

Magnificent
36-PAGE
PHOTO ALBUM
to hold
64 PHOTOS OF
FAMOUS
SPORTSMEN

Sea Inside How to Obtain UP THE DAZZLERS! DANNY OF THE

### **CHAPTER SIX**

## THE EIGHTIES AND NINETIES

## INTRODUCTION

By the nineteen eighties Dazzlers was well established in Bosmont. A tremendous community spirit had grown up around the team. Loyalty to the team came not just from the supporters but from the families of Dazzlers players. Youngsters whose brothers or cousins had played for Dazzlers during an earlier generation did not question that they too had to join the team. A number of families therefore had generations of attachments to the Club.

By the nineteen eighties the windows operating system had been invented by Microsoft which would make Bill Gates the biggest dollar billionaire on the planet. Digital cellular telephones were invented. Some of the biggest musical stars took centre stage such as Michael Jackson, Madonna and Whitney Houston. South Africa was awash with blood as police mowed down anti-Apartheid protestors in their tens of thousands and State sanctioned hit squads unleashed in a reign of terror in the Townships.

By nineteen ninety the Apartheid system was on its knees and Nelson Mandela walked out of Victor Verster Prison. The first democratic elections were held in nineteen ninety four and Desmond Tutu invented the term 'Rainbow Nation'. In the same year the cellular telephone, dubbed the 'Gauteng ear ring' as it was mistakenly thought that that only rich people from Gauteng would make use of it, was launched nationwide. The World Wide Web internet protocol 'http' and www language was invented leading to the internet revolution at the end of the decade. Tupac Shakur, Mariah Carey and Eminem made their mark on the music scene.

The Minute Book from 25th April 1986 to 11th May 1990 provides the following snapshot:

25th April 1986–Mr Leonard is to write to Cape Town for a clearance. The Mohidien brothers appeared at a disciplinary meeting and have to pay R25 each for a clearance. Mr H. Davids left the meeting without permission and is subsequently suspended... Dazzlers Ladies were scrapped for failing to show up for a game...C.Mooi promoted to Premier League...The Premier team has improved a great deal. Mr Leonard, Mooi, Majors and V.D. Haer played exceptionally well. Mr Davids also had a good game...Beer garden to be held at Mr Goodall Senior's house on 26th April 1986 at 2pm.

26th June 1986-Assault of a ref results in a R500,00 fine...10th July 1986-Mrs Rigney provided accommodation for the U/10 W.P. team...Challenge Cup prizes are in the form of vouchers amounting to R2000,00...24th July 1986-The off-side rule was discussed in detail. If a player is in an on-side position when the ball is played, and he subsequently receives the ball in an apparent off-side position, then he is still on-side for all intents and purposes...The Dance Tax deadline of R50,00 is Sunday 27/07/86...

20<sup>th</sup> May 1987–C.A. Meyer–remarks were passed to Mr Choonara which resulted in him loosing concentration...4<sup>th</sup> May 1990–The cake sale which was held was poorly attended and Mr C. Van De Haer reprimanded individuals who did not bring cake.

#### VIVIAN MERCKEL

Vivian Merckel was born on the 2<sup>nd</sup> August 1952 and spent a good part of the nineteen eighties playing for Dazzlers. Harry Booysens, who lived in Coronationville, insisted that he should play for Dazzlers. Eventually he allowed himself to be recruited by Mr Van.

Dazzlers provided the perfect environment for him to party. Vivian liked to tease his team mates, but they rarely enjoyed his sense of humour. He teased Lyland Naidoo about his big nose, which made him very upset. He urged his team mates not to take his jokes personally and encouraged his victims to tease him in return. Despite his teasing the team accepted him as part of their close knit family.

## **DENZEL RENECKE**

Denzel Renecke was born on the 22<sup>nd</sup> September 1961. He started playing for Dazzlers in nineteen seventy. He played barefoot as he hated wearing corks. As a result he was nicknamed 'Boere' as Afrikaaner children tended to walk around in bare feet. In the juniors he played as a centre back and later as a centre forward. When he moved to the seniors he started as a right back and then again became a centre forward.

His love of the game rubbed off onto his sisters Claudette, Jenny and Marisa who played for Dazzlers in the nineteen eighties. Unfortunately, as there were not enough women's teams to play against they only played for one season.

