
A SCUM

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New Research Shows Football Officials Still Need Help

When Giles Grump, a football official, decided to collate statistics relating to his fellow referees, he gathered them under three headings – needy, slow, not-quite-with-it.

Below we reprint some of the figures he uncovered.

- Number of officials who are considered obese: 60 million
- Amount spent by officials every year trying to lose weight: \$30bn
- Average lifetime ice cream consumption by officials: 1 tonne
- Average number of officials killed annually by swallowing whistle: 13
- Percentage of officials who believe that the theory of human evolution is "probably" or "definitely" not true: 47
- Average number of words in the written vocabulary of a six- to 14-year-old child in 1945: 25,000
- Average number of words in the written vocabulary of an official: 10,000 – all of them swear words
- Percentage of officials who understand that the earth orbits the sun yearly: 48
- Percentage of officials in favour of censoring reports about their performance on the pitch: 40
- Percentage of officials who think they will be famous for at least a short period of time: 30
- Amount officials spend annually on facials, manicures and pedicures: AU\$194bn
- Average number of pink lawn flamingoes surgically removed from officials' various orifices annually: 250,000
- Percentage of officials who describe "barbecue" as the aroma that best defines soccer: 39
- Percentage of fouls missed by officials in any given game: 159
- Percentage of officials who believe we didn't actually go to the moon: 20
- Amount of water used in daily showering by an average official: 530-680 litres
- Percentage of officials who know how to tell the time: 59
- Time spent by an average official watching television commercials during his lifetime: one year
- Percentage of officials who say they have undergone cosmetic surgery: 70
- Percentage increase in cosmetic surgeries since 1990: 200

Fat, Dumb and Ugly is published by Dodo Publishing on July 34 and is completely fictional.

Top 30 Polite Ways To Say 'You're An ANU Soccer Player!'

1. A few clowns short of a circus.
2. A few fries short of a happy meal.
3. The wheel's spinning, but the mouse is dead.
4. All foam, no beer.
5. The butter has slipped off his pancake.
6. The cheese slid off his cracker.
7. Body by Fisher, brains by Mattel.
8. Warning: Objects in mirror are dumber than they appear.
9. Couldn't pour water out of a boot with instructions on the heel.
10. He fell out of the stupid tree and hit every branch on the way down.
11. As smart as a UC graduate.
12. Doesn't have all his dogs on one leash.
13. His sewing machine's out of thread.
14. One fruit loop shy of a full bowl.
15. No, I believe you. Hawthorn is a good side.

Unfortunately, this ANU soccer player can't count above fifteen. Apologies.

Results

Premier League Firsts	v. <i>Olympic</i>	4:3
Premier League Reserves	v. <i>Athens Olympic</i>	3:0
Division 5	v. <i>Belwest</i>	1:1
Masters	v. <i>Belconnen</i>	1:0
Division 1	v. <i>Lanyon</i>	1:4
Division 7 Orange	v. <i>Division 7 Blue</i>	3:0
Division 6	v. <i>Belwest</i>	4:0
Division 2	v. <i>Lanyon</i>	3:1
Division 4	v. <i>Olympic</i>	1:0

Fixture

Premier League Firsts	v. <i>Cooma</i>	Nijong
Premier League Reserves	<i>BYE</i>	
Division 1	v. <i>White Eagles</i>	Hughes
Division 2	v. <i>Belconnen</i>	Melba
Division 4	v. <i>Cooma</i>	Nijong
Division 5	v. <i>Belconnen</i>	Melba
Division 6	v. <i>ADFA</i>	Willows
Division 7 Orange	v. <i>Weston Ck</i>	Willows
Division 7 Blue	v. <i>UCU</i>	North
Masters	v. <i>Fyshwick</i>	Willows



Match Reports

ANU PL Reserves defeat Olympic

ANU PL reserves defeated Olympic 3-0 on Saturday at a wet and cold South oval.

The game was a very hard one and Olympic came to play and pushed us for a large portion of the game. Indeed it was 0-0 until the 60th minute.

