



Houston Dynamo 0, Chicago Fire 1

The Chicago Fire snapped a five-game winless run in league play, as they defeated the Houston Dynamo 1-0 on Saturday at BBVA Stadium.

The game kicked off approximately 32 minutes late due to severe weather around the venue. Both sides entered below the playoff line in their respective conferences and in need of wins to breathe life into their postseason hopes.

Chicago dominated play in the first 20 minutes, but could not find a breakthrough, and Houston played their way into the action the rest of the first 45, but they couldn't find a goal, either.

The Fire got on the board deep in first-half stoppage time, as a fantastic ball in from Nicolas Gaitan off a corner kick routine was poked in by Nemanja Nikolic.

It looked as though the Fire would double their lead around the hour mark, but a wild scramble in front of the goal featuring several clearcut chances and two shots clanging off the post ended in the final attempt sailing wide of the mark.







Three Things

THE BIG PICTURE: The Fire remain six points below the playoff line, but they are still in the picture with work to be done. This was a disastrous result for the Dynamo, however, in losing their third straight home game, after making their home form the bedrock of their identity in recent years. They aren't totally out of the playoff race, but they can't afford to drop points moving forward.

MOMENT OF THE MATCH: In a game with so much on the line and a single tally, it was of course the goal.

MAN OF THE MATCH: Nico Gaitan has had a penchant for floating in and out of games, but with his team's season more or less on the line on the road, he had the moment of magic to set up the game's goal, and put in a rugged shift for the duration for Chicago.

Next Up

HOU: Thursday, Aug. 8 at NYCFC (7 pm ET | MLS LIVE on ESPN+ in US; DAZN in Canada) CHI: Saturday, Aug. 10 vs. Montreal Impact (9 pm ET | MLS LIVE on ESPN+ in US; TVAS in Canada)

CREDIT: Alicia Rodriguez Contributor

Real Salt Lake 3, New York City FC 1

Though consistently inconsistent this season, Real Salt Lake reminded the rest of MLS that they can beat anyone on their day when they shocked New York City FC 3-1 at Rio Tinto Stadium Saturday night.

Alexander Ring got the visitors off to a dream start with a slick turn and pinpoint low strike from the top of the penalty box just four minutes in as NYCFC exploited an untimely RSL turnover deep in their own end. But Jefferson Savarino would respond a few minutes before halftime, capping a fluid RSL passing move with a venomous finish into the roof of the net at Sean Johnson's near post.

Sava's teammate Albert Rusnak would do him one better in the second half, taking a pass from Kyle Beckerman after a City half-clearance to lash a vicious 25-yard drive inside the near post in the 75th minute. With the New Yorkers tiring visibly, Salt Lake iced their victory with a heel flick by Nick Besler that was both cheeky and instinctive, redirecting a bouncing Savarino effort int

Goals

4' – NYC – Alex Ring 37' – RSL – Jefferson Savarino 75' – RSL – Albert Rusnak 88' – RSL – Nick Besler

Three Things



THE BIG PICTURE: Shrugging off

NYCFC's strong start, RSL took the game to the Eastern Conference contenders with levels of fluidity and ferocity that belied coach Mike Petke's hefty suspension due to his verbal abuse of the referees in their Leagues Cup match last month. They're now 4-1-3 since the Gold Cup break.

MOMENT OF THE MATCH: Savarino's goal was lovely, but the velocity, accuracy and range of Rusnak's makes it a must-see...

MAN OF THE MATCH: Jefferson Savarino produced another devastating wing display that powered RSL, and probably boosted his transfer value even further as overseas suitors circle.

Next Up

RSL: Saturday, Aug. 10 at Sporting KC (8:30 pm ET | MLS LIVE on ESPN+ in US, DAZN in Canada) NYC: Thursday, Aug. 8 vs. Houston Dynamo (7 pm ET | MLS LIVE on ESPN+ in US; DAZN in Canada)

CREDIT: Charles Boehm Contributor

Colorado Rapids 6, Montreal Impact 3

A few strange things happened in Commerce City this weekend. In the end, it was that the Colorado Rapids broke out with a wild 6-3 win over the visiting Montreal Impact behind a hat trick from Kei Kamara, only the second of his career.

The match also saw two own goals, two stoppage time goals, and two penalty kick goals. That on top of the actual plague being found in the surrounding areas. Oh, and the Rapids set a new team record with six goals in a regular season game.

Kamara started off the scoring, but for the wrong side, when he tried to clear a cross away and inadvertently headed it into his own goal. Evan Bush was then credited with an own goal, and Kamara put away a penalty kick after it was awarded following Video Review and one from the run of play. Diego Rubio finished the first half scoring with his own tally.

