

LA GALAXY



PRESENTED BY
PECHANGA
RESORT • CASINO



GAMEDAY PROGRAM

VS. SEATTLE SOUNDERS FC
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2012



Presented by  HERBALIFE

THE TEAMS



vs



Presented by HERBALIFE.

MATCH STATS

LA GALAXY

	ON	OFF
SUB 1:		
SUB 2:		
SUB 3:		
YELLOW:		
RED:		
GOALSCORERS:		

MATCH STATS

SOUNDERS FC

	ON	OFF
SUB 1:		
SUB 2:		
SUB 3:		
YELLOW:		
RED:		
GOALSCORERS:		

MATCH RESULT

HT SCORE:

FT SCORE:

NOTES:

2011 LA GALAXY MLS CUP CHAMPIONS

Presented by HERBALIFE.

LA GALAXY

Head Coach: Bruce Arena

#	Player	Pos.
1	Brian Rowe	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	Christian Wilhelmsson	M
10	Landon Donovan	M
11	Pat Noonan	F
12	Josh Saunders	GK
14	Edson Buddle	F
15	Dan Keat	M
16	Hector Jimenez	M
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

SEATTLE SOUNDERS FC

Head Coach: Sigi Schmid

#	Player	Pos.
1	Michael Gspurning	GK
3	Brad Evans	M
4	Patrick Ianni	D
5	Adam Johansson	D
6	Oswaldo Alonso	M
7	Eddie Johnson	F
8	Marc Burch	D
10	Mauro Rosales	M
11	Steve Zakuani	M
12	Leo Gonzalez	D
13	Christian Tiffert	M
14	Michael Tetteh	D
15	Mario Martinez	M
16	David Estrada	F
17	Fredy Montero	F
19	Babayele Sodade	F
20	Zach Scott	D
21	Cordell Cato	F
22	Mike Seamon	M
23	Servando Carrasco	M
24	Marcus Hahnemann	GK
25	Andy Rose	M
26	Sammy Ochoa	F
27	Alex Caskey	M
29	Josh Ford	GK
30	Andrew Duran	D
31	Jeff Parke	D
32	Daniel Steres	D
33	Andrew Weber	GK
34	Jhon Kennedy Hurtado	D
35	Bryan Meredith	GK



Michael Stephens scored the game-winner 10 minutes from the end, giving the Galaxy a 3-2 win in El Salvador against Metapan on Thursday night

- 5 **SCHEDULE**
- 6 **GALAXY ROSTER**
- 9 **SEATTLE SOUNDERS FC**
- 11 **LA GALAXY'S INSIDER'S THREE KEYS**
- 13 **GALAXY BATTLE FOR 3-2 WIN IN METAPAN**
- 15 **CHAMPIONS LEAGUE FOCUS SHIFTS TO QUARTERFINALS**
- 18 **READY FOR THE PLAYOFFS**
- 25 **GALAXY UNVEIL ANNUAL TEAM AWARD WINNERS**
- 27 **FIVE QUESTIONS WITH TOMMY MEYER**
- 31 **ACADEMY UPDATE: ONE ON ONE WITH JACK MCBEAN**
- 33 **KICKS FOR KIDS**
- 36 **DID YOU KNOW**

TABLE OF CONTENTS



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SUPPORTERS' SHIELD
1998, 2002, 2010, 2011

MLS CUP CHAMPIONS
2002, 2005, 2011

U.S. OPEN CUP CHAMPIONS
2001, 2005

CONCACAF CHAMPIONS CUP CHAMPIONSHIPS
2000

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LA GALAXY

2012 SCHEDULE

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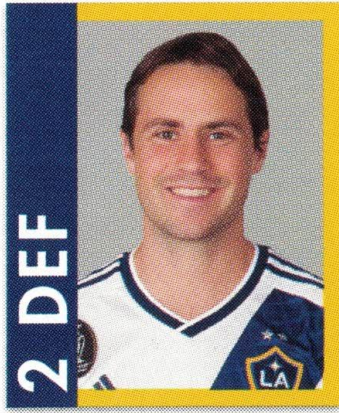
DAY	DATE	OPPONENT	TIME/RESULT	TV/GOALSCORERS
WED	MARCH 7	AT TORONTO FC	2-2 T	MAGEE, DONOVAN
CONCACAF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE - QUARTERFINAL - 1ST LEG				
SAT	MARCH 10	VS. REAL SALT LAKE	1-3 L	BUDDLE
WED	MARCH 14	VS. TORONTO FC	1-2 L	OWN GOAL
CONCACAF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE - QUARTERFINAL - 2ND LEG				
SUN	MARCH 18	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	1-0 W	DUNIVANT
WED	JUNE 20	AT REAL SALT LAKE	3-2 W	DONOVAN (2), MAGEE
SAT	JUNE 23	VS. VANCOUVER WHITECAPS FC	3-0 W	MAGEE, KEANE, DONOVAN
SAT	JUNE 30	AT SAN JOSE EARTHQUAKES	3-4 L	BECKHAM, OWN GOAL, DONOVAN
WED	JULY 4	VS. PHILADELPHIA UNION	1-2 L	BARRETT
SUN	JULY 8	AT CHICAGO FIRE	2-0 W	KEANE (2)
SAT	JULY 14	AT PORTLAND TIMBERS	5-3 W	BECKHAM (2), KEANE (2), DONOVAN
WED	JULY 18	AT VANCOUVER WHITECAPS FC	2-2 T	BECKHAM, VILLARREAL
SAT	JULY 21	VS. CHIVAS USA	3-1 W	DONOVAN (2), KEANE
TUE	JULY 24	VS. TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR	1-1 T	LOPES
INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY AT THE HOME DEPOT CENTER				
SAT	JULY 28	AT FC DALLAS	1-0 W	MAGEE
THUR	AUGUST 2	VS. REAL MADRID	1-5 L	LOPES
INTERNATIONAL FRIENDLY AT THE HOME DEPOT CENTER				
SUN	AUGUST 5	AT SEATTLE SOUNDERS FC	0-4 L	-
SUN	AUGUST 12	AT CHIVAS USA	4-0 W	JUNINHO (2), KEANE, GONZALEZ
WED	AUGUST 15	AT COLUMBUS CREW	1-1 T	KEANE
THUR	AUGUST 23	VS. ISIDRO METAPAN	5-2 W	JUNINHO (2), OWN GOAL, KEANE, BECKHAM
CONCACAF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE - GROUP 5				
SUN	AUGUST 26	VS. FC DALLAS	2-0 W	JUNINHO, DUNIVANT
WED	AUGUST 29	VS. PUERTO RICO ISLANDERS	4-0 W	MEYER, VILLARREAL, MCBEAN, STEPHENS
CONCACAF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE - GROUP 5				
SAT	SEPT. 1	VS. VANCOUVER WHITECAPS FC	2-0 W	JUNINHO, BECKHAM
FRI	SEPT. 14	VS. COLORADO RAPIDS	2-0 W	KEANE, WILHELMSSON
WED	SEPT. 19	AT PUERTO RICO ISLANDERS	0-0 T	-
CONCACAF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE - GROUP 5				
SAT	SEPT. 22	VS. TORONTO FC	4-2 W	JUNINHO (2), KEANE (2)
SUN	SEPT. 30	AT COLORADO RAPIDS	1-1 T	SARVAS
SAT	OCT. 6	VS. REAL SALT LAKE	2-1 L	KEANE
SUN	OCT. 21	AT SAN JOSE EARTHQUAKES	2-2 T	KEANE, BUDDLE
THUR	OCT. 25	AT ISIDRO METAPAN	3-2 W	MCBEAN (2), STEPHENS
CONCACAF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE - GROUP 5				
SUN	OCT. 28	VS. SEATTLE SOUNDERS FC	6:00 PM.	ESPN/ESPN DEPORTES



