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25th

ANNIVERSARY



BLUEBELLS UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB

1966 - 1991

Thank You, Bhaya and Sunny!

LETTER

1321 Phase Three
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March 5, 1991

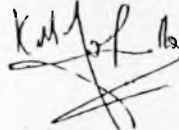
Dear Bhaya and Sunny.

I am unable to find words that can convey my appreciation for what you guys did for me on the death and burial of my late brother. However, my wife and my sister-in-law and her children have asked me to say to you "A VERY BIG THANK YOU."

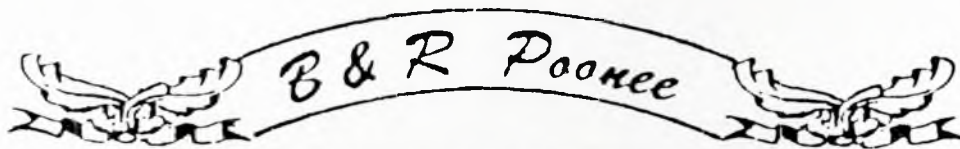
People like you are very hard to come by. You have not only shown that you are efficient businessmen, but have also demonstrated your friendship and kindness towards me that no one can equal. You made my burden very light during this difficult time. Everything that you have done was beyond anyone's expectations. To top it all, the distribution of thank-you cards to the congregation at the most wonderful gesture.

I wish you every success in your business and a healthy future.

Yours faithfully,



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Thank You
Bhaya & Sunny Poonee

**N.B.: WE ARE NOT ASSOCIATED WITH OTHER
FUNERAL BUSINESS - WE ARE INDEPENDENT**

"Wishing Blubells United everything of the Best"



Editorial

TWENTY-FIVE years is a long time by any standards. For a sports organisation such as ours, surviving to celebrate our Silver Jubilee is a special achievement.

We were established when apartheid was at its prime and as strong adherents of the non-racial sports movement we always encountered many obstacles. Our personal resistance and victory against these unjust policies is history now but, more important to us is the fact that we were able to survive without compromising our principles.

We have now been part of the South African Soccer scene for four decades and can really be proud of our achievements and contributions, both at the upper echelons as well as the grass-roots level.

We have a proud record of producing both outstanding administrators as well as players, that have both served us specifically, and soccer

generally, in our country.

Our Silver Anniversary coincides with a difficult period in our history and we would like to caution our sportspersons against being misled by the many opportunists in our ranks. It is important and vital that we carefully consider all our moves and ensure that we, who have been disadvantaged for so long, are not further disadvantaged by the decisions of people who do not have our interest at heart.

A special word of thanks to the many people who have contributed to our club over these past twenty five years. Your efforts, whether large or small, in cash or kind, sporadic or consistent, whether to our juniors or professionals, will always be appreciated. From the Bluebells United family we say thank you and call again and may you all be around to contribute till our Golden Jubilee.



**BLUEBELLS UNITED
FOOTBALL CLUB**

1966 - 1991

THE VIEWS AND OPINIONS EXPRESSED IN THE BROCHURE ARE NOT NECESSARILY THE VIEWS OF THE BLUEBELLS UNITED FOOTBALL CLUB AND THIS CLUB DOES NOT HOLD ITSELF RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY OPINIONS OR VIEWS OF THE WRITERS.

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Where do we go to from here?

By **ALAN MOONSAMMY**
President

IN relative terms, depending on the position you adopt in evaluating the period of existence of our club, you would either say that we have been around for a long time or you would say that we are a mere fledgling in historical terms.

For those of us who have been around since the inception of Bluebells United Football Club, it is an achievement that fills us with a sense of pride. Some of us started this club when we weren't even teenagers and today these very same people are still at the helm of affairs.

Officially, Bluebells United Football Club is celebrating its twenty fifth anniversary, but the history of the club goes back a few years, almost coinciding with the establishment of Lenasia as an "Indian" homeland.

At this time soccer in general, and teams organised around clubs in particular, served a very important social function. One of these social functions was that it gave young boys something constructive to do with their energy. This was very necessary considering the limitations that there were by the way of entertainment and other leisure activities.

From having been formed around the motive to bond more strongly friendships that had existed at school and in the community, Bluebells United grew from these beginnings to become a household name, with ambitions and aspirations to play at the highest level available in a very divided South African soccer scenario.

It may be rightly claimed that the club did realise its

dream in the early and mid-seventies when the Fed was arguably the most powerful professional soccer league in the country. History informs us that the power base was systematically eroded by enemies of non-racialism who collaborated with a system bent on destroying anything that did not subscribe to ethnicity and hence racialism.

