

LA GALAXY



Presented by 

GAMEDAY PROGRAM

VS. PORTLAND TIMBERS

Sunday, June 17, 2012



Presented by  HERBALIFE.

THE TEAMS



Presented by HERBALIFE.

MATCH STATS - GALAXY

	ON	OFF
SUB 1:		
SUB 2:		
SUB 3:		

YELLOW:

RED:

GOALSCORERS:

MATCH STATS - TIMBERS

	ON	OFF
SUB 1:		
SUB 2:		
SUB 3:		

YELLOW:

RED:

GOALSCORERS:

MATCH RESULT

HT SCORE:

FT SCORE:

NOTES:



Presented by HERBALIFE.

LA GALAXY

Head Coach: Bruce Arena

#	Player	Pos.
1	Bill Gaudette	GK
2	Todd Dunivant	D
3	David Junior Lopes	D
4	Omar González	D
5	Sean Franklin	D
6	Bryan Jordan	D
7	Robbie Keane	F
8	Marcelo Sarvas	M
9	Chad Barrett	F
10	Landon Donovan	M
11	Pat Noonan	F
12	Josh Saunders	GK
14	Edson Buddle	F
15	Dan Keat	M
16	Hector Jimenez	M
17	Adam Cristman	F
18	Mike Magee	M
19	Juninho	M
20	A.J. DeLaGarza	D
21	Tommy Meyer	D
22	Leonardo	D
23	David Beckham	M
24	Brian Perk	GK
25	Rafael Garcia	M
26	Michael Stephens	M
28	Kyle Nakazawa	M
29	Andrew Boyens	D
32	Jack McBean	F
33	Jose Villarreal	M
34	Kenney Walker	M
35	Bryan Gaul	D

PORTLAND TIMBERS

Head Coach: John Spencer

#	Player	Pos.
1	Troy Perkins	GK
2	Mike Fucito	F
4	Mike Chabala	D
5	Eric Brunner	D
6	Darlington Nagbe	M
7	Sal Zizzo	M
8	Franck Songo'o	M
9	Kris Boyd	F
10	Danny Mwanga	F
11	Kalif Alhassan	M
12	David Horst	D
13	Jack Jewsbury	M
14	Steven Smith	D
16	Brent Richards	F
17	Eric Alexander	M
18	Ryan Kawulok	D
19	Bright Dike	F
20	Jose Adolfo Valencia	F
21	Diego Chara	M
22	Rodney Wallace	D
23	Joseph Bendik	GK
24	Sebastian Rincon	F
25	Steve Purdy	D
26	Charles Renken	M
27	Chris Taylor	D
28	Freddie Braun	M
30	Lovel Palmer	D
33	Hanyer Mosquera	D
35	Andrew Jean-Baptiste	D
90	Jake Gleeson	GK
98	Mamadou Danso	D



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Today's game is a match-up between two clubs who are badly in need of three points. For the Galaxy, I describe today's game as a "must" win.

As we all know, the results to date have been disappointing. I can offer a number of excuses, but I won't. Regardless of some of our obstacles in the first half of the season, we should have had better results and ultimately more points to date.

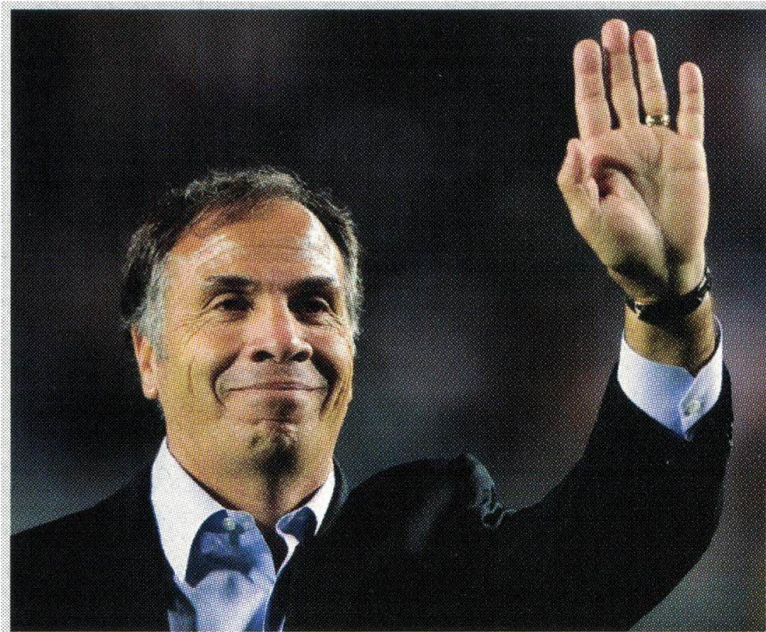
Portland brings a very balanced team to The Home Depot Center. Coach John Spencer's team is dangerous in the attack with Kris Boyd, Danny Mwanga and Darlington Nagbe. At the defensive end they have experience in the goal with Troy Perkins, and a talented center back in Hanyer Mosquera.

Today, I'm hopeful we will see the return of Landon Donovan and Josh Saunders. Both of these players can have a huge impact on our team. To date, we have not been dangerous enough in the attack, and Landon's return should give us more options going forward. In the goal, we have not had the consistency we need to be successful. In Josh's last two starts, we registered six points, and we are hopeful he can help solidify our team in the defensive end of the field. David Beckham has played very well over the past month, and we look for his partnership with Juninho to be a boost for our team as well.

Lastly, let me again thank our fans for their continued support. You have always been there for our team and I know you can make a difference in today's game. We will look forward to your support and picking up three crucial points.

Thank you.

Bruce Arena



SUPPORTERS' SHIELD

1998, 2002, 2010, 2011

MLS CUP CHAMPIONS

2002, 2005, 2011

U.S. OPEN CUP CHAMPIONS

2001, 2005

CONCACAF CHAMPIONS CUP CHAMPIONSHIPS

2000

CONTACT

LA Galaxy
18400 Avalon Blvd., Suite 200
Carson, CA 90746

www.lagalaxy.com
310.630.2200



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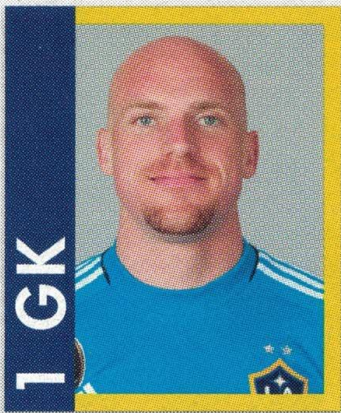
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LA GALAXY 2012 SCHEDULE