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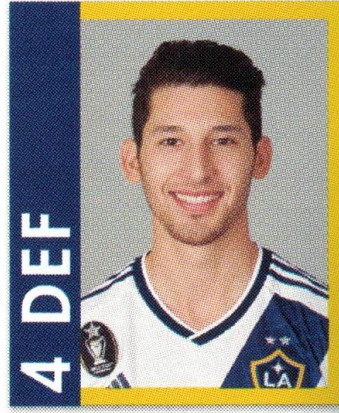
Brian **ROWE**



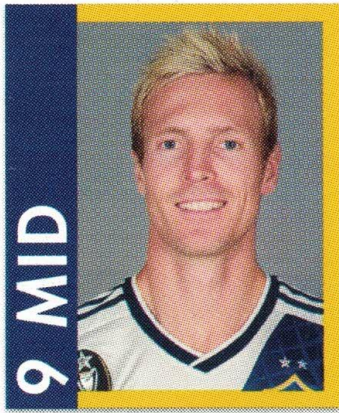
Todd **DUNIVANT**



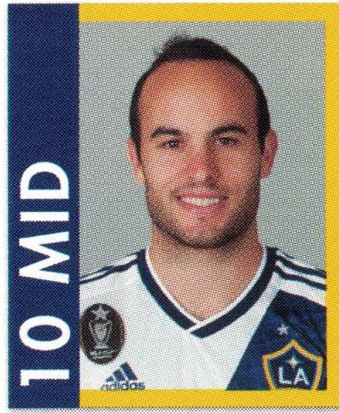
David Junior **LOPES**



Omar **GONZALEZ**



Christian **WILHELMSSON**



Landon **DONOVAN**



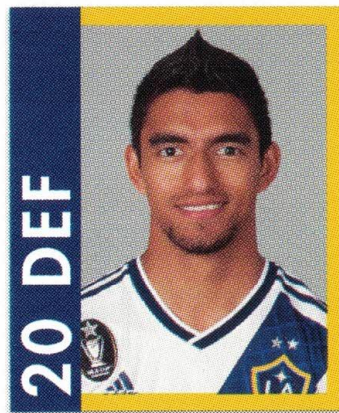
Pat **NOONAN**



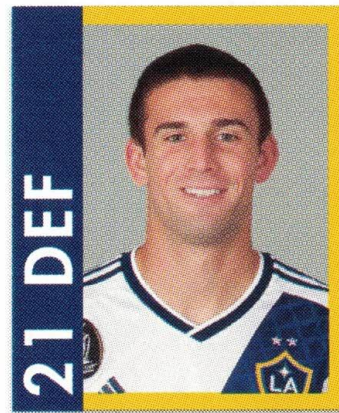
Josh **SAUNDERS**



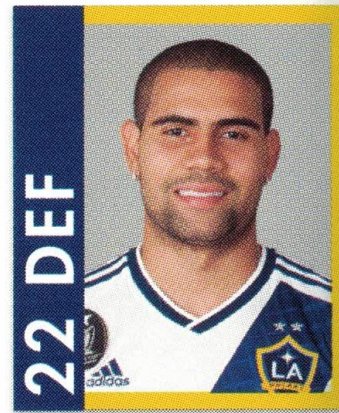
JUNINHO



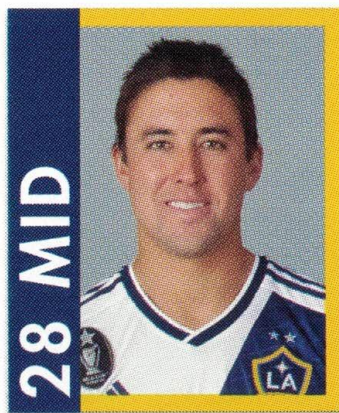
A.J. **DELAGARZA**



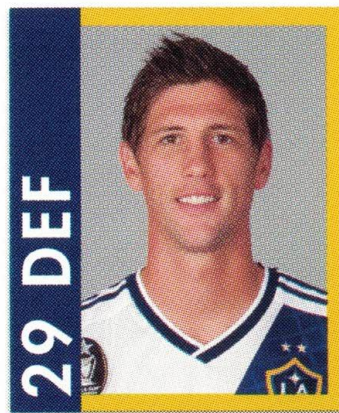
Tommy **MEYER**



LEONARDO



Kyle **NAKAZAWA**



Andrew **BOYENS**



Jack **MCBEAN**

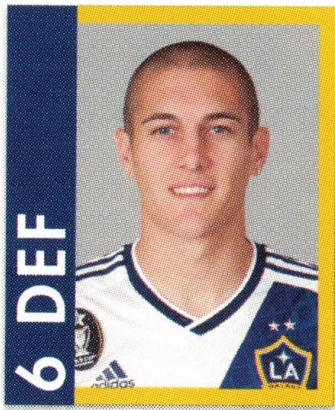


Jose **VILLARREAL**

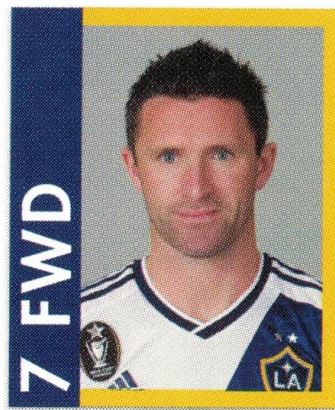
2012 LA GALAXY ROSTER



Sean **FRANKLIN**



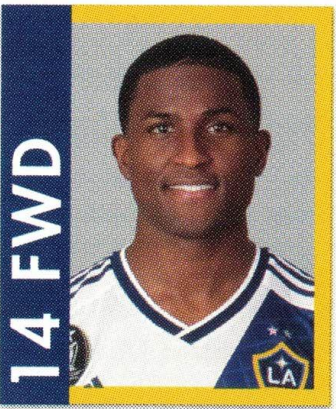
Bryan **JORDAN**



Robbie **KEANE**



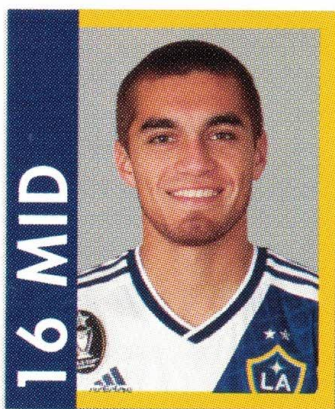
Marcelo **SARVAS**



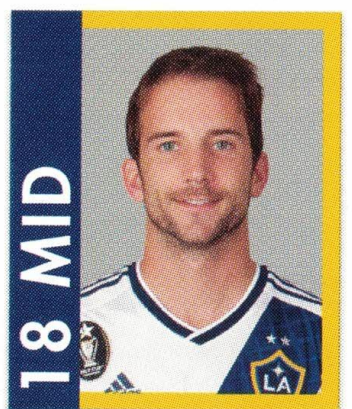
Edson **BUDDLE**



Dan **KEAT**



Hector **JIMENEZ**



Mike **MAGEE**



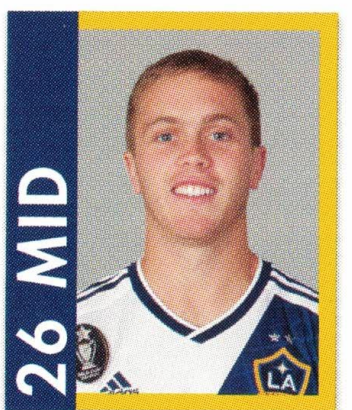
David **BECKHAM**



Brian **PERK**



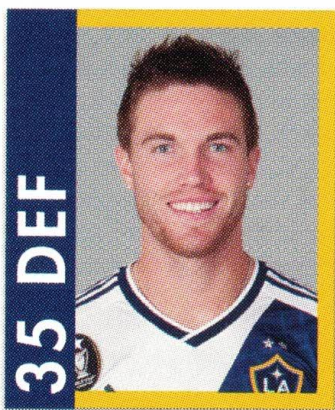
Rafael **GARCIA**



Michael **STEPHENS**



Kenney **WALKER**



Bryan **GAUL**



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VS



TONIGHT'S OPPONENT

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The Seattle Sounders FC come into tonight's regular season finale hoping to secure a second place finish in the Western Conference and carrying the confidence of two earlier victories over the LA Galaxy. Thus far, Seattle are the only team in the West that has not conceded a point to the defending MLS Cup champions.

The Sounders have enjoyed more success against the Galaxy this season than ever before in their four-year MLS history. Prior to the 2012 season, LA had a 3-1-2 regular season record against Seattle, but in two meetings at Seattle's CenturyLink Field this season, Seattle has outscored LA 6-0, en route to a pair of victories.

Early in the season, on May 2, Seattle scored on either side of halftime to secure a 2-0 win. The two sides met again on Aug. 5 when Seattle snapped the surging Galaxy's five-game unbeaten streak with a 4-0 victory.

If Seattle wants to beat the Galaxy at The Home Depot Center for the first time since 2009, they will need to lean on their dynamic offensive threats and staunch defense as they have in the two previous meetings.

Seattle's forward pairing of Eddie Johnson and Fredy Montero is one of the best in the league and the two have given the Galaxy fits in the two previous meetings. The two strikers have accounted for four of Seattle's six goals against LA this season and helped create numerous other scoring chances. Both are among the league's top 10 scorers, with Johnson netting 14 goals and Montero not far behind with 13.

