

Missed Trial For Tsattalios

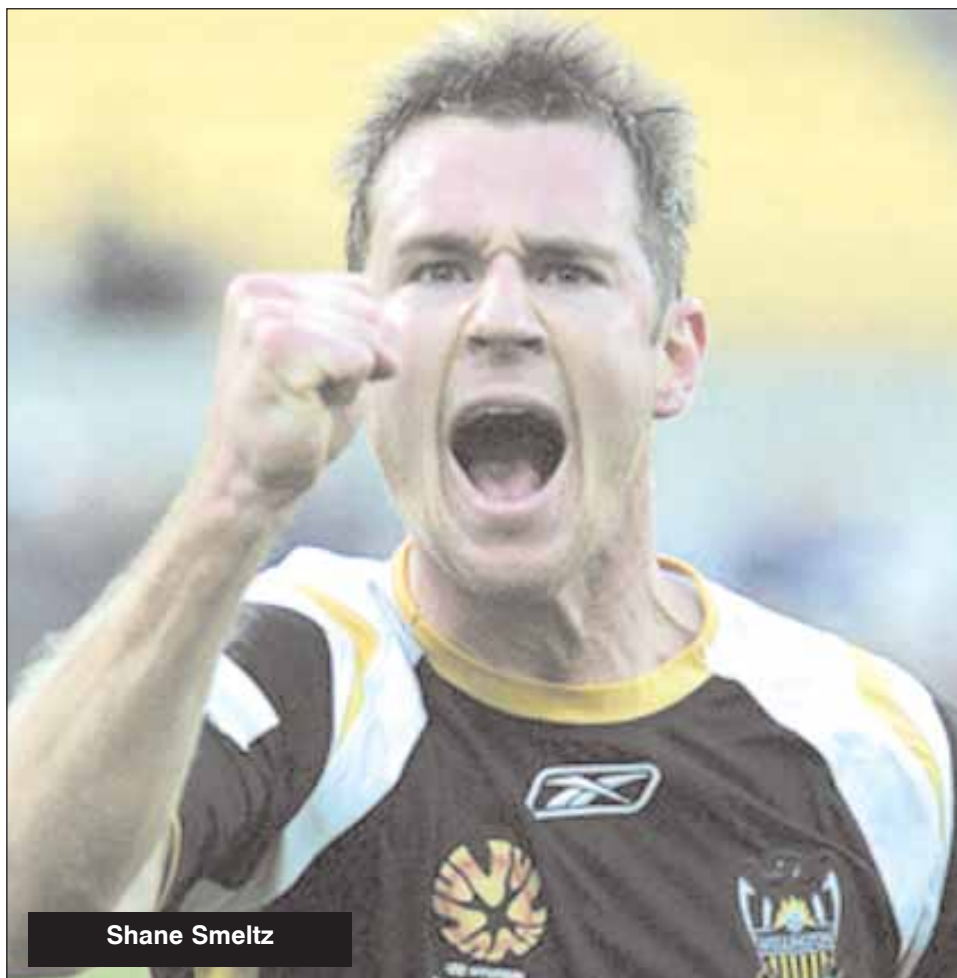
Former Sydney FC and Sydney Olympic left wing back, Nick Tsattalios, was last week offered a trial with Adelaide United. Tsattalios whom burst into the A-League with Sydney FC in 2007 as an exciting 16 year old has had more than his fair share of injuries and bad luck over the past 3 seasons. It seems that the rotten luck has struck again when two days before flying out to Adelaide, Tsattalios suffered a grade 1 quad strain. Initial assessments have ruled him out for three weeks with a minimum 15 days on the physio table. Twenty year old, Tsattalios, was devastated with the latest setback but is determined to get back to fitness in time for a possible trial in 10 days time. It is unknown whether the under strength South Australian clubs will wait for Tsattalios to recover from his injury or look at alternatives. Former Adelaide United defender, Angelo Costanzo, who spent time with Tsattalios in Newcastle, is a firm believer that the 20 year old left sided player can be an influential player in the A-League and has personally vouched for Tsattalios talent.

Beijing North Arrival

Two weeks ago, News And Views broke the story that Wellington Phoenix FC had offered Socceroo Defender, Jade North, a three year deal worth \$500 000. North who at the time was still completing contractual obligations with Norwegian Club, Tromso FC, was keen on accepting the deal and reuniting with old pal, Andrew Durante, at the centre of the Phoenix defence. A telephone call from Joel Griffiths put a spanner in the process. Griffiths who together with brother Ryan play for Chinese glamour club, Beijing Guoan FC, convinced North to fly to Beijing with a view of signing with the club. It is uncertain on whether or not North can adjust to life in the capital as previously stints with Korean Club, Incheon FC, and Norwegian club, Tromso FC, have resulted in North becoming homesick. Wellington Phoenix FC coach Ricki Herbert is said to be looking at alternative options in the event that North decided to stay in China.

