

LEGENDS 281

Chapter 281: The Blue Side of Manchester V

The match resumed with both teams back where they started and once again doing their utmost to take the lead in the game.

Porto once again settled behind the ball and continuously launched counterattacks at the Manchester City team, but time and time again, they were repelled by the Manchester City team which seemed to have found a way to hold back Porto's pacey wingers, Luis Diaz and Jesus Corona.

The Manchester City left-back, Oleksandr Zinchenko had been instructed by Pep Guardiola to stay behind with the two center-backs so he could join hands with them to stop Jesus Corona should he be the one to start a counter.

Unlike the pace attributes of Kyle Walker, which allowed him to track back and catch up with Luis Diaz whenever Porto was on the counter using that flank, Zinchenko did not have anywhere near enough pace or even defensive acumen to hold back Jesus Corona.

In the first place, he was originally a center attacking midfielder who was only playing in the left-back position because there was no space for him in the midfield with players like Kevin De Bruyne, Ilkay Gundogan, Rodri, Fernandinho, Bernardo Silva, and even Phil Foden competing for spots.

Thus he had been converted to a left back and thanks to Pep Guardiola's playing style that allowed wingbacks to influence the team's attacking options, he had been performing quite well, but that was only offensively.

His defensive skills still left a lot to be desired, hence the manager's choice of tactics.

Luckily for the Manchester City team, they were able to keep the Porto team at bay with this change in tactics, but before long, misfortune struck them when Kyle Walker suddenly developed a cramp as he chased Luis Diaz down on one of Porto's attempts at a counter-attack.

The referee quickly blew a whistle and called for medical attention for Kyle Walker who sat down while holding his thigh, no longer able to stand due to the pain shooting his leg.

The medics quickly ran to the field and started checking his leg, but even after spraying painkillers and massaging his legs, Kyle Walker still felt too much discomfort to be able to complete the match and was soon helped off the field by the medics while Joao Cancelo began to warm up on the sidelines.

Kyle Walker was helped off the field and Joao Cancelo ran onto the field, taking his position, and the match resumed with a drop ball.

With a new injection of fresh legs, Luis Diaz who had been managing to launch a counterattack every now and then for the Porto side was now kept in check by Joao Cancelo and was unable to do much for his team.

Porto tried to find new avenues for an attack, but they were unable to do much on the attacking side any longer and were stuck with defending the Manchester City team's constant attacks and despite some close calls, the two teams held each other to a draw by half time.

With the referee blowing for halftime, the match paused and the players of both teams walked off the field tiredly, needing a rest after such an intensive first half.

The Porto players arrived in their locker room where their head manager waited patiently for them, looking to be deep in thought as he tried to think of how his players should approach the second half of the game.

So far, things were going reasonably well with them staying on the defensive, but with Manchester City adjusting to their attacks and finally being able to put a stop to almost all their counterattacks, it remained to be seen if they could go on to win by staying on the defensive.

Sergio Conceicao doubted that they could win by staying defensive, but he was even more apprehensive about opening up his team's defense and putting more focus on attacking.

This stemmed from the fact that by staying defensive, they were just barely managing to keep the Manchester City team in check, and opening up would inevitably lead to them conceding a goal.

By going on the attack, the game would become a matter of who could outscore the other rather than who could keep the other in check, but Sergio Conceicao knew that his team did not have as much attacking power as the Manchester City team and would most likely lose in a scoring competition against them.

This was not a speculation on his part, it was a known fact, especially after checking the records of the Manchester City team in the previous season where almost all their matches ended with them scoring at least three goals past their opponents, whoever they were.

The Porto team also had a lot of attacking firepower, but the Manchester City team was just a lot more than they could handle and Sergio Conceicao did not want to take such a risk on the first game of their Champions League campaign.

This was no time for experimentation, they had to get as many points as possible in every match in the group stages and a drop in morale was the last thing they needed.

“Good work boys, we’ve done well to keep them at bay in the first half, but we need to do more in the second half,” Sergio Conceicao pulled himself out of his thoughts and began addressing his players.

“We stick with what we are already doing, stay defensive, keep ourselves sharp and ready for the counterattack,”

“Diaz has done well so far, but you guys also need to step up. There should be more of you guys bursting forward on the counterattack,”

“It’s a team effort and not a single person’s job,” Sergio Conceicao stressed his words as he began to give instructions to the other players on what he expected from his players in the second half.

The fifteen minutes of halftime quickly came and went and the players were soon back on the field and the match resumed.

Chapter 282: The Blue Side of Manchester VI

#65th minute...

The second half of the match between Manchester City and Porto had been on for a quarter of an hour and the two teams had been tearing at each other every opportunity they had.

According to their game plan that had been settled by their manager, the Porto team stayed on the defensive, hoping to get another goal on the counter or at least manage to keep the current scoreline till the final whistle, but the Manchester City, on the other hand, were doing their best to go against that.

Chance after chance came from the Manchester City side but Porto somehow held on and did not let the Manchester City team gain anything more than a wasted shot.

However, as the game progressed, the Manchester City side got more aggressive, both on the defensive and on the attack and they had already recorded three yellow cards from Bernardo Silva, Eric Garcia, and Joao Cancelo just a few minutes after the beginning of the second half.

With Manchester City playing aggressively, Porto had no choice but to up their tempo and do their best to their opponents away from their penalty box which led to the current situation where Matheus Uribe had Bernardo Silva just outside the penalty box of the Porto team.

The free kick was 22 yards away from the goal and was directly in front of the goal which was a very dangerous position for a team like Manchester City which had a way with free kicks thanks to players like Kevin De Bruyne and Ilkay Gundogan on their team.

Unfortunately, Uribe did not have a choice when he made a tackle and he had simply done his best to stop his marker from creating a goal-scoring chance.

The Porto players arranged their wall as Gundogan set the ball down in front of them.

FWEEEEEEEE

The referee blasted his whistle loudly and Gundogan ran at the ball while curling his upper body and smashing the side of his right foot against the ball, sending a curling shot at the wall.

Mylo who had just been subbed on for Mehdi Taremi a few minutes earlier was stunned to see the ball flying and immediately turned his body to block the ball but he had turned a bit too much and instead, his movement created just enough space for the ball to fly past him, just skidding off his back and smashing into the back of his team's goal with Augustin Marchesin being unable to react.

{GOAL!!!}

{Manchester City!!!}

{They've taken the lead for the first time in the game and finally seem to be doing justice to the expectations of their fans who will no doubt, be ecstatic with the development of the goal!}

{Wonderful strike and the goalkeeper was stunned to immobility!} Derek Rae shouted into the microphone with his excitement clear in his voice as he watched the Manchester City players celebrate their goal on the pitch.

