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The Colorado Springs Switchbacks Football Club is an organization shaped by our owner, Ed Ragain, who is a man of big vision. Ed is a successful engineer and businessman who founded and built a Colorado based engineering firm into an international engineering leader. Ed's company, ME Engineers, has designed many of the largest sporting venues, health care systems, and airports around the world. He has personally written the broadcast lighting design guidelines for FIFA, MLS, NFL, MLB, NBA, NHL, and the Olympic Broadcast Systems. Sports has been central to Ed's professional interest which h now brings to Colorado Springs with the Switchbacks FC

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2018 SCHEDULE

■ - HOME

SAT MAR 17 @ LA	SAT JUN 30 SAN
SAT MAR 24 POR	TUE JUL 3 OC
SAT MAR 31 @ STL	SAT JUL 7 @ OKC
WED APR 4 @ KC	SAT JUL 14 SAC
SAT APR 7 RGV	SAT JUL 21 TUL
SAT APR 14 @ RENO	WED JUL 25 @ RGV
WED APR 18 SAC	SAT JUL 28 @ RGV
SAT APR 21 SEA	SAT AUG 4 OKC
SAT APR 28 @ OC	SAT AUG 11 @ TUL
SAT MAY 5 RENO	SAT AUG 25 @ PHX
FRI MAY 11 LV	WED AUG 29 SLC
SAT MAY 19 @ OKC	SAT SEP 1 @ LA
SAT MAY 26 STL	SAT SEP 15 RGV
SAT JUN 2 @ LV	SAT SEP 22 PHX
SAT JUN 9 KC	SAT SEP 29 @ SLC
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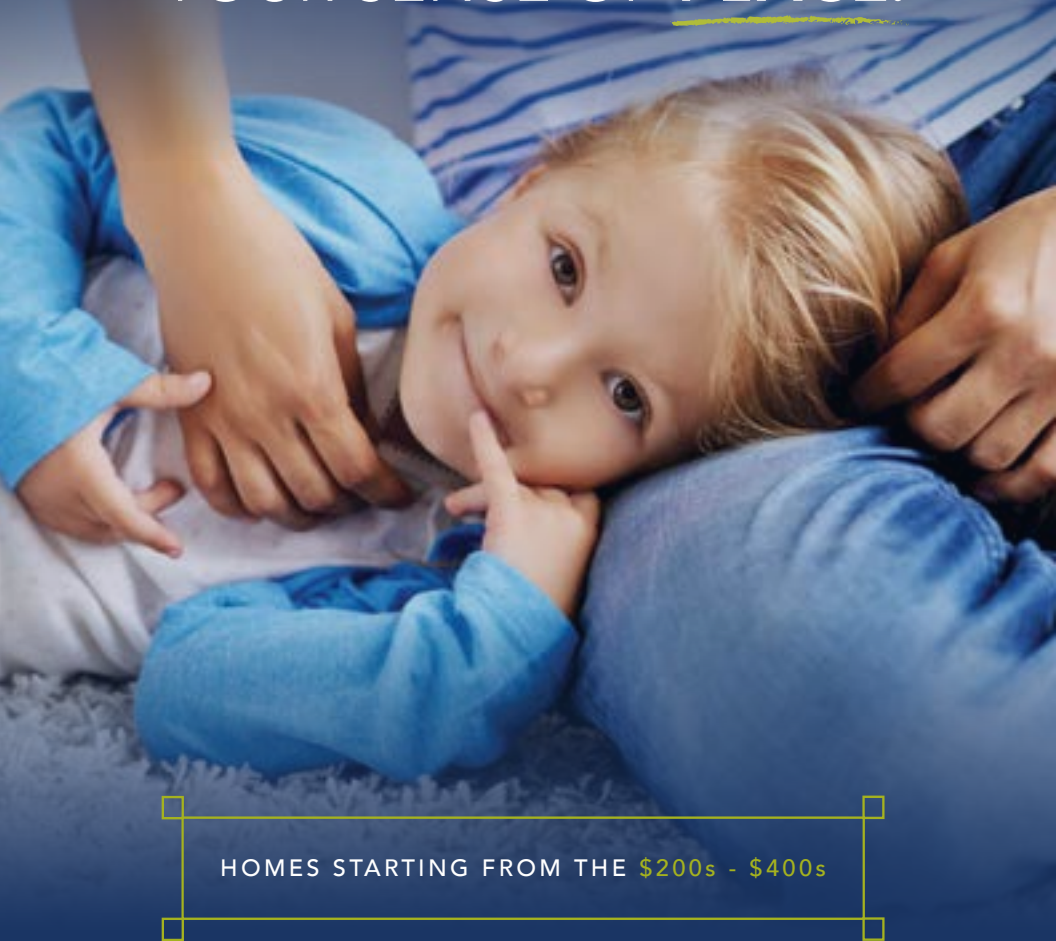
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Match Preview - Roland Vargish



After a masterful 2-0 victory against the Los Angeles Galaxy II to open the 2018 USL regular season, the Colorado Springs Switchbacks FC return to Weidner Field this Saturday as they host the Portland Timbers 2. The first 500 fans in attendance will receive a Switchbacks beanie courtesy of Weidner Apartment Homes. In addition, \$1 beers will be on offer for the first 30 minutes after the Weidner Field gates open at 5pm.

