

★ FOOTBALL ★  
SUPERSTARS

Publisher: Cybersports  
Developer: Cybersports  
Heritage: None  
Link: www.football  
superstars.com  
ETA: TBC

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Football  
Superstars

# Football Superstars

*"Football Superstars sees you create a single footballer and shepherd them through their career"*

*Back of the net, or kicked into touch?*

Ask any B-list Premiership footballer and they'll tell you that it's not enough to simply be ridiculously skilled at handling (footling?) a ball on the pitch, being at the peak of physical perfection and getting paid half the money in all the world every week, with a bonus jet every time you happen to plant the ball in the back of the net. No, the true mark of a footballer's worth as a human being is how often their name is turned

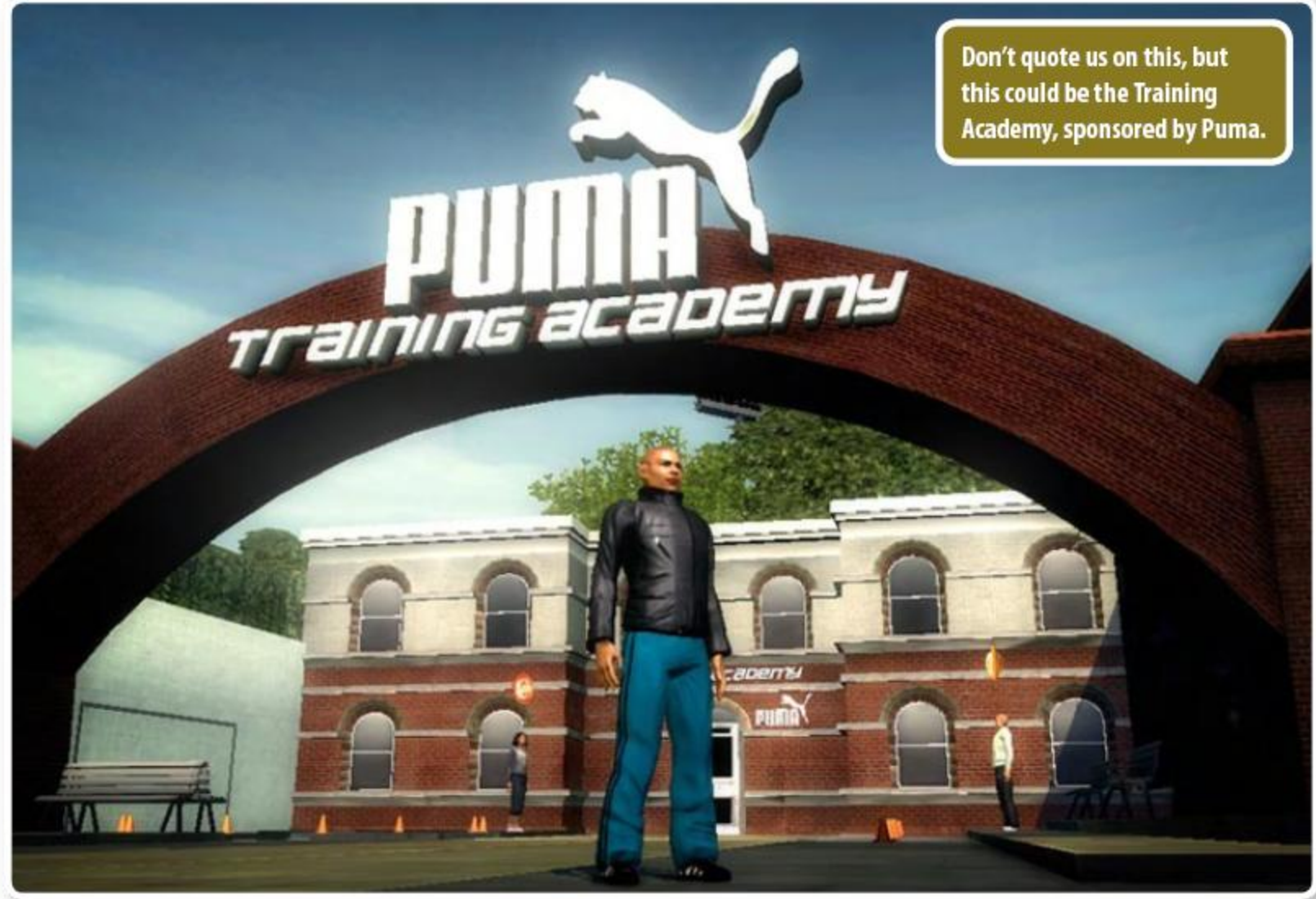
into some kind of 48-point pun on the back pages of every national newspaper in the country.

