

Gomez on the Radar

Gold Coast United chairman, Clive Palmer, is at it once again. As exclusively reported in News and Views four weeks ago that Gold Coast United FC made two audacious bids for former Real Madrid Great striker, Raul, and former Arsenal winger, Pires. While Raul was quick in rejecting \$3 million dollars a season from Clive explaining he intended to have another season in Germany (has since joined Salke FC), Pires said he would consider offer once he had explored all other options in the UAE. Palmer, not one to hang around, has now made an offer to recruit, former Portuguese International Nuno Gomes. Gomes, still has a year to run on his contract with Portuguese Giants, Benfica FC, but is said to be keen on a stint

NEWS AND VIEWS

with Tony and Xanthie Rallis

down under. Negotiations are currently on hold due to the sudden passing of Gomes' father last Tuesday. Whether the death of his father alters the players thought process is yet to be determined.

Phoenix FC Reserve Team

Wellington Phoenix FC chairman, Terry Serepisos, has partnered up with football New Zealand in establishing an independent football entity that will play 20 odd competitive matches against local teams. While this new team will not be part

of any registered competition, it allows the Phoenix football management an outlet for squad players who don't play in the A-League, a chance to gain valuable game time. Further to current no-playing squad members being able to get competitive game time. It allows the club to invite and access young New Zealand trialists who will also form part of this new entity with a view of monitoring their progress and hopefully providing an outlet to senior contracts with Wellington Phoenix FC. Another great initiative by Phoenix FC.

Sheffield United keen on Sainsbury

Central Coast Mariners FC and Under 20's Australian International's, Trent Sainsbury and Mark Warren, last week returned from there two week experience with Sheffield United FC in the UK. United were so impressed with Sainsbury, they are said to have offered a further three month invitation with a view at signing him to a long term deal. Sainsbury a wonderful ball playing central defender (aka Ned Zelic) was asked to train as a defensive midfielder by United manager, Keith Blackwell. Sainsbury's management and Central Coast Mariners FC agree that the player should first develop in Australia for at least 12 months before taking off for the European dream.

Ένας τίτλος σκέτο... ΜΕΛΙ-ΤΑ

