



THE SAINT

Issue 12 – 2010

CELEBRATING 130 Years

27th January 2010

DIVISION 2 FIRSTS

St.Kilda 4 was defeated by Melbourne 8

Hits: 3 - Benness. 1 - Cox, Franks, Keiper, Higginson, GregsY (inc 3B).

Highlights: The ones run of mediocre form continued this week vs Melbourne. With much to play for we made far too many fielding mistakes, and we lacked aggression on the bases and consistency in the batter's box. After ambling along in 2nd gear we tied the game 4-4 after 7 innings, but errors caught up with us and Melbourne scored 3 in the 8th and 1 in the 9th to run out winners. Scotty Harris was once again very good on the mound, with plenty of strikeouts, but wasn't supported at all by our infield. Important we get our act together ASAP - several big games coming up and we can't afford to continue playing flat baseball. Some highlights - Dale Benness continues to swing a hot bat - GregsY's triple to the alley, Belly taking a good grab in deep right. Odd spot - with 2 out in the bottom of the 9th a massive unit of a man and his dog strolled onto the field in deep right - and took 3-4 minutes to casually make his way off the field, holding up the game. I guess if it's your one walk for the year, make it a good one. Most if not all of the team are capable of playing a lot better than we have of late - time to get it together.

Won 10 – Lost 7

Keips



TOPOLINOS
LICENCED RESTAURANT

DIVISION 2 RESERVES

St.Kilda 4 was defeated by Melbourne 6

Highlights: The Saints Reserves lost to Melbourne by the score of 6-4 on Sunday, in a game best described as having a slow tempo, little excitement and not a lot of offense from the Saints. After taking the lead 1-0 in the 1st on an RBI Pete O'Sullivan grounder the Saints missed a chance to add another run by stranding Pete on 3rd. The Demons continually blooped singles in over the infielders and in front of the outfielders, and raced out to a 3 to 1 lead. The 4th inning saw some fireworks, with the Demons plating 3 in the top of the dig to take a commanding 6-1 lead. However, in the bottom of the 4th the Saints awoke from their slumber to score 3 runs on RBI singles from JJ and Millsy and an RBI walk from Batesy who refused to give the relief pitcher a lifeline in a professional at bat, which closed the gap to 6-4. Gary Mills pitched 4 workmanlike innings and was a bit unlucky at the bounce of the ball with only 1 or 2 sharply hit singles all day and a bevy of balls landing in no man's land. Zassa relieved in the 5th, promptly loaded the bases with none out, and then did a Houdini-esque escape to preserve the chance of a comeback that was not to be. Saints Reserves wish Mike Sharp a speedy recovery from his broken tibia. Mike stayed in the game after fouling off a pitch in the bottom of the 3rd, but had to ice it in the 4th. His absence will hurt as he's been the offensive spark this year, but the boys will need to find a way to replace him as they take on a resurgent Springvale side this Sunday and try to get back to .500.

Won 6 – Lost 7 – Draw 1

D.W

DIVISION 2 THIRDS

St.Kilda 5 drew with Melbourne 5

Hits: 2 - Elton (inc 2B). 1 - Hanton, Heard, Millen, Sharpels, Mackenzie, Aldridge, Sagorin

Pitching: Scoop 6Inn 6H 8K 4BB 5RS 3ER
Geoff 1Inn 0H 0K 0BB 0RS 0ER

Highlights: I hate 2 hour games.

A tense, tight, tied game of baseball. Seven innings in the book. Perfect playing conditions. And then..... game over. Once again, we outhit our opponents but the failure to fully capitalise on the runners we did get on base cost us dearly. Sadly, there were also mistakes made in the field at crucial moments. Richard Elton's fine form continued as he hit the ball well all day. Brendan Hanton also hit the ball hard. Mitch played an excellent shortstop on the beach-like infield and ran beautifully, as always, scoring from 2nd on a wild throw from the catcher to 3rd that did not get that far away. Scoop was solid today, striking out 8 Melbourne hitters through his 6 innings. Today's draw leaves us equal on points with Waverley, they now take our spot in the four by a tiny 0.009 advantage in percentage. With four games left to play we have absolutely no margin for error left.

