

UTICA CITY FC GAME NOTES



UTICA CITY FC (4-7-3) vs. ST. LOUIS AMBUSH (8-3-3)
Monday, February 16th, 2026
Adirondack Bank Center

MASL
MAJOR ARENA SOCCER LEAGUE

UPCOMING GAMES

Saturday, February 21st	@ St. Louis Ambush	7:05 PM
Sunday, February 22nd	@ Kansas City Comets	5:05 PM
Sunday, March 1st	vs. Milwaukee Wave	3:00 PM

VS. ST. LOUIS

TONIGHT:

02/16/26 vs. STL 3:00 PMV

Utica City FC continues its homestand tonight as they face the St. Louis Ambush in a key MASL matchup at the Adirondack Bank Center. With back-to-back games on home turf, UCFC will look to build on the energy of the crowd and establish control early against an Ambush side that enters the contest with confidence after recent positive results and a reputation for striking quickly in transition.

For UCFC, this match also represents another step in the adjustment period under interim head coach and team manager Tommy Tanner, with a continued emphasis on tightening defensive structure and generating sustained pressure in the offensive zone. Expect a fast-paced, physical game with both teams pushing the tempo, where discipline on restarts and efficiency in front of goal could ultimately determine the outcome.

LAST TIME OUT:

UTICA NY - In front of an epic crowd outpouring support, Utica City FC battled the Baltimore Blast to a 7-7 draw through regulation on Friday night before falling 8-7 in a shootout in a thrilling MASL showdown. The Blast struck just 34 seconds into the match when Patrick Thompson finished a feed from Juan Pereira to make it 1-0 Baltimore at 00:34. Utica responded midway through the quarter on a set piece at 7:13, as Geo Alves rolled a free kick across the top of the box and Mehrshad Ahmadi ripped a one-touch shot into the side netting to tie the match 1-1. The opening 15 minutes ended even at 1-1.

Utica grabbed its first lead early in the second quarter at 1:13 when Ahmadi went to work down the left side, cutting in and firing a shot from just left of the top of the box into the top middle of the goal to give UCFC a 2-1 advantage. Baltimore answered at 4:55 as Eber Ospina found the back of the net to even things at 2-2. The back-and-forth continued at 8:58 when Juan Alava battled for possession above the box, was knocked down in the scrum, and the ball fell to Sergio Pinal, who struck a left-footed shot into the bottom right corner to restore a 3-2 Utica lead. The Blast countered again at 10:23 with Oumar Sylla finishing off a pass from Marco Nascimento, sending the game into halftime tied 3-3.

The third quarter delivered a flurry of offense. At 3:47, Pinal carried the ball to the top of the box and slipped it left to Gordy Gurson, who took one touch and blasted a shot into the top middle of the goal for a 4-3 Utica lead. Baltimore responded at 5:51 as Ospina struck again to tie it 4-4, then surged ahead at 7:04 on a goal from Ke Vaughn Frater to make it 5-4. Just 1:34 later at 8:38, Chad Poarch extended the Blast lead to 6-4. Utica refused to fold. At 12:06, Brian Wilkin launched a throw-in to Ahmadi near the yellow line, and the forward took a few touches before burying his third of the night to cut the deficit to 6-5. Then at 14:42, Ahmadi stole the ball near midfield, drove straight to the top of the box, and finished clinically to complete his hat trick and tie the game 6-6, marking a career-high performance in a single game. After three quarters, the teams were deadlocked at 6-6.

The tension only escalated in the fourth. Baltimore capitalized on a power play at 10:36 when Jonatas Melo converted off a pass from Sylla to give the Blast a 7-6 edge. Utica answered with a power play of its own at 12:04, moving the ball crisply around the top of the box before finding Gurson at the bottom left of the goal, where he buried a one-touch finish to even the match at 7-7. Neither side found the breakthrough in overtime, sending the contest to a shootout. In the end, Baltimore edged Utica in penalties to claim an 8-7 victory, capping one of the most dramatic matches of the season.

