

Football 241

Chapter 241 Debut

[Time stamps in games]

Celtic now faced an uphill battle, needing to score three goals without conceding any more to keep their European dreams alive. The away fans, despite the daunting task ahead, continued to sing and chant, urging their team forward. Rodgers, animated on the touchline, gestured emphatically, trying to rally his players.

[71] The Glasgow side tried to remain calm as the match restarted but they faced a lot of pressure from the Valencia side. In a matter of moments, they were forced to launch the ball up the field lest they lose it close to their own box. Diakhaby calmly dealt with the ball heading it forward to the feet of Soler.

The midfielder remained calm despite facing pressure from McGregor. With a flick of his feet and nimble footwork, he sent the ball towards Parejo. The midfielder turned with the ball's momentum dodging Scott Brown as he dribbled the ball up the field. Instantly knocking the ball forward he charged forward initiating a counter as the rest of his teammates sprung to life.

Torres came to get the ball shot pulling in Hayes as Wass overlapped him. Not missing this chance Parejo slotted the ball down the wing into the stride of Wass. The right-back wasted no time breaking into the box as he directed the ball to the feet of Gameiro in the middle of the box.

"Gameiroooooo!" Roy exclaimed in excitement as he watched the strike angle his body to take the shot first time. His boot connected with that ball but the angle was just too sharp and he couldn't bend it far enough. Thus the ball swished through the air before impacting the outside of the net flying off into the crowd.

"What a shame they did everything right, Gameiro is single handle keeping Celtic on their toes. Two touche two shots at goal," Callum McDonald said as he watched the replay that led to the attack. The striker had done everything right since if he had taken another touch the ball would have been stolen from his feet.

"Not just him Valencia has been doing a great job putting pressure on their opponent, Parejo in particular has been doing a wonderful job controlling the pace of the match." Roy also chimed in as they once again watched the build-up play that led to that shot. They couldn't spend a long time on the replay as the game soon resumed but there was some movement on the Celtic bench.

Brendan could be seen with a frown on his face as he watched his players struggle to win back possession. Valencia seemed to have flipped a switch and started playing like a top LaLiga team. His team's inferiority in skills started to show as they were outplayed at every turn. The one-goal lead was all the confidence the home team needed to take control of the match.

"Wha'd you think John," he asked one of his assistant coaches as he debated what to do to change the situation. "We're just not threatening enough and they have realised that," he replied with an equally worried expression as he watched Christie fail to beat Wass allowing Valencia to regain control of the ball.

"(sigh) Tell Johnston and Rex to warm up," he stated with a sigh after having come to a decision. "You sure boss," his assistant asked him sounding quite surprised by his choice of players.

He wasn't surprised that Johnston was being put on with how sluggish Burke's performance had been. What surprised him more was the fact that he was willing to play the young winger he had been fighting to accept into the team. "The match is pretty much over so I should let him play to get the media off my back, who knows he might work a miracle."

Hearing Brendan's response he wasted no time calling for the two players who were undergoing a cone drill at the side. "Go warm up you'll be on in a couple of minutes," after those words he left the 20-year-old striker stupefied and the 15-year-old winger with a bright smile on his face.

[Ding]

[FOOTBALL SINGULARITY SYSTEM]

USER: Rakim Rex

AGE: 15yrs

TALENT ASSESSMENT: Grade - S

Singularity Points: 12080 + (1000)

Position: Winger

(Evaluation: A wounded wunderkind who has fallen from the reader of major teams who doubt his potential after his injury)

[USER STATS: Under 23 Grade]

>Physical Fitness: A

Balance and Coordination: S

Speed: B++

Agility: A+

Strength: C+

Stamina: C+

>Football Technique: S

>Game Intelligence: A

>Mental Ability: S+

>Singularity Skills: MR ShowTime: Grade B

>Skills

*Bronze Level Goal Sense (Passive)

*Eagle King's View (Passive)

*Silver Level Comeback Kid (Passive)

* Bronze Ankle Brace's (Passive)

USER MENU

[SINGULARITY MISSIONS: 3]

1) Mr.Bling: Win a major trophy by playing at least 60% of your team's game.

Duration: 2 yrs

Rewards: Skill Upgrade Voucher

2) Goal Machine: Score 3 Hattricks in a single season.

Duration: 2 yrs

Rewards: Random Potion, 25,000SP

3) Operation Pheonix: Rais Your Player Value to 20 Million or above

Duration: 2 Months

Current Value: 2M

Rewards: ???

4) Limited-time quest Shark in a Pond: Dominate the game to the point your opponents in the under-20s league fear you.

Duration: -

Rewards: Promotion, 1,000SP, (completed)

{This is a perfect game to work on Mission number 3 especially with this being your first official game back.} Eva told me once I was done with my warm-up and changed out of my old Nike training boots.

Changing into a fresh pair of blue-coloured Adidas X18+ laceless boots I hopped on the spot for a few seconds feeling the grass beneath me. The soft yet firm blades of grass felt like springboards beneath my feet telling me I was ready to play. My heart's excited beating mirrored the electric feeling I was currently in as my whole being was ready to play.

"here is what I want you to do, retain possession of the ball and remain calm just don't do too much..." Coach started giving us instructions as he waited for the ball to go out but I stopped listening at some point.

All that was on my mind was willing the ball to go out of play so I could play as for playing the game out that was the furthest thing on my mind. Coach seemed to be in damage control mode and was trying to instill that in us but I wasn't going to waste my debut playing things safe. Luckily I didn't have to wait any longer as in the [77] minute Ajer came in clutch with a slide tackle sweeping the ball from the feet of Guedes.

(Fweet Fweet) "It looks like we finally get that substitution that the Celtic side badly needed." Callum McDonald said after watching the ref stop the Valencia side from taking a quick throw-in.

The fourth official held up his board showing a green 73 and a red 25. Burke surprised by the decision had to double-check before jogging to the sidelines. "Looks like the striker wasn't expecting to be taken off," Roy said finding the the striker's surprised expression quite amusing, especially when he asked the player marking him if it was really him.

"I'm quite surprised he's being taken off since he performed quite well in the attacking half, but then again a striker with no goals isn't doing his job." Callum McDonald chimed in doing his part to keep the commentary going but he knew that Brandon Rodgers had given up on the game.

The fact he was putting on a young winger who needed playtime and wouldn't do much to affect this match speaks volumes. "Next sub is the young and anticipated Rakim Rex wearing the number 30 coming in for Christie with the 17," Roy stated with excitement as he tried to add some buzz to an already dead game. However, most Celtic fans who saw this change started to boo letting their feelings known.

The more radical fans got up from their seats and left the stadium no longer expecting a miracle. After all, what was a 15-year-old player going to do in a match with grown men no matter how good he is? Hearing the Boos from his own team's fans caught Rakim by surprise but chose to ignore it as he high five Christie.

