

Date: 03.08.11 Time: 20:00 CST

TEAM: Philadelphia Union

Opponent: Chicago Fire MLS - Location: Toyota Park, Chicago

Conditions: Late 70's/Low 80's.

<p>Lineup: (attach and/or complete on the back)</p> <p><i>01 : Faryd Mondragon (C)</i> <i>21 : Michael Farfan</i> <i>15 : Gabriel Farfan</i> <i>4 : Danny Califf</i> <i>5 : Carlos Valdes</i> <i>6 : Stefani Miglorinazi</i> <i>7 : Brian Carroll</i> <i>8 : Roger Torres – Subbed 61 Mins</i> <i>9 : Sebastian Le Toux</i> <i>22 : Justin Mapp – Subbed 86 Mins</i> <i>16 : Veljko Paunovic – Subbed 75 Mins</i></p> <p>Subs :</p> <p><i>10 : Danny Mwanga – On for 8 – 61 Mins</i> <i>17 : Keon Daniel – On for 22 - 86 Mins</i> <i>13 : Kyle Nazakawa – On for 16 – 75 Mins</i></p>	<p>Free Kicks/Corners:</p> <p>2 Attacking Corners, both Inswingers from either side, one was easily caught by the Goalkeeper (from the Left Footed Inswinger), Right Footed Inswinger was much more dangerous & was flicked away for a Throw In by a Defender.</p> <p>1 Attacking Free Kick which was an excellent Left Footed Outswinger Delivery by Torres (8) which Valdes had a free header with but headed over from 12 Yards after 3 Players made a Front Post Runs taking Defenders with them with the Delivery purposely missing them all out.</p> <p>2 Defending Corners, both dealt with easily & caught by Mondragon the Goalkeeper. That was all that Chicago offered with regards to Set Pieces</p>
<p>System/Formation:</p> <p>Started with a 4-2-3-1 & kept with it throughout the first half before changing later in the Second Half with a variety of Formations that were dictated by what Team had possession of the Ball. Throughout however they only played with the one centralised Target Man/Striker starting with Paunovic (16) who pulled out to the Right Side of the 3 Supporting Attackers in the Second Half, moving Le Toux (9) inside to be the centralized Target Man/Striker. They changed personnel a number of times in the Second Half bringing on Mwanga (10) for Torres who played as the Central Attacking Support Player in the Supporting three, playing Mwanaga on the Right Hand Side of the Supporting three before moving him inside to play as the Centralised Target Man/Striker. The 2 Holding Midfilders rarely ventured too far forward</p>	<p>Stand Out Players:</p> <p>In a Game with not much Attacking action, the Stand out Player was the Goalkeeper (Mondragon 1) who earned his Team a Point with 2 superb Second Half Saves. His all round play was very assured & with a less experienced Keeper, I suspect Philadelphia would have lost this Game.</p> <p>Also worth of a mention was Miglorinazi (6) one of the Holding Midfielders who had a very good Game and played a big part in organizing the reasonably solid Philadelphia Defensive Unit. He broke down a lot of Chicago Attacks by having good vision and the ability to read a lot of how Chicago wanted to attack.</p> <p>Attackingwise, Mapp (22) on the Left Hand Side of the 3 Supporting Attackers had a very</p>

