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HOMES FOR RENT IN SOUTH AFRICA

Owners are keeping their investment properties empty until the World Cup soccer tournament in 2010, according to real estate agents throughout South Africa.

"I am increasingly being asked by owners to withhold their investment property to ensure availability during the World Cup," Jules Arnott of Seef Properties said.

Arnott said that Match, the FIFA-endorsed ticketing and accommodation booking agents for VIPs, sponsors and media to the World Cup, did not cater for the marketing of non-graded residential accommodation for the average fan.

He said there was "a huge demand" for beds predicted (65,000 in some cities on peak nights), especially in central areas such as those with easy access to the Greenpoint stadium in Cape Town.

"It would certainly make sense to market your property for rent during the football World Cup," Arnott said. "It's a once in a lifetime opportunity and excluding peak holiday seasons when we accommodate our regular clients visiting from overseas and paying on favourable currency rates, most home owners will not see rental amounts like this being achieved, even in peak holiday seasons."

He said last month a home in Camps Bay had been listed that would be let out for R90 000 per day.

STELLIOS VASSILOPOULOS R.I.P.

Former Canterbury Marrickville Olympic player Stellios Vassilopoulos has passed away aged 69.

Stellios played with Ari in Greece as a striker, in the early 1960's before being brought to Australia by Canterbury Marrickville Olympic in 1964. Stellios also played for the club in seasons 1965 and 1966.

Other players that were recruited in 1964 were names such as Dimopoulos, Bovolis, Paxinos, Kostandakopoulos, Ntrikos, and Naoum.

In 1967, Stellios Vassilopoulos moved to, and played for Canberra, where he met his beloved Maria, whom he married.

Stellios was loved by his teammates and supporters alike. A true gentleman, humble and kind, one who never had a bad word to say about anyone. He always greeted you with a welcoming smile, and always asked what the Berries were up to.

Stellios Vassilopoulos, may you rest in peace.



With **LAKIS KONISTIS**

Sports World

AUSSIES ALL BEACHED OUT

The Qantas Australian Men's Beach Football Team have been defeated 2-4 by Oman in their final group match of the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup 2009 Asian Qualifiers in Dubai.

Needing a win to progress to the semi-final stage, the Qantas Australian Men's Beach Football Team got off to a bad start by allowing Oman to score the opening goal in the third minute of the match. Oman doubled their lead, with just seconds remaining in the first period when Nasser Al Mukhaini found the back of the net.

After a scoreless second period, the Qantas Australian Men's Beach Football Team pulled a goal back early in the third period when Jonathan Cook scored to make it 2-1. Oman extended their lead shortly after through Jalal and effectively sealed the match two minutes later when Nasser Al Mukhaini scored his second goal. Michael Matricciani scored with six minutes remaining to give the Qantas Australian Men's Beach Football Team some hope of a fight-back, but unfortunately no additional goals were forthcoming and Oman held on to book a berth in the semi-finals.

In the other matches, Iran confirmed their top place in Group B with an 8-2 win over China and Bahrain defeated Japan 3-2 on penalties after scores were locked at 2-2 after extra time. Uzbekistan won their friendly match 8-7 against France.

Japan, Bahrain, Iran and Oman will now progress to the semi-finals stage,

with the winners of the each semi-final match advancing to the final and will also qualify for the FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup 2009.

The FIFA Beach Soccer World Cup 2009 will be played in Dubai from 16 to 22 November 2009 and involves 16 nations including United Arab Emirates, Portugal, Uruguay, Solomon Islands, Spain, Côte d'Ivoire, El Salvador, Russia, Costa Rica, Argentina, Italy, Brazil, Nigeria and Switzerland.

PARASKEVAS' TEAM-OF-THE-WEEK

According to fellow sports journalist Chris Paraskevas, here is his A-League "Team of the Week" from last weekend's round:

GK - Danny Vukovic (Central Coast Mariners): A 4-0 score-line in favour of the Mariners against Melbourne might have suggested that their goalkeeper had little to do but the truth is that his sharp reflexes helped to keep the Victory out of the game at all stages, keeping a clean sheet with his characteristic agility. Perhaps the league's best goalkeeper behind Eugene Galekovic - and not far off the Adelaide man in any case.