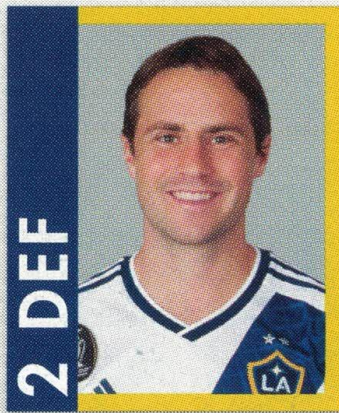
DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	TIME/RESULT	TV/GOALSCORERS
WED	MARCH 7	AT TORONTO FC	2-2 T	MAGEE, DONOVAN
CONCACAF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE - QUARTERFINAL - 1ST LEG				
SAT	MARCH 10	VS. REAL SALT LAKE	1-3 L	BUDDLE
WED	MARCH 14	VS. TORONTO FC	1-2 L	OWN GOAL
CONCACAF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE - QUARTERFINAL - 2ND LEG (GALAXY LOSE 4-3 ON AGG.)				
SUN	MARCH 18	VS. D.C. UNITED	3-1 W	KEANE (2), SARVAS
SAT	MARCH 31	VS. NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTION	1-3 L	KEANE
SAT	APRIL 7	AT SPORTING KANSAS CITY	0-1 L	-
SAT	APRIL 14	VS. PORTLAND TIMBERS	3-1 W	DONOVAN, JUNINHO, BECKHAM
SAT	APRIL 21	AT COLORADO RAPIDS	2-1 W	OWN GOAL, DONOVAN
SAT	APRIL 28	VS. FC DALLAS	1-1 T	NOONAN
WED	MAY 2	AT SEATTLE SOUNDERS FC	0-2 L	-
SAT	MAY 5	VS. NEW YORK RED BULLS	0-1 L	-
SAT	MAY 12	AT MONTREAL IMPACT	1-1 T	BECKHAM
SAT	MAY 19	AT CHIVAS USA	0-1 L	-
WED	MAY 23	VS. SAN JOSE EARTHQUAKES	2-3 L	JIMENEZ, MAGEE
SAT	MAY 26	AT HOUSTON DYNAMO	1-2 L	BUDDLE
TUE	MAY 29	AT CAROLINA RAILHAWKS	1-2 L	NOONAN
LAMAR HUNT U.S. OPEN CUP THIRD ROUND AT WAKEMED SOCCER PARK				
SUN	JUNE 17	VS. PORTLAND TIMBERS	4:00 P.M.	KDOC/KWHY
WED	JUNE 20	AT REAL SALT LAKE	6:00 P.M.	KDOC/KWHY
SAT	JUNE 23	VS. VANCOUVER WHITECAPS FC	7:30 P.M.	KDOC/KWHY
SAT	JUNE 30	AT SAN JOSE EARTHQUAKES	7:00 P.M.	ESPN2/ESPN DEPORTES
WED	JULY 4	VS. PHILADELPHIA UNION	7:30 P.M.	KDOC/KWHY
SUN	JULY 8	AT CHICAGO FIRE	12:00 P.M.	ESPN/ESPN DEPORTES
SAT	JULY 14	AT PORTLAND TIMBERS	8:00 P.M.	NBC SPORTS NETWORK
WED	JULY 18	AT VANCOUVER WHITECAPS FC	7:00 P.M.	KDOC/KWHY
SAT	JULY 21	VS. CHIVAS USA	7:00 P.M.	KDOC/TELEFUTURA
TUE	JULY 24	VS. TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	7:30 P.M.	TBD
INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY AT THE HOME DEPOT CENTER				
SAT	JULY 28	AT FC DALLAS	5:00 P.M.	NBC SPORTS NETWORK
THUR	AUGUST 2	VS. REAL MADRID	7:30 P.M.	TBD
INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY AT THE HOME DEPOT CENTER				
SUN	AUGUST 5	AT SEATTLE SOUNDERS FC	6:00 P.M.	ESPN2/ESPN DEPORTES
SUN	AUGUST 12	AT CHIVAS USA	8:00 P.M.	ESPN2/ESPN DEPORTES
WED	AUGUST 15	AT COLUMBUS CREW	5:00 P.M.	NBC SPORTS NETWORK
SUN	AUGUST 26	VS. FC DALLAS	4:00 P.M.	NBC SPORTS NETWORK
SAT	SEPT. 1	VS. VANCOUVER WHITECAPS FC	7:00 P.M.	KDOC/KWHY
SUN	SEPT. 16	VS. COLORADO RAPIDS	4:00 P.M.	KDOC/GALAVISION
SAT	SEPT. 22	VS. TORONTO FC	7:30 P.M.	KDOC/KWHY
SUN	SEPT. 30	AT COLORADO RAPIDS	4:00 P.M.	KDOC/GALAVISION
SAT	OCT. 6	VS. REAL SALT LAKE	6:00 P.M.	NBC SPORTS NETWORK
SUN	OCT. 21	AT SAN JOSE EARTHQUAKES	4:00 P.M.	TIME WARNER CABLE/ GALAVISION
SUN	OCT. 28	VS. SEATTLE SOUNDERS FC	6:00 P.M.	ESPN/ESPN DEPORTES



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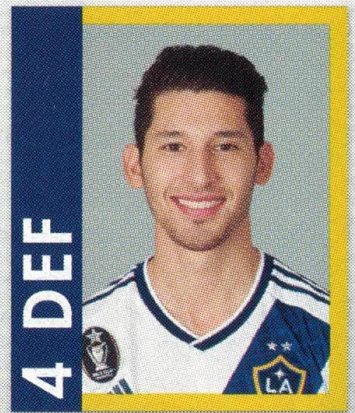
Bill **GAUDETTE**



