

Ryan Giggs

(January 14th 2009)

Pre-Listening / Background information

On this week's main report we take a look at Wales and Manchester United star Ryan Giggs

A. Main Idea – matching information

Listen to the whole report and fill in the table below with the appropriate information.

	Giggs' information		Year
1	Made his debut	A	
2	Established in first team	B	
3	The first year of the Premier League	C	
4	Ryan Giggs' first title win	D	
5	He broke Sir Bobby Charlton's appearance record	E	
6	Standout moment in his career	F	

B. Comprehension

Listen to the whole report and answer the following questions.

1. What or who are / were 'Fergie's Fledglings'?
2. How would you describe Ryan Giggs' style of play according to the report?
3. How many honours has Ryan Giggs won with his team Manchester United?
4. True or false, Ryan Giggs has only been sent off once in his Manchester United career.
5. What does Giggs say was the highlight of his career?

C. Listening - vocabulary

Listen to the whole report and fill in the gaps with the appropriate word or phrase. Then write the meaning of the word.

1. '... the player with most appearances for his club and the owner of more _____ honours than any other player... '

2. '...Giggs made his _____ at 17 for Manchester United in the...'

3. '... the following season and since then has _____ ever been sidelined.'

4. '...which, incidentally was the _____ year of the Premier League, and, remarkably, he has scored in that league every year ...'

5. 'They _____ the title the year after that and incredibly have gone on to win...'

6. '...World titles as well as a host of _____ awards. He has scored over 100 league ...'

7. '... 12 goals for his country and what a _____ it was that he never managed to play in a World Cup or ...'

Podcast 23: 2008-9 Worksheet

ANSWERS

Ryan Giggs

(January 14th 2009)

A. Main Idea – matching information

Listen to the whole report and fill in the table below with the appropriate information.

	Giggs' information		Year
1	Made his debut	A	1991
2	Established in first team	B	1992
3	The first year of the Premier League	C	1992
4	Ryan Giggs' first title win	D	1993
5	He broke Sir Bobby Charlton's appearance record	E	2008
6	Standout moment in his career	F	1999

B. Comprehension

Listen to the whole report and answer the following questions.

1. What or who are / were 'Fergie's Fledglings'?

Group of young players brought through to the first team from the Man Utd youth team (Giggs, Scholes, Beckham, Neville brothers)

2. How would you describe Ryan Giggs' style of play according to the report?

Left winger, good dribbling skills, fast, hard-working, intelligent (had a football brain)

3. How many honours has Ryan Giggs won with his team Manchester United?

10 League titles

4 FA Cups

3 Doubles

2 League Cups

2 European Champions League wins

2 World titles

Club appearance record

Most assists in PL history

Only player to have scored in every year of the PL

4. True or false, Ryan Giggs has only been sent off once in his Manchester United career.
False – never been red carded
5. What does Giggs say was the highlight of his career?
Appearing in The Simpsons

C. Listening - vocabulary

Listen to the whole report and fill in the gaps with the appropriate word or phrase. Then write the meaning of the word.

1. ‘... the player with most appearances for his club and the owner of more **domestic** honours than any other player...’
not international, local
2. ‘...Giggs made his **debut** at 17 for Manchester United in the...’
played his first game
3. ‘... the following season and since then has **hardly** ever been sidelined.’
scarcely
4. ‘...which, incidentally was the **inaugural** year of the Premier League, and, remarkably, he has scored in that league every year ...’
first ever
5. ‘They **retained** the title the year after that and incredibly have gone on to win 10...’
won again
6. ‘...World titles as well as a host of **individual** awards. He has scored over 100 league ...’
personal, for himself and not for the team
7. ‘... 12 goals for his country and what a **pity** it was that he never managed to play in a World Cup or ...’
a shame

Transcript

We've already mentioned how good a week it has been for Manchester United after their defeat of Chelsea and the man of the match in that game was the oldest player on the pitch, the player with most appearances for his club and the owner of more domestic honours than any other player in British history. Ever. Of course, we are talking about Manchester United and Wales' star Ryan Giggs.

Giggs made his debut at 17 for Manchester United in the 1991 season and was part of the team known as 'Fergie's Fledglings' - the group of players that emerged from the youth system at Old Trafford and included Phil and Gary Neville, David Beckham, Nicky Butt and Paul Scholes. He established himself as a first team regular on the left wing the following season and since then has hardly ever been sidelined. His pace, close ball control and dribbling skills meant he was feared by defenders but he also worked hard and it was clear that he possessed a good football brain. He scored his first goals for the club in 1992, which, incidentally was the inaugural year of the Premier League and remarkably he has scored in that league every year since then - the only footballer to have done so. The following season he was part of the United team that won the League for the first time in more than 25 years. They retained the title the year after that and incredibly have gone on to win 10 of the last 15 Premier League championships - and yes, Giggs has 10 league winners' medals, more than any other player in English football history. He also has four FA Cup winners' medals - including three domestic doubles. He won 2 League Cups, 2 Champions Leagues, 2 World titles as well as a host of individual awards. He has scored over 100 league goals for the club and has almost 300 assists, which is a league record, as well as playing more than 100 times for United in the Champions League. Indeed, he holds the Manchester United appearance record which he took from Sir Bobby Charlton after last season's Champions League final in Moscow. After last week's matches he had played 782 times for the same club - amazing longevity and loyalty. Oh, he has never been red carded in any of those games for the Reds either. He also has 64 caps and 12 goals for his country and what a pity it was that he never managed to play in a World Cup or European Championship final, though he has been mentioned on a Simpsons' episode, something that Giggsy claims to be a highlight of his career.

But perhaps the standout moment of his career was the amazing goal he scored against Arsenal in the semi-final of the FA Cup in 1999 when Manchester United were down to ten men in extra time. The team were lifted and of course went on to win an unprecedented triple.