{It was a well-taken free-kick, but I have to ask what that player was thinking when he dodged the ball instead of blocking it} Alan asked the question that all the Porto fans had in their head as they watched the replay of the goal, but the question, unfortunately, was to remain unanswered for the near future as the Porto manager was already making moves on the sidelines.

After seeing the ball smash into the back of the net, bringing a change to the scoreboard and putting his team at a disadvantage, Sergio Conceicao quickly reacted and turned to the bench, looking for the best move he could make to counter this situation.

His eyes fell on Fabio Viera, and Jason who was seated beside him and he immediately pointed to the two of them,

"You two, get up and start warming up, right now, you have a minute to get ready," he said with urgency in his voice.

The Porto team was past the stages where they could afford to play it safe and he could only bring out cards that had the potential to be wildcards even in games like this.

It was a dangerous move to bring on two young players who had never had experience with the Champions League in a game where they were losing against an unimaginably strong opponent, but Sergio Conceicao was out of options... even though it was a hypocritical thought when he had already brought on Mylo earlier.

He could only go out on a limb and bring on the combination of players who had helped the team out of tough situations like this one in the past and hope that the team could manage to gain something from the game.

Jason and Fabio were definitely not going to complain that they would finally step on the field and were even a little happy that their team was losing which had gotten the manager to finally turn to them.

Especially after seeing Mylo who had done less for the team than them stepping on the field earlier than them in a Champions League game.

They quickly got to their feet and began warming up, and after a minute, they headed back and started putting their kits in order.

As they adjusted their kits with the manager talking to them about what he wanted them to do once they were on the field, Jason glanced over at the Manchester City stands and saw three players also getting ready to get on the field as well.

Recognizing the three players immediately to be Aymeric Laporte, Ferran Torres, and Phil Foden, Jason nodded to himself as he started trying to internally calculate what the addition of these three players would mean to the current match, but he wasn't able to come to a conjecture and simply stopped thinking about it.

He'd think more about it on the pitch.

"Jason, I want you on the left side doing exactly what Luis was doing all through the first half. Run at your marker, get rid of him and get the ball forward, simple," Sergio Conceicao said and turned to Fabio Viera,

“I want you in the center, but you’ll also have to keep your eyes open and follow after Jason so you can support him should he be in a tight location,” Sergio Conceicao continued explaining while the match went on and finally, the ball flew out of play in the 68th minute of the game.

Chapter 283: The Blue Side of Manchester VII

On the sidelines, an assistant referee held up a board to signify a substitution as soon as the ball was out of play and the players who saw their numbers in red began heading to the sidelines.

Jason and Fabio Viera stood on one side of the referee while Phil Foden, Ferran Torres, and Aymeric Laporte stood on the other side as they waited for their teammates to arrive on the sidelines.

Feeling a bit to finally get back on a pitch after a long period of injury, Jason looked over at the Manchester City players beside him and stretched a fist over, half expecting to be ignored as he was doing it for fun and expected to laugh at himself after he was ignored.

Surprisingly though, Phil Foden responded and fist-bumped him, and then Ferran Torres did the same, and finally, Laporte fist-bumped Jason as well.

This scene was caught on camera as the cameras were on the players who were about to get on the pitch and it brought a smile to the fans of both teams as well as all the other people watching the match on their screens.

{A display of sportsmanship from the fresh players, It’s almost like they’re telling each other “No hard feelings, bro”}

{Wonderful to see this from the young players as they come on the pitch} Derek Rae didn’t hesitate to say something about it as the new players finally ran onto the pitch after their substitution.

For the Porto side, Jason was coming on for Luis Diaz on the left side of the midfield and Fabio Viera was coming on for Mattheus Uribe on the left-center side of the midfield.

On the Manchester City team, Ferran Torres was coming on for Riyad Mahrez, Phil Foden for Bernardo Silva, and Aymeric Laporte for Eric Garcia.

{Jason Bolu, It's his return to the team after his injury in the Europa League quarter-finals match against Inter Milan last season}

{He'll be looking to hit the ground running, but with his team currently losing the game, it may be a bit difficult to enjoy his return to the field after such a long recovery period} Alan did his job as a pundit, giving the listeners the facts about Jason's long-awaited return to the pitch.

{I personally think that he can do something here. We've seen him be very instrumental for his team last season, displaying results that one would think to be impossible from someone his age} Derek Rae commented.

{I concur, hopefully, he can pull some of that out before the end of the game, Porto could use some of last season's Jason right now} Alan agreed with Derek as the match continued.

#72nd minute...

It had been a few minutes since the substitution, but it had been quiet all over the pitch with neither of the teams managing to do much more than pass the ball around among themselves in the last few minutes.

Jason had gotten a few touches on the ball, but he hadn't been able to get anything going thanks to the Manchester City players who seemed to be keeping him strictly under guard and not giving him any space to start anything.

It seemed like the Manchester City manager didn't underestimate him and saw him as a variable that could be a dangerous threat if left alone and he didn't want to give Jason enough time even to get a feel of the ball and become comfortable.

Jason also didn't push his luck because despite how he wasn't mentally scarred from his injury due to his numerous injuries in his past reality, he was still a bit shaken and was a bit apprehensive at too much contact at the moment.

He was trying to calm himself and get comfortable on the ball, but the Manchester City players didn't seem inclined to allow him even a yard of space, hence apart from accurately passing the ball to a teammate, Jason hadn't done anything else since he had come on apart from helping to defend the flank he was positioned at.

Currently, Manchester City had a freekick on the left side of the Porto penalty box after an attempt from Raheem Sterling to break into the penalty box was stopped by Wilson Manafa who had defended his corner stubbornly.

Wilson Manafa managed to stop the attack, but he gave away a free kick and was booked a yellow card by the referee who probably felt his tackle was a bit too rough.

The free kick was close enough to be in a dangerous position, but it was not likely to be taken directly because of its awkward angle from the goal, and thus the players of the two teams were arranging themselves and getting ready for the free kick.

On the sidelines, the board was held up, and it seemed that the two managers had turned to their benches once again.

Pep Guardiola had decided to take off Fernandinho and bring on Rodri, while Sergio Conceicao had gone for a double substitution.

Felipe Anderson would be coming on for Jesus Corona, and Diogo Leite would be coming on for Wilson Manafa who had gotten a yellow card.

