

Issue

8

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"Great Shot!"

Basketball at Scotch College

Distribution: Principal, Vice Principal, Heads of Year, Head of Sport, Coaches, Players and Parents

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Tom Matthews

Diary Dates

Wednesday August 11
Scotch Basketball Presentation Night

Great Shot will be available after the long weekend with more editorials and photos from the last 7 rounds of the season. Look for it online at <http://www.scotch.vic.edu.au/Sport/Bball/Bball.htm>.

LOST BASKETBALL

David Taylor (Year 10) lost his basketball Saturday at MSAC. It is clearly labeled with his name and phone number. Please check your



bags to see if you might have collected it by mistake.

Basketball at Scotch

Exams are upon us, forcing cancellation of trainings as the gym is filled with tables and chairs. In spite of this, Scotch teams continue to work hard and win the majority of their games! **GO SCOTCH!**

The *Queen's Birthday Long Weekend* is drawing near and there are no APS Basketball Games scheduled. Many boys will be playing in tournaments with both the Nunawading and Classic Tournament held over the 3 day period. **GOOD LUCK TO ALL INVOLVED!**



above: Images from the year 10 games at Waverley

Photo Submissions: Do you have access to a digital camera? Do you want to see all the action **from your team** pictured in the 'Great Shot!'. At the moment we have only 2 or 3 parents taking photographs for the newsletter. These are parents with involvement in the senior teams. Please send jpeg images by noon Monday to Ellen at: eeadie@bigpond.net.au

Game Reports for June 5 2004



OVERTIME CONFOUNDS SCOTCH AGAIN!

Scotch 34 defeated by St Kevin's 35

The Bard is running out of things to say! He has wracked his poor brain for inspiration, appealed to the Muse for guidance and wisdom, but there is only silence! Perhaps it is in the silence that the answer may be found...

Approaching Round 7, and after a thorough discussion on Monday evening before training that considered what Scotch needed to do to consolidate our position on the table, it was felt that we were ready to face a major test against St Kevin's. They are a good team, hard at it for 40 minutes, miserly in defence, and motivated by an obvious 'never say die' attitude. Scotch, also known for niggardly defence, recognized the importance of transition and patience in offence. This was going to be a game of attrition, tight in the clinches, rugged up the floor, and a matter of will.

The first half fulfilled everyone's expectations: a low scoring wrangle between two teams who had everything to gain from victory. As expected, **Troy Sandley (5pts)** was targeted and St Kevin's led 17 – 15 at the break. Some missed foul shots (!) and other opportunities were missed, and our players came to the bench with a fight on their hands.

The second half saw **Leo Tang (12pts)** step up and hit successive 3's, and **Wes Cronin (7pts)** do some heavy work inside, and after nine or ten minutes Scotch had opened a nice little lead of 6 points, but some turnovers proved costly and the Cardinals led by only 2 with seconds to play. St Kevin's managed to score at the close (**29 – 29**) and drove both teams into OT.

It must be said that we did not respond effectively to the challenge. A diligent team that showed greater discipline when the situation demanded nerves of steel outplayed Scotch. We missed clutch foul shots and St Kevin's did not, and only a 3 on the bell by **Troy** closed the margin to a single point that, like a King's pawn in the end game, stood defiantly upon the board and announced, "*Check Mate!*"

There are, of course, consequences. We drop a spot on the table and must prepare for Caulfield in Round 8. A team every as strong, if not stronger, than St Kevin's. To say we shall be underdogs would be an understatement. If we are unable to grasp opportunities when they present themselves, run lanes properly, and execute efficiently, we shall look and feel like Henry's poor, condemned English who, *'their gestures sad, investing lank-lean cheeks and war-torn coats, presenteth them unto the gazing moon so many horrid ghosts.'* Let's hope it doesn't come to that, and remember what Henry's men achieved the following morning at Agincourt. If our early hopes of success, based on our player list, mean anything, it is time to show it.

Mr. Rob Hortin, Scotch 1^{sts} Coach

2nds 43 defeated St Kevin's 16

Scotch played hard early to try and blow the game open but St Kevin's played in a zone for the entire game, which slowed our transition offence and limited our offensive sets.

However Scotch did respond well to the zone defence and our own man-to-man defence stopped St Kevin's from getting any second chance opportunities. Scotch dominated on the boards all game with **Simon**

Booth rebounding well and then going up strong for the shot. The only thing we need to work on now is our ball movement against a zone so we can be ready for anything. *Report by Captain Michael Frame*



above: the thirds at MSAC

3rds 66 defeated Carey 22

Some slow and careless work early on meant that we weren't containing Carey to our liking. Once the passes improved and players cut and drove through the defence we steamed away. Many great passages of play ensued and it was a pleasure to watch.

