




The managerial merry-go-round

Key to the arrows

 Being lined up
  Name in the frame
  Tenuous link

Roberto Mancini

Sacked last week despite leading Inter Milan to a third successive Serie A title, the 43-year-old Italian has been considered for the Chelsea and Manchester City jobs but would have no trouble finding work elsewhere



Sven-Göran Eriksson

Finally relieved of his City duties yesterday, weeks after it became known he would be going, the former England head coach has been linked with Mexico, with Serie A also a possible destination given his experience there



Mark Hughes

Odds-on favourite to replace Eriksson, Hughes is also on Chelsea's shortlist. After success with limited resources at Blackburn Rovers, the 44-year-old has been talked about as a future successor to Sir Alex Ferguson at Manchester United



Luiz Felipe Scolari

The former Brazil coach is on Chelsea's shortlist and second-favourite to replace Eriksson but, after the fuss provoked by the FA's pursuit of him before the World Cup in 2006, he will not enter any negotiations until Portugal are out of Euro 2008



Frank Rijkaard

An early favourite to succeed Avram Grant at Chelsea but the 43-year-old's chances receded after Henk ten Cate, a fellow Dutchman, left Stamford Bridge. They worked together at Barcelona. Rijkaard left the Nou Camp in May



Chelsea

Man City

Inter Milan

Mexico

Blackburn



Guus Hiddink

As Russia manager, the 61-year-old Dutchman has connections with Roman Abramovich, the Chelsea owner, hence the speculation – but he has insisted he will remain with Russia until after the 2010 World Cup and has backed Rijkaard for Chelsea

Sam Allardyce

Strongly linked with City last year, but that was before the club's ownership changed and before the 53-year-old's brief and unhappy spell with Newcastle United. Blackburn are a similar-sized club to Bolton Wanderers, where Allardyce was a great success

Carlo Ancelotti

AC Milan claimed that Chelsea had made an approach for the 48-year-old, which Milan rejected. Ancelotti has been coach at the San Siro since 2001 and enjoyed some notable triumphs, but Milan finished only fifth in the league last season

Avram Grant

Linked with the City vacancy soon after he was sacked by Chelsea, the 53-year-old would like another big club and Pini Zahavi, the "super agent", is reportedly trying to help, but the jury is still out on Grant's credentials after only one year in Premier League management

José Mourinho

The ego has landed at Inter Milan after eight months of unemployment following his departure from Chelsea. After Inter, who knows – a top Spanish side, a return to Stamford Bridge, or maybe an even more powerful role?

Words: Tom Dart