



Welcome to *The World Game*, I'm Les Murray. Our football feature this afternoon comes from the Victorian Masters League South East Region, where Beaumaris Vets defeated Ashburton 6 goals to 3 in the opening game of the season. What did you make of this one Fozzie?



Well, what can you say? This was football as it should be played and a lesson to all young players and A-League coaches. I've not produced so much ejaculate over a football match since Messi took apart Arsenal last month.



What struck you most about the style of Beaumaris's play?



Firstly, it was evident even before kick off that here is a club serious about its commitment to entertain. Gone were their old black shorts and socks, and out they came in a brand new blue kit. It signalled a change in attitude and it was proven as the game went on that the changes to this side are more than just cosmetic. They looked like a football team, and they played like a football team.



But it takes two teams to tango, Fozzie.



That's right Les and we must pay credit to Ashburton, who were dominant for various parts of the match. But the strength of Beaumaris was highlighted as much when they weren't in possession than when they were. They kept their shape and they didn't lose their heads. In fact, mid-way through the first half when Ashburton had their best period, Beauy was able to hit them on the counter and go 3-0 up. It was a brilliant exhibition of counter-attacking football.



So who stood out for you, Foz?



It's unfair to single out any one individual. It really was like there was a team of Messis all over the park. But if I have to name names, Manny Seisdedos marked himself as perhaps the player of the league this season. Traditionally he's played in the classic number

10 position just behind the strikers. However, due to the absence of Ising with injury, he played a more advanced role and he may well have found his perfect position as a striker. He didn't need to drop as deep to make any tackles and we all know he doesn't like to play that game anyway. And his finishing was clinical. A superb exhibition from one of the most talented players going around today. He was duly rewarded with his hat-trick, and it could have been even more if not for some inept refereeing.



*What about the injured player, Mottola I think his name is?*



Joe Mottola played what I think was probably his best game in a Beaumaris shirt before being hacked down. It was the only way Ashburton could stop him. In past seasons, Mottola has been criticised for being more style than substance; too indirect; a bit of a show pony; a player who doesn't like to do the hard work; a bit of a pain in the arse; the type of bloke who wears gay slippers instead of trainers. But on the weekend he shrugged off those criticisms and put in a career defining performance. Playing on the smooth, manicured surface at Ashburton certainly suited him and only time will tell if he can replicate this form on bumpier grounds. The big question remains whether he will still be as effective after the double amputation of his leg and arm.



*We wish Joe all the very best for a speedy recovery. Were there any weaknesses for you Fozzie?*



Their goalkeeper, Bruce. I'm sorry, but it's true. Here is a player who has played at the highest level and I'm sorry; but if you're gonna talk the talk, you gotta walk the walk. He promised to deliver a clean sheet and failed. Simple as that.



*But he produced some excellent saves in the first half to keep his side in front.*



I'm sorry, Les. He may well have. But you can't big yourself up only to let your team mates down. When I played at Portsmouth that was the biggest sin you could commit as a player. In all my years in the Socceros we all managed to keep level heads and leave our egos at the door. Bruce was removed at half time and actually left the ground, so I suspect there might be a bit more to it as well. Watch this space.



*But overall you were impressed with the performance?*



Undoubtedly. It was a technical and tactical masterclass. The only concern for me is - being the first game of the season - have they peaked too soon? Can they maintain this level of play throughout the season? If they can names like PK, Lynchy, Tel, Novella, Vidotto and Schultheis will be spoken of in the same breath as De Stefano, Puskas, Pele and Maradona and inspire generations of footballers for years to come.



*That's high praise, coming from a legend of the game such as yourself, Fozzie.*



It's no less than they deserve, Les. I'm sorry, but it's true. Whatever they are doing down at Beaumaris must be adopted as a national program around the country. It's clear that the Dutch experiment has failed and the Beauy approach is the new standard. I call upon the FFA to include the Beauy Vets in the A-League immediately to help arrest the slide in attendances. And if we are any chance of winning World Cup in my lifetime, we must look to Beaumaris Vets for the answers.



*Thank you for this week's wrap, Fozzie. Next we examine one of the biggest issues facing the game today. Should dinosaurs from the past be permitted to act as modern day football pundits? Or should they be left extinct in a fossilised form for football fans to ridicule for the rest of history? See you after the break.*