

2010 FIFA World Cup: African Don Connects Soccer and Science

By Tokz Awoshakin, AfricanMetroNews

<http://africanmetronews.com/?p=417>

21 February 2010 2 omments

As global sporting attention turns to South Africa for the 2010 FIFA world soccer tournament, slated for this summer, Dr Deji Badiru, a Nigerian professor of engineering at the United States Air Force Institute of Technology, at the Wright Patterson Air force Museum has written a new book connecting Soccer to science.

The new book “ The Physics of Soccer: Using Math and Science to Improve your Game is meant to serve the dual purpose of helping adolescent soccer players improve their game and get them more excited about Math and Science. “ This book is not just an introductory preparation for how youths may approach soccer in later years, it will introduce players to the beauty of mathematical and scientific reasoning of their applications “says Dr Badiru.

“The title of the book is both literal and figurative.” He adds. “The literal interpretation of the title conveys the direct functional role of physics as a scientific tool in the game of soccer. The figurative interpretation conveys the fact that the “physics “of something is often used to refer to how it is done, as in how to practice and execute the game of soccer” writes Dr Badiru.

The Wright Pat Professor seems qualified to make the statement and write this book. As a PhD holder in Industrial Engineering; and a certified project management professional, Dr Badiru teaches the best crop of engineers in the U.S military. In addition to his credentials as a science educator, Dr Badiru also has over forty years experience as a soccer player; about twenty five years experience as a soccer dad, five years experience as youth soccer coach and three years as adult soccer coach. He is also the author of Getting Things Done through Project management.

“This new book is designed to be fun yet technically stimulating for young readers” Says Dr Badiru. “I wrote the book for young adults who are interested applying knowledge of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics to solve everyday problems, particularly in sports “He adds.

The book, “Physics of Soccer: Using Math and Science to Improve Your Game” has 269 pages of useful information presented in simple prose, flavored with diagrams, illustrations, fun cartoons and pictures. The book is divided into 12 chapters. It features historical accounts of soccer, the contribution of Albert Einstein and Isaac Newton to soccer motion analysis

The Wright Pat Professor argues that that soccer coaches, league administrators and soccer moms can also benefit from the book. To be sure, chapter 12 of the book is about the scientific

management of soccer. The chapter features concept of six sigma; lean process and case studies of practical application of these management processes to the game of soccer.

“The Physics of Soccer: Using Math and Science to Improve Your Game” is published by *I Universe* and ABICS Publication. It is available for sale for \$22.95 in all local book stores and also on the internet at www.amazon.com and www.barnesandnoble.com. The book was recently featured at the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) fair which took place at Sinclair Community College in Dayton Ohio