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IMB WOLLONGONG LIONS: Round 9

Premier Division Seniors

Wollongong Lions	12-15-87
Campbelltown	12-10-82

An excellent team display saw the senior boys scrape over the line to record our second win of the season in an absorbing contest on Sunday afternoon. In overcast, but nonetheless pleasant conditions, we started the game off by slotting the first goal and perhaps should have kicked a few more early on. Campbelltown finished off the quarter well to take a 5 point lead into the first change. The second quarter began worryingly as we ceased to play on, and reverted back to playing some pretty ordinary footy. The lead blew out to 4 goals midway through the term, but in what is a really positive sign for the future, we dug in and clawed our way back to trail by just 7 points at the half-time break. Our third quarter was excellent, as we kicked 5 goals to 3 to take the lead back, on the back of a determined effort by the midfield, and in particular Mitchell Thomson and Michael Toussis. Holding a 5 point lead at three quarter time is a position we have found ourselves in plenty of times over the past few years, where

unfortunately our effort has tapered off in the last quarter. Thankfully, the effort in the last quarter was wonderful across the park, allowing us to finish the game full of running. After Campbelltown kicked the first couple of goals for the quarter to take a lead of 12 points at one stage, we dug deep into our reserves and found a way to kick 2 goals and get our noses in front. The final 5 minutes saw the ball stay trapped on our half-forward flank as we desperately held on for a gritty and determined victory. This is probably the best win we've had at the Lions in the last few seasons because on numerous occasions we fought back from the brink to keep ourselves in the game. Michael Toussis was fantastic in the middle all day and was best on by a mile. Mitch Thomson rucked beautifully, and Sam Jenner and Luke Favetta did a great combined tagging job on some of the Blues' key players. Our back 6 were again great all day, in particular Clint Wells and Adam McConnochie. Graeme Batty had his best game in a while presenting well all day and kicking 4 goals, including 2 'clutch bombs' in the final stanza. It was great to see Paul Balding and Mitch Hogan running around once again, and they will no doubt be better for the run. This week we come up against an out of sorts UNSW/ES outfit, and I can smell an upset in the air!!!!

First Division

Wollongong Lions	6-3-39
Manly/Warringah	14-11-95



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Bad luck to the first division guys who couldn't quite match in with the highly skilled Manly side. Another slow start cost us as Manly kicked 6 goals to 1 in the first quarter to take a 33 point lead into quarter time. The effort in the second quarter was much better as we ran with more purpose and managed to kick two goals into the breeze to trail by 36 points at half time. A disappointing third quarter saw the result put beyond doubt by the Manly boys. I'm sure new coaches Pete Veerhuis and Michael Love would have been very pleased to see the boys outscore Manly in the last quarter to rein the final margin in to 56 points. Manly are a quality side, and once again the boys showed that they are more than capable of matching it with these top sides. With 5 under 18s playing, the effort was all the more meritorious. Hopefully, the return of some injured blokes in the next few weeks will help the boys chalk up some wins in the second half of the year. Michael Faulkner was excellent in his first game for the year and was ably supported around the packs by Matty Brunton (again!!). Aidan Riley battled through an injured foot and was very effective off a back flank whilst Matt Morgan and Ryan Woodward both continued their good form with some determined performances. I must also note that Doug Sweeney managed to slide forward from full back to kick his first ever goal in Lions colours; well done Wooma!!! Hopefully the boys can chalk up a few more wins in the coming weeks to climb up the ladder a few rungs.

Under 18s

Wollongong Lions	18-19-127
Campbelltown Blues	3-2-20

Saamir Mohamad pulled out with a knee injury, Jake Barber had work commitments, Mike Pelda still out with a knee injury and Mal Picken's future presently unknown with a stress fracture in the back. To add to coach Siely's angst half a dozen players didn't show up until 30 minutes before game time. **Not good enough boys!** With some rearranging Mark came up with a 22 that in the end gave the club a most pleasing result. The first quarter saw the young lions following the coach's instructions of keeping the ball moving and this resulted in a 5.3 to 0.1 lead at quarter time. The second quarter was a repeat of the first with the young lions again scoring 5.3 to Nil. This gave the boys a very handy 65 point lead at the long break. When you have such a handy lead it often leads to blazing at goal which is what happened in the third quarter with the boys kicking 4.8 and the young blues managing 1.1. Young Rufus Picken didn't have a lot to do at full back but he did it well. In fact he had a lot of time to think and ended up suffering a migraine and was replaced before three quarter time. Don't think Ru - just do! The boys continued their good form into the final quarter kicking 4.5 to 2.0 for a 107 point win. Dan O'Keefe returned to the fold after injury and was totally dominant inside the attacking fifty