NEWS AND VIEWS

with Tony and Xanthie Rallis



Shane Smeltz

Smeltz Deters New Zealand Pal Fallon From Chinese Experience

Chinese Club, Shenzhen FC, went to great lengths to sign New Zealand international target man, Rory Fallon. The club submitted an attractive offer to Fallon's management that included a monthly salary of \$35 000 US plus a house, a car and bonuses. Fallon considered the offer for a few weeks before contacting his New Zealand team mate Shane Smeltz. Fallon had heard that Smeltz had signed for Shandong Lueng FC and wanted Shane's opinion. We can confirm that Smeltz's comments about China's lifestyle deterred Rory Fallon from considering the extremely lucrative financial offer. It was not the only offer Fallon knocked back this month newly as promoted Turkish first division team, Konyaspor FC, also submitted an attractive offer for 1.88 metre tall striker. Konyaspor FC, which last month secured Australian

goalkeeper, Danny Vukovic, were impressed by the New Zealander's performance in the World Cup.

Fallon who is contracted to Plymouth FC in England has one more year on the current contract.

Smeltz Saga

Contrary to all reports and media statements, we can assure you the Shane Smeltz dilemma with Shandong Luneng FC is far from settled. If the Chinese club was spewing that Smeltz left them without any discussion or dialogue as to the reasons for his sudden departure, they are really boiling at the Gold Coast United FC threats. Gold Coast United chairman, Clive Palmer, is on public record claiming that Smeltz is his player and any attempt to discredit this will result in Clive calling on the Chinese President to have Shandong Luneng suspended from the competition.

Obviously there is a lot of Clive Palmer cheek in the subject threat, it didn't stop Clive sending a Chinese translated letter to the club. News and views also understands that Clive was told by the Australian PFA that there may be issues with Smeltz's return to Gold Coast United. Last weeks' Press release by Gold Coast United had no real substance and failed to address the issue at hand and that is how they intend to get Smeltz out of his current obligations.

Smeltz's replacement at Shandong Lueng

The dispute between Shane Smeltz and Shandong Luneng FC may not be settled but the Chinese club has already sounded out a replacement in Honduras International, Julio Cesar Leon. Leon who has 76 senior international appearances and 15 goals has spent the last two seasons on loan with Italian club, Torino. Leon owned by Parma FC has been playing his trade in Italy for the past six years.

Vicelich on loan to Shenzhen Ruby FC

New Zealand International defender and Auckland City player-coach, Ivan Vicelich, has joined Chinese club, Shenzhen Ruby FC, on a four month loan deal. The deal will see Vicelich see out the season with the Sinisa Gogic coached club. Gogic, who made his name in Greek football with Olympiakos FC has been coaching for the past 6 years.

Djite's Victory Option

Australian international striker, Bruce Djite, who currently is on loan to Turkish Super League club, Diyarbakirspor, from Genclerbiligi, was approached last Saturday by A-league club, Melbourne Victory.

23 year old Djite is reluctant to return to Australia but maybe left with no choice if a proposed Scandinavian move falls over.

It is believed that Melbourne Victory who last season lost the services of Danny Allsopp to Qatar and later Archie Thompson to serious injury are desperate to sign the former Adelaide United star.



Δεν αγωνίστηκε ο Παπασταθόπουλος, έχασε η Μίλαν

Ήττα για τη Μίλαν χωρίς τον Παπασταθόπουλο

Σύμφωνα με τα ιταλικά σάιτ ο Σωκράτης Παπασταθόπουλος ήταν να ξεκινήσει στη βασική ενδεκάδα της Μίλαν στο φιλικό με τη Βαρέζε. Κάτι τέτοιο δεν συνέβη όμως, αφού ο Μασιμιλιάνο Αλέγκρι τον κράτησε στον πάγκο, με αποτέλεσμα το ντεμπούτο του διεθνή στόπερ να πάρει αναβολή.

Στα αμιγώς αγωνιστικά οι Ροσονέρι ηττήθηκαν με 2-0 από τη νεοφώτιστη ομάδα της Β' κατηγορίας και έδειξαν ότι θέλουν πολύ δουλειά ενόψει της νέας σεζόν. Τα γκολ πέτυχαν ο Μπουτσεγκόλι

στο 7' και ο Τσελίνι στο 31'. Αμφότεροι κέρασαν... πίκρα τον νέο τεχνικό της Μίλαν που θα έχει να θυμάται ότι στο πρώτο του παιχνίδι στο τιμόνι της ομάδας ηττήθηκε από τη Βαρέζε!

Η σύνθεση της Μίλαν: Αμπιάτι (46' Αμέλια), Καλάντζε (46' Γέπες), Όντο, Μπονέρα, Γιανκουλόφσκι (46' Αντονίνι), Αμπάτε (46' Στράσερ), Αμπροζίνι (62' Μέρκελ), Φλαμινί, Ζέεντορφ (70' Βέρντι), Πάτο (73' Οντουαμάντι), Μποριέλο (46' Ιντζάγκι).