Another thorn in LA's side has been Argentinean midfielder Mauro Rosales. The veteran, who is in his second year with the Sounders, leads the team with 13 assists. Against the Galaxy, Rosales has assisted on three of his team's six goals this season. The right-sided midfielder is comfortable creating from out wide or tucking in to work off of Montero and Johnson.

Rosales, however, is not the only important piece in Seattle's strong midfield. German midfielder Christian Tiffert was signed in July and has since provided three assists in 11 games. Fellow central midfielder Osvaldo Alonso plays more of a defensive or box-to-box role, winning tackles, creating chances and providing defensive cover. Rounding out the Seattle midfield is Brad Evans, who can play either centrally or on the opposite wing from Rosales. Evans has scored four goals and assisted on four more this season.

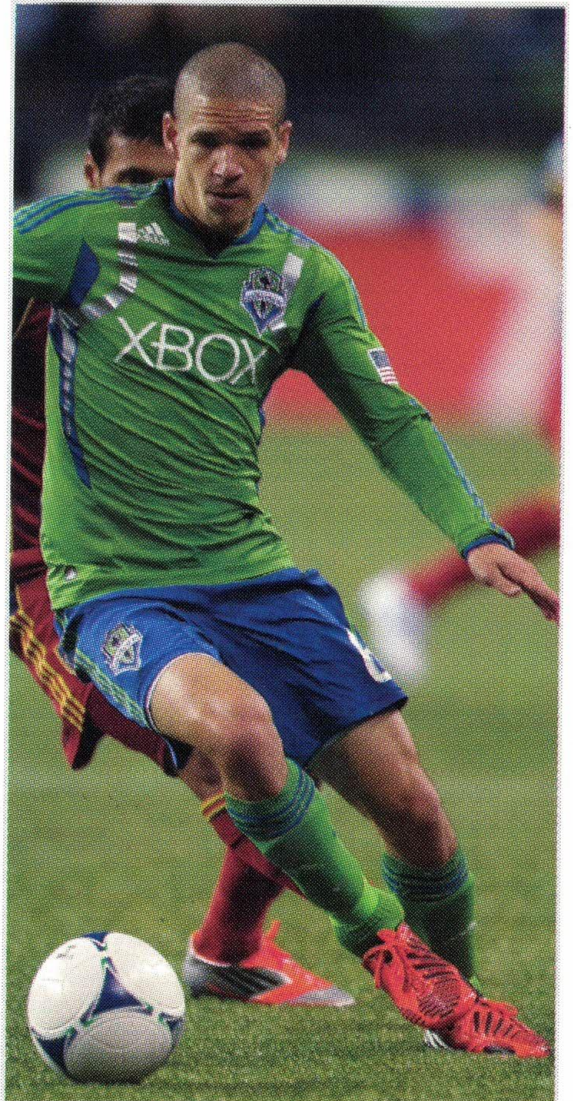
While Seattle's offense has been strong, scoring 51 goals this season, good for fifth best in MLS, the defense has made it even tougher on opponents. As a team, Seattle has conceded 32 goals in 33 matches, the fewest in the Western Conference and second fewest in MLS.

Goalkeeper Michael Gspurning has proved to be an elite force at the back of the Seattle defense. The Austrian keeper has allowed just 14 goals in 20 games, good enough for a league-best 0.72 goals against average. Gspurning has kept a clean sheet in almost half of his matches, recording eight shutouts in his first MLS season.

In front of Gspurning the center back pairing of Jeff Parke and Jhon Kennedy Hurtado has been solid, logging more than 20 games a piece at the back for Seattle. Marc Burch mans the left side of the defense while Swedish defender Adam Johansson pushes forward from his right back position.

SEATTLE SOUNDERS FC EXPECTED LINEUP (4-4-2):

Michael Gspurning; Adam Johansson, Jeff Parke, Jhon Kennedy Hurtado, Marc Burch; Osvaldo Alonso, Mauro Rosales, Christian Tiffert, Brad Evans; Fredy Montero, Eddie Johnson.



KEY MAN: OSVALDO ALONSO

Fredy Montero and Eddie Johnson have been getting the goals, Mauro Rosales has been setting them up and Christian Tiffert is the big-name midseason acquisition.

Seattle also features the best defense statistically in the Western Conference.

But the man that makes it all work is a Cuban central midfielder who has scored just one goal and assisted on two others.

While Osvaldo Alonso's numbers do not jump off the stat sheet, the work that he does to shield the Sounders' back four and start their attack does not go unnoticed.

The club's MVP in 2010 and 2011 and an All-Star in each of the last two years, Alonso has established himself as one of the best central midfielders in all of MLS and one of the most important players in the league heading into the playoffs.



THREE KEYS

Adam Serrano is the LA Galaxy Insider. Read his blog at LAGalaxy.com/Insider and follow him on Twitter: [@LAGalaxyInsider](https://twitter.com/LAGalaxyInsider)

1

FIND YOUR FORM

With the MLS Cup Playoffs less than a week away, the LA Galaxy will need to use tonight's match as a tune up ahead of their Knockout Round match against Vancouver Whitecaps FC.

