



*Inside the
Big V*

Issue 1, May 2009

Welcome One Welcome All

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WHAT happens behind the scenes of the Big V? What is all the club gossip? What are the up-and-coming events? And who are the performers of the league?

Find out this and more in the Big V's brand-spanking new monthly magazine, *Inside the Big V*.

Someone though it was about time we got behind the scenes and chatted to the players, the coaches, the team managers, the score bench officials – everyone and anyone who has anything to do with the Big V. So we did. And we've compiled it all into this indispensable little magazine we've decided to call Tip Off.

So what's in the first issue? Well that is a good question. You will notice some of the columns will become regular appearances – In The Coach's Seat, Question Time – with highlights of the previous month's basketball to be featured. We would love to hear suggestions from you too! We will talk to the players who got it done, the coaches who made a difference and focus on the big achievers and the quirky happenings.

Got something to say? Did we miss something? Is there something you want published?

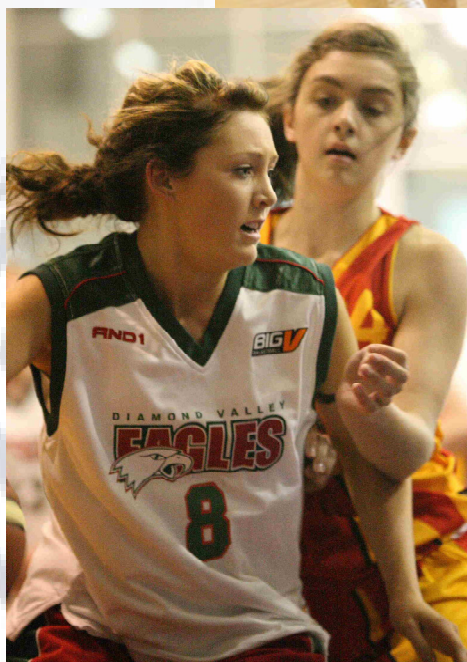
Email Laura at media@bigv.com.au with "Tip Off" in the subject line and we'll look at it for our next issue.

Next time you're visiting the Big V website, don't forget to subscribe to *Inside the Big V* so you can get your monthly dose of basketball action delivered directly to your inbox.

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From The Chairman

ON behalf of the board and staff of Big V Basketball, I would like to welcome all of you to our first newsletter.

The purpose of this newsletter is to share our views and have a vehicle where we can exchange ideas through the electronic media for the betterment of our sport.

We urge you to be a participant in this newsletter and share your association's or team's innovations to help our league move forward. We would also like you to share any good news stories that you have generated in your area.

The success of this newsletter will depend on the commitment we can give it, so if we all share our stories, photographs and ideas, there is no doubt this newsletter will be a major stream of information throughout our sport.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the marketing and media division of the league for their dedication to this project.


Darryl


Darryl Neal


Big V Basketball Chairman

Big V: Facts and Figures


SO YOU want the low-down on the Big V? Here are some fast facts and figures to get you started.


 Big V Basketball is one of the largest semi-professional basketball league structures in the world.


 It has a unique place in Australian Basketball, being wholly owned and operated by its member clubs, but ultimately acknowledging the governance of Basketball Victoria.


 The league commenced under the name “The Victorian Women’s Conference” in 1987. The men’s and women’s competitions were run independently until 2000. Until this time the league was known as either the CVIBL (Country Victorian Invitational Basketball League) or the VBL (Victorian Basketball League) or the WVBL (Women’s Victorian Basketball League). In 2004 the member clubs voted to re-brand the entire structure as Big V.


 In 2009, Big V Basketball has 93 teams playing across 11 competitions.


 This equates to 939 games across 35 stadiums throughout Victoria. This includes seven men’s and seven women’s teams competing for the State Championship in our highest level of competition. The State Championship teams play-off for the Andrew Gaze (men) and Michelle Timms (women) perpetual shields.


 The Big V spans the width of Victoria, with teams from Mildura in the state’s north-west, to Traralgon in the south-east.


 The Big V has 10 country clubs (Geelong, Warrnambool, Horsham, Latrobe City (Traralgon) Shepparton, Mildura, Warragul, Western Port (Somerville), Mornington and Southern Peninsula (Dromana)) with a combined 18 teams entered across the State Championship, Divisions One, Two, Three and Youth League from these associations.


 The remainder of the league is made up of metropolitan clubs – 83 associations in total – spanning the width and breadth of Melbourne. Altona and Werribee to Chelsea, Hume City (Broadmeadows), Eltham and Warrandyte to Hawthorn.


