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CHICAGO NotaFIRE FALL TO SAN JOSE EARTHQUAKES



SHINYASHIKI!!

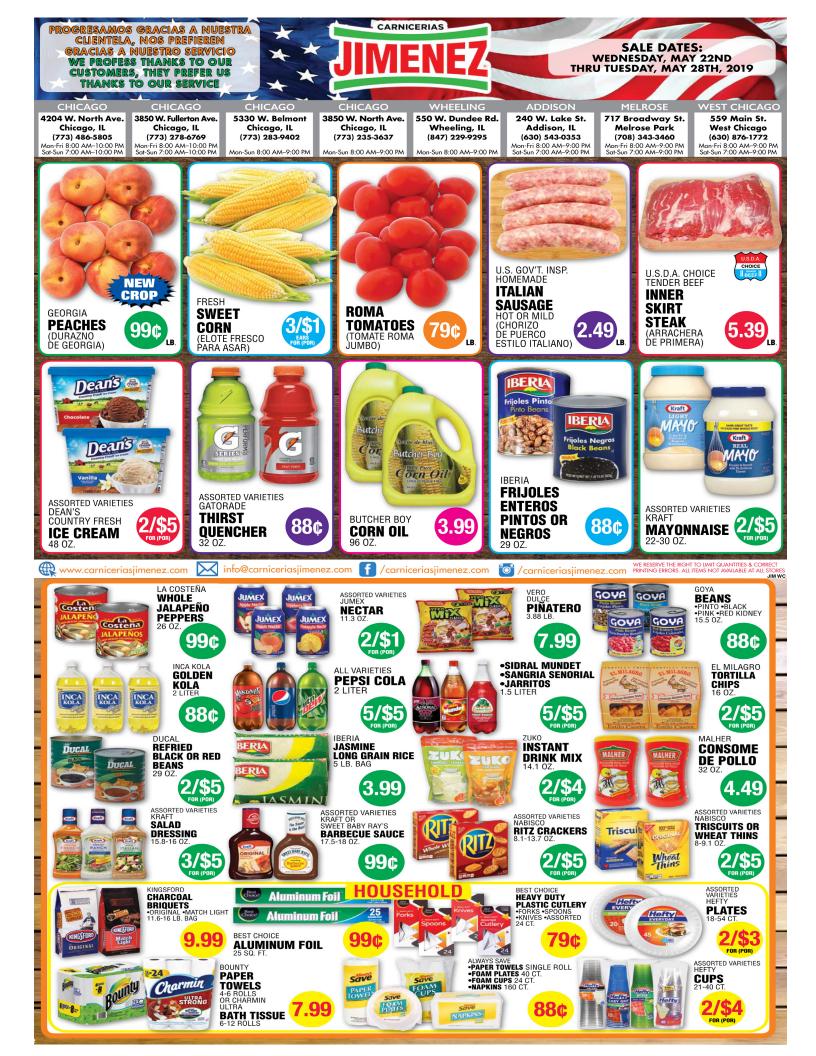


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WEEK 21

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AUTO RENTER



Chicago Fire Soccer Club Falls 4-1 to San Jose Earthquakes at Avaya Stadium

The Chicago Fire Soccer Club (4-5-4, 16 points) fell 4-1 to the San Jose Earthquakes (4-6-2, 14 points) at Avaya Stadium on Saturday afternoon. The result marked the Fire's first defeat since April 28, snapping a three game unbeaten run in league play. Midfielder Aleksandar Katai scored for a second straight match to provide the team's lone goal against the Earthquakes.

In the 17th minute of play, the Fire created a chance to score after a solid build-up play on the right side of the field. Released in behind by forward Nemanja Nikolić, midfielder Przemysław Frankowski played a dangerous cross into the 18-yard box for Katai, whose header skipped wide of the target.

Four minutes later, the Men in Red fell behind when a ball into the six-yard box from midfielder Shea Salinas found an unmarked Chris Wondolowski, who converted from close range to give the home side a 1-o lead in the 21st minute.