<p>except for the last 10 mins when Miglorinazi started to move forward, sensibly using the Ball well when doing so.</p>	<p>positive first half seeing a lot of the Ball making some good penetrating runs. He had an uncanny knack of getting his body in the very good position of between the Ball and the Defender, drawing 4 Fouls in his 86 Mins, 2 of which were in the last 10 Minutes which relieved some pressure off of his Team. Drifted out of the Game more in the Second Half unfortunately although stuck to his Defensive tasks well enough.</p>
<p>Tendencies:</p> <p>Defensive: A Flat Back 4 with 2 big Central Defenders that were both strong in the Air and were always looking to hit the Target Man, more often or not overhitting him. The Full Backs rarely ventured Forward and were the weakest parts of the Team with the Right Back regularly getting beaten for both Pace and Skill by the Chicago Left Midfielder. The Left Back provided more cover than the Right Back but both Central Defenders were very quick to look to cover for both Full Back when the Ball was in wide position, leaving Philadelphia exposed centrally at times, as with the Goal.</p>	<p>Goalkeeping (strength/weakness)</p> <p>1 : Mondragon, excellent Game, veteran with 50 Colombian Caps & a World Cup, he showed his class with 2 superb one on one Saves in the Second Half, the second of which was an incredibly strong Right Hand which kept the score level. Was calm when receiving back passes and was very positive in coming and claiming crosses. I could hear him call for them every time and I was sitting on the Halfway Line. Didn't show any specific weakness. One gripe I had was that he was time wasting towards the end in a Game his Team could & probably should have gone for the 3 Points.</p>
<p>Offensive:</p> <p>Didn't offer a great deal at all as an attacking threat. They had enough possession but including the Goal, had a total of 2 Shots on Target the whole Game. The lone Target Man/Striker, whoever it was (they used 3 different Players) generally led a lonely figure and had little Support and little or no service. The Target Man/Striker was far too isolated and the supporting 3 were not quick enough to offer support when the Main Striker did manage to retain possession, which wasn't that much. To Paunovic's credit in the first half, it was his wonder strike out of nothing that ultimately got his Team a Point in a Game that if they are to challenge for the MLS Cup this Year, you would think this would be one of the Games that they should be winning. A disappointing Attacking performance from Philadelphia overall.</p>	<p>Describe goals scored in this match:</p> <p>1-0 PHI 35 Mins – A fabulous Left Footed Strike from 35 Yards from Paunovic which nestled in the Keeper's bottom Right Hand Corner. The chance came from Paunovic picking up a loose Ball given away by Chicago on their Left Hand side, picked up by Paunovic who let fly. Superb Strike.</p> <p>1-1 CHI 54 Mins – Goal came from a Chicago Player easily beating the Union Left Back (G Farfan 15) & getting a low cross in that was only partially cleared to the edge of the Box where a Chicago Midfielder was first to react & scored from the edge of the Penalty Area.</p>

Describe in a detailed written response on a separate sheet of paper a response to ONE of the following questions for the team you scouted.

What are the deficiencies of the team you watched and how would you prepare your team to take advantage of them for the next match? Describe at least two specific weaknesses and outline two drills or practice activities you would utilize to take advantage of those weaknesses.

Two specific weaknesses of the FCL Team were 1 their lack of urgency and all round support of their Target Man, leaving him very isolated for big parts of the Game.

Number 2 would be their Full Backs, neither were impressive at all with the Right Back specifically causing Philadelphia all kinds of problems because of his lack of pace and awareness of certain defensive situations and circumstances within the Game.

To take advantage of weakness 1 i would encourage my Attackers to put high pressure on their Central Defenders who seemed to see no problem with attempting to find the Target Man, yet giving him very little chance of retaining possession in their service to him. By cutting out the distribution of the Ball from the Centre Backs to the 2 Holding Midfielders, this would force the Centre Backs to look for that Target Man, which would give us a very good chance to regain possession of the Ball.

To take advantage of weakness number 2 I would attempt to get the Ball to two quick Wide Attacking Players as much and as quick as possible and instruct them to run and beat either/both Full Backs. By doing this you would have a real Attacking threat and success down either/both flanks whilst all the while missing out their 2 holding Midfielders in one of their stronger areas of the Pitch.

To summarize, it seemed that Philadelphia came for a Point and anything else would have been a bonus. I very much doubt that they would approach a Home Game with as much reservation as they did this evening. At this stage of the Season however given the fact that they are Second in the League in their Conference with a Third of the Season remaining it may be a case of getting what they can on the Road whilst focusing on the Home Games. I do however feel a more adventurous outlook and belief this evening would have got them all 3 Points against a very average Chicago Fire Team who, if it wasn't for Mondragon's two fabulous Second Half Saves, could have got their first win at Home since March 26th !!!