 Big V is recognised as a viable pathway from the VJBL to the elite NBL and WNBL programs with 11 national league players competing in the Big V in 2009. These players include South Dragons’ championship players Rhys Carter (Latrobe City) and James Orr (Waverley), Bulleen Boomers’ grand final play-off participants Sharin Milner (Hume City), Katrina Hibbert (former Opal and Big V Hume City), Tennille Cann (Hume City), Lisa Pardon (Bulleen Big V), Lucy Dawson (Bulleen Big V).

 Other recognisable names to have played the Big V include Jason Eversteyn, Dallas Jeffree, David Donaldson and Lee Jeka.

 The Melbourne Tigers NBL team promote their youngsters with their own State Championship division team. They flaunt names such as Corletto, Greer and Johnson (all of whom played in the 2008/09 NBL Grand Final series against the South Dragons) weekly starters in the Big V earning increasing minutes at national level. Boomer David Barlow suited up in his Olympic preparation last year.

 The Big V structure in 2009 is as follows; State Championship (Seven men and seven women), Big V Division One (12 men and seven women), Big V Division Two (Seven men and nine women), Big V Division Three (Nine men and eight women), Youth League (Nine Division One Men, nine women and nine Division Two Men)

 This year to date, Big V has had 1109 players suit up and take to the floor across all divisions. This breaks down to 633 male participants and 496 female participants.

 The Big V, particularly State Championship level, regularly employs international imports to play the game. The majority of these players originate from the USA, but players from Europe and Canada have also taken the floor. The players not only add pizzazz to the game, but work as developmental implements for the clubs, conducting clinics with local schools and junior basketball associations.

Cunningham Returns

IT HAS been almost two years since Big V Basketball great Bobby Cunningham graced the State Championship courts around Victoria – but in a surprise return, the talented guard has come out of retirement for the 2009.

A familiar face has returned to the Big V fold and his despite his 39 years of age, Bobby Cunningham hasn't lost his touch.

Cunningham suited up with the State Championship Diamond Valley Eagles for the first time in Round Two and since taking to the floor has continued to build solid statistics.

The former Warrnambool Seahawk and Sandringham Sabre player retired from the Big V in 2007.

He ended his career with game averages of 22 points, 11 rebounds and eight assists – a fair feat over 11 years of professional basketball in Australia.

Cunningham started his Big V career in 1997, when he signed with Warrnambool as their number one import and was instrumental in helping the Seahawks claim back-to-back Championships in 1997 and 1998.

The talented guard moved to the Sandringham Sabres in 2005 and tasted success with a Championship the same year, before returning to the Warrnambool outfit to see out the following two seasons.

Cunningham's basketball career has been a decorated one; named a member of the Big V All Star Five team six times (1997 – 2001, 2003), six-time Big V Golden Hands award winner (1997, 1999 – 2003), ABA Golden Hands winner (2002-2003), Grand Final MVP (1998), Big V Leading Rebounder (2001), ABA Leading Steals (2002-2003), ABA Leading Assists (2003 - 2004), ABA Leading Defensive Rebounder (2003) and three championships.

And he still continues to turn heads, with his biggest game of the season to date coming in Round Six (22 points @ 67 per cent from the field, six rebounds against Eltham on Saturday night) an indication of games to come.

In his seven games this season, Cunningham has managed averages of 10 points-per-game, 5.9 rebounds-per-game and 1.9 assists-per-game – and the feeling is he's just warming up.

Check out Cunningham in action this weekend when the Eagles take on State Championship ladder-leaders Ringwood at the Diamond Valley Sports and Fitness Centre. Tip-off is 7.30pm.

Basketball Launches National Branding

As most of you would be aware by now, Basketball Australia, in conjunction with each of the state and territory associations, has launched the new branding approach for the sport.

The national launch was held in Melbourne's Federation Square, and many of you would have been in attendance.

Because the BigV season started prior to this launch, the current branding will remain for the 2009 season, and BigV will move to the new branding in 2010.

BigV members should feel particularly proud of this launch, as the idea for a national branding re-launch started when BigV re-launched its own brand in 2005. Following the success of the change with Big V, Basketball Australia and Basketball Victoria took up the challenge to develop a national branding approach.

The change to national branding is important as it allows a unified approach to sponsors and other stake-holders in the sport. While there will not be a significant change at the grass roots level of the game immediately, the long-term benefits to basketball should be significant.

