MAFL 2008

6th April
Round #3.1 2008

Round 3 Results

5 correct	W Bulldogs v St Kilda (Docklands, 4th April 2008)	
Sportsbet	$2.80	$1.40
	29% - 36%	64% - 71%
	W Bulldogs +15½ pts ($1.90 / $1.90)	
Heritage	Won 12.21% (14.29%)	
Alpha	-	
Beta	-	
Chi	-	
Line	-	
Chi	St Kilda by 9	
Quila	St Kilda by 11	
Shadow	Western Bulldogs	
CTL	Western Bulldogs	
MM	St Kilda (42-1) *(Dissenters: MM2)*	
Super MM	St Kilda (14-0) *(Dissenters: None)*	
Uber MM	Western Bulldogs	
Simplified	Western Bulldogs	
Result	W Bulldogs 19.11 (125) def St Kilda 13.16 (87)	

53 correct	Kangaroos v Hawthorn (Docklands, 5th April 2008)	
Sportsbet	$2.85	$1.38
	28% - 35%	65% - 72%
	Kangaroos +15½ pts ($1.90 / $1.90)	
Heritage	Lost 5.65% (6.61%)	
Alpha	-	
Beta	-	
Chi	-	
Line	-	
Chi	Hawthorn by 16	
Quila	Hawthorn by 22	
Shadow	Hawthorn	
CTL	Hawthorn	
MM	Hawthorn (33-10) *(Dissenters: MM3,11,12,14,18-22,41)*	
Super MM	Hawthorn (14-0) *(Dissenters: None)*	
Uber MM	Kangaroos	
Simplified	Hawthorn	
Result	Hawthorn 15.12 (102) def Kangaroos 13.8 (86)	

3 correct	West Coast v Fremantle (Subiaco, 5th April 2008)	
Sportsbet	$1.90	$1.84
	46% - 53%	47% - 54%
	West Coast +6½ pts ($1.80 / $2.00)	
Heritage	-	
Alpha	-	
Beta	-	
Chi	-	
Line	-	
Chi	Fremantle by 5 (Game of the Round)	
Quila	Fremantle by 7	
Shadow	West Coast	
CTL	West Coast	
MM	West Coast (43-0) *(Dissenters: None)*	
Super MM	West Coast (14-0) *(Dissenters: None)*	
Uber MM	West Coast	
Simplified	West Coast	
Result	Fremantle 12.15 (87) def West Coast 10.13 (73)	

61 correct	Bris Lions v Sydney (Gabba, 5th April 2008)	
Sportsbet	$1.65	$2.15
	53% - 61%	39% - 47%
	Bris Lions -6½ pts ($1.90 / $1.90)	
Heritage	-	
Alpha	-	
Beta	-	
Chi	-	
Line	-	
Chi	Brisbane Lions by 8	
Quila	Brisbane Lions by 5	
Shadow	Sydney	
CTL	Sydney	
MM	Sydney (43-0) *(Dissenters: None)*	
Super MM	Sydney (14-0) *(Dissenters: None)*	
Uber MM	Sydney	
Simplified	Sydney	
Result	Sydney 13.10 (88) def. Brisbane Lions 10.11 (71)	

64 correct	Essendon v Carlton (MCG, 5th April 2008)	
Sportsbet	$1.60	$2.25
	56% - 63%	38% - 44%
	Essendon -8½ pts ($1.90 / $1.90)	
Heritage	-	
Alpha	-	
Beta	-	
Chi	-	
Line	-	
Chi	Essendon by 9	
Quila	Essendon by 3	
Shadow	Essendon	
CTL	Essendon	
MM	Essendon (43-0) *(Dissenters: None)*	
Super MM	Essendon (14-0) *(Dissenters: None)*	
Uber MM	Essendon	
Simplified	Essendon	
Result	Essendon 23.12 (150) def. Carlton 21.8 (134)	

