

THE WEEKLY

FIFA

Fédération

1904

Who plays who at Brazil 2014?

LUCK OF THE DRAW

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THE FIGHT AGAINST
DOPING

GUNTER NETZER:
THE AURA OF REAL
MADRID

CYPRUS:
UNITED
BY FOOTBALL

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The balls, the pots, the math and the stars

The final draw, 219 days prior to the World Cup Final marks a milestone. The event has little to do with skills, tactics and ability and everything to do with good and bad luck. For all that, it is not entirely unpredictable: The FIFA Weekly spoke to a maths professor and a coach about the numbers game and the pre-tournament preparations. And we asked stargazer Madame Etoile for her exclusive take on next summer's outcome.

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North and Central America

35 members
3.5 World Cup places
www.concacaf.com



South America

10 members
5.5 World Cup places
www.conmebol.com



Roberto Linares
Up to 47th in the world with Cuba

Dante
A boy from Bahia

Qualified

- USA
- Costa Rica
- Honduras
- Mexico

Qualified

- Brazil (hosts)
- Argentina
- Ecuador
- Chile
- Colombia
- Uruguay



Europe
53 members
13 World Cup places
www.uefa.com



Africa
54 members
5 World Cup places
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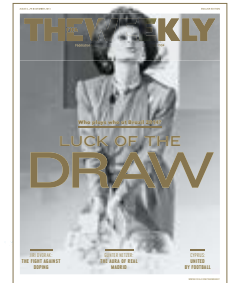
Asia
46 members
4.5 World Cup places
www.the-afc.com



Oceania
11 members
0.5 World Cup places
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Jean-Marie Pfaff
My turning point
as a five-year-old

Mario Gotze
€37 million well spent



Quick on the draw
Our cover picture captures a magic moment from 1989 in Rome: Italian style icon Sophia Loren was the face of the final draw for Italia 90.

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Glimmer of hope
in Cyprus

Emmanuel Emenike
Fenerbahce star typifies vast
Nigerian diaspora

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Tahiti make our Top 11

Qualified

- Italy
- Netherlands
- England
- Russia
- Belgium
- Switzerland
- Bosnia-Herzegovina
- Germany
- Spain
- Portugal
- France
- Greece
- Croatia

Qualified

- Algeria
- Côte d'Ivoire
- Nigeria
- Cameroon
- Ghana

Qualified

- Australia
- Japan
- Iran
- Korea Republic

no teams qualified

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Lucky charms and heated balls



Grandfather and grandson: Jules and Yves Rimet make the draw ahead of the 1938 FIFA World Cup.

Thomas Renggli

As an Oscar winner, style icon and beauty queen, Sophia Loren fired the imagination more than practically any other actress of the 20th century. Loren never made any secret of her passion for sport, declaring, “I love football, and I love SSC Napoli.” In Rome on 9 December 1989, the fate of the Italian team lay in the hands of “La Figura”, as she was admirably described in her homeland, when she took on the role of Lady Luck in the group draw for the 1990 World Cup finals. With her usual flair, the diva got hosts Italy off to a strong start by drawing them against Austria, USA and Czechoslovakia. So strong, in fact, that Italy’s rivals suspected foul play, accusing Loren of wearing a magnetic ring on her finger for the draw. You can learn more about the amusing story of the rolling World Cup balls in the History section of this issue.

Conspiracy theories are as much a part of the World Cup draw as *catenaccio* and Giuseppe Meazza are a part of Italy’s footballing history. One of the most common suspicions is that “luck” can be discerned by touch using balls heated to different temperatures.

Such doubts had yet to be raised ahead of the 1938 World Cup in France, which staged the draw on a larger scale for the first time and tasked a young boy with the responsibility of making the draw – Yves Rimet, grandson of then FIFA President Jules Rimet.

Standing on the conference table and reaching into the pot with an outstretched arm, Yves made himself extremely popular with Sweden, who were awarded a bye to the last 16. However, this made very little difference to the outcome of the tournament: Sweden ultimately lost their semi-final to Hungary and Italy went on to lift the trophy for the second time.

Seventy-six years later, the *Azzurri* are still among the favourites, but their fate no longer

rests on the narrow shoulders of a six-year-old boy. Instead, eight representatives from World Cup-winning nations will fish out the balls at the Brazilian beach resort of Costa do Sauipe on 6 December: Cafu (Brazil), Fabio Cannavaro (Italy), Lothar Matthaus (Germany), Mario Kempes (Argentina), Fernando Hierro (Spain), Geoff Hurst (England), Zinédine Zidane (France) and Alcides Ghiggia (Uruguay). However, the last of these representatives may be considered more of a bad omen than a lucky charm in Brazil. Ghiggia scored the decisive goal at the Maracana Stadium to seal a 2-1 victory for Uruguay over Brazil in the 1950 World Cup, sending the whole of the host nation into despair. ☹️



Chance and luck

Stargazing, number juggling and sports science all come into play when the groups for the World Cup finals are drawn in Brazil. The FIFA Weekly assesses the road to Bahia – by way of Mercury.

Next Friday at 13:00 local time, all eyes will be on Costa do Sauipe when the picturesque beach resort on Brazil's Atlantic coast plays host to the World Cup draw that kicks off the final stages of the countdown to Brazil 2014. Precisely 219 days before the start of the tournament, the groups will be drawn in front of 1,300 invited guests and 1,800 media representatives, while eight former members of World Cup winning teams fish the names of the 32 participating teams out of the bowls and reveal the first apparent winners and losers of the 20th World Cup.

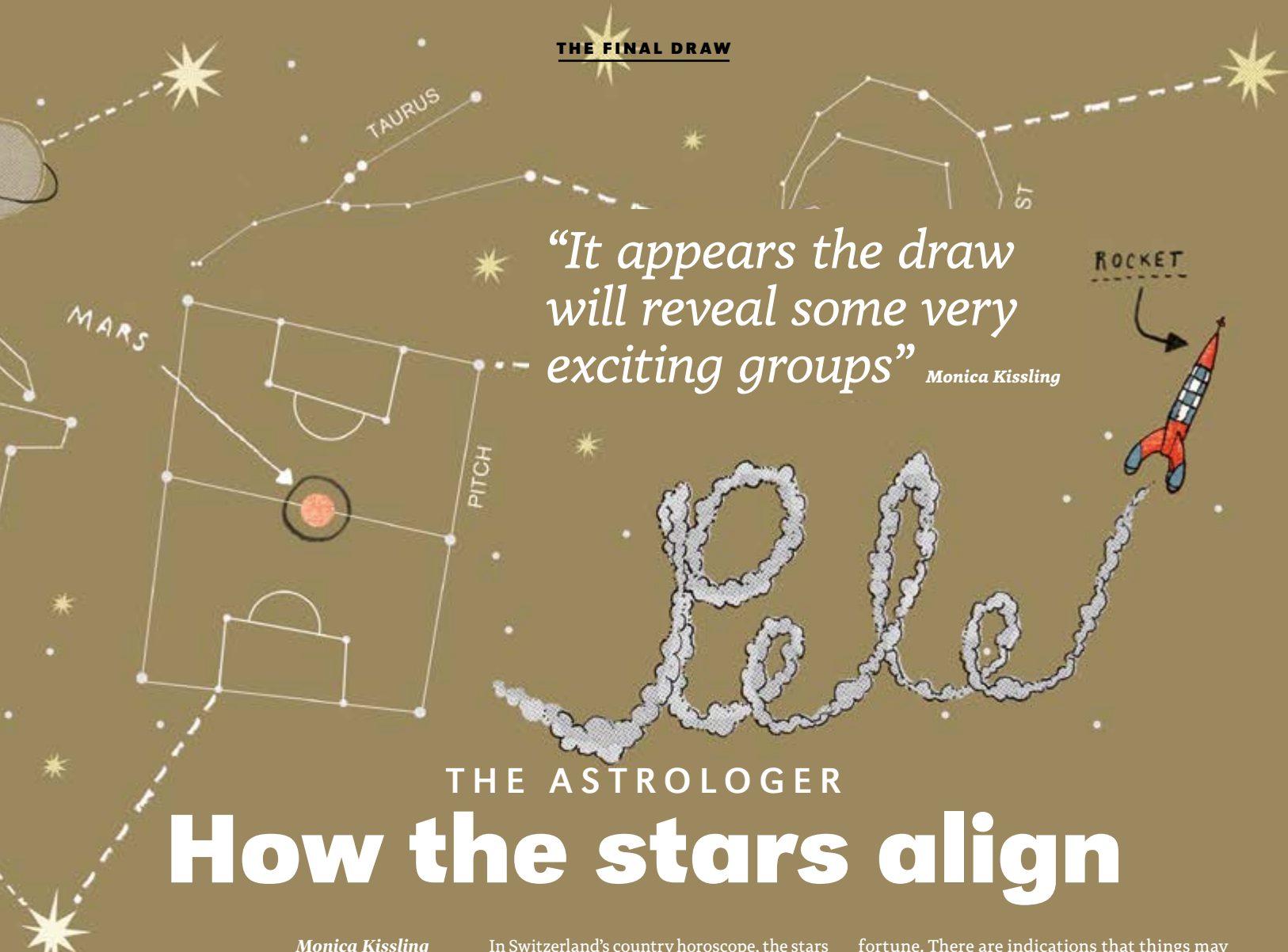
The eight seeded teams – defending champions Spain, hosts Brazil, Germany, Argentina, Colombia, Uruguay and European surprise packages Belgium and Switzerland – will be relatively relaxed whilst watching the draw in the 9,000m² arena. In particular, Switzerland and Belgium will benefit from their seeded status, because if the current FIFA rankings had been taken as the point of reference for the list

of seeds rather than those from mid-October, their places would have been taken by Italy and Portugal instead.

Luck, both good and bad, will play its part in the final draw, but there are also other elements that could influence what comes out of the pots. *The FIFA Weekly* reviews the build-up to the draw from three differing perspectives: the astrological viewpoint of renowned stargazer Monica Kissling, also known as Madame Etoile; the mathematical perspective of German mathematics professor Andreas Heuer; and the sporting angle, thanks to FIFA instructor Fritz Schmid.

The way the draw is arranged limits the number of possible eventualities, directly impacting the way the tournament is likely to progress next summer: "It significantly reduces the chance of an outsider becoming world champion," says mathematics professor Heuer. Football coach Schmid explains how the participating football associations spend a huge amount of time and effort preparing them-

selves for every eventuality before the groups are even drawn. The predictions of an astrologer like Kissling may also provide new insights. According to Madame Etoile, two parties in particular have cause to celebrate the alignment of the stars: Switzerland, who should expect a lucky draw on 6 December; and Brazil, whose star Neymar will have the stars on his side and "could have an extremely successful World Cup".



“It appears the draw will reveal some very exciting groups” *Monica Kissling*

THE ASTROLOGER

How the stars align

Monica Kissling

The timing of the draw promises huge suspense. Uranus, the planet of surprises, is in the ascendant in Aries, while Pluto, the planet of power and influence, is at its highest point in mid-heaven. The horoscope for that day suggests a very powerful moment reflecting the significance and spectacle of the draw. The emphasis on the fire signs of Sagittarius and Aries shows that enthusiasm will spread quickly: it appears the draw will reveal some very exciting groups!

