



NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTION

TRANSCRIPT

TRANSCRIPT (8/26): Media Availability

Soundbytes from Head Coach Caleb Porter & F/W Ignatius Ganago

Revolution Head Coach Caleb Porter

On the positive takeaways from the mentality the team showed in winning at Columbus for the first time since 2013 :

Porter: "Yeah, we've won two out of our last three games. I think the last time we beat Columbus on the road was [2013]. It was a pretty good win, to do something that hasn't happened in [almost] 13 years. I think they've been the best home team in the league over the last three years, Columbus. It shows our group has a great mentality, winning mentality. These guys are fighting, grinding, clawing, and scrapping. It's a great result."

"I especially liked when we went up, 2-1. We showed a really good mentality, resiliency, and intelligence. All the right things you want to see when it goes 2-1, when it can get nervy. We're going to need that because there are going to be, in this stretch, one-goal margins. We should have scored the third [goal]. We had higher expected goals, actually, than they did. Say what you want about the shots and possession. We had the bigger chances in the match, we deserved to win. We should have scored the third, but sometimes that doesn't happen. We've had situations this year where we've been up 2-1, and I've said it many times, we didn't have the mentality to close the game. For me, that was a huge turning point. And I think we'll build on that. I think now this group has that mentality. Of course, guys like [Matt] Turner helps. He's really strong mentally, and in moments that are hard or tough, he's there to make big saves and he's there to manage the game the right way."

On Saturday's game against Charlotte FC and the team's form with two wins over the last three games:

Porter: "You can look at it one of two ways. Obviously, they've won seven in a row, so they're really hot and really feeling good. But also, it's not easy to keep winning in this league, as well. In the end, obviously, we can't predict what their mentality is going to be like. We have to focus on our mentality and our execution. I think our formula in the last three games has been a winning one. That's why we've gotten two wins out of our last three."

"In 2021, that team had a winning formula. That's what I was saying [during last Saturday's postgame press conference]. They had a winning formula and we've adopted a similar formula with [Matt] Turner in the goal, as that team did. Simple; defend well, find your moments to score goals, and most importantly win, which is what they did. That's why they were the best team in club history."

On Leo Campana and Ignatius Ganago's chemistry in the attack:

Porter: "Again, when we won four in a row [April 12- May 3] we had Leo [Campana], we had [Ignatius] Ganago. The continuity is there. I think it's leading to us playing consistently. We're defending really well. Like I said, we just got a big result on the road [at Columbus], a place we've not been able to get results in a long time. Obviously, we're really focused on the next game. Right now, I feel really good about the group. They feel good about themselves. I like the way we're playing and this next game is the most important thing."

Revolution Forward/Winger Ignatius Ganago

On how he feels after making two consecutive starts since returning from a quad injury:

Ganago: "I don't really know how to say this, and I don't know if it's a coincidence or something, but when I'm there, like I said before, I just want to give everything – defend for the team, try and score a goal for the team so that we can win. And then when we score a goal, or one or two goals, we have to make sure to keep the ball safe. That's what I'm doing, and my teammates. You just do what you have to do. Right now, we have good results. Then also, [in past matches] we were playing well, but we didn't have the little chances on our side. Right now, we have good chances, so we win games and that's good for us."

On the team's current mindset as the Revolution fight for a playoff push:

Ganago: "I think right now, the best thing to do is take it game after game. We don't have to [focus] on all the seven games left, we just have to keep working for the next game with Charlotte. We have seven games left, we have to take game after game and try to win each game. Now, we're focused on Charlotte, so we're training for that and working hard for that. Then after that, we'll [focus on] who is next."

On teammates praising his work rate and effort on both ends of the field:

Ganago: "For me, it's huge. I know it's difficult, but it's something we have to do all together. If everybody is doing it, I have to do it and it's my job to do that. This is what [Caleb Porter] asked me to do, so I am doing what [Porter] asked to do and I'm doing it to help the team also. Everybody is working for it. Like last game, I saw Carles [Gil] almost in the [defensive] box, so if the Capi is doing that then I think everybody has to do it. We're working for each other, we're helping each other, and we try to play together. That's what we are doing. We are a team, we are a family, so we work for each other."

On what makes Charlotte FC a difficult matchup:

Ganago: "I know they're in a great form. I saw their game, on Sunday against New York [Red Bulls]. I saw that game and I didn't know they are seven games [unbeaten], and seven wins in a row. So, that will be a tough game. This is a game you want to be challenged with- big games like this, big teams. Like the Columbus game also, it's a great team. Every player wants to play against teams like this. I remember the first time we played against Charlotte, they were first in the table. We went there with good energy and won the game. So, we just have to do the same – work hard during the week and then on Saturday we have to give everything to win the game as well."