The Porto head manager did not want to take the risk of leaving an already booked Wilson Manafa with a tricky and agile player like Raheem Sterling as that would inevitably lead to either another yellow card for Manafa, or less defensive pressure on Sterling which could be bad.

Once the new players were on the pitch and had taken position, the referee blew his whistle and Gundogan ran at the ball and sent a cross into the penalty box.

With players like Aymeric Laporte, John Stones, and Pepe fighting for the ball, the penalty box looked like a battlefield of giants, but Pepe by virtue of his experience advantage managed to evade the Manchester City players trying to attack the ball and got to it first with a header to try and clear the ball.

The ball flew outside the penalty box, but unlike the counterattack that Porto was looking forward to, it was Phil Foden who got to the ball first just a few yards away from the box.

Quickly bringing the ball under control, he pushed the ball back towards the penalty box with nothing in his eyes but the Porto goal and he immediately unleashed a shot.

The ball took off at once, but before it had traveled a few yards, Zaidu Sanusi's outstretched leg appeared in the path of the ball from the right of Foden's view and blocked the shot from going at his team's goal.

The ball deflected off of Zaidu's leg and flew towards the left, flying over the penalty box and seemingly heading out, but not everyone gave up on the ball.

Raheem Sterling was inside the box and near the estimated path of the ball and he quickly noticed that the ball wasn't unreachable and he quickly made a run for it.

His movements were noticed by Chancel Mbemba, but Mbemba was a step too late and Sterling had already managed to get to the ball and keep it on the pitch with an amazing display of skill and ball control.

Chancel Mbemba immediately rushed at Sterling, hoping to clear the ball away before the situation got worse for his team, but Sterling who was currently in a state of high alert after displaying inhuman-like ball control, feinted left and tricked Chancel Mbemba before flicking the ball to the right and immediately sending a grounded through pass across the Porto goal.

Due to the ball moving too fast and at a bit of a distance from the Porto goalkeeper, he only kept his eye on the ball and followed it as much as he could, but all of a sudden Ferran Torres weaseled his way between all the players in the penalty box and appeared in the path of the ball and poked it with his foot.

Augustin Marchesin immediately jumped at the ball, but he wasn't able to reach and the ball flew past him into the back of the goal.

{GOAL!!!}

{CITY!!!}

{They make it three!}

{They are pulling clear here and it's beginning to look like a game set-in match!}

{The goal scorer has only been on the pitch for a few minutes, and already, he has scored!}

{He wasn't the only substitute, but he's the only one that has left a mark on the game so far!} Derak Rae shouted into the microphone, not masking his excitement as he delivered his commentary, making for an animated scene with the Manchester City players celebrating their goal.

Needless to say, the Porto team looked down after Manchester City's goal and even the manager was short of words and didn't know what to do at that moment.

He had chosen to go defensive, but that hadn't worked due to his terrible luck, yet even after deciding to risk everything, he hadn't seen any other change than an even more negative one.

Things weren't going his way at all, and with the little time left in the game, his hopes were dwindling.

The Porto fans in their homes felt the exact same way.

Chapter 284: The Blue Side of Manchester VIII

The match resumed once again with Manchester City having taken a two-goal lead over the Porto team and had finally had enough of staying defensive.

The players went forward boldly as they no longer had anything to lose and staying back would allow the Manchester City team to continue dictating the game and giving them more opportunities to score more goals.

With this in mind, they played more boldly, but Manchester City wasn't easily giving up their control of the game and continued pressing hard against the Porto team.

Thus the match went into a stalemate with the ball moving up and down the pitch, but neither of the teams managed to create any dangerous chances.

#78th minute...

Manchester City had just gotten a corner kick after they tried to break in from the left wing, but Diogo Leite had managed to block Sterling from getting past him and had sent the ball out for a corner kick.

Ilkay Gundogan ran over to take the corner kick while the other players arranged themselves inside the Porto penalty box.

Fweeeeee

At the sound of the referee's whistle, Gundogan whipped the ball into Porto's box with a high cross while the players of the two teams began pushing against each other as they tried to get closer to the path of the incoming ball.

Making use of his burly body, Pepe pushed his marker out of the way and jumped up to get his head to the ball first and clear the ball out of the danger area.

The ball bounced off Pepe's head and flew outside the penalty area towards the right flank where Jason and Fabio Viera of the Porto team along with Zinchenko from the Manchester City side waited.

Jason immediately sent a knowing glance at Fabio after seeing that the ball would land nearer to him, and Fabio immediately understood Jason's gaze.

Immediately after that, Jason turned and took off towards Manchester City's half of the field, running down the right flank while Fabio Viera moved closer to the ball and caught it on his foot, bringing it under control.

With Jason already making a run towards the Manchester City penalty box, this was a perfect opportunity for a counter, but Fabio Viera had to first escape Oleksandr Zinchenko before he could send the ball to Jason.

Knowing that he couldn't take too much time on the ball if he did not want to be tackled from behind, Viera immediately feinted to the left before snapping back and drawing the ball to his right, creating just enough space for him to send a long through pass forward.

Sweeping the ball with his left foot, Viera immediately sent a curling pass forward at Jason.

Hearing the sound of contact, Jason glanced back to see the ball flying and curling into his path, but he also took that opportunity to take notice of the other players' position and he immediately noticed Joao Cancelo advancing on him at breakneck speed, as well as a few other players moving forward.

After swiftly making internal calculations, Jason took to the air and caught the ball on his right leg, taking all the power out of the pass and bringing it under control before gravity took control and he came back to the ground with the ball.

Without a pause, Jason kicked the ball forward and continued running as he could already hear Joao Cancelo's approaching footsteps getting louder.

After moving forward a few more yards, Jason began cutting inside as he was already near the penalty box of the Manchester City team, but Joao Cancelo wasn't having that and wanted to take him out before he got into the penalty box, hence he flew into a sliding tackle, homing at Jason's legs like a missile, but Jason who had made sure to remain cautious immediately noticed Cancelo's tackle.

Flicking the ball upward just enough so that Cancelo couldn't reach the ball in his sliding tackle posture, Jason smoothly jumped over Cancelo's tackle and continued his run, leaving Cancelo behind and unable to recover in time to stop the counterattack.

As Jason ran into the penalty box of the Manchester City team, he stayed on the edge of the penalty box and didn't cut in any further, causing Aymeric Laporte who had been marking Mylo to move forward a bit and try to tackle him, but this was what Jason was waiting for and immediately Laporte was at a safe distance away from Mylo, Jason immediately sent a quick grounded pass at Mylo who didn't hesitate to smack the ball past Ederson.