RB - Ivan Franjic (Brisbane Roar): The youngster looked his side's most assured defender in the away win over Adelaide, during a team performance that wasn't always convincing. Looked composed in defence and got forward when he had to and generally hasn't looked out of place in the A-League.

CB - Andy Todd (Perth Glory): Perth simply look a different player when this man takes to the pitch, not only for his calming influence over the back four but for the drive that he offers them coming out of defence. It was a quality of his that was on show against Wellington, the former Derby man manufacturing space in the middle of the park and leading

counter-attacks.

CB - Michael Thwaite (Gold Coast United): Perhaps he wasn't tested that often by a poor Sydney side but the fact that he helped to keep quiet on of the league's most slippery attacks containing Alex Brosque and Mark Bridge should not be scoffed at. Has looked more convincing than his defensive partner Van den Brink this season.

LB - Anderson (Gold Coast United): The Brazilian has largely gone unnoticed at left-back in the past few weeks but he has done an outstanding job for his side. Against Sydney he gave them a valuable output down the left flank and though his delivery wasn't always of a high quality, his forays forward kept the Sky Blues occupied and he looked assured in defence.

LM - Todd Howarth (Perth Glory): A constant pest down the left wing and source of forward momentum, he's another who doesn't always draw the plaudits but who works hard for his side and gives them another dimension in attack.

CM - Jason Culina (Gold Coast United): Stepped up when his club needed him most to produce his best performance since returning to Australia, finally embracing the attacking aspects of the game that appeared to have disappeared from his game and setting up Smeltz for the winner with a brilliant run and cross. Drove United forward and his range of passing stretched Sydney all evening.

CM - Nicky Travis (Central Coast Mariners): Has been a revelation for the Mariners this season and continued to be so against Melbourne on the weekend, where he produced another dominant midfield display, setting up two goals for his side and making his physical presence in midfield felt.

RM - Matt Thompson (Newcastle Jets): Played in a midfield, where he perhaps hasn't been utilized enough this season based on his latest performance. Scored a crucial first goal for his embattled side and lead by example with the arm-band, a constant source of menace to the Fury defence with his runs into the box and effective passing game.

ST - Sergio Van Dijk (Brisbane Roar): As always, the go-to man for the Roar, scoring a sharp double that consisted of a penalty and a quite outstanding curled finish beyond the league's best goalkeeper. Really is the competition's most complete forward, combining hold-up play and astute finishing to single-handedly give Ange Postecoglou his first win as Brisbane manager.

ST - Sean Rooney (Newcastle Jets): Returned to the Jets line-up and played in a three man forward line. He constantly was in and amongst it, having plenty of shots and causing havoc - it is no surprise that the jets have struggled to score without him.

WHAT A TEAM!

Speaking about teams...

What about the squad the Bonnyrigg White Eagles have already assembled for 2010!

And there are SOME experts out there who do not rate the quality/ability of coach Brian "Bomber" Brown.

Perhaps it is because they WOULD NOT be able to control him nor dictate to him who he should and shouldn't play...

Nonetheless, here's Bomber's Bonnyrigg White Eagles' impressive squad for 2010 so far:

- Shane Webb (Bankstown City Lions)
- Jamie McMaster (Wollongong CFC)
- Phillip Zabaks (A.P.I.A.-Leichhardt Tigers)
- Daniel Severino (Bankstown City Lions)
- Brad Boardman (Sutherland Sharks)
- Vuko Tomasevic (Marconi Stallions)
- Stefan Helata (Marconi Stallions)
- Juan Carlos Chavez (St. George)
- Michael Brown (Airdie United)
- Milorad Simonovic (re-signed)
- Milan Zoric (re-signed)
- Nikola Zonjic (re-signed)
- Steven Bozinovski (re-signed)
- Paul Cotte (re-signed)
- Ali Akbal (re-signed)
- Greame Forbes (re-signed)