Responding to San Jose's early goal, the Fire came close to leveling the score just one minute later when Frankowski intercepted a poor clearance from goalkeeper Daniel Vega and redirected the ball to Nikolić inside the 18-yard box. Nikolić struck his first-time effort on target, but Vega recovered quickly and managed to make the save (WATCH). The Men in Red continued to put Vega under pressure in the first half when a powerful free kick from Katai forced another strong save from the goalkeeper in the 27th minute. The Fire were awarded the free kick when midfielder Dax McCarty was



brought down on the edge of the left side of the 18-yard box. On the ensuing free kick, Katai struck a powerful ball that forced a difficult save from the goalkeeper (WATCH).

In the final minute of the first half, the Fire created another scoring chance when Katai clipped the ball to the back post to Nikolić, whose header from inside the six yard box went over the crossbar (WATCH).

Three minutes into the second half, the Fire conceded a second goal when Wondolowski quickly reacted to a loose ball in the box and scored a tap in from close range to double the Earthquakes' lead in the 48th minute.

Approaching the final stages of the match, San Jose scored a pair of goals in a two-minute span when Wondolowski scored in the 74th and 76th minutes. In the 74th minute, Wondolowski found the back of the net after converting a first-time strike from just inside the 18-yard box. Two minutes later, the striker added another goal to his tally after tucking away Jackson Yueill's cross to the back post.

With seven minutes remaining, the Fire scored the game's final goal when Katai found the back of the net for a third time this season. The goal occurred after the midfielder received the ball on the right side of the field from McCarty and drifted inside to blast a left-footed effort that was redirected into the goal (WATCH).

Looking ahead, the Fire's next match will take place against New York City FC at SeatGeek Stadium on Saturday, May 25. Beginning at 2:30 p.m. CT, the match will be broadcast nationally on Univision and transmitted locally on Univision Radio WRTO AM 1200.

Box Score: Chicago Fire 1:4 San Jose Earthquakes

Scoring Summary: SJ – Wondolowski (1) (Salinas) 21' SJ – Wondolowski (2) 48' SJ – Wondolowski (3) (Espinoza) 74' SJ – Wondolowski (4) (Yueill) 76' CHI – Katai (3) (McCarty) 83'

Referee: Alex Chilowicz Assistant Referees: Brian Dunn, Felisha Marsical Fourth Official: Alejandro Mariscal VAR: Victor Rivas Attendance: 15,232

CREDIT: CHICAGO FIRE SOCCER CLUB

LA Galaxy 0, Colorado Rapids 1

It took until their 12th match of 2019, but the Colorado Rapids have their first win. The club went to SoCal on Sunday evening and beat the LA Galaxy 1-0 at Dignity Health Sports Park.

Andre Shinyashiki was the late-game hero again, just like he was in a dramatic opening-weekend draw, firing a rebound inside the post in the 82nd minute after David Bingham initially made a solid save on Kei Kamara following a terrific counter attack to give the Rapids all three points.

Prior to Shinyashiki's breakthrough, both teams had chances.

Diego Polenta, who started at left back, rattled the post in the 6oth minute with a vicious half volley from close range minutes after Kei Kamara pushed a shot from the corner of the sixyard box over the crossbar. Later, Giancarlo Gonzalez cleared a Sam Nicholson chip just before it crossed the goal line before Kamara hit the post with a header in the 76th minute.

Zlatan Ibrahimovic was unavailable due to suspension, though Jonathan dos Santos returned from injury and played 86 minutes. Favio Alvarez made his Galaxy debut as well.

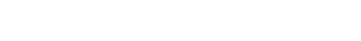
Goals 82' – COL – Andre Shinyashiki

Three Things

THE BIG PICTURE: Losing 1-0 to Colorado won't do much to deter the perception that the Galaxy are overly-reliant on Ibrahimovic, while the Rapids are finally off the mark in the win column.

MOMENT OF THE MATCH: Shinyashiki!

MAN OF THE MATCH: It was a vintage Tim Howard performance, as the Rapids' goalkeeper made six saves including a few from close range to give his side a chance at victory.







Orlando City 5, FC Cincinnati 1

Nani and Tesho Akindele each scored twice, and Dom Dwyer added a goal as a substitute, part of five unanswered scored by Orlando City in their 5-1 romp past FC Cincinnati on a steamy Sunday afternoon at Orlando City Stadium.

