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SOCCER NEWS

April 2, 1960

• First Division North

Taking into account the previous strengths of the three clubs forming the South Melbourne-Hellas combine, they are clear favourites for a State League berth in 1961. With over 50 players in training it is sure that they will field an exceptionally strong team.

However, today's opponents, Croatia, were photo-finished out of last year's premiership and will be a real threat to South Melbourne. The winner of today's clash could well derive the confidence necessary to sustain them to a flag-winning finish.

Coburg have maintained a good standard for several seasons and it would not be beyond their capabilities to upset some of the bigger names in this league. Sicilia will be all the better for

having a season of 1st Division experience behind them and they will give a better account of themselves than many people imagine. Moonee Ponds and Fiorentina, both promoted from the 2nd Division, will be eager to show that their success last year was no fluke, and can be relied upon to thoroughly test the opposition. Sunshine City and Maccabi have never been asked to beat and this season should be no exception.

BEST EVER SEASON?

SECOND DIVISION

• NORTH

Victorian Soccer is heading for its greatest season ever, and the teams in the 2nd Division North will be out to prove their ability.

Many teams are rebuilding and the potential has not yet been fully realised. By now the teams in this league will have played their practice matches and will have assessed the form of new recruits. The promotion and relegation chances of the teams can only be assumed on the results of last season's matches, and this season's friendly games.

To date those teams with hope of success this year are, Norlane-Olympia, Lions and St. Albans.

These teams are all following on the successes of last season and their practice match results have been pleasing.

Essendon must be included in the teams with chances of promotion this year. They have filled the vacant places left by the transferring of star players—Glover Matthews and Suttie to a State League club.

Two juniors players with hopes of making the senior team this year are—Paul Daiman and Jim Proven.

Collingwood, if they can reproduce the end of season form shown last year, will be the dark horse of the 2nd. Division North.

The main matches today are between St. Albans and

Lions, and Essendon and Seymour. In both these games the promotion favourites will be fully tested, and the games should be thrillers. Likely winners are Lions and Essendon.

In the remaining games the form of certain teams will be assessed. Heidelberg meet Williamstown at Heidelberg, and this match could well develop into a titanic struggle and the result could be a draw.

Collingwood play I.C.I. and must be favourites to win, while in the remaining game, Norlane-Olympia meet Fairfield. The home team should win but will be thoroughly tested.

• SOUTH

The Clubs in this league will be striving to gain promotion and to avoid relegation

One can at this stage draw a rough conclusion of the chances of various teams, and if their practice match results are any indication, their standard of soccer will be high.

Frankton, Oakleigh, and North Richmond could well fight our promotion chances. The main testing teams for these clubs will be Bayswater and Ferntree Gully who always figure in surprise results.

All the teams in the 2nd Division South have been recruiting and the standard of players which have joined the clubs is very high.

Frankton expect to have

STATE LEAGUE --- NEXT STOP!

Says DON SUTHERLAND

Corio are difficult to evaluate but can be relied upon to turn in some good performances, particularly on their own ground.

University, the third team to be promoted from the 2nd Division, may find this grade a bit tough, but with a young energetic team will be capable of surprises.

Today's likely winners are South Melbourne - Hellas, Sunshine City, Coburg, Sicilia, and, perhaps, Moonee Ponds.

In the other match the result is hard to forecast as both teams have played well in all their practice matches and both are confident of winning—a draw would be a pleasing result to this game.

• 1st Division South

The key to a good competition is evenly-matched contestants, and followers of 2nd Division South have these in plenty.

Richmond, runners-up last year, are sure to give a good account of themselves, while their opponents today, ex-State League team, Geelong, will be a real threat to all premiership ambitions.

Sandringham City may prove to be the "dark horse" of this league, but their class will be thoroughly tested today when they travel to Yalourn, who would need to show only a little improvement to be real contenders for the flag.

Brighton had a disappointing year in 1959 and will be unleashing a real effort this season in a bid to regain their former glories.

Dandenong have become well entrenched in 1st Division and their solidity will give plenty of headaches to opposing teams.

Austria with a new ground at Elwood Reserve, and a large number of players in training, will be much improved this year and are sure to have more wins than losses in their bag at the season's end.