Whether it is Edson Buddle and Christian Wilhelmsson looking to build up their form ahead of the postseason or those returning from injury like David Beckham and Landon Donovan, LA has plenty of players in need of game minutes before the postseason. However, this is not the only concern for the Galaxy coaching staff as they also want to make sure that they do not push their starters too hard ahead of Thursday's all important playoff match.

Expect head coach Bruce Arena to manage the minutes for the likes of Buddle, Wilhelmsson, Beckham and Donovan as LA turn their focus toward the Whitecaps.

FINE TUNE THE DEFENSE 2

Perhaps the most important factor to the LA Galaxy's defense of their MLS Cup title will be the play of the center back pairing of Omar Gonzalez and Tommy Meyer.

During last week's 2-2 draw with the San Jose Earthquakes, the pair showed their skills, but also their limitations as a pairing. For wide stretches of the match, Gonzalez and Meyer locked down the Quakes attack, but still needed to do better on San Jose's pair of goals.

They'll get an opportunity to improve their chemistry as a pairing together as they face off against Seattle's forward tandem of Fredy Montero and Eddie Johnson. With A.J. DeLaGarza still returning from a knee injury, tonight's performance could go a long way to strengthening the back four going into the postseason.

3 SHUT DOWN THE CENTER OF THE PARK

If the LA Galaxy are going to end the season on a high note, they will need a strong performance against a tough Seattle midfield.

During the last meeting between the two clubs, Seattle's midfield overran the Galaxy, comfortably dishing balls wide and stretching the LA defense en route to a 4-0 victory. Tonight, the Galaxy must avoid the mistakes of July by placing pressure on the likes of Mauro Rosales and Christian Tiffert to prevent potential scoring opportunities.

Success against the Sounders could pay off next Thursday as LA will take on a tough Whitecaps midfield, anchored by Bryan Robson and Gershon Koffie.

LAST GAME

LA GALAXY 3 ISIDRO METAPAN 2



THURSDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2012

**ESTADIO JORGE CALERO SUAREZ – METAPAN, EL SALVADOR
CONCACAF CHAMPIONS LEAGUE – GROUP 5 – WEEK 6**

Jack McBean scored twice and Michael Stephens got the game-winner as the LA Galaxy beat Isidro Metapan, 3-2, Thursday night at Estadio Jorge Calero Suarez in El Salvador.

The Galaxy became the first road team to win in Metapan since September of last year, snapping the Salvadorian's 26-game home unbeaten streak in all competitions.

The match was a difficult, up-and-down affair that provided LA with the usual array of challenges that commonly come with a CONCACAF Champions League road game. But the Galaxy started the match on the offensive, coming close to scoring three times before Bryan Gaul and McBean linked up to get on the scoreboard first.

In the 38th minute, Gaul pushed his way up the left sideline and created a little distance between himself and the defender. That little bit of space was enough for Gaul to send in a cross into the middle of the box where McBean out jumped his defender to the ball and got his head to it. The ball hit the underside of the crossbar and then bounced down and in, causing a brief moment of confusion in regards to whether the ball crossed the line, but the linesman raised his flag to signal goal and the Galaxy were up 1-0.

McBean had a terrific game, often beating his defender to the ball and muscling himself into position. After Metapan tied the game up at 1-1 in the 52nd minute off a goal from Paolo Suarez, McBean put the Galaxy back in front 10 minutes later. The attacking sequence began with a Marcelo Sarvas freekick from just outside the box that was clipped to the left side of the area for Gaul, who headed the ball back across the face of goal for McBean. The 17-year-old timed his right perfectly and slotted the ball into the back of the net to give LA a 2-1 lead.

Having retaken the lead, the Galaxy appeared to be on their way to their first road win of the 2012/13

Champions League campaign, but Nicholas Munoz gave the "Caleros" life again with a sensational goal direct from a freekick that leveled the score at 2-2 with just over 20 minutes to play. The goal was Munoz's sixth of the tournament and third against the Galaxy.

A draw would have dropped LA to the sixth seed, setting up a quarterfinal date with Seattle, but Michael Stephens stepped up 10 minutes from time to seal the full three points and the fourth seed for the Galaxy.

Stephens, who had a goal called back just before halftime, reacted quickest when a Pat Noonan cross that was bound for Marcelo Sarvas hit the post, squeezing his shot past Metapan goalkeeper Fidel Mondragon to put LA back in front at 3-2.

Despite the difficult field conditions, hostile environment and a two-hour bus ride from their San Salvador hotel to the stadium, the Galaxy were able to hold on to that lead and leave Metapan with the three points. The win allowed LA to finish group play with a record of 3-0-1 for 10 points, and a goal difference of plus-8. They enter the Championship Round as the No. 4-seed and will face Club Sport Herediano of Costa Rica in the Quarterfinals.

SCORING SUMMARY:

LA – Jack McBean 2 38'

ISM – Paolo Suarez 1 55'

LA – Jack McBean 3 62'

ISM – Nicholas Muñoz 6 67'

LA – Michael Stephens 2 80'

MISCONDUCT SUMMARY:

LA – Rafael Garcia (Yellow Card) 11'

LA – Andrew Boyens (Yellow Card) 36'

ISM – Ernesto Aquino (Yellow Card) 37'

LINEUPS:

LA GALAXY Brian Perk; Bryan Jordan (Marcelo Sarvas 59'), Andrew Boyens, Tommy Meyer, Bryan Gaul; Hector Jimenez, Kenney Walker, Rafael Garcia, Michael Stephens; Pat Noonan (Dan Keat 85'), Jack McBean.

SUBS NOT USED: Brian Rowe, Jose Villarreal.

ISIDRO METAPAN Fidel Mondragon; Alfredo Pacheco, Ernesto Aquino, Hector Mejia; Eliseo Quintanilla (Shawn Martin 70'), Christian Sanchez, Julio Martinez, Luis Perla (Milton Molina 21'); Nicholas Muñoz, Paolo Suarez, Jorge Ramirez (Cristhian Bautista 61').

SUBS NOT USED: Gustavo Corleto, Marvin Monterroza, Ramon Sanchez, Gabriel Garcete.

REFEREE: Hugo Cruz (CRC)



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JERSEY-OFF-THE-BACK AUCTION



GALAXY FOUNDATION

Don't miss your opportunity to win a game-used and autographed jersey from your favorite LA Galaxy player. The LA Galaxy Foundation is auctioning the jerseys from the team's starting eleven players. Eleven lucky winners will be able to go on to the field postgame and have a Galaxy player sign their jersey.

Please note: Jerseys will be from the first half of the game. Only winning bidders (one person) will be allowed on to the field.