Todd **DUNIVANT**



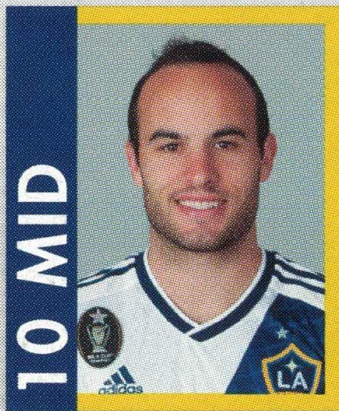
David Junior **LOPES**



Omar **GONZALEZ**



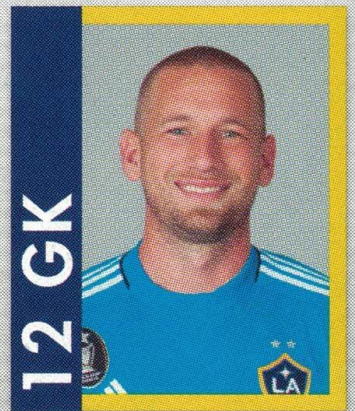
Chad **BARRETT**



Landon **DONOVAN**



Pat **Noonan**



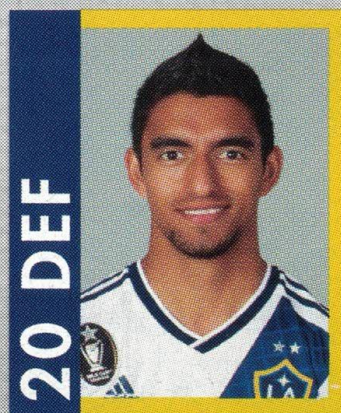
Josh **SAUNDERS**



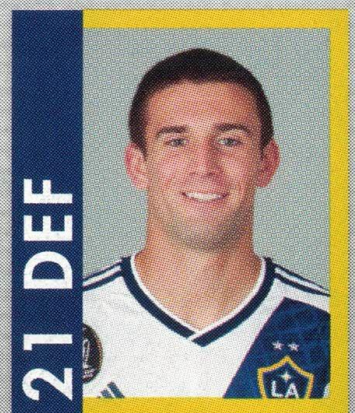
Mike **MAGEE**



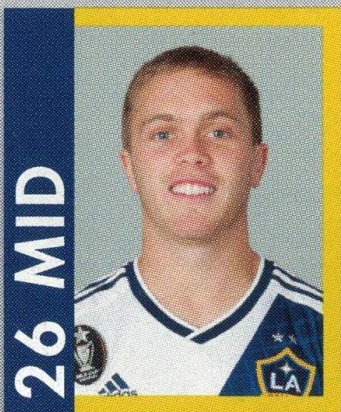
JUNINHO



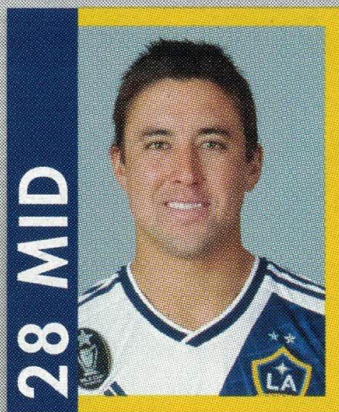
A.J. **DELAGARZA**



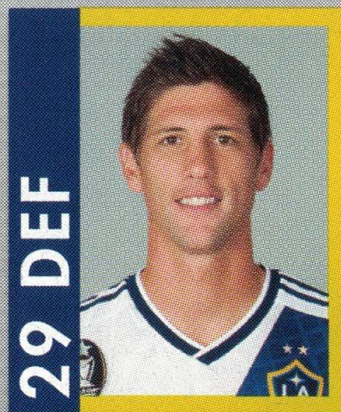
Tommy **MEYER**



Michael **STEPHENS**



Kyle **NAKAZAWA**

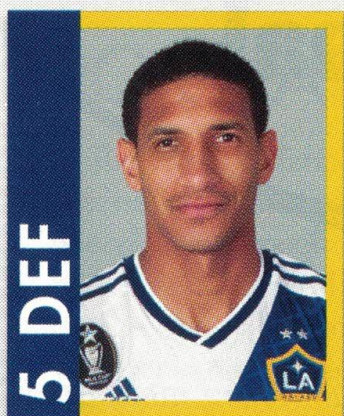


Andrew **BOYENS**

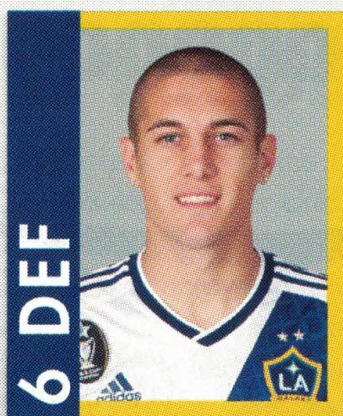


Jack **MCBEAN**

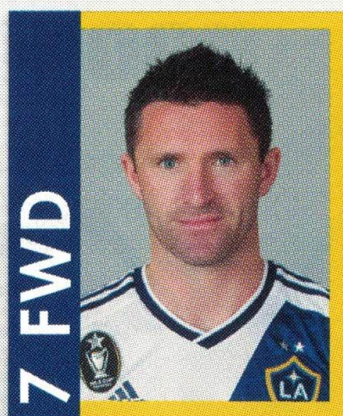
2012 LA GALAXY ROSTER



Sean **FRANKLIN**



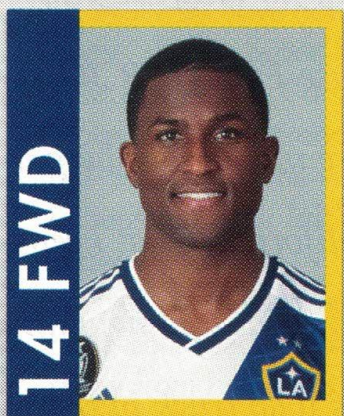
Bryan **Jordan**



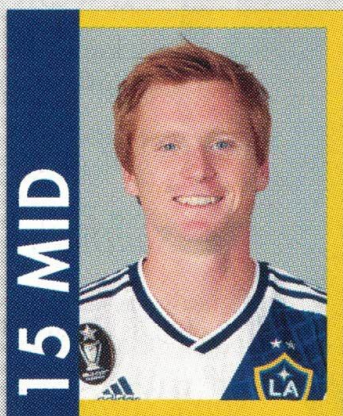
Robbie **Keane**



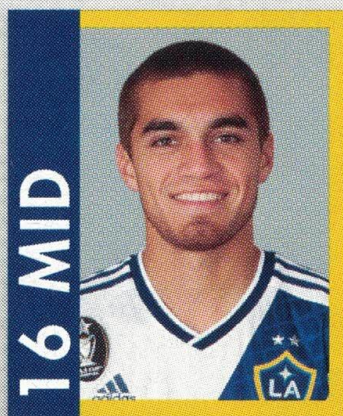
Marcelo **Sarvas**



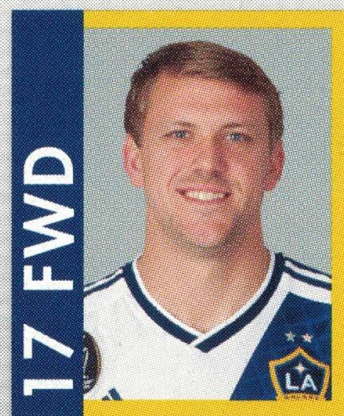
Edson **BUDDLE**



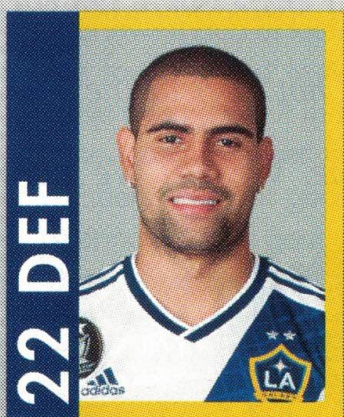
Dan **KEAT**



Hector **JIMENEZ**



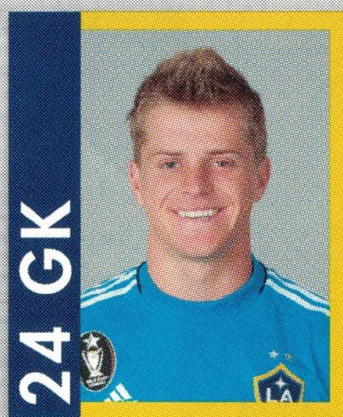
Adam **Cristman**



LEONARDO



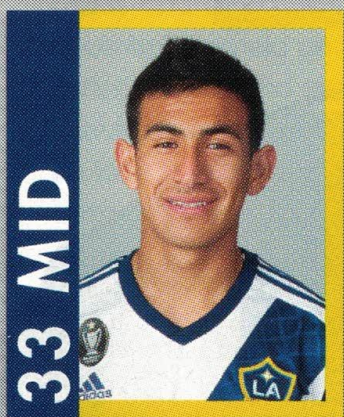
David **BECKHAM**



Brian **PERK**



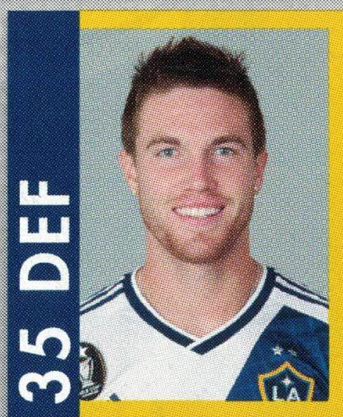
Rafael **GARCIA**



Jose **VILLARREAL**



Kenney **WALKER**



Bryan **GAUL**



VS



TONIGHT'S OPPONENT

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PORTLAND TIMBERS

The Portland Timbers last trip to The Home Depot Center was not a pleasant one for the second-year club. After going ahead early through Kris Boyd, who then had a goal called back for offside, the Timbers slowly unraveled, giving up three unanswered goals: an equalizer just before halftime, a game-winner minutes before the final whistle and another in stoppage time for good measure. The 3-1 loss sent Portland to the bottom of the Western Conference standings.

