

Seal Speak



Results

Women: As predicted, things happen in 3's. So we broke our losing streak to beat Peel 5-2. We had a great first half, being in front 5-1. We continue to have great defense, just difficulty scoring, though they also had difficulty scoring. Ruth produced 2 great goals and some great defense work. This win has given us a much needed confidence boost to take into the finals.

Men: A strong start for the first away game of the season led the men's team to a 3-1 advantage at the turn of the first half. Peels inability to capitalise on fast breaks and Somerset's unlucky shooting took the teams to 6-4 with a minute left. Peel fought back as Somerset could not hold onto the ball in the last minute, and they equalised the scores at 7 all. Special mention to Nasar our creative centre forward.

Masters: The Sluggers had a convincing win this week against Dolphins 8 – 3. Max threw 3 goals and received best player votes, Gary got a couple of goals and Alex played very well again, a good team effort.

A pretty good week all round!

Fixture this week: Round 16

- Somerset Sluggers vs Melville : UWA court 1, 7pm Tuesday 2nd March. They're calling this Masters game a playoff. Not sure what that means, as they're still designated to have finals.
- Somerset Div 1 Women Starlets vs Phantoms: Somerset Pool, 7:15pm, Wed 3rd March.
- Somerset Div 2 Men vs Phantoms: Somerset Pool, 8pm, Wed 3rd March.

Although some of our Masters players might have been there, many of us have only heard about this match.

Did you actually know what it was about?

The "**Blood in the Water**" match was a water polo match between Hungary and the USSR at the 1956 Melbourne Summer Olympics. The match, which took place on December 6, 1956, was against the background of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution and saw Hungary defeat the USSR 4–0. The name was coined after Hungarian player Ervin Zádor emerged during the last two minutes with blood pouring from under his eye after being punched by a Soviet player.

On October 23, 1956, a demonstration by students escalated into an uprising against the Soviet puppet government in Budapest. For a few days it appeared Hungary might free itself from the USSR. On November 1, however, Soviet tanks began rolling into Hungary and from November 4 to November 10 forces began suppressing the uprising with air strikes, artillery bombardments, and tank-infantry actions. By the start of the Olympics, the uprising had been dealt with, and many players saw the Olympics as a way to salvage pride for their country. "*We felt we were playing not just for ourselves but for our whole country*" said Zádor after the match.

In the morning before the start, the Hungarians had evolved a strategy to taunt the Russians. In the words of Zádor: "We had decided to try and make the Russians angry to distract them."

From the beginning, kicks and punches were exchanged. At one point the Hungarian captain, Dezső Gyarmati, punched a Russian. Meanwhile, the Hungarian Zádor scored two goals to 'Hajrá Magyarok!' (Go Hungarians!) cheers of the crowd. Hungary was leading 4–0 in the final minutes. Zádor was marking Valentin Prokopov. Prokopov struck him, causing a bleeding gash. Zádor left the pool, and his bleeding was the final straw for a crowd already in frenzy. Many angry spectators jumped on to the concourse beside the water, shook their fists, shouted abuse and spat at the Russians. To avoid a riot, police entered the arena with one minute to go and shepherded the crowd away. Pictures of Zádor's injuries were published around the world, leading to the "Blood in the Water" name, although reports that the water actually turned red were an exaggeration. Zádor said his only thought was whether he would be able to play the next match.

Hungary was declared the winner since they had been leading and then beat Yugoslavia 2–1 in the final to win their fourth Olympic gold medal.

Full name: Aaron John Bartholomew Duncombe

Age: 21

Place of birth: Perth

Occupation/studying: Just Graduated Econs/Finance, working as an Accountant

Years playing water polo: 5 on and off

Favourite position in water polo: centre back

Favourite quote: How people treat you is their karma; how you react is yours

Quirky fact about you: The first Wednesday I was going to come to a Somerset winter season water polo game, I accidentally went to Bicton instead of Claremont and had a game with the Melville Gimps.

Player profile

Aaron likes to wear his Somerset shirt, a lot.