LEADING THE CITY IN 2025-26

#33 Sergio Pinal G:16, A:13, Pts:29
#7 Geo Alves G:7, A:10, Pts:17
#21 Willie Spurr G:6, A:8, Pts:14

AVAILABILITY REPORT

Stephan Teixeira - Out
Xavier Snaer-Williamms - Questionable - Eye
Geo Alves - Questionable
Drew Taylor - Questionable

MASL REGULAR SEASON STANDINGS

TEAMS	PTS	DIF
Milwaukee	10-3-2	30
Kansas City	9-5-3	28
San Diego	9-4-2	27
St. Louis	8-3-3	24
Tacoma	7-6-1	20
Baltimore	6-6-2	19
Empire	6-9-0	16
Utica	4-7-3	13



UTICA CITY FC 2025-26 ROSTER

Media Contact: Michael Lehr | michaellehr@uticacomets.com



#	Name	POS	HT	WT	DOB	Hometown	Last Team
0	Xavier Snaer-Williams	G	6'0"	215	May 28, 1999	Oceanside, CA	San Diego Sockers
2	Emmanuel Belliard	M	5' 9"	155	Oct 2, 1996	Santo Domingo, DR	Utica City FC
3	Gordy Gurson	F	5' 6"	140	May 2, 1992	Buffalo Grove, IL	Utica City FC
6	Ricardo Orozco	M	5' 6"	140	Jun 19, 2003	Round Lake, IL	Utica City FC
7	Geo Alves	D	5' 8"	155	Aug 24, 1995	Fogo, CPV	Utica City FC
8	Toy Tavares	D	6'2"	183	April 20, 1999	Boston, MA	Utica City FC
9	Kelvin Oliveira	F	6' 0"	175	Aug 15, 1995	Ipatinga, BRA	Utica City FC
10	Nilton de Andrade	M	5' 9"	170	Mar 20, 1996	Fogo, CPV	Utica City FC
11	Meny Silva	F	5'9"	165	February 22, 2002	Praia, Cape Verda	Utica City FC
14	Andrew Taylor	G	6'3	185	July 1, 2002	Baldwinsville, NY	Utica City FC
16	Thayssan Santos	D	6'0"	170	February 26, 2004	Horizontina, RS-BRA	Utica City FC
17	Cole Stephens	D	5' 11	170	February 21, 2000	Milwaukee, WI	Utica City FC
20	Kyle Gehnrich	M	5'8"	145	Jun 28, 2002	Commack, NY	Utica City FC
21	Willie Spurr	F	6'0"	165	October 3, 1993	Seattle, WA	Tacoma Stars
22	Howard Miller	F	5'11"	180	February 14, 1997	St. Charles Missouri	Empire Strykers
23	Logan Roberts	D	6' 1"	165	May 5, 1994	Syracuse, NY	Utica City FC
25	Brian Wilkin	G	5'10"	155	August 13, 1998	Rochester, NY	Utica City FC
30	Juan Alava	D	5' 10"	169	May 28, 1999	Guayaquil, EC	Utica City FC
33	Sergio Junior Pinal	F	5'10"	215	April 1, 2002	San Jose, CA	Utica City FC
49	Mehrshad Ahmadi	F	5'9"	155	Dec 26, 1999	Albuquerque, NM	Utica City FC
95	Wil Nyamsi	D	6'1"	185	September 19, 1995	Paris, France	Utica City FC
99	Barbaro Shelier	F	6'3"	158	April 12, 1997	Havana, Cuba	Utica City FC

Coaching Staff

Head Coach: Hewerton Moreira
 Performance/Mindset Coach: Shea McNamara
 General Manager: Tommy Tanner
 Trainer: Saulo Davi

