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Ο Κόσμος



With LAKIS KONISTIS

W-LEAGUE GRAND FINAL THIS WEEKEND AND ON ABC TV!

The inaugural Westfield W-League Grand Final has arrived and the women of the league are preparing to make history!

Leader of the Westfield W-League final standings after Round 10, Queensland Roar, will go head-tohead with Canberra United this Saturday.Did you know Canberra United is the only team to take any points off Queensland United in the regular season? Canberra won the Round 2 match (0-1) in Brisbane, while the teams drew in the Round 10 (1-1) match in Canberra . That's football with style. Queensland Roar and Canberra United go into the Grand Final with an identical form run in the past five games– 3 wins, 2 draws.

Queensland Roar's top scorers in the regular season include Courtney Beutel (6 goals), Lana Harch (5 goals), Lauren Colthorpe (4 goals). Canberra United's top scorers in the



WESTFIELD W-LEAGUE 2009 GRAND FINAL

Queensland Roar v Canberra United Ballymore Stadium, Brisbane

Saturday 17 January 2009 Kick-off 2:55pm local (3:55pm AEDT)

Match Broadcast exclusively on ABC TV

Internet and Telephone Betting – up to \$2,500 Free bets Best 3 Totes – Full Sports Service Australia's fastestgrowing bookmaker JOIN NOW!

regular season include Caitlin Munoz (4 goals) and Ellie Brush (3 goals).As far as the goalkeppers are concerned, an equal record exists between Queensland Roar goalkeeper Casey Dumont, and Canberra United goalkeeper Lydia Williams. Both have kept five clean sheets throughout the season so far. In their past four games, each goalkeeper has let in only three goals.

MATILDAS PREPARE FOR ITALIANS

Whilst on wome's soccer this week, I can advise that the Australian women's football team, the Westfield Matildas, will meet Italy for two international friendly matches in Australia kicking-off at the end of the month.

The matches have been arranged as part of Football Federation Australia's (FFA) cooperation agreement with the Federazione Italiana Giuoco Calcio (FIGC or Italian Football Federation) signed in May 2008.

The Westfield Matildas, who are currently ranked 14th in the world, defeated 12th ranked Italy 3-0 in their most recent meeting in June last year as part of the Peace Queen Cup in Korea.

In 2008, the Westfield Matildas were Australia's busiest football team having played 22 international matches.

The matches will take place following the inaugural season of the Westfield W-League which has seen Australia's top women players participate in a national league of their own over the past three months.

The first match will take place on Saturday 31st January at Parramatta Stadium, Sydney, and the second match on Saturday 7th February at Canberra Stadium. Both games will again be broadcast live and exclusive on ABC Television at 4.00pm AEDT. Rukavytsya to trial in Holland

Perth Glory has granted permission for young striker Nikita Rukavytsya to attend a trial with Dutch first division side FC Twente next week. Rukavytsya played his last game for Perth last weekend against Melbourne.

The 21 year old has attracted plenty of attention both locally and abroad following another successful season in front of goal and has been invited to spend the week under the watchful eye of former England manager Steve McLaren who has lifted FC Twente to third in the Eredivisie.

It is Rukavytsya's second European trial following a week with German Bundesliga side Hannover 96 in April last year.

Rukavytsya is Perth 's U/23 marquee player and earlier this season resigned with the club until the end of the 2009/10 season.

RONALDO FIFA 2008 PLAYER OF THE YEAR

Portugal and Manchester United winger Cristiano Ronaldo has been named FIFA World Player of 2008.

With his clever step-overs, fast footwork with both feet and good heading ability, Ronaldo has scored 102 goals for Manchester United in 264 matches for the club.

The winger enjoyed a highly successful 2007-08 season, scoring 42 goals in all competitions as United won a Premier League and Champions League double. His exploits led to him becoming only the second player to win England's Footballer of the Year in successive seasons and just the third Portuguese player to win the Ballon d'Or award after Eusebio in 1965 and Luis Figo in 2000.Born on Feb. 5th 1985 in Funchal, Madeira Ronaldo's late father Jose Dinis Aveiro gave him the second given name Ronaldo in honour of former U.S. president Ronald Reagan.



BERRIES vs ROOSTERS FC ON SUNDAY

And finally, the West Sydney Berries begin their 2009 campaign with a trial game set down on SUN-DAY (not Saturday), at Lidcombe O-Roosters val against FC (5:30 pm/7:30 pm). It will be the club's first game under the direction of coaches John Calleja and Matthew Ribarovski as they prepare their charges for another year in the NSW Premier League competition. The Berries will be hoping to make the TeleChoice Premier League finals series in 2009 after finishing eighth in 2008.

The Berries kick off their 2009 campaign when they entertain staunch rivals Sydney Olympic at Belmore Sports Ground on Sunday 1st March.

West Sydney Berries 2009 Squad: Hamish McLean, Marjan Novotni, Omar Saadi, Adam Wither, Michael Cunico, Jack Sobczyk, Johnny Fotiadis, Cameron Jones, John Tsironis, Aheleas Kotsopoulos, James Kovas, Liam Austin, Ryan Jones, Kosta Lagoudakis, Chris Gaitatzis, Lorenzo Machuca, Dimitri Zakilas, Eli Squillacioti, Daniel Wagus, Trinity Allen.



Whilst on the Berries, the club's Annual General Meeting is also on this weekend- Sunday 10am at the Bankstown Sports Club.

FA CUTS PRICES TO FILL WEMBLEY

In news from abroad, the English Football Association is slashing ticket prices by as much as 25% rather than risking empty seats for the World Cup qualifiers and exhibition games at Wembley.

"We want to make watching the national team as affordable as possible, particularly for families, during this difficult economic period," FA chief operating officer Alex Horne said in a statement.

England has upcoming home matches against Slovakia (March 28th), Ukraine (April 1st), and Andorra (June 10th).

Although 89,107 turned up for a 5-1 qualifying win over Kazakhstan in October, just 69,738 attended an August exhibition match against the Czech Republic.Tickets for the Slovakia exhibition game are priced at 40 and 30 pounds (\$60 and \$45), and tickets for the Ukraine qualifier run from 29-59.50 pounds (\$43-89).

BETEZY BET-OF-THE-WEEK

He's done it again! Fresh from a great family holiday with all his winnings, "The Scotsman" has started 2009 with a bang- or should I say, 'a winner'.Sure he had to share the spoils after his Sydney tip "Rain Game" dead-heated last Saturday, but nonetheless, a winner is a winner! So what's he got for you "Sportsworld" readers this weekend?

"Last week at the Gold Coast we were on the right leg as predicted all winners came sailing down the middle to the outside off the track. Unfortunately we couldn't find the winner of the Magic Millions even though we didnt like the hot favourite Paprika.

We were extremely unluckly with Rain Game last week dead heating when I was counting my money as they crossed the line. No point crying over spilt milk. We will get the wages this week and my best at Rosehill is in the FRANK UNDERWOOD CUP. The horse is Penrickson which is well weighted and should be right there in the finish.

In Melbourne there is a horse racing which I have a bit of an opinon of and I think it will pay to follow this horse- Melbourne race 7 horse number 5- Commanding Hope e/way and watch him over some better races when fully fit. He will be winning a good race in the up coming weeks.

Good punting, The Scotsman"