While LA have not won at home since that day, things have gotten slightly better for the Timbers in the two months since their last visit to Carson. The Timbers now reside in seventh place in the conference, two points ahead of the Galaxy, with a 3-5-4 record. The visitors enter on an impressive run of form, unbeaten in their last four MLS matches with a win and three draws.

Even as Portland have improved, their struggles on the road have continued. Head Coach John Spencer's team is 0-3-2 away from home this season, making them one of only three teams in the league without a road victory.

Offensive firepower has been an issue for the Pacific Northwest club of late. The Timbers have scored only 12 goals, the fourth fewest in MLS this season, in their 12 games and have been shutout in three of their last five. Kris Boyd, the all-time leading scorer in the Scottish Premier League, leads the Timbers with four goals thus far in his debut MLS season. After scoring his third goal of the season against the Galaxy in April, Boyd went cold, not tallying his fourth until a May 26 draw with Vancouver. The only other player with multiple goals for Portland this season is young midfielder Darlington Nagbe with three, already eclipsing his 2011 season total.

Midfielder Eric Alexander leads the Timbers with three assists and club captain Jack Jewsbury has two while playing in central midfield and at right back. Veteran goalkeeper Troy Perkins has started every match for Portland, playing all but 23 minutes thus far in 2012. He has helped the Timbers keep three shutouts this season as well as posting a 1.11 goals against average despite playing behind an ever-changing back line.

PORTLAND TIMBERS EXPECTED LINEUP (4-4-2):

Troy Perkins; Jack Jewsbury, Hayner Mosquera, David Horst, Stephen Smith; Darlington Nagbe, Diego Chara, Eric Alexander, Kalif Alhassan; Danny Mwanga, Kris Boyd.



KEY MAN: DANNY MWANGA

If a change of scenery was what Danny Mwanga needed after a goalless start to the 2012 season, he could not have been traded to a better place than Portland. On June 6, the Timbers acquired Mwanga from Philadelphia in exchange for forward Jorge Perla. The 20-year-old Congolese forward was a high school standout at nearby Jefferson High School before starring for two years at Oregon State University, collecting the Pac-10 Rookie of the Year and Player of the Year awards.

In 2010, the Union took Mwanga with the No.1 overall pick in the expansion club's first ever SuperDraft. The striker burst onto the scene, scoring seven goals and registering four assists in his rookie season. His numbers fell off only slightly in 2011 when he scored five and assisted on four more. The 2012 season, however, has not begun well for Mwanga who has not scored and struggled to find regular playing time under Peter Nowak, who stepped down as Philadelphia's manager on Wednesday. Mwanga is at his best when paired with another forward as opposed to being used as a lone striker as he was often this season. He is expected to line up alongside Kris Boyd at the top of the Timbers' formation.



RESERVES STAY FRESH DURING LAYOFF

Presented by  HERBALIFE.



When the LA Galaxy opened the 2011 MLS season in Seattle, there was no way of knowing the level of success that the club would go on to have. A 1-0 win that night, with Josh Saunders starting in goal and Leonardo getting the start in central defense in front of more than 36,000 fans, paved the way for a second straight Supporters' Shield and an eventual MLS Cup title.

Nearly 15 months later, Saunders and Leonardo were back in the starting lineup, though the stakes were decidedly less. The location was Portland rather than Seattle and the game was a Reserve League match as opposed to the start of a new season. But for those two and the rest of the players wearing a Galaxy jersey that day, there was no more important game.

Such is life in the Reserve League where injured

players are able to get important minutes ahead of their return to the first team while young players are able to showcase their skills and make a case to see increased minutes in regular season play.

"I think these matches are very important," said midfielder Kenney Walker, who is one of two players to start in all five of the club's Reserve League games this season. "They give the guys minutes and they keep them fresh and prepared for opportunities that are coming up. It's just fun to get out there and actually play a game, not having to worry about playing against your own players or injuring your own players in practice. You're out there competing for points instead of competing against each other.

"It's also kind of refreshing to go out there and play against somebody wearing a different-color jersey."

That final thought has been even more meaningful



RESERVES STAY FRESH DURING LAYOFF

Presented by  HERBALIFE.

at the start of June. While the first team has not played a game in the league since May 26, a stretch of more than three weeks, the Reserves have earned a pair of hard fought road wins, beating both Portland and Vancouver.

Saunders, who has not played for the first team since April 21 with the club going 0-5-2 in his absence, played the full 90 minutes in each of those games to get some needed game experience ahead of his return to the team today. Saunders was not the only player that could be on the field this afternoon that played in those matches with Chad Barrett, who scored the winner against Portland on June 2, David Junior Lopes and Marcelo Sarvas all seeing time in the 2-1 win over the Timbers, while players like Bryan Jordan, Kyle Nakazawa and Walker, who made his first team debut against Houston on May 26, started each of the games and could be called upon again today.

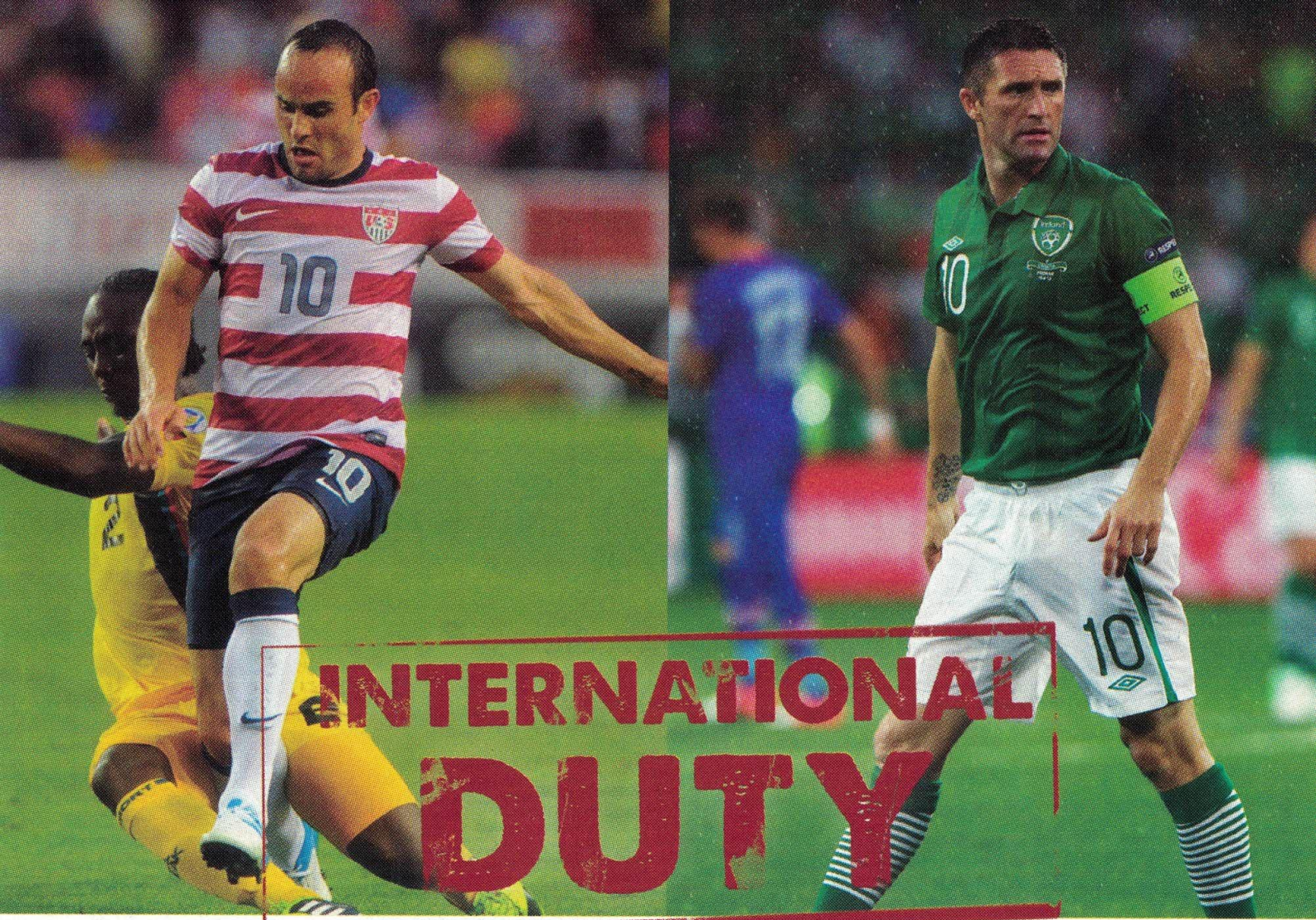
Those players have been joined by Homegrown players Jack McBean and Jose Villarreal, who combined to score all three of LA's goals in the 3-1 win over Vancouver on Tuesday, and a number of the club's top Academy players such as Mario Rodriguez and Sebastian Velasquez, who saw time in each game, and Oscar Sorto, who played the full 90 minutes against the Whitecaps.

