

NEWS AND VIEWS

with Tony and Xanthie Rallis

McKain To Play Against Italian Giants. Talk About Upgrades!!!

When I proposed to Jon McKain that I had a multi-million dollar deal for him with Al Nassr FC in Saudi Arabia, he didn't realize that it also included a pre-season in Italy, where he will play against some of Italy's greatest football sides such as Juventus and Napoli.

Al Nassr FC is coached by former Italian International goalkeeper, Walter Zenga, who in the past decade has become a highly regarded coach throughout Europe. Al Nassr is a middle table team that hopes to challenge this year's Saudi Arabian Championship.

Culina Says No To Qatar

Gold Coast United marquee man, Jason Culina, last week rejected a seven figure contract to join a Qatari Club. The deal was introduced through Algerian player agent Amine El Hamdouni. It is believed Culina would consider a move to the region but would require a much higher salary than the one that was proposed to him by the Qatari's.

Sainsbury and Warren off to Sheffield United

Young Socceroos and Central Coast Mariners new recruits, Trent Sainsbury and Mark Warren, are on their way to the UK with Sheffield United. Both lads, who have just come out of the Australian Institute of Sport (AIS) system, have only recently signed three year professional contracts with the Mariners.

New Mariners Coach and Australian National Assistant Coach, Graham Arnold, believes both lads will benefit by joining Sheffield United on a two-week adventure. The youngsters will both fly out on the 17th July and



will return at the end of the month.

Coyne Could Join Brother In China

Perth Glory FC utility man, Jamie Coyne, is using his club's current Chinese pre-season trip as a stepping stone into a potential lucrative contract in the region. Coyne, whose brother Chris, is already based in China on a three-month loan deal with Liaoning Hongyun.

It is believed that Jamie has been courted by two Chinese Clubs and is considering an offer of \$200,000 US net per season plus any bonuses. Perth Glory FC's Deputy Chairman confirmed to us last week that Jamie Coyne could be on his way out of Members Equity Stadium.

Moore No More

Socceroo Craig Moore may have officially retired from the game but that didn't stop Perth Glory's coach, David Mitchell, making a play for the Australian International. With Chris Coyne's Chinese experience being deemed successful, Mitchell was keen on securing the services of Moore for one season.

"News and Views" caught up with Craig Moore about Perth's approach. "Look Tony, I am officially retired and even if I wanted another season, I don't think relocating my young family from Queensland to Western Australia is feasible."

"I have been a pro footballer since 16 years of age, I have captained every club I have played for and represented my country. It's time for the next generation to come through. I intend to have a few lazy months before sitting for my coaching badges," said Moore.



North, A Phoenix Target

Wellington Phoenix FC chairman, Terry Serepisos, has given the green light for the club to approach Socceroo defender, Jade North. North who missed out on World Cup selection due to injury is currently playing for Norwegian club, Tromso FC, after an unsuccessful season with Korean Club, Incheon United FC.

North is said to be homesick and Wellington Phoenix FC feel the need to replace the recently departed Saudi Arabian bound, Jon McKain. Finances maybe a stitching point in this potential transfer but North's friendship and successful central defensive partnership at former A-League club, Newcastle Jets with current Phoenix Captain, Andrew Durante, is seen as the glue in this proposed transfer.

Η "Χρυσή Μπάλα" στον Φορλάν

Κορυφαίος ποδοσφαιριστής του Μουντιάλ της Νότιας Αφρικής αναδείχθηκε ο Ντιέγκο Φορλάν, που τερμάτισε με την Ουρουγουάη στην τέταρτη θέση. Ο άσος της "σελέστε" αναδείχθηκε επίσης και πρώτος σκόρερ της διοργάνωσης με 5 γκολ, μαζί με τους Βίγια, Σνάιντερ και Μίλερ. Για δεύτερη φορά MVP της τελικής φάσης του Παγκοσμίου Κυπέλλου αναδείχθηκε ένας ποδοσφαιριστής που δεν αγωνίστηκε στον τελικό, μετά τον Σαλβατόρε Σκιλιάτσι (Ιταλία), πρώτο σκόρερ το 1990.

Ο Ντιέγκο Φορλάν της Ουρουγουάης βγήκε πολυτιμότερος παίκτης στα γήπεδα της Νότιας Αφρικής και πήρε την «Χρυσή Μπάλα», αφήνοντας στην 2η θέση τον Γουέσλεϊ Σνάιντερ (Ολλανδία) και στην 3η θέση τον Νταβίντ Βίγια (Ισπανία). Ο Τόμας Μίλερ της Γερμανίας αναδείχθηκε καλύτερος νέος ποδοσφαιριστής της διοργάνωσης αφού, εκτός από τα 5 τέρματα που σημείωσε, μοίρασε και

τρεις ασίστ, οδηγώντας τα "πάντσερ" στην κατάκτηση της 3ης θέσης. Τέλος, ο αρχηγός της Ισπανίας, Ίκερ Κασίγιας, αναδείχθηκε καλύτερος τερματοφύλακας.

ΟΙ ΠΟΛΥΤΙΜΟΤΕΡΟΙ ΠΑΙΚΤΕΣ (Από το 1982)

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| ΙΣΠΑΝΙΑ 1982: | Πάολο Ρόσι (Ιταλία) |
| ΜΕΞΙΚΟ 1986: | Ντιέγκο Μαραντόνα (Αργεντινή) |
| ΙΤΑΛΙΑ 1990: | Σαλβατόρε Σκιλιάτσι (Ιταλία) |
| ΗΠΑ 1994: | Ρομάριο (Βραζιλία) |
| ΓΑΛΛΙΑ 1998: | Ρονάλντο (Βραζιλία) |
| ΙΑΠΩΝΙΑ/Ν.ΚΟΡΕΑ 2002: | Όλιβερ Καν (Γερμανία) |
| ΓΕΡΜΑΝΙΑ 2006: | Ζινεντίν Ζιντάν (Γαλλία) |
| Ν.ΑΦΡΙΚΗ 2010: | Ντιέγκο Φορλάν (Ουρουγουάη) |