He played in the promotion team in his late teens. One Sunday morning one of his team mates collided with an opposition player and fell to the ground with a minor injury. One of the spectators, Alan Herman, shouted that the game should be stopped as a player was injured. While the injured player was being attended to Alan ran onto the field and gave the Dazzlers players' beer, instead of water, to slake their thirst. After the injured player was declared fit the game continued with the some Dazzlers players enjoying an altered state of perception.

His team mate, Andre 'Quagga' Thomas was an excellent dribbler. However he never got into the habit of passing the ball. He would dribble the ball until it was taken away from him by the opposition. He would then laugh at his team mates when they scolded him.

Another team mate, Michael Sinaquin- who was about twenty five years old, was enjoying a few beers with girls at the Willows at the Bosmont grounds. Once he became tipsy he decided to chase a pretty girl around a car. The girl dodged him screaming at the top of her voice 'Nee Oom! Nee Oom!' His team kneeled over with laughter at a twenty five year old been called an 'Uncle'. Michael was highly embarrassed at being called an 'Oom'. For the next month his team teased him mercilessly whenever he got the ball, shouting 'pass the ball OOM!'

When Boere was twenty six years old he and his team mates went to a disco one Saturday evening where they had a very good time, only returning home just before the sun rose. At nine o'clock only nine players turned up for the ten o'clock fixture. Of the nine players six begged the coach to let them sit on the bench as they were all highly babalaas. Eventually only eight players took to the field. Balla got injured and was happy to be taken off. Despite their pounding heads and dehydrated bodies the team managed to hold the opposition to a goalless draw. Boere ended his Dazzlers career at the age of twenty nine.

#### NORMAN BOOYSEN

Norman 'Nokko' Booysen was born on the 13th August 1959. His brother Ralph played for the Under 10 side while he played for the Under 12 side. When he played for the Under 14 side he made his first trip to Kimberley where he played against Caltex.

Partying hard is part of the Dazzlers culture. One Saturday Nokko took part in a Premier League Knock out Tournament in the Bosmont Football Association. His team was knocked out in the semi-finals. The team jumped into Garth Noah's combi and started partying. Later that evening, after driving around looking for some action, they gate crashed a party in Newclare still dressed in their kit. The host was not amused and after half an hour he kicked the gatecrashers out of his house. The following morning they were back on the grounds, still in their kit, to watch the Final.

One weekend the team drove to Hartebeespoort Dam for a bust up. By the time they got to the Dam they were all righteously pickled. Michael Sinaquin had a radio looped around his shoulder on a sling. Some of the players, who were swimming in the Dam, encouraged him to join them in the water. In his state of induced happiness he forgot that he was carrying the radio and he walked into the cool waters. Within seconds his radio was sizzling and crackling as it died a watery death.

When Nokko was in Standard Seven, there were six other Dazzlers players in his class such as Paul Simon; Craig Davids; Rodney Magau and Keith Herman. They all played in the Third Division. As part of their class work, they had to read two chapters from a text book. The first chapter had a story about a Football Club called Dazzlers. When they realized that a Dazzlers team featured in a text book the seven Dazzlers players raised a huge cheer, much to the disgust of the Aston Villa and Rangers players in the classroom.

When he played for the Under 16 side in nineteen seventy four, the team went to Wentworth in Durban for a Tournament. When they reached the beach they scampered from the combi and started gyming on the beach. By the time the match started that evening their legs were worn out from running on the sand and they lost the game.

After the game they went to their lodgings in Wentworth to change. One of the players lost the house keys and they could not get in. Fortunately the owner of the house had a spare set of

keys, and after much grumbling, let them into the house. On Sunday, after the game, they partied as late as they could. As a result they only arrived back in Johannesburg at seven o'clock on Monday morning. Most of the players were so tired that they bunked School for the day.

Nokko played in the Premier League as Captain and he also coached players. He played with Eugene Goodall, who joined the League two years before him. The team partied hard on Friday and Saturday evenings and still managed to put in a good performance on the field.

While playing for the Premier League, Dazzlers Baseball Team held a function in Maraisburg Road in Bosmont. This was at the height of Apartheid when Whites were scared to go into the Townships and all people of Colour viewed Whites with grave suspicion. Nokko arrived with his work friends, one of whom happened to be White. The Indian players in the Baseball Team took umbrage and declared that White people were not permitted at the party. Nokko took greater umbrage at the Baseball players and gave them a tongue lashing. He was kicked out of the party. Later he was called before a disciplinary hearing where Mr Van was the Chairman. After arguing that he was not in the wrong to defend his right to party with his friend he won the case.

