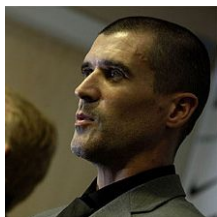


30 August 2006

By: Ovidiu Panzariu, Sports Editor



Roy Keane Apologized to Alex Ferguson

He admitted crossing the line when leaving Manchester United 2 seasons ago

Training time seems more like apology time for Roy Keane. Only one day from starting his new coaching career, the former Manchester United skipper admitted that he made a mistake when arguing with Sir Alex Ferguson or current boss Niall Quinn in the past. "Yes, I've apologized. I spoke to Sir Alex. He wished me good luck and said I'd need it. I always enjoyed the way he backed the players, defended them and looked after them. Maybe I crossed that white line towards the end at United and was rightly punished for it. Sometimes I was looking at the bigger picture when I really shouldn't have been. I was fortunate to play for him and I'm sure I can pick up the phone any time and he will lend me a few players", admitted Keane for British tabloid "The Sun". And the apologies did not end here. He also spoke to Niall Quinn about their past argument in 2002. Quinn was one of the men Keane got into a serious argument with before leaving the Irish national team. Still, 4 years from that incident, the two managed to get along and are now set to be working together for the next 3 years. "When I met with Niall we sorted it out there and then whether I took this job or not. Did I apologize? Of course I did. But it wasn't a case of apologizing to get a job. Far from it. I don't think I was that desperate or ever will be. I've had differences with literally thousands of people but I'm humble enough to apologize if I've done something wrong", admitted Keane, according to the named source. As for Mick McCarthy, the man who literally threw Keane out of Ireland's squad for the 2002 FIFA World Cup, Keane had no good words. "I will apologize if I feel I have done something wrong. But I hope I won't be accusing my players of faking injury", concluded the Irishman, reminding McCarthy of his past accusation towards the former Man U midfielder.