Today, we are being told that soccer is big business. We have, however, witnessed some of the negative ramifications of this. Be that as it may, we have to accept that today sport and sponsorship are inextricably intertwined. Survival is restricted to the "financially fittest". It is very disturbing to report that our financial position has deteriorated rather than improved over the years and that the community seems very reticent to support an important programme such as ours.

The bottom line is that without sponsorship Bluebells have very little chance of surviving another 25 years. This is especially sad when you consider that we were able to overcome "greater battles" only to be threatened by the "small" battle against money.

A special appeal is extended to our community to *please support our programme of the creation of recreational opportunities for our youth.*

When we consider the alternatives to this form of recreation we are convinced we are doing the right thing.

In conclusion, we must note that it will be a very sad day if an august organisation such as ours disappears from the ranks of our community. We have seen it happen to many of our predecessors. *Please let it not happen to us!*

The ABC of Fund Raising

A Fund Raiser stood at the Heavenly Gate,

His face was scarred and old.

He stood before the Man of Fate

For admission to the fold.

"What have you done" Saint Peter said,

"To gain admission here?"

"I've been a Fund Raiser, Sir", he said,

"For many and many a year".

The Pearly Gates swung open wide,

Saint Peter rang the bell...

"Come in and choose your harp", he saighed.

"You've had your share of hell.

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Can't wait for the next 25 years.*



Message from Buti Mosesi

Administrative Officer, NSL 2nd Division O.K. League

I WISH to congratulate Bluebells United FC on the occasion of their 25th Anniversary-25 years of existence in the soccer world.

I want to believe that this was 25 years of toil, hardships, mishaps but most of all, success. Your spirits were never dampened in your struggle to develop soccer. I have no doubt that the contribution to the development of soccer, no matter how small, will go a long way, and will leave an indelible mark in the South African soccer environment for

both the young and old footballers, irrespective of their colour or creed.

I am proud to be associated with a club with an illustrious history. It makes me even prouder to have such a club participating in the Second Division of the National Soccer League. Your presence is an inspiration to all the other clubs in the division.

I salute you and wish you all the best for your future endeavours. May you grow from strength to strength.



Message from Gopal T Padayichie

*President of the Western Transvaal Darts Association
(Founder Member and First Treasurer B.U.F.C.)*

IT gives Western Transvaal Darts Association immense pleasure to contribute to your 25th Anniversary Souvenir Brochure.

Your unselfish stand, dedication and sincerity to fight the racism in sports and society which existed and still prevalent today must be admired. Keep up the non-racial struggle for "Bluebells United Football Club" will live long after this racist government and its followers will once and for all be eradicated. Your contributions to sport have inspired many sporting clubs and associations to follow your righteous struggle against apartheid in our country.

We definitely share a common belief that is based on the

dignity, pride and equality of rights of all human beings. Your unforgettable instrumental contributions in the fight against apartheid is now bearing some fruit, of which you can be proud.

May I, as a founder member of this dynamic organisation, congratulate you on your achievements and wish you all the luck and success in your future ventures.

On behalf of the executive, officials of clubs and members, I extend to your organisation our very best wishes on your 25th Anniversary. I am sure your celebration will be a great success and you will continue to fight for the equality of man and human dignity.



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Message from Omaruddin Don Mattera

BELLS have always played important roles in the lives of people: the slave bell; the church bell; the freedom bell; the peace bell that rings after the end of great battles; the door bell and the siren (bell) that marks the beginning and the end of the workday.

There is also the cow-bell that brings home the promise of life-giving milk.

Then there are the Bluebells -- beautiful floral gifts of Nature to the world and to Humankind, to help beautify and decorate the earth. It is therefore no accident that a group of young people should have chosen such a significant name.

For me Bluebells United have always been a symbol of

great sacrifice and commitment to Human Freedom and Justice and Togetherness. You have stayed true to the highest codes of fairness-in-sport, and the right of people to live and to play together.

May the Bells continue to ring out and cry and the hope of the oppressed and downtrodden -- those women and men; boys and girls in need of caring, empathy and compassion. For without these, we are nothing. All our money, our fame, our education and our status, are naught, if we have no compassion...

We salute you Bluebells United and know that we shall see one or two of your players in the team that will represent our Beloved Country at the World Cup.

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The Changing Game

BY LOUIS S. JEEVANANTHAM

FROM as far as I can remember, soccer has undergone a number of changes in terms of formation and also tactics. The first of these changes will be dealt with first.

The original team formation that my contemporaries and I were introduced to was the W M formation, with the formation taking the following shape: two fullbacks, three halves and five forwards. The only truly defensive players were the goalkeepers and the fullbacks.