However, Mercury, which represents serenity, is in conjunction with Neptune, the planet of illusion. This could mean that teams misjudge the balance of power in their groups; that is, that the true strengths of teams will be significantly different in summer 2014 than had been imagined. For example, one or more important players may drop out, causing a team that is currently considered to be a strong opponent to be far less successful during the World Cup itself – or vice versa. So basically things will turn out differently to what we currently expect. The constellation of Neptune is critical and weakens the significance of the current results to some extent.

In Switzerland’s country horoscope, the stars are promising luck in the draw on 6 December, just as they already have in qualification.

The horoscope of the stars

Lionel Messi, born under the star sign Cancer, is a sensitive, rather reserved person with a social conscience. However, his sporting ambition and determination are huge; his physical energy appears to be boundless. He evidently realises his artistic temperament by being an artist with the ball.

His stars in summer 2014 show a conflicting mix of great sporting success on the one hand, but also an increased risk of injury or suspension. One particularly important moment and turning point in this regard falls at the start of July. It might be, for example, that Messi is sidelined at the start of the World Cup but returns to the team during the tournament and is ultimately able to celebrate great success.

Cristiano Ronaldo, born under a full moon under the star sign Aquarius, is an emotional, sensitive and impulsive person. He has an extremely strong competitive spirit and is a very tenacious fighter with exceptionally high standards; he does not handle defeats well.

His stars in summer 2014 signal resistance and possibly unpleasant turnarounds in

fortune. There are indications that things may not go as well for him as he hoped.

Neymar, born under the star sign Aquarius, is an engaging person with understated charm; a very strategically skilled player with remarkable staying power. He is extremely tough, and setbacks only motivate him to achieve more.

His stars in summer 2014 suggest happiness will not come easily to him; he will have to overcome resistance but he should be able to do this. His horoscope shows constellations that denote strong and lasting success. He is likely to have an extremely successful World Cup.

Monica Kissling, a.k.a. Madame Etoile, is an astrologer who runs a consulting practice in Zurich, Switzerland.

THE FINAL DRAW



SPEED = $\frac{\text{dist}}{\text{time}}$
 AVG relc 201

770 MICRONS
 LIMIT of ATMOSPHERE
 2,000 (km) per SECOND

EXponentiality
 = speed x time
 = MASS OBJECT



$\alpha = \frac{31}{32} \rightarrow$
 1966 + 1970
 + 1974 + 78
 + 1982 + 1986
 + 1990 + 1994
 + 1998 + 2002
 + 2016 + 2010

2014



$\frac{1}{2} \pi = \frac{3.14}{3.11}$

$y = x^2 \mid v^2 = \pi^2 \omega$

$E = \frac{h \cdot \nu}{EXEL}$

$\Delta + 0 = \square$



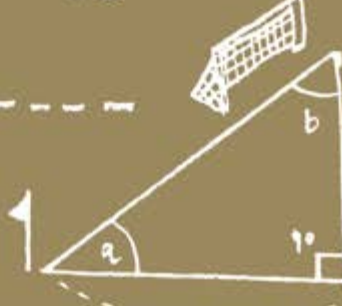
$(N) + 8(V)$

$\pi = 3.14$



NO FRICTION

FRICION
 $(f) = \frac{x^2}{r^2}$



$\sum 3822$
 $\sum 110$

SPIN

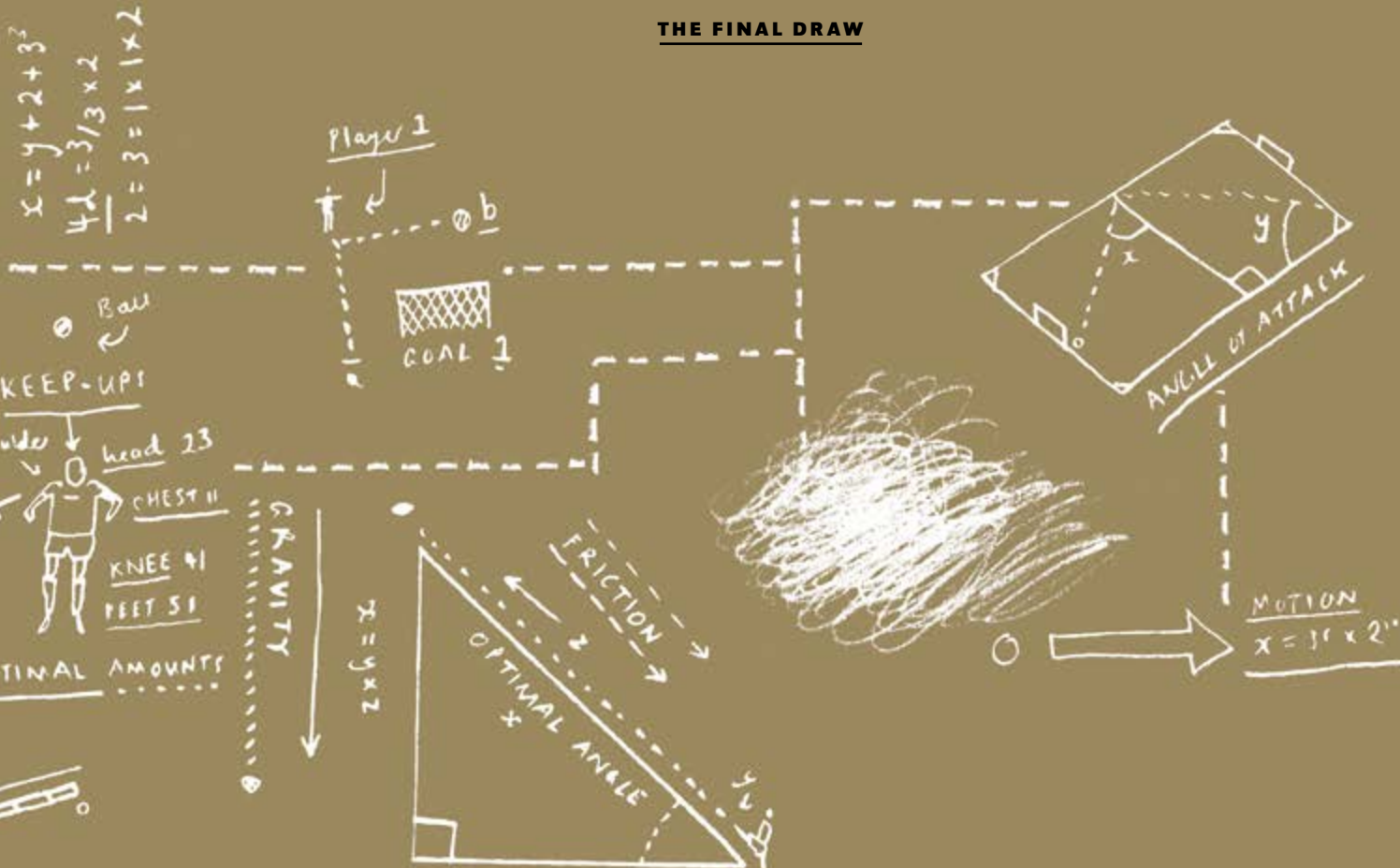
SHOOT / PASS	100	31%
SUCCESS		
FAILURE		
T = 1/2 (SUC) + 4°		

$\frac{360}{70} = \pi^2$

"If you don't want a team winning the World Cup by chance, you have to control the draw"

Andreas Heuer





THE MATHS WIZARD

The science of chance

Perikles Monioudis

Prof. Dr Andreas Heuer loves football, and what's more, he combines his passion for football with his specific research interests. "From a statistical perspective, we are interested in finding the best ways of identifying and determining a team's performance," says Heuer. "The crucial question is: what variables can we use to determine performance?"

It is a question asked the world over, and many more successful bets would be placed on matches and teams if these variables could be identified. Nevertheless, Professor Heuer and his team have gathered some noteworthy results. For example, before the last World Cup in South Africa, they calculated that there was a 43 per cent probability that either Brazil (22 per cent) or Spain (21 per cent) would lift the trophy.

These figures take into account the fact that completely different calculations are required for tournaments than are necessary for leagues, as situation factors are far more significant in tournaments than in leagues. The weather, injuries and player suspensions or dismissals during a match can decide a match but will not necessarily affect the success of a team over an entire season.

In the league, most teams contest in excess of 30 matches a season, instead of three group matches at the World Cup. "In the group stages, a team might ultimately fail to progress as a result of just one defeat," says Heuer. In contrast, one poor performance in a league has less serious repercussions.

A large number of matches allows for a small margin of error when determining performance, in what Heuer calls "the persistence of performance". If the 2010 World Cup had been played as a league with all the teams playing one another in home and away matches, the professor and his team calculated that there was an even higher 85 per cent probability of Brazil or Spain winning the title.

Nevertheless, nobody knows how strong the teams really are before a World Cup. That said, it is reasonable to assume at the start of a tournament that the best teams realistically also have the best chances of lifting the trophy. "If you don't want a team winning the World Cup by chance, you have to control the draw," says Heuer.

The arrangement of the pots is a key element of this control. The pots correspond to the teams' positions in the FIFA world rankings. Without those pots, anyone could meet anyone in the group stages, and that 43 per cent probability of Brazil or Spain winning would drop dramatically, as the two favourites

could meet each other as early as the quarter-final and one of the two teams would then be eliminated. This would reduce their chances of winning the title from the start.

In a league, there is no need for control, as the point of a league is for everyone to play everyone. But in the case of a World Cup, one might wonder how fair a seeding list is for the weaker teams. "If you had no rules for the draw, the chances of an outsider world champion would be greater," explains Heuer, "but ultimately that's a political issue rather than a statistical one."

In fact, it is becoming increasingly more difficult for weaker teams to catch up with the most powerful teams. "The gap is getting ever wider and is self-perpetuating. Football is not as exciting if you already know who's going to win," observes Heuer, "and that's the downside to controlling a draw."

Prof. Dr. Andreas Heuer is a professor and researcher in the Faculty of Physical Chemistry at the University of Muenster. His numerous academic publications include: Der perfekte Tipp, Statistik des Fussballspiels (The Perfect Bet, Football and Statistics) (321 pages, Weinheim 2012).



MANAUS
(ARENA DA AMAZONIA)

RIO DE JANEIRO
(MARACANA)

“At the DFB, up to 50 students analyse every touch of the ball made by a potential opponent.” Fritz Schmid

THE FINAL DRAW



THE COACH Digi-Taka

Fritz Schmid

Planning with military precision is invaluable when taking part in a World Cup. Long before the draw takes place, all football associations will already have spent a considerable amount of time preparing – even those who didn't make it to the finals. Anyone who waits until they have qualified to start preparing faces an uphill battle to be ready in time. They will also have far fewer options available to them when selecting a base for the tournament, as many teams have had hotel reservations in place for weeks now.