In addition to getting necessary reps in game situations, the players are also able to gain experience in specific game situations that they are sure to face again. According to Reserve Team head coach Curt Onalfo, that experience proves invaluable and is central to what these games are meant to accomplish.

"Anytime you're going through a difficult stretch, winning games is important," Onalfo said. "The fact we were up 2-0 (in Portland) and we were able to hold on to a lead, we've had cases this year where we've been up in first team games and have given up leads, I think it gives us confidence."

Confidence, like winning, is contagious and the hope is now that both of those will carry over from the reserves to the first team.





The Galaxy will welcome Landon Donovan back into the lineup this afternoon as the club hosts the Portland Timbers. The club captain missed the losses to San Jose and Houston, as well as the Open Cup defeat to Carolina, while with the U.S. National Team for their recent friendlies and the start of World Cup Qualifying.

Already the leading scorer in U.S. history, Donovan returned to the U.S. squad with a bang in a friendly against Scotland in Jacksonville, Fla. Playing in his first game for his country since September 2011, Donovan scored three times as the U.S. won 5-1. He moved to the brink of becoming the first player to score 50 goals for the nation, tallying goals 47, 48 and 49 against the Scots.


Donovan went on to start further friendlies against Brazil, a 4-1 loss in Washington D.C., and Canada, a 0-0 draw in Toronto, ahead of the start of World Cup Qualifying.

Needing a top two finish from a group that features Antigua & Barbuda, Guatemala and Jamaica in order to advance to the final round of qualification, the U.S. opened their campaign with a 3-1 win at home over Antigua, with Donovan playing a central role in each of his team's first two goals. He was back on the field four nights later in Guatemala City, earning his 143rd cap, as the U.S. played to a 1-1 draw, moving to the top of Group 1 with four points,

before returning home on Wednesday and getting back onto the training field with the Galaxy for the first time on Thursday.

A bit farther from here, Robbie Keane has been busy with the Republic of Ireland, captaining the team at the European Championships in Poland. Keane has played four times for the Irish since joining up with the squad late last month, giving him 118 caps in his international career. Ireland's captain and all-time leading scorer, Keane was on the field for friendlies against Bosnia & Herzegovina and Hungary ahead of the start of the Euros. Playing in his first major tournament since the 2002 World Cup, Keane led his team out against both Croatia and Spain, only to see Ireland drop each of those games and become the first team to be eliminated from the tournament. Keane, who turns 32 early next month, has one more game in Poland, against Italy tomorrow afternoon, before rejoining the Galaxy for the second half of the MLS season.

While Donovan and Keane had the eyes of the world on them in their recent games, goalkeeper Bill Gaudette saw his recent international debut slide slightly under the radar. Gaudette made his first-ever appearances for Puerto Rico in a pair of home friendlies against Nicaragua on June 1 and June 3, going 1-0-1. Gaudette played the full 90 minutes in each, helping his team claim their first win of 2012 in the first game.



CHAD BARRETT LEADS THE LINE

Coming into the 2012 season, nobody could have envisioned the Galaxy struggling to score goals. With a wealth of attacking talent throughout the squad, goals seemed to be the one certainty. However, that has not been the case. Through the first 13 games of the season, no Galaxy player has more than three goals and the quest for goals will be that much more difficult today with Edson Buddle injured, Robbie Keane at the Euros and Mike Magee suspended. But despite those challenges, Chad Barrett, who is expected to get the start up front on Sunday, is confident that the team can overcome the obstacles and get three points from the Timbers. Here is what he had to say ahead of the game...

HOW MUCH ARE YOU LOOKING FORWARD TO SUNDAY'S GAME?

"I'm really looking forward to it, not because it's my hometown team or whatever, we've played them a bunch of times now so that feeling has pretty much passed. But I think the team is just excited to get back out there and kind of restart and really get our season going in terms of how we'd like to play soccer and how we want to play soccer. I think it's important that we had our break, but now it's time to get back to winning."

WITH PLAYERS LIKE EDSON, ROBBIE AND ADAM UNAVAILABLE, MORE PRESSURE FALLS ON YOU TO LEAD THE LINE. IS THAT SOMETHING THAT YOU'RE EXCITED ABOUT?

"We've been unfortunate keeping forwards healthy or keeping them here. When we were all here we weren't doing much; when we're not here I think the fear is that it's going to be even more so. But I want to make sure that doesn't happen. I want to make sure we keep the attack going, we get tons of chances and I'll work my tail off on both sides of the ball and do whatever I can to help influence the other players to play to the best of their abilities."

(Continued on page 21)



HOW GOOD WAS IT TO HAVE A FEW WEEKS WITHOUT A GAME?

"It was good to re-center, but at the same time there were two reserve games and we won those games. You know, as little as those might seem, when you're down in the dumps you look for anything. I feel that getting those wins and getting that mentality back is an important first step. Obviously we have to come out and show it on the big stage in front of the fans in games that matter. That's what we're going to have to do come Sunday."

SPEAKING OF THE RECENT RESERVE LEAGUE GAMES, YOU PLAYED IN THE ONE UP IN PORTLAND AND SCORED THE WINNER. HOW IMPORTANT WAS THAT GOAL FOR YOU, CONFIDENCE-WISE?

"Whether you're scoring in practice or you're scoring in games, it all helps your confidence. When you score goals with the reserves that helps you get goals with the first team. Hitting the back of the net after a long spell of not hitting it felt good. One thing I'm trying to do personally is trying to keep getting my assists and goals, get one a game, either-or. But the main focus is getting a win for the team."

YOU'VE SET UP A GOAL IN EACH OF THE LAST TWO GAMES, IS THAT A PART OF YOUR GAME THAT YOU FEEL GETS OVERLOOKED SOMETIMES?

"Everybody's idea of a forward is a guy who just scores goals, but I've always been a forward that if there's a better pass, a better opportunity than the one I have I'm never going

to be slow to get it off and pass it up. But when it comes down to it, in a do-or-die situation I do want the ball at my feet, I do want the shot on goal. So if I get those chances and there's no better option, I'm going to take the shot every time. I do need to get more greedy in front of goal and hopefully these next couple games I'll get the chances to show it."

