
Biggest Tie in the FA Cup : Man U host Arsenal

Posted by Coolman!!! - 2008/02/12 11:11

Come this saturday, we will meet our arch enemy in the FA Cup. The draw has not been kind for us and the situation is not very advantageous to us.

There are only 6 premiership clubs left in the 5th round and we were damn 'fortunate' to get manure.

Check out the draw:

Bristol Rovers vs. Southampton
Cardiff City vs. Wolverhampton Wanderers
Sheffield United vs. Middlesbrough
Liverpool vs. Barnsley
Manchester United vs. Arsenal
Preston North End vs. Portsmouth
Coventry City vs. West Bromwich Albion
Chelsea vs. Huddersfield Town

In addition, couple of factors that may go against us. Man U has just lost to Man city at Old Toilet and will be dying to get back to winning ways. We host AC Milan 4 days after this energy sapping tie in the Champion League tie.

AND we are down to our bare bones with injuries piling up freely.

Once again, we have to depend on our team spirt, will power and silky skill to grind out a win. i firmly believe we can do it with whatever manpower we can conjure up. Together we will make it!!!!

Go Gunners!

A 2-1 win for us!

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Re:Biggest Tie in the FA Cup : Man U host Arsenal

Posted by admin - 2008/02/14 16:35

With the Champions League around the corner and a Premier League title to fight for, some might expect Saturday's FA Cup tie between Manchester United and Arsenal to lack its usual intensity.

Abou Diaby disagrees. The French midfielder expects both sides to give it everything at Old Trafford and believes that the winner of the Fifth Round tie could have a psychological advantage when the title rivals go head to head at the same venue in April.

"I think we want to play well in every competition whether it's the FA Cup, the Champions League or the League," Diaby told Arsenal TV Online. "We want to win all of them because we are a big club and we want to win trophies. This Saturday is very important to us.

"Maybe a win will give us a psychological advantage. We just want to give our best and win the game."

Unfortunately, Diaby will not get a chance to make his mark in the FA Cup this weekend. The 21-year-old suffered a calf injury against Manchester City at the start of February.

"I took a kick around the ankle against Manchester City and my calf felt very stiff," explained Diaby. "I won't make the match against Manchester United, but I hope to be back as soon as I can."

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Re:Biggest Tie in the FA Cup : Man U host Arsenal

Posted by Coolman!!! - 2008/02/15 03:27

Yes, the pre-match talk is all about which team will both the manager play. The first team or the reserve team or a mixture of both.

In my opinion, this match is too big to gamble. I hope Wenger fields his strongest team for the game.

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Re:Biggest Tie in the FA Cup : Man U host Arsenal

Posted by Coolman!!! - 2008/02/15 03:37

Btw, have you guys checked out our walking wounded that will out of this Saturday FA Cup? Almost enough to form a team!!!

GK: Almunia
LB: Clichy (Shd recover in time)
CB: Djourou
CB: Senderos (May recover in time)
RB: Sagna (personal reason??)
LM: Rosicky
CM: Diaby
CM: Denilson
RM: Walcott
ST: Van Persie

Imagine if we just add Adebayor to this team. I think this team is ready to beat many teams!

Go Gunners! Lets make sure Manure dont get a second win for the premier league. Beat them and condemn them for the season.

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Re:Biggest Tie in the FA Cup : Man U host Arsenal

Posted by Fabregas - 2008/02/15 04:16

I am hoping that Wenger plays the best team he has. It has proven before that resting players might not be the best decisions at times. Just look at loserfool. Really lost the plot.

Come on, you gunners!

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Re:Biggest Tie in the FA Cup : Man U host Arsenal

Posted by jolie_gunner - 2008/02/15 17:28

We will win but i think Ronaldo will score for them.

2-1 to us.
;)

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Re:Biggest Tie in the FA Cup : Man U host Arsenal

Posted by Horvat - 2008/02/15 20:40

I can't believe that we got MU. In lot number of other teams we got MU. But it's OK. We have lot of injures but I believe that we can win this game. So, we have to contrecate and give everything to win this game. COME ON GUNNERS!!!!