For logistical and climatic reasons, most teams will be based in the region of Sao Paulo, Brasilia and Rio. This means there is also an organisational element to the group draw, with everyone hoping for a draw that does not require them to take long flights to each match venue. Transfers from the team hotel to each group match need to be as uncomplicated as possible. Hardly anyone wants to have to play in Manaus, as it not only means long flight times but oppressively humid rain-forest conditions, too.

This is where the work of sports scientists and performance analysts comes into play. Before the 2010 World Cup in South Africa,

altitude was the biggest issue, whereas this time coaching experts are wrestling with the issue of regional variations in heat and humidity. As the international calendar allows little time for acclimatisation, it is expected that most teams will only arrive shortly before the start of the tournament.

In sporting terms, the draw is particularly important for mid-ranked teams. Of the teams in pot 1, Belgium, Colombia and Switzerland will be more welcome opponents than Brazil, Argentina or Spain, although many forget that in South Africa in 2010, eventual world champions Spain stumbled against Switzerland during the group stages.

Once the groups are drawn, each football association will finally be able to pin down their World Cup preparations. If you are drawn against an African side in the group stages, you will be trying to set up a friendly match against an African team; if you are due to play Japan, you will try to prepare by playing South Korea; and if Switzerland are in your group, you will look to arrange a game with Austria.

There are no longer any gaps in a team's information about their possible rivals in international football. Nowadays you can analyse details from practically any match played by any team, thanks to the huge amount of data supplied by online international statistical

databases. The German Football Association leads the way in scouting, working closely with Cologne Sports University, where up to 50 students analyse every touch of the ball made by a potential opponent. In addition, every football association can gather a comprehensive network of information from coaches across the globe.

Ultimately though, even the most meticulous preparations are worthless if the team is not technically and mentally up to the task. You only have to remember France's performances at the 2002 World Cup in South Korea and Japan. Although the team travelled to the tournament in an Air France plane in which every player had his own cabin to sleep in, *Les Bleus* were eliminated after the group stages without scoring a single goal. Maybe they slept too well... ⚽

Fritz Schmid is a FIFA instructor and holds the UEFA Pro Licence. He most recently worked as an assistant coach for the Austrian Football Association.

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O N T H E I N S I D E

Mexican League

The Kaiser of Michoacan



Jordi Puntí is a novelist and the author of many football features in the Spanish media.

Mexico qualified for the World Cup in Brazil last week, beating New Zealand in a play-off. *La Verde* went into the two-legged tie in despondent mood. Their erratic form, which had seen them pick up a solitary win in their last five home games, left them on the brink of elimination before an unlikely late turn of events gave them a branch to cling to. Though the Mexicans went down to Costa Rica 2-1 in their final group game, old foes USA came to their aid with a 3-2 defeat of Panama, a result that gave *El Tricolor* the chance to reach Brazil via the intercontinental play-off.

The precarious position they had found themselves in was reflected by the comings and goings in the dugout, with no fewer than

four different coaches taking charge of the team in the space of a mere five qualifying games. The last of them was current America boss Miguel Herrera, who came in as a caretaker for the play-off against New Zealand before leaving the position vacant again.

As well as a sporting debacle, *El Tri's* close shave also caused no little alarm in the business world. The World Cup generates a huge amount of revenue in Mexico through advertising, sponsorship, TV rights and travel etc. According to CNN, Mexico boasts the fourth-highest football attendances in the world behind Germany, England and Spain, while six out of ten Mexicans watch matches on TV.

In a recent article the writer Juan Villoro said that if there is anything that defines Mexican football, then it is "its instability", which manifests itself in "transfer speculation" and an illogical tendency to make grand gestures. Given that backdrop, whoever is appointed to the lead the national side at the World Cup will need to come up with a solution to their most pressing problem, namely how best to accommodate Mexico's Europe-based stars,

among them Javier Chicharito Hernandez, Giovanni Dos Santos and Carlos Vela.

Perhaps the man best equipped to deal with the instability afflicting the Mexico team is its captain, Rafael Marquez, who returned to international duty in September, more than a year after his last call-up to the side. Now 34, Marquez has every chance of appearing at the World Cup for the fourth time in his career. Known as The Kaiser of Michoacan for his commanding presence at the back, his gift for bringing the ball out of defence and his aerial prowess, Marquez is something of an icon in his home country.

He brings with him the grounding and the experience of a player with many titles under his belt. Marquez served his footballing apprenticeship at Guadalajara club Atlas, where he made his professional debut at the age of 17. Three years later he joined Monaco before spending seven seasons at Barcelona, where he played the best football of his career and was a regular in Frank Rijkaard's line-ups. After playing under Pep Guardiola in his first year as coach, the arrival of Gerard Pique in the centre of defence triggered his



To the rescue: Rafael Marquez, who now turns out for Leon in the Mexican top flight, stood firm in Mexico's defence against New Zealand in the intercontinental play-off.



departure for New York Red Bulls, where he linked up again with French striker Thierry Henry.

Mexico have a tradition of putting their faith in their most loyal servants. Marquez's recall to the national fold coincided with his return to the national league in January of this year, when he signed for Club Leon.

One of Mexican football's grand old clubs, Leon have just emerged from a lengthy spell in the wilderness, having spent ten long seasons in the second division. They have quickly found their feet again. Third in the regular Torneo Apertura season, Marquez's new employers are currently contesting the championship play-offs. And though Marquez has not been a regular starter for them, he is a legendary figure whose influence on the team extends far beyond the pitch. His experiences there could well be a dry run for his role at next year's World Cup. ❁

Nigerian Premier League Battle of the Governors



Mark Gleeson is a South African journalist and football commentator, and lives in Cape Town.

It is reliably estimated that there are at least 200 Nigerian footballers plying their trade across the world outside of their own country, from the handful of stars such as John Obi Mikel at Chelsea and Victor Moses at Liverpool to a legion of players in lesser leagues. They are scattered across the breadth of Europe, the Middle East and Asia, far from the glamour of the English Premier League, Bundesliga or Ligue 1.

Ever since the likes of Stephen Keshi, Ricky Owubokiri and Rashidi Yekini made an impact on the European club circuit, there has been a steady stream of exports from Africa's most populous country. Consistent success for Nigeria in FIFA junior tournaments meant scouts were quick to pick up their best talent and take them abroad. Many Nigerian stars have bypassed playing in their home league altogether, preferring to head north in search of fame and riches.

Taking the cream off the top has positive ramifications for the Nigerian national team, who are current African champions and can select from players across the world. But there is a negative too, for the Nigerian Premier League, which must make do with the best of the rest. This is the reason why, in almost 50 years of competition, only one Nigerian club has ever won the continent's top trophy, the CAF Champions League.

That was Enyimba International, who did it two years in a row in 2003 and 2004, but what was predicted then to be the start of a golden age for Nigerian clubs never materialised.

This year the West Africans were not even able to get a club into the league phase, effectively the last eight of the competition. Kano Pillars and Enyimba will be the clubs to represent Nigeria in the next Champions League after finishing first and second in the NPL last month.

Pillars retained their title in a close-fought race, pipping Enyimba by just a single point. Both go into next month's draw, scheduled for Cairo, eager to find out their likely path to the group phase, but more importantly to launch the latest quest for Nigerian clubs to try and replicate the success of their national teams.

Most of the 20 NPL clubs represent the federal states that make up Nigeria and enjoy quasi-governmental backing. Enyimba's success was built on the back of money pumped into the club by Abia State governor Orji Uzor Kalu, who ensured generous funding and the ability to attract the best of the players that had stayed behind in Nigeria.

There is much rivalry between those state governors who have clubs within their territory. Nigeria is a federal republic made up

of 36 states, many with the ambition of a having a club in the NPL. But for as long as Nigeria remains a considerable exporter of players, it is always going to prove tough to compete with Africa's best at club level. ❁

German Bundesliga

Cool move indeed



Sven Goldmann is a football expert at "Tagesspiegel" newspaper in Berlin.

Bayern's big summer signings started out warming the bench for the Bundesliga showdown between Borussia Dortmund and the league leaders from Munich last weekend. They weren't particularly pleased to be there because top players want to play, preferably every day and especially in games that galvanise the nation or in this case the entire world: a remarkable 207 countries took the live feed. Initially though, the major assets played no active role in proceedings.

Thiago Alcantara, a €25 million capture from Barcelona was joined on this occasion by Mario Gotze, who was lured away from upstart challengers Dortmund for €37 million last summer. Both have been sidelined with injuries for lengthy spells and neither is yet fit enough for a full 90 minutes, but they ended up making the difference. With half an hour to play, Pep Guardiola finally summoned the big money off the bench and out onto the field.

Bayern ultimately triumphed 3-0 in an enthralling contest between two outstanding teams. But what sticks in the memory is not a



Bayern's first substitution: Mario Gotze replaces Mario Mandzukic.



Bayern's second substitution: Thiago Alcantara comes on for Jerome Boateng.

courageous performance by injury-decimated Dortmund, who were in no way as outclassed as the margin of victory suggests and hounded and harried Bayern for long spells with aggressive pressing and a prodigious outpouring of energy. No, what we'll remember is Guardiola guiding Bayern to victory with the class he was able to bring on, perhaps wrapping up the Bundesliga title there and then.

Gotze replaced Mario Mandzukic just after the hour, with Thiago taking over from Jerome Boateng a couple of minutes later. Two hulking brutes made way for two diminutive scuttlers. And with two moments of magic, the little guys confirmed the theory that it is indeed money that scores or makes goals.

Gotze needed just ten or so minutes before effectively settling the contest with the opening goal. His shot with the toe-end and outside of his right boot somehow evaded three Dortmund defenders and keeper Roman Weidenfeller. An eerie silence descended on the stadium where minutes

before the huge Dortmund support had 'welcomed' back their sometime hero with a deafening chorus of boos and whistles. Gotze held up his hands apologetically, declining to celebrate the crucial goal out of respect for his former friends on the pitch and the terraces.

Dortmund reacted, creating chances, but then had no answer to Thiago Alcantara. Not long after Gotze's opening goal the Spaniard struck a sweet 50-metre diagonal pass, wrong-footing the entire home defence. Arjen Robben finished off the sublime through ball with an equally watchable lob to add a second and settle the outcome. Thomas Muller forced home another before the end, but Bayern chose to keep their celebrations as low key as Gotze's muted acknowledgement of his triumphant return to his former Westfalenstadion stamping ground.

"Cool move," Dortmund boss Jurgen Klopp commented afterwards, but he wasn't talking about Gotze's goal nor Thiago's pass. He was praising the tactical nous of his counterpart Guardiola, for draining Dortmund of mental

and physical energy with long balls up to the big guys before introducing his mercurial talent to bring home the bacon. For Dortmund, just as for Schalke and Leverkusen and Monchengladbach, the target now is to finish between second and fourth in a season which already looks horribly one-sided. In any case, Bayern's unspoken but real focus is not the final round of Bundesliga matches on 10 May next year. The Bavarians are hoping the highlight of their season comes two weeks later in the Champions League final in Lisbon. ⚽



“The multi-ethnic Australian fans can be rude as well as loud.”