South Yarra, Prahran, and Park Rangers have a real job ahead of them to improve on last year's performances in what is now probably a stronger competition, but all of these clubs have a great tradition of fighting spirit and will prove worthy opponents throughout the season.

It is difficult to pick winners at this early stage, but if you don't shoot you won't score so my selections today are: Richmond, Sandringham City, Austria, Brighton, and South Yarra.

Two important matches will be played today between Rosebud and Frankton and Moorabbin, and, Ferntree Gully at Rosebud and Moorabbin respectively.

These matches are important as they will help to show whether the form of three mediocre teams last year has improved.

April 30, 1960.

SOCCER NEWS

Page 1

'I Was There'

By STAN STACEY

J.U.S.T. 2, POLONIA 2. J.U.S.T. and Polonia played the best game of the season for a good draw last Saturday.

Treating the crowd to "real-stuff" soccer, both sides are to be congratulated.

End-to-end tussles saw the game go all one way before finally finishing level.

Polonia through Dudon and Biro appeared to have an unbeatable lead 15 minutes from time.

Polonia reckoned without the never-say-die spirit of J.U.S.T.

Beattie and Vollman scored to equalise.

The Polonia team can hang their heads for not snatching both points.

They dropped back on to defence instead of pressing on for more goals.

J.U.S.T. made hard work of it—several times in the first half they should have scored.

JUVENTUS 2, PRESTON 0.

Juventus seemed to be untroubled to beat the leg-wary Prestonites.

Using all the tricks of the game, Juventus took their time before netting enough goals to win comfortably.

Bottori scored from a penalty and Barazza netted the second goal.

Preston, apart from goalkeeper Djukic, were unbalanced as a team, and several players just didn't make the grade.

Beware, Preston! Take action now before it's too late!

Welcome back Doc!

Dr. C. Walker, vice-president of V.S.A.F.A. and president of Polonia S.C., wishes to thank through "Soccer News" all his soccer friends who wished him well for a speedy recovery recently.

He has now completely recovered and is back to soccer business.

• SOUTH

Ferntree Gully and Frankston at the top of the ladder, with 9 points each have opened up a clear lead of two points over the Peninsular team Rosebud. Each team scored five goals last Saturday, Ferntree Gully without reply and Frankston with two against

Bayswater will have a formidable task scoring goals against the solid rock-like defence of Ferntree Gully, while the Gully's attack should score enough goals to improve their percentage.

Croydon by drawing with Rosebud last week achieved the hat-trick. This week they will have to play extremely well against Moorabbin to avoid defeat. Moorabbin last week with a shock win away over F.N.D. proved they have finally found their match winning form. I predict a close game with a likely win to Croydon.

Frankston meet Oakleigh in the match of the day. This promises to be rough and tempers may fray before the end. First goal scored could indicate the likely winner.

My tip to Oakleigh is to attack down the middle of the ground with the likelihood of breaking away and scoring a goal. Frankston's defence weakness is in the middle of the ground. It is hoped that a referee officiates at this game to avoid trouble.

It is reported that Frankston have had only two referees out of five matches this season.

Rosebud meet Makedonia in another tense and exciting game with the likely winner being Rosebud.

In the remaining match F.N.D. will be struggling to gain both points at home against North Richmond. A draw could result.

My selections are:—Rosebud, Croydon, Ferntree Gully, Frankston, with a draw likely between F.N.D. and North Richmond.

Second Division Notes

by Russell Lea



• NORTH

Lions again continued their winning run when they defeated Seymour 6-0. With a solid defence and a close-knit attack they've already scored 32 goals with none against them. They've opened up a three point lead at the top of the ladder.

Match of the day is between I.C.I. and Lions and although Lions appear to be walking away with the championship, a surprise could result from this game. I.C.I. on their own ground could make valuable use of the usual strong wind and upset the visitors by taking a point.

Norlane-Olympia and Collingwood will be out to improve their goals average against Essendon and Heidelberg respectively. The number of goals scored against these two bottom teams will be hard to anticipate but not the results.

Fairfield meet Williamstown at home and they're improving with each match; they've won two games, I do not think they're capable of the "Seasiders".