The Impact cut the lead to one with second half goals from Maxi Urruti and Saphir Taïder, but Andre Shinyashiki quickly extended the lead before Kamara finished his hat trick in the final minutes.

Goals

18' — MTL — Kei Kamara (own goal)

21' — COL — Evan Bush (own goal)

36' — COL — Kei Kamara (penalty)

45+1' — COL — Kei Kamara

45+4' — COL — Diego Rubio

55' — MTL — Maxi Urruti

76' — MTL — Saphir Taïder (penalty

78' — COL — Andre Shinyashiki

90' — COL — Kei Kamara

Three Things



THE BIG PICTURE: It's fair to say the Rapids offense has arrived. They have now scored a goal in 14 straight games – tying their club record (2007), and the six tonight are the most in team history. And, they're up to 39 goals on the season, the most they've scored in a season since also scoring 39 in 2016. Kamara's 11 are also the most for Colorado since 2010, when Omar Cummings scored 14 and Conor Casey added 13.

MOMENT OF THE MATCH: He's fifth all-time with 123 career goals, but this was only his second hat trick.

MAN OF THE MATCH: Kei Kamara was all over the place in the first half...obviously the unfortunate own goal, but then added three of his own while becoming the first MLS player to score 10 goals for five different teams.

Next Up

COL: Saturday, August 10 vs. San Jose Earthquakes (9:00 pm ET | MLS Live on ESPN+ in the US, MLS LIVE on DAZN n Canada)

MTL: Wednesday, August 7 vs Cavalry FC, Canadian Championship (7:30 pm ET; OneSoccer.ca)

CREDIT: German Sferra Contributor



New York Red Bulls 2, Toronto FC 0

The New York Red Bulls earned a measure of revenge and three valuable points Saturday night with a 2-0 win over Toronto FC at Red Bull Arena.

After a scoreless first half in which Toronto FC had the better chances, the Red Bulls, who lost 3-1 at BMO Field July 17, took the lead in the 55th minute thanks to an own goal.

Kaku did all the work, turning on the ball and splitting Auro and Omar Gonzalez before tying to slip a ball across the box. It took a deflection off a sliding Chris Mavinga at the corner of the six-yard box and into the visitors net.

The Red Bulls had a golden chance to extend their lead three minutes from the penalty spot after Marc Rzatkowski was tripped by Jonathan Osorio just inside the box. But Danny Royer skied his spot kick into the South Ward for the first miss of his MLS career.

Rzatkowski had a chance to extend the Red Bulls lead later, but put a low shot from distance off the post. Just after Toronto FC were reduced to 10 men after Justin Morrow saw red for DOGSO after pulling back Bradley



Wright-Phillips, Kemar Lawrence put the game away on a rebound at the back post.

Goals

55' — RBNY — Chris Mavinga (OG) 90'+1' — RBNY — Kemar Lawrence

Three Things

THE BIG PICTURE: The Red Bulls have already conceded more goals this year than their 2018 record-breaking season, including 14 in the last six. Although Toronto FC had chances, New York secured the clean sheet, their sixth of the season. TFC, meanwhile, will lament those opportunities in the opening 45 minutes.

MOMENT OF THE MATCH: Kaku put enough pressure on the Toronto backline to force an own goal that proved to be the decisive moment 10 minutes into the second half.

MAN OF THE MATCH: If Robles doesn't come up huge in the first half, especially this sensational save one minute from halftime, the result might have been different.

Next Up

RBNY: Saturday, August 10 at LAFC (10 PM ET | FS1, TSN 1/4)

TOR: Saturday, August 10 vs. Orlando City SC (7:30 PM ET | TSN4, MLS LIVE on ESPN+ in US)

CREDIT: Dylan Butler Contributor

Minnesota United 1, Portland Timbers 0

Ethan Finlay converted a penalty in second-half stoppage time, after a Video Review resulted in a handball called on Larrys Mabiala, and Minnesota United grinded out a 1-0 victory over the Portland Timbers on Sunday afternoon at Allianz Field.

Finlay's spot kick possessed just enough power to beat the dive of goalkeeper Steve Clark and see the Loons move into second place in the Western Conference above San Jose and Seattle on goal difference, with the latter to play later Sunday evening.

Minnesota is now unbeaten in their last seven games in MLS and 10 overall approaching their rematch with Portland on Wednesday night (8 pm ET | ESPN+) in the U.S. Open Cup semifinals, also at Allianz.

Clark got a touch on the effort after guessing correctly to his right, but not enough of the ball to keep Portland from losing its first MLS match in seven games.