In 1958 the Brazilian World Cup team introduced a new formation to the world. It was called the 4-2-4 where there were four defenders, two halves and four forwards. Nomenclature also underwent a transformation so we were being told about back-four players, midfielders and front runners. A shortcoming of this system was that there were too few players to stoke the engine room, i.e. only two players in the midfield.

At the same time defensive minded teams were experimenting with a sweeper behind the back four, and this tendency was to surface once more in the most recent World Cup, but in a different guise and with different roles for the players. We will come to that in a moment.

The problem of having too few players in the midfield was ostensibly overcome by the 4-3-3, where these players would now occupy the midfield and this was later increased to four in the 4-4-2 formation very popular currently.

Two systems that are in vogue are the ones which use

five players at the back, with a sweeper and attacking fullbacks who supplement a lone forward, or the system that packs five players into the midfield and then gets them to surge through in order to support the lone ranger upfront. The view is that people coming from deep cannot be marked or picked up as they are initially occupying negative areas of the field.

Enough of the technicalities and down to the nitty-gritty. What has all of this done to football. It has certainly made it more defensive because the move has been towards the withdrawal of a greater number of players into defensive roles.

But it has also meant that modern players had to develop a higher level of skill and tactical awareness.

It hasn't contributed to more attractive football in the sense that fewer goals are being scored but this hasn't diminished the spectator appeal of the game. It should not be tampered with.

When all is said and done, those able to play at the highest level are the people who have put the most into their games in terms of work and dedication. If you can't pass, trap a ball, support a player in possession, make decoy runs, shoot accurately and powerfully, make tackles and win the ball and defend intelligently by being aware of priority defensive space, then no matter what formation your team uses, you should preferably take up an administrative job, as you are more likely to be serving the needs of the club more fruitfully in this way.

May you go from strength to strength BLUEBELLS
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Messages of Goodwill

From Vincent G.Naidoo (Founder President 1965-1978):

I am overjoyed at this historic occasion. It pleases me to see that others have found the time to continue the work we started. Congratulations.

From Billy Morgan (Trainer/Coach: First Pro Team):

May I extend my warmest congratulations on your 25th Anniversary. May you receive the support that you so richly deserve, to ensure another 25 years of existence.

From Vadi Pillay (President 1979-1988) (L.S.A. Vice-President):

My sincere good wishes on your Silver Jubilee Celebrations. It has been a real honour to be associated with an organisation of the stature of Bluebells United.

From The Indicator:

The editor and staff of The Indicator are privileged to be accorded this opportunity to extend their warmest congratulations on this special occasion. May the club grow from strength to strength, and let this be the start of another memorable 25 years.

From The Lenasia Times:

The editor and staff of the Lenasia Times welcome this opportunity of wishing you well on the occasion of your 25th Anniversary. Your many achievements, both on and off the field, have brought honour to Lenasia. Keep up the good work.

From D.D. Soma (President, Delfos FC):

Congratulations to Bluebells United F.C. on their 25th Anniversary. On such auspicious occasions it is customary to shower messages of goodwill and praise but in the case of Bluebells it really is relevant. Their contribution to the development of soccer has been undisputed whether on the playing field or as ambassadors of non-racial soccer.

From C.J. Naidoo (President, Bluebells Dart Club):

Congratulations! On behalf of Bluebells Darts, I would like to take this opportunity to extend hearty congratulations to the Bluebells football fraternity on their 25th Anniversary. For the past 25 years, although Bluebell United's path was often plagued with vicissitude, the splendid manner in which the spirit of football was cherished, and the principles of non-racialism dauntlessly upheld, was awe inspiring. We, Bluebells Darts are proud to be associated with such stalwarts in football.

We wish you well for the new challenges that lie ahead, and look forward to the chants of "We Love You Bluebells" echoing across the land.

From A.Lall (President, Lenasia Soccer Association):

It is a singular pleasure to be offered the opportunity to express our Congratulations on the occasion of your 25th Anniversary. Bluebells and soccer have been synonymous in Lenasia over the years and we at LSA are extremely proud to have been associated with you over the past 25 years.

From Zanooff Ramdin (ex-vice-president and first pro manager):

Since our establishment we have always been involved in a struggle for survival. It therefore pleases me greatly that we are still around after 25 years. Good luck!

From the officials and members of Atletico FC:

May we take this opportunity of wishing you well on your 25th anniversary. Keep up your magnificent contribution to the great game of football.

From Lions Dart Club:

Our sincere congratulations on the occasion of your 25th anniversary. We are honoured to be associated with this great event. Please continue with the outstanding contribution, to our sport, that you have become famous for.

Congratulations on your 25th Anniversary.