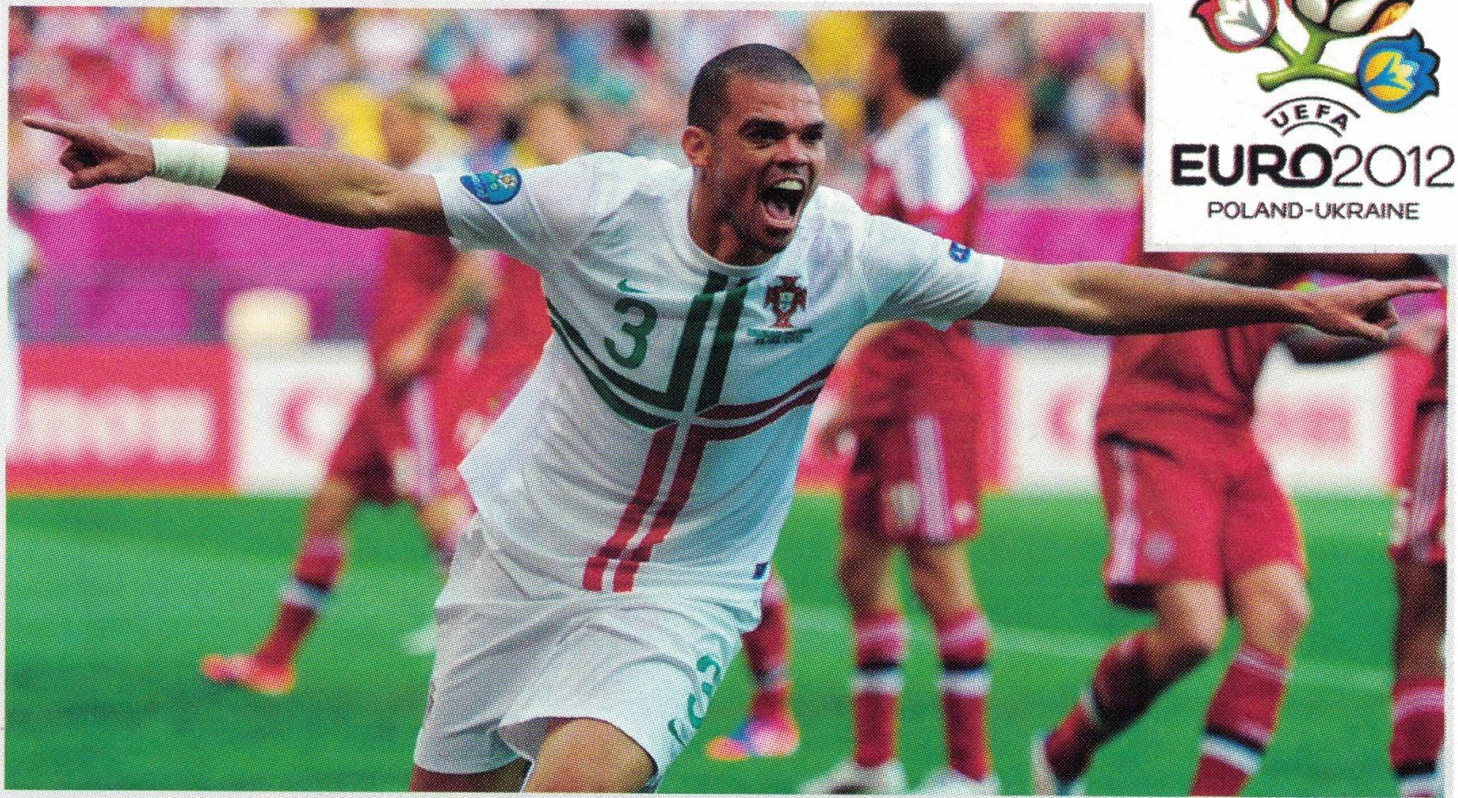
SUNDAY'S GAME IN A LOT OF WAYS IS THE KICK OFF TO THE SECOND HALF OF THE SEASON. HOW MUCH CONFIDENCE DO YOU HAVE AND HOW MUCH CONFIDENCE DOES THE TEAM HAVE IN BEING ABLE TO TURN THINGS AROUND?

"There's no doubt in my mind that it is in us. I don't know where it is, I don't know where it went, I don't know why it left us, but for some reason or another, collectively as a group we haven't been able to sort things out as a unit. You can't play soccer that way. We've been doing too much individually and that's just something we can't do. Last year we were a solid unit from front to back, from 1-28, that's something we have to find. Maybe that's a lack of leading on the players like me, the older players, Mike (Magee) Landon (Donovan), maybe we haven't shown these guys that we need to do this, we need to step up. It always just fall on the big guys like Landon and Todd (Dunivant), it's got to come from the rest of us as well. We lost a lot of senior players last year. So I think we have to take it upon ourselves in the second half of the season and try a new approach and see if it works." ■



INTERNATIONAL ACTION

Presented by  HERBALIFE.



The friendlies against Tottenham Hotspur and Real Madrid are still more than a month away, but Galaxy fans have had the opportunity to scout the opposition during the ongoing European Championships in Poland and Ukraine. A total of 15 players from the two clubs, all of who are expected to be at The Home Depot Center next month, are currently representing their countries at the Euros, with four Tottenham players and 11 Madrid players participating in the tournament. Of those 15, 14 have seen significant action as the Group Stage draws to a close.

Defending champion Spain have been one of the most impressive teams at the Euros, coming from behind to draw Italy 1-1 and smashing Robbie Keane's Ireland by the score of 4-0. The core of the Spanish defense, goalkeeper Iker Casillas, who captains his country, center back Sergio Ramos, right back Alvaro Arbeloa and central midfielder Xabi Alonso all play for Madrid and have been central to Spain's recent success. Those four have started each of Spain's first two games (Madrid teammate Raul Albiol is yet to play in the tournament) and are expected to be back on the field on Monday against Croatia, who continue to impress thanks to the play of Tottenham midfielder Luka Modric, as they aim to claim the top spot in Group C and advance to the quarterfinals.

With Portuguese manager Jose Mourinho in

charge of Real Madrid, it is no surprise that three of Portugal's most important players call the club home. Pepe became the first Madrid player to score in the tournament, glancing a header past Denmark goalkeeper Stephan Andersen in the first half of Portugal's 3-2 win in Group B. He was joined in defense by Madrid teammate Fabio Coentrao while Cristiano Ronaldo, Madrid's top goal scorer this season and the third leading scorer in Portuguese history, had a number of chances to score against the Danes, only to be stymied time and time again.

All four teams in Group B went into the final set of games, which were played earlier today, with hopes of advancing. Madrid's Mesut Ozil and Sami Khedira leading the way for Germany while Tottenham star Rafael Van der Vaart has come off the bench for Holland in their first two games, each of which have ended in defeat.

Finally, in Group D, France and England are each looking to advance to the quarterfinals after playing to a 1-1 draw in Donetsk, Ukraine to open the tournament. Real Madrid forward Karim Benzema got the start up front for Les Bleus while Tottenham midfielder Scott Parker started for England in central midfield. They were joined by Jermain Defoe, Tottenham's second leading scorer last season, midway through the second half when he replaced Alex Oxlade-Chamberlin for the final 13 minutes.



SEVEN QUESTIONS WITH JOSH SAUNDERS

Presented by  HERBALIFE.

In the seven regular season games that the Josh Saunders missed while completing the league's Substance Abuse and Behavioral Health program, the Galaxy were 0-5-2 and conceded 11 goals. In the two games prior to his departure, the Galaxy were 2-0-0 and allowed just two goals. It goes without saying that the team is glad to have him back.