Pronunciation Guide

5 - Day An-drah-day
 HC - Everton More-rare-ra

2025-26 Results

Day	Date	Opponent	Time / Score
Sunday	December 7	vs. Kansas City Comets	OTL, 8-7
Sunday	December 14	vs. Kansas City Comets	L, 11-5
Sunday	December 28	vs. Milwaukee Wave	OTW, 7-6
Wednesday	December 31	vs. Baltimore Blast	L, 5-2
Sunday	January 4	@ Baltimore Blast	OTW, 7-6
Sunday	January 11	vs. San Diego Sockers	L, 4-3
Sunday	January 18	@ Baltimore Blast	L, 7-12
Monday	January 19	vs. Baltimore Blast	W, 4-2
Saturday	January 24	@ Tacoma Stars	L, 6-7
Sunday	January 25	@ Tacoma Stars	L, 6-8
Sunday	February 1	vs. Milwaukee Wave	L, 7-6
Thursday	February 5	@ Empire Strykers	W, 10-9
Saturday	February 7	@ San Diego Sockers	L, 4-11
Sunday	February 15	vs. Baltimore Blast	SOL, 8-7
Monday	February 16	vs. St. Louis Ambush	3:00 PM
Saturday	February 21	@ St. Louis Ambush	7:05 PM
Sunday	February 22	@ Kansas City Comets	5:05 PM
Sunday	March 1	vs. Milwaukee Wave	3:00 PM
Friday	March 6	at Baltimore Blast	7:30 PM
Sunday	March 15	vs. Tacoma Stars	3:00 PM
Friday	March 20	@ Milwaukee Wave	7:35 PM
Sunday	March 22	vs. Empire Strykers	3:00 PM
Friday	March 27	@ St. Louis Ambush	8:05 PM
Sunday	March 29	@ Milwaukee Wave	3:05 PM

UTICA CITY FC STATISTICS

#	Name	Pos	GP	G	A	Pts	PPGA	PIM	GWG	S%	SB	PPG	SHG	Sh	F	BS	BC	YC	RC
33	Pinal, Sergio	F	14	16	13	29	2.1	0	0	.291	16	1	1	55	14	4	0	0	0
7	Alves, Geo	D	12	7	10	17	1.4	2	1	.318	2	1	1	22	14	13	1	0	0
21	Spurr, Willie	F	14	6	8	14	1.0	0	0	.231	9	0	1	27	7	4	0	0	0
49	Ahmadi, Mehrshad	F	12	9	4	13	1.1	4	0	.161	14	0	0	56	9	3	2	0	0
3	Gurson, Gordy	F	8	8	3	11	1.4	4	1	.320	6	1	0	25	7	0	2	0	0
16	Santos, Thayssan	D	13	2	7	9	0.7	0	0	.125	5	0	0	16	16	15	0	0	0
30	Alava, Juan	D	13	4	3	7	0.5	4	1	.364	2	0	0	11	29	9	2	0	0
11	Silva, Meny	F	14	4	3	7	0.5	0	0	.133	10	0	0	30	22	2	0	0	0
17	Stephens, Cole	D	12	3	4	7	0.6	2	0	.188	9	0	0	16	8	8	1	0	0
20	Gehnrich, Kyle	M	12	4	2	6	0.5	4	0	.267	2	0	0	15	9	5	2	0	0
10	de Andrade, Nilton	M	3	2	3	5	1.7	0	1	.400	1	0	0	5	11	2	0	0	0
2	Belliard, Emmanuel	M	12	2	1	3	0.3	2	0	.154	5	0	0	13	11	2	1	0	0
4	Teixeira, Stephan	M	8	2	0	2	0.3	5	0	.200	1	0	0	10	10	2	0	1	0
22	Miller Jr., Howard	F	7	0	1	1	0.1	4	0	.000	2	0	0	5	5	1	2	0	0
6	Orozco, Ricardo	M	8	0	1	1	0.1	0	0	.000	0	0	0	1	3	4	0	0	0
8	Tavares, Jose	D	14	0	1	1	0.1	4	0	.000	3	0	0	13	34	13	2	0	0
90	Juma, Ramazani	D	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	Lozada, Jorge	F	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Nyamsi, Wil	D	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Oliveira, Kelvin	F	0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
67	Pagano, Francesco	F	1	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
27	Tavernese, Joey	F	1	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	Roberts, Logan	D	3	0	0	0	0.0	0	0	.000	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0