Chan Dorsamy

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Dedicated to all those persons who have rendered service to Bluebells United over the 25 years



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Blikkies Bismilla
James Bhana
Eric Bennet
Anil Bhoola
Peter Bhana
Aggie Bhan jee
Derek Brown
Haroon Bera
Dawood Bemath
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Chow Chin
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Ronnie Velloo
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Bluebells '73



Standing (left to right): Ivan, Woes, Goona, Rattin, Kulu, Alan, Doza and Ralph.

Sitting: Prega, Georgie, Terry, Bigboy and Louis.

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Sitting l-r: Q. Johnson, A. Buyani, F. Mtshali, R. Dickson, G. Carelse, D. George, M. Maleka, R. Ebrahim, B. Barnes

Absent: T. Singaram, G. Padayatchi, E. Solomons, O. Daza, R. Hermans

Bells' Executive Committee '91



Standing, l-r: Indra Daya, Anil Bhoola, Peter Bhana, Aggie Banjee

Sitting, l-r: Terry Jeevanantham, Biza Naidoo, Alan Moonsamy, Chandrakan Sukha.

Absent: Tony Pillay, Ocean Daza.



Bluebells United

UNDER-10



Standing back, l-r: D. Brown, K.Poonen. Middle, l-r: J.Chotia, J. Kisson, S.Chetty, P.Chaytoo, S. Govender. Front l-r: L. Sijor, R.Paul, Z.Ally, Z.Aziz, N.Patel, M.Mia, C.Moonsamy, S.Mia. Kneeling: K.Naidoo, ABSENT; C.Da Gama, J. Lazarus.

UNDER-12



Standing, l-r: S.Coopra, W.Rosken, M.Moonsamy, N.Padayachee, R.Moonian, M.Naidoo, K.Poonen, Z.Patel, R.Solomon, R.Patel, D.Moonsamy. Sitting, l-r: S.Pillay, S.Ramdath, G.De Kok, E.Chotia, S.Sunker. Absent: N.Chetty, F.Akoojee, R.Kisson..

Junior Teams



UNDER-14



Standing back, l-r: S. Coopa, M. Naick, G. Lazarus, S. Pillay, Z. Kissan, K. Poonen, S. Naidoo, R. Moonian, T. Moodley, Z. Cassim, P. Subben.
Sitting, l-r: R. Vallabh, M. Ally, H. Chunilal, D. Coopa, N. Naidoo, S. Moonian.
Absent: R. Ebrahim, R. Kisson.

UNDER-19



Standing, l-r: B. Moonreddy, K. Hargovan, B. Satchacivan, D. Verappan, R. Pillay, P. Naidoo, A. Moonreddy, S. Poonen, R. Pillay.
Sitting, l-r: T. Parbboo, H. Motalib, D. Daya, S. Naidoo, Y. Cassim, K. Pillay, V. Mañan.
Absent: S. Nagar, S. Appoo, H. Ramjee

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Standing, l-r: S. Pillay, K. Poonen, B. Moonreddy, R. Pillay, R. Moonian.
Sitting, l-r: D. Moonsamy, S. Coopa, R. Kisson.
Absent: D. Brown.

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Oh Mammy, the Blues are back where they belong!

Lenasia journalist AMEEN AKHALWAYA, Editor of The Indicator, won international recognition when he was awarded the prestigious Nieman Fellowship at Harvard University in America in 1981/2. Had it not been for Bluebells United, he might not have become a journalist! In this article, he recalls those early days and how Bells rose to the top.

I DON'T know whether to thank Bluebells United or blame them for the fact that I became a journalist.

It's a long story, going back to 1971, when the nonracial SA Cricket Board of Control (SACBOC) introduced first class (three day provincial) games. I walked into the Rand Daily Mail Offices and asked sports editor Trevor Bisseker if the Mail was going to cover the matches.

He said the Mail would love to, but it had no-one to write about them. So I volunteered. Once the cricket season was over, I thought, that would be the end of my involvement with journalism.

But then a major story was developing, and the Press was ignoring it. Some starry-eyed young hopefuls from Lenasia who made up the amateur Bluebells were planning to join the Federation Professional League.

Not many people outside Lenasia and the Southern Transvaal Football Union had heard of Bells. Sure there were an up-coming, fit and determined bunch of young players, but even in the STFU, they weren't as good as the established giants such as Benoni United, Tigers, Young Dynamos and Ophirton Hearts.

The detractors laughed at Bells, saying they were being over-ambitious. But neutral fans saw the potential in Bells. Brilliant youngsters such as Prega 'Schoolboy' Thandrind, Rattin Padayachee and Allan Moonsamy were clearly stars of the future.

What's more, the FPL didn't have a team in the Transvaal after the disgraceful behaviour of the Johannesburg City Council had led to the death of the hugely successful SA Soccer League a decade earlier.