The Lions' goals all came after Darren Mattocks gave the visitors an early 1-0 lead, and helped Orlando snap a threegame losing skid.

Cincinnati, meanwhile, will have more concerns than the result after seeing fullback Greg Garza depart early with an apparent non-contact injury.

Nani's brace is his second in MLS, and the former Manchester United and Portugal national team star now has six goals in his last six appearances. Akindele's was his fourth multigoal performance of his MLS career, his last coming on July 4 of last year when he found the



net twice in the a 15-minute supersub cameo to help Dallas to a 3-2 win over Atlanta.

Goals

- 24' CIN Darren Mattocks
- 37' ORL Tesho Akindele
- 50' ORL Nani
- 59' ORL Nani
- 64' ORL Tesho Akindele
- 82' ORL Dom Dwyer

Three Things

THE BIG PICTURE: Cincinnati interim coach Yoann Damet may be able to write off his side's second-half wilting as just one of those bad days that happens in adverse, steamy conditions. More worrisome could be the injury to Garza, who appeared in considerable pain before he left the playing surface on a stretcher. For Orlando, the only frustration was the yellow card Dwyer picked up during his 24-minute shift. It's his fifth of the year, meaning he'll be suspended next weekend.

MOMENT OF THE MATCH: In live action, it went unnoticed by the officiating crew as well as broadcasters. But after Video Review, Kendall Waston clearly and recklessly hauled down Lamine Sane on a corner kick in a play that would eventually gift Orlando the lead. Spencer Richey saved Nani's penalty, but the rebound fell perfectly back to him for an easy tap-in.

MAN OF THE MATCH: Tesho Akindele. After battling injuries through most of March, Akindele has returned to become a more consistent fixture in coach James O'Connor's XI than some might have expected. After scoring only twice in all of 2018 — yep, with that July 4 brace — he's sitting on four this campaign, his most since 2016.



New York Red Bulls 1, Atlanta United 0

Eleven days after being signed from USL Championship, Tom Barlow scored his first MLS goal to lead a 10-man New York Red Bulls to a dramatic 1-0 win over Atlanta United at Red Bull Arena on Sunday afternoon. The Red Bulls snapped Atlanta's five-game win streak and a 520-minute shutout streak in the process.

An incredibly lively first half ended without a goal but with plenty of narrative. The Red Bulls got the first and arguably

best chance of the half in the third minute, when Kaku led a final-third break by stealing the ball from Pity Martinez; it finished with Marc Rzatkowski pinging a shot off the crossbar.

Josef Martinez had two particularly notable scoring opportunities in the first half. The first, in the 29th minute, started with a nearfull-field pass from Julian Gressel; Martinez beat Red Bulls defender Amro Tarek and left him on the ground, but Tarek managed to poke the ball away while still lying on the ground just as Martinez was about to strike. Then, in the 35th minute, Tim Parker knocked Martinez off-balance as he raced with the ball toward goal; Martinez was allowed to get the shot off, then referee Robert Sibiga awarded a free kick just outside the box and



hit Parker with a DOGSO red card, leaving the home side with 10 men.

Both teams tried to position themselves with second-half subs, but it was Barlow going in for Brian White in the 55th minute that proved the ultimate difference maker. Ten minutes after entering the match, he got on the end of an audacious Daniel Royer cross, changing direction to head past Brad Guzan for the lead and the end of the ATLUTD scoreless streak. Atlanta threatened through the remainder of the half, finishing with 12 shots and 10 corners, but couldn't find the equalizer.

Goals 65' – RBNY – Tom Barlow

Three Things

THE BIG PICTURE: For Atlanta, the loss breaks a win streak and an impressive shutout streak, plus it continues RBNY's role as Atlanta's prime Eastern Conference nemesis (in the regular season, at least). But the match itself doesn't alter Atlanta's playoff trajectory too much — provided they can bounce back from this one. If the Red Bulls continue to turn their '19 season around, they can point to this match as a positive, though the tenacity they showed in grinding out a result while a man down isn't so new for them.

At any rate, the end-of-match extracurriculars between Kemar Lawrence and Hector Villalba further guarantee that the teams' July 7 rematch in Atlanta will be fully lit.