Australian League Chanting the entire game



David Winner is a London-based author and journalist. His books on football include “Brilliant Orange” and “Dennis Bergkamp: Stillness and Speed”.

While other Australians savoured their cricket team’s humiliation of England in the Ashes match in Brisbane some 15,000 soccer-loving souls in Sydney were relishing more rumbustious pleasures in the presence of Alessandro del Piero. I should perhaps apologise for “soccer”, a word which reminds Australian football fans of the time when cricket and oval-ball codes ruled the land and football was considered a game only for immigrants.

Saturday’s pulsating match between Sydney FC (Del Piero’s team) and Wellington Phoenix from New Zealand showed that image belongs to the past. As David Gallop, chief executive of Football Federation Australia, observed a few months ago, the game is now “an authentic Australian sport”. The national team, the Socceroos (a name some now consider archaic) have just qualified for their third successive World Cup (1974 was their sole previous appearance). Football is widely played in school and on TV and sponsors such as the

Korean car manufacturers Hyundai, who sponsor the eight-year-old, ten-team Antipodes-wide A-League, have climbed aboard.

On Saturday at the Allianz Stadium in Sydney there were plenty of empty seats but the atmosphere was impressive. The A-League is energetic and sometimes technically admirable. Teams tend to be a mix of aspiring young locals and veterans of old world leagues. I’d wanted to see Del Piero, the 39-year-old former Juventus and Italy player. Other big-name European imports like English striker Emile Heskey at Newcastle and Dutchman Orlando Engelaar, who plays for Melbourne Heart, help to push up standards in the league. By contrast, Del Piero is not quite the player he once was and it was soon clear that the terraces were where the excitement chiefly resided. On Saturday, the massed Sky Blue home fans on The Cove sang and chanted the entire game.

Like other A-League fan groups, they are more influenced by the curvas of Italy than the old “ends” of England. Banners and displays are choreographed, energetic conductors with loudspeakers lead the singing. The multi-ethnic fans include plenty of girls and can be rude as well as loud. Australians are developing a taste for gathering together as football fans. At Liverpool’s pre-season tour match at the Melbourne Cricket Ground

95,000 fans greeted the visitors with a spine-tingling rendition of You’ll Never Walk Alone.

With remarkable speed and fervour, local teams have embraced such examples of global football fan culture and applied them to their own turf. A tumultuous orange-clad horde now follows Brisbane Roar (currently top of the league), the North Terrace loyalists of Melbourne Victory are a phenomenon, and the all-singing, all-poznanning Red and Black Bloc who support Western Sydney Wanderers (a team that only came into existence last year yet finished top of the league) are simply astonishing. Some critics unfairly disparage such fans as “soccer hooligans” but any club in the old world would be thrilled to have them.

On Saturday night 10-man Sydney rallied to win in the last minute with a goal from a 30-year old Serb called Ranko Despotovic, who’d just signed from a team in Japan. Sky blue fans and players were still celebrating together long after the final whistle.

Only three years ago an anti-soccer columnist on the Sydney Morning Herald predicted the game in Australia would “never be more than a lame joke”. Gallop’s claim of a few months ago that football could be on its way becoming the country’s biggest and most popular sport may be nearer the mark. 🍷



Australian joie de vivre: Wanderer fans show their support after the match against Adelaide United at the Pirtek Stadium in Parramatta.

On “Doping Culture”



FIFA staff wait to take players for drug testing at the U17 World Cup in Dubai.

FIFA, IOC and WADA hold a consensus meeting on the 29-30 November 2013 at the Home of FIFA. The time might have come to change the strategies in the fight against doping.

Jiri Dvorak

FIFA introduced a new strategy in the fight against doping by investigating the individual blood, hormone and steroid profile of footballers. Blood and urine samples were collected prior to and during the Confederations Cup 2013. The same will be applied for all players who participate at the World Cup 2014 in Brazil.

Over the past eight years, FIFA oversaw worldwide close to 250,000 sampling procedures with an incidence of 0.04% on severe violations of the rules caused by anabolic steroid and/or hormones while WADA reported in their statistics of 2012, 0.81% anabolic steroids. The simplified calculation suggests that in other sports, in particular individual sports, that anabolic steroid-performance enhancing drugs are misused 20 times more often than in football.

A justified question: What are the reasons for this difference? Is it the long term strategy of FIFA focused on prevention and education

assuming in general that there is no “doping culture” in football while in other sports, a different risk culture and motivation leads the athlete to cheat by influencing his or her performance with drugs?

FIFA bases any decisions related to Anti-Doping programmes on the specifics of the game, the scientific evidence and the analysis of doping statistics. It is our duty as doctors and as an International Federation to protect the players from harm and to ensure that footballers can compete on the same playing level field. On the other hand, we must respect the dignity and the private life of each player who is subject to testing.

WADA, the World Anti-Doping Agency presented the World Anti-Doping Code 2015 at the “World Conference on Doping in Sport” from 12-15 November 2013 in Johannesburg. The International Olympic Committee (IOC), International Federations and Governments expressed their full support of the revised code which, in general will apply – a four year sanction for

Anti-Doping rule violations following an individual case management. The code provides a provision for the abuse of prohibited so-called social drugs. FIFA supports the revised code, but raised the question in relation to future strategies in the fight against doping.

The time might have come to design a customised system according to the risk assessment in different sports and at the same time being cost effective. On an annual basis the fight against doping in sport – in all sports – is estimated between three-four hundred million US dollars.

Is the money being invested in an appropriate and efficient way? The experts must discuss and seek answers to these questions. ⚽

Prof. Jiri Dvorak is the FIFA Chief Medical Officer.



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Popo and the Caxixi

The draw for the World Cup group stage takes place on 6 December in the resort of Costa do Sauipe in Bahia state. We turn the spotlight on Bahia, where football and history intertwine.

Jordi Puntí

The great Brazilian writer Jorge Amado, who was born in the town of Itabuna in state of Bahia, was a huge football fan. Perhaps because of his respect for the beautiful game, he only wrote about football in a children's book, entitled "The Ball and the Goalkeeper", although it is a book which fans of any age can enjoy. His life revolved around football ever since he was a child playing in the streets of the town, but perhaps surprisingly he did not support either Vitoria or Bahia, the two giant Salvador clubs which dominate the game in Bahia. Instead, right up to his death in 2001, Jorge Amado was a supporter of two struggling, working class teams: Bangu from Rio de Janeiro, his adopted team, and the great love of his footballing life, Esporte Clube Ypiranga from Salvador, who now play in the second division of the Bahia state championship.

The city of Salvador was founded in 1549, and became the main landing point of the slave trade from Africa to Brazil. As a result, it is the Brazilian city that is most influenced by African religion, culture and society. It is also where black players were first accepted into the world of Brazilian football, most notably at Ypiranga. For Amado, no other club had the same "glorious tradition" as Ypiranga, a team that was built around poor, black players. Later Vasco da Gama, down in Rio de Janeiro, would also field black players, a decision that was fiercely resisted by the footballing elite.

Jorge Amado's idol was Popo, one of the many great players with which Brazil has been blessed. Popo, the football nickname of Apolinario Santana, captured the spirit of the game in Bahia perfectly: he started playing aged just 14, and although his natural position was central midfield, he played in every position,

including goalkeeper. Dubbed "the hero of the people" Popo helped Ypiranga to glory, leading them to a host of titles in the 1920s. His most memorable performance came in April 1923, when Ypiranga beat Fluminense 5-4, with Popo scoring all the Ypiranga goals.

Popo continues to represent the spirit of tolerance and passion for the game that will

as the vuvuzela was in South Africa. The din from the instrument may make the stands as noisy as a *sambodromo*, where samba schools parade during the Brazilian *carnaval*, but at least no one will be bored.

Bedecked in the canary yellow of the national team, the inhabitants of Salvador will pray that Brazil are drawn to play a quarter-final tie at the Arena Fonte Nova. It will be the city's only chance to see their heroes in the flesh, most notably the four players whose footballing roots lie in Bahia, namely defenders Dani Alves, who is from Juazeiro, and Dante, who was born in Salvador itself, as well as two players who spent the early years of their career in the state, David Luiz and Hulk, who both played for the Vitoria junior team. ⚽



Street performers: The entertainment is not confined to the football stadiums in Bahia.

inspire Salvador when it is a World Cup host city next year. *Baianos*, as the locals are known, will bring a tremendous colour and excitement to the event, and any African country that plays in the city is sure to be well supported. A perfect example of the connection between Salvador and Africa is the *Baiano* musician Carlinhos Brown, who earlier this year unveiled the *caxirola*, a percussion instrument inspired by the African *caxixi*. He created it especially for the World Cup, and hopes it will be as big a hit

Place

Costa do Sauipe, Bahia

Date

6 December (1pm local time)

Audience

1,300 guests – 1,800 media representatives

Venue size

9,000 m²

Point of interest

For the first time, the event will be staged in temporary premises.

T H E N

Madrid,
Spain



1982

It's fair to say there was scope for improvement in the script, setting and equipment at the final draw 31 years ago. As there were neither guidelines nor a world ranking, the seeded teams for the six groups were more or less the subject of negotiation. Argentina, Brazil, Germany, England, Spain and Italy got the nod. Under the stern gaze of President Joao Havelange the electric tombola drum failed during the draw. Belgium landed in the wrong group, as did Scotland. The machine was immediately consigned to the dustbin of history.

N

O

W

Cape Town,
South Africa



2010

The final draw for the World Cup in South Africa was a huge media event and a spectacular show in its own right, with a live TV broadcast to over 200 countries and a global viewing audience exceeding 200 million. FIFA Secretary General Jérôme Valcke and actress Charlize Theron (centre) were the masters of ceremonies for the 90-minute event. They were assisted by Makhaya Ntini, Matthew Booth, Simphiwe Dlodlu, David Beckham, John Smit and Haile Gebreselassie (left to right). The draw passed off without technical hitches.



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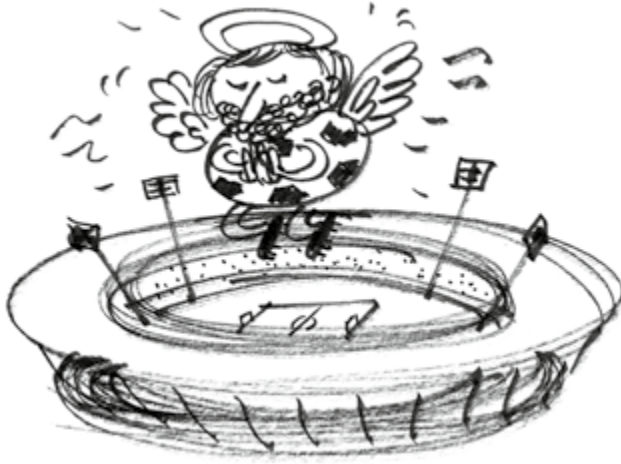
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The Power to Surprise



It's only a game

Perikles Monioudis

“He might be great but he’ll fall in eight,” said Muhammad Ali with a smile. The greatest boxer in history never had any trouble coining a provocative rhyming couplet to unnerve his next opponent. Sometimes he went too far and his verbals hit below the belt, in the ring for example where he pushed sledging to the limit. Sure, he let his fists do the talking, but only in combination with his mouth. “Trash talk” was enough to ensure lesser opponents were beaten before they even hit the canvas.

