

THE NEW JERSEY SOCCER GROUP

Press Release

Morristown, NJ, June 7th 2009

Colonials come unstuck in Maine

In their second game in less than 24 hours, the Colonials faced the Maine Sting in windy Bangor. Determined to put the previous night's loss against Boston Aztec behind them, the Colonials started brightly, their 4-4-2 formation allowing for plenty of width on the Husson College field. While playing the better soccer, it was clear the Sting would play a less sophisticated game and had a simple plan: to put the ball in the Colonials' penalty area as soon as possible, forcing the central defensive pair of Tolkowsky and Bryant to turn around and deal with balls over the top. After 15 minutes, one such ball proved effective for the Sting when it was finished by Dillon George with a low shot which found the corner of Matt Gnall's net.

It was another cruel blow for the Colonials who looked to bounce back and equalize as soon as possible. The Sting's physical approach upset the Colonials' rhythm, but set-pieces were squandered and service from wide areas was too slow resulting in Maine's 'keeper having a relatively quiet time. Urged on by Head Coach Rob Alman, the Colonials' best chance of the half came from good work by Jean-Pierre Perez down the right when his cross was met by Mario Maggia whose effort drifted inches wide. The challenge for the second half was clear: feed the strikers early with good quality and test the Sting 'keeper. However, too many midfield battles were lost to the combative Maine outfit which meant that pressure on the Sting backline was inconsistent.



Substitutes were asked to come on and make an impact although one substitution was forced upon the Colonials when Miguel Fontan hobbled off with an ankle injury after a late challenge. This meant the Colonials had to change formation to 3-4-3 and gamble more in order to create the equalizer. The Sting stuck to their plan, though, and forced the Colonials to defend. The last line of the Colonials' defense, Matt Gnall, was performing bravely in goal and came to his team's rescue in the 86th minute when he dived superbly to his left to save a penalty, giving the Colonials renewed hope they could rescue a point in the closing minutes.

Unfortunately, despite pressing valiantly, the Colonials' final ball was still lacking the required quality and the Sting broke again in the fourth minute of injury time when Metevier shot low across Gnall to compound the Colonials' misery on their long road trip.

Fortunately for the Colonials, the chance for revenge comes soon with the return fixture at Millburn High School this Friday at 6pm. It promises to be a lively, combative affair with the Colonials determined to get their first three points of the season.

The Morris County Colonials play in the National Premier Soccer League, the highest level of men's amateur soccer in the United States. The Colonials are a member of the New Jersey Soccer group; a management group providing a full range of soccer services in Northern NJ.

Colonials Line Up: Matt Gnall, Sam Bryant, Miguel Fontan, Ben Tolkowski, Jean Pierre Perez, Mario Maggia, Chris Vaccaro, Angster Otto, Jonny Donardo, James Honhau, Jonathan Yazo. *Subs:* Steve Jakubowski, Dan Sauerhoff, Maxi Coeteeze, Matt Roura.

More about the NJSG at
More about the Colonials at
More about the NPSL at

www.NJSoccerGroup.com
www.ColonialSoccer.com
www.NPSL.info/

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