
SCUM

WE ARE SERIOUS AT THE ANU FC

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8 September 2004

Finals Fever

- PL Reserves (in the Grand Final) **won** 3-0 v O'Connor Knights
- Division 1 *lost* 1-2 v White Eagles
- *This Saturday at Hawker Enclosed at 2.30pm: Division 1 v Queanbeyan City*
- Division 2 (eliminated) *lost* 2-0 v O'Connor Knights
- Division 4 (in the Grand Final) **won** 5-4 (penalties) v Olympic
- Division 6 (in The Grand Final) **won** 2-1 v Canberra City
- Division 7 Blue **won** 4-0 v Canberra City
- Division 7 Orange *lost* 1-2 v Radford.
- *This Saturday at O'Connor at 2.30pm: Division 7 Blue v Division 7 Orange*
- Masters *lost* 1-2 v Olympic
- *This Sunday at O'Connor at 10am: Masters v Burns FC*

Reminders

1. Presentation Night is on October 8. Get your tickets.
2. The S.C.U.M. Annual – containing some excellent reading and fun for the whole family, it is a tradition that predates the dinosaurs. Start thinking about **YOUR** contributions **NOW**. The deadline for contributions (including all **TEAM** contributions) has been set at *September 27*.

Reports

ANU 1 CANBERRA OLYMPIC 2

DEPLETED OLD FARTS SHADED BY OLYMPIC By The Dim Locator

Towards the end of the regular season ANU just managed to hold on to the Masters Div 2 championship against a Canberra Olympic side that recruited most of its SL4 runners-up squad to finish the season with a long string of victories. We finished 2 points clear of Olympic after seeing off Tuggeranong 6-0 last week. So the major semi-final playoff against Olympic was always going to be tough. It was made tougher by the departure of our two main strikers Karl and Liviu - Liviu being overseas for the duration of the finals and Karl being in Queensland for both weeks of the semis.

So we took the field at UCan with a makeshift forward line consisting of Miko and whoever wanted to play with him. Fortunately Miko has rediscovered his scoring touch recently - form which he continued in this game with a deft looped header into the corner of the net. This was not scored until after we had gone a goal down courtesy of a disconnected defensive pass early in the game which gifted Olympic the opener. After Miko equalised we had the better of the first half, creating a number of good opportunities that were narrowly missed by the likes of John Martin and Pete Baker.

The second half was more even with Olympic probably having slightly the better of the chances. They scored about 8 or 9 minutes after the resumption when one of their midfielders was allowed to slice right through the centre of our team like a knife through butter. That turned out to be the winning move as, despite our efforts, we were not able to get back on the scoresheet after that - oh how we missed Karl and Liviu. By and large we played pretty well, but we fell short against the team that has provided the strongest opposition this season in Div 2. Special commendation is deserved by Pete Baker who played his second full game for the weekend and was more full of running and effort at the end of ours than any of the other old farts. Next week we have to see off Burns Club to earn another crack at Olympic in the Grand Final, by which time we should at least have Karl back to even things up.

ANU PL RESERVES DEFEAT O'CONNOR AND MOVE INTO THE GRAND FINAL

ANU PL reserves defeated O'Connor 3-0 in the major semi to secure a birth in the reserve grade grand final. The game was a very tough one played in very wet conditions at Hawker on Sunday.

This game was probably one of the best team performances we have had all season and it was really pleasing to see the team produce a really good performance like this in a semi game.

From the opening whistle we looked solid and really took the game to O'Connor. The match was played at a very quick pace with both sides playing some nice football in heavy conditions. The first 20 minutes or so saw us put together some good football in attack that almost lead to a opening goal. Our opening goal was eventually scored by Super captain John Jenvey who headed home two goals on the day. The first goal was a header from a good corner by Maurice. Maurice curled the ball in and John rose high at the front post to head over the advancing keeper to give us the lead.

The goal was an important one as it put us in the box seat and meant O'Connor would have to chase the game. The second part of the first half was an even affair with the Knights and ANU trading blows and both sides having chances. Our defence was working over time and Graeme in goal was on his toes catching some good crosses and saving some hard shots.

At the break 1-0 up we were looking forward to coming out in the second for more. The second half started well for us and we were rewarded with two good goals. Captain John Jenvey got the second from a good header that left the Knights keeper stranded and the third was scored by Brin Pender who hit a great shot into the roof of the net that almost broke the stitching.