{GOAL!!!}

{Porto have lit a fire of hope with that goal!}

{There's only one in it now!} Derek commented excitedly as he watched the ball go in.

{It was a splendid counterattack, with both individual efforts and teamwork coming into the fray to create a masterpiece of a goal} Alan commented at a much steadier pace than Derek, his commentary focusing on analyzing the goal instead of hyping up excitement.

{That makes it the young striker's first goal in the Champions League and it was all thanks to a splendid assist from the young winger}

{Porto seems to have great luck in their youth development area these days} Alan continued to talk while Mylo had picked the ball out of the goal and was moving back to the halfway line, understanding that this was not the time to be frivolous with a celebration as they were still losing the game.

The other Porto players also understood this fact and quickly headed back to their half of the field as well, eager to build off the momentum of the goal and go on to equalize.

On the sidelines, Sergio Conceicao looked quietly at his players with his right hand on his mouth as he tried to think whether he needed to give his players any new instructions that could potentially help them to get an equalizer, but even after a minute of thought, he couldn't think about anything and just stayed quiet.

#82nd minute...

Manchester City had increased the pressure they were putting on the Porto team, doing their best to kill the Port players' momentum, but the Porto team responded in kind and was doing their best to keep their hopes alive.

The two teams matched each other aura for aura as they clashed for the win.

On the right side of Porto's box, Ferran Torres tried to get past Zaidu Sanusi, but no matter the step overs, or feints he made, Zaidu stuck to him like glue, not giving him an inch of space and in the end, Ferran Torres didn't have any choice but to pass back.

Jason lunged for the ball, trying to intercept the pass, but he missed and the ball found its way to Joao Cancelo who immediately passed the ball infield to Gundogan.

Fabio Viera immediately ran at Gundogan, but as if they had made a plan to keep the ball moving, Gundogan immediately sent a pass to Foden on his left.

Receiving the ball just a few yards outside the center of Porto's penalty box, Foden pushed the ball forward and faced off against Otavio.

Quickly feeding the ball towards his left leg, Foden tried to push past Otavio and Otavio immediately reacted, but perhaps due to his exhaustion, he ended up a bit behind Foden, giving him a clear view of the goal and Foden immediately pulled back his left leg.

{He lets fly of the ball!?!} Derek Rae's voice was filled with anticipation as Foden took the shot.

The ball thundered off Foden's foot, immediately flying towards the top left corner of the goal with Augustin Marchesin following after the ball, doing his best to get in the way, but he fell short and the ball smashed into the net.

{GOAL!} Derek Rae shouted in excitement as Foden immediately took off to celebrate his goal.

{We thought a goal would come at one end, but the ball had gone in at the other end!}

{Porto are pegged back again and it's looking like the end of the road for them!} Derek's excited commentary was splayed all over the faces of the Porto players, the manager, and the fans.

{I believe I speak for everybody when I say that none of us saw that shot coming from anywhere} Alan began saying his bit of the commentary.

{It was an absolute stunner, for us and for the Porto team, and with time running out, can the Porto team find it anywhere within them to recover from this shock}

{Strangely this reminds me of Porto's loss against Inter Milan in the Europa League just last season where Porto had lost the game}

{Porto have an uphill battle to fight and this trauma wouldn't make it any easier for them} Alan said as he could clearly see the negative expressions of the Porto players from inside the commentary box.

Sergio Conceicao on the sidelines didn't even have it in him to shout at his players, but it was his job and he did it regardless.

Clapping his hands from the sidelines, he shouted at his players,

"We still have at least eight minutes, we can score three!"

Chapter 285: The Blue Side of Manchester IX

Clapping his hands from the sidelines, Sergio Conceicao shouted at his players,

"We still have at least eight minutes, we can score three!"

Sergio Conceicao's words sounded like a joke to everyone who heard it as it was an almost impossible task to score three goals against Manchester City in the Champions unless one had the best of the best players on their team.

The Porto players were very good players who wouldn't have too hard a time fitting into any top team in the world, but it was too much of a stretch to call themselves the best of the best.

However, their internal deliberations were of no use as the match wasn't over yet and the Porto players had no choice but to keep going, irrespective of the final scoreline of the game.

It was their job to do so.

The match soon resumed once again with the Porto team kicking off once again and they immediately went on the attack immediately after the kickoff, but it seemed that Pep Guardiola had finally decided to give up on attacking football for the day as the Manchester City players began to focus more on preserving their lead rather than trying to rack up the scoreline.

Pep Guardiola didn't want to take any further risks after getting a good two-goal lead over his opponents and his instructions to his players were more inclined towards time wasting and preserving their lead.

This was not to say that the Manchester City team did not attack at all, but rather they focused more on keeping possession whenever they were with the ball instead of trying to create goal-scoring chances, and they only tried to attack whenever Porto left a clear space in their defense line.

This did not happen often though as Porto was currently raining fire and thunder on the Manchester City players at whatever chance they got, but their attacks weren't proving to be very effective.

The Porto team however wasn't going to give up.

#89th minute...

Porto was once again on the attack and they were exchanging the ball among themselves carefully, doing their best not to lose possession of the ball, yet passing with enough pace and precision to keep the flame of the attack alive.

Soon, the ball found its way to Jason on the left side of the Manchester City penalty box and unlike the nearest player was expecting, Jason didn't pass the ball and instead began cutting into the Manchester City penalty box.

He had had enough of their attacks only coming to dead ends and decided to take a risk.

As Jason cut into the penalty box, he came face to face with John Stones who stood tense, watching his every move, ready to react at the slightest movement from Jason, but that wasn't going to deter Jason from making his move.

Stepping over the ball a few times before suddenly making as if to cut right, Jason kept his eyes on John Stones, waiting to see his reaction before making his next move, but to Jason's surprise, John Stones had been so tense and eager that he had already reacted and jumped to the right, prompting Jason to cut back to the left and the resulting effect of this move stunned everyone watching.

As if he had been shot in the head, John Stones suddenly froze mid-movement and fell to the ground on his back.

{Oh he's fallen over!} Derek shouted into the microphone.

{It seems like Jason tapped into his ancestral voodoo for a second there!} Even Alan couldn't resist making a snarky comment.

Jason ignored all the words from the commentators and immediately moved past the fallen John Stones who was the only obstacle between him and Ederson earlier.

Ederson didn't know whether to run at Jason or to stay on his line and his internal deliberation made him a bit too slow to react and by the time he reacted, Jason was already about to take his shot.

Ederson immediately put up his hands and rushed out, hoping to either block the shot or intimidate Jason into shooting the ball off-target, but Jason wasn't so easily intimidated and already had a plan in mind.