2024-25 Results

Day	Date	Opponent	Time / Score
Friday	December 13	@ Empire Strykers	W, 9-6
Saturday	December 14	@ San Diego Sockers	OTL, 6-5
Saturday	December 21	@ Harrisburg Heat	W, 7-6
Sunday	December 29	vs. Harrisburg Heat	W, 12-5
Tuesday	December 31	vs. Baltimore Blast	L, 6-5
Saturday	Januray 4	@ Baltimore Blast	L, 10-4
Sunday	January 12	vs. Baltimore Blast	L, 5-4
Saturday	January 25	vs. Milwaukee Wave	W, 10-6
Sunday	January 26	vs. Milwaukee Wave	W, 6-5
Saturday	February 1	@ Texas Outlaws	W, 5-3
Monday	February 3	@ Dallas Sidekicks	W, 9-5
Friday	February 7	vs. Baltimore Blast	W, 8-3
Thursday	February 20	@ Harrisburg Heat	W, 5-2
Saturday	February 22	vs. Chihuahua Savage	L, 19-6
Sunday	February 23	vs. Chihuahua Savage	W, 10-6
Friday	February 28	@ St. Louis Ambush	L, 9-8
Saturday	March 1	@ Kansas City Comets	L, 4-3
Sunday	March 9	@ Harisburg Heat	W, 7-5
Saturday	March 15	@ Baltimore Blast	L, 9-6
Sunday	March 16	vs. Harrisburg Heat	W, 11-7
Friday	March 21	vs. Harrisburg Heat	W, 11-6
Saturday	March 22	@ Baltimore Blast	L, 9-7
Friday	March 28	vs. Kansas City Comets	OTL, 7-6
Sunday	March 30	vs. Texas Outlaws	W, 13-3
Saturday	April 5	@ Baltimore Blast	L, 6-2

CITY PROFILES

#0 - XAVIER SNAER-WILLIAMS (G)

THIS YEAR:

CAREER

- Joined the City on loan from San Diego Sockers
- Last Year: 7-1 record, GAA: 4.95, SV%: .714



Hometown: Oceanside, CA

Height: 6-0 Weight: 215 lbs

Birthdate: May 28, 1999

#2 - EMMANUEL BELLIARD (M)

THIS YEAR:

CAREER

- Last Year: 19 games, 5 goals, 3 assists
- Drafted in the first round of the 2023 MASL Pro Player Combine Draft
- Played on the Dominican Republic National Futsal Team
- Played for Lancing City (futsal)



Hometown: Santo Domingo, DR

Height: 5-9 Weight: 155

Birthdate: October 2, 1996

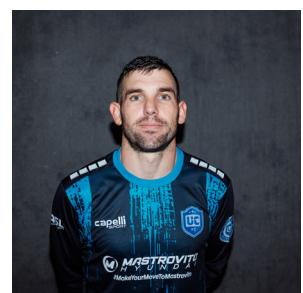
#3 - GORDY GURSON (F)

THIS YEAR:

- Scored two goals on opening night

CAREER

- 22 goals, 19 assists in 2022-23 with Utica City FC; led team in goals and assists
- 171 games played across eleven-year MASL career
- Leading goal-scorer in Orlando SeaWolves history (34)
- Leading goal-scorer in Cedar Rapids Rampage history (70)



Hometown: Buffalo Grove, IL

Height: 5-6 Weight: 140

Birthdate: May 2, 1992

CITY PROFILES

#4 - STEPHAN TEIXEIRA (M)

THIS YEAR:

CAREER

- Accumulated 37 points in 33 game at UMASS Dartmouth
- In his rookie season
- Scored his first MASL goal on January 4th against Baltimore

Hometown: Brockton, MA

Height: 5-8 Weight: 165lbs

Birthdate: September 14, 1994

#6 - RICKY OROZCO (M)