If you have any specific questions relating to branding and marketing of your association, please feel free to call BigV Board Member, and General Manager of Acorn Brand Design, Ned Coten on 03 9514 5555 or 0433 13 68 32.



Sengstock Named New BA Leader

AUSTRALIAN basketball has a new hand at the helm to guide it through the next stage of its commercial reform after the legendary Larry Sengstock was named as the sport's new Chief Executive Officer by Basketball Australia.

Former Big V Basketball board member, Sengstock comes to basketball as an acknowledged leader in Australian sports management with exceptional experience in working with all levels of sport both locally and internationally, all range of commercial enterprises and with all levels of government.

Sengstock said he was looking forward to the challenge of growing the sport and finding ways to build linkages between the more than 600,000 participants and basketball's elite competitions and teams.

"I truly believe this is a time of opportunity for the sport," said Sengstock. "With the new men's national league set to be unveiled, Australia already having qualified for the 2010 senior World Championships, and the sport's stakeholders now unified and sharing a common purpose, we are poised on the brink of what could be a new golden age for basketball."

"I've heard plenty of people talk about basketball getting back to the success of the 1980s and '90s, but the reality is that we need to move the sport forward, rather than focusing on the past," Sengstock added. "Our goal is to bring the sport into the 21st century commercially so we can capitalise on basketball's huge participation base and international successes."

Sengstock officially commenced duties with BA on April 27.

BV to get new HQ

MINSTER for Sport and Recreation, James Merlino announced on May 5, funding of \$7 million dollars would be allocated in the State budget for the development of a new State Basketball Centre.

The State Basketball Centre will be located in an exciting new sports precinct to be located in High Street Road adjacent to Eastlink.

Basketball Victoria CEO Wayne Bird said it was great news for basketball as a sport and an important recognition of basketball in the Victorian community.

"The Knox City Council and Knox Basketball Association have been working on a development plan for over three years, the opportunity of this including the State Basketball Centre was first discussed between the parties almost eighteen months ago," Bird said.

"Since then all parties have worked in close collaboration to bring this project to fruition."

The end objective is to build a 12-court centre including a large capacity show-court suitable for staging international events.

Stage one will be a minimum six courts plus a show court with both Basketball Victoria (including the VJBL and Big V staff) and the Knox Basketball Association to be located at the centre.

It is estimated 350 jobs will be created during the construction phase with more than 50 permanent positions created once the centre is opened.

Basketball's home to get further boost

BASKETBALL Victoria welcomed a Federal Government commitment to the new State Basketball Centre project on May 7, 2009.

The Federal Minister for Veteran's Affairs Mr Alan Griffin on behalf of the Hon. Anthony Albanese MP Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government announced a grant of \$7 million towards the construction of a new State Basketball Centre in the City of Knox.

The project will now receive funding in the amount of \$14 million from both Federal and State Governments.

Basketball Victoria CEO Wayne Bird said it was further recognition of the importance of basketball in the Victorian community.

"We thank both the Federal and State Governments for their support of our continually growing sport," Bird said.

"Facilities are important for all sports and we applaud the efforts of the Knox City Council and Knox Basketball Association for their collaboration and initial planning of this project."

The \$27.65 million project, which is being managed by the Knox City Council, will provide a centre for basketball and soccer. It will also serve as a first-class sporting facility for the eastern region of Melbourne and surrounding areas.

Question Time

HAS there been a question which has been bugging you? Is there something you want to know about the Big V? Rules, by-laws, regulations? Let us know – we'll give you the low-down.

What are the rules behind a playing-coach?

Playing

While the player/coach is playing, he receives no special privileges and is to be treated like any other player. All requests for Time-outs still need to go through the Scorer's table in the normal courteous manner. Of course we have the exception of a player making a request while their team has control of the ball on the playing court.

Standing

Under Article 17.5 only the Coach is permitted to remain standing. While the player/coach is a player on the playing court, the Assistant Coach assumes the privileges and responsibilities of coach and is entitled to remain standing. The moment the player/coach becomes a substitute, then coaching privileges and responsibilities revert to the player/coach and only he, as coach, is permitted to remain standing.

Disqualifying Foul

Should the player/coach be charged with a disqualifying foul while he is a player, he is automatically disqualified from coaching and like any other player, must go to and remain in the dressing room for the duration of the game or, if he so chooses, he shall leave the building.

Assistant Coaches

Under FIBA Rules there is only one assistant and should both the player/coach and Assistant Coach be disqualified, whoever replaces the player/coach as Captain will also assume the privileges and responsibilities as coach.