## **BRANDEN VAN DER HAER**

Branden Van der Haer was born on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1968 in Bosmont. Although his father Clifford Van der Haer had never played for Dazzlers he was none the less a stalwart as he was intimately involved with the founder members such as Clifford Jousten in Albertville and later he had a long reign as Dazzler's Secretary from nineteen sixty six until nineteen ninety two. It was therefore unthinkable that Branden would not join the Club.

Branden played his first game for Dazzlers at the age of six. The ball was passed to him. Excited he dribbled his way to the goal mouth. He fired the ball at the looming goal mouth. The goalie blocked the ball and a flying limb knocked Branden down causing his nose to bleed. His injury prevented him from completing his first game.

By the age of eleven his skills were good enough for him to play in the under fifteen team as they were short of players. Age did make a difference as he got the shit kicked out of him by the older players on a regular basis.

He also played football in High School. In his Matric year in nineteen eighty seven, the highlight was he and fellow Dazzler's player Craig Joseph representing the Transvaal High School team. This allowed them to go on tour with the Provincial players to Queenstown.

Queenstown presented the perfect opportunity for a group of Johannesburg teenagers to get up to mischief. Craig and Branden stayed with a family in Queenstown. They were warned that they were under curfew and that they could not leave the house. Once the opportunity arose they sneaked out of the house and landed up at a shebeen. The local girls made a beeline to them and they thought that that they were the manne.

The beers flowed and the shebeen rang with raucous laughter. Suddenly somebody shouted a warning, 'Guys, guys, the teachers are here!' The noise and laughter drained away and everyone froze in place. A second later there was a mad scramble for the windows with players tripping over one another in their haste to escape. The players pushed each other through the windows and quiet a few players escaped into the darkness of the township. Later the hapless players were herded together by their chaperones. They thought that their pleas that they just wanted to get to know each other had fallen on deaf ears as their teachers insisted that they would be sent home. Fortunately, the following day they were allowed to play their game.

When he was seventeen years old Brandon was approached by Westbury Arsenal to play for them. Knowing that this would be seen as treason by his father, he made no mention that he was attending a training session. When he arrived home at nine o'clock that evening Mr Van asked him where he had been. At first he nonchalantly said that he had been to gym. Mr Van remained suspicious of his story and continued probing. Eventually Brandon admitted that he had been training with Arsenal.

Brandon had never seen his father descend into such an apoplectic rage before. This was indeed High Treason. Although he was shitting himself, bursting with teenage bravado he was adamant that he was going to play for Chelsea. Mr Van was equally adamant that he would not sleep under the same roof as his treasonous son. Mr Van stormed off to the garage and slept in his car. The following morning cold warfare ensued between father and son. Eventually Brandon's mother played the General Secretary of the United Nations and an armistice was signed by the duo. Brandon promised never to play for any other Club but Dazzlers for the rest of his days.

In nineteen eighty six Brandon played in an under eighteen knockout tournament. Their opponents were Aston Villa. A hard fought game saw Dazzlers emerge with a two one victory. Naturally the team had to celebrate their victory, which they did at Dick Fernandes' home in Horseshoe.

After the party a number of players were transported home on the back of a bakkie. Shortly after leaving Horseshoe the bakkie was involved in a head-on collision with another vehicle. Players collided with each other and a few players were propelled out of the bakkie onto the road. Fortunately there were no fatalities, although a number of players had to be treated in hospital. It was a depressing end to the season.

## **COLIN AND ROBIN GOODALL**

Collin Goodall, who was born on the 18th December 1962 and Robin Goodall, who was born on the 4th July 1974 are prime examples of Dazzlers uniting families as well as the community behind them as they both followed elder brother Noel into the Club's fold.

Colin joined the Dazzlers Under 8 team in nineteen sixty nine. He enjoyed hanging out with the older players, especially during the weekly Club meetings where the different age groups met. The meetings were chaired by Mr Van and one of the Beckett brothers. Near the end of the meeting one of the two men would switch off the lights and in the dark would render a klap or two to random players. Within seconds everyone would be trying to klap their neighbour. Everyone found this Three Stooges behaviour hilarious. This type of manic antics helped bond the members of the Club together.

The Under 15 team played a tournament in Mafikeng. Coming from the bright lights of Johannesburg, Colin and his team mates were surprised to find their accommodation lit only by candles. The toilet was a long drop in the back yard. The players thought that they had travelled back in time to the previous century.

