**Project Proposal**

**Project Title**

Predict football matches result using FIFA players statistics

**Project Applicant**

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**Preliminary Research**

In many countries, sports betting is becoming increasingly prevalent: in 2018, the US removed the restrictions on sports betting and allow states to decide whether to legalize this activity inside their border. In Australia, compared to other forms of gambling, sports betting has the fastest growth. Globally, a fair percentage of sports bets go to soccer games. While betting has a positive impact on economics, it’s clear that this activity is stigmatized. Watching a soccer game is itself exciting and seeing every minute of the match to confirm that your investment is even more thrilling. It makes people want to come back for more, regardless of the previous result. Besides its addictive nature, it may have negative financial impacts on individuals who engage in it. Making money from sports betting is harder than losing money from it. It’s not hard to find an online article of how a person has been struck by the amount of debt received because of betting.

**Project Description**

If sports betting has a positive economic impact, then we should try to make sure that the negative sides are minimized. While within the scope of the course we can’t do anything about its addictive nature, we can certainly help bettors to be more confident in their bet. Starting with soccer, we aim to build a model that will predict the result of a football match base on the data about the teams and its’ players. We will use the FIFA 2018 players dataset with the 2018-2019 match results from top European Leagues, with over 17,000 players and nearly 3000 matches recorded. With this model, we hope to provide bettors with a more reliable tool to raise the probability of winning a bet, thus reduce the possible negative financial impact of betting.

**Reference**

Gambling Sites. “Sports Betting Research & Analysis - How Important Is It?” *GamblingSites.ORG*, 3 Dec. 2019, www.gamblingsites.org/sports-betting/research-and-analysis/.

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