Technical Fouls

While the player/coach is on the court as a player, only Technical Fouls which may be charged to him are recorded as player fouls and count towards the six which lead to his exclusion as a player.

Any Technical fouls charged to the Coach will be recorded as a "C". So if the Assistant Coach transgresses while the player/coach is playing, it is recorded against the Assistant Coach as a "C". If the player/coach transgresses while he is coaching it is recorded as a "C" for the player/coach. If a Technical has been called on either "Coach", then the Coach who is charged with the accumulated second "C" is automatically disqualified.

So after two (2) Coach Technical Fouls, the second offender is disqualified.

If there is an accumulation of three Bench Technical Fouls, whoever is coaching at the time will be disqualified.

If one of the coaches has been disqualified and his replacement is charged with a "C" type technical, then he is disqualified immediately.

The New Additions

THE following is a list of 2009 Big V debut teams and how they have been performing so far this season.

Hawthorn (YLW): The Magic have managed two-from-seven wins this season – claiming their first two clashes of their 2009 campaign before coming to grief with a string of losses. They take on a bottom-of-the-ladder Ringwood this weekend with a view of capitalising on a competitor which will be feeling a little with no registered wins this year.

Ringwood (YLW): It has disappointing start to the 2009 season for the Ringwood Lady Hawks, who have yet to notch up a win from eight games. The face another new-comer this weekend in Hawthorn and maybe able to get the scalp they have been looking for and say goodbye to that pesky monkey.

Whittlesea (YLW): Whilst not a dream season for the Pacers' new inclusion, Whittlesea's Youth League Women has managed two wins from six games. The youngster face a monster weekend in Round Eight however, and will find it tough to capitalise on the undefeated Waverley outfit.

Altona (YLM2): The Gators are flying in their first Youth League season, sitting on six wins from eight games – they are definitely looking the goods. Altona should take a victory this weekend and boost their ladder rankings in their clash against seventh-placed Keilor.

Hawthorn (YLM2): The Magic bolstered their Youth League program this year with the addition of two new teams. The men's Youth League outfit is having a stellar season – taking seven wins from seven games. They have pitted themselves as the team to beat – let's see if this form can continue through to the business end of the season.

PIC: Hawthorn YLW in action



The Performers

CHECK out the statistical leaders from across the Big V divisions below (must have player more than three games this season).

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP MEN

Shooting Luke McMillan (Ringwood) 31.6ppg
Rebounding Glen Barlow (Latrobe City) 15.4rpg

STATE CHAMPIONSHIP WOMEN

Shooting Katrina Hibbert (Hume City) 21.0ppg
Rebounding Ash Vella (Melbourne) & Candice Rogers (Bulleen) 10.5rpg

DIVISION ONE MEN

Shooting Carl Artz (Southern Peninsula) 30.2ppg
Rebounding Nathan March (Werribee) 13.9rpg

DIVISION ONE WOMEN

Shooting Elise Strachan (Mildura) 16.7ppg
Rebounding Emmie O’Nial (Sunbury) 11.8ppg

DIVISION TWO MEN

Shooting Shaun Bruce (Horsham) 29ppg
Rebounding Nicholas Alexandrou (Chelsea) 17rpg

DIVISION TWO WOMEN

Shooting Lizzie Brenner (Ringwood) 16.2ppg
Rebounding Lizzie Brenner (Ringwood) 15.8rpg

DIVISION THREE MEN

Shooting Nick Richards (McKinnon) 24.3ppg
Rebounding Simon Hughes (Camberwell) 16rpg

DIVISION THREE WOMEN

Shooting Rachael Wansbrough (Mornington) 17.4ppg
Rebounding Erin McCutcheon (La Trobe University) 14rpg

YOUTH LEAGUE MEN DIVISION ONE

Shooting Dexter Kernich-Drew (Waverley) 26.3ppg
Rebounding Jordan Van den Burg (Waverley) 14.9rpg

YOUTH LEAGUE WOMEN

Shooting Carly Simons (Eltham) 17.4ppg
Rebounding Carly Simons (Eltham) 13rpg

YOUTH LEAGUE MEN DIVISION TWO

Shooting Steven Wiasak (Geelong) 21.3ppg
Rebounding Alex Bogut-Smith (Sunbury)

In the Coach’s Chair

EACH month we’ll sit down with a coach from around the league and get the low-down on what makes them tick. This month we chat with Warrandyte Venom’s Justin Nelson.

1. How long has your coaching career spanned?

In basketball - about 25 years now.