Errol Beckett was in charge of the team. He strictly forbade the youngsters from swimming in the river. The moment his back was turned they jumped into the river for a swim. Later on Errol Beckett discovered how disobedient his errant charges were and commanded them to get out of the river. As they ascended the river bank he meted out a hiding with a strip from a willow tree. Only years later did Colin realize how irresponsible they had been to disobey the instruction to refrain from swimming in the strong flowing currant.

The highlight of Colin's Dazzler's career was playing for the Under 16 to Under 18 sides. This was one of the Golden Ages of Dazzlers Football Club. They were one of the best teams in the Bosmont Football Association and came on top for two years in succession. They were almost a separate team from the rest of the Dazzler's teams as they raised their own finances. They played against the big teams such as Villa, Rangers and Correte and beat them all. The last game the under eighteens played was against Lester where Colin scored the only goal to win the game.

After that the players started drifting away from Dazzlers. Colin was recruited by Bosmont Chelsea where he played with his brother Noel and Isaac De Jong. Being recruited by Bosmont Chelsea was an honour as they were a major feeder team for the higher Division teams.

Robin started playing for the Under 5 Dazzlers team. He aspired to be as good as his brothers Noel and Geno. Given his elder brothers involvement in Dazzlers, most of his free time was spent on the Bosmont grounds either playing or watching games. He loved carrying his brothers' kit bags and feeling part of the team. On weekends he would be on the grounds from eight o'clock in the morning until the last game was played in the late afternoon, whether it was a sunny day or pouring with rain. When Robin retired he took all the number seven jerseys from all the Dazzlers teams and retired the number.

### STUART BOUGAARD AND BRANDEN BARTLETT

Stuart Bougaard was born on the 20<sup>th</sup> July 1967 in Newclare. He started his football career at a young age in Newclare, playing for Rangers. In nineteen eighty five he joined Dazzlers. The first question Mr Van asked him was whether he was as good a football player as his father. He immediately protested that he was not. His father, who never played for Dazzlers, was a midfielder whereas he was a defender.

Branden Bartlett was born on the 13th February 1975 in Bosmont. It was unthinkable that he would play for any other team than Dazzlers. His mother bought him a smart pair of Olympic football boots for his debut match at the age of six. His team mates were green with envy and never forgave him for been such a larnie. Later on he also joined the Dazzlers Baseball Team. After playing for Dazzlers until he reach the Under 14 side, he played for the St Barnabas Football Team. Despite playing for another team, he always identified Dazzlers as his Alma Mater, the team where his heart belonged.

## **CALAN BENNET**

Calan Bennet was born on the 25<sup>th</sup> April 1975. He started playing for Dazzlers when he was six years old, mainly as a striker, together with his cousins Brandon and Xavier. He was very close to them as they not only played football together but went to the same school. Brandon looked like the legendary Liverpool striker John Barnes and was nicknamed Brandon Barnes. Brandon made phenomenal free kicks.

When he played for the Under 16 side, Calan's coach was a man called Porkie, who grew up in Bosmont. During one match, one hard tackle too many ended up in a war of words between Dazzlers and the opposing team. Within seconds fists began flying. Porkie and the opposing coach ran onto the field and they too were soon embroiled in the free for all.

Rivalries with opposing teams, although fierce, did not always result in fist fights. The biggest rivalry of the day was between Dazzlers and Lazio as there was an off the field rivalry between the Bennetts' and the Forsters', who played for Lazio. Each side was hell bent on proving that they were the better team. As a result the stadium was always packed when the two sides clashed. The fans partisanship was akin to that between the legendary, absolutely fabulous Liverpool ('You will never walk alone!') and Manchester ('The Red Devils') United.

One match took place in the Super League, where age did not matter. Eddie and Shane Moyce, who were slightly older, played with Calan. The atmosphere in the stadium was electric with spectators chanting fervently for their chosen side. The Dazzlers keeper, Lucien, kicked the ball and it bounced off the half way line. Calan pounced on the ball and sent it rocketing toward Lazio's goal mouth. The ball struck the cross bar with a resounding crack. The ball fell to the ground and rolled into the goal mouth pass the outstretched arms of the Lazio keeper. Dazzlers won the match two nil.

While the players from the two teams formed their own cliques during their glory days, by twenty fourteen the rivalry had died down enough for players from both teams to play on the same side.

