



TRANSCRIPT (4/14): Postgame vs. Rhode Island FC

Soundbytes from Head Coach Marko Mitrović & GK Donovan Parisian following Tuesday's U.S. Open Cup match

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Revolution Head Coach Marko Mitrović

On the match and players like Peyton Miller seeing extended minutes:

Mitrović: "I think this was a great opportunity for Peyton [Miller] to get a longer game. Obviously, we didn't expect 120 minutes for Peyton to play, but it was a really good opportunity to get more minutes after the whole process that he had with missing almost the whole preseason, and now slowly he's getting back in and increasing his minutes. I think he grew through the game. I think he started a little bit slow, in my eyes, but then he grew and started to show more of what we expect from him."

"Overall, about the team, we had a group of guys today that worked so hard every day in training sessions and doing their job. I've been with this team now for three months, practicing. We felt that they earned the opportunity to play today and I'm very happy for them, because some of them don't have a lot of minutes under their legs. It wasn't easy, especially to play 120 minutes, and I feel very happy for them."

On goalkeeper Donovan Parisian's performance tonight and his presence in the locker room:

Mitrović: "Donovan [Parisian] is a fantastic kid. He's a very charismatic person. Like other players I just [mentioned], he has an amazing work ethic. We know that Matt [Turner] is our number one [goalkeeper], but he supports Matt with the other goalkeepers. They have great group leadership from our Goalkeeper Coach [Kevin] Hitchcock. Donovan had some performances this year and games with the second team, but I'm happy for Donovan because second team and these kinds of games are a different experience. I'm very [happy] with Donovan and his performance tonight."

On Diego Fagundez settling in with the club and scoring a goal tonight:

Mitrović: "Diego [Fagundez] is someone who has a lot of experience in the league and has a quality that can change the game. As we saw, it wasn't an easy goal from Diego. We spoke about Diego when he signed with us. [He was] someone who didn't play soccer for five months. Then, to get back to playing without a preseason and without playing for so long, it's not easy. I said several times that I have no expectations from Diego right now. The most important thing for us right now is get that preseason back to him and today was a great opportunity. Diego got 70 minutes. The last time he probably played 70 minutes was six months ago. Then he got rewarded with that goal. He's in a good spot for the next training sessions, the days coming, and can push himself to help us."

On if Rhode Island FC's performance in tonight's match impressed him:

Mitrović: "They are actually a very good team. This was a great experience. We expected a very difficult game. We always note that when you have a USL [team] playing an MLS team, there's a different motivation, which is normal. I would be the same way. We actually hosted the game but played at their stadium, in their home. We knew that this was going to be a great challenge. We played a difficult game

against them during the preseason. Again, having such a great opponent against us was great to see where our guys are that haven't played a lot of minutes this season and see where we are right now."

On if the two meetings between New England and Rhode Island FC have helped build a rivalry between the nearby clubs:

Mitrović: "I would say that it's great when you have a club that's close to you and you can kind of build that [rivalry]. I just don't know because U.S. Open Cup, there are [records] that you have to obtain in order to play. So, we have no guaranteed games to play against them. But once we play, it's a great rivalry. It would be amazing, because it's always great to have a special game."

On naming Tanner Beason captain for tonight's match:

Mitrović: "Tanner [Beason] is someone who has, by far, the most experience on this team besides Diego [Fagúndez] in the starting XI. But Diego just joined us, and Tanner has been with the team for some amount of time. Tanner, with the long experience in MLS and the amount of games, for us, it was an organic decision that Tanner was the captain of the team. I think he had a great partnership with Ethan [Kohler] before Ethan got that small injury and had to leave the field. So, I'm positive about Tanner."

On Marcos Zambrano's performance in his Revolution debut:

Mitrović: "I think this is actually [Marcos Zambrano] first senior game tonight. I think he gave his best fighting, running. He's a forward that his highest quality is to connect with the ball in the box and score goals, but unfortunately, we didn't create those situations for him. But I think for him to taste that senior experience was great. He kind of broke the ice today, and let's see in the future how everything is going to go. But again, I'm very happy for Marcos that he got this opportunity."

Revolution Goalkeeper Donovan Parisian

On his first team debut and making three saves in the shootout:

Parisian: "I'm just happy and I'm excited. I'm grateful for the coaches, for everything. A lot of work goes into it, and specifically for the PKs, doing homework on it, and trusting [Goalkeeper Coach] Kevin Hitchcock."

On how his shootout experience in MLS NEXT Pro prepared him for tonight:

Parisian: "To be honest, I didn't even think about it, but looking back on it, it probably helped a lot. It's a different thing practicing penalties versus actually being in the game and doing it. Obviously, there aren't many fans [at the matches] or anything like that as the MLS NEXT Pro level, but having in-game penalty experience I think definitely helped a lot."

On the penalty shootout taking place in front of the Revolution supporters:

Parisian: "It was so cool. [Head Coach] Marko [Mitrović] made it an important part that we would go and take the penalties on our side, let the fans drive us, motivate us. Hearing them is just the extra boost and everything that you want, and it drives you."