64 correct	Geelong v Melbourne (Kardinia, 6th April 2008)	
Sportsbet	$1.02	$12.00
	92% - 98%	2% - 8%
	Geelong -75½ pts ($1.90 / $1.90)	
Heritage	-	
Alpha	-	
Beta	-	
Chi	-	
Line	-	
Chi	Geelong by 35	
Quila	Geelong by 44	
Shadow	Geelong	
CTL	Geelong	
MM	Geelong (43-0) *(Dissenters: None)*	
Super MM	Geelong (14-0) *(Dissenters: None)*	
Uber MM	Geelong	
Simplified	Geelong	
Result	Geelong 16.16 (112) def. Melbourne 12.10 (82)	

64 correct	Richmond v Collingwood (MCG, 6th April 2008)	
Sportsbet	$3.30	$1.30
	23% - 30%	70% - 77%
	Richmond +20½ pts ($1.90 / $1.90)	
Heritage	Lost 9.62% (11.25%)	
Alpha	-	
Beta	-	
Chi	-	
Line	-	
Chi	Collingwood by 15	
Quila	Collingwood by 21	
Shadow	Collingwood	
CTL	Collingwood	
MM	Collingwood (43-0) *(Dissenters: None)*	
Super MM	Collingwood (14-0) *(Dissenters: None)*	
Uber MM	Collingwood	
Simplified	Collingwood	
Result	Collingwood 18.14 (122) def. Richmond 11.12 (78)	

37 correct	Adelaide v Pt Adelaide (Football Park, 6th April 2008)	
Sportsbet	$1.68	$2.10
	52% - 60%	40% - 48%
	Adelaide -6½ pts ($1.90 / $1.90)	
Heritage	-	
Alpha	-	
Beta	-	
Chi	-	
Line	-	
Chi	Adelaide by 32	
Quila	Adelaide by 47	
Shadow	Adelaide	
CTL	Adelaide	
MM	Adelaide (22-21) *(Dissenters: MM9-16, 19-31)*	
Super MM	Adelaide (8-6) *(Dissenters: SM11,13,19,21,23,33)*	
Uber MM	Adelaide	
Simplified	Adelaide	
Result	Adelaide 12.13 (85) def. Port Adelaide 11.13 (79)	

Round 3 Statistics		
Scoring	Winners	Losers
Goals	128	101
Behinds	103	84
Ave Score	108.9	86.3
Ave Marg	22.6	
Qtrs Won	Winners	Losers
1st	4.5	3.5
2nd	7	1
3rd	4	4
4th	7.5	0.5
Qtr Leads	Winners	Losers
End of 1st	4.5	3.5
End of 2nd	6	2
End 3rd	6	2
Tipping	Tipster	Score
1st	BKB	18
2nd	CTM,SM3-6,MM34	17
Last	MM4-6, 12 & 22	13
Ave Score	5.48 (Std Dev = 0.78)	

Results in Review

MAFL Funds

A small loss for the weekend but, to be frank, I'm encouraged by the outcomes.

Our first bet, the Bulldogs, started appallingly, trailing by 37 points at the first change having recorded just 3 scoring shots, then steadied and looked impressive for the remainder of the contest, eventually running out 6-goal winners. It was almost worth waiting up until after 2am Saturday morning to watch the game on free-to-air TV.

The Roos (or North Melbourne, as they seem determined to be known as this year), our second bet, led by just shy of 3 goals at the final change and should, really should, have won and thus ensured Investors a profitable weekend. In the end, a Hawks 4th-quarter surge saw the Roos tipped out by 16 points.

Lastly, Richmond, our third bet, was undoubtedly the poorest bet of the weekend, though a couple of 2nd half spurts gave some false hope, however fleeting.

In total, the Heritage Fund dropped 3.05c to finish the weekend at $0.8239. The effect on Investor portfolios is shown in the table at right.

Investor #	Profit/Loss (%)
001	(7.04%)
002	(17.61%)
003	(5.28%)
004	(5.28%)
005	(5.28%)
006	(5.28%)
007	(5.28%)
008	(5.28%)
009	(5.28%)
010	-
011	-
012	(5.28%)
013	(5.28%)
014	(5.28%)
015	0.00%
016	(5.28%)

Tipping

Yet another good weekend for tipsters as the table at right shows.

