBC Head Coach – Dean Vickerman

With the recent appointment of [former Black Angel head coach](#) Dean Vickerman to the [head gig at the New Zealand Breakers](#), we thought this would be a good chance to get Dean to reminisce on his experience with us.

enjoy!

Hey Dean mate, congratulations on your new appointment as head coach of the New Zealand Breakers! If we are to disregard cuffe's recent good form on Sunday nights at MSAC, it's probably safe to say you are now the highest profile ex-MUBC'er in basketball.

How does it feel to be at the helm of the NBL's most successful club of recent years?

It took over ten years as an assistant and 4 NBL Championships to get a job so - Relieved!! I said a couple of years back that I wanted to be head coach of an NBL team with a chance to win a Championship. Taking over the 3-peat NBL Champions is a little more than you could have wished for but really looking forward to the opportunity. Winning 4 in a row has never been done before and that is the challenge that lies ahead.

When you compare coaching NBL superstars like Cedric Jackson, Thomas Abercrombie and CJ Bruton to your experience coaching our Melbourne Uni Big V team in 2004 with superstar names like cuffe, norton and smoke, what sort of differences come to mind?

Tough to compare players from NBL to Big V but smoke if the players in the NBL had your love for the game and your desire to dive after a loose ball we would have a much greater TV product.

I remember struggling to find a basketball court in New Zealand when I visited in 1996. Now that you have been over there for some time, how would you describe the evolution of the game there in recent times?

Still limited outdoor courts to get a run (not that my body would enjoy playing on the black top anymore) but indoor facilities have really advanced over the past 10 years. The SkyCity Breakers have really captured a major audience in NZ. We sell out Nth Shore events centre in a heart beat. We have over 3,000 members and then for big games we sell out Vector Arena which seats over 9,000. Our Merchandise sales have gone from \$20,000 to close \$300,000 in 8 years. Anything is possible for basketball in NZ at the moment. We have our own 2 court training facility with the works and there is even talk of the Breakers building its own playing venue in the future.

We all recall legendary stories of coach Vickerman dealing with a certain ex-NBA import at his first training session when you were a player with the Melbourne Tigers. Care to take us back?

"Dealing with Copeland" I carved him up, schooled..... Like most imports who get off the plane and into their 1st training - they do a very good job of running into screens. I knew the shuffle backwards and Copes had never seen it before. I used every cheat and read to get open and just had a day where everything went down. It was really nice of Copes to come up to me after and say "*It's going to be great sharing the backcourt with you this season*" I was like "*Mate, I dont even get to play*". I did hear later on that Copes had been to lunch with the GM who liked a drink to two but I dont often tell that part.

Here at Black Angels headquarters, we all have fond memories of your season guiding us to the championship in the 2004 Big V season. What are your memories of MUBC that year?

I must say that I enjoyed the feeling of winning the Big V Championship as much as an NBL Championship. The NBL has a lot more media and a lot more free beer after but at the end of the day I think the Black Angels only lost 3 or 4 games that season and swept the playoffs. You set a goal early, work hard and when you achieve that goal it is always rewarding. I don't remember the final that well but more the coaching techniques i tried and the people i coached. I remember having all the players lie on their backs in the locker room (a squash court) and attempt visualisation before a game. I could not see the Breakers buying into that one. We had great people at Melbourne Uni who loved the game and the club, I was extremely happy that they were rewarded with a Championship. I loved trainings that year, always a great energy in the gym - 20 plus players from 2 teams going at it for a couple of hours, great fun. Update: Adrian Sturt who now plays pro in the UK trialled with the Breakers last year, I am catching up with Jamie Hagan for a beer in Sydney in two weeks and I heard that Sani Zorlak is still running the Geelong Mafia.... great times thanks Black Angels.

Thanks so much for your time Dean and good luck for your upcoming NBL title defense.



« 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:

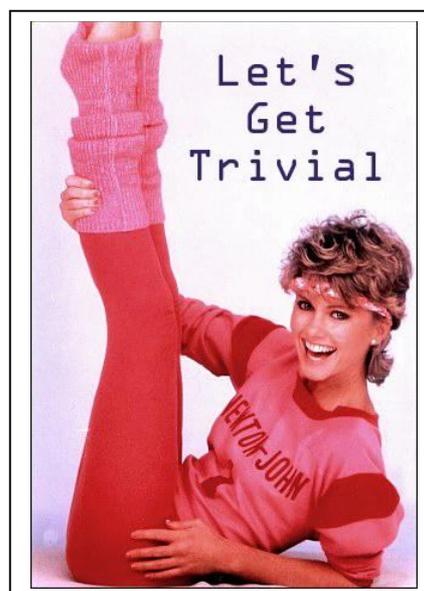
- * Door Prize
- * Winner of Smut Quiz
- * Best Team Name
- * \$1000 Cash to the Raffle Winner
- * Overall winning team

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

Training Cancellation

Reminder to everyone that Saturday domestic training is cancelled on Saturday 18th May 2013.

So there are no excuses for missing out on Trivia Night.

For those keen on backing it up, come along to the Sports Centre on Saturday night for another Big V Double header.

Women v Chelsea at 6.30pm

Men v Warrandyte at 8.30pm

Upcoming Events

Keep an eye on the events calendar on the website for more details on what's going on around the Club.

Big V Galleries

Go to www.bigv.com.au and head to the galleries page to check out photos of our Big V teams in action at Toga Night.



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