



TRANSCRIPT (3/17): Media Availability

Soundbytes from Assistant Coach Blair Gavin, GK Matt Turner, & M Matt Polster

Revolution Assistant Coach Blair Gavin

On the positive takeaways from Sunday's 6-1 victory over FC Cincinnati:

Gavin: "It was nice to see, and it was nice to be back home. It was nice to see a lot of the things we've been working on come to life. I think what we were very proud of is going down [1-0] in the game and then showing that resolve to keep going, keep fighting, and keep doing what we wanted to do throughout the match."

On the coaching staff's assessment of the team's performance on Sunday:

Gavin: "Good game overall. Cincinnati is obviously a very tough team. They have historically done very well over the past couple of seasons. We knew the challenges that it would bring, and I thought collectively the team did a lot of the little things to move the momentum in our game. I know the scoreline was a good one for us, but ultimately all the things we did throughout the match to pick up second balls, to win individual duels, and our collective movement as a whole team was very rewarding to see for the group as a whole."

On five different Revolution players tallying goals:

Gavin: "I think collectively what we're trying to show is that everyone needs to be ready in those moments. And for us, it's about getting into the right positions, whoever that may be. And in those moments, can we execute? And we did. Now, we're going to keep trying to improve on that and keep it consistent."

On how the team can carry its momentum into this weekend's match at St. Louis CITY SC:

Gavin: "It's just day by day. It's not just that game [vs. FC Cincinnati], it has been the trainings over preseason until now. It's every day. We keep track of all their standards and keep trying to improve. This game was a big testament to the work we've been doing. But every day is an opportunity to improve. Today, we got a little bit better, tomorrow we'll get better. We'll just keep moving forward."

On goalkeeper Matt Turner receiving a call-up to the United States National Team:

Gavin: "[Turner] gives us a lot of confidence. He provides that anchor in the back, knowing he will, if needed, make the save that we need. Then also, his ability to get us out and attack has been fun to watch. He just brings a great leadership to the group, and we're really excited for him."

Revolution Goalkeeper Matt Turner

On getting called up by the United States National Team for a pair of friendlies later this month:

Turner: "It means a lot. Obviously, it's just one step for me though. I'm still going to maintain my focus week in, week out, every single training session. Like I've been reiterating, it's just about focusing on that and letting the rest take care of itself. So, I'm always so grateful when I get the call. It's a huge honor to represent my country, and this is why we play the game."

On how his return to MLS and training under Revolution Goalkeeper Coach Kevin Hitchcock has contributed to earning a spot on the U.S. roster:

Turner: “Obviously, being relied upon week in, week out from the team. Getting myself into important moments in the game, feeling the rhythm of the game on a weekly basis, understanding my body, my mind, and what I need to reestablish, the routines to get back to my best. And nobody knows me quite like [Hitchcock]. So, to be working with him again, putting in the graft, and being around somebody that fully believes in me all the time has been really great for me. It's just one step of what I'm trying to achieve, and I'm really proud of it.”

On how training on the international stage helps improve his performance in MLS:

Turner: “When you get the call in, it's nice because when you put the work in here, the way that I've been working, and then you see the results from it – I'm getting a bunch of hugs and dap-ups in the locker room from the guys. Everyone is really happy for me because they know how badly I want it and how hard I work to achieve it. So, then when I come back [to MLS], it just creates a great camaraderie. It's a joy to be around the guys that I know. They want what I want for me just as badly.”

On pushing for the opportunity to potentially compete in a second FIFA World Cup:

Turner: “It's everything. It would be unbelievable. I'll do whatever my duty is to the best of my ability. But I think it's no secret that I want that responsibility.”

On reflecting on the Revolution's 6-1 win over FC Cincinnati on Sunday:

Turner: “It was great for a lot of reasons. I said to my wife after the game, ‘You know, I've won a lot of games. For some reason, that one just felt so good, better than a regular win.’ It's always nice to get your first win of the season, to be at home, the home opener, and set the tone of what the fans should expect when we play at home. It's always really important. And then lots of guys wet their beaks a little bit – got a goal or an assist, played a big part, made a big tackle, a big block, a big save, or whatever it was. So, I think the feelings are really good.”

“Obviously, Marko [Mitrović] gets his first win as well. Now for us, it's what team do we want to be? Do we want to continue to be that team that has those really great positive feelings and will do anything to win? Because at the end, that winning feeling, I wouldn't trade it for anything. I think now that we have a taste of it, hopefully every single time we step out onto the pitch, we can bring that same intensity and same mindset.”

On how the team can maintain momentum throughout the season:

Turner: “It starts here on the training ground. I think we understand that. When we went over the film, as well as we played, there were a lot of moments that we could have been better in the game. So, evaluating ourselves fairly, putting the work in here, and holding each other to that same standard. I know I'll continue to hold myself to a certain standard and be able to hold the guys accountable as well. I think now that we have that taste [of winning], hopefully the communication gets better on the field and we start doing things better and more consistently.”

On what helps boosts his confidence in both MLS and international play:

Turner: “For me, it's mostly about the rhythm of playing, the rhythm of having the responsibility and being someone that my teammates are relying upon week in and week out. Then, taking those good feelings, having the chance with the [United States Men's] National Team, and just kind of doing the same thing.”

Revolution Midfielder Matt Polster

On Sunday's 6-1 win over FC Cincinnati in New England's home opener:

Polster: “Yeah, that was exciting. Just not for us, but for the fans. I feel like the first two games we didn't perform to the level we wanted, and then to come home and put a win like that together was really nice.”

On the team's quick response after falling into a 1-0 deficit in Sunday's match:

Polster: "I think we believed [we could fight back] from the start, but I think we were a little shocked as a group that we were down. I thought we played really well to start the game. I thought we were on the front foot. [Cincinnati's opening goal] was a cheap goal, in my opinion. I think we all feel the same. For us to bounce back and to do it quickly was really important. I think that set the tone for the rest of the game."

On how the team utilized set pieces and multiple scorers to net six goals in the win:

Polster: "It's something we've worked on quite a bit. I think we've worked a lot on set pieces. I think [Set Piece Coach] Marc [Ortí Esteban] has been really good in that area for us, and to finally come through and show that we have that ability - I think we've done before, but to do it how we did [Sunday] was amazing. There were a lot of different goal scores, which is also very important for us not to just rely on one guy all year to come through, and just as a group, that we know we can rely on each other to get it done."

On how Sunday's dominant win can set the tone for home games moving forward:

Polster: "I think being in the league now for a while, you have to win your home games if you want to make playoffs. So, for us to come in for our first [home] game and win it like we did, I think that sets the tone for future home games. We also want to go on the road and find ways to win there too."

On carrying confidence into this week's match at St. Louis CITY SC:

Polster: "[The win] builds confidence, but we don't want to get too high or too low. I think we look at the film, enjoy it. Nitpick a little bit here and there, [and look at] where we can do better. Bring up all those enjoyable moments, but also remember those moments where we could've done a little bit better in the next game against St. Louis."