So one had to admire the courage of the Bells youngsters, headed by the then chairman, Vincent Naidoo, for daring to tread a path fraught with danger.

But as a professional team, they couldn't find an enclosed ground. The Natalspruit ground in central Johannesburg was still off-limits as the City Council stuck to its racist ways.

Bells couldn't even get grounds in Lenasia, because the council would allow only teams affiliated to an ethnic body to use them. Even so, Madie Kolloppen and his young colleagues in the Lenasia Football Association insisted they wanted to join the SA Soccer Federation and allow Bells to use the ground.

The council wouldn't hear of it.

Whether or not one liked Bluebells became irrelevant; what was important was that the City Council was giving a rotten deal to a group of enthusiastic youngsters who wanted to fly the nonracial soccer flag in Johannesburg.

That's when I brought up the matter with the Rand Daily Mail hierarchy. The Mail, then a crusading newspaper prepared to champion the underdog, was moved by Bell's plight.

"Write about it," said Bisseker.

So the Mail ran major news stories and in-depth articles as the Bells story unfolded. And I became a full-time journalist.

Bells were forced to play on the dusty, glass-strewn field at the open Queen's Park ground in Vrededorp.

In a match against Durban's Aces United, a new star emerged. While the Lenasia youngsters were trying to prove a point to the

sceptics, Goona Padayachee turned on a virtuoso performance as Bells destroyed the visitors 7-1.

But the ground drama continued. Vincent Naidoo and his mates worked long and hard to convince the City Council, and with the assistance of Dr Selma Browde, then the lone Progressive Party councillor, they finally won.

In 1973, with the Lenasia Stadium now available to the Federation, Swaraj and Dynamos joined to create unprecedented interest in the FPL.

Because I had helped in a small way to bring Bell's battle before a wider public through the Rand Daily Mail, I was immediately tagged a "Bells man" by Dynamos and Swaraj supporters.

Having been through the 'wars' with Bells, I obviously had an affinity with them. But the truth was that I supported any team that tried to play open, attacking, 'total football'. Cape Town Spurs, boasting the likes of Bernard 'Dancing Shoes' Hartze, Rashid Khan, Neville Londt and Georgie van Niekerk, were the best of the lot.

I admired Swaraj for their resilience, the dedication of the Singh brothers, their determination to win, their disciplined approach; I liked Dynamos for their enthusiasm and the atmosphere created by their fans; I liked Berea for the way manager Don Mudalay had shaped their tactics.

In the end, the FPL team I admired most were Sundowns, who, with the likes of Don Lucas, Jakes Lucas, Vincent 'Tantie' Julius, Ingle Singh and Gene Adams, did play 'total football'.

But of course, the special affinity with Bells remained as they developed into the most popular team in the league, striking to their commitment to play crowd-pleasing football.

I enjoyed writing about Bells, because, unlike many other teams, their administrators knew, a la Muhammed Ali, the value of publicity, no matter how critical the Press was about their team. They accepted that the bouquets and the brickbats of the critics were part of the professional game.

It is a lesson some of our younger officials and players still have not learned, for the only publicity they appreciate is 'positive' publicity.

What did receive much publicity were the many epic encounters between Bells and Swaraj. The rivalry between the two Lenasia-based giants matched on a smaller scale of course that between Rangers and Celtic in Glasgow, Liverpool and Everton, and locally, Kaizer Chiefs and Orlando Pirates.

Swaraj had an outstanding team and gave us some outstanding players: Shakes Mashaba, Virgil Padayachee, Lucas Oranje, Cheesa Manna and Victor Kowa, to name a few. They deserved better support, but perhaps their handicap was that they were originally from Sophiatown, while Bells were rooted, from their formation 25 years ago, to the early ghettos of Lenasia. Hence the tag "People's Team".

If you're wondering why Swaraj feature so prominently in a tribute to Bluebells, it's because I believe that as with any healthy rivalry, they need each other, to constantly prove to each other who the kings of Lenasia are, and in so doing, improve their overall standards.

And of course, the games between these great rivals have given Lenasia some of its most memorable sporting moments, incidents that are still talked about when the golden days of the FPL are recalled by soccer fans.

Bells gave the FPL some outstanding players: Louis Jeevanantham, scorer of one of the greatest goals at Natalspruit when he played for Transvaal United against Cape Town Spurs and whose career sadly came to an early end because of a knee injury, Goona Padayachee, who soon left for Swaraj, showman Baldwin 'Groovin' Molope, Johannes 'Big Boy' Kholoane, Thandrin, Moonsamy, Leroy Fortuin, Meshack Nkosi, and Jerry Sadike, among others.