BEST IN SPORTS AUCTION

Take home autographed memorabilia from some of the best athletes and teams from the NFL, MLB, NBA and NHL. Items up for auction include:

MLB

LOS ANGELES ANGELS OF ANAHEIM

First Baseman Albert Pujols Autographed Baseball »»

ARIZONA DIAMONDBACKS

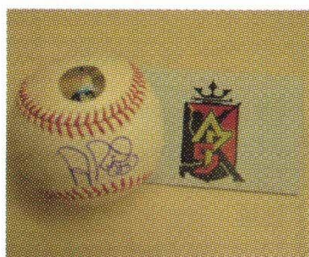
Catcher Miguel Montero Autographed Jersey

DETROIT TIGERS

Hall of Famer Al Kaline Autographed Bat

CHICAGO CUBS

Hall of Famer Ernie Banks Autographed Jersey



NBA

LOS ANGELES LAKERS

Pau Gasol Autographed Jersey »»

LOS ANGELES CLIPPERS

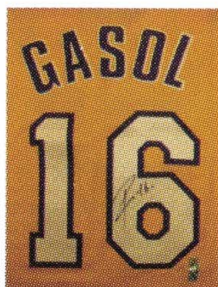
2011-2012 Team-Signed Basketball

MEMPHIS GRIZZLIES

O.J. Mayo Autographed Basketball

UTAH JAZZ

2011-2012 Team-Signed Basketball



NFL

NEW YORK JETS

Quarterback Mark Sanchez Autographed Football
PHILADELPHIA EAGLES

Cornerback Asante Samuel Autographed Football
PITTSBURGH STEELERS Quarterback Ben Roethlisberger Autographed Football

NHL

LOS ANGELES KINGS

2012 Stanley Cup Champion Captain Dustin Brown Autographed Puck and Player Card »»

CHICAGO BLACKHAWKS

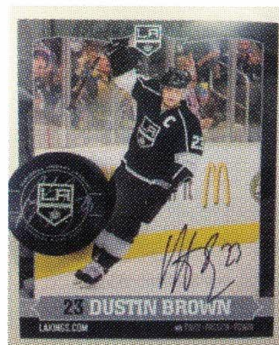
Defenseman Niklas Hjalmarsson Autographed Puck

SAN JOSE SHARKS

Center Joe Thornton Autographed Jersey

WASHINGTON CAPITALS

Left Winger Alexander Ovechkin Autographed Replica Hockey Stick



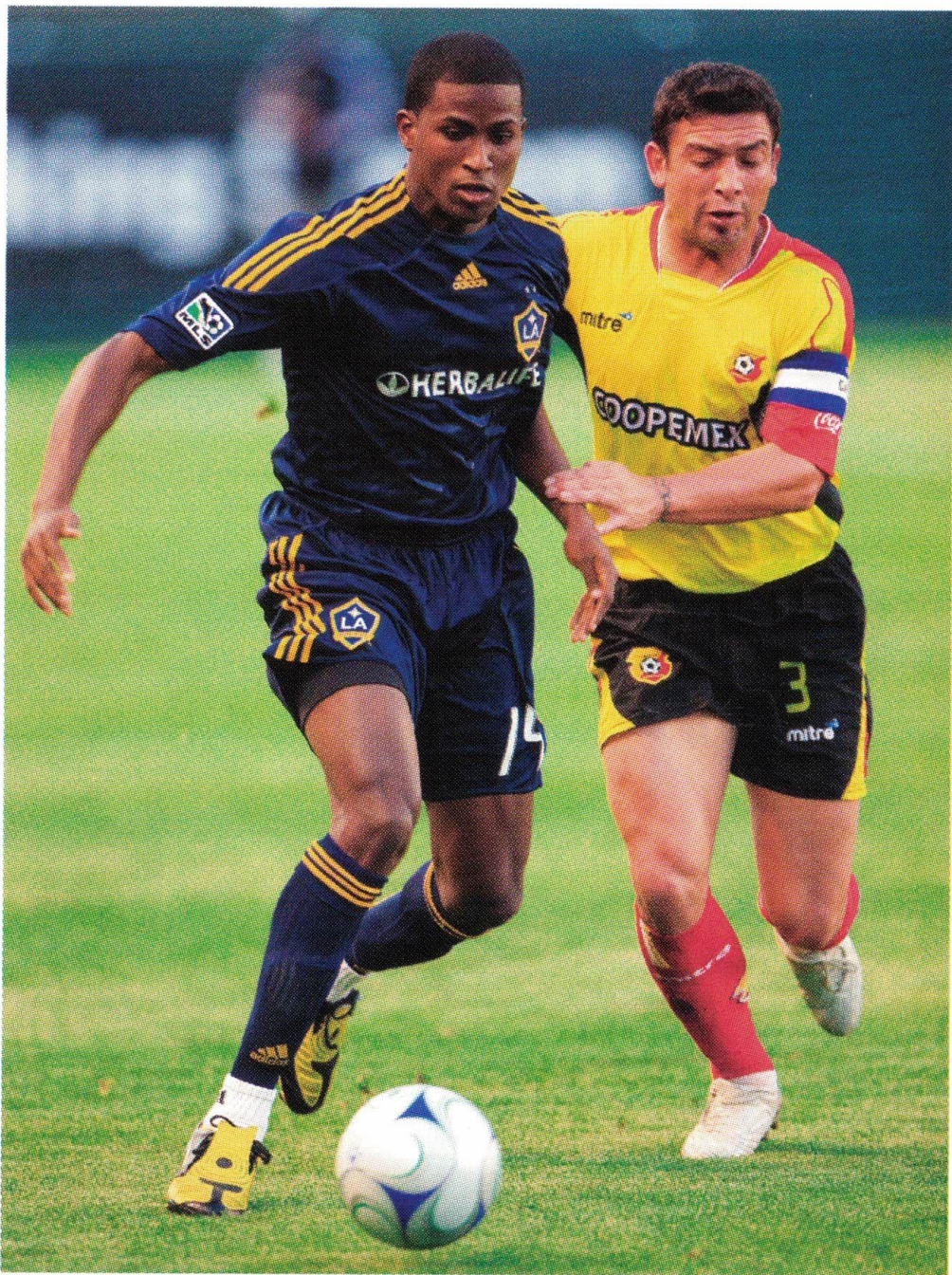
Visit the LA Galaxy Foundation booth in SoccerFest to place your bid before the end of halftime.

Please visit the LA Galaxy Foundation booth or lagalaxyfoundation.com for complete information on all outreach endeavors.



MOVING ON IN THE CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

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March 12-14, with the first game taking place in Costa Rica and the second leg being played in Southern California.

The Galaxy advanced to the Quarterfinals by winning Group 5, which included Isidro Metapan of El Salvador and the Puerto Rico Islanders, with a 3-0-1 record. They concluded group play Thursday night with a well earned 3-2 win over Metapan. Jack McBean scored twice before Michael Stephens scored the game-winner in the 80th minute.

Because this year's quarterfinalists were seeded based on points

With the LA Galaxy's 3-2 win in El Salvador Thursday night in their CONCACAF Champions League Group 5 finale, LA will enter the Quarterfinals as the No. 4-seed, finishing with a 3-0-1 record for 10 points. In the Quarterfinals, the Galaxy will face Club Sport Herediano of Costa Rica, which won Group 2 and are seeded No. 5. Herediano, who claimed a 0-0 draw on the road against Real Salt Lake on Tuesday to clinch their quarterfinal berth, also finished with a 3-0-1 record for 10 points.

The home-and-home Quarterfinal series between the Galaxy and Herediano will be played between the dates of March 5-7 and

and goal differential in the Group Stage, the win propelled the Galaxy all the way up to the No. 4-seed.

Herediano, which topped Real Salt Lake and Tauro FC of Panama, qualified for the 2012/13 Champions League by winning the 2012 Apertura season in Costa Rica. The club is currently in third place in the 2012 Clausura standings, behind first-place Alajuelense and second-place Saprissa, though only one point separates the three sides.

This will be the first meeting between the Galaxy and Herediano since 2009, when LA topped the Costa Rican club 1-0 in a friendly at The Home Depot Center (pictured above). Edson



MOVING ON IN THE CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

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Buddle scored the game-winner that night in the 12th minute, beating three defenders and the goalkeeper in the process.

