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Winner of report of the week - Captain and new nu 1 Tan

Nightmare on hassy street

Hasi 1 vs moss side 1 lost 16-9 or 3-2

Halloween night at the pickup stadia- bernard had the dress code right with his garish pink sweater- must be the outfit to scare the trick or treaters!

Hasi 1 in the midst of a relegation dog fight- this was a 6 pointer if you will. Mixing up the order this week to see if we can get back on the win trail.

First up john 'headless horseman' corteen vs fitz munroe
1-3

John started off with his head elsewhere-

2-0 down quicker than he took to get ready for the game. Pep talk with our man and john 'headless horseman' feels he should be slaughtering him- i agree.

Took the third comfortably- this match has a 3-2 written all over it. 4th game very cagey staying even throughout- fitz getting all of the luck. Tight till the end and i thought it was going to a fifth only to be snatched away with a controversial decision at match point- stroke to fitz - in my eyes just a let.

John remonstrated with the marker and i thought heads would roll - it is halloween after all Unlucky fella

Next up mick 'myers wright vs raphael



3-1

Mick in only his second game of the season looking to get us back on track. Won the first and sneaked the second. I gave mick some instructions before the third. Turns out raphael has a longer left leg which i wanted mick to exploit- the third went to pot- note to self

'myers' doesnt take instructions well. Turned it around in the 4th and match won.

Next up billy the puppet gordon vs danny



3-1

Lets play a game- how long can you continue to retrieve before your body crumples. Gordon tortured danny who was made to cover all 4 corners of the court. Vintage gordy with some dropshots in there too- player of the night.

Ahead now and all we needed was one more to win it

Next up simon 'bateman' latham vs nick cox 3-2



This was the one to win the match. Appears simon doesnt do straightforward matches. 2-0 down but wins the 3rd to get back in it. Cruising in the 4th at 9-3 up - only for him to come juddering to a halt- finally squeaked it 15-13 to take it to a decider. Couldnt quite get over the line in the fifth - unlucky pal.

So with the match poised at 2-2 it was left to me to bring home the bacon, except it wasnt meant to finish like this. Squad rotation was supposed to mean we had the game in the bag at this point☹️.

Tan 'slenderman' vs ray nevin 3-0



Before the game id already got my match W badge on- sacrificial lamb today. Tried to make it a match for ray but got handed a can of whoopa*s. The ball makes a different sound when he hits it, and my positive self talk of just get a game irked him even more. My excuse was we needed to be out by 10!

So another loss but gritty performances from si and gordon- i feel a win is coming- hopefully we dont have to wait till next halloween to see it!!

Close second - John

From a dismal evening at the Pickup Stadium, comes the latest missive from your depressed reporter, who is looking to join the same team as Ben Nelson next week.

We welcomed Moss Side, we were full of hope to rise up the table, but alas....

Match result Hasi 9 v Moss Side 16

First on 4th string Yours Truly John C 1 - 3 Fitz Munroe Quite frankly the worst display of squash and temper for many a long day. Gordon reassured me Fitz hadn't won for two years, well he has now! I tried hard, but snatched at everything, threw the racket, fell out with the South African referee, just practising for Sunday, and then had lost my rag when losing match point. A truly dreadful performance.

Next up second string **Gordon "Yorkie" Gilchrist 3 - 1 Danny "Junior Mick Hucknall" Jones** A very solid performance from our Gordy, some great winners, and back to nearly his best. A slight lapse in the third allowed Danny back in, but there was only going to be one winner here.

5th string **Mick Wright 3 - 1 v Raphael Thuret Well** played Mick, showed class and poise dispatching the Springbok in quick time. A slight Gordon wobble in the third, but again never looked like losing.

We're now 2-1 up and victory in sight, so up steps....

3rd string **Simon "thunder calves" Latham 2 - 3 Mick Cox** Simon dominated his opponent in the first two games, and somehow contrived to be 2-0 down. However he came back in the next two, surviving a match point, to keep hopes alive at 2-2 going into the fifth. A scrappy tense affair, saw Mick just edge it 11-8, a good effort though Simon, just ran out of steam.

It's 2-2 and we can still win, leave it to Tan the Teacher to bring the unbeatable Ray Nevin down to size?

First string Tan Hussain 0 - 3 Ray Nevin Tan played some quality squash losing very respectably to 8, 4 and 11. The first in particular saw Tan 8-5 up and Nevin was clearly sweating, but a couple of unlucky shots saw Tan just edged out.

Hasi 1 are in need of a win, this is unacceptable.

H2 Marines v Bury

Ben v Fabian wellford-tunt (yes real name !)

Our old (young) heros last game for a while now whilst he re-coups. Could this be the game of all games, the show stopper, the tv shot laden exhibition match that was on a pedestal ready for our man to take with both hands ?! Nope - lost 0-3 with not a lot of complaints to be fair. Ben not firing on all cylinders - get well soon !

