

Necom News

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United Clinch Game 3 In Thriller!

Billy Black's Man United are game 3 champions, ending a run of dominance from Paul Davies' Coventry who could only manage third place. It has been a season long battle between the top three, with just four points between United, Lee Jones' Everton and Coventry at the end, and the top two losing just one game apiece as all three ran up impressive points and goals totals (Cov were the top scorers with 71 for the season). United's defeat came as early as week 4, when they lost 2-1 at Coventry. Everton then led the table – earning a 1-1 draw at Old Trafford in week 8 to keep them there. Week 9 saw the Toffees suffer a shock 4-3 defeat to Wolves at Molineux and suddenly the top three were all level pegging. That lasted a couple of weeks, until Everton went to the Sky Blues and won 2-1. Coventry lost 3-0 at Old Trafford in week 14 as the top two moved six points clear of them, but in week 16, Everton slipped up again, drawing 1-1 at Man City, whilst United kept on winning. Week 17 proved to be decisive – Everton entertaining United at Goodison. The home side went ahead through Robinho, but Cristiano Ronaldo levelled, and the game finished 1-1. From that point, the top three won all their remaining fixtures – United winning the title with goals from Messi and Agüero in the last game of the season. As consolation, Everton beat Coventry 3-2 in the Champions League final, with United settling for the UEFA Cup and a 3-0 victory over Real Madrid in the final.

Support Us At Relay For Life 2012!

Necom managers have signed up to this years Relay For Life Stockport – and we're asking for your help.

We will be walking around the track in Relay for a full 24 hours, as well as joining in fun necom and football based activities all day long – starting at 12 noon on Saturday 30th June and finishing at noon on Sunday 1st July.

All managers will be very welcome at the event at Stockport Rugby Club, Bramhall.

If you can make it then sign up for the event at the CRASH COKE BABIES team website (named after two League Soccer legends – Arthur 'Crash' Ticehurst and of course Ross Sharp who sadly lost his battle with cancer last year and in whose name we are entering this event.

If you can't make it, then we're looking to raise £500.00 for the team from our wonderful managers – again go to the link below and you can make a small donation. Every penny counts, thank you so much in advance if you can help. Every single penny raised goes to Cancer Research UK to help in their fight against the dreadful disease that has taken so many friends and family too early.

The web address you need to either join the Necom team (Crash Coke Babies) or make a donation is

www.tiny.cc/crashcokebabies

You can also find out more about the Relay event itself by going to www.RelayForLifeStockport.co.uk

Thanks again...

More From Niall Quinn's Disco Pants...

Another week, another set of twists and turns at the top and bottom of the EPL... who is going up, and who is going down. Who is going to qualify for the Champions League? By the time you read this, no doubt Chelsea and Barcelona have battled it out at the Nou Camp. Could Chelsea manage to knock out the team widely believed to be the best in the world and then go on to win the final? In that case of course all Newcastle and Tottenham's battling might be in vain as they would miss out on the Champions League anyway. Tottenham lost to QPR at weekend, yet another bad result in a season that has really turned around big style. All the London based media were talking them up as something special for the first half of the season, but in truth the depth of the squad was never there and they have far too much reliance on one or two players – in particular the magnificent Gareth Bale. Stop Bale though (or wait until later in the season when he's tired and running out of steam) and you can pretty much stop Spurs. Newcastle are a different kettle of fish altogether. Like many I can't put my finger on just what is going right for them. Like a few Geordie friends I have, I'm just waiting for Mike Ashley to start selling off the talent for profit at the end of the season and don't particularly think it'll make any difference whether they make the Champions League or not. From a personal point of view though it might be fun to see them try... and fail! Chelsea... well they'll either bounce back from defeat in Barcelona and really go for that fourth place, or else be so deflated that they can't raise their game. Or they'll beat Barcelona and save everything for beating Real or Bayern in the final. Or will be so buoyed up by that win that they'll push on in the league. Isn't football hard to predict!

So to the big one next Monday. Incredible scenes at Old Trafford, where Man. United's weaknesses for the whole season came back to haunt them in one match really, and this time for once the referee wasn't there to dig them out of their hole. I tipped them long ago, even when City were far ahead, and to I still think they are favourites. Fergie is a genius and usually gets it right when it matters (a couple of Champions League finals apart) and a fired up and prepared United should be able to get at least a point at the Etihad. The pressure is back on City, and given the way they coped last time they were really up against it perhaps that doesn't bode too well for them. I don't know. I think if at the start of the season if you had given most Man. City fans the choice that if they win their last three games they would be champions then they would probably take it, and that's where we are now. Beat United, beat Newcastle and beat QPR and then you will win the league. For United it's slightly more complex – beat City and get a point from Swansea at home or the mighty Sunderland away, or draw with City and they will need four points from those two. If I had to predict, I'd go for a draw on Monday night, with it all coming down to that last match. Much as it pains me to say, I really can't see Sunderland being quite good enough to stop a Manchester United team that needs to win to take the title, so that's why I'm going for them.

Now at the bottom. Villa were so so lucky to get anything from their game with Sunderland. We had a goal probably wrongly disallowed and a number of other very good chances which Bendtner missed. No surprise there. That point edges Villa closer to safety and they play Bolton midweek, a great chance to probably just about get themselves clear. I see that as a 0-0 though, or maybe Bolton to sneak it, as Villa have been so inept in front of goal lately. Their top scorers Bent (9 goals) and Agbonlahor (5) are injured, whilst next best is the tragically stricken Stilian Petrov (4). They don't have anyone else who looks remotely like they are going to get anything. Wigan were very unlucky to lose to Fulham, and I think they'll beat Newcastle at home on Saturday before going to Blackburn and securing their safety. Bolton come to us and will get nothing at all at weekend, but could beat Tottenham, West Brom or Stoke, or all three to stay up. QPR well they have Chelsea and I've no idea how that one could go (see earlier!) and City last game, so again no idea – will City be going for the title or will it not matter either way. In between they will beat Stoke at home. Predictions? Same as last week I suppose.