The autobiographies of NBA stars graphically illustrate the extent to which basketball players will go with insults, abuse and intimidation. Their NHL counterparts are their equals on the ice. Nor is it exactly a new phenomenon. Sapping your opponent’s courage and gnawing at his confidence has always been part of the game. It hits where no boxing glove, no three-point throw and no goal on the stroke of the final siren can go. It is a head-on assault on his self-worth as a sportsman.

What was once deemed acceptable in the game, namely a crude preoccupation with an opponent’s looks, ethnic origin, sexual orientation or beliefs, is now regarded as unsporting behaviour and dealt with accordingly. What’s happened here? The game and everything that goes with it is theoretically an exceptional situation with its own laws, regulations and so forth, but this has been transformed. The game today is a part of real life. Largely thanks to the media, it permeates society from top to bottom.

Players now have to adhere to a code of conduct prohibiting behaviour that is in any case forbidden in real life, away from the game. The code incorporates not only general norms

of etiquette but also outlaws defamatory or discriminatory expressions, which would quite rightly be actionable in daily life. Yet they were often tolerated in the game of the past.

Just like a civilian, a player can now prosecute an opponent for racial abuse or any form of discriminatory behaviour. It happened in England in 2011, when Chelsea captain John Terry was cleared of a racist offence by a civil court but was subsequently found guilty by The FA. He was banned for four matches and ordered to pay a £220,000 fine. Queens Park Rangers player Anton Ferdinand said he had been racially abused by Terry.

The incident happened in a game. Was it just trash talk, verbals, sledging, or an intentional attack on an opponent as a person? Or is that one and the same thing nowadays?

If so, we are asking too much of football and any sport with heavy media coverage. A football match cannot be drained of its essence as a game and be assigned the task of resolving societal conflicts. You can’t just shift these problems onto football. Associations and clubs would be overwhelmed; it’s in the nature of the thing. A game is a game. Only a game. ☘

The weekly column by our staff writers

Big-name absentees from Brazil

- 1 **Zlatan Ibrahimovic:** The Swede heads this illustrious cast of characters not going to Brazil. We’ll miss his extravagant skills and inimitable quotes.
- 2 **Peter Cech:** The Czech was World Goalkeeper of the Year in 2005 and won the Champions League in 2012. He would normally deserve a place on the World Cup stage simply based on his proven class.
- 3 **Gareth Bale:** Real Madrid’s €100 million man would have been worth the ticket price on his own, had Wales managed to qualify.
- 4 **David Alaba:** The Austrian is the youngest man ever to represent Bayern Munich in the Bundesliga, the German Cup and the Champions League, but he and his fellow-countrymen came up short in qualifying.
- 5 **Robert Lewandowski:** The best striker in the Bundesliga will spend his summer watching on TV. It’s a shame for Poland, and for the global footballing family.
- 6 **The Tahiti national team:** They won over the fans’ hearts at the Confederations Cup. But in the elite game, winning matters more than merely taking part.
- 7 **Claudio Pizarro:** Peru are again conspicuous by their absence, with the Bayern veteran condemned to watch from afar.
- 8 **The Irish fans:** The unofficial greatest travelling support in the world might yet go to South America, but their team won’t.
- 9 **Marek Hamsik:** He spearheaded Slovakia’s drive to the World Cup finals in 2010, but there will be no second fairytale for Napoli’s brilliant playmaker.
- 10 **Papiss Demba Cisse:** Côte d’Ivoire proved too much of a hurdle for Senegal and Newcastle striker Cisse.
- 11 **Gylfi Sigurdsson:** Iceland were the surprise package of European qualifying, but Spurs man Sigurdsson and his team-mates ultimately fell short in the play-offs.

Which players will you miss most at the finals in Brazil? Send your thoughts to: feedback-TheWeekly@fifa.org

A handshake full of hope

An all-Cyprus football league has come a step closer following a FIFA-brokered agreement between the Cyprus and Cyprus Turkish football associations.

Andrew Warshaw

For more than half a century, football on the Mediterranean island of Cyprus has been split down the middle, reflecting the political division of the island with the officially recognised Greek Cypriots in the South and the unrecognised Turkish Cypriots in the North. But after many months of often delicate negotiations, frequently brought to the brink of collapse by dogged insistence on entrenched positions, football has now achieved something which has eluded even the United Nations up to now, namely the realistic prospect of reunification after decades of bitter estrangement between the two communities.

Phrases such as “breakthrough” and “groundbreaking” have often been used without real justification, but no-one should underestimate the significance of the highly symbolic agreement recently signed by both parties at the Home of FIFA in Zurich. “Both the Cyprus Football Association and the Cyprus Turkish Football Association are today providing the whole world with an excellent example of how football can build bridges and bring people together after a long period of conflict,” observed FIFA President Sepp Blatter.

Trust and goodwill

Cyprus has been divided for the last four decades. Turkey is the only nation to recognise the Turkish Republic of North Cyprus, created by a unilateral declaration of independence. Politicians on both sides are reticent about deeper involvement in the reunification question, but football is emerging as a potential catalyst and driving force towards change. For example, FIFA launched an initiative some five years ago seeking to establish common ground between the parties, although the attempt failed in the absence of political will on either side.

But under the new provisional agreement signed by Cyprus Football Association (CFA) President Costakis Koutsokoumnis and his counterpart at the Cyprus Turkish Football Association (CTFA) Hasan Sertoglu, the CTFA will

become a member of the CFA as an association in accordance with the CFA's statutes and regulations. The goal is “to unite the football communities on the island of Cyprus through trusting, respectful and benevolent relations and to promote football”.

The CFA was founded in 1934 by eight Greek and Turkish clubs, with the Greeks in the majority. The association joined FIFA in 1948. At the time, the Greek and Turkish clubs scattered around the island played together in a single national league. But within just a few years deeply rooted political tensions resurfaced and were reflected in the game on the island.

By 1955 it had become clear once and for all that Greeks and Turks could not play together peacefully in a single league. In response the CTFA was founded and the league disbanded. That has been the footballing situation on the island ever since, although Turkey's military intervention in 1974 served to drive an even deeper wedge between the communities. However, if everything runs according to plan - and there remain major question marks - there is justifiable hope of restoring a national football league to Cyprus, potentially within the space of a few years. “This is definitely a historic day for Greeks and Turks,” Sertoglu declared at

Cetinkaya versus Apoel?

Perikles Monioudis

Turkish Cypriot record holders Cetinkaya Turk S.K. play their home matches in front of a couple of hundred spectators at the new Atatürk Stadium in the Turkish part of Nicosia. The stadium holds 28,000 fans and has a running track, but it remains to be seen whether the terraces will ever be full to capacity.

The recent FIFA agreement concluded between Cyprus's two governing bodies of the game – the Cyprus Football Association and the Cyprus Turkish Football Association – means football has taken a crucial first step towards building the first bridges between the two Cypriot population groups, whose attitude towards one another differs substantially. The Annan referendum in 2004 revealed that although the Turkish-Cypriot community strongly support a united Cyprus, the Greek Cypriot population is strongly opposed to the idea.

Since then, negotiations in the Mediterranean have been stepped up, but the UN is only prepared to mediate these discussions when the

current standoff shifts in a positive direction. FIFA has managed to get both communities to reach out a hand to one another, at least in footballing terms. However, it is up to both football associations to see whether the tie between the Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot associations will bear fruit, not least because both associations still need to ratify the agreement.

Cetinkaya Turk S.K. are currently seventh in the Turkish Cypriot Superlig with just three wins in nine matches. Meanwhile, Greek Cypriot record champions Apoel Nicosia are only faring slightly better in Cypriot Division 1; the Champions League quarter-finalists from 2011/12 lie in sixth. The FIFA agreement brings these two teams one step closer to competing against each other on a regular basis.

The first and, so far only overall Cypriot championship title won by a team of Turkish provenance was more than 60 years ago in 1951, when Cetinkaya Turk S.K. emerged victorious, but in 1955 the football associations went their separate ways. Only now is reunification a realistic prospect once more. ☺

CYPRIOI FOOTBALL

Turkish Cypriot youth teams playing on no-man's land near Ledra Palace checkpoint in Nicosia.



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Hello Tomorrow





Cut off from the footballing world: Players from North Cypriot team Cetinkaya Turk S.K. prior to training.



Heady heights: Cypriot club Apoel Nicosia reached the last eight of the Champions League in 2011/12.

FIFA headquarters in Zurich, although he added a number of provisos. “We cannot be 100 per cent satisfied with the agreement, as there are several outstanding points which we’ll need to solve in December at our General Assembly, for example the extent to which we can be a part of the decision-making process.”

Huge motivation

“The weight of our representation has yet to be clearly established, and this applies just as much to the number of clubs we would have in a unified league, or the question whether we could contest international friendlies. However, the agreement means we have been internationally recognised by the CFA and that will be a huge motivating factor for our young people.”

According to the deal brokered by FIFA, the seven-point agreement will only be binding on both sides following approval from both general assemblies. Furthermore, both CFA and CTFA may withdraw from the agreement at any time, by mutual agreement or indeed unilaterally. As neither side lacks radical elements, these get-out clauses could yet torpedo the deal at some stage in the future. However Sertoglu remains optimistic. “I genuinely believe that in the light of the good intentions on both sides we can succeed in resolving these problems in a short space of time,” he declared. “I believe we will have a national league again, but we’ll certainly need at least two years before we get there. A reunified league won’t be easy to organise, but we’ll do everything we can to reduce the time until then to a minimum.”

Sertoglu cited the example of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the previously divided nation now sending a team to the World Cup finals for the first time since reunification. This was a shining example of what can be achieved if political and ethnic tensions can be overcome, Sertoglu said. “Just look at what’s happened in

remain. And it is obvious that the practical business of implementing the agreement will involve considerably more work. Koutsokoumnis was quoted as saying the provisions in the document cannot be changed. In other words, the Greek side is not prepared to budge another inch.

“I believe we will have a national league again.”

Hasan Sertoglu

Bosnia. It would be unbelievable if we could get that far, and we hope we can achieve something similar. I can’t define a set timeframe but we’ll work very hard towards it. Football is very different from politics. Football brings people together.”

It is clear that Sertoglu and particularly Koutsokoumnis have taken huge personal risks. Perhaps it was significant that the CFA president was far less forthcoming than his North Cypriot counterpart in the aftermath of inking the deal. One of the reasons could be that certain members of his association cannot bring themselves to accept the Turkish Cypriot footballing community back into the CFA. On the other hand, he may have wished to avoid endangering all the good work up to that point by getting involved in a verbal slanging match over details. Huge differences of opinion clearly

However, the very fact that both sides even sat around a table represents enormous progress. The hope must be that the plan does not backfire, and that all parties involved will do their best to ensure the agreement benefits both sides over the long term. ☺

Synthetic turf: blessing or curse?