Our 64 tipsters averaged just under 5½ from 8, with the best of them – MM2 (sic), the Simplified Über Model, Consult the Ladder and Shadow – all notching 7 from 8.

Score	# Tipsters
7/8	4
6/8	30
5/8	23
4/8	7
Total	*64*

Combining this week's tipping results with those of the first two rounds sees BKB leading on 18 from 24, followed by Chi, MM34 and four of the Super Models all on 17 from 24. Thereafter follow 13 tipsters on 16/24, 24 tipsters on 15/24, 15 tipsters on 14/24, and 5 tipsters on 13/24. Full details of the running totals for all tipsters appear in Appendix 1.

Proposition Bet

In one of the pre-season newsletters I wrote the following:

> I've a proposition for you. Pick any game from the 2008 schedule you like. Then, when it's played, turn on the coverage at some predetermined but random point in the game and tell me who's next to score – behind, rushed behind, goal, any score at all. I don't want you to tell me who's in front at that point; just tell me which team has just scored. I'll agree to wager with you that whichever team just scored will go on to win the game.

(The full text of the Proposition Bet section from the original newsletter is reproduced in Appendix 2.)

Well, whilst I haven't been publishing the times each week, take my word for it that, prior to the commencement of the season, I selected random times for each quarter of each game (a random second between 0:00 and 20:00) and that, for each game, I've been assiduously recording the first point-scorer and the first goal-scorer after that random second. The results so far are summarised in the table at right and seem, in aggregate, to agree to a reasonable level with what we expected. Winning teams have so far been the first to score about 57% of the time after a randomly chosen point in each quarter, and the first to score a goal about 59% of the time.

Quarter	Winning Team is First Scorer After Random Time	Winning Team is First Goal Scorer After Random Time
1	50%	42%
2	58%	71%
3	50%	46%
4	71%	79%
All	57%	59%

The table above suggests that winning teams might have been dominating the scoring in the final term, registering over 70% of all scoring and almost 80% of all goal-scoring. A more comprehensive analysis, however, looking at all scoring in the final term – not just that which occurs after a randomly chosen point in time – shows that the scoring domination of winning teams in the 4th quarter has been less dramatic than that. Winning teams have kicked just under 61% of all final-term goals and registered just under 55% of all final-term scoring shots.

	Winning Team			Losing Team			Winning Team %		
Quarter	Goals	Behinds	Scoring Shots	Goals	Behinds	Scoring Shots	Goals	Behinds	Scoring Shots
1	35	24	59	20	12	32	63.6%	66.7%	64.8%
2	22	27	49	24	27	51	47.8%	50.0%	49.0%
3	35	18	53	20	29	49	63.6%	38.3%	52.0%
4	37	27	64	24	29	53	60.7%	48.2%	54.7%
All	*129*	*96*	*225*	*88*	*97*	*185*	*59.4%*	*49.7%*	*54.9%*

Since I've needed to collect scoring data to track the proposition bet, I thought I might as well collect additional information about whether or not the winning team:

- scores first in each quarter
- scores the first goal in each quarter
- scores last in each quarter
- scores the last goal in each quarter

A summary of this information appears in the table below.

Quarter	Winning Team is First Scorer in Quarter	Winning Team is First Goal Scorer in Quarter	Winning Team is Last Scorer in Quarter	Winning Team is Last Goal Scorer in Quarter
1	50%	54%	58%	58%
2	54%	58%	46%	58%
3	58%	71%	67%	58%
4	75%	79%	46%	46%
All	59%	66%	54%	55%

Early indications are that:

- scoring first is particularly important in the 3rd and 4th quarters
- scoring first goal in a quarter is more important than scoring first point
- scoring last is important in all but the 4th quarter.

These results are based on just 24 games, however, and so should be treated with some caution.

Team Quarter-by-Quarter Analysis

The tables below show how each team is performing on a quarter-by-quarter basis.