Bells had charisma. Coincidentally, as their supporters' club developed in the mid-Seventies, a hit song of the era was 'Mammy Blue' by Charisma, and that became the fans' theme alongside 'Vandematherum'

They played truly crowd-pleasing, creative football, and coach Ivan 'Lion of the North' Naidoo deserved much credit. Unhappily, Ivan and Bells parted company.

Then Bells began to struggle, and they must be the only professional team that sacked a coach while topping the log! One season, they were way up, the most difficult side to beat in the FPL. But they were playing dour, defensive stuff which was beginning to alienate their admirers.

So they sacked the man at the helm, and returned to their old ways of 'Flower Power' football. They won them a legion of new fans from Durban to Cape Town. However, though they had clinched the Top Four contest, it didn't win them another major trophy, but they came desperately close on a number of occasions.

With men of the calibre of Akbar Moola, Zanoff Ramdin, Essop 'Pussycat' Mohamed and an army of other dedicated enthusiasts at the helm, Bells were on the verge of developing a truly great side. But then, in a move which spelled disaster for the FPL and, with the exception of Swaraj, crippled pro soccer in Lenasia, Bells decided to move to the rival NPSL.

It was a move that was difficult to explain, and even more

difficult for their fans and the nonracial sports fraternity to swallow, especially coming from a club that had sacrificed-and-won-so much for the cause of nonracialism on and off the sports field.

Fortunately the Bells organisation had retained the name, and concentrated on their junior sides. Noteworthy is the fact that former stars such as Louis and Terry Jeevanantham, Allen Moonsamy, Prega Thandrin and Rattin Padayachee helped coach the youth.

Also noteworthy is the fact that Bells sent Louis Jeevanantham to England on a coaching course, and are preparing to send others too.

Now Bells are back in a much depleted FPL, but their return was marred by the Federation's shoddy treatment of Thandrin, whom it classified a 'double defector' and forced to move to the NSL, despite the many sacrifices he made in the cause of Sacos.

The crowds are trickling back, but not in the large numbers of the club's great 1970s period.

Fans, spoiled by the high-level football featured regularly on TV, have little patience watching a side in the process of being re-built. They demanded instant success, expecting the great talents of yesteryear to still be around.

Given time though, the fans will come back. After all, Bells won their greatest battle against the city council, and if they stick to their commitment of pleasing the fans first instead of winning at any cost, the charisma of the Bluebells name will tell in the end.

Their juniors are performing wonders, and that gives cause for optimism for the future. Bluebells United deserve the support of all sports fans committed to a society in which individual and team talents are allowed to flourish minus any artificial racial, sectional or class barriers.

After their struggles of the first 25 years, I have little doubt that Bells will realise their ideals long before the achievements of the next 25 years are celebrated.

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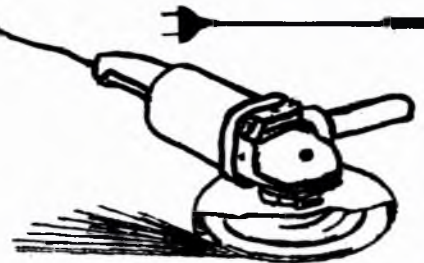
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Bells-Spurs clash

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Griquas meet Bells

Bells ring Dynamos

Bluebells United	4
Dynamos	0

Bells: no bar to Swaraj

IT'S 4-1 FOR BLUE BELLS

By SPORTSMAN
BLUE BELLS, the Johannesburg babes of the South African Soccer Federation Professional League, made

Bells had a lucky break

BELLS ARE RINGING

THE BELLS are ringing again. That much was evident at Johannesburg's Lenasia Stadium on Saturday when the blue-power boys of Lenasia cruised to a 5-0 victory over Moses Allie's battling Maritzburg City.

By Zaf Mayet
Muhammad Ali were doing his famous ring dancing tricks. And the player who must be cursing himself is Richard Ngcobo. The Bells striker left his shooting boot at home and missed no fewer than half-a-dozen

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The South African Sports Scene

A Personal View



By **VIVIAN REDDIAR**
(Sports Editor, City Press)

THE lifting of the sports boycott against South Africa marked the end of a campaign unique in the history of world sport, waged as it was for over 40 years before and since Dennis Brutus inspired the formation of the South African Sports Association in 1958 to co-ordinate the fight for equality in sport for blacks.

By general agreement, the sports sanctions campaign was a great, spectacular success. Among other things, it did much over the past years to draw world attention to apartheid and brought the racist white sports establishment to its knees begging for international competition.

Who would have thought, then, that it would be the white sports establishment and its allies - the government, influential groups within the international sports bodies, many western governments - which would have the decisive say in ending sports sanctions?