Bordering on perfection: Arsenal improved the Emirates Stadium pitch with artificial turf.

Grass or synthetic turf: the eternal debate about football's playing surface has lost none of its ability to divide opinion, which is remarkable when you consider that artificial turf has existed for 47 years.

Alan Schweingruber

If you had told an England player he would be using an artificial pitch back in 1966, it would most probably have led to an embarrassing mix-up. He might have gone home to dig out his camping equipment, or perhaps invited his family for a picnic.

Football on synthetic turf? A British person would never have dreamed of the idea. The English had invented the game a good hundred years before 1966, and it had been played on grass with great results in the intervening years. Arguments for maintaining the tradition were therefore popular in England, not least because the artificial playing surface had been invented in the USA, where sporting

events often took place in poorly ventilated indoor arenas, far from the light of day.

Fortunately for the purists, the early benefits were quite limited. This new product, more akin to hard, green terrain did indeed make its way to Europe quickly, but even then it was clear that the 30mm-high carpet would not catch on overnight – at least not when it came to football. The players suffered burns because of it and the ball rolled and bounced unpredictably.

Arsenal working with man-made fibres

Even today many footballers complain about artificial pitches. However, the arguments in favour of its use are slowly winning over the doubters. Undeniably, the natural element is missing. Synthetic grass does not give off the same wonderful aroma as freshly cut grass. You no longer feel the earth or the dirt under your boots, while for the so-called roughnecks that only know good ball control when they see it on television, the fine surface under their feet is a nightmare. Yet the development of synthetic grass, which is beginning to rival natural grass more and more in terms of popularity, has been so impressive that even professional clubs can

no longer avoid it. When they use it though, it is often for training. Whereas in former times a pitch might be a swamp after a rainy day, now a groundsman can have a near-perfect surface all the time. First the juniors train, then the first team and then the seniors – all on the same day, all on the same pitch.

It has reached a point where some sides in the birthplace of football have begun using artificial surfaces. Some of the biggest clubs, such as Arsenal, Tottenham and Manchester City, have been improving the quality and stability of their pitches with sewn-in man-made fibres for many years now. And the best thing about a hybrid pitch? It feels, and smells, like grass. 🌿

The weekly debate.

Anything you want to get off your chest? Which topics do you want to discuss? Send your suggestions to: feedback-TheWeekly@fifa.org.

"Sports medicine is also a factor in this debate. I'm a very keen amateur footballer, and in 20 years I'd never had a serious injury – until last summer. In a practice match on an artificial surface, I caught my studs in the turf, twisted my knee, and ruptured a cruciate. The doctors confirmed that the injury was partly caused by the heavy surface."

Fredy Rast, Hamburg (Germany)

"In my opinion, modern football is inconceivable without artificial turf. The days when European playing fields resembled boggy marshland in the winter should be consigned to history forever. A playable pitch is the basis of sporting credibility."

Damien Morel, Metz (France)

"Artificial turf – no thanks! Football is an outdoor activity and should always be played on natural grass. Anything else is an unnecessary Americanisation of the world's most wonderful sport."

Deborah Bale, Coventry (England)

"You could never maintain normal match schedules in the northern countries without artificial turf. However, there is a compromise solution – a combination of artificial and natural turf. I'm fundamentally in favour of a pragmatic solution on a country-by-country basis. In any case, this debate will be over sooner or later. The latest artificial turf already feels like real grass."

Adam Cullen, Toronto (Canada)

"The future belongs to artificial turf. It will finally make football fair. And anyone who thinks he can't cope due to poor technique should kindly consider giving up the game. Mastering the basic skills is a fundamental component of the sport."

Edward White, Melbourne (Australia)

"If you've ever played football on a heavy pitch, you'll know that nothing can replace the joy of natural turf. The mud and the smell are all part of the game. Football on artificial turf is like playing indoors. It's only for cissies."

Bernd Pichler, Vienna (Austria)

"I was totally against artificial turf in the past. I shudder with pain when I think back to the burns and grazes from my time in youth football. But thanks to technological improvements, the situation is significantly better now. However, I'll still always prefer natural turf."

Jim David, Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia)

"The future belongs to artificial turf."

"Uli Hoeness once said about Christoph Daum: 'I wouldn't even make him the green keeper at Bayern.' I'm sure Daum wouldn't care in the least. Artificial turf is extremely low maintenance and will soon be the norm all over the world."

Kirsten Kleinert, Cologne (Germany)

"Artificial pitches may not take as much looking after, but football is simply more fun on natural turf. The grass has to live and breathe. And I also prefer running on soft ground. It's better for your joints."

Luis Ortiz, San Juan (Puerto Rico)

"My son is 11 years old and only knows football as a game played on artificial turf. Recently, after we'd watched a match together at the stadium, he came to me and said he couldn't imagine ever playing on natural grass. He was put off by all the retained water and the divots."

Stéphanie Genoux, Montpellier (France)



"Football needs artificial turf"

The smell of freshly-mown grass and of meadows coming into bloom reminds me of my childhood. There was hardly anything my friends and I liked more than a kickabout on an afternoon off. Using jumpers for goalposts, our field of dreams was a patch of grass next to the church in Visp. Football is an open-air pursuit, and its natural playing surface is grass.

But for all the romance and nostalgia, there's one thing we mustn't forget: in the nations represented by more than half FIFA's 209 member associations you cannot guarantee a playable surface of natural grass all year round. And in some of them it is quite simply impossible, due to heat, scarcity of water or the cold.

That's why the ongoing development and installation of artificial turf is a priority for FIFA. You can't have Wembleys everywhere. Especially in countries where youth programmes and technical development are still in their infancy, artificial turf pitches can provide a significant boost. They allow the most intense training times and playing schedules regardless of the weather and climate. As youths in Visp, we played our matches directly after the seniors. Let me assure you of this: you wouldn't want your kids playing on the rutted ground left behind by the older men.

For the elite game, the most important argument is equality of opportunity. The latest generation artificial turf offers everyone identical conditions, whether the game is staged in Greenland, Ethiopia or Ecuador. For that reason, the installation of artificial turf is a decisive factor in the development and globalisation of football.

Best wishes, Sepp Blatter

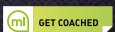
"An unnecessary Americanisation."



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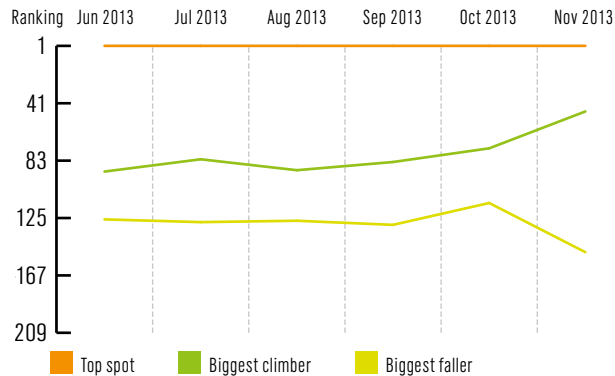
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FIFA WORLD RANKING

Rank	Team	Change in ranking	Points
1	Spain	0	1507
2	Germany	0	1318
3	Argentina	0	1251
4	Colombia	0	1200
5	Portugal	9	1172
6	Uruguay	0	1132
7	Italy	1	1120
8	Switzerland	-1	1113
9	Netherlands	-1	1106
10	Brazil	1	1102
11	Belgium	-6	1098
12	Greece	3	1055
13	England	-3	1041
14	USA	-1	1019
15	Chile	-3	1014
16	Croatia	2	971
17	Côte d'Ivoire	0	918
18	Ukraine	2	907
19	France	2	893
20	Mexico	4	892
21	Bosnia-Herzegovina	-5	886
22	Russia	-3	870
23	Ecuador	-1	852
24	Ghana	-1	849
25	Denmark	1	831
26	Algeria	6	800
27	Sweden	-2	793
28	Czech Republic	-1	766
29	Slovenia	1	762
30	Serbia	-2	752
31	Costa Rica	0	738
32	Romania	-3	734
33	Scotland	2	717
34	Armenia	4	716
35	Venezuela	2	711
36	Nigeria	-3	710
37	Panama	-1	705
38	Egypt	13	699
39	Cape Verde Islands	3	698
39	Peru	0	698
41	Honduras	-7	688
42	Mali	-1	684
43	Turkey	-3	677
44	Hungary	-1	668
45	Iran	4	650
46	Austria	7	648
47	Cuba	27	641
48	Japan	-4	638
49	Tunisia	-2	632
50	Iceland	-4	624
51	Cameroon	8	612
52	Paraguay	-3	600
53	Montenegro	1	594
54	Korea Republic	2	577
54	Norway	-7	577
56	Wales	-12	574
57	Albania	1	571
58	Burkina Faso	-6	569
59	Australia	-2	564
60	Slovakia	5	557
61	South Africa	0	554
62	Israel	4	548
63	Libya	-2	544
64	Finland	-1	539
65	Senegal	-1	536
66	Guinea	2	534
67	Republic of Ireland	-7	528
68	Uzbekistan	-13	526
69	Bolivia	2	519
70	Jordan	0	511
71	United Arab Emirates	0	508
72	Zambia	-5	505
73	Haiti	7	495
74	Sierra Leone	-1	493
75	Morocco	2	490
76	Bulgaria	0	486
77	Togo	-2	480



78	Poland	-9	473
79	Trinidad and Tobago	2	458
80	Gabon	4	453
81	Jamaica	1	441
82	Belarus	1	431
83	Congo DR	4	427
84	FYR Macedonia	2	421
84	Congo	7	421
86	Uganda	-1	417
87	Oman	5	389
88	Dominican Republic	-10	384
89	Angola	4	382
90	Northern Ireland	0	381
91	New Zealand	-12	378
91	El Salvador	-2	378
93	China PR	4	376
93	Ethiopia	2	376
95	Azerbaijan	-7	363
96	Estonia	3	360
97	Moldova	-1	359
98	Botswana	0	357
99	Saudi Arabia	2	352
100	Benin	-6	342
101	Georgia	-1	330
102	Lithuania	1	326
103	Qatar	2	320
104	Niger	6	318
105	Liberia	1	312
106	Zimbabwe	-4	310
106	Central African Republic	1	310
106	Kuwait	3	310
109	Antigua and Barbuda	3	299
109	Iraq	-6	299
111	Equatorial Guinea	8	294
112	Burundi	9	293
113	Korea DPR	-6	292
114	Canada	-3	291
115	Guatemala	-3	287
116	Tajikistan	0	286
117	Kenya	1	281
118	Bahrain	5	275
119	Latvia	-2	272
120	Mozambique	-5	271
121	Malawi	3	270
122	New Caledonia	4	249
123	Lebanon	-2	248
124	Luxembourg	3	243
124	Tanzania	5	243
126	Namibia	2	240
127	Cyprus	7	229
127	Rwanda	2	229
129	Afghanistan	4	226
130	Grenada	2	218
130	Sudan	6	218
132	Kazakhstan	3	216
133	Philippines	4	204
134	Gambia	5	202
135	Syria	6	200
136	Malta	4	198
137	Turkmenistan	-12	195
138	Lesotho	3	187
139	Suriname	-8	186
140	Myanmar	9	184
141	Tahiti	3	179
142	Thailand	1	173
142	Palestine	4	173
144	Mauritania	8	158