MOMENT OF THE MATCH: Though there's a case to be made for the red card, the goal was a thing of beauty, in front of the South Ward, and the first MLS score for a player who has spent the first part of 2019 with Red Bulls II. That's a good moment (unless you're an Atlanta fan).

MAN OF THE MATCH: Tarek's tackle to deny Martinez a first-half goal was huge, and became even more significant as the match's events unfolded. As the lone RBNY center back to play the full 90, he anchored a heroic defensive effort to preserve the win.

8

Minnesota United FC 1, Columbus Crew SC 0

Ethan Finlay got his wish.

The Minnesota United winger burned his former club on Saturday night, scoring the game-winner in a hard-fought 1-o victory over Columbus Crew SC at a chilly but raucous Allianz Field.

A few days after admitting that "I'd be lying to you if I said I didn't want to beat up on them pretty bad," Finlay was the man on the spot at the far post when his fellow Minnesota native Brent Kallman leaped headlong

to head a Romain Metanire delivery across the face of goal for an empty-net finish in the 70th minute.

It was the decisive moment in a match brimming with intensity but short on finishing, with each side entering the night with only one win in their past month's slate.

Goals 70' — MIN — Ethan Finlay

Three Things



THE BIG PICTURE: This one had the crisp, edgy feel of a playoff game, while also showcasing the attacking concerns that could jeopardize both sides' postseason prospects. Slumping Crew SC have now scored just 12 goals across their 14 matches, the third-lowest total in the league, and have netted just five times during their current 1-7 skid.

MOMENT OF THE MATCH: When Kallman and Finlay linked up, both euphoria and relief washed across Allianz Field...

MAN OF THE MATCH: No surprises here. Ethan Finlay earns the nod not only for his goal but his work rate and intensity along the Loons' right flank.

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Real Salt Lake 3, Toronto FC 0

Real Salt Lake was comprehensive from start to finish in a 3-0 win over Toronto FC on Saturday afternoon at Rio Tinto Stadium.

The ball got rolling in the 14th minute via Damir Kreilach, who easily slammed home a cross from Albert Rusnak after some poor TFC defending in the 18-yard box. The lead then grew to 2-0 in the 28th minute via Sebastian Saucedo, who blasted home his first of the season from 25 yards out with a cool-as-you-like golazo.

As Toronto brought on Jozy Altidore at halftime, any hopes of a comeback were squelched when Jefferson Savarino made it 3-0 in the 60th minute, outmuscling Justin Morrow on a ball over the top. Matters then went from bad to worse for Toronto, as a second yellow card to Alejandro Pozuelo prompted the playmaker's first red card in MLS.

RSL didn't have striker Sam Johnson in the starting XI per a coach's decision, but that caused few problems. Mike Petke benched the Liberian for being late to a team meeting.

Goals

14' — RSL — Damir Kreilach 28' — RSL — Sebastian Saucedo 60' — RSL — Jefferson Savarino

Three Things

THE BIG PICTURE: This was a dominant performance from RSL from start to finish, one that pushed the home side above .500 at Rio Tinto Stadium. For a team that's struggled with consistency all season long, the match also marked back-to-back wins for the second time this season. Toronto, meanwhile, was a step off the mark with tired legs and dropped to 0-3-1 in their last four matches. This wrapped up a stretch of five games in 15 days for the Reds.



MOMENT OF THE MATCH: Sebastian "Bofo" Saucedo doesn't score often – he entered Saturday's game with four career goals – but they tend to be golazos when he does. This one was a beauty, as the RSL winger cut inside several times before sending a curler past Quentin Westberg from 25 yards out.

MAN OF THE MATCH: With several options in the attacking third, Saucedo sometimes gets lost in the thick of it for RSL. But the Homegrown Player was electric in his second straight start with an early Goal of the Week presented by AT&T contender and an assist on Savarino's goal. Aside from buzzing around all afternoon, he also drew the red card on Pozuelo.

CREDIT: Jonathan Sigal Contributor



Philadelphia Union 0, Seattle Sounders 0

Cross-conference contenders Philadelphia Union and Seattle Sounders maintained their respective unbeaten runs after drawing o-o on Saturday at Talen Energy Stadium.

