



Get me rewrite or, better yet, relocation

November 25, 2008

It would have been nice for the Red Bulls to win a title, finally. But you know what? It really didn't matter much, in terms of the club's popularity or financial future. The only important thing right now is that the team finishes its new soccer stadium in Harrison quickly. The club must escape the morass known as Giants Stadium. See the live webcam: <http://www.earthcam.com/clients/redbullarena/>.

There is nothing worse than watching soccer on an artificial turf with football yard markers all over the place and 60,000 empty seats overlooking the field. And from a selfish perspective (I take this particular viewpoint quite a bit, you may have noticed), there is nothing worse than viewing soccer from the sealed pigeon roost that passes for the press box at Giants Stadium. Whether it is a football game or a soccer match, reporters up there generally have only one comment on what is happening below: "Who was that?" Until the TV replay, nobody quite knows who scored the goal, made the assist, made the tackle, made the touchdown.

As far as that's concerned, it seems most of the new stadiums around here will be relatively kind to journalists. The press boxes at Citi Field and the new Yankee Stadium are perfectly located, while reporters at Red Bulls matches will sit directly behind the team in the stands. Perfect. You won't be able to keep me away from MLS matches, all of a sudden.

The only bummer is the new Jets/Giants stadium, where journalists will be shoved behind an end zone somewhere. Just try to figure out what's happening on the other end of the field, let alone write an intelligent column. The NFL long ago came to the conclusion it didn't need the print media to sell its product, and is probably correct on this issue. Football stadiums are just soulless sound stages, and I am but a pathetic roadie.

Read more: <http://ewatch.prnewswire.com/rs/display.jsp?a=33909-669493199-1472421774#ixzz0GkJSxZMc&B>