2. What is your most memorable basketball moment?

Our semi-final wins at Warrandyte were great, but the wins my young group are grabbing at the moment are right up there. I can’t remember a better feeling basketball than the three-point win against Hawthorn in round seven this season.

3. Who was your basketball idol as a child?

Same as everyone else - Michael Jordan. Locally, probably just my coaches and teammates. I’ve always been big on supporting, leading and looking up to those around you, they’re the ones you have to rely on every time you step on court.

4. Do you have any pre-game rituals or superstitions? What are they?

I’m probably going to absolutely cop it for admitting this, but I’ll be truthful - anyone who knows me well will tell you that I’m arguably Australia’s most passionate Bon Jovi fan. I have a favourite Bon Jovi t-shirt and for good luck I wear it under my Venom polo top at every game. Strange, but true!

5. The best advice you could give an up-and-coming player is?

Love the game. You won’t always hit every shot or stop every player, you will make mistakes, but if you don’t genuinely love the game you’ll never reach your true potential.

Burns' too hot to handle

IT WAS an eerie Round Four which saw two Big V players – both named Tom Burns – collect some impressive statistics. What made even more striking was the fact both player – from different clubs – amassed 37 points apiece.

In State Championship Men, Diamond Valley's Tom Burns stepped up to the challenge to post a dapper 37 points at a very credible 70 per cent from the field.

He managed to include eight-from-10 three-pointers in his haul as well as dish off five dimes.

The Eagle was strong under the ring to pull-in nine rebounds and earn himself the Player of the Week honours for his efforts in his 37 minutes of game time.

His big numbers propelled Diamond Valley to a comfortable 133-94 win against Waverley at the Diamond Valley Sports and Fitness Centre.

And while Tom Burns was lighting-it-up, Tom Burns was across town at Bentleigh Secondary College doing the exact same thing in a Division Three Men's game.

The McKinnon Cougar also managed 37 points, striking at 50 per cent from the field, he dished off 11 assists and pulled in six boards.

His efforts inspired the home-side to a 96-74 victory against Mornington.

It must have been a full moon....

Top: McKinnon's Tom Burns

Bottom: Diamond Valley's Tom Burns



New Members on Board

WITH some untimely departures at board level, the Big V has welcomed some familiar faces in the past month.

There are none more synonymous with women's basketball in Australia than Michelle Timms – so who better to welcome onto the board than someone who knows the game inside and out.

Timms is now engrained within the Big V, with the announcement of *Michelle Timms Perpetual Shield* in March for the State Championship Women's champion team.

Joining her is another former national league player, Ned Coten.

Coten brings with him a wealth of basketball, marketing, management and design experience.

The league welcomes these two illustrious members to the board.

Triple-Overtime: Heat buckled under Venom

WARRANDYTE Venom's Division One Women's team celebrated their 50th Big V game in style – an incredible triple-overtime match against Mildura Heat. Here's what Venom's coach had to say about the marathon Round Two game.

"It was an epic game, something that none of us will forget in a hurry," said coach Justin Nelson.

"It was our first milestone as a club with the match being our 50th in the Big V. While that's probably a small milestone for other clubs, the night turned out to be one that will stick with us for a long time."

In a game of at least three halves, the ascendancy swung back and forth all night.

Warrandyte took a commanding 10 point lead at halftime, 33-23. But it was the Heat who outplayed the opposition in the second half winning both quarters and forcing overtime.

Neither team could make a basket in the first OT and as the game progressed, made field goals and free throws were more valuable than gold. Both teams displayed some amazing endurance and stamina maintaining efforts, the Venom held off the Heat on the road.

Amazingly no one fouled out from either team in the marathon game. For the Heat, Amanda Hederics scored 17 points to go along with 11 rebounds and five steals.

While for Warrandyte, a heroic 50 minute effort from Janelle Lucas reaped 23 points, 15 rebounds, six assists and four steals.

The match saw 15 lead changes and nine tied situations at its conclusion.

Nelson said both teams were fantastic, with a first-class competitiveness and sportsmanship evident throughout the whole match.

He said at the end of the match, both player and coaching staff knew they had been a part of something which does not happen very often in any sport, let alone basketball.

"My girls were brilliant. Both on the court and on the bench. The support, the noise, the feeling of being a team was enormous. We had four teenagers with us and that sort of game would have taught them so much. That kind of stuff is invaluable," Nelson said.

"I'd love to know what my heart-rate got up to, but in the end it was down to the players.

"I just tried to stay composed and deliver the right message, but it's hard when your heart is literally in your mouth.

