

Even though their Premiership season fizzled out like a damp firework, Steve McClaren's only serious error of judgment during his tenure has been the club-record signing of Massimo Maccarone for more than £8 million two years ago. The Italian is a talented player, but given his form and the transfer climate, Middlesbrough would be fortunate to recoup £2 million for him. With European football



coming to the Riverside Stadium, McClaren has the opportunity and funds to show his worth as a potential future manager of England.

Shaun Keogh