THIS YEAR:

CAREER

- Played for Iowa Raptors FC (MASL2)
- Played for the Chicago Mustangs (MASL2)



Hometown: Round Lake, IL

Height: 5-6 Weight: 140

Birthdate: June 19, 2003

#7 - LEANDRO GEO ALVES (M)

THIS YEAR:

- Second in points through 14 games
- Scored an overtime golden goal earlier in season

CAREER

- In 23 games, scored 8 goals and had 12 assists for the city in 2023-24
- Shea High School - Rhode Island Gatorade Player of the year
- New England Revolution Academy- Top Scorer
- Played for Dean College, Broke the school record in points and goals in a season, 2x All-American



Hometown: Fogo, CPV

Height: 5-8 Weight: 155

Birthdate: Aug 24, 1995

CITY PROFILES

#8 - JOSE TAVARES (D)

THIS YEAR:

CAREER

- Signed last year to Utica
- Formerly played for Bockton FC and United Africa (UPSL)

VV



Hometown: Boston, MA

Height: 6-2 Weight: 183

Birthdate: April 20, 1999

Nickname: Toy

#9 - KELVIN OLIVEIRA (F)

THIS YEAR:

CAREER

- Champion, Liga Fut7 2021 and 2022 (the most important national championship in Brazil) and the Best Player of the Tournament
- Scored the \$1,000,000 goal for Newtown Pride FC and was named the MVP in the TST 7v7 tournament
- Champion, Piauiense 2021 and the Best Player of the Tournament
- Champion, Taça Brazil 2022



Hometown: Ipatinga, BRA

Height: 6-0 Weight: 175

Birthdate: August 15, 1995

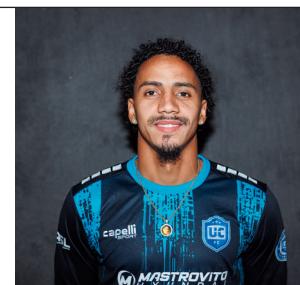
#10 - NILTON DE ANDRADE (M)

THIS YEAR:

- Scored game winning goal in return from injury

CAREER

- In 21 games scored 26 goals and had 15 assists in 2023-24 with Utica City FC
- 2x All American, Offensive POTY, and 2x All-Region at UMass-Boston
- Brockton FC United UPSL Patriots Division Title 2020
- Newbury College Rookie of the Year, Player of the Year, and 2x Offensive Player of the Year.



Hometown: Fogo, CPV

Height: 5-9 Weight: 170

Birthdate: March 20, 1996

#11 - MENY SILVA (F)

THIS YEAR:

CAREER

- Sophomore season with Utica City FC
- Formerly with Brockton FC United (UPSL)



Hometown: Praia, CPV

Height: 5-9 Weight: 165

Birthdate: February 22, 2002

#14 - ANDREW TAYLOR (G)

THIS YEAR:

CAREER

- Signed with UCFC last season
- 4 year starter at SUNY Brockport
- Honored for two All-Conference awards, as well as one All-Region



Hometown: Baldwinsville, NY

Height: 6-3 Weight: 185

Birthdate: July 1, 2002

#15 - JORGE LOZADA (F)

THIS YEAR:

CAREER

-

Hometown:

Height: Weight:

Birthdate:

CITY PROFILES

#16 - THAYSSAN SANTOS (D)

THIS YEAR:

- Racked up one goal and two assists on opening night

CAREER

- Multi-year futsal player in Brazil



Hometown: Horizontina, RS-BRA

Height: 6-0 Weight: 170

Birthdate: February 26, 2004

#17 - COLE STEPHENS (F)

THIS YEAR:

CAREER

- Scored 9 goals and had 3 assists in 2023-2024
- In high school, named First Team All-Conference in 2015, 2016, and 2017
- Played for Eastern Illinois University
- Recorded hat trick vs. Harrisburg (12/16)