After playing the full 90 minutes in a pair of recent Reserve League games, Saunders is prepared to make his first team return this afternoon against the Timbers, a club that he represented from 2003 until 2006. Saunders chatted recently with Portland's radio voice John Strong about getting back on the field with the first team and had this to say...

HOW GOOD DID IT FEEL FOR YOU TO GET THOSE TWO RESERVE LEAGUE GAMES UNDER YOUR BELT?

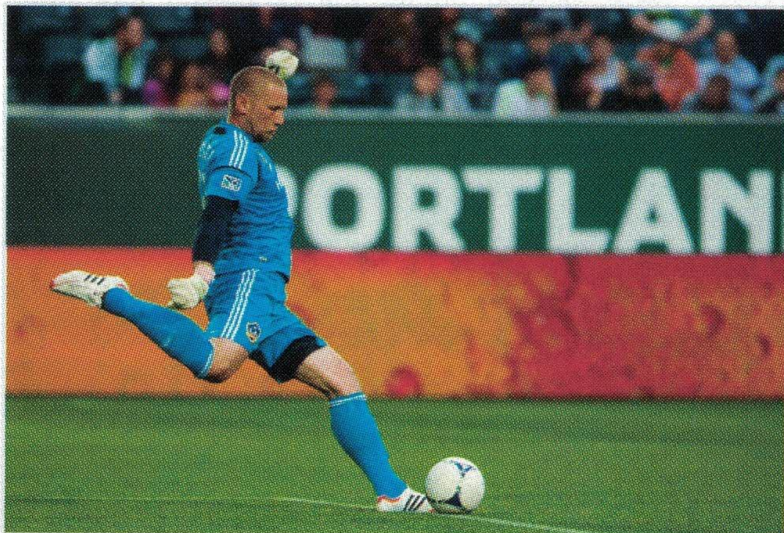
JS: Since I've been back I treat everything as a privilege to be on the field. Even the reserve games, it's a privilege to be out there playing soccer as your job. You have so many people that stand behind you through it, it's just a privilege and it feels great to be back out there. To be able to get these [reserve] games before a first team game is huge.

WHAT DID IT MEAN TO YOU TO BE ABLE TO PLAY YOUR FIRST GAME BACK IN PORTLAND WHERE YOU MADE YOUR BREAKTHROUGH AS A PRO?

JS: Obviously for me stepping on the field that day was very emotional because Portland is where I consider I started my career and a lot of where my heart is, is still in Portland. So to have the fans there and clap and support me and see a lot of familiar faces like Timber Jim, it was emotional and you remember that because you still consider your first club your family and I wholeheartedly consider the Timbers my family.

WHAT IS GOING ON WITH THE CLUB'S STRUGGLES AND HAS BEING OUT OF THE LINEUP CHANGED YOUR PERSPECTIVE ON THE WINLESS STREAK?

JS: You want to get out on the field and help any way possible. Any time you can win a game it's great. Obviously it's been a little difficult for games past, but at the same time you have to focus on what the good of the team is. We've got so many great players that once it starts clicking, we're as good as any other team in this league and it's not unheard of to go 10, 12, 15 games unbeaten. That's kind of the projected outcome for us hopefully and we take it one game at a time.



IT'S ODD TO HAVE SUCH A LONG BREAK IN THE MIDDLE OF THE SEASON, CAN THERE BE BENEFITS TO IT?

JS: For me, obviously it has been a benefit. It's just getting the little things right. Getting a little bit of fitness back with guys that get a little bit of an injury, also being able to work on things you wouldn't necessarily be confident doing in a game. You try to get that out on the field and then it will translate to what you do [in games].

HOW IMPORTANT IS IT FOR A GOALKEEPER TO HAVE CONSISTENCY WITH THE TWO CENTER BACKS PLAYING IN FRONT OF HIM?

JS: It's very important. You get to know the tendencies of that player and you know the spacing orientation, that's huge for a lot of people. For me, that's big because I can adjust my positioning based on who I'm comfortable with in front of me. If you have a guy that's going to cover a lot of space or cover a lot of ground in the air, you can adjust your position or pick up balls that come in behind or through. So that's huge, just developing that relationship and having that translate into every game you play.

WITH BOTH TEAMS TRYING TO IMPROVE, IS THIS A CASE WHERE YOU DON'T REALLY WORRY ABOUT THE OPPONENT AND JUST FOCUS ON YOURSELVES?

JS: You're always going to worry about who you're playing against because soccer is a funny game; on any given day anybody can lose to anybody or anybody can beat anybody. It's one of those things where you have to worry about your opponent, but you have to be more concerned about what you're going to do as a group. You've got to focus on your style and your level of play. That's all you can control, what the other team does is what they're going to do. You just have to be able to focus on what you can do personally and what you can do as a group.

WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER FROM THE FIRST MEETING THIS SEASON?

JS: There was a couple momentum shifts, a couple goals called back, lucky bounces here and there so for us we were fortunate to come out on top. Going down early it was like, 'oh no here we go again,' but at the same time we kept fighting and battling.



LA GALAXY IN THE COMMUNITY

Presented by  HERBALIFE.

LOS ANGELES GALAXY FOUNDATION NIGHT

Sunday, June 23



Join the LA Galaxy on Saturday, June 23, as we host LA Galaxy Foundation Night, an evening dedicated to highlighting the Foundation and raising funds to support its mission of assisting children through educational, health and soccer-based initiatives and programs.

The night will feature:

- UNVEILING OF THE NEW LA GALAXY FOUNDATION LOGO
- ANNUAL EQUIPMENT SALE FEATURING TEAM GAME-USED AND TRAINING GEAR
- LA GALAXY FOUNDATION T-SHIRT SURPRISE:

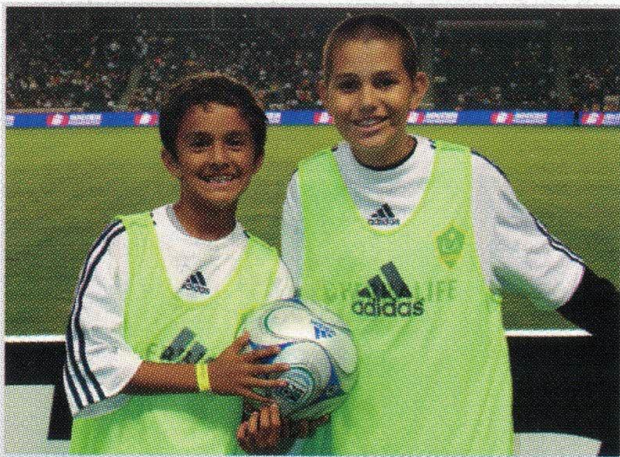
Stop by the LA Galaxy Foundation booth in SoccerFest to purchase a Galaxy Foundation t-shirt for \$40.

What's the surprise? Almost every t-shirt is autographed by a Galaxy player. If the t-shirt you select is not autographed, Galaxy midfielder and captain Landon Donovan will sign it for you personally after the game!

T-shirts are limited (only two t-shirts per person), so plan on arriving early so you don't miss this special opportunity. Sales begin as soon as the gates open at 6 p.m. Please be advised that cash is the only method of payment that will be accepted. Customers may not pay by credit card or check.

Ten lucky winners will get to meet the Galaxy captain after the game! All proceeds benefit the LA Galaxy Foundation.