Randall Nolan played particularly well and I liked the pressure. **Chris Coleman** created leads into their defence. **David Thomas** quietly kept sinking baskets. A terrific team, yet to be beaten. *Report by Coach Mr. Stephen Pallot*

We started off with "man on", which wasn't working to our advantage. With wise words from the team, we went to a two man press which worked extremely well! We ended up going to zone due to brilliant under the ring and outside shots. Well done every one. *Comments from by Player Ben Elliott*

4ths 46 defeated Carey 15

After another scrappy start the team settled to a disciplined "man on man" game which exhausted an undermanned opposition. Perhaps we could have passed more to **Myles** under the basket. But some excellent passages

of play came from smart thinking and unselfish play. *Report by Coach Mr. Stephen Pallot.*

Exhaustion took its toll on Carey, as they only had 4 players. The stand out players, **Myles** and **Aseem** contributed significantly to our 31 point win! *Comments from Player Kenneth McAllister*

5ths 40 defeated 6ths 16

The 5ths played an internal match - or mismatch with the 6ths. The absence of a few key players left the 6ths struggling from the start, and like the Titanic, sank into the cold waters of oblivion. The final score of 40 to 16 was a good win by the 5ths. *Report by Coach Mr. Peter Riley*

Saturday's games for the 10As and 10Bs against St Kevin's saw our biggest test to date. Scotch started slowly in both games but combined well and worked hard to run out winners. The scores fail to reflect the intensity of both games and the ability of the Scotch players to soak up the pressure and play intelligent, thoughtful basketball.

Great team efforts and our best performance to date.

10A 47 defeated St Kevin's 28

The 10As started tentatively and allowed St Kevin's to score easily early. After a few minutes Scotch settled down and their defence started to work well. A great team effort in defence applied pressure to St Kevin's and forced many turnovers and easy lay-ups. **Simon Teo**, **Robert Blinkhorn** and **Matthew Danos** led from the front and set up many offensive opportunities for Scotch. Very strong rebounding from **Oliver Baxter** and **Ed Monteith** saw Scotch dominate the boards. At half time scores were all tied up. In the second half Scotch came out determined to do well. Great defensive pressure and creative, patient offence saw Scotch dominate the second half and run out winners. Scotch played the best game they have played all year. A great team effort, well done! Best players **Ed Monteith 6**, **Oliver Baxter 15**, **Simon Teo 6**, **Robert Blinkhorn 5**, **Matthew Danos 6**, **Nick Allen 2**, **Mat Briggs**, **Jake Copper 4**, and **Ben Dunlop**. *Report by Coach Mr. Mark Mason*



above: Scotch 10As withstand the test against St Kevin's

10B 30 defeated St Kevin's 14

The 10Bs were closely matched and Scotch had its most competitive game to date. Scotch had to work hard in offence and had opportunities to score but missed easy baskets due to the pressure being applied. The whole game was a tough defensive affair from both sides and as a result the scores were low. Strong rebounding from **Quentin Hanley** and creative play from **Joshua Houghton** made the difference in the end. Another hard fought team effort. Well done. Best players **Quentin Hanley 10, Joshua Houghton 8, Nicholas Mollison 6, Andrew Trinh, Steve Kimber 6 and Paul Phan.** *Report by Coach Mr. Mark Mason*

10C1 won by forfeit

We have 10 players in 10C1 so, given that Caulfield forfeited, we had an internal match: red versus white. White won! Great game! *Report by Coach Mr. Glen Robins*

10C2 19 lost to Wesley College 27

A top notch Wesley College outfit was the biggest challenge that the 10C2s had faced all season, and while the Scotch boys weren't quite able to match them in the end, they played their hearts out and gained the opposition's respect. The match looked like it could have been heading for a blowout win at one point, but a changed defensive pattern and renewed focus saw Scotch reel in the

Wesley team and match them in the second half. The Scotch players threw themselves around the court with little regard for their personal safety, **Chris Ackroyd** at one point taking out a row of chairs and then subsequently hitting the floor hard at the beginning of the second half, reducing Scotch to a six man rotation (luckily his injury appeared to not be too serious). **Jordan Ridgewell** pulled out some highlight reel moves, including a reverse lay-up that would have made his namesake proud, and finished with 8 points. **Byron Fiske** scored 7, and **Jamie Robertson** and **Mond Qu** chipped in 2 points each. **Richard Chan** lamented after the game, "I've borne full many a sorrow, I've suffered many a loss— But now, with a strange, new anguish, I carry this last dread cross." Never mind **Richard**. While it's good to see the players feeling so strongly about the game, they can hold their heads high after this courageous performance. *Report by Coach Mr. Blair Mahoney*

9A 33 defeated Caulfield Grammar Wheelers Hill 31

As we expected Caulfield proved to be a significant challenge. As usual **Jack Railton-Woodcock** was the tallest player on the floor but after Jack the Caulfield side had the next 6 or 7 tallest players and the Scotch team found it difficult to get good shots inside. Although our defence was solid, restricting opportunities,

Caulfield's shooting efficiency was outstanding and at half time we were trailing 9 to 19. In a brilliant 2nd half, however, the combination of **Dan Nelson, Simon Barnett, Sam Millar, Jack Railton-Woodcock and James Ralston** increased the pressure in defence and spread out the offence. This created opportunities for our smaller men to make lightning cuts and drives to the basket. With good passing and vision we reduced our deficit and then went out to a 5 point lead. In the last few minutes Caulfield threw everything at us and tested the skills of the umpires but we managed to hang on to an excellent 2 point win. **MVP Dan Nelson** led the way creating most of our scoring opportunities and applying superb defensive pressure. He top scored with 15 points. *Report by Coach Mr. Keith Oatley*

