



By George Stavroulakis

FFA ACKNOWLEDGES MILE JEDINAK'S OUTSTANDING INTERNATIONAL CAREER

FOOTBALL FEDERATION AUSTRALIA (FFA) TODAY ACKNOWLEDGED THE OUTSTANDING INTERNATIONAL CAREER OF MILE JEDINAK AFTER THE ASTON VILLA FC PLAYER CALLED TIME ON HIS INVOLVEMENT WITH THE CALTEX SOCCEROOS.

Jedinak - who represented Australia on 79 occasions and scored 20 international goals between 2008 and 2018 - announced his retirement from international football on Monday.

FFA Chairman Mr Steven Lowy AM said Jedinak had left an incredible legacy after captaining Australia at two FIFA World Cups (2014 and 2018), and an AFC Asian Cup (2015). **"Mile Jedinak** has been a fantastic servant to Australian football over a long period of time and his leadership of the national team has been truly inspirational," Lowy said. "He is the only male player in the history of Australian football to captain Australia at two FIFA World Cups and was the first and only Australian captain to lead the Socceroos to an AFC Asian Cup

title."

"On behalf of the Australian football family I would like to thank Mile for his contribution to the game in Australia and wish him well for the remainder of his club career," he said.

FFA Chief Executive Officer Mr David Gallop AM echoed Lowy's sentiments, and added that ambitious Australian footballers could look to Jedinak's career for inspiration.

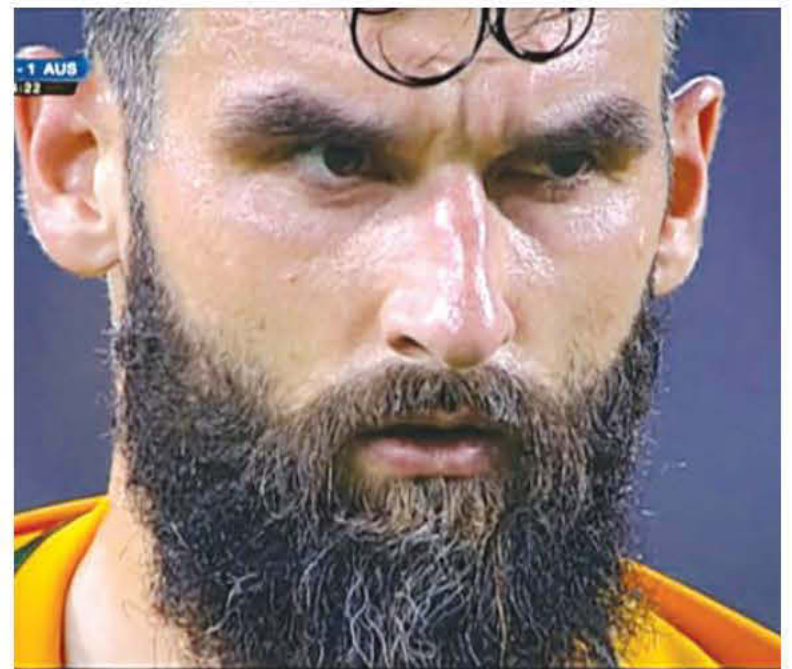
"Mile is a great role model for Australian footballers," Gallop said. "The Hyundai A-League provided a springboard for Mile back into Europe, and through his determination, work-ethic, and skill, Mile has managed to achieve success at some of the highest levels of the game."

"Mile's three goals at FIFA World Cups, including two this year in Russia, makes him our second top goalscorer in FIFA World Cup history," he said.

Caltex Socceroos Head Coach Graham Arnold also paid tribute to Jedinak.

"Mile has been great leader for the Socceroos and great player for Australia," Arnold said. "He is held in fantastic regard by his teammates, the coaches and staff that have worked with him, as well as the fans."

"I congratulate Mile on a superb international career, and now look forward to seeing other squad members step up as Socceroos leaders after the international retirements of Mile and Tim Cahill," he said.



