

State Champ always serves up plenty to digest each week. This weeks story– without their superstars, Eltham sent a memo to every other team, they aren't just 4 players deep.

Eltham has kick-started season 2K11 by sending an ominous warning to all opponents with a thrilling 82-81 win at Diamond Valley. While some may scoff at the validity of a one-point margin, you need to account for the absence of Adrien Sturt, Tommy Greer and Cameron Tragardh when passing judgement. Gerard Leonard (24pts) did the damage for the Wildcats, while Brad Bridgewater posted a handy double-double (20pts, 14rbs) for the Eagles. Waverley enjoyed another win over Ringwood – following up last season's finals glory, the Falcons soared to a 79-70 win with Ivan Platenik (26pts) and Vashon Weaver (19pts) the best, while import Aaron Hill (17pts) looked solid first up for the Hawks. Ringwood still has Darryl Corletto to come back in, but given Ringwood smashed the century mark repeatedly last season, a 70pt effort first up wouldn't have pleased coach Kenny Harrington.

Also worth noting was the absence of Matt Snowball, who suited up for Ringwood's

Hume City won't be happy with a loss to Bulleen, nor will Jermaine Maybank who could only manage 9pts @ 36% and 7rbs, which came with 6 turnovers and 0/4 from beyond the arc. Expect Maybank to bounce back

Youth team and looks like that's where he'll stay for the season. While all the talk surrounds Eltham, perhaps the reigning premiers will enjoy the opportunity to fly below the radar for a bit?

Elsewhere, Bulleen upstaged Hume City with a 76-66 win, thanks largely to a 25-13 run down the stretch. The Double-Jays (Jermaine Maybank and Jamal Brown) were reasonably well held, though Brown still grabbed a double-double. Matthew Fennell landed 18pts and 12 rebounds for the Boomers, while

Damon Lowery's still got it ladies and gents. The 43 year wound back the clock to post 15 points, 4 boards and 5 dimes. No coaching responsibilities has clearly let him off the chain.

Brown had 15pts and 12 rebounds for the Broncos.

And was that Darryl McDonald and Warrick Giddey we saw running around out there for the Tigers? Not sure how much the two veterans plan on playing in 2K11, but the pair collectively scored just two points from their 35 minutes on court.

ROUND 1 RESULTS

Eltham	82	defeated	Diamond Valley	81	Bulleen	76	defeated	Hume City	66
Sherbrooke	73	defeated	Melbourne	66	Waverley	79	defeated	Ringwood	70