RESULT AT END OF EACH QUARTER BY TEAM

	Quarter 1								Quarter 2								Quarter 3								Quarter 4								
	R	W	D	L	Pts	PF	PA	%	R	W	D	L	Pts	PF	PA	%	R	W	D	L	Pts	PF	PA	%	R	W	D	L	Pts	PF	PA	%	
Adelaide	9	1	1	1	6	68	62	109.7	2	3	0	0	12	147	104	141.3	7	2	0	1	8	228	188	121.3	5	2	0	1	8	341	262	130.2	Adelaide
Brisbane Lions	12	1	0	2	4	39	80	48.8	12	1	0	2	4	120	140	85.7	14	0	0	3	0	177	217	81.6	11	1	0	2	4	243	274	88.7	Brisbane Lions
Carlton	10	1	1	1	6	87	84	103.6	11	1	0	2	4	160	182	87.9	10	1	0	2	4	230	265	86.8	14	0	0	3	0	298	384	77.6	Carlton
Collingwood	4	2	0	1	8	74	49	151.0	6	2	0	1	8	168	131	128.2	3	3	0	0	12	253	196	129.1	6	2	0	1	8	327	259	126.3	Collingwood
Essendon	11	1	0	2	4	60	87	69.0	8	2	0	1	8	148	176	84.1	11	1	0	2	4	242	280	86.4	8	2	0	1	8	323	351	92.0	Essendon
Fremantle	15	0	0	3	0	59	66	89.4	10	1	0	2	4	125	142	88.0	9	1	0	2	4	199	205	97.1	9	1	0	2	4	269	296	90.9	Fremantle
Geelong	2	3	0	0	12	96	54	177.8	1	3	0	0	12	202	103	196.1	1	3	0	0	12	290	168	172.6	1	3	0	0	12	367	229	160.3	Geelong
Hawthorn	5	2	0	1	8	66	57	115.8	5	2	0	1	8	154	88	175.0	5	2	0	1	8	242	169	143.2	2	3	0	0	12	368	233	157.9	Hawthorn
Kangaroos	1	3	0	0	12	103	40	257.5	7	2	0	1	8	162	143	113.3	8	2	0	1	8	244	225	108.4	10	1	0	2	4	280	310	90.3	Kangaroos
Melbourne	16	0	0	3	0	45	80	56.3	16	0	0	3	0	91	174	52.3	16	0	0	3	0	138	315	43.8	16	0	0	3	0	198	427	46.4	Melbourne
Port Adelaide	13	0	1	2	2	64	93	68.8	14	0	0	3	0	111	165	67.3	15	0	0	3	0	170	254	66.9	15	0	0	3	0	253	336	75.3	Port Adelaide
Richmond	14	0	1	2	2	53	105	50.5	15	0	0	3	0	128	203	63.1	13	1	0	2	4	202	282	71.6	12	1	0	2	4	273	328	83.2	Richmond
St Kilda	3	2	0	1	8	89	43	207.0	4	2	1	0	10	145	114	127.2	6	2	0	1	8	195	155	125.8	7	2	0	1	8	263	259	101.5	St Kilda
Sydney	6	2	0	1	8	66	60	110.0	3	2	1	0	10	141	107	131.8	4	2	0	1	8	212	145	146.2	4	2	0	1	8	283	200	141.5	Sydney
West Coast	7	2	0	1	8	74	68	108.8	13	1	0	2	4	114	146	78.1	12	1	0	2	4	172	212	81.1	13	1	0	2	4	222	296	75.0	West Coast
Western Bulldogs	8	2	0	1	8	59	74	79.7	9	1	0	2	4	150	148	101.4	2	3	0	0	12	283	201	140.8	3	3	0	0	12	412	276	149.3	Western Bulldogs

