Twitter Thread by COPA90

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@Copa90

We're all loving the return of the UCL but in terms of football folklore, a fixture going down in Chile tonight may just be the most important match of the week.

It's a relegation playoff between CD Universidad & Colo Colo it has all of Chile holding it's breath. (THREAD)



It's all because the away side is Colo Colo, the country's biggest, most successful club, with 32 titles & the only Chilean Copa Libertadores trophy.

They have never even come close to relegation & the sheer thought of going down is causing all kinds of scenes across the

country



From the ritualistic Grandma's doing their bit to convince the football sprits to keep them in the top tier.

https://t.co/k84a2lgLhN

> The rituals to keep Colo-Colo in top flight have begun. https://t.co/KpSDvkHWAM
>
> — Colo-Colo in English (@CaciqueENG) February 15, 2021

To the 5,000 fans outside who awaited the team bus outside the training ground for one last motivational encouragement

https://t.co/yiCFCmUrse

> Bus carrying Colo-Colo team to Talca took off some time ago. This was filmed by forward Javier Parraguez. Chillz, literal chillz...
> This is what Colo-Colo means in Chile. VAMOS CACIQUE! \U0001f5a4\U0001f62d pic.twitter.com/Zb5PdQN7d3
>
> — Colo-Colo in English (@CaciqueENG) February 16, 2021

And of course the club's Barra Bravas with their own take on motivation

https://t.co/PMvXV4e9le

> Colo Colo - Chile's most successful club - are one game away from the first relegation in their 96-year history. Their ultras today put up a banner outside the club's stadium: "They win or we kill them." pic.twitter.com/4alj2M6BCi
>
> — Colin Millar (@Millar_Colin) February 16, 2021

But the incredible support for this club wasn't just on show outside the training ground.

The team bus's entire 3 hour, 250 kilometre journey to the match has seen fans from all over the country gathering on the highway to try to motivate the players.

https://t.co/tGZEL6h9AN

> El equipo recibido a la salida de Santiago, en todos lados y todos juntos #VamosColoColo https://t.co/7vFYGnCCgr pic.twitter.com/flCSIHLogm
>
> — Lucas (@Lanriquez8) February 16, 2021

But sympathy amongst other Chilean fans is in short supply as Colo Colo are a club that have never really been the most humble of winners.

https://t.co/Zd7g114V7K

> Four years ago, fans of Colo-Colo, the most successful club in Chile, held a banner that said: 'Chile was too small for us'
>
> Today they conceded a 96th-minute penalty to condemn them to a relegation play-off after their worst ever season.
>
> The football gods will always laugh. pic.twitter.com/zRnYhY758E
>
> — Nick Stoll (@NickStoll) February 15, 2021

And there's one fanbase hoping to see Colo Colo go down more than any other.

Supporters of Club Universidad de Chile, Colo Colo's arch rivals, who spent one year in the the 2nd (B) tier back in 1989 & have been tormented by Colo Colo supporters with ghost of the 'B' for decades



Whatever happens tonight, one side of Chilean football is going to be celebrating wildly and one side is going to be absolutely devastated. We're not making predictions but in a country where club football means so much, we can't wait to see how it all unfolds.