# **CRAIG JOSEPH**

Craig Joseph, who was born on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 1968, started playing for Dazzlers at the age of five. Chockie Beckett was his coach. As he and the other boys were always getting up to mischief and not listening to their coach, Chockie carried a stick with him to enforce discipline. On countless occasions Chockie chased Craig around the field in order to give him a hiding for been mischievous.

During one game, when he was six years old, Mr Van was the referee. After dribbling the ball in-between the opposition players he scored a goal, only to have Mr Van blow his whistle to disallow the goal. Annoyed, he told Mr Van, 'ref, you blow shit!'

Dazzler's was the centre of his existence. He wore his red jersey, with two white stripes across the chest, with great pride. He made sure that he was on the grounds every Sunday, whether he played or not. He followed the older players around and was eager to carry their bags. This sense of being part, not only of a Football Club, but a fraternity of brothers developed his love of the game.

As his skills progressed he became part of a winning team. Eventually, he entered his Golden Period where from the Under 13 to the Under 16 teams his group of players consistently won the League and other trophies. He then moved to the Senior team where he was separated from a lot of his friends as Mr Van wanted him to horn his skills playing with other players.

# **AVRIL ADENDORFF**

Avril Adendorff was born on the 18th November 1962. He was introduced to Dazzlers by his cousin Craig Davids, whose father-Mannie Davids- was a goal keeper for Orlando Pirates. While playing for the Under 12 to Under 16 sides his coach was Danny Peters under whom they won many trophies.

In nineteen seventy five Dazzlers attended a tournament in Durban. As they had no parents to contend with they smuggled a couple of beers onto their bus. Making sure that their chaperone could not see what they were doing, they surreptitiously sipped their illicit stock and developed a taste for liquidized hops. One beer was enough to make a player's head spin like a top.

The infamous Bunny Chow had just become popular. As Durban is the home of the Bunny Chow the team crowded into the nearest Café prepared to be awed by the culinary delight. They reckoned without the Durban Indian's delight in making an easy buck off gullible Vaalies. As they tucked into the steaming curry poured into hollowed out bread they soon discovered that the mince was simply a thin camouflage for a bottomless pit of cheap cabbage. Alwin

Haffijee was outraged! He flung his Bunny at the vendor, kicked him and berated him on his duplicity. The hapless vendor could not retaliate as the Dazzlers players backed up their team mate as they were all friends. Alwin was immediately nick-named 'Bunny Chow' by his team mates. Their prowess on the field matched their prowess in finding the perfect Bunny as they were beaten by their older opponents.

One of Avril's most successful seasons was in nineteen seventy nine when the Under 17 side won all the Cups on offer. Things could have turned out radically different as they started the year without a coach. For a while the team drifted along without any motivation or winnable game plan. Fortunately Neil Beckett offered to coach the team. Besides insisting on a rigorous gym routine, he focused intensively on instilling discipline in the team. While Neil Beckett instilled discipline on the field, Errol Beckett instilled discipline off the field. If their homework was not done or they did not pass examinations they were not allowed to play.

Team discipline was further instilled by attending compulsory meetings every Friday evening at Erroll Beckett's house. Their powers of concentration and observation were horned by the Beckets' encouraging the team to watch football videos on Thursday afternoons to study the techniques of professional football players and to adapt those techniques to their own style of play.

They rapidly coalesced into a strong attacking and defending machine. Once they got into their stride they mowed down the opposition. Each victory increased their confidence and with confidence victory became inevitable.

Their confidence was further boosted by their ability to raise money through selling raffles and cake sales to finance their squad. With this money the entire team made a trip to B P Sports Shop in Fordsburg. For the first time they had tracksuit tops with their names embossed on it. This instilled a deeper sense of pride in the team and contributed to their success. In nineteen eighty the team which had started as underdogs the previous season again reached the top.

Their fund raising skills proved essential when the Team lost its jerseys. The mother of one of the players thought that the team jerseys left at her home was jumble and put it out with the garbage on a Monday morning. The garbage collectors thought that they were getting an early Christmas box and donned the football tops. During the school break the team watched in utter dismay as the garbage collectors drove pass them flaunting their bounty. Their screams to return their kit fell on deaf ears as the garbage truck disappeared down the road.

