



# Lady Mavs burn Flames

The Eastern Mavericks senior womens basketball team pulled off the biggest upset of the 2012 season so far by defeating the top placed Norwood Flames on their home court on Saturday night.

In a tight contest, the Mavericks stormed home to win in an absolute thriller by a solitary point, 68-67.

The Round 14 Central Australian Basketball League clash at Marden had the supporters of both clubs on the edge of their seats throughout the titanic struggle.

The Norwood women entered the encounter with just one loss for the season so far, incurred against the Forestville Eagles during Round 9.

The Eastern women travelled to Marden still clinging to an outside chance of playing finals basketball if they can win all their remaining five matches and other results fall their way.

In the remaining four minor round games, the Mavericks are scheduled to play South Adelaide away, Sturt at home, Woodville away and the final match against West at home.

Those four teams are the bottom four sides of the competition, all ranked below Eastern on the premiership table.

The Lady Mavericks should start favorite and will be expected to claim victory in all four clashes if a full squad of players is available to select from.

On Saturday night the Eastern women entered the match without the services of centre Shannon Tarran and were missing guards Jo Robbertsen and Katherine Brown.

Those losses were offset by the return of Alex Wilson, who has not played since season 2010, when she played 11 matches for Eastern and averaged 14.5 points per match.

Last season and this year Wilson has been based at the Australian Institute of Sport in Canberra and is expected to be available to play for Eastern over the next two rounds.

On Saturday night Wilson started slowly when introduced into the game but finished with 10 points in the all important second half of the match for a game total of 13 points, and she finished with nine rebounds.

For the Mavericks men it was another disappointing performance after a brilliant opening where it was all one way traffic for the visitors.

However, Norwood did grind its way back into the contest to establish a six-point buffer at half-time.

Eastern jumped out of the blocks in the first quarter and led 9-2 after an Ed Millard dunk and a basket from Lukass Blicavs, but from there it was all downhill, particularly the opening five minutes of the third quarter when the Flames men rattled on 14 points to two to lead 48-30 at the end of the term.

Norwood opened the last quarter with a comfortable 24-point margin between the sides.

In the final term the visitors hit back to close within 12 points after Mavericks guard Nick Sbroiavacca scored from the foul line, but that was as close as the Eastern men got in the last period.

Norwood then steadied and edged the final margin to win 78-58 in a disappointing result for the Mavericks men after the euphoria of the womens fighting victory.

## Top side rolled

In Saturday night's womens game, Norwood opened with the first basket of the night but Eastern responded with a three-pointer to Tess Madgen, and when she connected on her next two shots, only one point separated the sides.

Norwood's Jess Foley who is one of the

leading players in the CABL, averaging 21.4 points per game, then edged Norwood clear 12- 9 by scoring the next two baskets.

At quarter time Eastern trailed 16-12 but had held the lead twice during the first term, albeit that it was by a slender margin on both occasions.

During both the second and third quarters the game appeared to slipping out of reach of the Mavericks with their more fancied opponent holding the ascendancy.

Late in the second term Norwood edged clear by 12 points after Foley and Megan Pritchard went on a mini scoring run for the home side.

Early in the third quarter Norwood had established at 13-point buffer (46- 33) ... the biggest lead of the night before Wilson hit a pair of three-pointers, keeping Eastern within striking distance.

By end of the third term only five points separated the sides as Norwood led 59-54, but Eastern had out scored the home side 25-19 during the term.

In the opening minutes of the final quarter neither side were able to establish a winning break as the teams traded baskets.

With every possession critical and every turn over damaging, both teams struggled to convert baskets with the defensive pressure being applied by both sides.

With just two minutes remaining to play, Eastern's Lauren Wright was fed the ball inside the keyway and converted to close the Mavericks to within a point for the first time since the opening quarter.

The basket was needed to boost Eastern's chances of victory having just lost Tenille Searl with five fouls.

Searl had carried the bulk of workload in the point guard position, having not been rested from the game.

During the hectic closing minutes, both sides weren't able to find easy baskets,

and with less than a minute to play, Madgen was awarded two critical foul shots.

With the game's result hanging in the balance, Madgen converted both – Eastern now by just a point with 58.6 seconds remaining.

With the clock winding down and just 23 seconds left with no addition to the score, Norwood coach Simon Pritchard called for a time out to plan the winning shot.

Down to only three seconds left to play Foley, launched a prayer from outside the arc in an attempt to win the game for the Flames, only to watch the shot miss the target.

The ball finished in the hands of Wilson who had rebounded strongly off the missed shot and was fouled pulling down the rebound.

With Norwood over the limit in fouls, Wilson walked the length of the floor to take the resultant two foul shots.

With Maverick supporters on tenterhooks for an upset victory and the pressure on, Wilson missed both shots.