QUARTERS WON, DRAWN & LOST BY TEAM

	Quarter 1								Quarter 2								Quarter 3								Quarter 4								
	R	W	D	L	Pts	PF	PA	%	R	W	D	L	Pts	PF	PA	%	R	W	D	L	Pts	PF	PA	%	R	W	D	L	Pts	PF	PA	%	
Adelaide	9	1	1	1	6	68	62	109.7	3	3	0	0	12	79	42	188.1	8	1	1	1	6	81	84	96.4	5	2	0	1	8	113	74	152.7	Adelaide
Brisbane Lions	12	1	0	2	4	39	80	48.8	4	3	0	0	12	81	60	135.0	14	1	0	2	4	57	77	74.0	9	1	1	1	6	66	57	115.8	Brisbane Lions
Carlton	10	1	1	1	6	87	84	103.6	12	1	0	2	4	73	98	74.5	13	1	0	2	4	70	83	84.3	14	0	0	3	0	68	119	57.1	Carlton
Collingwood	4	2	0	1	8	74	49	151.0	7	2	0	1	8	94	82	114.6	4	2	0	1	8	85	65	130.8	7	2	0	1	8	74	63	117.5	Collingwood
Essendon	11	1	0	2	4	60	87	69.0	8	2	0	1	8	88	89	98.9	12	1	0	2	4	94	104	90.4	8	2	0	1	8	81	71	114.1	Essendon
Fremantle	15	0	0	3	0	59	66	89.4	9	1	0	2	4	66	76	86.8	10	1	0	2	4	74	63	117.5	11	1	0	2	4	70	91	76.9	Fremantle
Geelong	2	3	0	0	12	96	54	177.8	2	3	0	0	12	106	49	216.3	3	2	0	1	8	88	65	135.4	6	2	0	1	8	77	61	126.2	Geelong
Hawthorn	5	2	0	1	8	66	57	115.8	1	3	0	0	12	88	31	283.9	11	1	0	2	4	88	81	108.6	1	3	0	0	12	126	64	196.9	Hawthorn
Kangaroos	1	3	0	0	12	103	40	257.5	14	0	0	3	0	59	103	57.3	6	2	0	1	8	82	82	100.0	16	0	0	3	0	36	85	42.4	Kangaroos
Melbourne	16	0	0	3	0	45	80	56.3	16	0	0	3	0	46	94	48.9	16	0	0	3	0	47	141	33.3	15	0	0	3	0	60	112	53.6	Melbourne
Port Adelaide	13	0	1	2	2	64	93	68.8	13	0	0	3	0	47	72	65.3	15	1	0	2	4	59	89	66.3	10	1	0	2	4	83	82	101.2	Port Adelaide
Richmond	14	0	1	2	2	53	105	50.5	11	1	0	2	4	75	98	76.5	7	2	0	1	8	74	79	93.7	4	2	0	1	8	71	46	154.3	Richmond
St Kilda	3	2	0	1	8	89	43	207.0	10	1	0	2	4	56	71	78.9	5	2	0	1	8	50	41	122.0	12	1	0	2	4	68	104	65.4	St Kilda
Sydney	6	2	0	1	8	66	60	110.0	5	2	0	1	8	75	47	159.6	2	2	0	1	8	71	38	186.8	3	2	1	0	10	71	55	129.1	Sydney
West Coast	7	2	0	1	8	74	68	108.8	15	0	0	3	0	40	78	51.3	9	1	1	1	6	58	66	87.9	13	1	0	2	4	50	84	59.5	West Coast
Western Bulldogs	8	2	0	1	8	59	74	79.7	6	2	0	1	8	91	74	123.0	1	3	0	0	12	133	53	250.9	2	3	0	0	12	129	75	172.0	Western Bulldogs

Currently, the Roos are the 1st Quarter kings, having won the first quarter in all three of their games and recording a 257.5 percentage in so doing. It's their 2nd and 4th quarters that have been their undoing (as Heritage Fund Investors lament): they've not won any 2nd or 4th quarter so far this season and have the worst final-term record of any team in the competition. If games finished at quarter time, the Roos would head the table; if they finished at half-time, they'd be 7th; if at three-quarter time, they'd be 8th. But, on the ladder, they're 10th.

Hawthorn's strength is its finish. It's won every 4th quarter this season and scored almost twice the number of points that its opponents have managed in this quarter.

Sydney have been amongst the most consistent, all-quarter teams so far this season, winning 2 out of 3 of their 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th quarters and, in aggregate, outscoring their opponents in each quarter. They, Collingwood, Geelong and Hawthorn are the only teams to have recorded 100+ percentages for each quarter.