Won 9 – Lost 4 – Draw 1

Geoff

DIVISION 2 FOURTHS

St.Kilda 5 was defeated by Melbourne 7

Highlights: Someone once said "games are not won, they are lost." Never a truer word was spoken as the Saints Fourths boys threw away a wonderful opportunity to push our way into the four. We played pretty well in the field and again Drew threw great for us, but our performance in the box when the game was there to be won was very disappointing. Some hard work early saw us go out to a 3 to 2 lead, but from there we seemed to turn our brains off. Wayward baserunning, missed signals and poor pitch selection would cost us dearly. Constantly putting runners on base and

not capitalising was eventually going to come back to bit us, which of course it eventually did. Melbourne scored 5 more times, whilst we could only close the gap by a couple. In an extremely important game, we were found wanting. Two games out with 4 to play, we are certainly not out of it, but more performances like last week will ensure that we'll be watching from the sidelines come finals time. With no easy games on the horizon, it's time to put or shut.....

Won 4 – Lost 6 – Draw 3

SeanO

WOMEN'S DIVISION 3

St.Kilda 12 drew with Bundoora 12

Highlights: The Sinners jumped up two places off the bottom of the ladder into 9th place with a rousing, dramatic come from behind draw at home to fourth placed side Bundoora. Angie Jackman started for St. Kilda and dominated through the first few innings, striking out six in the first three. St. Kilda held a 5-3 lead which fell apart in the 4th when Jackman's fastballs straightened out and balls were lined into the outfield. Gina Chinnery relieved in the top of the final inning, holding Bundoora to a few scattered runs. Trailing by 7 into the bottom of the final inning, with the 7 run maximum rule in effect, the team was instructed to take patient at bats, clog up the bases with walks and safe hits, and put Bundoora increasingly under pressure. The team - as a team - pulled this off to perfection. After clogging the bases with walks and singles to make the game close, Zoe Bickerstaffe lined a sharp hit ball past third base scoring the final two runs and securing the dramatic draw. Had the 7 run rule not been in effect there's a good chance St. Kilda would have won, as their best hitter Jackman was due up with the winning run on 2nd base. The fact the team battled back from 7 runs down against a playoff contender says a lot about the team's character, and the elusive first legitimate win has got to be on the horizon.

Won 1 – Lost 12

Sea

DIVISION 4 RED

St.Kilda Red 10 defeated St.Kilda Black 9

Highlights: Time for the derby again and boy what a game. A great breakfast served up from 9am starts an interesting day. Thanks Corey's Mum! Both sides missing some key players but all keen to get into it. Ben M starts on the mound for Blacks and has a rough start giving up 4 hits to the first 5 batters. An infield hit, a rundown play gone wrong and a Jack to Lordy plate 3 for the reds. Blacks come back hard against Corey though with 3 hits and 2 walks plating 5 to take a 5-3 lead after one. A sweet lead off hit to Nathan in the 2nd is followed by 2 strike outs as Ben finds the zone. Gabor scores Nathan though and is moved over by a Lordy Hit-and-run. An infield error costs blacks two more and then Ben strikes out the 3rd out of the inning as reds score 4. Corey has a good inning as Blacks don't add to the score and its 7-5 to the reds. Reds go down almost in order in the 3rd and Blacks plate four in the inning largely on a line drive double down 3rd base line from Ben Tan. Blacks up 9-7. Reds score two in the 4th on a hit from Crackers up the middle to score Lordy who walked and a hit to right from Matt White to score Crackers. Lordy comes in the bottom half to shut out the Blacks. After 3 walks could have had bases loaded but a caught stealing at home plate on Binge and a dubious pick off on the 1st and 3rd play catches Stephen C for two outs. A Strikeout ends the threat with the game tied at 9. Last dig sees Ben pitching well but the outs just couldn't quite happen and an infield hit to Corey scores Gabor from 3rd. Bottom half of the last inning sees 3 infield ground balls close out the game for a 10-9 win to the Reds. Great game played in great spirit and amazingly in front of 2 VBA umpires! Thanks to all the guys who came down and watched.

