

Another Legend Leaves the Sunday Game....



The Sunday players returned to the venerable and beloved **Su Excelencia Don Julio Acosta Football stadium** in Tanjung Rhu to play the final testimonial game for our departing **star Sultan Olivier Exocet Crespin**.

16 football players and Marcelo returned to our old stadium to honor one of the founders of the Sunday football game, who has decided to sign a contract with the NY MLS team and leave Singapore after nearly 10 great years of football.

The return to Tanjung Rhu was a nostalgic trip to the past, which will probably not happen again, give the deplorable state of the pitch, which believe it or not, is a lot worse that what we remember over the past few years. We suspect the Singapore army has been using it for air bombing practice or at least tank practice, due to the large number of big holes and tire tracks around the pitch.

In any event, the game was played with great intensity (like a Libertadores Cup final) within the Gaza strip, a narrow area of the pitch where the players could actually run slowly without breaking their ankles or significantly damaging their knees.

The teams...



Team White shirts: Marcos y sus dos hijos, Eduardo Venezuela, Phil Macho Camacho y su hija, Raimundo, Paul, Jarko, Sergio Pasarrella and his bees, Alejandro, Olivier y sus hijas.

Team Color Shirts: Marcelo Hammer, Sebastian Roman Riquelme, Luis ex-Borracho, Eduardo Espana, Sergio Mexico, Gerardo Zimbabwe, Olivier, El Capitan, Felipe Ronald McDonald.

According to the scoreline, it was 4-3 for the White Team.

Some of the highlights of the game included....



Sebastian taking the ball down the Pebble Bay side of the pitch and falling into one of the bomb craters and attacked by a several ferocious crocodiles. He survived but never returned to that part of the pitch again.

Note in the picture to the left how deep he was into the grass, for a while we could only see the top of his head as he struggled out of the jaws of the attacking reptiles.

An interesting psychological phenomenon, all the older players returned to their old behavior and bad habits that we thought they had left behind, but the magic of the Tanjung Rhu stadium brought them all back.... Here are a few examples...

LAS BOLLAS DEL DOMINGO



Raimundo was back to his old tricks of kicking the ball madly into the Jungle side of the pitch, several times the ball went so far that we had to take a taxi all the way to Marina South to retrieve the ball. Old timers remember that we spent a lot of money on taxi fares when Raimundo decided to shoot.

The picture to the left, well, **Raimundo** decided to play on all fours for part of the game in an effort to give the other team an advantage. *After getting tired of being a dog he stood up and started walking again.*

Paul seems to only run when he plays in Tanjung Rhu, preferring to rest or play walking football when he is in Bishan. There were at least 3 eyewitnesses players who can testify that Paul actually RAN during the game, and did so more than once.



Luis ex-borracho (number 10 in the picture to the left) did the usual, playing very actively for 20 minutes and then vanishing. He also was involved in one of the more amusing plays of the game. **Olivier** was running to score the crowning goal of the game all by himself with 3 minutes left in the game, no defenders, when **Luis ex-borracho** woke up, ran all the way across the field and managed to catch Olivier when he was ready to score the winning goal and prevented the moment of glory.



Jarko was ..well **Jarko** the mad Finn, many times forcing the opposing team to make bad passes because his hairstyle matched **Sebastian's** hair style.

In the picture to the left all players are totally confused, trying to identify which of the jumping heads belonged to **Seba** and which one to **Jarko**.

Finally, the picture to the right is not an old one or an altered one using a photography editing software, it turns out that... **Eduardo Zubillaga**, actually showed up to the game. He claims that he plays on another team on Saturday that pays him a lot more, but his wife told us later that actually he is scared by the report of high quality football in Bishan..



Alejandro van Bic had a quiet game by his standards, with no blatant handballs. Actually he played well, but usually I get my reports on **Alejandro** from *my spy on the pitch*, but this week *the spy* reported nothing special. The only innovation from **Alejandro** this week was *his interest in practicing his goal celebrations at the beginning of the game*.

He told me he wanted to make sure I captured him celebrating the likely 2 to 3 goals he would be scoring during the game. Rumor has it that he did not score, though the editor believes he was involved in every single goal..

LAS BÓLAS DEL DOMINGO

In the end Olivier did score a magnificent goal in the best style of Lionel Messi and it is recorded here, and we hope that when he moves to NY he continues to score many goals.



Oli takes the ball



Oli leaves Alejandro behind



Oli nasses Sergio



Gooooooool de Olivier.....



Eduardo polishes his shoes



Final Celebration



In the end, the game loses Boca Juniors longest serving supporter in Singapore, but fortunately we have found someone as crazy as Olivier.

The mantle will be passed on to **Sebastian Roman Riquelme Sucri**, to defend the blue and gold, much in the way it was defended in the past by some of our glorious football players like **Conrado Solari Yrigoyen, Victor Verdejo, Mariano Reisin, and Olivier himself.**

Thanks to all the players who showed up on Sunday to say goodbye to the founding father of the Sunday football game. The game will now shift permanently to Bishan, given the sad state of the Tanjung Rhu pitch. Even all the old timers accepted the fact that it has ceased to be a swamp where one could occasionally play football, and now it is more of a lunar crater, or a bombing practice center of the Singapore military forces.



Gracias Olivier

And we will miss you...

**- The editor, the football
players...**

Ahi esta....

The editor.