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# Flamengo football club fire: Youth team players among 10 killed at Rio De Janeiro training ground

A fire at a football training ground for a youth team in Rio de Janeiro has killed 10 people and injured at least three others.

Members of Flamengo football club's youth side are believed to be among the dead, according to Brazilian media.

Former players at the club include Brazilian stars Ronaldinho, Bebeto and Romario.

The fire happened shortly after 5am on Friday at the Urubu's Nest training centre in the capital city, with an accommodation block completely destroyed by the blaze.

Players aged between 14 and 17 are understood to have been sleeping in the dormitory, Brazilian TV channel Globo said.

Three injured teenagers, aged 14, 15 and 16 according to a fire official, were taken to hospital for treatment.

Globo TV showed footage from a helicopter with smoke emerging from a charred area.





There is no word yet on the cause of the fire.

Flamengo, one of Brazil's most popular clubs, plays in the country's top league – Campeonato Brasileiro Serie A. Its youth development programme is for promising players in their early teens.

The state-of-the-art training centre was expanded two months ago, according to Reuters.

Real Madrid player Vinícius Júnior tweeted: "Pray for everyone," while Flamengo's official Twitter account said the club was "in mourning".

Family members, friends and neighbours gathered outside the complex in hopes of getting information.

Joao Pedro da Cruz, a 16-year-old player in the Flamengo youth league, said he decided not to stay the night at the facility on Thursday because the team

wasn't going to train on Friday. Instead, he went to a friend's house.

"The majority of them (the team) stayed, my friends stayed," he said. "Today I woke up and heard this terrible news."

#### **GREDIT: ADAM FORREST**

https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/americas/fire-brazil-football-club-dead-dies-flamengo-rio-de-janeiro-10-latest-news-a8769356.html

# Mourners bid farewell to dead rising soccer stars after Brazil fire

Hundreds of grief-stricken people Sunday attended the funeral of 15-year-old Christian Esmerio Candido, one of the 10 young soccer players killed in a fire at the training ground of Brazilian soccer club Flamengo.

Wearing white T-shirts with Candido's photo, relatives, friends and Flamengo fans sang the team's anthem and chanted "Flamengo, Flamengo" as they accompanied the coffin at Rio de Janeiro's Iraja cemetery.

The goalkeeper was considered a rising star and had already played for Brazil's national team's youth

division.

Alan Silva, the boy's uncle, said his nephew's dream was to help his parents leave the shantytown where they live and become a starter with the national team.

"But unfortunately, we lost a great player; a great warrior," he said.

The death of Candido and his teammates has shed a tragic light on the state of shoddy infrastructure and lax oversight in Latin America's largest nation.

The incident came just two weeks after the Jan. 25 dam collapse in Brazil unleashed a flood of mining waste in Minas Gerais state, killing at least 157 people and leaving almost as many missing.





to pay homage to the victims of the fire that occurred at the club's training facility, leaving 10 people dead and several injured, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on February 9, 2019. FERNANDO SOUZA / AFP

On Wednesday night and early Thursday, torrential downpours and strong winds also killed at least seven people, conditions which the Flamengo club CEO suggested may have led to unstable electricity that sparked the blaze.

The cause of the fire is still unknown, although city hall officials have said they were investigating a possible short circuit in the centre's air conditioning system.

City hall also said the sleeping quarters where

Flamengo's players died was irregularly licensed as a parking lot.

"The lodging area hit by the fire is not included in the last project approved by our licensing," a statement said. "There are no registers of new licensing requests for that area as a sleeping quarter."

Flamengo has been fined 31 times because of infractions at the training ground, which had to be temporarily closed in October 2017. The club has not paid 21 of those fines, city hall said.

Three teenagers injured in the fire are still in the hospital. Two have been released from the intensive care units and one remains in serious condition.

Bernardo Pisetta, 14, and Vitor Isaias, 15, both from the southern state of Santa Catarina, were also buried Sunday.

#### CREDIT: Stan Lehman THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



## Chicago Fire Soccer Club Acquires 2019 International Roster Spot from Minnesota United FC

The Chicago Fire Soccer Club announced today that the team has acquired an international roster spot for the 2019 MLS season from Minnesota United FC. In exchange, the Men in Red traded \$125,000 in General Allocation Money and \$75,000 in Targeted Allocation Money to Minnesota.