AJ Ajeakwa opened the scoring for the Switchbacks against Los Dos with a stunning strike that has been nominated for the USL's Goal of the Week award. "It felt good to score," said Ajeakwa. "It was more a team goal than individual and I'm glad we got the win. Most definitely the win gives us confidence, in general, going into this weekend. Portland are a good team and a hard-working organization. When I scored, I reached down to my wrist – I've got 'Long Live Ricky' on my wrist and it always gives me strength. He's my friend and he passed away. Today [Tuesday] is his birthday so Happy Birthday to Ricky. This weekend I hope we get the win for our hard work and for him."

All three points against the Galaxy II were sealed with a second-half Jordan Burt penalty kick that sparked ugly scenes during the celebration. Switchbacks winger Saeed Robinson has been suspended by the USL for one match for his part in the post-goal fracas and will miss this Saturday's match against the Timbers 2. Fellow attacker Shane Malcolm will also be missing this weekend, as he will represent the Guam National Team in international friendlies against the San Diego State University Aztecs and Los Angeles Galaxy II on March 23rd and March 27th, respectively.

"We have a small roster so someone has to step up and give us the same effort against Portland that we had in the LA game," said Switchbacks Head Coach Steve Trittschuh. "Portland are athletic and good on the counter-attack. Going into Saturday we're going to try to improve our game and come out and be flying at home. That's how we have to play, especially at home. It's no secret that we'll press teams here and try to win the ball back early like we did against LA. Portland have talented players. [Augustine] Williams up top with [Jeremy] Ebobisse and in the back and [Harold] Hanson – all over the field they've got good talent and we have to be ready."

The Timbers 2 began their season with a 2-1 loss to their Cascadia rivals, the Seattle Sounders FC 2 at Cheney Stadium in Tacoma, Washington last Friday evening. The Timbers 2 took the lead on the half-hour mark through a neat finish from the aforementioned Sierra Leonean striker Augustine Williams. S2 rebounded to score two goals in the final two minutes of the first half, with a penalty kick conversion from Felix Chenkam followed closely by a beautiful strike from Nick Hinds.

Former Switchbacks center back Josh Phillips captained the Timbers 2 against the Sounders FC 2. Phillips made the switch to his native Pacific Northwest this winter after three successful seasons in Colorado Springs. Phillips, who played collegiately at Gonzaga University in Spokane, Washington, partnered Gambian defender Modou Jadama in the heart of the Timbers 2 defense in the loss to S2, with Jimmy Mulligan and Nathan Smith patrolling the flanks.

"Not even worried about it," responded Trittschuh when asked about Phillips' return. "I don't want to talk about guys who aren't here. I want guys who want to be here and want to play for this team."

"When teams come in we expect them to be compact," said Marty Maybin. "We need to remember to be patient in order to open them up and take our chances when they arrive. It'll be good to see Josh. But for 90 minutes we'll be enemies and then we can worry about old times after the game."

Center back Taylor Hunter was named a starter on the USL Team of the Week after a standout performance against the Galaxy II in the heart of the Switchbacks' defense alongside Jamal Jack. Jordan Burt started in center midfield while the right back position was occupied by Switchbacks veteran Luke Vercollone. Switchbacks captain Josh Suggs patrolled his customary left back spot, while Jordan Schweitzer, Ajeakwa, Robinson, and Malcolm all pushed forward and constantly harassed the back line of the Galaxy II.

"I always expect a good game against Portland," said Jordan Schweitzer. "We never know who they'll bring to play against us because they are an MLS 2 team so we have to focus on what we can do and bring it on Saturday. I think there are lots of positives from the game against LA. It's great to start off with three points and we're going to work hard to take that forward."

Major League Soccer's Timbers will also play on Saturday evening as they travel to Toyota Stadium in Frisco, Texas to face FC Dallas. The Timbers will be desperate to get a win after starting their 2018 MLS campaign with back-to-back losses. The Timbers won't play at Providence Park in the Rose City until an April 14th match against Minnesota United FC.

The Switchbacks will travel to Merlo Field on the campus of the University of Portland when they visit the Timbers 2 on Sunday, June 17th.

After Saturday's match, the Switchbacks will begin their 2018 away campaign with a trip to Toyota Stadium to face Saint Louis FC on March 31st. Just four days later the Switchbacks have their first midweek match of 2018 as they face off against the Swope Park Rangers at Children's Mercy Park in Kansas City, Kansas. The Switchbacks will return to Weidner Field on April 7th for a clash against Rio Grande Valley FC with Kneaders Bakery & Café sponsoring the first part of the 2018 Poster Giveaway series.