The first half was a tight affair with both sides playing some good football considering the difficult conditions. Both sides had chances which narrowly missed. We had three great chances but the Olympic keeper saved two good one on one chances and the other was missed by us. Olympic also had a few chances that Graeme saved well.

All in all the first 45 minutes was a close one and a pretty even affair.

At half time we regrouped and came out firing and put Olympic on the backfoot. The second 45 minutes was a different story and we scored three quick goals to give us the points.

The first goal was scored by Bryn Pender. The ball was played into the box and Bryn picked up the crumbs from a missed clearance and finished well to give us the lead. Shortly after this we scored our second when some great team play resulted in Maurice le Guen scoring a great goal. The movement saw us switch the play and have about 8 touches before Maurice slotted home.

The third goal was from the spot kick when Tim Webb was pulled down and Chirs Gouranamanis smashed the ball in to give us a third goal.

Following this Olympic rallied to get into the game but we defended stoutly and kept a clean sheet.

From a coaching perspective I was very pleased with the team performance. All 15 players were brilliant and did what they had to do to get the three points. Scoring three goals against a good defensive unit like Olympic was impressive and keeping a clean sheet against them was also pleasing.

Well done lads. Good team win.

Next week we have a bye and then after that we face Canberra City which will be a tough game.

ANU JAFFAS 3 – ANU BLUES 0 (JULIAN SCORES A GLORIOUS GOAL!)

The game was no less a fixture than the ANU DERBY!

Having taken home only a point from this season's opening game, we were determined to get the maximum points today. Apart from the honour and glory of winning the Derby, only 3 points would ensure us a chance of overhauling Radford Maroon for the League Winners medal this year.

The game was played in utterly freezing cold conditions, and the soccer gods in their ignominy, were determined to set the elements against us, as it soon began raining to boot. But we, the Mighty Jaffas, adapted to the miserable weather far quicker than our opponents, and showed truly, that our mid-season stumble is far behind us.

Dan opened the scoring early, left footed in to the far corner of the net. Our attacking play was rewarded with several close run shots, but the score at the break was 1-0. We were playing far better, and the Blues were unable to conjure anything more substantial than long range efforts.

The second half continued our dominance, although the game was still tight. Mike remarked that we might have to settle for the single goal. How wrong he was.

It takes a great player, in a great game, to step up to the plate and be counted. To do ... great things. To score.... great goals. I was that player.

In a moment of confusion, a scrambled pass found its way to Kaho. With only Sash to pass to, the ball fell behind him, but there I came... steaming out of the midfield like some possessed beast. Launching myself onto the ball, my first touch carried me beyond both their shallow defenders. The second touch, at lightning speed, brought me onto the edge of the area. A third touch, carried the ball gently into striking distance. And the fourth touch. With power, poise, and unerring accuracy, the ball arrowed toward the goal. The keeper, blinded by the flash of energy, dove valiantly, but in vain, only scraping the fold of the leather as it careened past his fingertips and billowed the back of the Blue's net.

It was the killer blow, and Gov soon made the rout complete with a close range shot to make the 3-0 drubbing complete. Although the Blues pressed hard for a consolation in the dying minutes, the game was won, the victory taken, the spoils celebrated, scorers praised, and an alcohol fuelled euphoria waiting to take hold and linger.

After 2 seasons of building and consolidation, nothing short of silverware will mark the fulfilment of the potential this team possesses, and anything less will be a cruel stain on every Jaffa.

ANU Div 6 Pelicans 4 : Our Bitches 0 By Andrew Nesbitt

The Pelicans fronted up on a typical winters day at Willows to take on Belwest, one of only two sides to take points from us after Dawson's infamous "it's in the bag" call. Knowing that we were to have the unusual luxury of a full squad available we decided to take the term "full strength" to the next level with virtually everyone out on the gas the night before. After punishing the porcelain with some nasty PGB's Srema, Sweaty and CoatC declared themselves 'fit' to play and didn't seem to view the can't walk in a straight line issue as a problem.