In stark contrast, Melbourne are the only team yet to win a single quarter so far this season.

Team Ratings Update

Only 5 teams' ranking changed this weekend and only 2 of those changes had a bearing on the predicted Top 8, with Fremantle entering the 8 at the expense of the Eagles.

Here's the detail:

RATINGS

Team	Initial	Δ R1	End R1	Δ R2	End R2	Δ R3	End R3
Geelong	1,027.4	+0.3	1,027.7	+5.4	1,033.1	+0.3	1,033.4
Sydney	1,010.7	-0.3	1,010.4	+5.4	1,015.7	+1.2	1,017.0
Adelaide	1,008.4	-0.8	1,007.6	+6.0	1,013.6	-0.1	1,013.5
Port Adelaide	1,007.4	-0.3	1,007.0	-5.4	1,001.7	+0.1	1,001.8
West Coast	1,006.6	+1.0	1,007.6	-6.0	1,001.6	-1.6	999.9
Collingwood	1,004.0	+2.2	1,006.2	-0.3	1,006.0	+3.4	1,009.3
Fremantle	1,004.0	-2.2	1,001.7	-1.4	1,000.3	+1.6	1,002.0
Hawthorn	1,002.9	+5.5	1,008.5	+1.4	1,009.9	+1.4	1,011.2
St Kilda	1,001.0	+0.3	1,001.4	+2.3	1,003.7	-3.5	1,000.1
Kangaroos	1,000.7	-5.4	995.3	+3.7	999.0	-1.4	997.6
Brisbane Lions	999.6	-1.0	998.6	+0.3	998.9	-1.2	997.7
Essendon	990.0	+5.4	995.4	-5.4	990.1	+0.5	990.6
Western Bulldogs	988.4	+0.8	989.3	+6.3	995.6	+3.5	999.2
Melbourne	987.2	-5.5	981.7	-6.3	975.3	-0.3	975.0
Richmond	986.3	+2.6	988.9	-3.7	985.2	-3.4	981.9
Carlton	975.2	-2.6	972.6	-2.3	970.4	-0.5	969.8

RANKINGS

Team	Initial	Δ R1	R1	Δ R2	R2	Δ R3	R3
Geelong	1	-	1	-	1	-	1
Sydney	2	-	2	-	2	-	2
Adelaide	3	Down 2	5	Up 2	3	-	3
Port Adelaide	4	Down 2	6	Down 1	7	-	7
West Coast	5	Up 1	4	Down 4	8	Down 1	9
Collingwood	6	Down 1	7	Up 2	5	-	5
Fremantle	7	Down 1	8	Down 1	9	Up 3	6
Hawthorn	8	Up 5	3	Down 1	4	-	4
St Kilda	9	-	9	Up 3	6	Down 2	8
Kangaroos	10	Down 2	12	Up 2	10	Down 2	12
Brisbane Lions	11	Up 1	10	Down 1	11	-	11
Essendon	12	Up 1	11	Down 2	13	-	13
Western Bulldogs	13	-	13	Up 1	12	Up 2	10
Melbourne	14	Down 1	15	-	15	-	15
Richmond	15	Up 1	14	-	14	-	14
Carlton	16	-	16	-	16	-	16

So, the current predicted Final 8 is:

- Geelong
- Sydney
- Adelaide
- Hawthorn
- Collingwood
- Fremantle
- Port Adelaide
- St Kilda

Across seasons 2000 to 2007 the MARS Predictor has correctly predicted an average of 5.63 of the 8 finalists as at the end of Round 3.

As a tipster, the MARS Predictor System is showing impressive credentials. So far this season it has tipped 18 from 24, a result that would see it tied for the lead with BKB. Given another couple of rounds of such success I think I'll be forced to admit it as the 65th tipster.

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MAFL Investors please note that Round 4 is the round in which the Alpha, Beta and Chi Funds all start trading, so get ready for a likely uptick in wagering activity.