Instead of trying to curl the ball around Ederson, Jason immediately hit it as hard and as straight as he could, ensuring it didn't leave the floor.

Before Ederson could react to the shot, the ball flew in between his legs and slammed into the back of his net while Ederson collapsed to the floor like a lagging goalkeeper in a football game.

{He scores!}

{Porto have three!!!}

{Is there still time for one more!?!} Derek shouted into the microphone while Jason immediately ran around Ederson, picked the ball, and began running back to the middle of the field, while nodding to his teammates who ran along with him, all of them fired up to go all out and try to get an equalizer before time ran out.

{Porto looks to be on a mission to try and get one more before that final whistle, but I'm sure the Manchester City team would not want to give up their lead that easily}

{This match is shaping up for a frenetic finish} Alan began his own stretch of commentary after Derek was done doing his hype commentary.

At this time, Jason had already put the ball down in the middle of the field and had gone to stay on his side of the field, awaiting the kickoff once again, but the Manchester City players were instead taking their sweet time to walk back and kick off the game once again.

This infuriated some of the Porto players to no end and they immediately reacted explosively, but they were soon calmed down by their teammates and the referee.

The referee immediately hurried the Manchester City players and the match resumed once again.

On the sidelines, an assistant referee held up the board to let everyone know that there would be at least five minutes of added time.

The Porto players immediately had their motivation increase a bit and the trepidation in their hearts reduced a bit after noting that there would be five minutes which should be ample enough for them to gain something from the game, while the Manchester City players braced themselves for a five minutes of thorough battering.

Chapter 286: The Blue Side of Manchester X

The ninety minutes of the game had elapsed and the match was currently in the third minute of added time, yet Porto had been unable to even get a single shot away ever since they scored their third goal due to the Manchester City team getting to the ground with their defensive efforts and defending their goal like their life depended on it.

It had to be said that Manchester City wasn't a defensive team and the only way they managed to keep people away from their goal was by being the ones dictating the game and the occasional display of individual brilliance from their world-class defenders, but for the last few minutes, the Manchester City team had defied expectations in the defensive department as the whole team dug in at the back and somehow managed to keep the Porto team at bay despite the desperate efforts of the Porto players.

The Porto players sent players forward, sent through passes, tried to overload the Manchester City half of the field, tried to overload the Manchester City 18-yard box, played aggressively, and sent countless crosses into the Manchester City penalty box, but Manchester City stood against their every effort, waving them off like they were but mere specks of dust.

Yet, the Porto players didn't give up and continued striving for that one goal that would allow them to share the spoils of the match.

On the left side of the field, Jason, Viera, and Zaidu Sanusi exchanged the ball among each other, trying to create some space to try and breakthrough, but Manchester City didn't seem to want to budge.

Receiving the ball from Viera, Jason once again decided to try again and breakthrough from the wing.

As he brought the ball to a stop while shielding the ball away from Joao Cancelo, he finally made his move.

Making as if to turn towards the left before suddenly snapping back and sweeping the ball around and escaping Joao Cancelo, Jason immediately took off towards the Manchester City penalty box, but he wasn't running for long.

Joao Cancelo had quickly recovered and chased him down before bringing Jason down with a sliding tackle just a few yards before he could step into the penalty box.

Jason tumbled over a few times from the tackle, and his annoyance flared up as he immediately got up despite the pain in his body from falling over and he began advancing towards Joao Cancelo, his anger taking over and making him want to send Joao Cancelo to sleep with a roundhouse kick.

This wasn't the first time he had been brought down since he got on the pitch, but it was beginning to become very annoying, especially when his team was already losing.

Fabio Viera immediately intercepted Jason before he could reach Joao Cancelo, but Zaidu who was nearby went to intercept Joao Cancelo and it was clear that he wasn't happy either.

{Tempers are flaring here!}

{I can't say I blame the kid, he's been brought down over five times already in this match despite this being his first match after his injury}

The referee soon came over to settle the matter after it almost delved into a full-blown fight between the two teams.

After showing Joao Cancelo his second yellow card of the game, followed by a red card and sending him off, the referee gave the Porto team a free kick.

Jason took the ball to the spot depicted by the referee and set it down as he was to take the free kick.

Due to the awkward angle of the free kick, Jason couldn't take it directly and could only choose to cross, but with time running out, he couldn't just cross the ball in and leave everything to chance so he decided to take a gamble.

Calling Fabio Viera over, he whispered a plan into his ear,

“I’ll cross the ball over the middle of the penalty box and let it dip only after crossing the middle of the penalty box, so just run over from the right side and try to catch it as it reaches you,”

“It’ll be best to catch it on the volley if we want to catch them by surprise,” Fabio Viera mused, adding to the plan.

Quickly getting over the specifics of the plan down in less than five seconds, Fabio Viera quickly ran towards the area where the other players were, but he stayed outside the penalty box, to the surprise of some Manchester City players.

They had seen him talking to Jason and thought that the two of them had come up with a plan, but with Fabio Viera waiting outside the penalty box, they couldn’t be bothered to send anybody to mark him when they had to put more focus on defending the penalty box, especially now that they were one man down.

The players were soon done arranging themselves and the referee blew the whistle to give Jason the go-ahead to take the free kick.

After raising a hand to signal to Fabio Viera, Jason ran at the ball and hit it deftly, sending it towards the pre-agreed location with Viera.

The ball flew into Manchester City’s penalty box where the players of the two teams ran at the ball, but before long, they noticed that the ball was flying a bit too high for it to be meant for someone in the middle, but that was Jason’s and Viera’s plan all along.

Fabio Viera had begun running into the penalty box from the right after Jason raised his hand and was already almost at the location where the ball would land when he noticed Mylo jump for the ball, intending to get to it with his head and with how high he jumped, it seemed like he would reach the ball.

‘That idiot!’ Jason and Viera immediately thought as they saw Mylo jump for the ball.

At the height the ball was, there was no way Mylo would be able to head it downwards which would mean the chance would be wasted as opposed to their almost sure plan to score.

Luckily, Mylo couldn't reach the ball enough to head it towards the goal and it skidded off his head before continuing its flight towards Fabio Viera's path.

Due to skidding off Mylo's head, the ball rose a bit higher and would likely reach Viera at a higher position than he expected, but Viera could cope with that and immediately angled his body.

As the ball reached him, Viera whacked the ball first time with his left foot and sent it flying at the top right corner of the Manchester City goal.

{Viera!!!!!!} Derek shouted as he saw Viera hit the ball.