In the remaining game select St. Albans Seymour because of ground advantage.

My selections for matches are:—

Norlane-Olympia, wood, Williamstown, bars, with a draw between I.C.I. and

LOOK FOR

Next week we bring an exclusive story of footed League written by well-known pic athlete Mike "Flash" Agostini. Also pictures of Sandi Aspendale junior tea

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May 21, 1960.

SOCCER NEWS

Page Thirteen

Second Division Notes

by Russell Lea

• NORTH

Last week's shocking conditions prevented the playing of good soccer. Two matches were cancelled and in the remaining games the results are an indication of the poor conditions prevailing.

Although Lions won 2-0 against Norlane-Olympia, the score did not indicate the good standard of their play. A higher score on a fine day in Lion's favour would have been more correct.

In the match of the day Collingwood scraped home from Williamstown by 3-2. Despite their defeat, Williamstown played well.

The state of the ground helped Heidelberg run Seymour to a close game. If these poor conditions prevail throughout the season, Heidelberg could win matches. If it is wet again this week there could be some real upsets.

Williamstown play St. Albans in the match of the day at Williamstown. Williamstown is a heavier and more robust team and on a wet ground could cause an upset by defeating St. Albans.

In another very interesting match, Lions play Collingwood. Although I select Lions to win, Collingwood, who have not lost this season, will be out to prove their superiority.

Two even matches will be played between I.C.I. and Norlane-Olympia and Seymour and Fairfield. Home ground advantage should be enough to give victory in both cases.

Essendon and Heidelberg, who have not won a match this season, meet at Essendon. This should be close but I fancy Heidelberg will win.

Likely to win: WILLIAMSTOWN, LIONS, I.C.I. SEYMOUR, HEIDELBERG.

• SOUTH

Bad weather forced the postponement of three matches last week, including the match of the day between

Frankston and Ferntree Gully.

Today, if the grounds have dried out sufficiently, all matches should be played, otherwise the season may be lengthened indefinitely.

Main match played last week resulted in a draw between F.N.D. and Makedonia. The other between Rosebud and Bayswater also was a draw.

Today's matches will see teams who are closely placed on the ladder. The highlight will be between Ferntree Gully and Rosebud and although Rosebud drew last week, the condition of the ground did not help them. Rosebud should draw today, but if it is a dry ground, they should win.

Makedonia meet Croydun in what should be an even match. Croydun probably will win but the margin will be small.

Top of the ladder, Frankston, meet lowly North Richmond and should win comfortably. They'll be out to score goals and build up their percentage.

In the other matches, Oakleigh should beat F.N.D. and Moorabbin probably will beat Bayswater. Bayswater, who gained a point last week, look like improving, but I can't see them defeating Moorabbin.

My selections are: CROYDUN, FRANKSTON, OAKLEIGH, MOORABBIN to win, and a possible draw between Ferntree Gully and Rosebud.

* Last Monday morning—the busiest day of Association Secretary Stuart Beaton—he was scrutinizing referees' reports and morning correspondence. He also received a first-hand report of how things are going on the home front. Mrs. Anne Beaton was in the office, with daughter Alyson, to deliver the despatch personally. Between the results, pools and other duties, Stuart is so busy at the week-end that his family rarely sees him.

SOCCER PROBE BY U.K. POLICE

England's 1960 soccer season ended in an atmosphere of scandal and unconfirmed rumours of widespread "rigging" of matches, with police called in by one club.

Matt Busby, well-known manager of Manchester United, this week called for both the Football Association and the English Football League to investigate stories of "rigged" matches.

His own club was accused of "throwing" its match at Highbury on April 23, when Arsenal won 5-2. "Utter nonsense," said United's skipper, Dennis Viollet.

And Busby declared: "The situation has reached such a pitch that any team that loses is in danger of being accused of throwing the match."

Police were called in at Oldham, a few miles north-east of Manchester, but after taking statements from five players of the Oldham Athletic club decided to take no further action.

Shocked Oldham players—it is a Fourth Division club which finished the season at the bottom of the table—denied suggestions of "match fixing."

Following an incident at Olympic Park last Sunday, Alec Beattie (J.U.S.T.) has been in the Alfred Hospital for three days under observation for a suspected fractured nose.

