

# WORLD OF FOOTBALL

## Vieira in role to deliver City riches

Former Blues midfielder slips into new position as he learns management ropes

by Duncan White

For all the millions Manchester City have spent in the last three years, perhaps their most serious signing came when they bought a former Blues midfielder to run the club and in turn City also has a former Blues midfielder in a new position as he learns management ropes.

It is to City's advantage that Vieira has taken such a long time to get into the job. The club has a long history of signing players who have been successful in other leagues, but who have not yet reached the heights of the Premier League. Vieira, who was in the Premier League for three seasons, has taken on a role that will allow him to shape the future of City. The idea is for a

There is a process to follow and I will take my time doing that. I'm working with different departments. I have worked with the community department and the sponsorship department, seeing how they do commercial deals.

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things to me. Even if I don't understand the first time, he will explain it a second or third time.

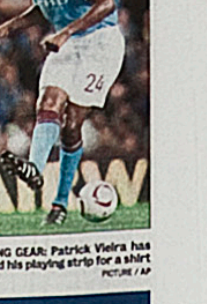
The way the club is growing at the moment makes it the perfect time for me. In the last three years this club has grown in a way that would have been impossible 15 years ago.

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"It's an inspirational figure to the younger players and I want him to be completely new to me. I'm not sure they will understand about the Premier League and I want him to be completely new to me. I'm not sure they will understand about the Premier League and I want him to be completely new to me.

"Having players like Clichy, Aguerre and Silva come in shows that we have gone to a higher level. This is what makes us believe that we are going to get better and better."

The way we finished last year was completely different. I think we are just going to get better and better."



CHANGING GEAR: Patrick Vieira has swapped his playing shirt for a shirt as a manager.

## Burglars and biff – 24 hours in the life of Barton

by Simon Turnbull

There was a rude awakening for Joey Barton on Sunday. "I was woken up by a banging sound, burglar attempting to break in. I was woken up by a banging sound, burglar attempting to break in. I was woken up by a banging sound, burglar attempting to break in."

The 24-hour diary of the Newcastle midfielder shows a life of chaos and excitement. From a burglary to a fight with a fan, Barton's day is anything but ordinary.



NOT-READY: Joey Barton (second left) tweeted after Newcastle's victory over Arsenal that he was trying to win a penalty might have been a bit rash.

There was one question left in my mind. In the meantime, Alan Pardew is struggling to get the best out of his squad. Barton's presence in the team is a double-edged sword.

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## EUROPE WRAP

ENGLAND

Manchester United started their defence of the Premier League title with a 2-1 win over West Brom, while new Chelsea boss Andre Villas Boas had to settle for a 1-0 draw at Stoke.

At the Hawthorns, Wayne Rooney gave United a 10th-minute lead before new goalkeeper David de Gea gifted Chelsea an equaliser when he allowed a Shiao Long drive to squirm beneath him.

FRANCE

Marseille's uncertain start continued as they stroked a two-goal lead to draw 2-2 at Auxerre. Luc Bréguet and Andy Ayew were on target before Alain Troreré and substitute Remy Cabaret ensured a share of the spoils.

SCOTLAND

McDonnell are top after Tom Hickey scored in stoppage time to give them a 1-0 win over St Mirren, but they have played a game more than Celtic who defeated Dundee United 1-0.

HOLLAND

Champions Ajax Amsterdam have six points from two games after a 2-1 win of Heracles and the title on goal difference from Feyenoord, who beat Roda 3-0, and FC Twente who clinched a 1-0 win over AZ Alkmaar.

SPAIN

Raul Madrid and Barcelona drew 2-2 in the first leg of the Spanish Supercup at the Santiago Bernabéu.

NETHERLANDS

PSV Eindhoven are top after a 2-0 win over FC Twente, while Feyenoord are second on goal difference from FC Utrecht, who beat Roda 3-0, and FC Twente who clinched a 1-0 win over AZ Alkmaar.

## High hopes for fringe after winter series

CRICKET: A-team manager expects to see Plunket Shield benefits

by David Leggat

New Zealand's fringe test and limited overs players should hit the ground running when the domestic cricket season starts early in November.

The New Zealand A side has returned from a quadrilateral series in Queensland against their counterparts from South Africa, India and Australia.

Portugal

Understand Mainz, who beat Freiburg 2-1, and Hannover, thanks to a 2-1 victory against Nuremberg, head the way with six points from two games.

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Outrageous prices for replica All Blacks jerseys have seen sportswear giant, Adidas, publically scolded by the Prime Minister, ex-All Blacks, retailers, and most significantly, the fans.

What if Tuatara Breweries had the solution?

Cheekily, we created a cheaper version of the All Black jersey in the New Zealand Herald. Available to the masses and affordable at \$2 (price of the NZ Herald) – we're ensuring NZ will back black while still having the cash to drink good beer too. Simply cut and fold.