"Backing up the next day was interesting. If game two had have gone into overtime I think both teams would have been happy to shake hands and ask the league to split the points!"

The energy which was consumed in the triple-overtime match was proven on the following Sunday, when the two teams faced off again.

Warrandyte again grabbed the honours, but the score-line a mere 48-37 spelled exhausted bodies.

Gaze and Timms On Board

MARCH 11 marked the launch of the 2009 Big V season and with it came some positive moves forward for the league.

The elite division of the Big V was re-branded as State Championship, with the re-establishment of the state title poised to instil prestige, honour and pride into the competition, revisiting the days of the Albert Park Basketball Stadium and the VBA State Championship.

Big V chairman Darryl Neal said it was an historic day for the league.

“As well as the rebranding of our top division, we have commissioned two perpetual shields to be struck in the honour of basketball legends Andrew Gaze and Michelle Timms,” Neal said.

“From 2009 onwards, the players in the State Championship will be battling it out for the Andrew Gaze and Michelle Timms perpetual shields.”

Neal said as the officially endorsed basketball competition in Victoria, renewing the battle for the State Championship was crucial for the league and the sport.

“And adding the names of Andrew and Michelle to the trophies will give the players more incentive to take out the titles and add prestige to the title well into the future,” he added.

The basketball greats were on hand at the season launch, held at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre, for the announcement.

Gaze and Timms said they were both honoured to be recognised in such an esteemed way.

“To give my name to the state title is an absolute honour,” Former NBL Melbourne Tiger and Boomers’ player Gaze said at the launch.

“And to be linked back to the days of the Albert Park Stadium is a big tribute.”

Timms agreed with Gaze’s sentiments as they recalled sitting courtside at Albert Park Basketball Stadium Court One.

“To give our names to the State Championship is just such an honour,” Timms said.

Former Basketball Australia Executive Officer Scott Derwin said at the time that a strong state-based competition was important for the longevity of basketball in Australia.

“It’s a great day for basketball – we have two Melbourne-based teams playing off in game four of the NBL series tonight and what better day to have the launch of the State Championship than today,” Derwin said at the launch.

“And to have names such as Andrew and Michelle linked with the Big V adds strength and prestige to the league.”

In Action

OUR photographers have been out and about snapping the action – check out a snippet here. For more pictures, log onto our website (www.bigv.com.au)



IT'S GAME TIME

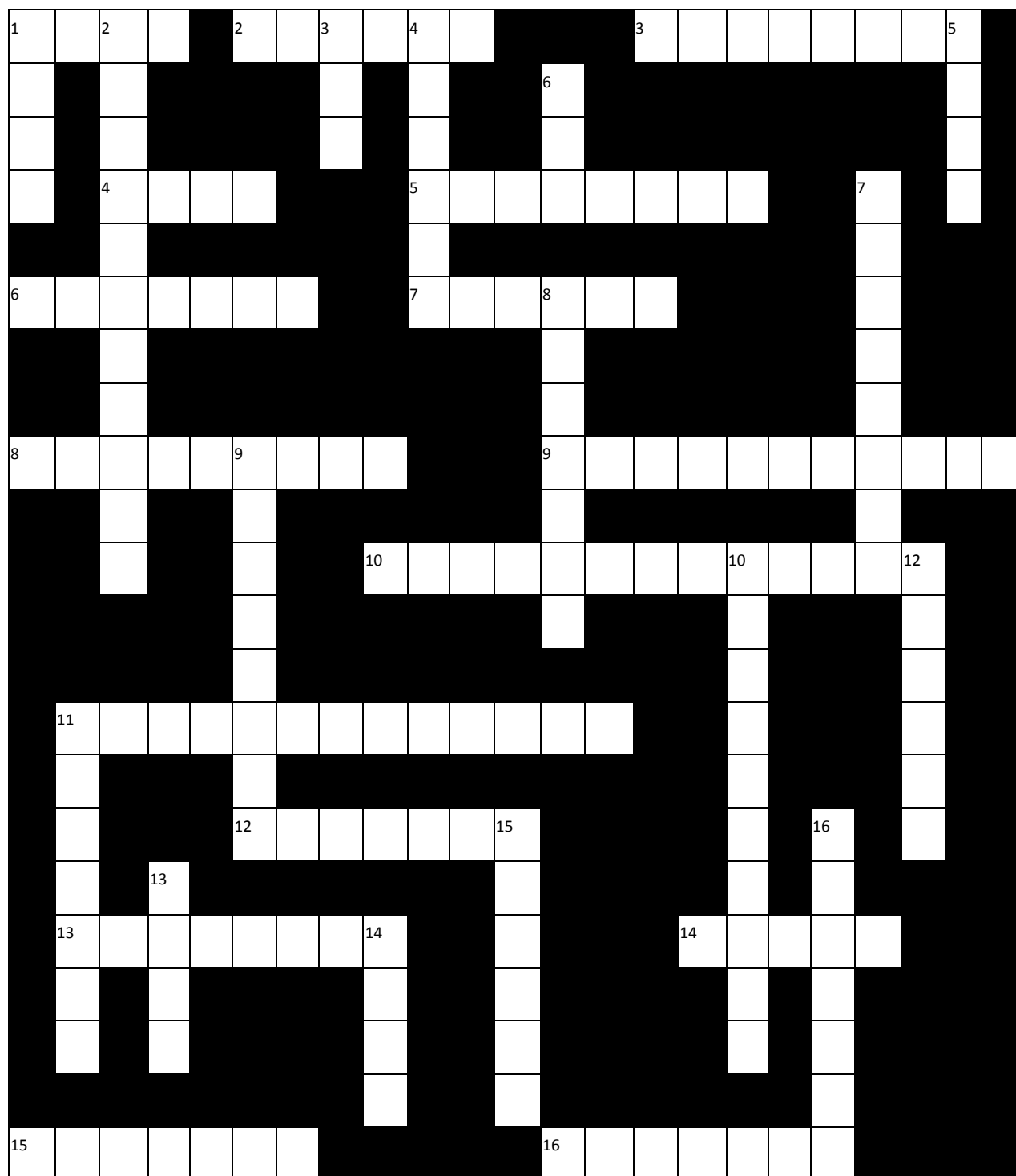
WHO AM I?