Won 6 – Lost 6 – Drew 1

Lordy



DIVISION 4 BLACK

St.Kilda Black 9 was defeated by St.Kilda Red 10



Won 5 – Lost 8 – Drew 1

Neil

WHO SAID THAT ????????

“Well, you know I... I never got to bat in the major leagues. I would have liked to have had that chance. Just once. To stare down a big league pitcher. To stare him down, and just as he goes into his windup, wink. Make him think you know something he doesn't. That's what I wish for. Chance to squint at a sky so blue that it hurts your eyes just to look at it. To feel the tingling in your arm as you connect with the ball. To run the bases - stretch a double into a triple, and flop face-first into third, wrap your arms around the bag. That's my wish, Ray Kinsella. That's my wish. And is there enough magic out there in the moonlight to make this dream come true?

Answer on page 4

SAINTS HISTORY

NEVER THE SAME AGAIN 1970 - 1979

The Seventies would be a decade of celebration, change and tragedy for the Saints. On the Field, the improvement was obvious as the Firsts, in 1973, reached their first finals series in 16 years, winning the qualifying and semi finals, but going down to Kew in the preliminary. The Seconds went one better, taking out the 73 flag in a nail biter. The club was rolling along both on the field, socially and financially. In 1975 the Saints found themselves promoted back into 'B' grade, a goal that coach John Rogers had set when appointed. The Club and all members were stunned when Alan Lilley was tragically killed in an auto accident. Alan was a great ballplayer and a great clubman, so much so that our Best Clubman award was renamed in his honour. John Rogers announced his retirement at the end of the 1976 season after 11 years as head coach. He would continue to contribute to the club as chairman for several more years. After much discussion, the Association decided that the main VBA competition would change from winter to summer. St.Kilda was graded into Division 2 and fielded 2 senior and 2 junior sides. The season was a disaster, Players and administrators failing to adjust to the requirements of the summer season and two seasons in 12 months. Joe Jamison was appointed coach for the 77/78 season and whilst the Firsts would win only 6 games and draw 3, finishing second from the bottom, it was a great improvement from the previous year. The end of the seventies would be a time of celebration as the club reached its 100th year milestone and whilst a senior premiership eluded us again this decade, it would not be long before St.Kilda again tasted Grand Final glory.....



Next Game – 30th/31st January 2010

FIRSTS/SECONDS	THIRDS/FOURTHS	ST.KILDA BLACK	ST.KILDA RED	WOMEN'S
V	v	v	v	V
Springvale	Springvale	Chelsea	Melton	Upwey FTG
Away - 3.30/1pm	Home – 3.30/1pm	Away – 1.00pm	Away – 1.00pm	Home – 2.00pm
Sunday	Sunday	Sunday	Sunday	Saturday

SOCIAL EVENTS

St Kilda Baseball Club presents

\$1000

REVERSE RAFFLE

Saturday 6th February 2010 from 8.00pm

Complimentary dinner, beer, wine,
champagne & soft drinks until 11.00pm
Drinks at Bar Prices after 11.00pm
Cox Mackenzie Pavilion, Hockey Drive, Albert Park
Dress: Smart Casual
Tickets: \$35.00

Ticket No.

of 200

Standings after Round 13

	Won	Lost	Draw	Position
Firsts	10	6	0	6th
Seconds	6	7	1	9th
Thirds	9	4	1	5th
Fourths	4	6	3	7th
Red	6	6	1	5th
Black	5	8	1	5th
Women's	1	12	1	9th

Answer to 'WHO SAID THAT'

**Archibald 'Moonlight' Graham (Burt Lancaster)
Field of Dreams 1989**

Full colour version of this publication and full Match Reports can be found online at www.stkildabaseball.org.au
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