ANU looked dangerous from kick off and the first chance fell to Benny who produced a good shot (by good I mean on target) that was saved by the opposition's stylish keeper. I wasn't really watching the first goal but I understand someone played a through ball to somebody else (Srema I think) who put it past the keeper. While not watching I did see that this was definitely not a one on one - it couldn't have been! As our leading scorer again proved his lack of Dawson deadliness inside the six yard box failing to convert two more chances against the fluro green hat wearing bandit.

The aforementioned bandit again denied the man playing on no sleep, although this time undeservedly so as a cracker of a free kick was just tipped onto the cross bar. Unlucky.

Any Belwest possession was quickly shut down by an ever efficient Pitto, a fired up Totally and Eu Jern who had a great game despite looking lost on the field as his Bitch didn't show up. More domination couldn't provide another goal and the score stayed at 1 nil until halftime.

Turps' brief, but direct and fair half time speech of 'these guys are shit' seemed to fire us all up and Mr Hamstring himself led from the front unleashing a cracker from about 25 yards into the top corner. The fact that he was aiming for the other corner didn't seem to hinder his outrageous celebration.

The Pelicans continued to dominate their bitches and another free kick was soon awarded. Srema stepped up and put another great shot on goal with the keeper diving low and presenting the ball on a platter for one B. Nicholls who slotted home a typical poachers goal for ANU's third.

At this point we should digress a little to discuss some disturbing late breaking news in relation to Mr Nicholls. After scoring one of the worst goals of his career (and there has been a few) after tapping in from 87cm Nicholls later attempted to put through an even uglier goal off the field. After a few pints of fine lager, Benny plucked up the courage to move onto the dance floor. Observers looked on in horror as he began to move in on the two local pensioners with an estimated combined age of 117. Watching Gladiator in the nude is one thing but waking up facing a woman older than your mother is just not cricket. Luckily our young Nicholls was saved by a caring fellow Pelican, who in dragging him kicking and screaming from his elderly admirers saved him from total embarrassment and a variety of diseases.

Back to the game... The fourth goal involved some good team passing and some handy skills from a now sober Srema who dribbled past a few defenders and slotted home from an acute angle, naturally there were again a few defenders in the way preventing it from being a one on one.

Overall, a strong performance from all involved as the Pelicans remain 4 points clear at the top.

STATE LEAGUE 2 - MATCH REPORT V LANYON By Pete Baker

The conditions that the players of SL2 experienced last Saturday is what every soccer player dreams of in Canberra: Playing at Calwell oval in the deep south with no wind, no rain, a dry pitch, straight as a die line markings, dressing rooms and a capable referee like Pierluigi Collina.

As I mentioned earlier it was a dream and this dream didn't come close to reality. Though we did get into a dressing room which had heaters and showers (and the water, by all accounts at the end of the game, was hot - always a bonus!).

Conditions as one can expect at Calwell were atrocious. Reality sux.

To the match itself. We won the toss and decided to go with the wind. From the outset one could tell that the ref wasn't going to give us any favours. In the first 5 mins Dick was upended, there were two handballs, all ignored by the ref. Anyway, we were creating a lot of our attack from the flanks. As usual our finishing let us down. Finally we opened the scoring through

Channers, who finished off a well constructed move. We should have been two up a short time later but unfortunately, it wasn't to be. Though that miss may be nominated for 'miss of the season' category.

At halftime we led 1-0. Coach Rob was pretty happy with our first half performance, though it was going to be tough in the second against the wind. Lanyon started better in the second and caused a few problems for the defence but as the half wore on we took control of the game. Andy Molloy on the right flank was causing Lanyon all sorts of problems with his pace and provided the attackers with several scoring opportunities. Midway through the half we extended our lead. Luckily for us the referee ignored the zero tolerance rule when Andy Allan was well and truly cleaned up from behind and was not even given a free kick. The muffled words from Andy I think were 'for f%\$# sake'. A few of the Lanyon players chased the ref and yelling out at him 'you heard that, you heard that, he's got to go'. He must have been enforcing his advantage rule on that one. Lanyon got lucky and pegged one back. It was one of the jammiest goals you will ever see. Failure to communicate in our box, one of the Lanyon players just gets his toe on the ball and everyone painfully watched the ball trickle over the line. Soon after we, or rather I, put the game beyond the reach of Lanyon with a well struck shot to the keepers right (I hate to blow my own trumpet, but what the heck it was a damn good shot - even the coach agreed who said afterwards that I wouldn't have scored a goal like that since the U 15's).