It was in the nature of the negotiations to bring about unity and resolve the boycott question that there would be a test of strength and competition for influence, power etc. between white and black sport.

The black establishment managed a number of important victories, but overall the whites won - quite handsomely. The major bloc in black sport - The National Olympic Sports Congress (NOSC), The African National Congress and Sam Ramsamy chairman of the South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee (SANROC) - were well and truly outmanouevred and outwitted.

It was an impressive performance. The whites simply followed the government in deciding to negotiate with the ANC, giving it the responsibility to achieve sports unity as soon as possible and open the way for the country to become part of world sport.

The NOSC and the ANC were both anxious to establish their credentials in sport and grabbed with both hands the chance to assume the leadership in this field. It was a perfect arrangement, giving all concerned the acceptability they sought here and abroad.

The brilliantly shrewd Ali Bacher got the ANC directly involved, publicly hailing its sports chief, Steve Tshwete, a mediator of genius, at every available opportunity.

Tshwete repaid the debt by giving Bacher all the political credibility he would ever need, and was actually part of cricket's official delegations which got it affiliated to the ICC.

The appointment by the white sport bloc of a flattered, seemingly ambitious Sam Ramsamy as their official saviour, charged with the task of assisting in sports unity and dealing with Africa and the IOC, was another masterstroke which reaped rich rewards.

Both the whites and the blacks had a hidden agenda. The black bloc deliberately didn't spell out a definite boycott policy, leaving itself free to improvise along the way according to what the ANC wanted to do at any particular time.

This opportunistic policy of not having a clearly-defined policy beyond a vague selective boycott, the idiotic, divisive "majority in a sport-unity" rule dreamed up by an out of touch Jean-Claude Ganga and the woolly decision that the boycott would be lifted when progress towards change was irreversible proved the undoing of the black bloc.

By the time F W De Klerk announced that apartheid would officially have ceased to exist by the end of June, and most of the world accepted this, the white establishment knew they had the black bloc well and truly beaten.

The black bloc knew this too, although, like the whites, it was careful to maintain the appearance that it still retained some of the initiative at least.

But by now the boycott issue was an embarrassing, confused mess, and NOSC president Mluleki George, Ramsamy and Tshwete were reduced to mouthing meaningless nonsense as they came under pressure to explain themselves, their contra-

dictions and the confusion they were primarily responsible for creating.

Suddenly development programmes in each sport became a condition for the lifting of the boycott. But it was too late. A number of generous grants by, among others, foreign governments, broke down much of what black resistance remained. In an important sense then the sport boycott was bought off.

With apartheid (officially) a thing of the past, white sport and its allies increased the pressure, with amazing results.

Any type of administrative arrangement on paper seemed to pass as unity. The IOC gave membership to an Olympic Committee nominally led by Ramsamy but which didn't really exist. The president of the International Amateur Athletics Federation decided that SA athletics was united, gave a nonexistent body provisional membership and virtually demanded the country take part in the world championships.

The image of African sport suffered a huge blow when Africans athletics official gave the impression that they were the mere lackeys of the president of world athletics, going along with and actually encouraging the farce.

Motivation

BY B.G. NAIDOO (Secretary - Bluebells United F.C.)

IN every competition or race, a crisis may occur when the body wants to give up. It is then that internal motivation becomes the determining factor to overcome the crisis and to achieve success. The punishment for "hands up" is always defeat. Authorities reason that the difference between a winner and a loser is often trying. There is no failure like ceasing to try!

Whenever a sportsman has to free this ordeal - where victory is in the balance - the responsibility of acting is left to himself. However well prepared he is, psychologically and physically, unexpected and unpredictable problems always crop up, and it is here the winner is separated from the loser. Here the sportsman always has himself to rely on, and the answer to facing the moment of truth, lies within his physical and psychic courage, his verve, his will-power, his perseverance, and his desire to win - in other words, his internal motivation.

For ten decades man tried in vain to run the mile under four minutes. At last Roger Bannister succeeded.

Why? Was he built more athletically or strongly? Was he fitter or faster than all those who tried and failed before him? No, it was his psychological qualities which were higher, that gave him the will and determination to achieve the record. Which made him realise: "It can be done." The incredible achievements of our own wee Goona Padayachee is yet another example of this phenomenon. At his age, he is still one of the best defenders around.

What then differentiates the winner from the loser? It is very rare that you can ascribe it to superior knowledge or physical abilities. Therefore we can unshamefully state that the single difference is motivation stemming from the portion above the sportsman's ears.

Fred Wilt says: "There is no thread in life so narrow as that which separates the winner from the loser."