After a relatively uneventful opening hour-plus, both teams had late chances from the run of play. Brian Fernandez struck the right upright in



the 77th minute after a layoff from Jeremy Ebobisse. Then the hosts nearly took the lead in the 86th minute when Abu Danladi's cross was a shade too far in front of Mason Toye, who redirected service just wide of the right post.

Goals

90'+2' - POR - Ethan Finlay (PK)

Three Things

THE BIG PICTURE: Not only did the Loons continue to climb up the standings, but they did so while arguably gaining an edge for their Open Cup rematch with Portland in three days' time. Darwin Quintero sat out the game entirely due to a card accumulation suspension, while Angelo Rodriguez and Miguel Ibarra both exited with more than a quarter of the match to play. For Portland, Diego Valeri, Sebastian Blanco and Brian Fernandez all went the full 90.

MOMENT OF THE MATCH: It initially appeared as though referee Chris Penso might not take a second look at the corner kick that had Minnesota protesting vociferously for a PK handball. Eventually he did, and determined the ball had clearly struck Mabiala's arm while it was in an unnatural position.

MAN OF THE MATCH: Ethan Finlay. The Duluth native was one of Minnesota's more consistent creators in Quintero's absence, on a day when Kevin Molino, inhabiting Quintero's central attacking role, struggled to get involved. Then with Quintero, Molino and Rodriguez all unavailable to take the decisive penalty, Finlay's strike was powerful and decisive even with the 'keeper guessing correctly.

Up Next

MIN: Wednesday, August 7 vs. Portland Timbers, U.S. Open Cup semifinals (8 pm ET | ESPN+) POR: Wednesday, August 7 at Minnesota United, U.S. Open Cup semifinals (8 pm ET | ESPN+)

CREDIT: Ian Quillen Contributor



Tu estacion orgullosamente latina !!!

DC United 1, Philadelphia Union 5

Marco Fabian scored his first MLS brace and the Philadelphia Union returned to the top of the Eastern Conference standings following a 5-1 victory over 10-man D.C. United on Sunday evening at Audi Field.

Alejandro Bedoya opened the scoring, Kacper Przybylko hit his 10th of the season and Fafa Picault added a goal late for Philly, who ran their winning streak to five matches against D.C. in MLS regular season play.

Przybylko might've also had a brace had he not skied his penalty after drawing a foul when the match was still 1-0 that led to Junior Moreno's dismissal.

Frederic Brillant scored on a set piece for D.C., who now have a record of 4-5-4 at Audi Field this season. They lost just twice in just 15 matches last season after opening the new venue in July of 2018.

Goals

3' - PHI - Alejandro Bedoya 45'+2' - PHI - Marco Fabian 52' - PHI - Kacper Przybylko 54' - DC - Frederick Brillant 72' - PHI - Marco Fabian 90' - PHI - Fafa Picault



Three Things

THE BIG PICTURE: After sitting first or second in the Eastern Conference for much of the season, D.C. are now fourth after winning only two of their last 15 games, and more alarmingly, only four points above the playoff line. It won't get any easier for the Black-and-Red, who must rebound from a horrific defensive night to try and shut down Zlatan Ibrahimovic and the LA Galaxy.

MOMENT OF THE MATCH: You might have missed it if you were waiting on your concession order or grabbing a snack from the fridge, but Alejandro Bedoya's third-minute strike set the tone for Philadelphia's dominant evening.

MAN OF THE MATCH: Marco Fabian. It's been a longtime coming for the Mexican playmaker. But in his first visit to rival D.C., Fabian enjoyed what was easily his best match since his MLS arrival, scoring twice, contributing to the sequence that saw Moreno sent off, and generally bossing affairs for the visitors. His emphatic finish for his first goal was one of the best this week.

Up Next

DC: Sunday, August 11 vs. LA Galaxy (7:30 pm ET | FS1 in US, TSN in Canada)

PHI: Sunday, August 11 vs. Houston Dynamo (6 pm ET | MLS LIVE on ESPN+ in the US, DAZN in Canada)

CREDIT: Ian Quillen Contributor



New England Revolution 0, LAFC 2

The New England Revolution's 11-game unbeaten streak is over, as Supporters' Shield leaders LAFC captured a 2-0 win Saturday night at Gillette Stadium behind goals on either side of halftime.

The Black-and-Gold first broke through in the 8th minute via some ingenuity from winger Diego Rossi, who collected

a long ball from left back Jordan Harvey. With his second touch, the Uruguayan made it 1-0 via a left-footed chip over goalkeeper Matt Turner into the far-side netting.