144	Hong Kong	4	158
146	Kyrgyzstan	4	155
147	St Kitts and Nevis	0	150
148	India	6	149
149	Maldives	8	147
150	Guyana	-36	146
151	St Vincent and the Grenadines	-31	142
152	Liechtenstein	6	141
152	Puerto Rico	7	141
154	Singapore	1	140
155	São Tomé e Príncipe	7	139
156	Bangladesh	6	137
157	Belize	-12	136
158	Malaysia	2	132
158	Vietnam	-7	132
160	Nicaragua	-7	130
161	St Lucia	-23	129
162	Indonesia	0	122
163	Laos	4	120
164	Chad	-8	116
165	Nepal	0	113
166	Sri Lanka	0	108
167	Pakistan	1	107
168	Barbados	5	101
169	Guam	2	93
170	Faroe Islands	5	87
171	Solomon Islands	0	86
172	Bermuda	-11	83
173	Aruba	0	82
174	Chinese Taipei	2	81
175	Curaçao	-5	67
175	Dominica	-6	67
177	Yemen	0	64
178	Mauritius	0	62
179	Vanuatu	3	53
180	Mongolia	3	49
181	Fiji	4	47
182	Samoa	-4	45
183	Guinea-Bissau	-2	42
184	Bahamas	4	40
185	Swaziland	-2	37
186	Madagascar	-6	33
186	Montserrat	3	33
188	Cambodia	10	28
189	Brunei Darussalam	4	26
189	Timor-Leste	4	26
189	Tonga	-3	26
192	US Virgin Islands	-1	23
193	Comoros	-3	22
194	Cayman Islands	-2	21
194	Papua New Guinea	3	21
196	British Virgin Islands	3	18
196	American Samoa	-10	18
198	Andorra	2	17
199	Eritrea	-4	16
200	Seychelles	-4	15
201	South Sudan	3	10
201	Macau	3	10
203	Djibouti	-1	8
204	Somalia	-3	6
205	Cook Islands	-3	5
206	Anguilla	0	3
207	Bhutan	0	0
207	San Marino	0	0
207	Turks and Caicos Islands	0	0

First Love



Place: **Cattle Springs, Australia**

Date: **4 February 2006**

Time: **1.20 pm**



A TV show worthy of a footballing spectacle

On 6 December, the world's top national sides will be assigned to their groups for the 2014 World Cup in Brazil. The drawing of brightly coloured balls has a tradition almost as long as the World Cup itself.



Sophia Loren acts as Lady Luck for the 1990 World Cup draw in Italy.

Dominik Petermann

Costa do Sauipe, on Brazil's picturesque Bahia coastline, will provide the backdrop for the 2014 World Cup final draw on 6 December. The match schedule, currently populated with letters and numbers, will come to life as each team discovers who they are set to face next summer. The draw will also determine which of the 31 visiting nations gets to meet hosts Brazil in the Opening Match of the 20th World Cup.

Brazil has previous experience of hosting the global showpiece, having welcomed the world to its shores in 1950. On that occasion the tournament ended in utter dejection for the hosts, who were narrowly beaten 2-1 by underdog neighbours Uruguay in the final match, sending the football-loving nation into a state of mourning. After 64 years, *A Seleção* finally have another opportunity to lift the trophy on home soil.

There have been quite a few changes in world football since 1950. The tournament has been expanded from 13 teams to 32 today, and will be played in 12 cities across Brazil, in contrast to the 6 host cities of 1950. However, the principle of the group draw remains the same, although anecdotes from recent draws are not quite as colourful as those from days gone by.

The draw for the first ever World Cup in Uruguay in 1930 was a very sober affair. Teams were invited to participate (or ordered to do so – see *The FIFA Weekly*, No. 3/2013) and were only allocated into groups upon their arrival in Montevideo, three days before the start of the tournament.

To accommodate the increased interest in the 1934 World Cup, a qualification tournament first had to be held for the 32 interested teams, from which 16 teams made it through to the finals. However, the group draw was as unspectacular as it had been four years earlier, carried out in a back room at the Ambasciatori Hotel in Rome, once again just days before kick-off.

Only in 1938 did the draw start to become something of a spectacle in itself. In the Salon de l'Horloge in Paris's Quai d'Orsay, then FIFA President Jules Rimet's grandson Yves made the draw. Few people would have guessed that this would be the last World Cup for twelve long years.

By Yves zu Detlef

After the war, the World Cup resumed in Brazil in 1950. Sixteen teams qualified for the tournament only for Turkey, Scotland and India to withdraw, the latter because they were not allowed to play in bare feet. As it was too late to draft in other teams or cancel parts of the tournament, the 13 remaining teams played in their original four groups, with two groups reduced by one or two teams each. Italian Football Association President and World Cup co-organiser Ottorino Barassi made the draw that year. Eventual world champions Uruguay were drawn in Group 4 with Bolivia and were only required to play one group match instead



Italian Football Association President Ottorino Barassi stirs the balls for the 1950 World Cup in Brazil.



Heidi Klum takes charge of the draw in Leipzig ahead of the 2006 World Cup in Germany.



James Brown in action at the 1994 World Cup draw in Las Vegas.

of the usual three as a result of the withdrawals. Could that have contributed to their eventual victory against Brazil in the Final?

Increasing interest meant that the draw for the 1966 FIFA World Cup in England was shown live on television for the first time, in a broadcast that would ultimately evolve into the spectacular TV show that accompanies the draw today. The spectacle grew as colour TV became ever more popular. In 1974, the draw at Radio Hessen's studios in Frankfurt took its lead from the 1938 event, handing the task of drawing the balls to 11-year-old Detlef Lange, an aspiring choral singer with the Schöneberg Boys' Choir. Lange created one of the biggest shocks in World Cup draw history as he drew hosts West Germany in the same group as their neighbours East Germany.

To make matters worse, the hosts lost their group match against their unfancied rivals, although as it turned out this ultimately meant they were drawn in the "weaker" group for the second round, alongside Yugoslavia, Sweden and Poland. This gave them a relatively easy route to the final against the Netherlands, where they subsequently lifted the trophy.

The tradition of letting a child make the draw continued in 1978 when then FIFA President Joao Havelange let his grandson Ricardinho pick the balls for the World Cup in Argentina.

However, it was the 1990 World Cup draw in Italy that laid the foundations for today's extravagant TV broadcasts. Sepp Blatter, then FIFA Secretary General, masterminded the presentation at the Palazzo dello Sport in Rome and recognised that the concept of the show needed to be adjusted. International stars from the worlds of entertainment and football, including Luciano Pavarotti, Sophia Loren, Pele, Karl-Heinz Rummenigge and Bobby Moore took it in turns to help Blatter, whilst Gianna Nannini and Edoardo Bennato provided musical entertainment by performing that year's official World Cup song, "Un' estate Italiana".

Draw attracts a crowd of 38,000

Despite the overwhelming success of this televised draw, conspiracy theorists later made the absurd claim that Sophia Loren had worn magnetic rings so she could draw the hosts against seemingly "weak" group opponents Czechoslovakia, Austria and USA. Lothar Matthaus was also accused of cheating at the draw for the 2006 World Cup in Germany, after it was alleged that some of the balls had been cooled in advance so he would know which balls he should draw and when. This time it was the turn of the Italians to feel aggrieved by the results.

The draw was entering a new era as a huge event followed by millions of people across the

globe. Four years after Italia '90, Las Vegas provided the perfect backdrop for the draw, which was made in front of 4,500 spectators at the Convention Center and supported by a glittering array of US stars including James Brown, Stevie Wonder, Barry Manilow and Vanessa Williams to name but a few.

Although it scarcely seemed possible, the draw for the 1998 World Cup in France topped the American extravaganza held four years earlier. The French filled the Stade Vélodrome in Marseille with 38,000 spectators to watch the live draw in a spectacular setting. It was the first time a stadium had provided the backdrop for the final group draw, with several hundred million viewers following the event on television at home.

Stars including Sophia Loren, Heidi Klum and Charlize Theron have all added their glamour to the spectacle that the World Cup draw has now become, and Brazil is set to continue this trend on 6 December. There is now no stopping the stage spectacular that precedes the world's greatest footballing spectacle. ❄️

“Are Real Madrid still the world’s most attractive football club?”

Question by *Andres Alvarez from Barcelona, Spain*



Real thoroughbreds: Gunter Netzer and a Ferrari symbolise the glitz and glamour of the early '70s

Real Madrid are considered one of the biggest clubs in football for good reason. The legendary aura they have had for decades stems from an unprecedented time in the 1950s when they played the best football in the world.

You could even say that today there are sides who dominate European club football but who nevertheless still do not have the same magic as Real Madrid. It's true. In those golden years, Real, spearheaded by their ingenious striker Alfredo Di Stefano, didn't only play better football than everyone else, they were also years ahead of the competition in terms of technique and tactics.

I also find the way Real carefully cultivated their image in the wake of their first glory years equally impressive. Even back when I was a player, when only two foreigners were allowed in each team, a new star attraction had to be presented to the Bernabeu faithful at least once every three years.

That explains why the club still put so much emphasis on tempting the best players in the

world to Madrid. I'm no fan of the excessive transfer fees nowadays, but over the decades the Real Madrid presidents have always managed to do one thing: entertain their demanding fans.

There is no definitive answer as to whether Real Madrid are the world's most attractive club. Personally, I'm glad to have had my glamour years there from 1973 to 1976 and I wouldn't try to dissuade any player from signing for them. ❄️

What have you always wanted to know about football? Ask Gunter Netzer: feedbackTheWeekly@fifa.org



Perikles Monioudis

Decades before Ithell Colquhoun painted her famous tarot cards and was ordained as a priestess by the Fellowship of Isis, and following a long and purely surrealistic period, she became immersed in religious art. Her oil paintings “Crucifixion” and “Ark” (both 1954) were preceded by a series of portraits of the Apostles formed from colourful geometric shapes, essentially the pre-work leading to the ecclesiastical murals Colquhoun created for Maze Hill Congregational Church. With a strongly constructivist look and feel, they appear to be an expression of her fascination with the world of surrealist automatism.

This approach to form strongly influenced Colquhoun's “Game of the Year” (oil on canvas, 122 x 86 cm, 1953), her entry to a competition organised by The FA to mark its 90th anniversary. The association offered a prize for the best picture in an exhibition it planned to stage entitled “Football and the Visual Arts”. In a letter the artist pondered whether she would not be better advised to use croquet hoops rather than goalposts in her work. The finished painting then referenced the standard colours of croquet, namely yellow, black, red and blue, and arguably also the ball. Colquhoun's painting was one of 1,710 received by The FA, and she did not win the prize. However, she would not remain empty-handed for ever.

