

Greetings from the team at CFS Financial Services; Adam, Yupar, Matt and Natalie

In our customary effort to divert your attention away from the general reports of death, destruction, and the disintegration of the world as we know it, we're keen to remind you that life is good and the opportunities on offer are still here.

Whilst it is easy to remain at home and live life through the lens of our social media links, actual living takes place outside in the company of other 'herd members', enjoying our relatively short time on the planet, geologically speaking!

We have just witnessed the Enhanced Games, possibly an event that will lead to less litigation at

future Olympics, we are about to view the largest TV spectacle, if soccer followers can be believed, and later this year we can choose which one of our politicians is more believable than the others!

I have provided some perspective on each event with the assistance of AI, as well my own ability to search the internet!

As always if you have any concerns about your plans, whether they be financial, health or investment/KiwiSaver please call or email us. You'll always be able to speak with a fellow 'herd member', **no chat bots here!**

The Enhanced Games

by Joe Al Bennett

The Enhanced Games are based on a bold idea: if elite athletes are already spending every waking moment trying to become faster, stronger, and more aerodynamic than nature intended, why not stop pretending otherwise and make enhancement part of the competition?

Supporters argue that the Enhanced Games would be refreshingly honest. Instead of armies of drug testers chasing athletes through airports carrying sample cups, competitors would simply disclose what enhancements they use. This could save millions and eliminate the Olympic tradition of discovering a gold medal winner was actually the bronze medal winner three years later.

There is also the possibility of advancing medical science. Researchers could learn more about performance, recovery, and human physiology, assuming the athletes remain attached to all their major body parts.

Critics see risks. Supporters see progress. Television networks see ratings. In modern sport, that may be the most powerful performance enhancer of all.



The 2026 Football World Cup

by Dave Al Barry and Joe Al Bennett

The Football World Cup has come to Canada, the USA and Mexico, which is rather like announcing that the family Christmas dinner will be held simultaneously in three houses and everyone must bring their own passport.

There will be football of astonishing grace. Young men will trap a ball descending from the heavens with the tenderness of a grandfather catching a sleeping cat. There will also be theatrical collapses so convincing they deserve nominations at the Oscars.

Fans wearing face paint, wigs and inflatable sombreros will spend the GDP of a medium-sized nation on tickets and hot dogs. Somewhere, an unknown substitute will become an overnight legend, a referee will make one decision that unites every country on Earth in outrage, and millions will discover that the longest measurable unit of time is the final three minutes when your team is leading 1-0.



In the end, one nation will lift a golden trophy while the rest console themselves with memories, conspiracy theories, and overpriced replica shirts that mysteriously shrink in the wash.



Thoughts on elections

Voter Perspective

Waiting for results on election night is like waiting for your grade on a group project. I know I did my part right, but I'm worried the rest of you screwed it up.

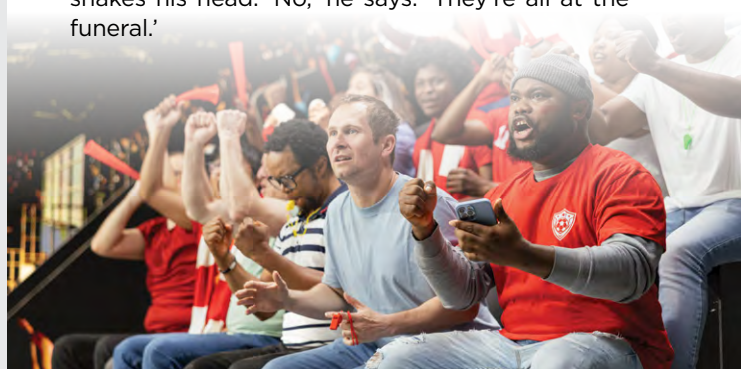
Politician's Perspective

A politician running for office was asked about his policy on liquor. He answered, "If you mean the demon drink that poisons the body, ruins the mind, destroys the family and creates criminals, then I'm against it! But if you mean the beautiful drink used for a wedding toast, the foundation of a fun Friday night and the biggest source of tax revenue to fund needy orphans, then I'm for it! And I won't change my mind, no matter what you say."

True love

It's the World Cup Final, and a man makes his way to his seat right next to the pitch.

He sits down, noticing that the seat next to him is empty. He leans over and asks his neighbour if someone will be sitting there. 'No,' says the neighbour. 'The seat is empty.' 'This is incredible,' said the man. 'Who in their right mind would have a seat like this for the final and not use it?' The neighbour says, 'Well actually the seat belongs to me. I was supposed to come with my wife, but she passed away. This is the first World Cup Final we haven't been to together since we got married.' 'Oh, I'm so sorry to hear that. That's terrible....But couldn't you find someone else, a friend, relative or even a neighbour to take her seat?' The man shakes his head. 'No,' he says. 'They're all at the funeral.'



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