### The beautiful game

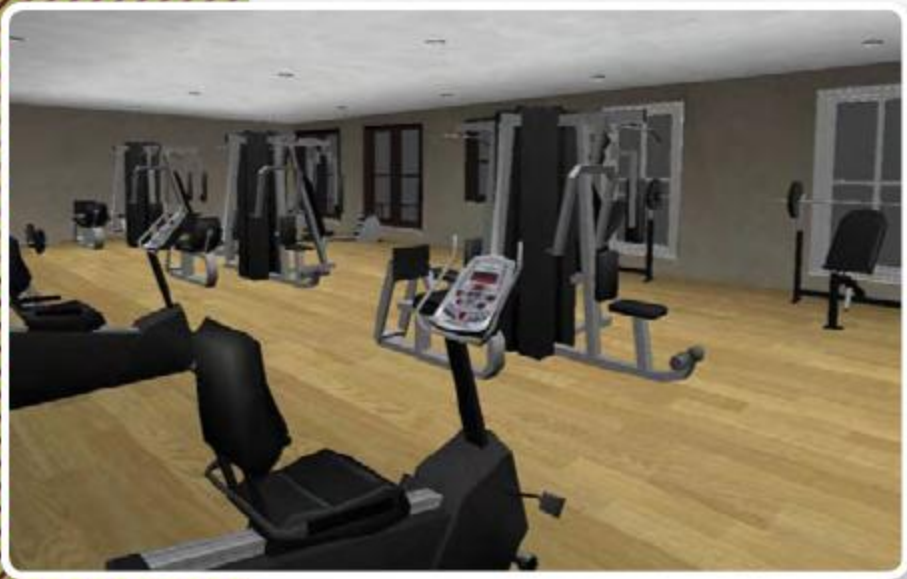
Football Superstars is the first attempt to turn the glamorous world of kicking a ball about for a bit then getting off your face in a nightclub to the online gaming space. While most sports games tend to focus on the whole team (uh, unless it's a solo sport in which case it doesn't, but you get the idea), FS instead sees you creating a single footballer (male or female, it's the near-future and it seems the world is far more accepting of soccerinas mixing it up with the menfolk than it is now) and shepherding them through their career from lowly Z-list celebrity barely troubling the subs bench, to first-team ball juggler extraordinaire, with mansions, bank balances to rival small countries and all the Aston Martins you can eat.



Worst kit combination ever.



Don't quote us on this, but this could be the Training Academy, sponsored by Puma.



