

The Darkness

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NOTES FROM A Jackass

The Loons walk into the weekend knowing that winning their game in hand puts them atop the table. That's the blessing. The curse is that a game in hand is not three points.

Last week's defeat in Indy was unfortunate and squandered a command of the table. But defeats happen; how the team responds to those defeats is important.

Minnesota comes into this match knowing that they will need six points from their remaining home matches today and to close out the season against Miami on June 11. This because next weekend the Loons visit Rayo OKC, who play on the rare turf-on-turf clusterf*ck. Guess who doesn't play well on turf? Yeah, Minnesota. That Rayo game will be a difficult test and so the Loons will want to go into it with as many points as possible.

Today, they do so while missing their captain, Justin Davis, who earned a very frustrating red card from two yellows in Indy. As Jeff Rueter wrote for FiftyFive.One this week, the three options to fill in for JD are Lance Laing, Jeb[!] Brovsky, and Ish Jome. All three have filled in as leftbacks in a pinch. Questions surround each of these choices: does Carl Craig want to disrupt the midfield by pulling Jeb[!] out? Lance's attacking ability makes him a threat, but can he do the defensive work? And Ish has never had a professional start, so is he ready for this kind of responsibility?

Speaking of FiftyFive.One, allow me a moment of self-promotion. Last year, a group of folks formed Northern Pitch as a way to collaborate and fill the chasm of media coverage about our sport in the Twin Cities. I am pretty proud of what we've done in that year. We have broken a lot of news, but I'm really happy that we've been able to tell the little stories. A few years ago, fans knew nothing about injuries, trialists, or the details of our team. We wanted to create a website that actually cares about soccer and our team.

FiftyFive.One is the next step, going off with new partners in Brave New Media. We hope that you'll be a part of that. Share our stories, comment, and be part of the community. Thanks.

Wes, @MnNiceFC

DARK CLOUDS

Hymnal

I Wanna Be NSC

I am, a Nessie Fan
I am, a Minnesotan
I know what I want and I know
how to get it
I wanna drink beer, and eat hot
nuts
Cuz I wanna be NSC

I am, an Nessie Fan
I am, a Minnesotan
I know what I want and I know
how to get it
I wanna destroy [team name]
Cuz I wanna be NSC

Lass from Overseas

In the town where I was born
came a lass from overseas
and she came to Minnesota
and her name was Nessie.

We all believe in a Scottish Lake
Monster,
a Scottish Lake Monster, a Scot-
tish Lake Monster. (2x)

Nuts of a Warrior

We've got nuts of a warrior,
YEAH! Nuts of a warrior!
We've got nuts of a warrior
and you don't!

At Crappy Old Lockhart

At crappy old Lockhart
we won the cup.
We filled it with Surly
and drank it up.
And if there's no Surly
what will we do then?
We'll get to the finals
and win it again.

The Hamm's Song

From the land of sky blue
waters,
From the land of pines, lofty
balsams,
comes a club united,
Loons: the club united!

Forged where nature works
her wonders,
Out of many clubs, now to-
gether
Loons, the club united!
Loons, the club united!

Goals

All we really want is Goals
And in the morning its Goals
And in the evening its Goals
Two at a time we want Goals
It's time to whip out our Goals

You Got What I Need

Oh Christian [or Pinho] you,
you got what I need
the goalkeeper's not your
friend
so go and score a goal
again

I Wanna Be Venegas

20 20 24 hours ago
I wanna be Venegas
Nothing to do nowhere to
go
I wanna be Venegas
So get me airport & put me
on a plain
hurry hurry hurry before I
go insane
I can't control my fingers
I can't control my brains
oh no no no oh oh

I Just Can't Get You Out of My Head

I just can't get you out of my
head,
Loons your goals are all I
think about.
I just can't get you out of my
head,
Loons your goals are all I
think about.
La-la-la la-la-la-la x4

If the Kids are United

If the Loons are United
they will never be divided

Score Us a Goal

Score us a goal, Christian Ramirez
Score us a goal tonight
Because we're all in the mood for
winning
And you've got us feeling alright

Glory Glory Minnesota!

Glory Glory Minnesota!
Glory Glory Minnesota!
The Loons go marching ON! ON!
ON!

Minnesota is the greatest team that
you have ever seen! (3x)
The Loons go marching ON! ON!
ON!

Are You Loony, Too?

Loony Tunes Theme

Hey, Minnesota
Hey, Minnesota
Hey, Minnesota
Are you loony too?

