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# LAS BÓLAS DEL DOMINGO

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*"Where the truth never gets in the way of a good story..."*

Year 10, Volume 7,802

25-Feb-2007

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## New Goals Arrive to Tanjung Rhu Stadium...



Besides the pitch being in worse condition than usual (I should know, I have been playing there with **Olivier** for about 10 years now), there have been reports that the Singapore Swimming Club plans to take over the plot and build another sports complex there. Anyway, the holes at the sidelines are deeper, the rocks sticking out are bigger, and the goal lines have been replaced by large and deep ditches. And of course the rats and snakes have grown up and one almost ate Sergio up last Sunday.

**Marcelo** suggested that we take action against this proposal in true argentinian labor union style (blocking roads, setting tires on fire, disrupting traffic, getting in fights with the police and causing general mayhem) but in the end we decided that an "asado" (Barbecue) and a warm goodbye to the pitch would be more appropriate.

But at least for this game, we had brand new goal posts, and it was of course very fitting that I scored the first goal ever using the new technology. Two goals later we had already ripped the nets.

Probably the two biggest highlights of the game last Sunday were that .....

Firstly, we finally (we = el Patron Bermudez) purchased small goals so that we could finally have proper goals, and more importantly have fewer questionable goals by Olivier, who basically claims that any shot within 250 meters of the goal should count (in his favor).

Secondly, there was a vote by the Sunday Players Association and we decided by a margin of 6 votes in favor, 0 against and 1 abstention (Marcelo waiting to consult with Olivier before he makes up his mind) to move the next Sunday game to Bishan park, due to the poor condition of our Sunday pitch, and due to the weekly injuries we have seen since we started the game again. We all had sore ankles at the end of this game.



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Now back to the game: *there was actually only one team on the pitch, that dominated the whole game and won...and the other team barely showed up.* The final result was somewhere around 9-3, with yours truly as the top scorer with 5 goals. I would like to point out that **Alvaro Patron** scored only once during the whole game, despite having many chances and good passes from the **Hammer**. **Sergio**, as usual, the difficult shots he would score, but easy shots he would miss completely. He was surprisingly quiet during the game, but he came through (for the opposition) with his easy misses.

Arsenal: John el Bufalo, Kiko botas nuevas, Paul finally ran, and Phil Macho Camacho

The Hammers: The Patron Bermudez, Marcelo the Hammer, and Sergio “never miss a goal”.



Our strategy worked to perfection. *It was as follows -- Pass the ball around patiently, good build up, surround the opposition, and suddenly score with a lethal shot. Of course after all that passing we were exhausted. So once we the opposition put the ball back in player (of course after sufficient goal celebrations and abuse directed towards their lack of defense) we recovered the ball, and Kiko would kick it far away (very much in the Raimundo style, high, fast and totally out of control towards the jungle) in order to tire out the opposition who had to go retrieve the ball, and give our players a rest.*

The main reason the **Patron** scored so few times was his imminent fear of the red and white Santa Fe (the Arsenal of Colombia) shirt worn by **John the Bufalo Lilley**. He admitted he was intimidated by it, and recognized that his only real contribution to the game was to bring the new goalposts.

But my team had a specific strategy for victory and it worked quite well. In fact we won so easily that we were able to resort to a “walking only” strategy during the final 20 minutes of each half. Actually, that had more to do with the hot sun rather than a football strategy, but the facts can be altered a bit in the newsletter, right?



**Phil el Macho Camacho ....**

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**Phil Macho Camacho** (see picture above) contributed his running and passing skills to the strategy, the other players thought he was re-living his childhood, even to the point his mom...we mean his wife came to pick him up at the end of the game to take him home (and presumably to protect him from too much bad influence from other players...). **Paul** also decided to start running after being severely criticized the previous week for his rather relaxed style of play. He also contributed positively to putting together the goal posts (see top picture), though he did complain a couple of times that they were not Nike brand and he had to consult with his sponsor prior to playing.



And our friend **Kiko** the Peruvian put in a great game, with his new boots (of course they had to be pink and white, right?), and this time he didn't even use his handphone while playing. Apparently he had written down the shopping list the wife gave him earlier, so he didn't have to take the order during the game.

In the end we decided to end the game on a sad note when **Marcelo the hammer** was fouled violently by ....well, he kind of fell down on his own and twisted his ankle again. He first blamed it on another player, though he was simply chasing a ball out of play. Then he blamed the big hole in the pitch (there was none) and finally focused on the famous rock in the middle of the pitch (a different part of the pitch...so he decided it was the general state of the pitch.



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The above picture is mostly a show by our Hammer friend, who insisted on letting us know how much he was suffering but in reality we all knew better.

So in the end, it was another great game, but could possibly be one of the last at our beloved Estadio Olimpico Su excelencia el Embajador Julio Acosta on Tanjung Rhu. The pitch has become someone quite difficult to play and we have so many new players that they don't know where all the holes, rats, ditches, rocks and snakes are, so they tend to get injured rather easily.

But the football will continue, rain or shine, wherever we can find another pitch (presumably there is a nicer one in Bishan Park, according to some of our players). Maps will be sent out if we find it, and if we ever plan to do a closing ceremony at the current pitch we will let you know.

Until next Sunday,

The Editor

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