Other teams that have advanced to the Quarterfinals include two-time defending champions Monterrey, Santos Laguna and Tigres UANL of Mexico, Seattle Sounders FC and the Houston Dynamo from MLS and Guatemalan side Xelaju, which stunned most observers by winning Group 8, scoring a late goal on Thursday night in Guadalajara to edge out Chivas for the group's top spot.

If the Galaxy were to advance to the semifinals, LA would face the winner of the series between top-seed Monterrey and No. 8-seed Xelaju. Monterrey is a team that knows the format of this tournament very well, as evidenced by the hardware in their trophy case and their record in group play. The "Rayados" were a perfect 4-0-0 in the Group Stage, scoring 15 goals while not conceding any.

Xelaju, which plays in the city of Quetzaltenango, located about 130 miles from the capital and almost 8,000-feet above sea water, won both of its home games but struggled on the road during group play.

The other half of the bracket will see a pair of MLS teams taking on a pair of Mexican sides with No.2-seed Santos facing No. 7-seed Houston while No. 3-seed Seattle takes on No. 6-seed Tigres.

The Semifinals are set to take place in early April, with the first leg being played between April 2-4 and the second leg taking place between April 9-11. Both legs of the 2012-13 Champions League Finals have already been set with the first leg to be played on April 24 while the second leg will be a week later on May 1.

If the Galaxy were to advance to the finals, the club would host the second leg of the finals thanks to their position in the bracket. ■

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SURVIVE

AND

ADVANCE



When it comes to postseason competition in any sport, there is one motto that supercedes all.

Survive and advance.

That mentality will be shoved to the forefront on Thursday when the Galaxy host Vancouver Whitecaps FC in the inaugural Western Conference Knockout Round match.

As the fourth and fifth seeds in the West, LA and Vancouver will battle for 90 minutes (or possibly even longer) Thursday for the right to advance into a Western Conference Semifinal against the top-seeded San Jose

Earthquakes.

"I think we're more than ready," Galaxy forward Robbie Keane said when asked about the playoffs after training on Friday. "If you look over the last few months I certainly think we've been probably the best team. But it means nothing if you don't perform in the playoffs. We're certainly ready and looking forward to it (and we're not taking anything for granted. From speaking to the other players we're certainly looking forward to Thursday's game and hopefully even further on after that."

Over the second half of the sea-

son, LA has been one of the hottest teams in the league, losing just three times from July onward. That run of form helped the Galaxy secure a playoff spot despite their disappointing start to the season. While LA could not avoid the Knockout Round, in the playoffs anything can happen once you get yourself in the field.

"Obviously you want to finish higher and you want to finish in better position, but reaching the playoffs is always the goal at the start of the season and we've done that," David Beckham said after training on Friday. "We're going to come up against good

teams now because every team that's in the playoffs deserve to be there and they're good teams, so it's going to be tough."

Unlike the latter rounds that involve home-and-home, aggregate goal ties, the playoffs open with a single-game Knockout Round. Surviving Thursday's win-or-go-home match guarantees at least two more games, a home-and-home series against Supporters' Shield winners San Jose with the winner of that series moving on to the Western Conference Championship against the either Seattle or Real Salt Lake.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21



"It's obviously the most exciting time of the year for the fans and most exciting time for us because – not that every game doesn't mean something in the regular season – but here especially because little small mistakes here and there can cost you," goalkeeper Josh Saunders said.

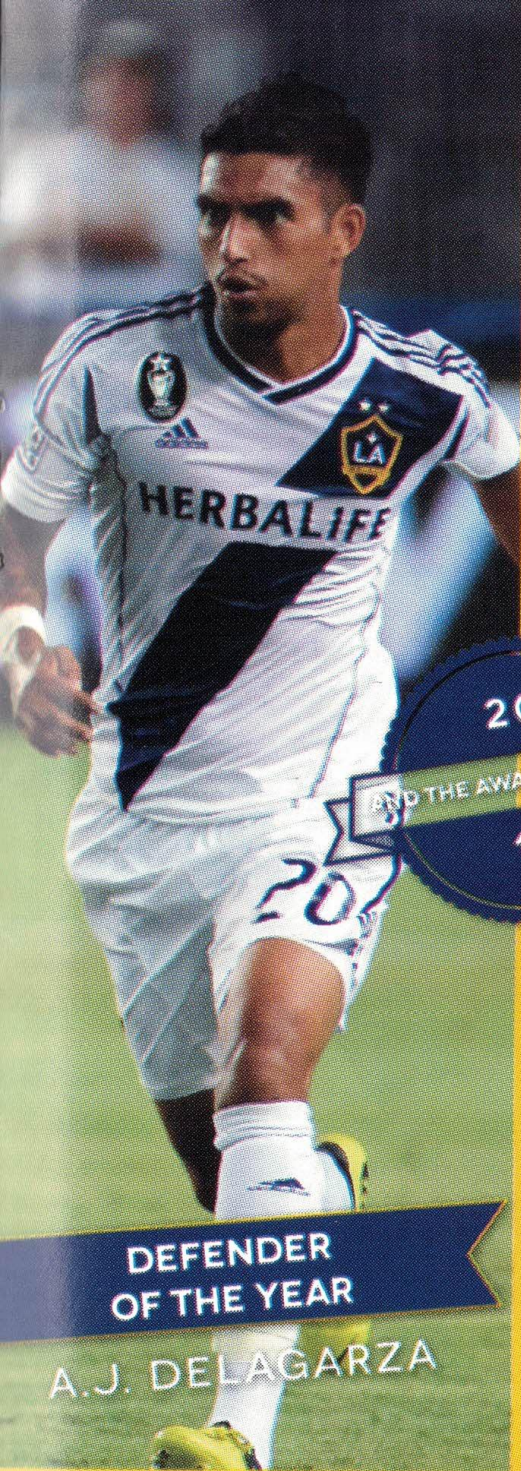
"So it's everything on the line and we look forward to it getting going."

The Galaxy have never lost at home to the Whitecaps, going 3-0-0 against the second year squad at The Home Depot Center, thanks in large to the play of Saunders. The 31-year-old has started all three of those games, keeping a clean sheet in each while the LA attack has averaged nearly three goals per game in those matches.