While the Union had a full week to prepare for this game, Seattle were on short rest, having won 2-1 on Wednesday at home over Orlando City. With the number of injuries on the squad and the short turnaround, Sounders head coach Brian Schmetzer opted to make five changes to his starting XI. Philadelphia, meanwhile, welcomed back goalkeeper Andre Blake after he missed four games due to injury.

The Union firmly controlled the run of play in the first half, but in spite of holding two-thirds of possession both teams managed a shot on target each through 45 minutes, both saved.

With the game still scoreless and Philadelphia piling on the pressure, substitute Ilsinho set up Brenden Aaronson, but the youngster's one-timer went wide of the mark in the 69th minute. Two minutes later, Haris Medunjanin forced a full layout save from Stefan Frei on a free kick to keep it o-o.

Goals None

Three Things

THE BIG PICTURE: Both teams are unbeaten in six games with this result. While both sides will feel they could have gotten more, a draw on balance between contenders is solid. The Union will have more reason to be disappointed, with how much they controlled the game, but the Sounders will likely be elated with the road draw on short rest.

MOMENT OF THE MATCH: The save on Medunjanin's free kick kept the Sounders in the match and ultimately helped the result.



MAN OF THE MATCH: Stefan Frei was called upon to do much of the lifting for Seattle and he duly delivered, with six saves and a punch on the night.



Houston Dynamo 2, DC United 1

Two quick goals from the Houston Dynamo negated a Wayne Rooney strike, as the home side got the best of D.C. United in a 2-1 game Saturday night at BBVA Compass Stadium.

After a first half in which quality chances were hard to come by, Rooney gave the Black-and-Red the breakthrough in the 46th minute. The Designated Player ghosted to the back post and got on the end of a Ulises Segura cross, with the entire sequence ending 23 ticks after head referee Rubiel Vazquez resumed play.

But the Dynamo sprung to life midway through the second half, starting with a Memo Rodriguez scoring his fifth of the year in the 67th minute. He dribbled in from the left wing and rifled home from 20 yards out past Bill Hamid. A minute later, Tommy McNamara scored his first goal in nearly two years and his first in a Dynamo shirt to give Houston a 2-1 lead they would never relinquish.

Any D.C. hopes for a comeback were nipped in the bud when Paul Arriola, playing in a deep-lying role, was shown a straight red card. The call, upon consulting Video Review, was changed from a yellow to red for stomping on Adam Lundkvist.

Another point of contention came less than 30 seconds in, as D.C. center back Steven Birnbaum and Houston forward Alberth Elis clashed heads. Birnbaum eventually returned bandaged up, but Elis was forced to exit as a precaution.

Goals

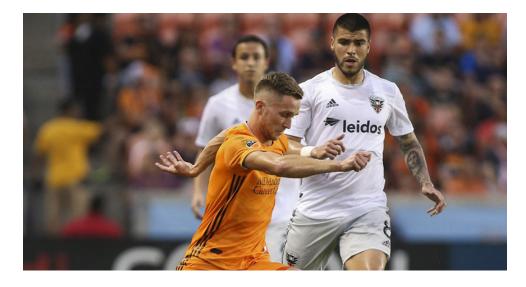
46' – DC – Wayne Rooney 67' – HOU – Memo Rodriguez 68' – HOU – Tommy McNamara

Three Things

THE BIG PICTURE: After a two-game winless skid, Houston earned three points for the seventh time of the season. Meanwhile, D.C. couldn't dip into their road form, which has already produced three wins away from Audi Field. More than anything, this match between two teams above the playoff line in their respective conferences showed how slim the margin for error often is.

MOMENT OF THE MATCH: When Wilmer Cabrera brought on Tommy McNamara in the 66th minute, Houston trailed 1-o. Two minutes later, the Dynamo were up 2-1, with the American midfielder scoring the game-winning goal after pushing home a cross at the back post. It was his first goal since a Sept. 16, 2017 match against the Colorado Rapids.

MAN OF THE MATCH: While he didn't find the scoresheet, Matias Vera was immense in a two-way role for the Dynamo's midfield. With D.C.'s fluid movement in the attacking third, he broke up attacks and linked play going forward. The 23-year-old Argentine, signed this past offseason from San Lorenzo, is slowly becoming a 90-minute staple.





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