During one game Avril was kicked by Mr T from the opposing side. He immediately retaliated and was given a red card by the referee. In addition he was given an eight week suspension. He was extremely bitter at his punishment as he felt that he was not initially at fault. He plotted his revenge. One Tuesday evening he waited outside the Bosmont Hotel where Mr T was attending a referee's meeting. He called out to him saying 'Mr T, I want to talk to you'. When

he got closer he gave Mr T a resounding slap. Mr T tried to retaliate but Avril whipped him without Mr T landing a single blow.

Avril was good friends with Colin Goodall and they did everything together. Together with a couple of other team mates they snuck off to Durban for five days in a three speed Al Comino. Hi-Fi speakers connected to an eight track tape deck ensured that The Manhattens; Teddy Pendegras; The Commodores; The Jackson Five and other stalwarts of Mo Town kept them entertained.

They did not have much money so they permanently borrowed petrol from other cars. Colin was very good at siphoning petrol, especially from Peugeots. (Was this because the Lion on the Dazzler's blazer was based on the Peugeot Lion?) With the petrol issue catered for they had enough money to spend on food and the more important items such as beer and the Holy Weed. Feeling Aye Ray they did not give much heed to the direction in which they were driving, especially as Colin was ensuring that their driver, Martin Swartz, was constantly blessed by the Holy Smoke.

They got stuck in Barbeton, which was not exactly on the way to Durban, not realizing that the chock of the car was out. By this time dusk had fallen. Colin noticed a light on in a field of a small holding. With a couple of team mates in tow he made his way across the field. The farmer eyed the youngsters with grave suspicion. When they explained that they were stuck on their way to Durban he burst into laugher and explained that they were no where near their destination. He gave the befuddled youngsters some petrol and directions to the sea.

When they finally arrived in Durban they stayed in Syndenham. One of the beds had a hole in the middle. Whoever was unfortunate enough to sleep in the bed would end up with his butt stuck in the hole. Too drunk to move he would sleep in the hole.

The beach, divided into different zones by the Group Areas Act, to keep the various races apart, was a Mecca for the sale of the Holy Weed, especially for the home grown speciality, 'Durban Poison'. Bob Marley and the Wailers and Peter Tosh imploring 'Legalize It, Don't Criticise It' provided the Reggae Beat. They met a guy from France who insisted on sanctifying himself with them by smoking with the team out of clay pots.

Their sojourn in Durban was so sanctified by holy libations and holy smoke that their minds became so elevated that Colin woke up one morning on the beach with a women he had never gotten naked not remembering why he was sleeping on the beach or why he had not gotten her naked.

The team from Johannesburg proved to be exotic fare for the girls of Durban and they were surrounded by the fairer sex when they visited Clubs. Upon leaving a Club they visited a house in Durban at three o'clock in the morning to find the mother and father of their host shouting at each other. The husband was berating his wife for sleeping with another man. Their host

was unconcerned by the ruckus and ordered them to ignore the drama. The trip solidified their friendship and they had each other's backs from then on.

# JOHARDIEN CHOONARA

Johardien 'Nini' Choonara was born on the 26<sup>th</sup> February 1964. All his friends, including his best friend Faried Mayet, played for Dazzlers so he joined the team in nineteen eighty. He played with Quinton Taylor who received a pass during one game. Quinton attempted a back pass. His heel connected so well with the ball that it flew into his own goal. Unfortunately he could not mirror this feat at the other end.

In nineteen eighty two, during his first year at Teacher Training College Nini, encouraged by Edwin Bennett, started a Dazzlers baseball and soft ball Club. Most of the original team members were younger than him and included Craig Joseph; Colin Goodall; Roegshaan Hartley; Brian Leong-Colum; Zunaid Mohidien; Edmun Joseph; Neil Van Der Ross; Kevin Winnaar; Howard Davids; Gary Davids and Trevor Bailey. They were completely out of their depth during their first match as their opponents were vastly experienced. Eventually the team improved to such an extent that they won the League and went on to represent Transvaal in the Champ of Champs.

Nini was the secretary of both the football and baseball teams. Dazzlers, for a few years, had both Winter and Summer sports teams in action. The baseball team endured between nineteen eighty two and nineteen eighty nine when SACOS ended and Clubs joined different affiliations.

## **ROGER NIKEN**

Roger Niken was born on the 24<sup>th</sup> November 1970. He joined Dazzlers in the nineteen eighties and played for the team until nineteen ninety. He returned to Dazzlers in nineteen ninety six and continued playing for the team until two thousand and five.