9B 28 defeated Caulfield Grammar Wheelers Hill 18

Although this looks like a comfortable win, Scotch was trailing at half time and were under constant pressure. In the 2nd half the team rallied, reduced their errors, and worked hard for a satisfying victory. **Tom Gelling** (10 points, 9 rebounds) was MVP. *Report by Coach Mr. Keith Oatley*

9C1 36 defeated Caulfield 16

Every game played so far has seen a significant improvement in team play - the essence of the game. Last

Saturday was no exception, as Scotch overpowered a potentially strong Caulfield Grammar team to win quite easily 36-16. It was evident that early in each half both teams were reasonably equal, but in the second part of each half, the strength and teamwork of Scotch were much in evidence. There was one negative however. Some players arrived literally at the 'death knock', barely in time for the 'tip off'. I hope this was just a 'oncer'. But overall another excellent team game for a team that is so far undefeated. *Report by Coach Mr. Ron Anderson*

8A 39 defeated Caulfield 22

Although Scotch continually threatened to blow Caulfield away, it never quite eventuated and Scotch had to settle for a solid 39 - 22 win. **Zaal Khariwala** and **Shane Fernando** shared the ball

handling duties admirably, as well as combining well in defence, and **Steven Lo** stepped up big time to cover for **Jimmy Mollison's** absence, controlling both ends and putting in a game high 12 points. Defensive hustle, yet again, won the game with Scotch running hard and pressuring Caulfield out of several easy scores and flowing well into transition. **Tom Otter's** composure impressed in his first game in the As and **Aaron Braddy's** efforts at both ends continued his steep improvement. *Report by Coach Mr. Stuart Pirie*

8B 46 defeated Caulfield 9

The 8Bs continued to roll along well, running away with a 46 - 9 win over Caulfield. A smaller line up than usual, with only 2 'biggs' supported by a huge fleet of guards worked well for Scotch as we were able to force the pace of the game. Good defense led to

countless break opportunities which were usually converted. The entire team scored and was led by **Shane Fernando** with 12 points in a fantastic display of slashing cuts and drives. **Peter Tear** and **Ben Hanley** worked well at both ends of the floor, triggering or running the break and often finishing it off too. *Report by Coach Mr. Stuart Pirie*

8C1 43 defeated Carey 11

Scotch 43 had a strong win over Carey 11 on Saturday. There were great performances from **Ed Dick** with 15 points, **Vincent Robude** 14 and **Don Khoo** 10 points. It was good to see **Chris Totterdell** and **Ben Lacato** post two points each. Our opposition adopted tactics designed to distract our team, despite their efforts we kept our concentration and finished the job! *Report by Coach Mrs. Linda Fiske*



above: 8B team in action

7A 56 defeated Caulfield Grammar (WHC) 22

After a rather slow start, the boys gradually established a dominance which they maintained throughout the match. A 10 point lead at Half Time was pushed out to a 34 point buffer by the final whistle. How? The team exhibited excellent defensive play. Everyone scored some baskets with **Ed Lomdahl** finishing off many of the excellent examples of unselfish team play – especially by **Michael Collins** and

Tom Miers. Well done team! *Report by Coach Mr. Jeff Watson*

7B 97 defeated Caulfield Grammar (WHC) 4

The boys were really pumped pre game and powered away – constant fast breaks, excellent passing and of course, heaps of baskets for everyone. Special thanks from the 7A and 7B boys to **Stuart Pirie** for coming to the games and offering many excellent game play moves for the boys to try out. It was wonderful to watch

another 'whole team' effort again this week – well played boys! *Report by Coach Mr. Jeff Watson*

7C3 12 lost to Wesley College 63.

Wesley had 3 boys clearly not from their C league, which was quite demoralizing for our boys. Nonetheless, a top effort was made, and Scotch showed great sportsmanship in defeat. Best players were Alex Thomas and James Gould. *Report by Coach Mr Ryan Johnstone*

★★★★ Player Profile ★★★★★ **Tom Matthews** ★★★★★ Player Profile ★★★★★



Hi, I'm **Tom Matthews**. I enjoy playing for the 8As coached by Stuart Pirie. I started playing Basketball when I was in Grade 4 for the Hawthorn Raiders. I now play for the Hawthorn Magic on Friday nights in their under 16 grade. I'm also a referee in the Hawthorn Basketball Association. I play tennis with Grace Park on Sunday mornings. My main interest outside of sport is the double bass which I play in the school symphony orchestra. My favourite foods are pizza and pasta. I hope one day to play in the 1sts but until then I will play as well as I can in whatever team I'm in.



above: the 8A team at Caulfield Grammar

Look for the next issue of Great Shot, with words of wisdom from Ben Rush, Director of Coaching at Scotch College, and photos from previous weeks. We will interview some of the assistant coaches and find out what their favourite foods are.