WESTERN CONFERENCE STANDINGS

Place	Team	GP	W	L	D	GD	Pts
1	Colorado Springs	1	1	0	0	2	3
2	Swope Park	1	1	0	0	1	3
3	Las Vegas	1	1	0	0	1	3
4	Sacramento	1	1	0	0	1	3
5	Seattle	1	1	0	0	1	3
6	Oklahoma City	1	1	0	0	1	3
7	Rio Grande Valley	1	0	0	1	0	1
8	Saint Louis	1	0	0	1	0	1
9	Orange County	1	0	0	1	0	1
10	Pheonix	1	0	0	1	0	1
11	Real Monarchs	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	Reno	1	0	1	0	-1	0
13	Fresno	1	0	1	0	-1	0
14	Portland	1	0	1	0	-1	0
15	San Antonio	1	0	1	0	-1	0
16	Tulsa	1	0	1	0	-1	0
17	Los Angeles	1	0	1	0	-2	0

EASTERN CONFERENCE STANDINGS

Place	Team	GP	W	L	D	GD	Pts
1	Bethlehem	1	1	0	0	3	3
2	Charlotte	1	1	0	0	3	3
3	Tampa Bay	1	1	0	0	2	3
4	Louisville City FC	1	1	0	0	2	3
5	New York	1	1	0	0	1	3
6	Cincinnati	1	1	0	0	1	3
7	Atlanta	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	Indy	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	Penn	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Pittsburgh	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	Toronto	1	0	1	0	-1	0
12	Charleston	1	0	1	0	-1	0
13	North Carolina	1	0	1	0	-2	0
14	Nashville	1	0	1	0	-2	0
15	Richmond	1	0	1	0	-3	0
16	Ottawa	1	0	1	0	-3	0





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Switchbacks FC Roster



Portland Timbers 2 Roster

#	Player	MIN	G	A	FC	YC	RC
3	Pascal Eboussi	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Luke Vercollone	90	0	0	1	0	0
5	Josh Suggs	90	0	0	0	0	0
6	Taylor Hunter	90	0	0	0	0	0
7	Veneri Valimaa	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	Jamal Jack	90	0	0	0	0	0
9	Martin Maybin	1	0	0	1	0	0
11	Saeed Robinson	89	0	0	1	0	0
14	Aj Ajeakwa	72	1	0	1	0	0
15	Ayukokata Tambe	6	0	0	1	0	0
19	Uriel Macias	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	Jordan Schweitzer	84	0	0	1	1	0
23	Shane Malcolm	90	0	1	2	0	0
24	Tobenna Uzo	18	0	0	1	0	0
35	Taeseong Kim	90	0	0	3	1	0
44	Jordan Burt	90	1	0	0	0	0

#	Player	MIN	Saves	GA	FC	YC	RC
1	Moise Pouaty	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	Steward Ceus	90	1	0	0	0	0

#	Player	MIN	G	A	FC	YC	RC
17	Jeremy Ebobisse	90	0	0	0	0	0
19	Victor Arboleda	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	Jack Barnaby	0	0	0	0	0	0
26	Modou Jadama	90	0	0	1	0	0
30	Eryk Williamson	0	0	0	0	0	0
40	Renzo Zambrano	0	0	0	0	0	0
42	Nathan Smith	90	0	0	1	0	0
44	Marvin Loria	0	0	0	0	0	0
45	Harold Hanson	90	0	0	1	0	0
47	Darixon Vuelto	0	0	0	0	0	0
48	Max Ornstil	0	0	0	0	0	0
49	Josh Phillips	90	0	0	1	0	0
50	Lucas Cini	8	0	0	0	0	0
52	Owen Guske	0	0	0	0	0	0
53	Devyn Jambga	90	0	0	1	0	0
71	John Klein	0	0	0	0	0	0
73	Vitalis Takawira	0	0	0	0	0	0
76	Kyle Gruno	0	0	0	0	0	0
77	Andre Lewis	90	0	0	2	0	0
80	Augustine Williams	90	1	0	2	0	0
83	Maxwell Elliott	0	0	0	0	0	0
84	James Mulligan	82	0	1	3	0	0
89	Terrell Lowe	27	0	0	2	0	0
91	Giovanni Calixtro	0	0	0	0	0	0
92	Wilterynd Inalien	0	0	0	0	0	0
94	Carlos Anguiano	63	0	0	1	0	0
96	Christian Enriquez	0	0	0	0	0	0
98	Lamar Batista	0	0	0	0	0	0

#	Player	MIN	Saves	GA	FC	YC	RC
41	Alex Mangels	90	4	2	0	0	0
43	Kendall McIntosh	0	0	0	0	0	0
61	Austin Pack	0	0	0	0	0	0
81	Eric Cotton	0	0	0	0	0	0
93	Kashope Oladapo	0	0	0	0	0	0



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