

**Press Release**  
**Friday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010**

### **It is a two horse race according to UPC Premier League Survey**

#### **Roy Keane Voted Greatest Premier League Player of all time**

Four out of ten Irish football fans believe Manchester United will win this season's Premier League, according to an online survey conducted by leading home entertainment and communications company UPC. Over 400 people took part in the online survey conducted this week, with few giving anyone except United or current holders Chelsea (30%) any hope.

Of the current crop of superstars, Cesc Fabregas (33%) was chosen as the best player in the league, surprisingly ahead of Wayne Rooney (29.7%) who endured a torrid time at the World Cup and whose reputation may have suffered as a result. Rooney is however tipped to be top scorer this season with nearly a third of those polled by UPC backing the England star to lead the scoring charts, followed by Didier Drogba (24%) and Liverpool's Torres (12.5%).

Manchester United legend and talisman Roy Keane topped the charts for the coveted best premier league player of all time with over 20% of the votes followed closely by fellow United stars Eric Cantona (18.2%) and the evergreen Ryan Giggs (16%). Arsenal heroes Thierry Henry and Denis Bergkamp both polled well with 10.6% of the votes each while Alan Shearer another noticeable name high on the list with 5.3% of the votes in the UPC survey.

In terms of TV viewing habits, most people prefer their own home to watch games (62.1%) followed by the pub (16.8%) as a favorite haunt. Almost 60% watch more than three games per month, proving just how popular the league is here.

Lastly, despite England's horrendous showing in South Africa, 66.3% claimed this would have no bearing at all on the hype surrounding the league this season. As for the dreaded Vuvuzela, only 4% thought they would like to see it, or should we say hear it, in Premier League grounds this year!

Simon Kelehan, head of television in UPC said, *"It looks like sports fans are eagerly awaiting the start of the new football season but those we surveyed can not see past United or Chelsea for the title. It was great to see an Irishman voted the best Premier League player of all time and Roy Keane really was phenomenal during his time at Old Trafford."*

**ENDS**

## **UPC Premier League Survey Main Findings:**

### **Who will win the Premier League this season?**

Manchester United 41%  
Chelsea 30%  
Arsenal 6.5%  
Spurs 4.3%  
Liverpool 4/3%  
Man City 3.3%

### **Who is the Best Player in the Premier League?**

Cesc Fabregas 33%  
Wayne Rooney 29.7%  
Frank Lampard 7.7%  
Didier Drogba 6.6%  
Stevie Gerrard 5.5%

### **Who will be the Top Premier League scorer this season?**

Wayne Rooney 32%  
Didier Drogba 24%  
Fernando Torres 12.5%  
Carlos Tevez 6.3%  
Robin Van Persie 5.2%  
Darren Bent 4.2%

### **Who is the best Premier League Player of All time**

Roy Keane 20.2%  
Eric Cantona 18.1%  
Ryan Giggs 16%  
Denis Bergkamp 10.6%  
Thierry Henry 10.6%  
Alan Shearer 5.3%

### **Where do watch Premier League games?**

At home 62.1%  
The pub 16.8%  
In a friend's house 8.4%

### **How many games do you watch per month?**

8.4% None  
31.6% 1-2 games

32.6% 3-4 games  
14.7% 5-7  
12.6% 8 or more

**Would you like to see the Vuvuzela introduced into Premier League grounds this year?**

Yes – 4.2%  
No – 89.5%  
Don't Mind – 6.3%

**About the Survey:**

*The survey took place between Monday August 9<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010.  
412 online respondents with a 70-30 male-female split*

**Football on TV – All available on UPC:**

- The **Premier League** resumes on August 14<sup>th</sup>. There are 115 games on **Sky Sports**, 23 on **ESPN** and 33 on **Setanta**
- The **Scottish Premier League** will be split between **ESPN & Sky**
- The **FA Cup** will be available on **ESPN, Setanta, UTV** and the **ITV digital** channels
- **UPC customers get ESPN as standard as part of their Max & Select Extra TV Packs**

**About UPC**

UPC is the European division of Liberty Global, Inc., the world's leading international cable operator. UPC brings television, broadband internet and telephone services to approximately 13 million customers throughout 10 European countries. The company is driven by its vision that 'this amazing but often complex digital world should be for everyone'. UPC's employees in Ireland strive to make this happen by bringing simplicity and a real human touch to everything they do. For more information on UPC Ireland, please visit [www.upc.ie](http://www.upc.ie)