LA GALAXY FOUNDATION EBAY AUCTIONS



Don't miss the opportunity to bid on:

- LA Galaxy Honorary Ball Kid
- LA Galaxy Kid PA Announcer
- Go behind-the-scenes of the LA Galaxy Pregame Radio Show with host Joe Tutino
- LA Galaxy Kid Pregame co-host with Jay Flats

Visit lagalaxyfoundation.com and click on the online auction link by June 18.

GOODSEARCH

Browse the internet or shop online with GoodSearch and a percentage of your purchase will benefit the LA Galaxy Foundation.

Visit www.goodsearch.com and input Los Angeles Galaxy Foundation as your cause.

Please visit the LA Galaxy Foundation booth or lagalaxyfoundation.com for complete information on the Foundation Night and the T-Shirt Surprise fundraiser.



ACADEMY

BY JOHN WILKINSON

The talent in the upper ranks of the LA Galaxy Academy continue to impress and capture titles. After the U-16 group won a U.S. Development Academy National Championship last season, the U-16's and the U-18's made Galaxy history this season by both finishing atop their respective SoCal divisions for the first time in the same year.

"It's a good feeling, both of us getting first place and going to the playoffs," said Galaxy U-16 captain Rolando Muñoz, who was called into the U.S. Under-17 National Team earlier this week.

Both Academy teams will surely get a high seed when the draw for 2012 U.S. Development Academy playoffs is held later this month. This season, the playoffs will be held in Dallas from June 25-29. The finals will be held in Houston early next month.

"It's exciting," Galaxy U-16 Head Coach Craig Harrington said of the two squads winning their division. "We want to be one of the best academies in the nation. ... It's a good group of kids. They've really bought in to our coaching and played well together."

The U-18 team is built on many of the players from last season's U-16 championship club, while the U-16's reloaded their squad for another playoff run.

"I think this year it was more of the team focus. A lot of the guys are leaving next year so they want to go out again with a win," Galaxy U-18 defender Matthew Tilley (pictured) said. "It's that kind of collective drive to win this thing again, some of us won it last year, some of us didn't."

Entering the final weekend of the regular season, the U-18's had locked up a playoff spot, but needed a win to clinch the division title. An impressive result was exactly what they got, finishing the regular season with a 5-0 win over Nomads SC. The Galaxy finished two points ahead of rival Chivas USA after racking up a 20-4-3 record. The first place finish comes just a year after the Galaxy finished on the bottom of the 10-team SoCal Division.

"This team has a lot of talent and I think it was the collective drive and the collective focus on winning and everyone putting 100 percent in," Tilley said about the turnaround. "There's a lot of great players on this team, even that being said, if someone doesn't show up then it kind of hurts the

whole team. So I think it was the collective idea of working hard for each other, being a real team, and I think that's what got us through the season."

Scoring 75 goals in all competitions, the U-18's finished the season with an impressive plus-51 goal differential. The offense was led by Drew Murphy's 11 goals. Sebastian Velasquez (8) and Jose Villarreal (7) were the next two highest scorers. The U-18 defense kept 10 shutouts in the regular season and allowed less than one goal per game.

The U-16's already had the SoCal division title wrapped up on goal differential going into their final game, but a 2-0 victory over Nomads SC made sure that the Galaxy were outright champions. The Galaxy finished three points ahead of second-place Real Salt Lake Arizona.

"There wasn't a lot of pressure since we already clinched it, but we just worked hard and finished strong," Muñoz said.

Forward Justin Dhillon led all Galaxy players with 20 goals while splitting time between the two squads. Jaime Villarreal also notched double-digit goals, scoring 18 times in 25 games. As a squad, the U-16's averaged more than two goals per game, scoring 74 times in 27 contests.

Tactically, Harrington was pleased with the way that his side bought into the coaching staff's plan and kept possession of the ball. He wanted his team to control the pace of the game and play sharp, quick soccer. Muñoz echoed his coach's sentiment, saying the key to the U-16's play this season was that

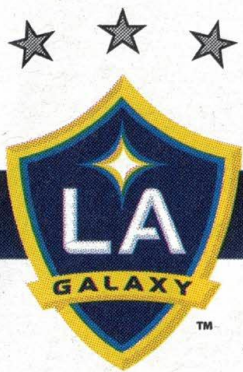
they kept the ball away from their opponents and played "one- or two-touch soccer."

With more than 20 days between finishing the regular season and beginning the playoffs, Harrington said that they are focusing on keeping things fun and interesting for the players while also preparing for the competition and keeping up a level of fitness to combat the grueling heat of a Texas summer.

Leading up to the postseason tournament, Tilley said that the team will concentrate on "staying fit and keeping the mental focus that our job's not done yet. We've done well so far, but it's far from over so just keeping focused, keeping in shape so we can keep it going in the playoffs."

As well as the momentum carried forward from their SoCal division championships, both teams enter the playoffs on a roll. The U-18's have won their last three games and five of six since the start of May, while the U-16s ended the season on an 18-game unbeaten streak that dates back to January.





DID YOU KNOW

Presented by  HERBALIFE.

THIS WILL BE the Timbers' third visit to The Home Depot Center to face the Galaxy. In the first two games, LA are 2-0-0 with six goals scored and just one conceded.

THREE GALAXY PLAYERS are suspended for today's game with Hector Jimenez, Mike Magee and Michael Stephens all serving bans that were handed down by the MLS Disciplinary Committee. Additionally, six players, Edson Buddle, Andrew Boyens, Adam Cristman, Omar Gonzalez, Leonardo and Dan Keat will miss the game because

of injuries while Robbie Keane remains on international duty. That means only 21 of the 31 players on the club's roster are available for selection.

WITH BUDDLE, JIMENEZ, KEANE AND MAGEE UNAVAILABLE, nearly half of the Galaxy's goal production this season will not be on the field. That quartet has seven of LA's 15 goals on the season.

DAVID BECKHAM, LONDON DONOVAN AND JUNINHO each scored their first goals of the season against Portland on April 14.

CHAD BARRETT AND DAVID BECKHAM have each recorded an assist in each of the Galaxy's last two games. Beckham leads LA with four assists while Barrett is second with three. However, until the 2-1 loss to Houston on May 26, the pair had never assisted on the same goal.

MIKE MAGEE is the only Galaxy player to have appeared in all 16 games that the club has played in all competition. However, that streak will come to an end today as he is suspended for the game.

THE GALAXY have scored in the opening 10 minutes of each of their last two regular season games after failing to tally in the opening 20 minutes of any of their first 11 matches.

LA'S SEVEN-GAME WINLESS STREAK is their longest since 2008.

BRUCE ARENA HAS BEEN FORCED to make at least two changes to his starting lineup in every game with the exception of one this season. In that game, the 1-1 draw with FC Dallas on April 28, Arena used the same 10 field players as he did in the previous week's win over Colorado, while Bill Gaudette got the start in goal.

THE GALAXY HAVE SCORED FIRST in each of their last two regular season games, only to go on to lose each. They have now taken a 1-0 lead only to lose three times this season. Before this season, they had not lost after scoring first since October 2010.

WITH KENNEY WALKER making his MLS debut against Houston on May 26, only five of the 31 players on the Galaxy roster have not appeared in a game this season. Defenders Omar Gonzalez and Leonardo, who played 90 minutes in the Open Cup loss to Carolina, are yet to play in a regular season game this year while recovering from knee injuries while Homegrown players Jack McBean and Jose Villarreal have not been used, nor has Supplemental Draft selection Rafael Garcia.

JUNE IS the only month of the year that no current Galaxy players celebrate a birthday.



NUTRITION OF CHAMPIONS



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