{GOALLLLLL!!!!} Alan joined in as he and Derek shouted at the top of their voices into the microphone as they saw the ball smash into the back of the net, Ederson unable to reach it.

{They've equalized at last! And they've done it with a stunner of a goal}

{Absolutely fantastic attempt and effort!}

{This is a bitter pill to swallow for Manchester City!}

{Porto have validated themse-!}

{Oh what's this!? the assistant referee has a flag raised for offside!}

Chapter 287: A Familiar-Looking Loss

{The assistant referee's flag is up, indicating the possibility of an offside call}

{The Porto players obviously disagree with the raised flag and they are making their discontent known to the referee} Alan commented as he watched the Porto players run up to the referee to argue over the offside call.

For once, Jason also ran up to the referee as he knew that there was no way Viera was offside especially since he had been watching him all along, but the referee ignored the Porto players' claims and put his hand to his ear, indicating that he was consulting the VAR.

After a few seconds of listening, the referee decided to go and check the VAR himself as the results were inconclusive.

The Porto players had no choice but to wait and pray... At least the ones who were religious prayed, while the others just waited and wished for luck.

The referee took his time to check the replay and only after almost a full minute did he head back to the field and give his verdict.

The offside call was correct and the goal was offside.

The hearts of everyone supporting the Porto team sank as they saw the referee's verdict and before they could unleash their arguments, the replay of the goal was played on the screens.

The replay began with Jason running at the ball and at the moment he hit the ball, the video paused and a straight line that depicted the position of the last defender of the Manchester City team appeared on the screen.

On the screen, it could be clearly seen that Fabio Viera was not offside, but Mylo edged slightly over the offside line.

Then the video played and showed the ball skidding off Mylo's head, hence making his involvement in the goal a clear picture.

With that, it was clear that the goal was offside.

{It was a splendid effort from Porto but the call has been made, offside!} Derek shouted aggravatedly.

{After their excitement at finally getting an equalizer, Porto are pulled back by the referee's decision to where they were three minutes ago} Alan added, his voice not rising, but his tone contained a bit of pity towards the Porto players and fans.

At that moment no one on the Porto team looked happily at Mylo and even the Porto fans felt like getting on the earliest flight to the UK and tearing Mylo apart.

What would normally have been attributed to enthusiasm to helping the team take the lead had been repainted in the worst of ways and everyone that supported the Porto team currently did not have any good feelings towards Mylo.

Jason and Viera were feeling most annoyed at this moment as they had made and executed a surefire plan to finally get an equalizer but their efforts had been rendered useless by Mylo's unneeded involvement.

At that moment, Jason wished to ask Mylo a few very important questions of which a few were,

'Who begged you?'

'What do you make of yourself that you tried to reach a ball at a height of two and a half meters?'

'When did your name change to Mylo Airlines?'

'Even if you changed your name to Mylo Airlines, why did you crash your first flight?'

'Like, who send your papa work?' Jason was fuming so much that he did not realize when his internal voice reverted to a Nigerian accent.

Unfortunately, none of the Porto players could display too much of their displeasure against Mylo, and they had no choice but to quietly accept the referee's decision, no matter how infuriating it was and head back up the field, hoping that they could find another goal before the final whistle.

But the referee had other ideas and as soon as Ederson sent the ball up the field from the free kick, the referee blew the final whistle.

Porto could only accept the final scores of the game that had ended in their loss.

{The final whistle has been blown and a very exciting and hair-raising first match of these two teams come to an end}

{The final scores come to a tally of Manchester City 4 : 3 Porto}

{Manchester City have ended the match with a win and Porto are gutted}

{Porto tried and tried, but the goal just wouldn't come} Derek began giving the closing remarks as the players of the two teams.

{Oh the goal did come, it was just disallowed} Alan cut in.

{Either way, you want to say it, it doesn't change the fact that after a hard-fought battle, they have lost}

{Manchester City would be happy to go home with the full three points from the game and they owe it to a stupendous strike from the young lad Phil Foden whose last goal was the difference maker between the two teams} Derek replied to Alan's earlier words.

{What a game, especially the second half, it was almost like a battle of the young talents don't you think, Derek?} Alan asked another question.

{Yeah, It first started with Ferran Torres' goal to put Manchester two up over Porto, followed by that beautiful counterattack from Porto with Jason unleashing a beautiful run and going on to provide the assist to Mylo Baumgartner}

{Foden then went on to score that 21-yard stunner against Porto, once again putting Manchester City two up before Jason responded with the third goal of the Porto team. That was an especially funny goal to see, with John Stones falling over in confusion} Derek laughed a little as he said.

{It was almost like Jason's movements made his brain circuits hit 'pause' and he completely fell over. That's definitely going to be a YouTube reel in a few hours, that's if it's not already trending} Alan added to Derek's comment.

{Hahaha, John Stones would probably avoid social media for a while after this game} Derek laughed and said.

{Anyway, Jason and Fabio Viera came up with a last-minute plan to get an equalizer and they did get it, but their efforts were thwarted by the efforts of one of their teammates which would leave them feeling displeased for sure. The Porto locker room would be feeling stuffy for Mylo for a little while, Haha}

{Overall, it was a good game, with goals flying in at both ends and while Porto would not be happy with the results from this game, their performance makes us believe that they have the potential to bounce back from this loss in the coming matches}

{With that, I want to wish you all a very good evening from both of us here at the studio and we'll see each other again next week} Derek said just before the scene of the field changed.

Chapter 288: Damned Tabloids

Jason walked off the field along with Fabio Viera, regulating his breathing and calming his excited heart now that the match was over.

Neither of them said a word to the other person as there was nothing to say.

No... It wasn't that they didn't have anything to say, but rather that they had too much to say, yet it was best that they said nothing as there wasn't a point in making a big issue out of the earlier situation.

Mistakes were inevitable in the game of football, and losses were even more so and they weren't immune to it either.

Today, Mylo had caused a carefully structured goal to become offside because of his enthusiasm to help the team get the same equalizer that they wanted to get, and they could fault him for it, but it wouldn't change the fact that they had already lost the game.

Today it was Mylo's mistake, but on another day, it could be someone else, and they as human beings were also not exempt from making mistakes.

Hence it was best to just accept the reality and move on instead of dwelling on a singular mistake and causing a rift between the team because of one game that wasn't even that crucial on the grand scale of things.

This wasn't their first loss of the season anyway.

As the two of them walked, they finally began talking about the match and began reviewing what they could have done better to make the game go their way.

As they discussed, they came across other players, both of their team and the Manchester team and they elbow-jabbed everyone they came across.

