

A SERIOUS SPORTS PAGE

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NEWS FROM A SERIOUS
FOOTBALL LEAGUE

ISSUE 6

LEAGUE RATTLED BY SEEMINGLY RANDOM PLAYER HOLDOUTS

SUNNY DAY
CHUCK DOWNFIELD

New professional sports leagues are bound to experience some hiccups in their first years of existence, but the happenings this week in the ASFL were particularly unusual. Every franchise in the league except for one (Dawn's Boys) had at least one player who simply refused to play this week. The holdouts didn't follow any discernible pattern and were not universally injury-related. However, in a league that has already been ravaged by injuries, additional player absences certainly made some rosters appear a bit thin. Luckily, enough players still reported to work that every game was able to be played to completion. Dawn Burney, manager for Dawn's Boys, credited her team's lack of absences to strict discipline and adherence to her golden rules.

"The golden rules of Instagram fame, I mean football, are simple: 1) Never skip a day of work, 2) Never post about politics, and 3) Never take an L on behalf of someone else who is currently taking an L." Sports media outlets across the league have attempted to reach all of these players for comments, but every player who sat out this week has been nearly impossible to locate. The closest call was last Thursday, when one ASS Page reporter yelled from the dock to respectfully question Amon-Ra St. Brown (GPOP) as he departed on a cruise ship. St. Brown didn't have time for an interview, but he could be heard yelling back "Bye!" as he waved and sailed off into the sunset.

HOPE WAS LOST, BUT NOW IS FOUND

After a concerning start to the season, team manager Sam Shayer has been in better spirits since his squad All Hope

Is Lost improved to 2-3 and 5th place in the league standings. Sam's squad was led by Joe Burrow and Ja'Marr Chase, who combined for over 75 points in this week's win over the flaccid 69ners. When asked about his reaction to learning that his team had broken their losing streak, Sam said, "how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!" Another reporter at Shayer's post-game press conference asked what first taught his heart to fear, and Shayer replied, "why, grace of course! And grace my fears relieved. How precious was that grace I found, the hour I first believed." This upbeat response is a stark difference from his pessimistic tone just two weeks ago. Shayer is focused on the rest of the season, saying, "The Lord hath promised good to me."
















Shayer was recently spotted jamming to "Light My Candle" from the hit musical *Rent*, and "Amazing Grace" from church.

Featured Matchup: Jasmine's Fav @ Salute Emoji

This week's marquee matchup between Jasmine's Fav and Salute Emoji is a battle for a place atop the standings halfway through the ASFL regular season. With a win this week, Salute Emoji could take first place in the league over Alan's undefeated squad for the first time.

Asked about his strategy to reach this point of the season undefeated, Alan replied, "I'm just as surprised as you are. I've just been letting my guys do their thing." Meanwhile, Salute Emoji manager Melanie Shayer said the plan this week is to "send Jasmine's Fav to meet God."

League Standings

Rank	Team		Record	Next Week
1.		Jasmine's Fav	5-0	@ 
2.			4-1	vs. JF
3.		The Guv'ment	4-1	@ GUS
4.		The Girly Pops	3-2	@ M
5.		All Hope is Lost	2-3	@ DEB
6.		Drop It Like It's Sl(h)ot	2-3	vs. 69
7.		Max the Manx	2-3	vs. GPOP
8.		Dawn's Boys 	1-4	vs. LOST
9.		The 69ners	1-4	@ DLS
10.		Gus	1-4	vs. GUV