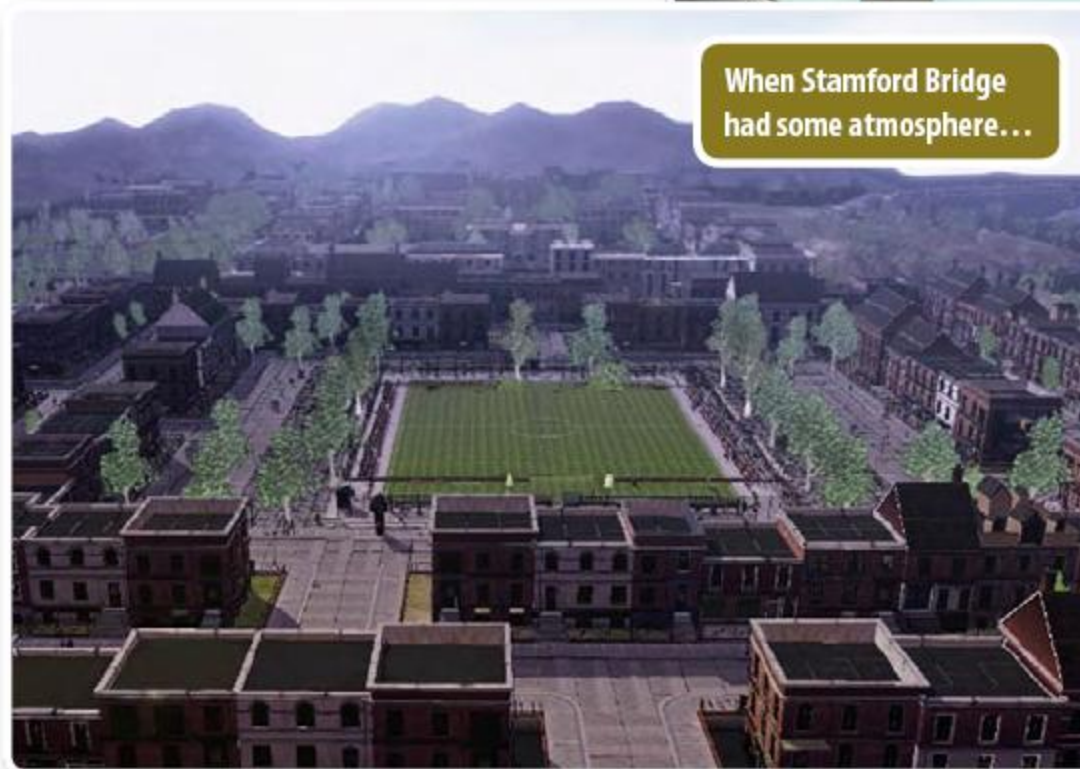
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➔ Superstars continued