JOEYS SECURE TICKET TO 2019 FIFA U17 WORLD CUP

Australia's U17 National Team secured a berth at the 2019 FIFA U17 World Cup in Peru on Monday after defeating Indonesia 3-2 in Malaysia.



In front of a vociferous crowd of just under 14,000 supporters at the Bukit Jalil Stadium in Kuala Lumpur, Australia came back from 1-0 down at half time to advance to the Semi Finals of the 2018 AFC U16 Championship.

Indonesian attacker Sutan Diego put his nation ahead in the 17th minute with a clinical finish from the edge of the area.

Perth Glory youngster Daniel Walsh restored parity to the contest in the 51st minute with a fine header from a Birkan Kirdar free kick, before South Australia's Adam Leombruno helped Trevor Morgan's side to a 2-1 lead with a fine finish in the 65th minute of the match.

Striker Noah Botic added to the Joeys' lead in the 74th minute when he curled a strike beyond Indonesian goalkeeper Emando Ari Sutaryadi, before the Indonesians rounded out the scoring in late in the second stanza via Rendy Juliansyah.

Following the match Joeys Head Coach Trevor Morgan praised his youngsters for earning one of Asia's four spots at next year's FIFA U17 World Cup in Peru, and for advancing

to the Semi Finals of the continental Championship.

"I couldn't be prouder of the group," Morgan said. "We had a slow start to the tournament with a loss against Korea Republic, however since then have shown quality and resilience to secure wins over Iraq, Afghanistan, and Indonesia which has helped us achieve our first target of this Championship - a place at next year's FIFA U17 World Cup."

"In a short period of time we have grown as a group, and we will now play Japan for a place in the Final of the AFC U16 Championship. Japan will be an immensely tough opponent on Thursday, however we will enter the game with the belief that we can win the match and progress to the Final.

"Qualification for next year's World Cup in Peru will ensure more high-level international matches for this group of youngsters over the next 12 months, which will be critical to their development as footballers. While our focus must be on Thursday's Semi Final, we must also recognise that qualification for the World Cup is an incredible achievement for everyone involved with the team and enjoy the moment," he said.

Australia last qualified for the FIFA U17 World Cup in 2015 when the competition was held in another South American nation, Chile.

FFA Chief Executive Officer David Gallop AM congratulated the Joeys.

"Qualification for any FIFA World Cup is a fantastic achievement and congratulations must go this evening to Trevor Morgan, the players, and the staff with the team in Malaysia," Gallop said.

Joeys 23-player squad for 2018 AFC U16 Championship (Malaysia)

Name	Club, Country
Joshua BENSON	Newcastle Jets, Australia
Timothy BOKE	Belconnen United (ACT), Australia
Jordan BOS	Melbourne City FC, Australia
Noah BOTIC	Rockdale City Suns FC (NSW), Australia
Jordan COURTNEY-PERKINS	Brisbane Roar FC, Australia
Luke DUZEL	Melbourne City FC, Australia
Jayden GORMAN	Perth Glory FC, Australia
Tristan HAMMOND	Sporting Lisbon, Portugal
Oliver KALAC	Western Sydney Wanderers FC, Australia
Birkan KIRDAR	Melbourne Victory, Australia
Jaiden KUCHARSKI	Sydney FC, Australia
Thomas LAMBIRIS	Melbourne City FC, Australia
Adam LEOMBRUNO	FFSA NTC (SA), Australia
Adam PAVLESIC	Sydney FC, Australia
Alex POPOVIC	Adelaide United, Australia
Joseph RODDY	Sydney FC, Australia
Lachlan SEPPING	Marconi FC (NSW), Australia
Kerrin STOKES	Croydon Kings (SA), Australia
Ahmad TALEB	Melbourne City FC, Australia
Ryan TEAGUE	Sydney FC, Australia
Joshua VARGA	Melbourne City FC, Australia
Daniel WALSH	Perth Glory FC, Australia
Adam ZERVAS	Newcastle Jets FC, Australia