



MEN'S SOCCER

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"A Great Night For Chicago Soccer" As Flames, Fire Play In Charity Match

UIC Soccer, Windy City's Major League Soccer franchise compete in friendly to raise money for Chicago SCORES.

April 26, 2007

[Photo Gallery](#)

Chicago, Ill.- The UIC men's soccer team and the Chicago Fire squared off in an exhibition friendly presented by UIC and the FireWorks for Kids Foundation under the lights at Flames Field on Wednesday night, helping raise money for Chicago SCORES in the process.

In front of a huge, energetic crowd that braved a light rain throughout the contest, the Flames battled Chicago's Major League Soccer team tooth-and-nail. Despite the 4-0 final result in favor of the "Men in Red," the real result was a victory for both teams as over \$6,000 was raised to benefit Chicago SCORES, which is an after-school program that empowers students in the North Lawndale and Little Village communities of Chicago using soccer, writing, creative expression and service learning.

"A great night for Chicago soccer," said UIC head coach [John Trask](#). "Hopefully this is something that we can continue in the future.

"For the Chicago Fire and Chicago SCORES to pull this event off, considering the [weather] conditions, was a huge success," Trask said. "Next year, if it's 75 degrees, I think this place is going to be bursting at the seams.

"Hopefully we can continue this tradition. It was a great night of soccer for everyone."

UIC gave fans of glimpse of some new faces for the 2007 campaign, as redshirt freshmen [Matt Spiess](#), [Nate Downing](#), [Eric Lee](#), [Stevan Jovcic](#) and first-year back [Robert Younger](#) all saw significant time on the pitch against the Fire.

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UIC freshman forward Matt Spiess seeks to evade Logan Pause while Chris Armas chases during Wednesday's benefit match.



The Flames hung tough against the Fire throughout the first period. Goalkeeper [Jovan Bubonja](#) made some tremendous stops under heavy pressure by the professionals, who featured most of their regular Starting XI.

In the 30th minute Chad Barrett sped toward a ball past midfield and broke away from the backline, launching a laser past Bubonja's grasp to put the Fire up 1-0. That's how the tally would remain heading into intermission, with the Flames playing well against the Fire first team.

In the second half the Fire substituted 10 new players, and the fresh legs worked as the Fire scored twice more on a pair of strikes from Floyd Franks. Mike Banner's hard header deflected off of Younger in the box for an own goal to cap the scoring.

At halftime Trask, Fire head coach Dave Sarachan, Fire President/CEO John Guppy, and Fire back [C.J. Brown](#) presented Chicago SCORES with a check of over \$6,000.

There were some dual ties for a few folks involved in the match. Brown, who started on the right side of the back line for the Fire on Wednesday, served as a volunteer assistant coach with the Flames during their NCAA Tournament Round of 32 run last fall, while [Ian Sarachan](#), the son of the Fire head coach, started at left mid for UIC.

The Flames cap a successful spring slate that included strong showings against the Fire, Ohio State and the USL First Division's Minnesota Thunder, among others.

UNOFFICIAL BOX SCORE

Chicago Fire 4, UIC 0

Flames Lineup (4-4-2): GK- [Jovan Bubonja](#), D- [Brandon Bilbrey](#) ([Eric Lee](#) 45), D- [Pat McMahon](#), D- [Robert Younger](#), D- [Mike Giffin](#) ([Nate Downing](#) 71), M- [Baggio Husidic](#), M- [Pavle Dundjer](#), M- [Cesar Zambrano](#), M- [Ian Sarachan](#), F- [Matt Spiess](#) ([Dan Simek](#) 67), M- [Stevan Jovcic](#) ([Pawel Ligas](#) 25).

Substitutes Not Used: [Cedomir Micic](#), [Jeff Engelbrecht](#), [Gerardo Solis](#).

Fire Lineup (3-5-2): GK-Matt Pickens ([Jon Busch](#) 30) ([Nick Noble](#) 67), D-C.J. Brown ([Osei Telesford](#) 45), D-Jim Curtin ([Jeff Curtin](#) 45), D-Dasan Robinson ([Daniel Woolard](#) 45), M-Gonzalo Segares ([Jordan Russolillo](#) 45), M-Pascal Bedrossian ([Thiago](#) 45), M-Logan Pause ([Erik Hort](#) 45), M-Chris Armas ([Bakary Soumare](#) 45), M-Ivan Guerrero ([Brian Plotkin](#) 45) ([Muner Hussan](#) 80), M-Chad Barrett ([Floyd Franks](#) 45), F-Chris Rolfe ([Mike Banner](#) 45).

Substitutes Not Used: None.

Scoring Summary

CHI - [Chad Barrett](#) (unassisted) 30'
 CHI - [Floyd Franks](#) ([Brian Plotkin](#)) 56'
 CHI - [Floyd Franks](#) (unassisted) 60'
 CHI - [Robert Younger](#) (own goal) 75'

Misconduct Summary

UIC - [Robert Younger](#) (caution) 54'
 CHI - [Floyd Franks](#) (caution) 74'

Referee: Jose Gesundheit

Referee's Assistants: Peter Balciunas, George Ghawi

4th Official: Russ Doszak

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