



POSTGAME TRANSCRIPT (2/21): Matchday 1 at Nashville SC

Soundbytes from Head Coach Marko Mitrović & F/W Griffin Yow

Revolution Head Coach Marko Mitrović

On Nashville threatening early and what could have been done to limit their chances:

Mitrović: “We didn’t plan to get into the game, and they have such an early lead with 2-0. I think that really changed the game. When I say that, I don’t want to minimize their win and their performance, because they’re a great team and they did a great job today. But when you’re winning 2-0 after 15 minutes and you want to take certain risks on the field, it looks much easier and obviously it helped them to maintain their performance. They started very strong on the front foot, and we didn’t confront them at the beginning. As I said, that early 2-0 [lead] really changed the whole game.”

On what led to a slow start:

Mitrović: “We didn’t plan to start on the back foot or to give them the ball or to defend. Obviously, the game always has certain moments or certain tendencies when one team has more of the control than the other. They started on the front foot, and as I said, I felt that we didn’t confront them enough. When you play against a good team that was so on the front foot, [it] made it easier for them. Even though the first goal was a little bit lucky maybe, because it was deflection-deflection. But listen, when you’re backing up, that’s what you get.”

On his assessment of the defensive performance missing three key players:

Mitrović: “We were missing Brayan [Ceballos], [Mamadou] Fofana, and Peyton [Miller] because of different cases. However, it’s the whole team when we defend and it’s the whole team when we attack. I thought our backline had some very good moments today and obviously had the moments where we had to do a better job. It’s not just them; it’s the whole team.”

On what adjustments were made at halftime to limit Sam Surridge:

Mitrović: “We didn’t talk particularly about any individuals on their team. It was more we felt that in the first half, we couldn’t deal with the pressure enough on their center backs. We spoke about how we can build and made some adjustments to how we can do it. Then also on the ball, how can we create overloads in certain areas in advantage. I think we started the second half very good, and then that fourth goal came right after that. I’m not saying that if we didn’t concede the fourth goal we would have come back, but definitely the second half would have been different.”

Revolution Forward/Winger Griffin Yow

On the Revolution’s slow start tonight:

Yow: “To be honest, not just from the start, but as a whole throughout the game, I thought we could have brought a little bit more of that fire, that fight. I felt like they were winning a lot of the duels, winning a lot of the second balls. When you have a game like that, it’s always going to be really difficult to win. On a positive note, in the attacking third, I thought we did create some chances [where] we did well, but we kind of lacked that grit, if you know what I mean.”

On making his Revolution debut:

Yow: “We would have loved to have had the three points, but to be able to make my debut in this jersey is something I’m very, very proud of. And it’s just 90 minutes. There’s a long season to go. It’s not to say that this is a game that we’re just going to look over, but it’s best that we see where we can improve, see where I can improve personally, and after that put it behind us and focus on the next.”

On providing service to Leo Campana:

Yow: “I think we needed to have more possession in their final third and kind of pin them back like they were doing to us and just move the ball around in their attacking third, get them tired a little bit. Because we did have spurts, we did have moments, and we did have times when we did break their press and we did build up. There were just times we needed to be a little bit more patient and, like I said, make them run and wait for the chance to open itself up. But I think at the same time, when you’re down like that, I know that it can be difficult. You feel like you want to fight back, you want to get back into the game as soon as possible with the very next action. That was our fault that we had that mentality. That’s the feeling that I had. But on a positive note, again, I think it’s really good that we were able to create some chances, we were able to break their press, and it shows the qualities that we’re capable of having.”

On how much the early goal impacted the game plan:

Yow: “Yeah, I think it definitely affected it a lot, and I think that’s on us. There’s going to be other moments in the season where we do concede an early goal. That’s just football, to be honest. I think we need to have a better reaction, kind of slow the game down, calm the game down. Because when you’re kind of chasing the game a little bit, the second chance and the third chance for them are going to come. So, I think it’s just, for us, to be a little bit more patient, slow it down, take a deep breath, and kind of go back to our basics.”