For anyone who's curious, these three funds, had they been trading in Rounds 1 to 3, would have recorded the following returns:

- Alpha: -20.47%
- Beta: +10.17%
- Chi: -10.61%

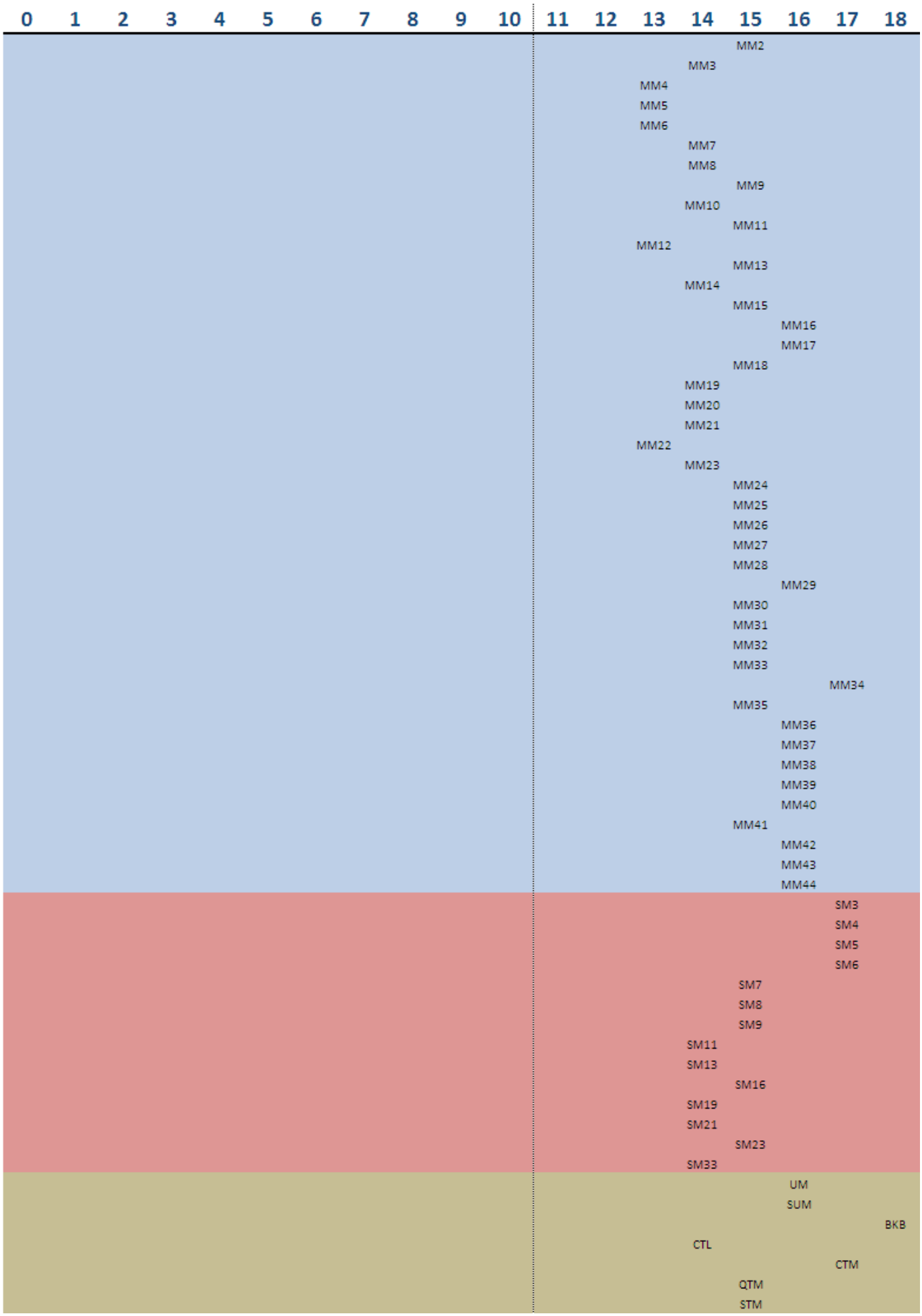
So, on balance, the curfew on these Funds was entirely appropriate. Now it's time for them all – along with the Heritage Fund – to start picking value bets.