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kicking six goals, ably backed up by Nathan Kenny with four. There were eight different single goal scorers. In a game of such dominance it's hard to pick one player over another however, Taylor Bell continues to show his toughness in defence and run from the half back line. Luke Rutter also continued his good form at centre half back. Jack Mahoney ran all day pushing us forward and big Jake Evans gave us plenty of ball out of the ruck. Congratulations to Mitch Deans on his first goal for the Lions. This is Mitch's first season of AFL and every game shows improvement. Well done Mitch!!
Best on Ground: Dan O'Keefe, Taylor Bell, Jack Mahoney and Jake Evans

Ross Picken

Lions News and Reviews

Lions Ball

The Annual Lions Ball will be run this coming Saturday night (the 20th) in the function room at the Wollongong Tennis Club. This always proves to be a great night and an excellent opportunity to get 'shazzed' up. Please help make this event a success and get along on the night. Tickets will be available this week from Doug Sweeney or Christian Van Reede and cost \$50 a head. Tickets must be paid for before the night if you wish to reserve yourself a table or a certain seat. DJ Dave Gardner will be providing the tunes on the night and a range of activities will be run to further increase your enjoyment of

the night. So dust off the suit, comb that hair, and get down to the TC to celebrate the Lions Ball in style!

Award Winners Round 8

Seniors

1. Michael Dombroski
2. Duane Jefferis

First Division

1. Kyle Prout
2. Matty Brunton (ineligible)

Volunteer of the Week

1. Leadership group could not identify a suitable recipient!

Award Winners Round 9

Seniors

1. Michael Toussis
2. Clinton Wells

First Division

1. Matty Brunton (ineligible)
2. Michael Faulkner

Volunteer of the Week

1. Jimmy Weavers (rigged)

New Sponsor

The committee is pleased to announce that KPMG has signed on as an 'in-kind' sponsorship for the next 3 years. They will undertake our annual financial audit. Thanks to Kim McConnochie who brokered this new arrangement for the club!



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Weekly Duties

Boys, please ensure that we maintain the great effort that has been shown so far this season for the rest of the year. This is particularly applicable to those who live locally around the uni break, as those boys living on colleges will be heading home for the break. Chip in and do your bit!!

Wedding Bells

Congratulations to both Steve Rowland and Jillian on their very recent engagement announcement! Best wishes to the two of you from the entire Lions community! This will hopefully provide the numerous other gingers around the club with some much-needed hope for the future.

Goodbyes

Hooray, Michael Dombroski is finally leaving!! Good luck on your trip to the States Domma, hopefully we will see you back in the Lions' colours in the near future.

Also, I must also report the sad announcement that Big Aussie Gus Porter is leaving Wollongong to move to Sydney with work commitments. Unfortunately this means we won't be seeing big Gus in Lions colours anymore. It has been a real pleasure to see Gus' skills develop on the field, and get to know him

off the field over the past few seasons, and we all wish him well in his future endeavours.

Fees

Col Bartlett happily announces that nearly all of this year's fees have been finalised. Please rectify the situation if you are one of the few who have not done so yet!!

Return of the Sherminator and H-Bomb

It is with great anticipation that these legends of the club return to the Lions fold this week. There has been much conjecture over the past 6 months regarding the physical condition these two will be in upon their return, but I'm tipping it will definitely be worth seeing! Just another reason to ensure everyone gets down to training this week!!

News from the Surgeon's Table

It was great to see Matty Adamson down at NDP for the Campbelltown game following surgery to his knee. Thankfully it was a total success, and Matt is now on the long road of rehabilitation which should see him back in the Lions colours in the future.

The Plug: Keddies Lawyers!

Keddies Lawyers is a firm of law professionals that has practised in personal injury law for over



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25 years. Keddies is the largest plaintiff personal injuries firm in New South Wales with 38 lawyers – 14 of whom are accredited as Personal Injury Specialists by the Law Society of New South Wales – and overall a staff of 172. We have offices in Sydney, Ashfield, Liverpool (2), Redfern, Wollongong and Brisbane. Keddies only provides legal services in personal injury law and only acts for the injured. The Keddies’ team includes senior practitioners who play significant roles in the personal injury field, including a Claims Assessment Resolution Service Assessor for the Motor Accidents Authority, and members of the Law Society’s Specialist Accreditation Personal Injury Law Advisory Committee. Members of the Keddies team have also been appointed to the Motor Accident Authority’s panel of those providing legal services to brain and spinal cord injured children. Keddies has finalised thousands of cases with strong success rates.

Thank you to Keddies Lawyers for their support of the Wollongong Lions in season 2009!!!

Until next time, Go Lions!
Jimmy Weavers



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