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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 13, 2017

Revolution Select Forward Brian Wright, Midfielder Napo Matsoso in First Two Rounds of 2017 MLS SuperDraft

2017 SuperDraft continues with third and fourth rounds on Tuesday afternoon

LOS ANGELES – The New England Revolution made a pair of selections in the 2017 MLS SuperDraft today, adding University of Vermont forward Brian Wright in the first round (20th overall) and University of Kentucky midfielder Napo Matsoso [NAH-POE MATT-SO-SO] in the second round (31st overall). Both players are expected to join the Revolution in Foxborough for the start of preseason training on January 23. New England also holds the 75th overall pick in this year's SuperDraft, which will resume for its third and fourth rounds via a conference call on Tuesday.

Wright, 21, was a four-year starter at Vermont making 80 total appearances and 66 starts. Wright finished his career ranked second all-time in Vermont history in scoring with 103 points, tallying 39 goals and 25 assists. In his senior season, he recorded 40 points, which set the Vermont single-season scoring record, and posted the second-highest UVM single season total with 14 goals. The UVM standout was a 2016 MAC Hermann Trophy Semifinalist and also earned NSCAA All-America Second Team, All-East Region First Team, and America East All-Conference Team as a senior.

In 2015, Wright led the America East in scoring for a second consecutive year with 27 points, finishing second in goals (10) and assists (7). In his sophomore campaign, Wright led the America East in goals (9), goals per game (0.47), and points per game (1.11). The Ajax, Ontario native became the first Catamount since 2005 to capture America East Rookie of the Year honors after registering six goals and three assists as a freshman in 2013.

Matsoso, 22, joins the Revolution after four years as a starter at the University of Kentucky. The Lesotho international accrued 73 appearances, all starts, after graduating from St. Francis High School in Louisville, Ky. The 5'6", 150-pound midfielder finished his career with 19 goals and 20 assists and earned three consecutive All-Conference USA First Team and NSCAA All-Southeast Region First Team nods.

As a senior in 2016, Matsoso led the Wildcats with 20 points, scoring eight goals and four assists. He captained Kentucky to the 16th overall seed and a first-round bye in the 2017 NCAA Tournament. Following the season, Matsoso was named to the NSCAA All-American Second Team. He also paced the Wildcats with 14 points during his junior season, leading the team to an undefeated 7-0-1 record in C-USA play. Prior to his Kentucky career, Matsoso played for Rovers Youth Academy in Louisville.

Originally born in Lesotho, Africa, Matsoso departed southern Africa at the age of 15 and traveled 9,000 miles to Louisville, Ky., to pursue an education and professional soccer career in the United States.

Transaction: New England Revolution select forward Brian Wright in the first round (20th overall) and midfielder Nap Matsoso in the second round (31st overall) of the 2017 MLS SuperDraft.

For up-to-the-minute information on the Revolution, visit the club's official web site at revolutionssoccer.net, or join the conversation and interact with fans on any of the team's social platforms.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 17, 2017

Revolution Select Defender Joshua Smith in Fourth Round of 2017 MLS SuperDraft

University of San Francisco defender completes New England's 2017 SuperDraft class

FOXBOROUGH, Mass. – The New England Revolution selected University of San Francisco defender Joshua Smith in the fourth and final round (75th overall) of the 2017 MLS SuperDraft this afternoon. Smith joins Vermont forward Brian Wright and Kentucky midfielder Napo Matsoso, who were selected in the first and second rounds, respectively, in New England's 2017 SuperDraft class.

Smith, 24, was a four-year starter at the University of San Francisco. The defender was one of two Dons to start all 16 games in 2016, while his three goals and two assists helped earn him second-team All-WCC honors. The Kaiserslautern, Germany native played two matches prior to missing the remainder of the 2015 season with an injury, but earned Premier Development League All-Western Conference honors while playing with Burlingame Dragons in the offseason.

As a junior, Smith made 16 appearances, all starts, and posted a pair of goals. The American international contributed to five clean sheets over the course of the season. He also earned consecutive All-West Coast Conference Honorable Mention nods after helping anchor USF's defense during his sophomore and freshman campaigns, when he made a combined 36 starts.

Prior to joining the Dons, Smith spent time with the United States U-17 Men's National Team. He also competed in the Bundesliga with the Karlsruher SC Academy's U-17 and U-19 squads. Smith, who was born in Fort Polk, La., grew up in Germany while his father served in the U.S. Army.

TRANSACTION: New England Revolution selected defender Joshua Smith in the fourth round (75th overall) of the 2017 MLS SuperDraft on Jan. 17, 2017.

For up-to-the-minute information on the Revolution, visit the club's official web site at revolutionsoccer.net, or join the conversation and interact with fans on any of the team's social platforms.

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