O'Connor tried to get back into the game but it was our day and we were very happy to secure the win and get a grand final birth.

From a coaching perspective I was really impressed by my teams performance and I feel very proud and honoured to have such a good team of players. We work well as a unit and all the boys give 100% each game and as a team they fully deserve their success.

We have this week off and look forward to the grand final in two weeks.

SL 4 "LOS MUCHACHOS" V OLYMPIC

The scene was set for some bone crunching (Phil's bones we found out latter), heart pounding action as the Muchachos prepared to re-state their place as the true and noble champions of SL4. In their first encounter the undisciplined Olympic thugs were thumped 4-0 by the Muchachos after one of their team couldn't control his emotions and was shown red. In their second encounter, with a ref that forgot his whistle, el coach absent and Olympic resorting once again the thuggery and dirty tactics the Muchachos succumbed to an unlucky one nil defeat.

The Game: Los Muchachos saw more than their fair share of the action and created several chances but failed to convert. Olympic had no answers for Liam's skill on the ball thus frequently resorted to late challenges and taking out his legs. In fact, the Muchachos had Olympic chasing them so much that one player was heard to say - "I can't run anymore, you know I've got to play Masters tomorrow".

A highlight was our small but cunning Teabag fairly crunching Olympic's wannabe pretty boy striker. The Russian surveyed the chaos of his tackle and couldn't hide a little grin before running back into position.

Olympic's little chubby defender seemed to have a thing for Jarra - at first I thought it was just marking up tightly, but it was when play stopped for injuries (- a highlight - the two Olympic strikers blinded my Nicko's skill running smack bang into each other. - Mr chubby defender still couldn't stay away.

With ANU down 1-0 and attempts to convert the chances they created eluding them, Phil saw an opportunity. On an ANU corner Phil ensured he was marked by one of Olympics dirtiest - knowing all too well what would follow. Phil jumped for the header and held his breath in anticipation and a full second latter the Olympic player tried to disguise his head butt straight to Phil's face as an uncoordinated attempt at playing the ball. The result, blood pouring down Phil's face from his cheek bone being slit and his nose - mangled and sitting further off to one side. Despite his gruesome injuries Phil retained his focus and thought proudly about the sacrifice he had made for the team as the ref pointed to the spot. Liam confidently stepped up, and struck the ball with low, hard precision, leaving the keeper only watching his demise. And with that, ANU were back in the game. Well, that's how Phil would report it. The coach's predictions that the first thing out of Phil's mouth after his trip to hospital would be about him 'taking one for the team' were spot on. Nevertheless Phil, we salute your sacrifice. Later Liam reported the comments of Phil's assailant "Is the blond guys alright? I didn't mean to get him like that" - Just in case there was any doubt about maliciousness of the act. Once again, it was the lack of discipline of Olympic - their resort to foul play in desperation that cost them dearly.

Finally in the second half, Alex was given the opportunity to take the field - but there was one problem. The centimetre of black bike pants protruding below his shorts seemed to upset the assistant referees ideals of colour co-ordination, and despite Alex protests that they were in fact the only underwear he was wearing, the pants had to go.

After that Olympic started to fall apart and it was clear that either los Muchachos would score or the game would go into extra time. Unfortunately ANU didn't manage to wrap up the game in extra time and we were taken to penalties - what finals football is all about.

Liam having bravely taken over the role of El Capitan after the bloody demise of our beloved Phil chose the most confident penalty takers. I'm sure he made the right decision by not involving Canada after their conversation: "I've only taken two and missed them both. The last one lost the city championship back home." A no would have communicated the idea just as well mate...

We all waited with bated breath - while we had absolute confidence in the sure and steady hands of our trusted keeper, we feared that there was a slight chance that the righteous champions would not prevail against the evil Olympic thugs. But then again, while you can resort to dirty tricks in a game, penalties rely on skill and discipline - an area in which Olympic was sorely lacking. Liam stepped up. Scored. Olympic player no 1 (oh well son, you did your best). Then our revered keeper threw his gloves to the ground in triumph and stepped up to the spot. Scored. Well, to cut it short - all our boys put them away nicely. Well done Liam, Nicko, Duncan, Alex and Gino.

All in all, it was the most exciting and heart pounding game of football I've even seen. And once again los Muchachos emerged triumphant. Well done boys, you deserved the win.

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