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Title : ISL REPORT - Hume hat-trick lifts ATK

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Champions Thrash Mumbai City 4-1 To Snap 3-Match Losing Streak

It was a game of many firsts. Mumbai City FC managercumplayer Nicolas Anelka made his first start. Atletico de Kolkata striker Iain Hume not only scored his first goal for his new franchise but the Canadian also netted a hattrick in their 4-1 win over the hosts in the Indian Super League at the DY Patil Stadium on Sunday .

It was easily the worst display on a football field by Mumbai City players who made schoolboy errors that broke their run of three victories. Anelka, who was expected to brighten Mumbai's play , sadly added to the confusion.

The sharp-striking duo of Sony Norde and Sunil Chhetri were denied the much-needed space up front. Norde was virtually invisible in the field for the first 40 minutes as Mumbai were not coordinating with Anelka running up and deep.

There was virtually no organisation in the attack as Chhetri and Norde were left trying to initiate attack. Anelka's presence had clearly disturbed their combination.

Hume scored his first goal in the 34th minute as Jaime Gavilan found him with an inch-perfect high ball. Mumbai defenders failed to close him down and Hume lashed a shot that brooked no response.

Eleven minutes later, Subash Singh made a clumsy tackle and brought down Gavilan. Hume calmly converted the penalty to double Mumbai's lead. Augustine Fernandes scored the third when he exchanged a neat give-go ball with south African Seameehg Doutie to beat Subrata Paul in a one-on-one situation.

Hume completed his hat-trick when Doutie created the opening for the striker to calmly slot the ball in. Mumbai had, after conceding two goals in the first half, started the second half in right earnest when they made all their three substitutions. Fredric Piquionne came in for the ineffective Subash, Bertin gave way to Selim Benachour and Rowilson Rodrigues replaced Darren O'Dea.

Even on the field, Mumbai looked for goals in the second half and were knocking on the door with several opportunities. But ATK goalkeeper Amrinder Singh played as his life depended on this game.

He made one point-blank save, denying Piquionne from close range. Even when Mumbai finally scored, it was from a rebound as an Amrinder save fell kindly to Benachour. The Tunisian made no mistake and lashed the ball into the back of the net.

But soon after Benachour struck, ATK replied with two more goals and that killed the contest.

ATK thus ended their sequence of three defeats. They also found their first goal after a period of nearly 340 minutes spread over five games and move up to the fifth position with a better goal difference (+2) as opposed to Mumbai's (+1).

Mumbai ended their sequence of five home games with three victories and two defeats.



ATK striker Iain Hume after completing his hat-trick against Mumbai City FC at the DY Patil stadium in Navi Mumbai on Sunday