Final score 3-1 to the good guys.

Players player Pete Baker, Scott Channing and Andy Molloy.



Special Report

Premiership pull on the world's great dictators

Marina Hyde
Monday July 26, 2004
The Guardian

Ah, the footballing community. Mohamed Al Fayed, Roman Abramovich, Freddy Shepherd . . . what is it that attracts such fine men to its loving embrace? Hard to say exactly, but news that Colonel Gadafy fancies buying Crystal Palace reminds us that it may well be a beautiful game but it has got some fairly minging pictures in its attic.

Of course you can see what would draw old Muammar to Selhurst Park - not only would the south London ground make a handy launch for shorter-range missiles, but his son Al-Saadi - currently at Perugia - might be in with the remotest chance of starting at least once in his career.

So although the Thai premier's bid for Liverpool has been rebuffed, it is rumoured that along with Gadafy there are still plenty of political figures itching to crown their careers by entering the shark-infested waters of English football. Political figures with what the Palace chairman Simon Jordan thoughtfully described as "a degree of stigma" attached, but figures we should none the less regard as an adornment.

Saddam Hussein

Though currently in what might be described as a period of flux, the deposed Iraq leader is mooted to have expressed an interest in Leeds. Concerns he would squander any club funds on profligate vanity projects seem to have melted away. After all, as one insider pointed out, "he's hardly Ridsdale". Further attractions are believed to be the fact he could hide any number of WMD in opponents' six-yard boxes without fear of detection.

Kim Jong-il

Pyongyang to the Ar-sen-al! Factors inclined to make the club name look favourably on his offer include the fact that the North Korean leader has his own train for away matches. May, however, be unwilling to share it with high-spirited Gunners. Any purchase would result in yet another strip change, which would most probably see the introduction of grey shorts topped by a zip-up grey top. At this stage fears that fans will fail to take the new look to their bosom and team it with traditional pub attire of jeans and white Reebok Classics look unfounded. After all, have you seen their current away strip?

Margaret Thatcher

Bit hazy, this one. The former prime minister has expressed interest in buying West Ham but suddenly can't remember the reason why. Never mind, it'll turn up - along with her reading glasses no doubt.

General Augusto Pinochet

It has long been an open secret in Premiership circles that the former Chilean dictator considered an audacious bid for Manchester United in the early 90s. That offer was shelved for two reasons - the general's suspicion that being associated with United fans might harm his image and his belief that Alex Ferguson was "too unpleasantly dictatorial" to work with. Pinochet now has his eye on Millwall, apparently as he fancies playing his old mate Margaret in local derbies.

George Bush

The US president just has his mawkish little Texan heart set on purchasing Manchester City. It's not just that there is oil under Eastlands, but it is something his daddy half completed 14 years ago and it seems like "the right thing to do". Is considering renaming the East Stand in honour of the old man - possibly along the lines of the This Will Not Stand. Business-wise, up till now, his dealings have tended to be reviewed by what we might call a "home ref" so it remains to be seen how he would deal with the probity required by Fifa president Sepp Blatter. Oh, wait . . .

Ayatollah Ali Khamenei

Initially dismissed as a silly season flier - largely on the basis that he was likely to have quite a lot on politics-wise over coming months - the Iranian supreme leader has come back into the running for Man United. Ferguson's hardline approach suggests he would be kept on, though it admittedly wouldn't be the greatest of news for the players' wives who would likely discern a slight change in their status.

The Burmese military junta

Readers of football runes hint that, if Myanmar do manage to land Spurs, they are unlikely to foster a collegiate atmosphere for decision making among the team. In the event of a successful purchase, vocal shareholders would be advised that if they do not like the way the club is going they may find their social life curbed. Invest in a few years' worth of tinned food to be on the safe side.

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