'til next time,

Tony

6 April 2008

Appendix 1 : Cumulative Tipping Performance – All Tipsters



Appendix 2 : A Proposition Bet

I've a proposition for you. Pick any game from the 2008 schedule you like. Then, when it's played, turn on the coverage at some predetermined but random point in the game and tell me who's next to score – behind, rushed behind, goal, any score at all. I don't want you to tell me who's in front at that point; just tell me which team has just scored. I'll agree to wager with you that whichever team just scored will go on to win the game.

Now, my knowing who scored gives me a tiny bit of information about the game so, instead of expecting you to take the bet at even money, what say I accept a price of $1.95 for every $1 wagered? That's pretty generous. After all, you've only told me who happened to be the next team to score after some randomly determined point in the game. Surely that can't provide too much of an edge, can it? Will you take the bet?

If you think about it for a while, you'll realise that the value of this bet depends on the extent to which winning teams have more scoring shots in a game than do losing teams. (Actually, it also requires that neither winning nor losing teams tend to 'clump' their scoring one more than the other, but let's assume that this is true for the sake of this discussion). Pretty clearly, winners will tend to have more scoring shots than losers, but just how many more?

	Ave Scoring Shots		Ave Goals Scored		Ave Behinds Scored	
	Winners	Losers	Winners	Losers	Winners	Losers
Q1	7.44	5.95	4.08	2.92	3.36	3.03
Q2	7.45	5.60	3.99	2.61	3.47	2.99
Q3	7.66	5.76	4.15	2.79	3.51	2.97
Q4	7.30	5.61	4.13	3.01	3.18	2.61
Total	29.86	22.93	16.35	11.33	13.51	11.60

	% of Scoring Shots		% of Goals Scored		% of Behinds Scored	
	Winners	Losers	Winners	Losers	Winners	Losers
Q1	56%	44%	58%	42%	53%	47%
Q2	57%	43%	60%	40%	54%	46%
Q3	57%	43%	60%	40%	54%	46%
Q4	57%	43%	58%	42%	55%	45%
Total	57%	43%	59%	41%	54%	46%

Winner and Loser Scoring 2007

The table on the left provides the answer for all the regular season games of 2007. As you can see, winning teams record, on average, 57% of all scoring shots, making my 'generous' offer of $1.95 ludicrously unjust. In the long term I'll make money on this wager at any price over $1.77. In other words, the odds are a little better than 5/4-on that the team that scores next – whenever 'next' is – will be the team that wins.

Had I been even less generous I'd have asked you to wait until the next goal was scored and then to tell me who scored that. This team would be slightly longer than 3/2-on favourites to eventually win, and any price you offered over $1.70 would be profitable for me in the long run. By now though, I guess you'd be sceptical of any proposition bet I put to you, so I doubt I could get you to entertain the idea.

An interesting feature of the table above is the consistency of all the percentage figures across the four quarters. So, even if you malevolently picked a 'random' time deliberately from the first quarter, thinking that this would provide almost no information about the eventual winner, I'd still make money, on average, at any price of $1.80 or above.

You might wonder how typical the scoring percentages were in 2007. In the table at right I've listed the total percentages for each of the last 8 seasons.

It's remarkable how consistent the numbers are from season to season: winning teams have 57-58% of all scoring shots, and kick 59-60% of all goals and 53-56% of all behinds.

	% of Scoring Shots		% of Goals Scored		% of Behinds Scored	
	Winners	Losers	Winners	Losers	Winners	Losers
2007	57%	43%	59%	41%	54%	46%
2006	57%	43%	60%	40%	53%	47%
2005	57%	43%	60%	40%	53%	47%
2004	58%	42%	60%	40%	56%	44%
2003	57%	43%	59%	41%	54%	46%
2002	57%	43%	59%	41%	55%	45%
2001	58%	42%	60%	40%	55%	45%
2000	58%	42%	60%	40%	55%	45%

Winner and Loser Scoring 2000-2007

This year we're going to put my proposition bet to the test. Each week for each game I'll publish 4 random times, one for each quarter of the game. Then we'll track how often the first scorers after the nominated point are also the eventual winners. Wanna bet?