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Re:Biggest Tie in the FA Cup : Man U host Arsenal

Posted by Fabregas - 2008/02/16 08:47

today i woke up and was very worried about this game. i think it will be a 0-0 draw. then we win when we do the replay.

in my heart, i am still wishing for a 2-0 victory for us. but it is really going to be difficult at Old Trafford.

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Re:Biggest Tie in the FA Cup : Man U host Arsenal

Posted by admin - 2008/02/16 11:31

By Richard Clarke

Saturday will be an occasion in which Arsenal and Arsène Wenger have to dig deep.

The manager admits he must delve down into his squad just to put out a side against Manchester United in the FA Cup Fifth Round tie. On Friday afternoon, the Frenchman claimed he had only 14 fit outfield players and several struggling members of his squad would have to travel up north in the hope of recovering overnight.

With that in mind, those who emerge from the tunnel at Old Trafford know they will have one almighty battle on their hands.

Apart from the injuries, Arsenal are actually in fine fettle right now and the word "treble" has just started to peek into the odd press conference. Of course the manager dismisses the notion out of hand but it is certainly not stretching a point to suggest that Arsenal's future in all three remaining competitions will be influenced by this game.

Last weekend Wenger's men moved five points clear of Manchester United at the top of the Premier League. Surely a win at Old Trafford with an injury-ravaged side would give them a psychological edge when they return in April for the critical fixture in the title race?

Secondly, Arsenal entertain a resurgent Milan on Wednesday in the Champions League Knockout Round first leg. And, at his pre-match press conference on Friday, Wenger was certainly suggesting that Saturday's game would set the tone for a vital week.

"We will dig deep tomorrow because we want to win the game and we want to qualify," said Wenger.

"Manchester United are a big club and certainly they will want to respond to the two disappointments they had recently, so it promises to be an interesting tie tomorrow.

"We will fight, don't worry. It's always better to win because it makes you stronger. I believe highly in that influence. You want to win and you want to win the big games especially because it makes your whole squad stronger.

"And I certainly feel they are still in the title race anyway. Two games ago we were second. That shows you how quickly it can change from one day to the next. And this year, it changes very quickly."

Wenger could do with his injury situation doing something similar before the 5.15pm kick-off (UK time) on Saturday.

Nine players are out and three will travel with injuries. The definite absentees are: Johan Djourou (groin), Robin van Persie (thigh), Abou Diaby (calf), Manuel Almunia (sick), Denilson (hamstring), Tomas Rosicky (hamstring), Theo Walcott (thigh), Alex Song (muscular) and Bacary Sagna (personal reasons). The travelling players are: Philippe Senderos (knee), Gael Clichy (hamstring) and Emmanuel Adebayor (hamstring).

There was a moment of humour - even though it is no laughing matter - at the press conference when Wenger was asked if a youngster like Henri Lansbury, 17-years-old, might be drafted in.

"Lansbury has glandular fever," replied the manager.

Of course, Manchester United have the same three trophies in their sights. They are not suffering the same injury crisis and it could be argued their upcoming Champions League tie will be a little less testing.

However Wenger believes both sides will go for it on Saturday, especially as replays are not required at this stage of the season.

"I expect them to play a full strength side," said the 58-year-old. "Maybe I'm wrong but I expect them to play with their best possible team.

"Of course you can never predict it but usually the cup games are very good and both teams go for it.

"Both teams will do that because we don't want a replay and Manchester United don't want a replay as well that is why it should be an exciting game."

And a pivotal one too.

Re:Biggest Tie in the FA Cup : Man U host Arsenal

Posted by Coolman!!! - 2008/02/16 19:48

40 min. we are 3 goals down...

so sad... what is happening..??

Re:Biggest Tie in the FA Cup : Man U host Arsenal

Posted by Coolman!!! - 2008/02/16 21:14

one F&^*King big loss..... 4-0... to our arch enemy.

WHY?!?! WHY did wenger leave Flamini and Adebayor on the bench?

Hoyte and Traore were crap!!! Traore in particular had not even the decency to track back when beaten!!! This is disgraceful.

Re:Biggest Tie in the FA Cup : Man U host Arsenal

Posted by ARS_Portuguese_Fan - 2008/02/16 21:25

FUCK UNITEDDD !!