The team partied hard and hardly ever trained. Most players were still moderately intoxicated when they took to the field. Despite this they had a tendency to beat the top teams of the day. They pulled a classical spoiler against Sampdoria. In order for Sampdoria to win the League that season they had to beat Dazzlers. Dazzlers fielded only ten players, including the Beckett brothers, who were in their fifties; Danny and Basil Peters and goal keeper Craig Pheiffer.

When a few Dazzlers players walked out of a Club a few short hours before the game, a Sampdoria player, who did not drink, boldly declared that they would not beat his team as they were all drunk. To that player's chagrin, Dazzlers spoiled every chance Sampdoria had to score. To rub salt into Samdoria's wounds, Craig was sent off ten minutes before the end of the match for swearing at the referee for making a decision against Dazzlers. Despite now only having nine players on the field, Dazzlers held Sampdoria to a goalless draw, thereby preventing them from winning the League.

### ADAM KOK

Adam Kok was born on the 25<sup>th</sup> June 1950. He played centre midfielder for Dazzlers in the nineteen nineties where he was the Captain of the first division. He played with the Goodall brothers Colin and Geno as well as with Colin MacBride; Norman Booysen; Donovan Eastwood: Rookshan Hartley; his brother Bruce Kok and the goalie Eugene Holland.

The year before he joined Dazzlers the team was demoted. By that time he had already retired from professional football. Noel Goodall persuaded him to put on his boots again and help the team win promotion. It was a hazardous road back to the top. During a game against Juventus Adam tackled an opposing player and they both fell to the ground. The other player sprang to his feet while Adam still lay on the ground with the ball next to his head. The other player made as if he was going to kick the ball, but he was really aiming for Adam's head. Norman Booysen saw what was about to happened and chased the Juventus player around the ground. When Adam asked Norman what he was doing he replied that the opposition player was trying to kill him.

As Adam and Geno were older than the other players they did not socialize with them much off the field. Their experience, together with the experience of other seasoned players like Donavan Eastwood, however helped the team to win promotion to the Premier of the Super League. They were guided by Anver Van Rooyen who was the manager at the time. When Adam asked Anver if he was going to discuss the opposition teams weak points with them he merely said that they knew the game and they should get down to winning.

## ANVER VAN ROOYEN AND QUINTON FORTUNE

Anver Van Rooyen was born on the 11th March 1949. He never played for Dazzlers. In the nineteen nineties Noel Goodall approached him to manage Dazzlers. He was asked to manage the senior players in the Club as he had extensive experience, particularly as a striker, playing for Western Stars and Martindale City of Westbury.

When he took over the seniors, they were playing in the First Division. His mission was to get the team, which included Robin Goodall, promoted to the Premier League. In the first round of the play off Dazzlers won without drawing or losing any games. In the second round they drew only one game, against Blackburn, and won all their other games. Anver's efforts as a manager paid off and the team was promoted to the Premier League.

Quinton Fortune was born on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March 1969. He started playing as a centre for Dazzlers in the Promotion League while at High School in the nineteen nineties. Dazzlers provided a perfect opportunity to indulge his hobby of gambling at smokers.

It was through his partying with Dazzlers players that he ended up playing for the Club. He went out partying all night with older players such as Adda Blikkies, Branden Van Der Haar and

Shane Moyes. Away trips, like one to Newcastle, where the highlight was attending a strip show, increased the party fever. The following Sunday he was still groggy when the team took to the field at nine o'clock. They met a group of ladies and the party continued after the game.













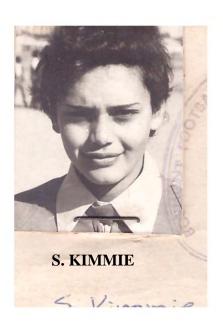






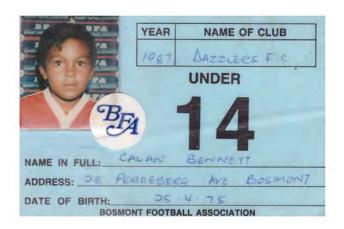














**FISHER** 



**CRAIG SWARTZ** 





**XAVIER ADRIAANSE** 

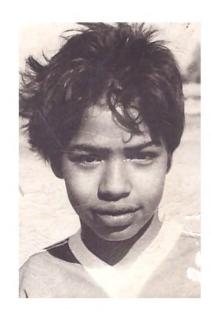




GRANT SHARP



**DEAN RIGNEY** 



PETER MURPAY



G. SHARPE