- I was born on the July 24, 1965 In Melbourne, Victoria.
- I debuted in the NBL at the tender age of 18.
- I was the top scorer for the league for a total of 14 seasons.
- I played in five Olympic Games.
- I announced my retirement on the May 12, 2005.
- The Big V State Championship Men's perpetual shield bears my name.
- My father's name is Lindsay and he is also an Australia basketball great.
- My initials are AG.

I AM?

C	A	F	H	T	J	F	H	J	O	E	R	F	J	J	F	L	V	B	B
U	A	K	L	N	H	W	B	B	C	T	H	U	N	D	E	R	I	A	K
N	E	R	W	K	I	S	I	U	V	J	O	P	N	R	U	L	C	S	E
N	E	L	S	O	N	P	G	L	L	A	O	O	Q	D	I	J	T	K	Y
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N	W	E	L	D	A	F	R	O	S	V	O	W	C	E	U	S	R	T	B
G	M	T	I	G	E	R	S	C	A	T	S	E	R	E	G	A	R	B	O
H	B	A	G	R	A	E	D	K	N	A	O	N	O	N	Y	M	M	A	R
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M	V	I	C	I	E	R	B	A	M	O	L	T	E	N	R	C	P	L	U
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D	P	L	V	E	N	M	T	O	G	A	S	C	H	Y	N	A	H	I	H
A	I	B	N	M	R	A	S	W	S	E	N	A	T	Z	G	B	G	C	W
E	V	E	N	O	M	B	O	R	N	A	N	R	D	I	W	I	S	T	F
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U	N	I	N	E	A	R	G	E	T	E	R	U	B	D	T	D	R	A	E
N	D	A	O	S	D	C	A	D	G	U	R	B	V	I	G	E	D	S	S
D	I	A	M	O	N	D	V	A	L	L	E	Y	G	B	O	R	N	E	R

Big V Crossword



Crossword Clues

DOWN

1. The largest senior basketball competition in Australia (3,1)
2. Big V board member (6,5)
3. La Trobe University abbreviation (3)
4. Better known as *Wildcats* (6)
5. Big V president Daryl __ (4)
6. South Dragons player __ Ingles (3)
7. Magical?? (8)
8. __ and lightning, Keilor (7)
9. AKA Hawks (8)
10. They call themselves the Dragons (10)
11. Gigantic(7)
12. The name of this newsletter(6)
13. Sunbury think they can fly (4)
14. Without Sherbrooke we couldn't tan (4)
15. Southern Peninsula, quick get out of the water. (6)
16. Watch out for Bulleen. (7)