Hometown: Milwaukee, WI

Height: 5-11 Weight: 170

Birthdate: February 21st, 2000

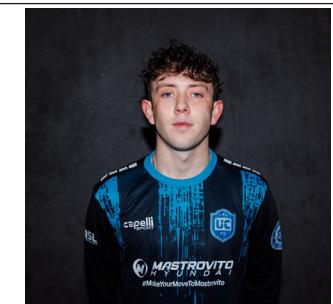
#20 - KYLE GEHNRICH (M)

THIS YEAR:

-
-

CAREER

- Sophomore season with the City
- Long Island Native, Captain at SUNY Oswego Soccer
- All-East Region Honoree 2023



Hometown: Commack, NY

Height: 5-8 Weight: 145

Birthdate: June 28, 2002

CITY PROFILES

#21 - WILLIE SPURR (F)

THIS YEAR:

- Accumulated one goal and two assists on opening night

CAREER

- Signed this off-season from Tacoma Stars
- Career MASL stats: 57 games, 19 goals, 24 assists



Hometown: Seattle, WA

Height: 6-0 Weight: 165

Birthdate: October 3, 1993

#22 - HOWARD MILLER JR. (F)

THIS YEAR:

CAREER

-

Hometown: St. Charles, MO

Height: 5'11 Weight: 180lbs

Birthdate: February 14, 1997

#23 - LOGAN ROBERTS (D)

THIS YEAR:

- Achieved the captain arm band

CAREER

- Scored two goals in UCFC's home opener in 2023-2024
- Spent two years with the Syracuse Silver Knights
- Last year established himself as one of the league's top defenders
- Played his college soccer at Binghamton University



Hometown: Syracuse, NY

Height: 6-1 Weight: 165

Birthdate: May 5th, 1994

CITY PROFILES

#25 - BRIAN WILKIN (G)

THIS YEAR:

CAREER

- Playing his 3rd professional indoor season
- Played 14 games with the Rochester Lancers in 2019-20
- Collegiate soccer career at Nazareth College in Rochester, NY
- Posted a 0.86 GAA in 62 career games at Nazareth



Hometown: Rochester, NY

Height: 5-10 Weight: 155

Birthdate: August 13th, 1998

#27 - JOEY TAVERNESE (F)

THIS YEAR:

- Debuted on February 15th against Baltimore



Hometown: Garden City, NJ

Height: 5'9 Weight: 155lbs

Birthdate: July 17, 1989

#30 - JUAN ALAVA (M)

THIS YEAR:

CAREER

- Scored 5 goals and 3 assists for Utica City FC in 2023-24
- Started in 16 of his 17 games at SCSU, second on the team with five points
- Playing his 4th season with Utica City FC
- Two-time All-American and All-State C2 at Nassau Community College



Hometown: Guayaquil, ECU

Height: 5-10 Weight: 169

Birthdate: May 28, 1999

CITY PROFILES

#33 - SERGIO PINAL (F)

THIS YEAR:

- Scored one goal and two assists on opening night
- Leads the City with 29 points through 14 games

CAREER

- Second season with UCFC
- Earned Player-of-the-Year as a freshman at Evergreen Valley College



Hometown: San Jose, CA

Height: 5-10 Weight: 215

Birthdate: April 1, 2002

#49 - AHMADI MEHRSHAD (D)

THIS YEAR:

- On February 15th had a 4 goal game

CAREER

- Finished 5th in the MASL 2 league with 25 goal in 2023-24
- Played for the Wichita Wings
- Earned a spot on the MASL 2 Second Team All-Stars



Hometown: Albuquerque, NM

Height: 5-9 Weight: 155lbs

Birthdate: December 26, 1999

#67 - FRANCESCO PAGANO (D)

THIS YEAR:

-

CAREER

-

Hometown:

Height: Weight:

Birthdate:

CITY PROFILES

#95 - WIL NYAMSI (D)

THIS YEAR:

CAREER

- Received in trade from St. Louis Ambush



Hometown: Paris, FR

Height: 5-8 Weight: 170lbs

Birthdate: December 28, 1978