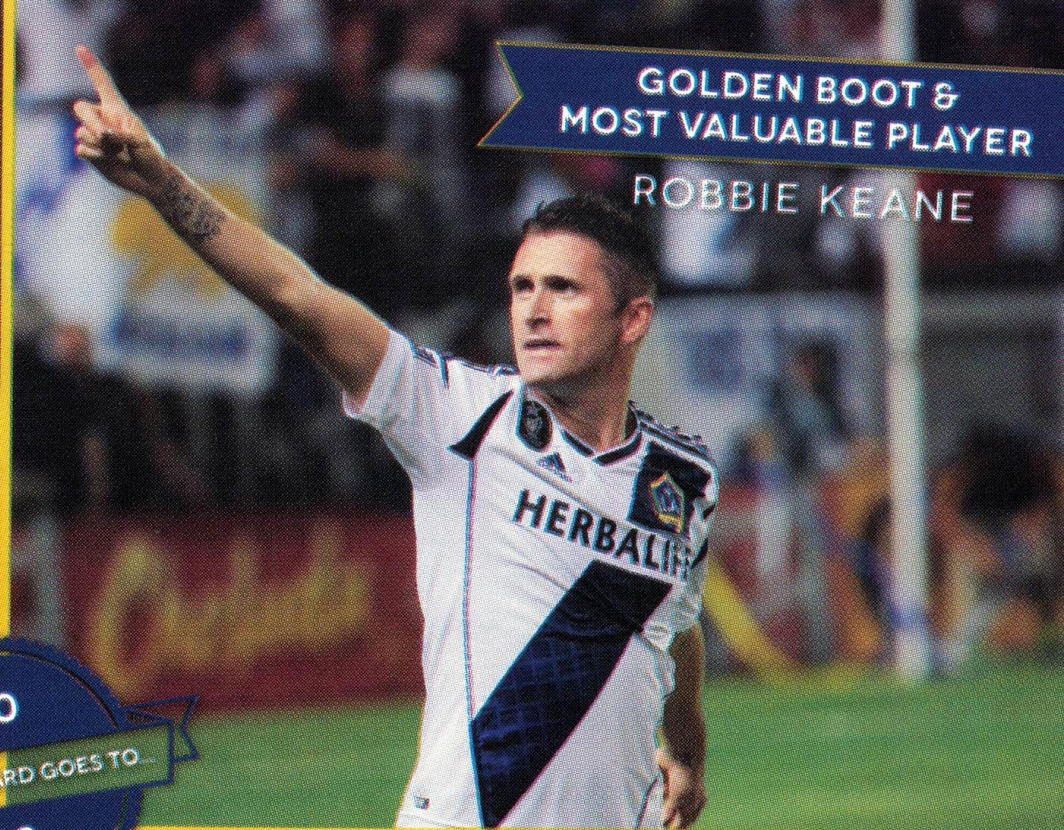
All-time, the Galaxy are 4-0-1 against the Whitecaps, outscoring them 14-2 in those five matches, which do not include a pair of Reserve League wins this year that saw the Galaxy score nine times compared to just one for Vancouver.

But despite having history on their side, and wanting one more shot at the Earthquakes, defender Sean Franklin said that the focus is squarely on getting past Seattle tonight and then the Whitecaps on Thursday.

"We've just got to take each game as it comes," he said earlier this week. "We've got Seattle then we've got to take care of Vancouver and then hopefully we get another crack at San Jose in the two legs. I know our team is looking forward to that, but we've got to take care of business first against Vancouver." ■



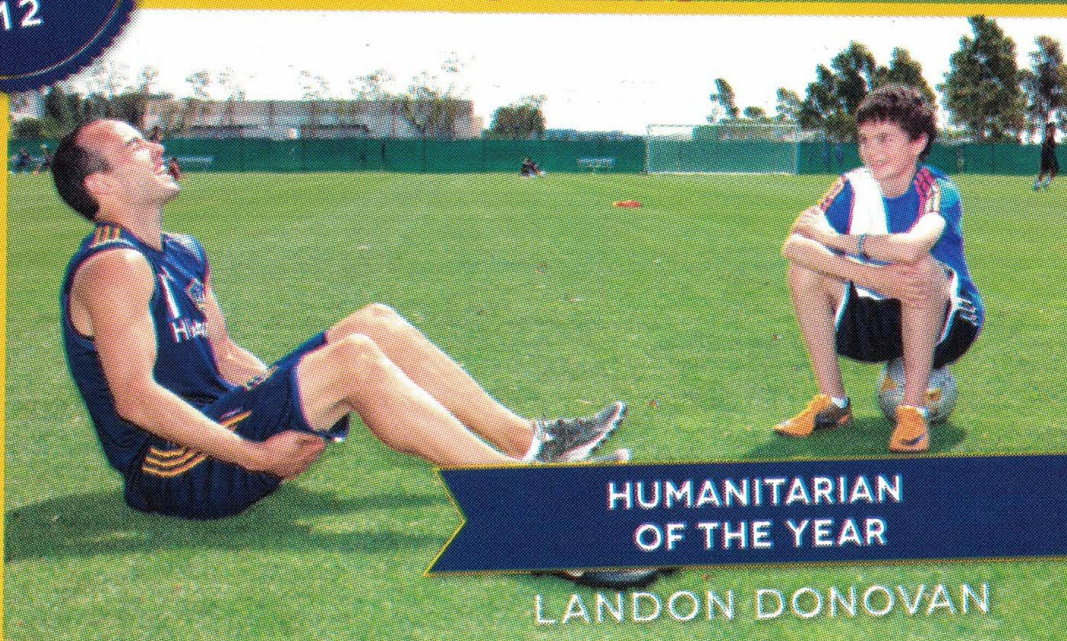
DEFENDER OF THE YEAR
A.J. DELAGARZA



GOLDEN BOOT & MOST VALUABLE PLAYER

ROBBIE KEANE

20
AND THE AWARD GOES TO...
12



HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR
LANDON DONOVAN

Following tonight's game, the Galaxy will hand out the club's annual awards for Most Valuable Player, Defender of the Year and Humanitarian of the Year, as well as the Golden Boot to the club's top goal scorer.

In his first full season with the club, Robbie Keane will be the club's Golden Boot winner. He enters tonight's game with a team-best 16 goals in the league, which are seven more than Landon Donovan, the club's Golden Boot winner every year from 2005-09 and then again last season. Thirteen of Keane's 16 goals have come since he returned from the European Championships in late June while six of his eight assists have also come in that time.

The Galaxy are 13-3-2 in games that Keane records either a goal or an assist and thanks to those numbers, as well as his role as the club's vice captain, leading LA to a 4-1-2 record when wearing the captain's armband, Keane was also voted the Galaxy's 2012 Most Valuable Player by the local media. The 12th different player in club history to be selected as MVP, Keane enters tonight's game

with a goal or an assist in eight of his last nine games, helping the Galaxy to a 5-1-2 in those eight matches.

In the other award voted on by the media, A.J. DeLaGarza was selected as the club's Defender of the Year for the first time. Now in his fourth year with the club, DeLaGarza helped lead the defense throughout the season, despite being forced to play alongside five different partners in central defense over the course of the year. DeLaGarza played in and started 30 games this season, playing the full 90 minutes in each until he was forced to come off with a knee injury against Colorado on September 30.

Landon Donovan rounds out the list of award winners, taking home the club's Humanitarian of the Year award. A board member with the LA Galaxy Foundation, Donovan is active and involved in all of the Foundation's charitable endeavors while also supporting efforts such as the Make-a-Wish Foundation, Children's Hospital Los Angeles and the Amputee Coalition.

Congratulations to all of the Galaxy's 2012 award winners.



FIVE QUESTIONS WITH TOMMY MEYER

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Ever since replacing the injured A.J. DeLaGarza in the first half of a game in Colorado late last month, Tommy Meyer has been pushed into a starting role alongside Omar Gonzalez in the heart of the Galaxy defense. But while the 22-year-old is in his first season with the Galaxy, this is not the first time that he and Gonzalez have been teammates.

The two center backs first met in 2005, when they were part of the U.S. Under-17 National Team's Residency program in Bradenton, Fla. Back then, Gonzalez "was actually a forward," Meyer said. "I was a defender, so it was a little different (back) then. Ever since I got out here we're good friends so that helps out a lot (and helps) to get an understanding of each other."

Meyer has started alongside Gonzalez in each of the last two games—a 2-1 loss to Salt Lake and a 2-2 draw in San Jose last week—and the duo is expected to be paired together once again tonight against the Sounders. We spoke with the rookie from Indiana University this week in El Salvador ahead of the game against Isidro Metapan to get his thoughts on how he is approaching the playoffs, which teammates have been helping him recently and how he has improved throughout the season.