ACROSS

1. Ringwood's new championship import? (4)
2. Sponsor (6)
3. Cougars (8)
4. South Dragons and Latrobe City gun __ Carter (4)
5. Broncos (4,4)
6. Whiskers, four legs, purrs and can play basketball (7)
7. Thoroughbreds (6)
8. Big V board member (3,6)
9. Total number of teams (6,5)
10. The one and only female board member (5,8)
11. Diamonds are forever...are Eagles? (7,6)
12. Breathes fire (7)
13. Be careful they may Break you (8)
14. Warrandyte.... must be snakes (5)
15. Gulls (7)
16. More than three hours away (7)

Word Search

Sengstock Cunningham Victor
 Venom Nelson Diamond Valley
 Magic Heat Maccabi
 Marchant Bullock Ringwood
 Belt Molten BigV Cats
 Joyce Thunder Borner Tigers
 Basketball Victoria Freer
 Keysborough Neal



**PUT THE BOUNCE INTO YOUR
MARKETING, SPONSORSHIP &
COMMUNICATION STRATEGY**

Marketing, Sponsorship & Communications Workshop

***Dandenong Basketball Stadium
Tuesday June 2, 2009***

As an attendee you will be introduced to a comprehensive and informative format, delivered by experts in their chosen fields. At the conclusion of the day you will take with you a personalised "marketing and communication folio" including; documentation that will allow you to immediately implement new and improved marketing and communication strategies; a professional marketing plan; extensive marketing documentation in a presentation folder and access to a website full of videos of other real life successful administrators and their tools.

What you get

- Marketing folder full of documents, templates and emails.
- Understand Association successful frameworks for Marketing & Communications
- Communication Tools - The different types and how to use them
- Identifying opportunities to market your venue and programs to existing members and the local community
- Strategies to attract, retain and service sponsors
- Building your list of Association assets and how to sell/market them
- Community engagement methods - Skills and resources required
- Association marketing plan - Now you have it, how to work it
- The Media - How to engage the media/preparing a press release/sending the press release
- Resources for your marketing department (volunteers/under graduates)
- Building key relationships with local businesses, media and community groups

Program

- 9.00am** Registration & refreshments
- 9.30am** Graeme Allen (Dandenong Basketball) Opening address and welcome
- 9.45am** Ron Bongetti (Australian Sporting Connections) Marketing your association to your members and to your community
- 10.20am** Peter Eddy (Ballarat Basketball) Internal and External Communications
- 10.55am** Morning tea
- 11.15am** Greg Oakford (Knox Basketball) Press releases and building your marketing/media department via volunteers
- 11.50am** Dominic Teakle (Basketball Australia) Tools, resources and programs to target grassroots
- 12.25pm** Morning overview and Question and Answer time
- 12.40pm** Lunch & Networking
- 1.30pm** Deb Weston (Dandenong Basketball) Building local relationships - business, media and community groups
- 2.05pm** Ben Turner (Kilsyth Basketball) Seeking, servicing and retaining sponsors
- 2.40pm** Afternoon tea
- 3.10pm** Joanne Thompson (Kangaroo Photos) How to get the most from today's event
- 3.45pm** Filling out your marketing plan with the help of the presenters
- 4.30pm** Informal questions and drinks
- 6.00pm** Close

Entry is complimentary for up to five participants per association.

***To register, log onto:
www.kangaroo.eventbrite.com***

For more information contact Joanne Thompson 0419 315 948

Registrations close on May 29, 2009

For a detailed run-down of presenters, log onto the Big V website (www.bigv.com.au).

Overtime

THE Big V classifieds.

- Don't forget you can check out all Big V games as they are played on the Big V website (www.bigv.com.au) thanks to Sporting Pulse's LiveStats program. Log on to our website and scroll to the bottom of the home page. You find the LiveStats icon, simply click and find the game you are interested in

- Got a big game coming up? Got an association event you want some exposure for – let us know here at *Inside the Big V* and we'll publish it for you.

- Don't forget to get your weekly Big V banter and catch-up on all the week's gossip on the Big V Radio Hour – courtesy of Media Manager Laura Banks and the "Yapper" Justin Nelson from 9am to 1am every *Saturday morning* on **98.1 Eastern FM**.

- *Inside the Big V* is a monthly publication – and will be delivered to the email inboxes of Big V-goers on the third Friday of the month – so keep your eye out!

- *Got something to say? Did we miss something? Is there something you want published?* Email Laura at media@bigv.com.au with "Tip Off" in the subject line and we'll look at it for our next issue.

This blank space could be used by YOU! Let us know what you have going on in your association and you could be reaching every player, coach and official in the Big V with your information.

Compiled, written and edited by:

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A big **THANK YOU** to this month's contributors:

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