As Jason elbow-jabbed Phil Foden, he suddenly remembered that he had fist-bumped him earlier which wasn't exactly following the safety regulations, but it seemed that due to the situation, nobody had made a big issue out of it.

"That was a pretty sweet goal you scored against us back there," Jason said to Foden with a smile.

"I know man, I don't even know what I was thinking when I just put my foot through with it, I'm as surprised as you guys that it went in," Phil Foden replied to Jason, unable to hide his happiness from his face as he spoke.

“You were pretty good out there as well, man you had that old man falling over like he had an epilepsy or something,” Foden laughed as he glanced at John Stones who seemed to be hurrying into the tunnel and avoiding every reporter in the way.

“Blud’s running from the camera too, he doesn’t need any more stress from the reporters after you violated him like that,” Foden added, being a little talkative and unhinged due to his excitement.

He was also a young player like Jason and was also trying to break into the Manchester City first-team squad, but even though the manager let him come on every now and then, he knew that he had way too much competition for him to be at ease because the manager played him occasionally.

His performance in this match would at least have the manager glancing his way a bit more often, and with a manager like Pep Guardiola and the competition on the team, that was definitely something to be happy about.

Jason couldn’t exactly relate to Phil Foden as even though his team had lost the game, he didn’t have too much of a problem with being on the line-up and was at the very least an important player on the team and would almost always find his way into the managers line up due to the lesser amount of competition in the winger department on his team.

But that didn’t mean Jason was free of all selection worries either and he knew his performance should have once again cemented his importance to the team so despite the loss, he wasn’t feeling too down either and was easily caught up in Foden’s enthusiastic attitude.

“Does he not actually have a condition, I don’t think Jason’s dribbles cause people to fall over like that,” Fabio Viera suddenly jumped into the conversation his English sounding a little wobbly, but it was clear enough for Foden to understand.

“Even if he didn’t, he probably has a Jasonphobia by now,” Foden laughed, not feeling the slightest bit offended as they made John Stones’s situation into a joke.

“Hopefully, he doesn’t keep falling over like that every time I do a step over in front of him, people might start thinking I’m using some African juju on him,” Jason said half-seriously, not putting it past the media to say just about anything they wanted.

"That's true, the media is a bit crazy around here when it comes to gossip like that," Foden said with a snicker and a thoughtful look, inwardly wanting to see something like that happen in the future.

He didn't care if his teammate was the sacrificial lamb needed to bring it to reality.

"The media is crazy everywhere bruh," Jason laughed.

"Those tabloids and media blogs especially," he added, laughingly, remembering the bullsh*t they were saying about him the previous month.

"Man, those guys, ugh," Foden let out an exaggerated sound of disgust.

"One of those suckers reportedly made reports about me having like secret rendezvous with like five different girls in two weeks," Foden complained.

"Man, that's crazy," Jason's eyes widened in surprise.

"My girl wasn't having it bruh, I had to beg her for almost a month before she finally stopped mentioning it," Foden's aggravation with the tabloid people was heard clearly in his voice.

"You're a henpecked husband at 20? Man, that's tough," Mylo who was coming from behind suddenly interrupted the conversation when he heard Foden complaining about his relationship issues.

"Better a loyal henpecked husband than you who switched between twenty girls in one week," Jason snapped back at Mylo.

"Twenty!?" Foden exclaimed alarmedly as his head snapped in Mylo's direction and he couldn't hide his surprise.

"It wasn't up to twenty, just a little over ten," Mylo countered, not wanting Jason to slander his good name.

“Even ten is more than too much!” Foden’s surprise didn’t dwindle in the slightest when he heard Mylo’s response.

Chapter 289: Thrust into the Unknown

“You know what you need in your life?” Jason asked Mylo.

“What?” Mylo asked back.

“A little attention from the media guys, especially them tabloid ni**as, I’m sure they’d love reporting on matters concerning you,” Jason smirked, really wishing it would happen, and with Mylo beginning to gain attention on the pitch, Jason knew he’d soon become a new treasure trove for the media to dig into.

“I’ll have to pass on that, I can do without,” Mylo replied immediately, horrified by the thought, now that the image popped up in his head.

He could do without the cameras following him to his every rendezvous to perform a genital meet and greet.

Before they could continue their conversation, they had reached the sidelines and had to go do a few interviews, so they parted ways with each one of them heading to their former seats on the bench to take their stuff before they headed to the interviews.

Jason took the coat that had his team’s emblem printed on its chest and wore it to stave off the cold weather that was now settling into his body now that the match was over and he was no longer exerting himself physically and thus keeping himself warm.

Jason was soon led to where the post-match interviews were being held and it was soon his turn to be interviewed.

Surprisingly, the interview wasn’t the traditional one where they were questioned directly by the reporters, but rather, there was a screen set in front of the background where the players were to be interviewed and the interview was to be done online.

It seemed to be a new arrangement and Jason had heard about it a while ago.

It started when the television channel, CBS acquired the broadcast rights for the Champions League in the year 2019 and they were said to be starting a show called “Champions League Today”.

Apparently, the show was originally set to start in the 2021/22 season, but due to the stringent safety regulations made by the governing football bodies, the channel had decided to take the opportunity to start the show much earlier.

The host for the show was Kate Abdo who Jason had heard was a particularly well-known TV host before she joined CBS, and she was joined by Jaimie Carragher, a former Manchester United player, Micah Richards, a former Manchester City player, and Roberto Martinez who was the current manager of the Belgium national team.

To Jason, it seemed like an interesting idea, but he hadn't really focused on it much in his past life, though even if he did, it wouldn't matter as the anniversary of Jason's disappearance from his previous reality passed a while ago and he was already thrust into the unknown at this point.

All his advantages were gone now, and he had to face the daunting task of becoming the greatest footballer to ever grace the field with nothing else other than what he had already prepared as there was nothing else left for him.

Jason didn't mind though as that was what it had felt like from the start.

He had strategically planned his every move till this point right from when he had just been thrust into this new reality.

The fact that he had not joined an academy may seem like a flimsy move on his part, but Jason knew why he had chosen to do so.

Jason's method of football training was conventional yet non-conventional. He knew about better ways of training that were developed in the future, but for him, that wasn't nearly enough.

Jason's current skills were a perfect mixture of everything he had involved himself with in his previous life to better his football skills.

The flexibility and quick reaction were due to the martial arts he had learned, the skills he used were a result of millions of repetitions of the same move till they became second nature.

