



Monday June 8, 2009
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

North-West prove Big V powerhouse

ALL STAR WOMEN'S CLASH

It was a North-West white-wash on Sunday night, as both the men's and women's North-West sides took victory in the Big V All Star exhibition matches.

It was the experienced hands of the referee-appointed game MVP Katrina Hibbert (Hume City) and Carmen Weaver (Diamond Valley) which saw the side from the north-west claw ahead to take a 19-point, 99-80 victory.

Hibbert managed an impressive 11 points, nine rebounds and seven assists for the match, whilst Weaver shone with 18 points and 11 rebounds.

Sharin Milner (Hume City) was another stand-out, collecting 15 points whilst Hannah Pickford (Eltham) managed eight points and 12 boards and Marie Donohue (Eltham) snagged seven points and 11 rebounds.

Coached by Hume City helms-man Warren Taylor, the North-West side was forced to 10 lead-changes and eight tied-situations before the win was comfortably theirs.

The closeness of the women's competition was indicated by the score at the major break – South-East holding the margin by just two points.

For the South-East side, it was Geelong import Audrey Muse who unleashed, snagging 19 points and five rebounds for the outing.

She was given solid support by Melbourne's Hope Terdich (13 points, 12 rebounds), with Tess Feery a rebounding-queen, collecting 17.

Also shining for the South-East was Geelong's Maddy Taylor (11 points, eight rebounds) and Melbourne Bec Campagli (10 points, four rebounds)

The Statistics;

<i>North-West</i>		<i>South-East</i>
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35	Shooting %	33
6/30	Three-pointers	4/17
36	Defensive rebounds	41
28	Offensive rebounds	28
14	Turn-overs	27
4	Blocks	8
8	Steals	4

ALL STAR MEN'S CLASH

It was a similar scenario when the North-West men lined up against the South-East All Stars – spectators were treated to stellar shoot-out of unprecedented proportions.

The North-West men took a 16-point victory in the end – 171-155 – but not before the game saw 20 lead changes and 10 tied situations.

Separated by only one point at the first break (North-West 35 to South-East 34) and two-points at the major break (North-West 72 to South-East 74), the North-West contingent powered out in the third quarter to hold a 12-point lead at the final break, before shooting out to a 16-point margin by the final siren.

For the Steve Smith-coached (Diamond Valley) North-West side, it was Jermaine Maybank made it a Hume City MVP double, with a 27-point outing.

Waverley's Curtis Small snagged 21 points and five assists for the North-West, with Falcons' team-mate Ivan Platenik hitting 20 points and 11 rebounds.

Eltham's Luke Egan bagged 19 points and 11 rebounds, Melbourne's Daniel Johnson (11 rebounds), Daryl Corletto (five assists) and Waverley's James Orr all managing 18 points apiece and Hume City's Michael Petridis chipped-in with 17 points and seven rebounds.

For the Ken Harrington-coach (Ringwood) South-East outfit, it was Ringwood import Sam Belt who managed to shine, collecting a team-high 25-points and four assists.

Belt was assisted by fellow Hawk Luke McMillan (23 points, seven rebounds) Tiger Adrien Sturt (22 points, eight rebounds) and Latrobe City superstar Rhys Carter (20 points, five rebounds, eight dimes).



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Energy player Glen Barlow chipped-in with 15 points, whilst Ringwood's Luke O'Hea collecting 14 points and nine rebounds.

The Statistics;

<i>North-West</i>		<i>South-East</i>
56	Shooting %	50
14/36	Three-pointers	14/45
45	Defensive rebounds	34
21	Offensive rebounds	15
19	Turn-overs	16
4	Blocks	8
4	Steals	9

The games, a collaborative project of the Big V and VJBL, were played as part of the *McDonald's National Junior Classic* and drew in excess of 400 up-and-coming youngsters courtside.

The tie between the stars of today and the star of tomorrow was reinforced during the exhibition, with two *McDonald's Super Mini Series* games played during the half-time period.

The league congratulates all participants and looks forward to an even bigger spectacle next year.

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