

## Football Community Observations

I watched 3 different football games (2 soccer and 1 American football) and observed different communities' live reactions to the game. My findings are that most watchers of Football are either talking about an event in the game, about their team or socializing with other fans. I will include key events and notes about conversations seen throughout the games.

### Astana v Manchester United: Youtube

#### Pregame Talking Points:

- Manchester United send a young team out away to Astana in the Europa League
  - United's side is set to start with four first-team debuts (including three youth player debuts)
  - Many fans are nervous, yet excited to see these young players getting time
- Freezing cold temperatures
  - It was 32F at kick-off, which fans think could slow down the players later on

#### Key Events:

- 9' United's Jesse Lingard scores a great shot from just outside the goal box to the opposite goal
  - This is Jesse's first goal in 10 months, which the fans seem to be excited about
- 53' United's youth Tahith Chong misses an incredible chance at the goal
- 54' Using United's open wing space, Astana's Dmitriy Shomko sneaks into the goal box and scores a quick goal

- 61' Astana's Antonion Rukavina blasts a shot at United youth Di'Shon Bernard, deflecting into the net for an own goal

#### Postgame Talking Points:

- United lost strength after Jesse Lingard's early goal, costing them the win
  - This could be due to the youthfulness of their squad as compared to a seasoned Astana side
- United's youth are not expected to be perfect but did show some flashes of greatness
  - Debutant Dylan Levitt especially shined with the most touches and passes completed
- Lingard did not look good
  - Even after scoring a goal, United's Jesse Lingard had a poor performance by not being able to find passes and missing open shots. The experienced player should be doing more against a team with the quality of Astana

#### Tottenham v Bournemouth: Twitch

#### Pregame Talking Points:

- Jose Mourinho's third game in charge of the Tottenham Hotspurs
  - Coming off a win in his first game against West Ham United and a comeback victory in the champions league against Olympiacos
  - The coach has a lot of European history and most recently was the manager of Manchester United, yet there is still doubt that his methods can hold strong in today's game

- It looks to be a good game as the teams are only one point off of each other in the Premier League table
  - Both teams also have very capable managers and strong teams
- Hotspurs player Dele Alli comes off two hot games under Jose and looks to keep his hot streak alive

#### Key Events:

- 21' A fast-paced long ball comes at the feet of Hotspurs' forward Hueng Min Son, who passes it to Dele Alli, slotting in the net
  - Dele continues his hot streak with another goal giving Jose and his Spurs the early lead 1-0
- 50' Another long ball, this time placed at the feet of Dele Alli first, he cuts past two defenders and slots the ball into the net putting the Spurs up 2-0
  - Tottenham fans erupt and are ecstatic about the two goals from their red hot star
- 69' Spurs' Son gets another great ball into the box, crosses it to Moussa Sissoko who gives it a great chop directly into the net, 3-0 Spurs
- 73' Bournemouth's Harry Wilson scores an incredible freekick to get them on the board at 3-1
- 96' Harry Wilson scores another goal, this time off a bobble inside the box 3-2 Spurs

#### Postgame talking points:

- Spurs look solid even though they let in two late goals
  - They scored 3 great goals earlier in the game and controlled the pace of the whole contest

- Dele Alli keeps his hot streak alive with 2 goals and lots of great chances
  - Having previously gotten a goal and an assist over the last 2 games under Jose
- Jose looks perfectly comfortable in control of Spurs, with a big game against his former club coming up this week
  - Spurs look to keep spirits high with a big challenge ahead of them for their new coach

### Pittsburgh Steelers v Cleveland Browns: Sports Bar

#### Pregame Talking Points:

- Steelers are favorites this year, with lots of great young talent
  - The Browns do still have a lot of tricks up their sleeves and definitely will not go down without a fight against their rivals
- There is big tension between the sides since the incident in their last meeting
  - The whole thing started when Browns' defensive lineman Myles Garrett hit Steeler' quarterback Mason Rudolph on the head with his own helmet
  - This is further heated up by Browns Coach Freddie Kitchens wearing a shirt saying "Pittsburgh Started It"

#### Key Events:

- The Browns start off the game with a field goal to put them up 3-0
  - They were stopped on the 31-yard line and forced to kick on fourth down
- The Browns score a Touchdown

- Kareem Hunt scores a great touchdown past four defenders giving the Browns a 10-0 lead
- The bar was electric with energy from a lively Browns team
- The Steelers respond with a field goal making the game 10-3
- The Steelers' quarterback threw a 30-yard pass to James Washington for a Touchdown tying the game 10-10
  - The scene died down considerably, with the fans knowing how their team tends to perform in this kind of situation
- The Steelers cement their comeback with rookie Benny Snell Jr.'s first touchdown going up 17-10
  - The running back ran one yard through a tough Browns defensive line, showing his talent
- The Steelers add to their lead with another field goal going up 20-10
- The Browns make another field goal, but it will not be enough to beat their rivals

#### Postgame Talking Points:

- The Browns continue to suck year after year and it is just added salt in the wound to lose to your rival
  - The "clowns" have won only 6 games out of all of their meetings since 2000
- The game was much calmer than initially expected, with both teams getting great scores and looking well
  - It looked to be a blood bath before the game with the tension from their last meeting, but the game was a fair contest and never really got too out of hand

I will take all of this information I have collected and use it to make my commenting sections flow better and make fans feel more special than in other commenting ways. It is always more fun to go out to a bar or to the game, but that is not always possible since we live very busy lives. I just hope to take some of the fun from social interaction in public places and incorporate it into a website experience you can have anywhere in the world. I have also taken comments I saw online and implemented them as sample text for my website.