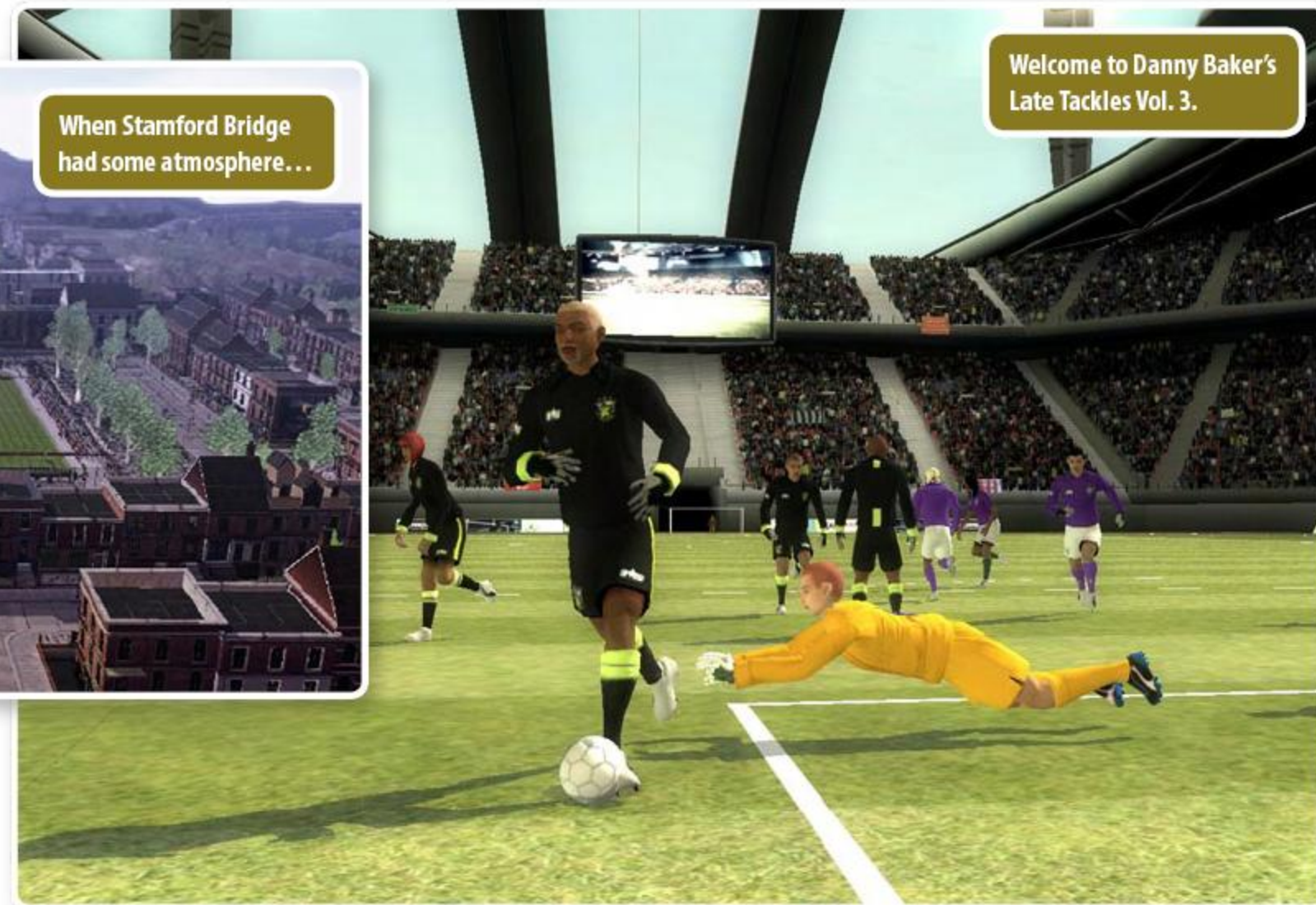
This is accomplished through, naturally enough, actually playing football – online, with other players. At first these are little more than simple ‘kickabouts’, 2v2s or 4v4s (with computer-controlled keepers thrown in), then progressing to full 11v11 matches for your chosen club.

Between matches you can spend your time in the club gyms, boosting your stats and upping your skills, or out on the town, spending your hard-earned wages on the latest clothes, at the nightclubs or courting the press. Or just chatting with the other footballing wannabes and comparing brand names.

Ultimately though, it all boils down to the pitch, and it’s how well a game of actual football FS plays that will determine whether it makes the Champions League of MMOs, or flails around the tail end



When Stamford Bridge had some atmosphere...



Welcome to Danny Baker's Late Tackles Vol. 3.

**“Football Superstars is a noble attempt to try something different within the MMO genre”**

of the Conference, struggling to stave off bankruptcy. While players can earn special ball control skills as they progress through the ranks is all well and good, but it’s how FS attempts to stop every game from becoming mere ‘chase-the-ball’ affairs and encourages players to want to hang back in defence or provide cover from the wings rather than just be glory-seeking strikers all the time that will be the true test. Cybersports insists that there are plenty of character progression rewards in place for doing just that, and that the ‘natural progression’

approach of teams that work together being far more effective than teams of 11 glory-seekers will force players into more rounded and tactical thinking.

Football Superstars is a noble attempt to try something different within the MMO genre, and should it get through the current beta test period by learning some valuable lessons about just what it takes to provide a compelling gameplay experience, there’s no reason on Earth why it shouldn’t have something to offer even the most casual of footie fans. Even those that focus more on their hair gel than on their work rate. ●

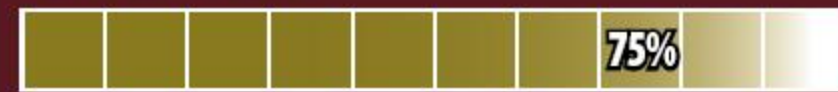


It was during moments like this that Brian wished he still had two legs.

MMOZine Verdict

*If they can get the gameplay right then this could be great*

HOW COMPLETE



FIRST IMPRESSIONS