A Norwood player rebounded the ball on the second missed shot but from the back court she couldn't launch the match winner to claim a win on the final shot of the night.

The victory now leaves Eastern just one win behind the Southern Tigers, the major rivals for a finals berth.

The Tigers women sit in fifth place and lost on the weekend to the Sturt Sabres.

**Eastern Mavericks 68** (T. Madgen 29, A. Wilson 13, L. Wright 6, M. Bycroft 6) **defeated the Norwood Flames 67.**

## Men fall

The Norwood Flames men were playing for a berth in this year's finals series last Saturday evening.

Similar to the Mavericks women, the Norwood men hold down sixth place and need to keep winning if they are

to replace the Woodville men who are just one win clear in fifth place on the premiership table.

With Eastern's surprise start, Norwood coach Brad Davidson called for a time out after just two minutes of play had elapsed, Eastern leading 5-0 after Mark Hautop and Millard had scored the opening baskets.

During the time out Davidson replaced his starting five players with five teammates from the bench.

The change in personnel had an impact and for the next seven minutes Eastern went without scoring a basket.

Over the same period, Norwood strung together 10 unanswered points to get back in the game.

At quarter time Norwood led 16-13, and by half-time the margin was six points with Norwood in control 34-28.

During the third quarter with Norwood's starting five players having a impact – especially Andrew Webber who finished the night with 16 points – Norwood set up a commanding break at the end of the third period when it led 60-36.

The first half of the final quarter was the Mavericks best period other than the opening to the first quarter.

With Ben Dearman, Stuart Breheny and Millard finding ways to score, Eastern out scored the home side 16-6 before Davidson called for another time out.

After the break in play Norwood restricted the flow of baskets from Eastern and increased the margin between the two sides to record a solid 78-58 triumph and keep its finals hopes alive.

**Eastern Mavericks 58** (E. Millard 21, L. Blicavs 10) **lost to the Norwood Flames 78.**

The Eastern Mavericks next CABL encounter is this Saturday night against the South Adelaide Panthers at Marion, with the womens match scheduled to start at 6.30pm, followed by the men at 8.15pm.

## HILLS HOCKEY CLUB

# Women on the run

The Adelaide Hills Hockey Club's Division 3 women were forced to settle for a draw with the Uni SA opposition during Sunday's district hockey fixture at Seacliff.

Uni SA scored first and Hills were left to play catch up mode for the remainder of the match.

The Hornets were unsettled in the beginning, missing stalwart Terese Reeves who accidentally went to the wrong venue.

When Reeves arrived the Hornets settled and began to link well through the midfield to drive attacks, but they weren't able to convert those attacks into a goal.

'Okey Dokey' Jordan Doecke scored to level the game in the second half, but time ran out before the Hornets could take the lead.

In defence, Emily Ronan commanded full back with the help of Division 5 women regular Sally Garvie.

Tilly Ronan, Sarah Haydon and Liz Pillman ran well to fill the teams in both Hills Division 3 and Division 5 womens games, running hard until the end.

Misty Munday and Grace Haydon passed and talked well in the midfield, feeding the ball to Doecke and her fellow attackers.

## Division 3 men

The Adelaide Hills Division 3 men put in a much stronger performance than in previous weeks, but were still snubbed out of a win in a 10-2 defeat by Uni SA.

Some new faces helped out the team on the weekend and displayed a new energy on the pitch for the Hornets and it resulted in an improved performance.

With the regular 'keeper out, Under 18 goal keeper Cameron Smith donned the pads and didn't disappoint .

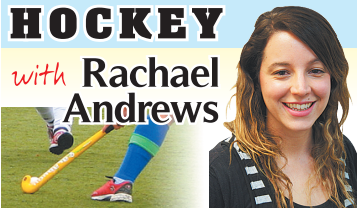
Starting out a little timid, Smith came into his own making some spectacular saves throughout the entire game, never being caught unaware.

Cool and calm in defence, Steve Cates made a strong presence from full back, with many well timed tackles and intercepts to turn around the ball into attack.

Good running all game by inners Nathan Bennett and Jamie Howes allowed them to feed the ball into attack, creating solitary goals in both halves.

The hard-earned goals came to wingers Chris Glynn and Sean Sparrow, who displayed skill, determination and the odd bit of luck.

Strong short corner defence by Cates



shut down many of the opposition's penalty plays.

Despite another defeat, the team left the pitch with their heads held high knowing they played a far more competitive game than previous weeks and having had fun playing their sport again.

## Division 5 men

As the umpire was calling two minutes to go and the Hills Division 5 men only had eight players on the field, things were shaping out to be an interesting game against a full strength Uni SA combination.