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May 28, 1960.

SOCCER NEWS

Second Division Notes

by Russell Lea

• SOUTH

Today marks the opening round of the Dockerty Cup. Six Second Division South teams have drawn opponents and the remaining four have byes to the second round.

This is the only time of the year when we can compare the standard of teams in this league with teams in other leagues.

It is quite possible for five teams in the Second South to win through to the second round of the cup. Only one team faces stern opposition—Moorabbin—who play Yallourn at Yallourn.

Perhaps the best match will be between I.C.I. and Frankston at I.C.I. I.C.I. who are in the middle of the ladder in the Second Division North, are stern cup fighters and will be out to inflict Frankston's first defeat of the season.

Makedonia, Moorabbin, and Flinders Naval Depot, play three Latrobe Valley teams—Morwell, Yallourn and Moe United.

As all three teams are away from home, it is hard to pick a Second South team for victory as one must take into consideration the fact that the teams they are playing are respectively unknown quantities. I tip the three Latrobe Valley teams—Morwell, Yallourn and Moe United to win.

Ferntree Gully and North Richmond should have wins against Essendon and Bendigo respectively, but the positions of these teams on their respective ladders must



Soccer Star Play for Not

Tall Italian Marcello Svoronich has Apia-Leichhardt (N.S.W.), he does penny for playing soccer this season

Svoronich, 30, is one of the most talented Soccer players ever to come to Australia.

His attitude will surprise other Soccer stars who have demanded big money guarantees from clubs.

Svoronich is grateful to Apia, which spent £560 to bring his wife and two children, Ariell (11), and Fabio (6), to Australia by ship a month ago.

Svoronich is so happy in Australia he has rejected a four-figure offer to return to

Italy to first division

He feels future for He has siastic app job as ma Social Clu

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Frankston Win — Lose Points

Frankston beat North Richmond 2-1 on May 21, but lost the points and were fined £2 by the Disciplinary Committee for fielding player L. A. Lindsay, who is still registered with Lions.

The absence of Frankston's Secretary for several weeks through illness was considered by the Committee to have been a mitigating circumstance which saved the club from a heavier fine.

The Committee ordered that player Lindsay be summoned to appear at a subsequent meeting.

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towards the promotion chances of various teams. Collingwood consolidated their position on the second rung of the ladder by beating St. Albans 1-1 in the only League match played last week. Today they face another hard match against I.C.I. at Deer Park. Their position on the ladder does not indicate I.C.I.'s strength, and they could go close to tossing Collingwood home.

Lions play St. Albans in another good game. Lions have been battered by top teams for weeks on end, and just be feeling the strain of several hard games. Although fourth on the ladder, St. Albans play a much better standard of soccer and they could go close to defeating Lions.

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SWEET

SOCCER NEWS

June 4, 1960.

Second Division Notes

by Russell Lea



Fairfield and Norlane-Olympia, fresh from their successful games in the Dockerty Cup, meet in what should be a close game at Fairfield. The Geelong team have a sound attack and average defence, but Fairfield can be relied upon to cause any upset when necessary.

In the remaining games victory appears remote to Heidelberg and Essendon as they play away to two good teams in Williamstown and Seymour respectively.

My selections are—Collingwood, Lions, Norlane-Olympia, Williamstown, Seymour.

● SOUTH

Second Division South teams fared well against their opponents in the first round of the Dockerty Cup. F.N.D. overcame stern opposition from Moe United to win 1-0.

North Richmond and Frankston had comfortable victories at the expense of Bendigo United and I.C.I. respectively, while Ferntree Gully overwhelmed unfortunate Essendon 10-0.

In the other matches, Moorabbin City and Makadonia, although losing to Yalourn and Morwell respectively, creditably accounted for themselves, and left the opposition with a clear picture of the standard of this league.

League matches return to the forefront this week with Ferntree Gully replacing Frankston at the top of the

ladder. This loss of points by Frankston could endanger their promotion chances, but I feel they'll gain further points today, even though they play Rosebud in the match of the day.

If Rosebud are to win they could immediately force themselves back into calculations for promotion.

No other match seems to have any effect on the promotion chances of any teams unless there is a surprise.