There were many other such things Jason did because he knew that he wasn't a genius, in fact, he was below average in terms of talent and all he had going for him was his acceleration ability, thus he knew that joining an academy would streamline and constrict him and he wouldn't be free to train the way he wanted thereby slowing his growth in the best periods for growth, hence his decision.

His choice of waiting until he thought he was ready to finally go for a football trial was also a strategic idea on his part.

Since he didn't join an academy, he couldn't be signed the conventional way and thus had to make a big splash when he finally appeared so that whoever ended up signing him would feel more eager to put him on a pitch than those guys who were signed conventionally and did not end up appearing on the field until much later.

According to history, Jason knew players who started professional football at a later age than he currently was and still became great footballers.

Andrea Pirlo didn't make his debut until he was 21, but he won 2 Champions League titles, and 6 Serie A titles, and was a legend of the midfield.

Didier Drogba signed with Guingamp at 22, but still won 1 Champions League Title, and 4 Premier League titles, and is Chelsea's all-time top goal scorer to this day.

Luis Suarez signed with Groningen at 20 but still went on to win 1 Champions League title, and 4 La Liga titles, and is currently one of the best strikers in the football world.

Finally, Jamie Vardy signed with Leicester City at 25 but still won a Premier League title, and 1 FA Cup title, and is a prolific striker that no one could deny all over the world.

If those guys could do that much after starting professional football at over twenty years of age, then Jason starting at 18 was already pretty good.

Most footballers couldn't even crack the first team at this age like he did, so he considered this an already pretty good start for his story to become a legend so he wasn't bothered by much else.

He had already started, he was doing pretty well and was on the right path as far as he was concerned so nothing else really mattered.

All he had to do was to keep doing what he was already doing and he'd hopefully see the results at the end of the day.

Chapter 290: Champions League Today

Jason was fitted with the microphone so he could listen respond and interact with the CBS hosts at the studio.

The professionalism of the staff was in full display and they quickly fitted Jason with the microphone in a few seconds and Jason watched the show going on on the screen.

{We bring you the live interview of one of the players who had a major influence on the game, Jason Bolu} Kate Abdo said as everyone in the studio turned to the huge screen behind them that was now displaying Jason's face that was being recorded live from the stadium by the videographers at the stadium.

{Oh, there he is, the man of the hour!} Micah Richards said boisterously as befitting of his flamboyant and charismatic personality.

"Well, we didn't win the game so I don't know if I can be called the man of the hour," Jason responded with a wry smile.

{Aw shucks, it doesn't change much about your performance in the game. I think you did exceptionally well for your first game in the Champions League. I'm sure others would agree} Jamie Carragher immediately countered Jason's words, speaking with his characteristic accent flowing freely in his voice.

{I agree, a goal and an assist in your first Champions League game and against Manchester City no less, I think that's worth commending} Roberto Martinez supported Jamie Carragher's statement, his vocalization of the English language weaker than everyone in the studio.

"Haha, thanks," Jason laughed lightly as he suddenly felt a wee bit better after hearing the praise from the guys in the studio.

{We all know you should have gotten more from that game if not for that unfortunate offside incident. How do you feel about that?} True to her job as the main host, Kate Abdo immediately asked one of the prepared questions for Jason, steering the interview back on track before they wasted too much time doing anything else.

"Well... As you said, it was an unfortunate incident, but these things happen in football and we cannot not accept it, you know, it was a bit disheartening to lose though," Jason responded after a pause, his eyes gleaming a bit in annoyance as he suddenly remembered the scene of the goal being called offside because of Mylo's actions.

{You seem to have accepted this pretty quickly} Kate Abdo said in a surprised tone.

{Yeah, he's just brushing it off with composure, that's a man not easily shaken right there} Micah Richards laughed.

"Oh, I've accepted it, but I'm not brushing it off, we're heading back to training and we are going to work on how to make sure that this kind of result doesn't repeat itself... and well Mylo will have a lot of appeasement to do, both to the guys and the fans, cuz I'm sure, the fans would want to have his head right about now," Jason said jokingly, with his eyes smiling, but internally he wasn't laughing.

'The fans would want Mylo's head after the stunt he just pulled off and as a member of the team I'm automatically a fan as well... unfortunately, there's no opportunity to beat Mylo up legally,' Jason thought to himself.

{After a blunder like that, he has to do at least that much, doesn't he? } Jamie Carragher laughed off Jason's response.

"Yes, he does," Jason replied.

{Anyway, for your first game in the Champions League, it has to be said that you've done exceptionally well, recording a goal and an assist after coming off the bench and only playing for just about half an hour}

{That's very impressive, and considering that it's your first game after your injury the previous season, that's even more impressive. How did you feel coming into the game?} Kate Abdo asked with a glowing smile after praising Jason's performance.

{To be honest, I wasn't sure the manager was going to put me in, but I've been preparing to return to the team and even though we didn't win, I'm happy that I was able to get some game time and get moving again, you know, it's been a while} Jason answered honestly.

{Well it didn't look like it's been a while with the way you got on and began tearing the game} Jamie Carragher said before Kate Abdo could talk.

{Yeah, our team's defenders were having a hard time just keeping you in check. It's like your form didn't drop at all even though you've been off the pitch for over two months} Micah Richards also jumped into the conversation.

"There's not anything to it, I just came on and did my best, it's what I always try to do, though this time, it's hard to say whether it was enough or not, cuz we did lose," Jason laughed a little, not knowing what to make of the situation.

The team had lost, but he had performed reasonably well, so his emotions were on the fence.

{Oh, I think you definitely did your best, John Stones will have nightmares for days because of you despite Manchester City's victory} Jamie Carragher laughed, his words especially meant to dig into Micah Richards who was a former Manchester City player and a current Manchester City fan.

{You know, it'd be fun to see you go up against big Meeks and send him sprawling like that} Kate Abdo immediately joined in the fun as she was not one to let an opportunity to tease Micah Richards slide away.

{Oh come on now, you don't think he can get past Big Meeks, do you?} Micah Richards immediately stepped up to defend himself.

{After what I've seen, I don't think you have a chance} Roberto Martinez who had been silent for a while, said.

{You wouldn't just be sent sprawling, you would fly} Jamie Carragher added.

{You'd break an ankle just keeping up} Kate Abdo also added with a laugh.

{Wow, so little faith in me} Micah Richards was stunned at this betrayal from his fellow hosts.

{What say you Jason, do you think you can get past me that easily?} Micah Richards turned to Jason on the screen.

"Hmmm..." Jason paused to think for a while, and an answer popped up in his head.

"... Well, if your defensive skills are as thin as your hairline, then it shouldn't be a problem," Jason answered after a pause and everyone's mouth dropped open.