Away in the Manger

Away in the manger
No crib for a bed
The little lord Jesus
Stood up and he said

STAND UP if you love the loons
x4

STAND UP if you hate Milwaukee x4

Friends in Low Places

Well we beat teams from all places
We'll be scoring goals
While your squad chases our loons in grey
Oh we'll win today Feel those tears roll down your faces
When we win our games we sing Oasis
Cause we beat teams from all places

Wonderwall

Today is gonna be the day
That they're gonna throw it back to you
By now you should've somehow
Realized what you gotta do
I don't believe that anybody
Feels the way I do about you now

Back beat, the word is on the street
That the fire in your heart is out
I'm sure you've heard it all before
But you never really had a doubt
I don't believe that anybody feels
The way I do about you now

And all the roads we have to walk are winding
And all the lights that lead us there are blinding
There are many things that I would
Like to say to you
But I don't know how

Because maybe
You're gonna be the one that saves me
And after all
You're my wonderwall

Bird is the Word

A-well-a, everybody's heard
about the bird
Bird, bird, bird, b-bird's the
word
A-well-a, bird, bird, bird, the
bird is the word

United Born

I'm United born,
I'm United bred,
And when I die,
I'm United dead.

Rosters

| No. | Pos. | Player | No. | Pos. | Player |
|-----|------|-------------------|-----|------|-----------------------|
| 1 | GK | Aaron Perez | 1 | GK | Michael Langer |
| 2 | D | Justin Davis | 2 | D | Darnell King |
| 3 | D | Jeb Brovsky | 3 | D | Neill Collins |
| 4 | M | Aaron Pitchkolan | 4 | D | Ben Sweat |
| 5 | D | Tiago Calvano | 5 | D | Stefan Antonijevic |
| 6 | D | Brent Kallman | 7 | D | Frank Sanfilippo |
| 7 | M | Ibson | 8 | F | Tom Heinemann |
| 8 | F | Danny Cruz | 9 | M | Freddy Adu |
| 9 | F | Bernardo Añor | 10 | F | Georgi Hristov |
| 10 | F | Ben Speas | 11 | M | Kalif Alhassan |
| 11 | F | Stefano Pinho | 13 | M | Justin Chavez |
| 12 | GK | Steward Ceus | 15 | D | Zac Portillos |
| 13 | M | Jamie Watson | 16 | M | Juan Francisco Guerra |
| 15 | F | Ismaila Jome | 17 | D | Tamika Mkandawire |
| 17 | M | Lance Laing | 18 | GK | Matt Pickens |
| 18 | F | Daniel Mendes | 20 | F | Darwin Espinal |
| 21 | F | Christian Ramirez | 21 | M | Walter Ramírez |
| 22 | D | Kevin Venegas | 22 | M | Keith Savage |
| 23 | M | Greg Jordan | 23 | M | Michael Nanchoff |
| 24 | GK | Kristian Nicht | 24 | GK | Chris Glodack |
| 29 | F | J. C. Banks | 25 | D | Jeremy Hall |
| 31 | D | Damion Lowe | 26 | M | Joe Cole |
| 33 | GK | Sammy Ndjock | 30 | M | Eric Avila |
| 77 | M | Juliano Vicentini | 33 | M | Junior Burgos |
| | | | 55 | F | Danny Mwanga |

HECKLER'S Scouting Report

The Tampa Bay Rowdies have always been DETHLOON's gift to jackassery. From the days when their cheeseburger-loving coach's son played midfield to Freddy Adu; everything feels too easy. And this year, they go ahead and throw in Joe Cole. To quote Pierce Brosnan's James Bond: "I thought Christmas only came once a year." Truer words never spoken. So let's dive in:

Joe Cole. Remember him? TAMPA REALLY WANTS YOU TO REMEMBER? Yes, Joe Cole was a decent player for Chelsea a decade ago. Joe Cole was last seen as an ok player for third division of English football. Now, he's come to ply his trade in the NASL. Poor guy.

Freddy Adu. The poor man's Joe Cole. You don't need me to tell you anything about Adu that you don't already know. He won't play. But please, please ask him about his hoover vaccuum.

Matt Pickens. Back-to-back winner of "Most likely to have a Mumford and Sons Cover Band" award in NASL. Congrats, Matt.

Tommy "Teenwolf" Heinemann. If I had shame or introspection, I would remember that this dude put the Loons out in the semi-finals last season. I would then just ignore him in hopes that he would just be an innocuous presence on the pitch. But, no, I must tempt fate. I must point out that Tommy looks exactly like one of the dudes from Wolfmother (go look it up).



No mess can beat me thanks to my new @HooverUSA Cordless 2-In-1 Stick and Handheld Vacuum #NoCordNoBull #sponsored



Upcoming Matches

US Open Cup Away @ St. Louis FC 6/1
Away @ Rayo OKC 6/4
Miami FC 6/11



The Dark Clouds are supporters of Minnesota United. You are welcome to join us. Our community is anti-homophobic, anti-sexist, and just generally anti-bigotry altogether. We stand and sing as a group and we're happy to say that our group includes all sorts of awesome people: gay, straight, punk, square accountants, nose-pickers, and everything else. We also don't welcome cursing, not because we're prudes, but because we think it's lame. Anyone can yell abusive crap at a player. Try being clever. That takes work.

The Darkness is a joint production of The Dark Clouds, Byline Press, and FiftyFive.One. **Editor:** Wes Burdine, [@MNNiceFC](https://twitter.com/MNNiceFC), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/53ARbDpD)
Photography: Jeremy Olson www.digitalgopher.com. Read www.fiftyfive.one daily.