We lost 4-0 ??!!! what is it? I dont believe what happened.

This Arsenal is very weak! The kids pleyed very bad.

Eboué was very stupid. He shouldn't have done what he did.

I'm very SAD and furious. gggggrrrrrrr

SHIT

Re:Biggest Tie in the FA Cup : Man U host Arsenal

Posted by Fabregas - 2008/02/17 04:46

its a disgrace.
worse than the 5-1 loss to spurs.

sigh...
it goes to show we lack depth. the second stringers of full backs are just not there.

and the only thing significant by Eboue is the red card. For heaven's sake, put him at the right back position when he was so good last season.

Re:Biggest Tie in the FA Cup : Man U host Arsenal

Posted by Hitman - 2008/02/17 05:11

What a bummer.

spoil the weekend.

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Re:Biggest Tie in the FA Cup : Man U host Arsenal

Posted by Coolman!!! - 2008/02/17 07:15

its so sad... i cant sleep after watching the game.

I really hope this does not spoil our season. Milan is up next. The boys better Wake Up their ideas.

Hope to get some of the walking wounded back in time. Especially the Full backs!

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Re:Biggest Tie in the FA Cup : Man U host Arsenal

Posted by jolie_gunner - 2008/02/17 09:29

so sad. i was crying like nothing.

sad day.

why like that?

:blink: :huh: :pinch:

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Re:Biggest Tie in the FA Cup : Man U host Arsenal

Posted by admin - 2008/02/17 10:49

shit..horrible result. :(Hope the lads can bounce back. Big game coming up midweek.

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Re:Biggest Tie in the FA Cup : Man U host Arsenal

Posted by Tonke - 2008/02/17 10:58

lost bad.

very bad.

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Re:Biggest Tie in the FA Cup : Man U host Arsenal

Posted by admin - 2008/02/17 16:28

By Richard Clarke

The success of Arsenal's season will now depend on their Premier League and Champions League progress after they were unceremoniously knocked out of the FA Cup by Manchester United at Old Trafford on Saturday.

Before this Fifth Round tie, Arsène Wenger had suggested his side were "down to the bare bones". And they were certainly dead and buried within 20 minutes this afternoon after Wayne Rooney and Darren Fletcher scored with headers.

Nani added another seven minutes before the break and, after Emmanuel Eboue had been dismissed, Fletcher netted

once more 16 minutes from time.

It was an abject performance from Arsenal, who were caught by Manchester United's early onslaught and never really escaped.

But, like their 5-1 Carling Cup exit at the hands of Tottenham, the travelling supporters can take comfort in the fact that their side's priorities lie elsewhere.

Towards the end of the game, those fans, who were perhaps Arsenal's best performer on the day, sang "we'll be back to win the League".

Time will tell about that.

Before then, on Wednesday, Arsenal entertain Milan in the Champions League Knockout Round first leg.

Despite all their injuries, Wenger would surely welcome a little bout of amnesia before then.

Because this game is best forgotten.

Arsenal had travelled to Manchester on Friday without nine players but, more tellingly, with a further three carrying injuries.

In the end the entire trio - Philippe Senderos (knee), Gael Clichy (hamstring) and Emmanuel Adebayor (hamstring) - started on the bench.

The full injured list was as follows as: Johan Djourou (groin), Robin van Persie (thigh), Abou Diaby (calf), Manuel Almunia (sick), Denilson (hamstring), Tomas Rosicky (hamstring), Theo Walcott (thigh), Alex Song (muscular) and Bacary Sagna (personal reasons).

It meant the side that Wenger named was pretty much his full compliment of fit players.

Justin Hoyte and Armand Traore were the full backs while Kolo Toure and Eboue were playing their first games for Arsenal since the 2-0 win at Burnley in the Third Round.

William Gallas and Cesc Fabregas started despite suggestions they may be rested ahead of the Milan game. Manchester United's only concessions to their tie at Lyon were the omission of Cristiano Ronaldo and Carlos Tevez. However Rooney was back after missing the defeat to Manchester City through suspension.