QUESTION: How have the last couple of weeks been?

ANSWER: "They've been good. We got the Reserve League win, which was a big win for us. Throughout the whole year we've been working toward that. And then, obviously, playing in the Salt Lake game and the San Jose game were definitely good experiences to help me get ready for whatever's next."

Q: How much did you learn in those two games in comparison to the rest of the season?

A: "Once I wasn't playing, after the beginning of the season, was I figured out what I needed to work on. Those couple of months, and especially the last month or so, I think I've really kind of taken a couple of steps forward and gotten better in the areas I need to."

Q: How have guys like Josh, Omar and Todd helped you?

A: "It definitely helps having those guys around. Those guys are really experienced and good players. Especially Omar and Todd, having those guys next to me, they help out a lot. They know certain situations that are going to happen in the game and they help you out and guide you through those."



Q: How do you feel the experience of playing in San Jose will prepare you for playing in hostile environments during the postseason?

A: "The atmosphere was a little crazy in San Jose. But, you're going into an environment where it's, obviously, harder to play. It's their place, their field, and the environment is obviously for them so we have to find a way to match it when you come in and play these teams."

Q: Do you feel you're better prepared for the playoffs, because of the last three weeks?

A: "I feel like I'm definitely more prepared, especially given that we've had a couple of games over the last few weeks, including Reserve games, first team games and Champions League games. The more games you get in a short amount of time the more experience it builds and the more comfortable and confident you get heading into the playoffs."



ACADEMY



Jack McBean won't turn 18 until December, but the young forward is already acting and speaking like a savvy veteran.

Prior to Thursday night's two-goal performance in El Salvador, his first multi-goal game as a professional, we sat down to talk with McBean about his current scoring streak— he's also scored at least one goal in his last three Academy games and his last two Reserve League games— but all he wanted to talk about was the success those teams are having.

The club's top scorer in both the Reserve League (five goals) and the CONCACAF Champions League (three goals), McBean has also played a major role in the early season success of the Galaxy U-18 Academy team, helping them to a 4-0-1 record to open the year. McBean has scored five times in those matches, including a 90th minute game-winner against Arsenal FC last month, leaving him tied with Justin Dhillon for the team lead in goals.

In our chat, the Newport Beach-native opened up about not setting personal goals, approaching the Academy games with a different mindset and wanting to end this season with another Development Academy championship.

YOU'RE CURRENTLY TIED FOR THE TEAM LEAD WITH FIVE GOALS, AND HAVE LED THE U-18'S TO A 4-0-1 START, WHAT PERSONAL AND TEAM GOALS DID YOU SET FOR YOURSELF BEFORE THE SEASON STARTED?

JM: Personally, I don't really spend a lot of time thinking about personal goals. As long as we are winning and I contribute to how we are doing, and I'm playing well and I'm making other guys around me play better too, that's all that matters.

WHAT DO YOU ATTRIBUTE THIS GOAL SCORING STREAK YOU ARE ON TO?

JM: Preparation. I've started to prepare myself more as if I'm playing in an important game, because I know the coaches (with the first team) are all watching the

Academy and Reserve League games and they all get feedback. The goals haven't really come easy, most of the goals have come late, but I've had to work all game to get them.

WHY DO YOU THINK THE TEAM HAS GOTTEN OFF TO SUCH A GOOD START?

JM: I think we're doing well. I think we're doing a little bit better than maybe even we thought we would. The Chivas game (a 3-1 win) was a big test for us, it showed us how good we were. This is a harder working group than last year, I think, and everyone has a better mindset and it's going well.

SPEAKING OF MINDSETS, DO YOU GO INTO EVERY GAME LOOKING TO SCORE SEVEN GOALS AS A TEAM LIKE YOU DID LAST WEEKEND AGAINST STRIKERS FC?

JM: To win 7-0, you want to do that for every game. That could have been a game we had to grind out, like last year when we played them they were tough, they kind of sat back and we didn't finish some of our early chances so we got frustrated. But, this year, we stayed patient and by halftime we were up 3-0 so that made it a lot easier.

DO YOU LIKE BEING A LEADER?

JM: Drew (Murphy, the U-18 captain), myself and a couple other guys have been with the Galaxy Academy for much longer than some of the guys so we kind of know how everything works. We know all the coaches and know everything about the Academy and how things are supposed to be done.

DO YOU FEEL COMFORTABLE IN THAT ROLE?

JM: Yeah, when guys get called up to the reserves, I try to help out by telling them what not to do and what to do more of.

FINALLY, HOW DO YOU ENVISION THIS SEASON ENDING?

JM: Hopefully with another championship, but that's a long ways away. We just have to focus, take it one game at a time and try to get ourselves into the playoffs. And then, try to do better than last year.



DID YOU KNOW?

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THE GALAXY ARE 9-5-2 all-time in their final game of the regular season and 12-2-2 in their final home game of the year. Since moving to The Home Depot Center in 2003, LA have gone 6-1-2 in their final game of the year there, including a 2-0 win over Chivas USA last October in their final home game of the 2011 MLS regular season.



OMAR GONZALEZ MADE THE 100TH appearance of his Galaxy career last weekend against San Jose. The 21st player in club history to appear in 100 games, he could make his 100th start for the club tonight against Seattle.

IN THAT SAME GAME, SEAN FRANKLIN set a club record for games played in a season with 33. Prior to this year, no Galaxy player had appeared in more than 32 games in a single season. If Franklin starts tonight's game, he will set a club record for games started in a season with 33.

ROBBIE KEANE IS THE SEVENTH different player to win the club's Golden Boot, joining

Eduardo Hurtado (1996), Welton (1997), Cobi Jones (1998-2001), Carlos Ruiz (2002-04), Landon Donovan (2005-09, 2011) and Edson Buddle (2010). He enters tonight's game with 16 regular season goals, which are the seventh-best single season total in club history. With a goal tonight, Keane can match the fifth best season in club history with 17 goals, equaling Welton's tally from 1998 and Buddle's total in 2010.

THIS IS ALSO THE NINTH TIME in 17 years that the club's Golden Boot winner has also been selected as the Galaxy's Most Valuable Player. Landon Donovan has won both awards in the same season four times (2006, 2008, 2009 and 2011) while Eduardo Hurtado (1996), Cobi Jones (1998), Carlos Ruiz (2002) and Edson Buddle (2010) each did so once.

A.J. DELAGARZA IS THE SEVENTH player to win the club's Defender of the Year award in the last eight years. In that time, only Omar Gonzalez has won the award twice, doing so in 2010 and 2011.

LA'S 58 GOALS scored entering the game are the third most in club history. With one goal, the Galaxy will equal their total from the inaugural 1996 season when they scored 59 goals in 32 games. In 1998, the Galaxy set club and MLS records for goals in a season with 85, which gave them an average of 2.66 goals per game.

THE GALAXY ARE 4-1-0 in their first league game after a CONCACAF Champions League game in 2012. After dropping their regular season opener against Real Salt Lake, a game that was played three days after the first leg of their Champions League quarterfinal against Toronto FC, LA have won each of their last four games following a Champions League match, beating D.C. United (3-1 on March 18), FC Dallas (2-0 on August 26), Vancouver Whitecaps FC (2-0 on September 1) and Toronto FC (4-2 on September 22).

NUTRITION OF CHAMPIONS



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