At the sound of the starting whistle, fortunately the rest of the Hornets had arrived, boosting the numbers to the full 11, thanks to support from Gerry Cawson from the veterans team and Misty Munday from womens ranks.

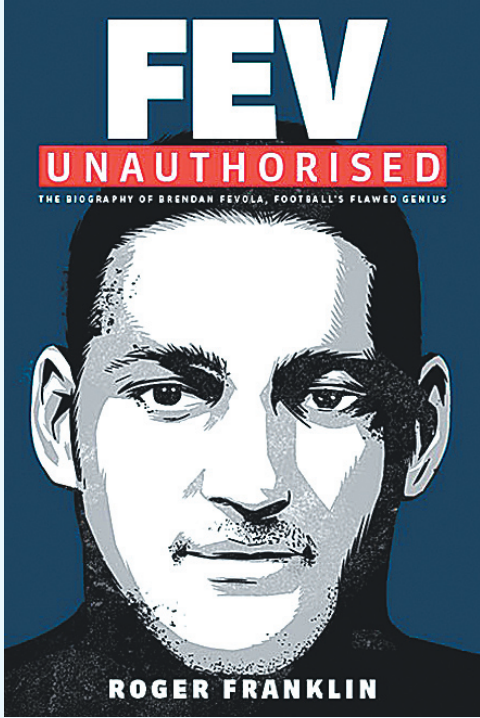
From the onset the Hornets put the pressure on UniSA's defensive line, with both wings providing ample opportunity for the ball to be pushed up and into the attacking 25m, however, no goals were scored by either team during the first half.

At the half-time address, with signs of fatigue on the players' faces, it was decided to play smarter instead of harder, with the focus on accurate passing, and cutting players off, rather than trying to stay with the opposition, as the lack of a bench was becoming apparent.

Leigh Blackford displayed a new interest in the position of half back, and with the support of Greg Sparrow and Andrew Hall in goals, there was a new strong defensive line.

Goal keeper Steve Spears was on hand on the occasions the ball did slip through the defence and he was sure to quickly clear.

With the final score of a nil-all draw, it demonstrates a potential change to the Hornets game plan, with the next round providing the opportunity to go one further and score a win.



# Winter weather book tales

The onset of winter weather often leads to lazy days spent within the warmth of indoors.

It also provides the opportunity to snuggle up near an open fire or heater and take in a good book, and with the football season beginning to work towards the business end of the procedures, the Slattery Media Group has recently released some timely offerings for any football fans to enjoy.

Devoted Magpies fans will want to add *The Official Collingwood Illustrated Encyclopedia 2012* to their collection, covering the rich history of the AFL's biggest and most famous club.

Compiled by Michael Roberts and Glenn McFarlane, the latest edition is an update of the original publication of 2004, and includes a gripping account of the drawn 2010 grand final and subsequent replay against St Kilda, together with Dane Swan's 2011 Brownlow Medal triumph.

A moving account of Mick Malthouse's final days as coach of the team through the 2011 finals series is also covered, while the rich history, personalities and memorable moments of the Collingwood Football Club since its first official match in 1892 are fully documented.

*The Official Collingwood Illustrated Encyclopedia 2012* is available for the recommended price of \$59.95.

The highs and lows of AFL enigma Brendan Fevola are all captured in Roger Franklin's unauthorised and



uncut account of *Fev Exposed*, which sells for \$34.95.

Franklin's offering charts Fevola's meteoric rise to AFL greatness followed by his very public fall to disgrace, including a number of off-field scandals including being sent home from the 2006 International Rules series in Ireland and his drunken antics at the 2009 Brownlow Medal count.

Traded from Carlton in 2009, controversy again plagued Fevola's attempt to revive his career in Brisbane, leading to his eventual delisting by the Lions.

During an era of heavy media scrutiny, the book explores whether the dual Coleman Medallist and three-time All Australian selection has been a victim of the times and the sad ultimate price he has paid, which has left him selling his talent as a celebrity player on the country football circuit, while also displaying his undoubted ability with a best afield performance in last week's E. J. Whitten Legends match.

Edited by Geoff Slattery, *The Winning Ways of Football Icons* offers an insider's view into the inner workings and the hearts and minds of those who played football.

Words of wisdom and inspiration from some of the true legends of the game have been captured, including Allan Jeans, Bob Davis, Kevin Sheedy, Jock McHale, Ron Barassi, Wayne Carey and Adam Goodes.

*Search for Perfection* – priced at \$19.95 – is the perfect book for every sports fan who understands the need to stay strong in the face of adversity and to never give up until the final siren.

– Jeff Pistola.

If you like Hills sport you will love to be part of the Huddle each week ...  
podcast at [www.spreaker.com/user/huddle](http://www.spreaker.com/user/huddle)