

THE NEW JERSEY SOCCER GROUP

Press Release



Colonials Close Season with Draw against Red Bulls
Newark, NJ – July 6th, 2010



The Morris County Colonials proved that they were misrepresented by their 5-1 home loss to the New York Red Bulls last month, though were still unlucky to tie 1-1 Tuesday night in their final National Premier Soccer League tie of 2010 at Lubetkin Field on the campus of New Jersey Institute of Technology.

Rob Alman, the head coach of the Colonials, explained: "I was very happy with how diligent every player was tonight in terms of carrying out their individual tasks and consistently taking care of the little details. The Red Bulls are, in my opinion, the most talented team in the conference on a player-for-player scale.

"We did a good job of controlling which players received the ball in which areas of the field and forced certain players to be the ones to try and break us down."

The Red Bulls got the early goal, as Matt Bouraee fired in from a pass given to him inside the box by Steve Amaya in the ninth minute. The Red Bulls' 1-0 scoreline held firm for over an hour, though it could have been taken away by the Colonials at numerous points of the game as the team proved their mettle against the strongest squad in the conference.

The hosts continued to prove why they share their moniker with the MLS team during the game, with a 25-9 advantage in total shots. However, the statistics were unable to tell the whole story. Dany Estupinan, who was back between the pipes after a brief stint as an outfielder against the Italians last week, seemed unfazed by many attacks, stopping 13 shots over the course of the match.

Bouraee remained a threat throughout the game, though none of his other three shots got past Estupinan. The Colonials created some excellent chances of their own, most notably from Joey Spivack, who narrowly missed the best opportunity of the game up until that point by shooting wide of the goal in the 39th minute. Long Island University target man Steve Jakubowski shot high on another dangerous counter in the 61st minute, proving his worth once again.

Morris County eventually drew even in the 74th minute in a very similar fashion to how they scored against the Italians on July 3rd. Hartwick's Adam Mitchinson again used his 6'6" height to rise above the defense and send the ball towards the goal while Jakubowski, in the area, deflected the shot. Sheldon Parkinson was unable to account for the change in direction and let the ball roll past, into the back of the net. The Red Bulls had two more chances, notably through a header from Andrew Welker and another from Lade in added time, though the Colonials held firm.

Alman said after the game: "After giving up the early goal, we knew things would be difficult as they are a well-organized group and haven't given up many goals all season. I believe we're the only team in the league that has scored against them in both legs and we knew we would get our chances by staying patient and trusting our passing game."

"It was disappointing," said Red Bulls coach Rob Elliott. "We didn't play with an urgency to score goals. We got a lot of shots, but goals don't just happen. You have to do the work to make them happen and when you don't score goals, you don't always win the game."

"I thought Matt and (defender) Connor Lade worked hard and did the little things for us," he continued. "They gave us an honest game."

Elliott was quick to give the visitors plenty of credit however, adding: "They fought and battled and made it hard for us and they were rewarded with the late goal."

"Outside of the last ten minutes, which became a little scrappy and saw chances at both ends, I was delighted that we managed to have so much of the game played in the manner we wanted it to be played," concluded Alman. "Our experienced players helped with this and it was a good point for us on the road."

With Tuesday's tie, the unbeaten Red Bulls remain atop the NPSL Northeast-Atlantic Conference table, with 29 points on two ties and nine wins in 11 matches. Meanwhile, the Colonials close their 2010 season with three wins, three draws and three losses.

The [Morris County Colonials](#) are members of the [National Premier Soccer League](#), the highest level of men's amateur soccer in the United States. They are part of the [New Jersey Soccer Group](#), a management company for a family of soccer based organizations offering a full range of soccer services in New Jersey.

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He said the team has come a long way since its 3-0 defeat to the Colonials earlier in the season: "We'd just played three games in four days so our guys were tired and our starters were depleted, though we're a much better team now. We're finishing our chances a little better. Some of our players have really come on too - they play hard from top to bottom and I couldn't be happier with them.

"We'll hopefully move forward against the Mountaineers and get a win this coming Thursday. We still need to improve our defensive shape for consistency, but we have strength in depth and that was proved today," Martone concluded.

Alman said after the game: "The second half was made scrappy due to the stop start nature of the game, which sadly spoiled the game as a spectacle. Playing our second game in two days and being a man short, I was happy with how hard our guys worked right up until the final whistle. We never stopped trying to win the game and to be so positive on the road was pleasing."

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