

## Robotic soccer players seek to challenge humans by 2050

by [Darren Murph](#), posted Apr 23rd 2008 at 8:36AM



As if we Earthlings didn't have enough to worry over with robots from every corner of the globe likely [mounting](#) a silent offensive to [overtake](#) our societies and claim ownership of our land, now we're faced with the startling realization that even our [sporting events](#) aren't safe from subterfuge. At the seventh annual RoboCup German Open, hordes of teams have descended upon the pitch in order to compete in robot-only soccer, er, football matchups. Quite honestly, everything seemed fine and dandy until we hit a quote from Stefan Kohlbrecher, a member of the Technical University of Darmstadt's Darmstadt Dribblers team: "The goal of the RoboCup is to compete against human world champions with robots by the year 2050." Funny, we'll supposedly be [fornicating with androids by that same year](#). Cue Michael Stipe, please.