Chasing an insurance strike, LAFC found exactly that in the 72nd minute on a beautiful team goal that was capped off by midfielder Latif Blessing. The 2-0 score arose after Harvey squared across goal, and the Ghanaian showed composure before depositing home.

LAFC nearly had a third in the 41st minute, though New England center back Andrew Farrell cleared off the line after helping to block a Carlos Vela shot. The ball ricocheted off Farrell, who made amends to keep the Revs in the match.



New England finished with 10 men after center back Antonio Delamea went down with a hamstring injury. All three substitutes had already been brought on.

Before that point, the Revs had plenty of enticing moments in the attacking third, with Gustavo Bou and Carles Gil the orchestrators. Still, New England saw one of their 10 shots end up on target.

Goals 8' – LAFC – Diego Ross 72' – LAFC – Latif Blessing

Three Things

THE BIG PICTURE: The Revs were handed a reality check against LAFC after recording recent wins against the likes of the Vancouver Whitecaps and FC Cincinnati, struggling sides near or at the bottom of their respective conferences. With the 11-game unbeaten streak over, this is New England's first league loss since Bruce Arena was named head coach and sporting director in early May. Meanwhile, LAFC recorded their seventh road win of the season and kept their record-breaking pace going in 2019. That all came as Carlos Vela was held without a goal or an assist.

MOMENT OF THE MATCH: LAFC scored two beautiful goals, though the nod goes to Diego Rossi's chip here. He now has 25 tallies for his MLS career, and this was up there with the best of them.

MAN OF THE MATCH: Latif Blessing's goal was just reward on an evening when he was seemingly everywhere in midfield for LAFC. He was tireless from start to finish, and it's quite remarkable to think the 22-year-old primarily played winger before the 2019 season.

Next Up

NE: Saturday, August 10 at Seattle Sounders (4 pm ET | MLS LIVE on ESPN+ in US, on on DAZN in Canada) LAFC: Sunday, August 11 vs. New York Red Bulls (10 pm ET | FS1, TSN 1/4)

CREDIT: Jonathan Sigal Contributor



Atlanta United 3, LA Galaxy 0

Atlanta United compiled a comprehensive performance Saturday night at Mercedes-Benz Stadium against the LA Galaxy, emerging with a 3-0 win before 72,548 fans, an MLS single-game attendance record in the regular season.

The defending MLS Cup champions benefitted from a pair of own goals in the first half, with Pity Martinez generating the first in the 23rd minute. The Argentine midfielder crossed centrally from the right, and Galaxy center back David Romney redirected past goalkeeper David Bingham.

The second arose in the 43rd minute via LA's other center back, Giancarlo Gonzalez. This time it was a Justin Meram cross from the left that attempted to find Josef Martinez, but instead made it 2-0 via a deflection from the Costa Rican.

With a commanding lead, Atlanta then put the game out of reach in the 72nd minute via a Josef Martinez penalty kick, marking his ninth consecutive game with a goal, tying his own MLS record. The spot kick arose after Video Review judged that Gonzalez fouled second-half substitute Emerson Hyndman on an attempted clearance.



LA, notably playing without Zlatan Ibrahimovic (yellow-card suspension), saw their best chances come from Favio Alvarez and Uriel Antuna, especially in the first half. But the final product lacked, with Atlanta's 3-5-2 formation and transition game exploiting the Galaxy backline.

Goals

23' - ATL - Dave Romney (OG)

43' - ATL - Giancarlo Gonzalez (OG)

72' – ATL – Josef Martinez (PK)

Three Things

THE BIG PICTURE: Amid a week full of controversial comments, Atlanta got straight down to business in earning all three points. Josef Martinez scored in his ninth straight game, Ezequiel Barco returned to the starting XI for the first time in nearly three months, Pity Martinez looked more comfortable and a single-game attendance record was set for the MLS regular season. As for LA, they've now dropped three of their last four. This one came without Zlatan Ibrahimovic, Efrain Alvarez and Diego Polenta, though it's hard to know how they would have tilted the match.

MOMENT OF THE MATCH: The first own goal in the 23rd minute set the tone during a back-and-forth first half, igniting Atlanta to a convincing win. It also paved the way for what's now the fourth game of the 2019 MLS season to feature a pair of own goals. Before 2019, there were four total in league history.

MAN OF THE MATCH: In a three-man backline, 22-year-old Miles Robinson was central for Atlanta – and he hardly put a foot wrong. He kept Uriel Antuna under wraps, marking another impressive match in the youngster's career.

Next Up

ATL: Tuesday, August 6 at Orlando City (7:30 pm ET | ESPN+) | U.S. Open Cup semifinal

LA: Sunday, August 11 at D.C. United (7:30 pm ET | FS1, TSN 1/4)



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