

# Premier League leaders impress

**Nathan McMahon**  
SPORTS EDITOR

This past week saw the continued thrust by the league's top teams to pull away from each other in the race for the title. Remaining at the top of the league is Arsenal who earned 3 points in a comprehensive 2-0 win over Fulham, getting goals from getting a brace of goals from Santi Cazorla in the span of five minutes.

This gives Arsenal 51 points, one

point clear of second place Manchester City. Fulham remains just one point out of the bottom three with 19 points after the arrival of loan player Clint Dempsey.

Manchester City meanwhile continued their rampant goal scoring in a 4-2 win over struggling Cardiff City where Vincent Tan rules with an iron fist. This has brought City's goal tally to 100 on the season seeing goals from Edin Dzeko, Jesus Navas, Yaya Toure, and Sergio Aguero. City sits in second place with 50 points while Cardiff is in the bottom three

with 18 points. In a show of Chelsea's continued improvement as a team under Mourinho and Manchester United's disappointing season, Chelsea took down the reigning champs 3-1.

Samuel Eto'o scored all three goals to show his true talent and quiet the critics of Chelsea's striker force. Chelsea remains tight to the top in third with 49 points with Moyes' men losing ground on the top four in seventh with 37 points.

To round out the top four is Liverpool who really struggled against a resilient Aston

Villa who looked like the better side on the day. The game ended in a 2-2 draw with Liverpool coming back from a 2-0 deficit after goals from Steven Gerrard and Daniel Sturridge who made his first start after a long injury spell. The salvaged point gives Liverpool 43 on the year, keeping them in the top four over Tottenham on goal differential while Villa sits in the middle of the table with 24 points. The race for Champion's League soccer next season is only going to continue to intensify as the season progresses.

## Chicago teams struggling through winter seasons

**Gus Alvarez**  
STAFF WRITER

It is 2014 and boy, have things changed for Chicago's sports teams.

Well, maybe not dramatically, but it is safe to say that the expectations of the teams from before the season have definitely not been met.

For starters, let's go with the Bears. A team that many would have said would be at least in the playoffs did not have football to play in January. To be fair, injuries to key players for most of the season is what was most

detrimental.

Most notably, Charles Tillman on defense for pretty much the entire season and not to mention various injuries throughout, before important match ups to players like Lance Briggs and Major Wright; some out longer than others.

Jay Cutler had another very frustrating season dealing with multiple injuries that saw back up QB Josh McCown lead the offense on multiple game days. McCown performed well but it does leave one wondering what a healthy Bears team could have accomplished.

Health seems to be the biggest issue

in Chicago sports when you start talking about the Bulls. Derrick Rose is out another season due to a meniscus tear in his right knee. Much of the team has been dealing with nagging injuries all season, Hinrich's calf, Noah's groin, etc.

To add on to this, Lieutenant Deng is gone. He was traded to the Cleveland Cavaliers for Andrew Bynum along with some draft picks.

Yet the true core of the team still holds: heart. Thanks to the genius of Tom Thibodeau, the Bulls have been grinding out games like any true fan likes to see.

Defense is their trademark and

regardless of who is on the court, they seem to come out with fight and tenacity. Derrick Rose is meant to come back to full strength due to the injury not being terribly serious and plans on playing for Team USA.

With a lucky draft pick, the Bulls should definitely still be considered contenders next season and hopefully they will bring the Larry O'Brian trophy back to Chicago.

The Blackhawks still remain the light in the disappointing dusk that is Chicago sports but they are not the dominant force they were last season. Right now the best fans have to hope for is that we get another parade with Lord Stanley.



**Thursday, January 30**  
**Men's Basketball**  
@ Moody Bible Institute  
7 p.m.

**Saturday, February 1**  
**Men's Swimming & Diving**  
@Lake Forest College  
1 p.m.  
**Women's Basketball**  
@ Indiana University Northwest  
1 p.m.

**Women's Swimming & Diving**  
@ Lake Forest College  
1 p.m.

**Monday, February 3**  
**Men's Basketball**  
@Calumet College of St. Joseph  
7 p.m.  
**Women's Basketball**  
@ Holy Cross College  
2 p.m.

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