It had been a clear bright day in Manchester. But by 5.15pm, it had gotten cold. However the bristling atmosphere was something to behold.

This was not only Arsenal v Manchester United but it was far and away the tie of the Fifth Round. Not even Liverpool's surprise exit to Barnsley could detract from that.

However Manchester United began the afternoon like they were in the mood to make some headlines - and they barely relented all game.

As early as the eighth minute, Anderson saw a left-footed drive saved at the near post by Jens Lehmann.

Soon after, Nani swung over a corner to the edge of the six-yard box and Gallas sliced the ball behind. The Frenchman erred again a couple of minutes later and Lehmann raced to the edge of his area to boot the ball clear as Rooney sprinted through.

At this stage it was all Manchester United so it was no surprise to see them take the lead on the quarter-hour. Bendtner half-cleared Nani's corner and Anderson nodded it back goalwards for Rooney to divert a header past Lehmann from close range.

Almost immediately it was 2-0. Nani twisted and turned past Hoyte on the byline then clipped a ball to the near post for Darren Fletcher to power home a header from point-blank range. Though Gallas may have got the final touch.

Only 20 minutes had gone and the visitors had barely settled. And they were now facing perhaps the most difficult task in British football over the last 15 years - clawing back a sizeable lead at Old Trafford.

Arsenal responded in some way when Bendtner touched the ball to Gallas on the left and his cross picked out Hleb on the edge of the area. The Belarus midfielder hit it first time but Patrice Evra blocked.

The ball flew up the other end and, once again, Lehmann had to race out to boot away the danger as Rooney went clear.

The England striker was having a superb game. However just past the half-hour he might have done better when, with only Gallas to beat, he trickled a shot well wide.

A couple of minutes later Rooney expertly chested down Fletcher's cross but his drive was disappointing. Still, the former Everton striker was causing untold trouble in the Arsenal backline.

However the third goal had nothing to do with Rooney. In the 38th minute Michael Carrick clipped a simple ball forward over Gallas' head and Nani steered in a left-foot shot. Again it had been a straightforward move. Arsenal just had not defended it well enough.

At the break, the chat amongst the creditable number of travelling fans must have been dominated by thoughts of damage limitation rather than a Sixth Round tie in a couple of weeks time.

Just to hammer home the point, within two minutes of the restart, Lehmann had saved twice from Rooney - once from a snap-shot and once from a free-kick.

However almost immediately a sizeable problem became a mountain when Eboue received a straight red card for a high tackle on Nani.

The decision ended any hope of an Arsenal comeback. The contest was over.

Just past the hour, Rooney steered a shot wide and drew a fine save from Lehmann. Despite his excellent game, the Manchester United man should have converted more of the glorious positions he had got himself into.

In the 63rd minute Arsenal created perhaps only their second legitimate chance of the game when Eduardo guided a header over the bar from a floated ball into the area by Fabregas.

Anderson, another eye-catching performance this afternoon, had another couple of chances to extend Manchester United's lead. Then Nani curled an effort wide.

Just after that Wenger made a triple substitution - Senderos, Adebayor and Mathieu Flamini for Eduardo, Hleb and Fabregas. It seemed to be a move made with Milan in mind.

Quite ironically, just as Arsenal had strengthened, Manchester United got their fourth when Nani crossed and Fletcher rose highest at the far post to head home.

There were only two real chances for a fifth. Both fell to substitute Louis Saha, prodded meekly at the legs of Lehmann and then blazed wide.

Thankfully the whistle blew a couple of minutes later.

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Re:Biggest Tie in the FA Cup : Man U host Arsenal

Posted by Horvat - 2008/02/17 17:42

:angry: :angry: When it was 3-0 I didn't watched the game more. Some players were like sh*t! And I hard to say this but it is true! We need new players. Traore, Hoyte, Gilberto were they on pitch??? And Eboue must play right back. He is not winger!! I just hope we will recover from this lost!:angry: :angry: :angry:

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Re:Biggest Tie in the FA Cup : Man U host Arsenal

Posted by Coolman!!! - 2008/02/18 20:12

Pray hard, my brothers and sisters...

Wednesday, we face Milan.

The team better be there.

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