The Fire has completed preseason camp in Madrid, Spain and will travel to Charleston, South Carolina on February 11 to participate in the 2019 Carolina Challenge Cup.

The Fire will begin the 2019 MLS season with an away match against the LA Galaxy at Dignity Health Sports Park on Saturday, March 2, beginning at 7:00 p.m. CT. The Fire's 2019 home opener will take place the following weekend when the team hosts Orlando City SC at SeatGeek Stadium on Saturday, March 9, beginning at 12:00 p.m. CT.

Transaction: Chicago Fire Soccer Club acquires a 2019 international roster spot from Minnesota United FC in exchange for \$125,000 in General Allocation Money and \$75,000 in Targeted Allocation Money.

CREDIT: CHICAGO FIRE SOCCER CLUB



### Sam Kerr hat-trick lifts Perth into Grand Final against Colaprico's Sydney FC

The Grand Final in the Westfield W-League is set, with plenty of Chicago Red Stars looking to claim the Grand Champion crown.

After their victories over the weekend, Sam Kerr, Alyssa Mautz, Katie Naughton, and Nikki Stanton will lead Perth Glory against Danielle Colaprico and Sydney FC.

It was Perth Glory who punched their ticket into the Final first, defeating Melbourne Victory in a 4-2 extra time thriller.

Perth fell behind early in the game, heading into the half down 1-0. In the 72nd minute, it was Kerr who equalized for the visitors, scoring from a cross after missing her initial first attempt. Kerr would then assist Rachel Hill's goal in the 86th minute to give Perth the 2-1 lead.

However, the Premier winners would not bow out of the competition easily. Four minutes into stoppage time, Melbourne would equalize the game and take it into extra time.

It was there that the matchup became the Sam Kerr show. The Red Stars forward would score seven minutes into extra time, lobbing the ball over the goalkeeper to regain the lead for Perth. She would make history 10 minutes later, scoring a goal that would give her the first ever hat-trick in a W-League Finals Series.

Perth would win 4-2, earning them a spot in the Grand Finals.



Kerr finished with three goals and one assist. Stanton, Mautz, and Naughton played the full 120 minutes in the contest.

The second semifinal pitted two Red Stars against each other. Colaprico's Sydney FC visited Yuki Nagasato's Brisbane Roar. Nagasato's stoppage-time rocket was not enough for Brisbane, as Sydney FC would go on to win 2-1. Both Nagasato and Colaprico would start the game.

We can't wait to have you back in Chicago.

Sydney FC will host Perth Glory on Friday, February 15 at 11:00 pm C.T. The teams faced off in the regular season once, with Kerr scoring a brace in a 2-1 win in Round 8. Fans in the U.S. with an ESPN+ account will have access to the stream of the game.

CREDIT: CHICAGO RED STARS SOCCER CLUB



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#### **Bulls Set Team Record With Loss to Wizards**

Just days after they were traded by the Chicago Bulls, Bobby Portis and Jabari Parker had big games off the bench for their new team as the Washington Wizards scored a 134-125 victory at the United Center.

The loss was the 10th in a row for the Bulls at home, and not only was the loss a tough one to swallow for a team still trying to find its footing under head coach Jim Boylen, but it was an historic one as well.

According to KC Johnson of the Chicago Tribune, the loss helped the Bulls to set a new record, as their home

losing streak is the longest in team history.

Five Bulls players, including Lauri Markkanen and Zach LaVine, scored in double figures, but it wasn't enough to snap their losing skid on their home floor.

For the Wizards, a big second quarter was key, as they outscored the Bulls 42-29 and managed to hang on as the Bulls attempted a second half comeback.

In his first game back in Chicago since being traded by the Bulls earlier in the week, Parker seemed to have revenge on his mind, as he slammed home



several big dunks and ended up with 20 points, six assists, and five rebounds in 35 minutes of action.

Portis had a strong game as well, with 10 points and 12 rebounds for a double-double off the bench. He also contributed with four assists and a pair of blocks against his former team.

The Bulls will look to finally snap their losing streak on Monday night when they go up against the Milwaukee Bucks at the United Center.

**CREDIT: James Neveau** 

https://www.nbcchicago.com/news/sports/chicago-bulls-team-record-washington-wizards-jabari-parker-bobby-portis-505625871.html



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