Andy v josh

So over to our quiet assassin Mr Andy Wray. Possibly the most coordinated we've seen Andy so far this season - light blue top, navy collar, navy shorts, blue & white trainers - ladies & gents we have a match - well matching set !! Unlike Andy's game tonight. He quickly got into the "me too" game of hitting it harder than Josh which unfortunately for our warrior meant this young man simply ran and ran and out ran Andy. Too many tins (yes I did say that) and definitely one of those that could have been - but alas not to be 0-3 ouch !

Finlay v Daniel

Fin played the first game like his dad has taken FIFA off him - snatching, going for the sublime but not quite achieving. One nil down 11-5. Quick team talk - and what do you know - fin simply outclassed Daniel in every department- easy winner 11-4 !!! Games 3 and 4 were another case of what could have been as Fin was so near but so far eventually losing 1-3, unlucky pal, next time

Simon (captain Watkinson) v Fred

Now then - as I was given the markers pen there were a few rye smiles across the oppositions faces - could be interesting! Apparently Fred can be a little critical of the marker some weeks - so let's wait and see! Simon huffed & puffed like someone playing the trombone at band practise but without hitting any real notes, so 2 nil down. Team talk completed and a threaten beasting by Baynesy if he loses the next one - on are little man trots. Well, well, the threat of a public school punishment seemed to work. 2 games back to back and we now have a match on at 2-2. Our dentist man didn't waste anytime in game 5, no anaesthetic needed , a quick pincer movement and his opponent was spent. 3 blooming 2 back from 0-2 (listen up everyone) Well done Simon - take a bow !

Chris v Rick

Could I bring home some well needed extra points for the boys - well not quite ! Tight first game losing out 9-11, few helpful comments from the gallery- like don't hit the tin Chris - and we are on to game 2. Backhand worked a treat killed Rick off 11-6 ! Something must have stirred in Rick as he ran harder and chased more in the third coming out a easy winner - c'mon Chris do something!! And do I did - Tin after blooming tin haunted my fourth game - argh !!!! Well at least a point but overall team loss of 1-4. Match "w" awarded to Ben for no other reason than he's not available from next week to accept it !!!

Team 3 report home v markland hill 3

First up yours truly (Si F) v Gary Philbin.

If you're looking for a game of high intensity full of class with flare then watch the other court as this was crap.

Gary was held together with neoprene and good wishes and I couldn't hit a barn door with pea. Luckily 3-0

Aaron v Shan

Straight forward result. No messing bish bash bosh and 3-0

Chris v Steve

This was a good game to watch by the way of seeing Chris work out his opponent on court. Steve hits good shots and lengths if you let him but Chris sussed this out and duly dispatched him.

3-0

Mick R v Sam Mullar

In the warm up you'd of thought this was going to be hard going.

But you'd be wrong.

Sam was full of endeavour but no match for the guile and ferocity that mick brings.

3-0

Simon B v Kurtis Hardy

We witnessed one man grow out of a game and one man grow into it.
First game Simon has him on toast no messing.
Then Kurtis scrapes the second.
Si never got his rhythm fully back although the games went to deuce.
Lost the fourth 18-20
1-3

The hassy 3 band wagon keeps rolling along. Let's keep the momentum going 🍊

Hasi 4 Won 5-0, 21 points to 1.

Magnificent performance by all concerned as Hasi 4 keep the run going, clinging on to the shirt tails of Hasi 3.

Did I tell you that we've only lost 1 and that was to Hasi 3?

We know our place. It's to keep taking points off any team that might threaten the supremacy of Hasi 3.

We are their wingmen, their tail gunners, but wait until we play them again in January. We will catch them cold, full of turkey and sprouts.

Anyway, enough of these flights of fancy.

In order of play

On first, at #1, **Derek v Alistair**. Good news, I've finally found someone I have a chance of beating at #1. Woo hoo!

Fairly straightforward as it's clear that Ali doesn't like, nay hates, going forward. Good in the air but drops and boasts do the trick. 3-0. We are off.

#2: **Danny v Callum**. Bit of a mismatch really. Callum says he hates squash and isn't playing it again. 3-0 to Danny.

#5: **Cameron v Dave**. Making his winter team debut Cam was tasked with bringing home the bacon and sealing the match. Never in doubt. Dave was four times Cam's size, weight and age. Nervy first game but once Cam accepted he was just simply a better squash player than Dave it was all straightforward stuff. Cam needs some advice on when to ask cos he did quite a bit of unnecessary running but still usually managed to win the rally anyway. Great debut, clinched the match, 3-0 win and we are 3-0 up.

#4: Steve R v Mark. Another routine victory. 3-0. No drama. Sorted.

#3: John K v Chris. Ah yes. The oddity that is Chris Bluer. Having played him myself I know how infuriatingly unorthodox he is. But if anyone has the game to sort him out it's John with his sweet drop shots. Both players tried to kill themselves, never mind their opponents, John throwing himself to the floor in a desperate attempt to get to a ball he was never going to reach. And Chris headbutting the back wall in similar fashion. I asked if he needed to go off for a HIA but he declared himself fit to carry on. John dropped the second game, but came back strongly to take the third and fourth, so a 3-1 win.

Comfortable 5-0 win, with the extra junior bonus point courtesy of Cam, so a 21 point maximum for Hasi4.

Second in the league, just behind Hasi 3. They better watch out.

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