I think I have my United back

Last year I wrote an entry titled "I want my United Back!" It was around mid-season and I was agonizing over the poor play, lack of leadership, missed opportunities, too many ties and what I perceived to be loss of the core value of United: The will to win! United football has always been elegant, efficient, fast, attacking and exciting football. I appealed then to Sir Alex: "It's time for change. Bring back the "old" Manchester United."

So, like many other fans I was trying to "help". My view at the time was:

Trade away the Carricks the Fletchers the Andersens and yes, may be even the Berbatovs. Recruit young Scholes, Giggs and Ferdinands who embody the United culture. Get off Rooney's back and let him lead the team and let the Scholes and Giggs break in and mentor the young players and pass on to them the United torch.

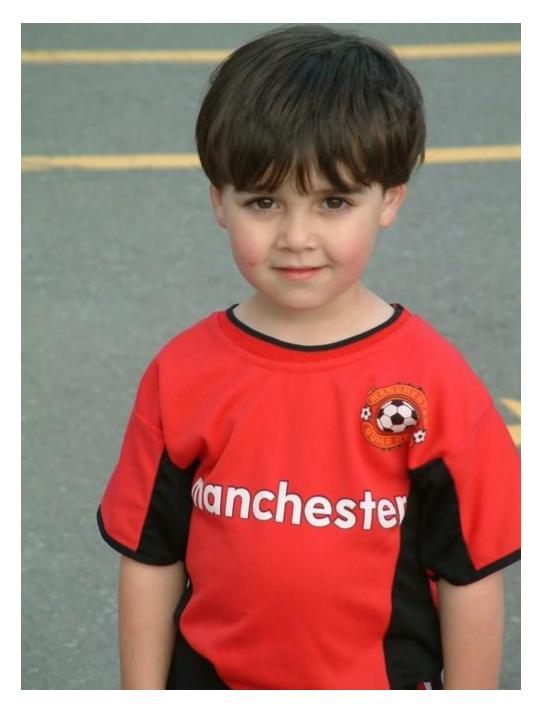
It may be a little early in the year but not too early to thank Sir Alex for listening:

Phil Jones, Chris Smalling, Welbeck and Young under the leadership of Wayne Rooney the exuberance of Chicarito the example setting of Giggs, the on fire Nani, the return of Valencia and hopefully soon the rock himself - Vidic, seem to have done the trick.

I am not yet convinced of Andersen though he improved significantly from last year. I still don't believe in Carrick, even with last year scoring title I never believed in Berbatov who in my opinion is a cultural misfit with the United spirit and it's probably time for Michael Owens to hang them up.

But I feel even after a disappointing tie with Stoke that I have my United back! This season, let's go for the Quad.





I have been a fanatic fan of Manchester United since my childhood in Israel and my adulthood in Canada. I am tired. The team is tired and Sir Alex must be tired as well. To me United is a culture my wife says a religion, a set of values: The will to win, the pursuit of excellence, the teamwork, the spirit, the leadership and everything that United stands for.

I watch the team this season with agony. It's not the scores the lost points that I agonize over. It's the breakdown of core values. No leadership, no fighting spirit, lapses in concentration, a sense of entitlement when ahead by two goals and no killer instinct. Frankly not good football either, nifty flicks, wasted free kicks, fancy attempt at penetrating through the middle, tons of missed opportunities and too many frivolous losses of posession.United football has always been elegant, efficient, fast and exciting. Nowadays all this is being said about Chelsea my least favorite team.

It's time for change. Bring back the "old" Manchester United.

How?

Trade away the Carricks the Fletchers the Andersens and yes, may be even the Berbatovs. Recruit young Scoles, Giggs and Ferdinands who embody the United culture. Get off Rooney's back and let him lead the team and let the Scoles and Giggs break in and mentor the young players and pass on to them the United torch.

I and I'm certain, all fans we want our United back.