This proves how slight the difference really is. Hereto we could add that even if all the other factors are equal, there is no bigger gap in life as that which separates the persister from the quitter.



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The good you do today will be forgotten tomorrow.

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To the Bells

I WAS honored by your request to say a few words. Since I am a bit of a poet., I will attempt to do so in a small poem which I dedicate to your distinguished and valiant club.

Your stand for Justice and Brotherhood in sport will live long after this racist government and its supporters have been forgotten. Your courage and steadfastness will be the song with which the Black Children of South Africa will praise you.

*Ring out the challenge my valiant brothers
ring out the cry of the oppressed and down-trodden
You that must suffer for great and pure principles
The Bells, ringing against the discrimination in sport
tell the white man you are his equal, if not better
The trumpets sounding in the distant
Light of invincibility, against the darkness of Apartheid,
So ring out the message loud and clear
Man was not born to live in fear
Ring Bells, and be proud of your heritage
Your name inscribed in Freedom's page.*

OMAR MATTERA



*Wishing Bluebells United all the
success in the future.*

With compliments and best wishes from Mr & Mrs S Naidoo & Family

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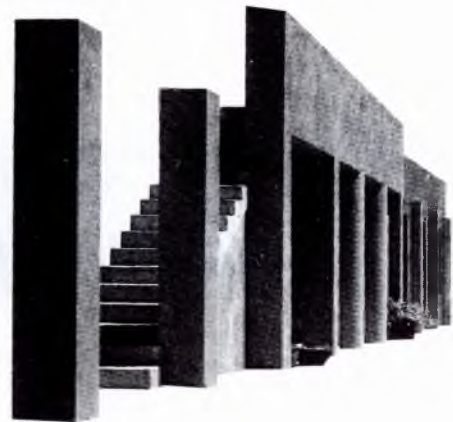


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Congratulations to Bluebells United
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Thanks & Appreciation

*It's time to say THANK YOU, but words and words do little justice in printed form --
It's a small way of acknowledging contribution, co-operation and support.
We'd want you to know that our indebtedness to you goes far beyond the words in print.*

*But THANK YOU mean a lot and we want you to know how much we appreciate your association with us
And our venture and it is our prayer that you and yours would prosper with GOD'S guidance.*

"Congratulations on your silver anniversary."

With Compliments

Contact Charles Moodley or Pat Gopaul

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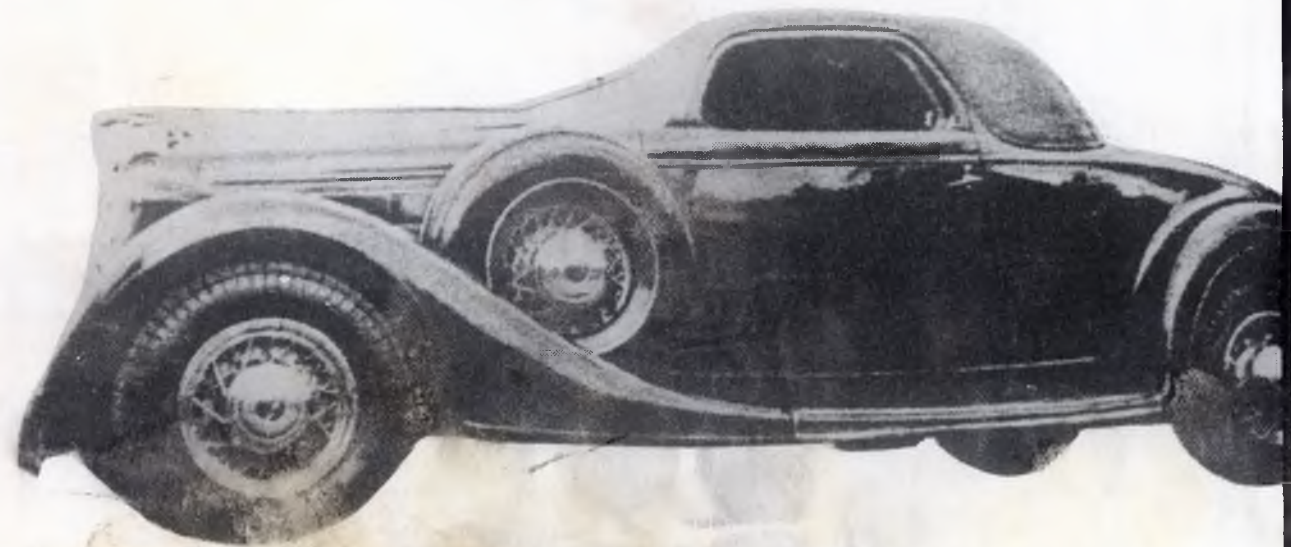
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