In 1985, three years before her death, Colquhoun held a studio sale and “Game of the Year” was bought by Harry Langdon. The journalist and art lover later sold his collection to FIFA. And via world football's governing body, the painting finally did find its way to The FA. It now hangs in the association's Manchester museum.

It is widely speculated that Colquhoun must have been inspired to paint “Game of the Year” by the legendary FA Cup final of 1953, when the great Sir Stanley Matthews finally laid hands on the cup after inspiring Blackpool to beat Bolton Wanderers. In fact, the deadline for Colquhoun to enter her painting for the FA competition fell prior to the final. A tarot reading might be the only way to uncover the truth. ❄️

“When I was five, they put me in goal because I was too fat.”

Jean-Marie Pfaff was a permanent fixture in the Bayern Munich goal in the Eighties, but the Belgian owes much of his goalkeeping career to his penchant for French fries.

I had 11 brothers and sisters – six sisters and five brothers – so you can imagine the amount of activity in our house growing up. We lived in a house in Beveren, a small town in the Belgian province of East Flanders. It was a crowded but very happy home.

As the tenth child, I was left to my own devices from an early age. My father passed away when I was 12, and although we spent very little time together before he died, I know I was close to his heart every day. He sold carpets during the day and took my brothers to football training in the evening. By the time they all got home together, the younger members of the family were already asleep. I was too small for the football club and would much rather play with my brothers and sisters in our neighbourhood anyway. We would either have a kickabout on the small meadow next to the church near our house, or we would find a quiet street where there were no cars.

My later professional career as a goalkeeper for Bayern Munich can be put down to one thing. When I was five, I was too small and also a bit too fat to play with the other children because I loved to eat French fries with mayonnaise. So they stuck me between the posts in a pair of winter gloves and said: “Jean-Marie, you stay here and try not to let the ball go past.”

I did everything I could to stop the ball going past, and somehow it became apparent that I possessed a talent for catching balls. I had quick reactions and, above all, I had the ambition a goalkeeper needs. At the time, my



Name:

Jean-Marie Pfaff

Date and place of birth:

4 December 1953, Lebbeke

Major honours and awards:

- **German Championship 1985, 1986, 1987 with Bayern Munich**
- **1980 European Championship runner-up with Belgium**
- **World Goalkeeper of the Year 1987**

motto was already “Nobody gets past me.” It was great fun, and after these first few tastes of success, I never had any aspirations to chase the ball as an outfield player, particularly as I wasn’t in the best shape for that.

My mother and schoolteachers despaired at my love of goalkeeping. Several times a week, I came home with torn trousers and scuffed knees. We used to meet in the playground an hour before school began each morning, then after school I would leave my homework in my satchel and stop off at home just long enough to drop off my books and grab a bread roll.

My time as a street footballer ended at the age of ten, when my father finally took me to my first junior training session at SK Beveren, and it was there that my career took off. I was

29 before I left Belgium, tempted away by the giants Bayern Munich. It was an amazing time, but it was a shame that my father didn’t live to see my success at Bayern and with the Belgian national team. ☺

As told to Alan Schweingruber

In Turning Point, personalities reflect on a decisive moment in their lives.



FIFA WORLD CUP™ TROPHY TOUR by Coca-Cola®



EVERYBODY'S TROPHY



Sep. 12-14 Brazil
 Sep. 17 Tahiti
 Sep. 21 Fiji
 Sep. 23 Vanuatu
 Sep. 27-29 Costa Rica
 Sep. 30-Oct. 2 Honduras
 Oct. 3-4 Panama
 Oct. 5-6 Jamaica
 Oct. 7 Cayman Islands
 Oct. 8 Bahamas
 Oct. 9 Bermuda
 Oct. 10 British Virgin Islands
 Oct. 10 Puerto Rico
 Oct. 11-12 Dominican Republic
 Oct. 13 Turks and Caicos Islands
 Oct. 14 Dominica
 Oct. 15 Anguilla
 Oct. 15 St. Vincent & Grenadines
 Oct. 16 US Virgin Islands
 Oct. 17 Antigua and Barbuda
 Oct. 18 Montserrat
 Oct. 19 St. Kitts & Nevis
 Oct. 21 St. Lucia
 Oct. 22 Barbados
 Oct. 25-27 Haiti
 Oct. 28 Grenada
 Oct. 29 Suriname
 Oct. 30 Guyana
 Oct. 31 Trinidad & Tobago
 Nov. 1 Curacao

Nov. 2 Aruba
 Nov. 3-4 Nicaragua
 Nov. 5-6 El Salvador
 Nov. 7 Belize
 Nov. 10 Israel
 Nov. 11 Palestine
 Nov. 12-13 Jordan
 Nov. 14-16 Egypt
 Nov. 17-19 Tunisia
 Nov. 21-22 Algeria
 Nov. 23-24 Morocco
 Nov. 25-26 Ghana
 Nov. 27-28 Kenya
 Nov. 29-30 Tanzania
 Dec. 1-3 South Africa
 Dec. 9-11 Saudi Arabia
 Dec. 12-14 Qatar
 Dec. 15-16 UAE (United Arab Emirates)
 Dec. 17-19 Bangladesh
 Dec. 20 Bhutan
 Dec. 21 Nepal
 Dec. 22-24 India
 Dec. 25-27 Myanmar
 Dec. 28-30 Thailand
 Dec. 31-Jan. 2 Vietnam
 Jan. 3-5 Malaysia
 Jan. 6-8 Indonesia
 Jan. 10-12 Chile
 Jan. 13-15 Argentina
 Jan. 16-17 Uruguay

Jan. 18-19 Paraguay
 Jan. 20-21 Bolivia
 Jan. 22-24 Peru
 Jan. 25-27 Ecuador
 Jan. 28-30 Colombia
 Jan. 31-Feb. 2 Venezuela
 Feb. 3-5 Guatemala
 Feb. 6-11 Mexico
 Feb. 12-14 Canada
 Feb. 16-18 Spain
 Feb. 19-21 Italy
 Feb. 22-24 Croatia
 Feb. 25-27 Turkey
 Feb. 28-Mar. 2 Sweden
 Mar. 3-5 Romania
 Mar. 6-8 Czech Republic
 Mar. 9-11 France
 Mar. 12-13 Wales
 Mar. 14-16 England
 Mar. 17-18 Scotland
 Mar. 19-20 Netherlands
 Mar. 21 Belgium
 Mar. 22-24 Russia
 Mar. 26-28 Poland
 Mar. 29-Apr. 2 Germany
 Apr. 4-6 Korea Republic
 Apr. 7-9 China
 Apr. 10-12 Japan
 Apr. 14-20 USA



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In this week's quiz, five stars, two Sumo wrestlers and a red card lead us to the Ballon d'Or...



①

What do Spain and Uruguay have in common?

- D** Both have won the World Cup twice
- H** Both have featured at every World Cup
- P** Each has won one World Cup final
- R** Both have never lost on penalties



② **Which country qualified for the World Cup in Brazil but declined to take part?**



③ **The crowd for the first leg was almost exclusively male, the return featured a defective net, and the aggregate attendance almost certainly topped 200,000. Which play-off was it?**

- S** France-Ukraine in 2013
- K** Uruguay-Costa Rica in 2009
- P** Switzerland-Turkey in 2005
- L** Australia-Iran in 1997



④



This player was shown a red card before half-time in a World Cup match. His team duly reappeared for the second half, but with how many players?

- E** 11
- L** 10
- O** 9
- Y** 8

The answer to last week's Quiz Cup was **LINE** (detailed answers on FIFA.com/theweekly).

Inspiration and implementation: cus

Please send your answers to feedback-TheWeekly@fifa.org by **4 December 2013**. Correct submissions for all quizzes received by 31 December 2013 will go into the draw to **win two tickets to the FIFA Ballon d'Or 2013 on 13 January 2014**.

Before sending in your answers, all participants must read and accept the competition terms and conditions and the rules, which can be found at en.fifa.com/aboutfifa/organisation/the-fifa-weekly/rules.pdf.



Why don't coaches have to come from the same national association they are representing, like players do?
Detlef Kramer, Mannheim

Answer from Thomas Renggli, chief editor: There has never been any rule regarding a coach's nationality. That stems from the fact that football was established as game by English expatriates almost everywhere across the globe. In most big footballing nations it's almost a question self-esteem to have a compatriot as the man on the touchline. In England it was viewed as a cultural revolution when Sweden's Sven-Goran Eriksson became the first foreigner to coach the national side in 2001. Yet foreigners have left their mark in other countries too: The man who gave Italy *catenaccio* was the Argentinian Helenio Herrera.

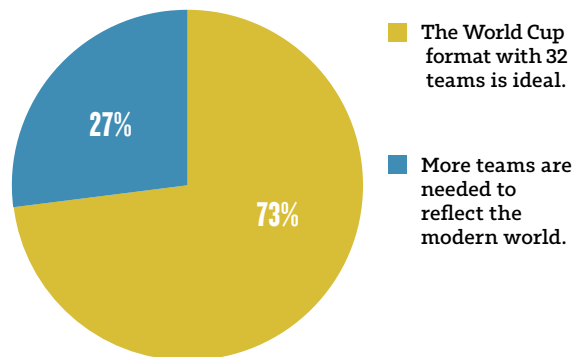
Ronaldo, Messi, Neymar or Ozil: Who will be the star of the World Cup?



Who's the best? Brazil's Neymar gives you a hint. Send your answers to: feedback-TheWeekly@fifa.org

LAST WEEK'S POLL RESULTS:

Are 32 teams enough at a World Cup or should the number of participants be increased?



THE NEW FOOTBALL MAGAZINE

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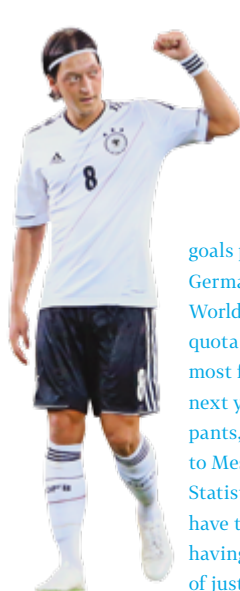


WINNING FORMULA



69 per cent of World Cup games won by the Brazilian national team. *Seleção* have contested 97 matches in total. That win percentage puts next year's hosts ahead of the competition, with Germany, on 61%, and Italy on 55% their closest challengers. (Picture: Pele)

GOALS GUARANTEED



3.6

goals per game scored by the German national team during World Cup qualification. That quota means Germany are the most free-scoring side of any of next year's World Cup participants, thanks in no small part to Mesut Ozil (pictured). Statistically speaking, Iran have the meanest defence, having conceded an average of just 0.25 goals per game.

SCORING SPREE



11 goals scored in the match between Samoa and Tahiti, although the latter netted the bulk of them in a 10-1 triumph. It was the highest scoring match of all 816 Brazil 2014 qualifying encounters. (Picture: Steevy Chong Hue)



Platon, Imago, Getty Images