Ferntree Gully should down Moorabbin and keep their position at the top of the ladder, whilst at the other end bottom team Bayswater meets F.N.D. At home, Bayswater should be able to gain at least a point, but if they can't, they'll almost certainly be doomed to relegation. It is not too late, Bayswater!

Oakleigh meet the "drawing" specialists, Croydon, and another draw appears likely.

In the remaining game, goal-shy North Richmond plays Makadonia. To win, North Richmond must score goals, but I can't see this happening today.

Likely winners — Frankston, Ferntree Gully, F.N.D., Makadonia, and a draw between Oakleigh and Croydon.

★ ★ ★ PRACTICE MATCH

A match between Australia and Czechoslovakia, will take place tomorrow at 10.30 a.m. on Slavia's ground. Any player interested should join this practice game in preparation for the World Cup series.

SOCCER PLAYERS and SPECTATORS
be of smart appearance by visiting

MILAN MIENKOVIC

team.

There are only two Second North representatives in the third round of the Dockerty Cup. St. Albans meets Yalourn at home, and they could upset the First Division South representative.

Likely winners today:—
League — I.C.I. Dockerty Cup — St. Albans.

● SOUTH

Moorabbin beat Rosebud 4-1, confirming my surprise selection last week. They are now three points ahead of the second bottom team, F.N.D., who were overwhelmed 5-0 by Frankston..

Ferntree Gully and Frankston continue to press their way undaunted towards First Division South status. Although Ferntree Gully won, Croydon were not disgraced.

Two League matches will be played today. Moorabbin meet Oakleigh at home and after their excellent victory last week could again cause an upset, this time by defeating the third top team.

Four Second Division South teams are still left in the third round of the Dockerty Cup. Rosebud plays Frankston in an inter-

will provided and see how you fare with the experts.

At the end of the season the "Soccer News" "King of the Tipsters" award will be made to the leading tipster.

League match which will be the "Derby" of the Neninsula. Frankston should beat Rosebud, but as they are both Cup fighters, the match could go into extra time.

Croydon, who play Macabi, could surprise the Jewish combine, who sadly miss Izzy Peters, who recently retired after 14 years' service to Jewish soccer. However, to win, Croydon must watch Ressler, former State League star, who has been in fine form in recent weeks.

"The Flying Dutchmen" meet formidable opposition in the South Melbourne-Hellas combine. Although I select South Melbourne, the Gully side will not disgrace themselves, providing they mark star centre-forward Karayainis and State left-wing combination Georgousis and Papadopoulos.

My selections are: League Moorabbin and Bayswater; Cup: Frankston-Croydon.

to penetrate.

Lions, who play Seymour, will face their second hard match in the last fortnight, but with home ground advantage should gain a comfortable victory.

Essendon and Heidelberg in last-minute bids to stave off relegation, play Fairfield and Norlane-Olympia respectively. Now that the two bottom teams have gained some semblance of teamwork on the forward line, they're capable of causing upsets.

I believe that they'll both gain points today and if Essendon wins they'll be equal on points with third bottom team, Fairfield.

Likely winners today:—
Collingwood, Heidelberg, Essendon, E.C.I., Lions.

● SOUTH

As predicted last week, Makedonia upset Ferntree Gully by holding them to a 2-2 draw. Full credit must go to Makedonia as they fought to the end.

Frankston, who beat Croydon 6-1, and Oakleigh, who

will be made to the leading tipster.

beat Bayswater 4-1, both gained further points towards their promotion chances, while at the other end of the table Bayswater and F.N.D. appear doomed to relegation.

The match of the day is between Ferntree Gully and Oakleigh. If Oakleigh can gain two points from this game they'll be up with the leaders. To win, Oakleigh must concentrate on keeping the ball on the ground, against Ferntree Gully's tall timber it is costly to play the ball in the air. The Gully will be aided with home ground advantage, but Oakleigh should win.

The other leader, Frankston, meets Makedonia, and Makedonia, after surprising the leader last week, will be out to take at least a point off Frankston. It will be a close match, but Bob Betts and his boys are playing too well to lose the match.

Likely winners: Moorabbin, Rosebud, Frankston, Oakleigh, North Richmond.