



TRANSCRIPT (4/29): Postgame vs. Orlando City SC

Soundbytes from Head Coach Marko Mitrović & F Malcolm Fry

Revolution Head Coach Marko Mitrović

On his takeaways from tonight's 4-3 loss to Orlando City SC:

Mitrović: "I think if we speak generally about the game, like I said to the guys in the locker room, obviously every time you lose the game it's not a good feeling. But I felt that those young guys deserved more. Then when we got to the end, they had some very good moments. I think in general they had a very good game tonight. It's just small details that I believe will help them to grow as players, and to taste and learn at the senior level."

"When you play against good players, they will use those small details on the field to hurt you. But I was very positive about their effort and their braveness, because we were so young, and playing against almost the full [starting] 11 from Orlando. They didn't back up, and they were brave to face [Orlando], to challenge them, and that's very positive."

On forward/winger Diego Fagundez's performance:

Mitrović: "Diego [Fagundez] got 75 minutes. He played a [U.S. Open] Cup game two weeks ago. Diego is doing good in every training session, and we are very positive about Diego."

On forwards Marcos Zambrano and Malcolm Fry both scoring their first senior team goals tonight:

Mitrović: "I'm very happy when any players score, and especially when they have achievements like that. If they score their first professional goals, maybe they can unlock themselves and see that they can do certain things that they did at the youth level, and they can keep doing them at the senior level as well. Actually, I think since I have been here, this is probably one of the best performances that Malcolm [Fry] had. I'm also very happy that Marcos [Zambrano] is coming [up] and growing, and this is his second senior appearance. I also think Marcos had a very good game, so I'm positive with both of them, and I'm happy for them."

On veteran defender Andrew Farrell's role as a leader both in the locker room and on the field:

Mitrović: "I would say there are two things about Andrew [Farrell]. First, he's a fantastic person, and he's a fantastic teammate. I don't want this to sound cliché, like a coach talking about the player, but I didn't know Andrew personally before I got here. In my first meeting, when I met Andrew in person, I was like, 'Well, he has a contagious good energy, and I think he's an important piece for our locker room.' And that's just his personality, a very charismatic person, hard-working person."

"Then the second thing about Andrew, he's someone that unbelievably loves this club, and [for the] young players, he is someone who can guide you on the field in terms of effort, attitude, and work ethic. He is

someone who has so many games in MLS, and [shows] how you can sustain and play, having such a long career in MLS. I think people like Andrew are so important for our club to show other guys what this club means to him, and his love for the club, and that's something that I appreciate as well."

On the importance of younger players, like Eric Klein, playing minutes tonight:

Mitrović: "I think that if we want players to play, we have to give them that opportunity. We can always hesitate. I think every player makes mistakes on the field, but when a young player makes a mistake, we always connect that with their age. I don't think that's fair. A lot of times, we have a young player and they didn't have a good game, then look to another player with the most experience but he still doesn't have a good game. I'm very happy when we have opportunities to give young guys that chance to play."

"I know in preseason, that is the type of game where most of the young guys get an opportunity. But to play in these games that matter, especially in cup games where there is one shot and you have to win [to determine] if you are in or out. We spoke after the first game against Rhode Island and now this game. Trust me, even if we won the game, we wouldn't change our approach because it's so important for their development to play in these kinds of games and get that experience. It's the only way they can grow as players. Eric [Klein] had a very good game. He had a mature performance tonight."

On his impressions of Centreville Bank Stadium:

Mitrović: "It is a really nice stadium. I hadn't been here before [our Round of 32 match]. When we played our first game here, there was more of a crowd than tonight. I was kind of intimidated, in a good way. I love this kind of environment where there is real passion on the field and in the stands. I actually like the stadium. It's a nice space. It's a proper stadium. It's a turf field, but it's a good surface. It's an enjoyable stadium to play games."

On Damaro McIntosh's status after exiting the match with an injury:

Mitrović: "We believe as of now, it's only cramps. It did not look good at the beginning, but we will evaluate. Usually, mornings are the best for that. So, we will see tomorrow."

Revolution Forward Malcolm Fry

On scoring his first senior team goal in tonight's match:

Fry: "It was an awesome moment. Obviously, I'm disappointed now [with the loss], but I think maybe in a little while, I'll be able to look back and realize how cool of a moment that was. In front of the fans, my dad was here. It was a special moment for me. Obviously, something I'll remember for a while. When I scored in preseason it felt pretty cool. And this is even cooler. I'm very happy with that."

On being part of a group of young players who logged valuable minutes tonight:

Fry: "I wasn't trying to frame tonight as a great opportunity, which it absolutely was. I was just trying to think of it as an opportunity to play 90 minutes, which is at the end of the day what we love to do as soccer players. We talk about just growing up as kids, loving this game."

"I was looking back and seeing Gabe [Dahlin] who I spent the entirety of last season with, after I came back from injury with the second team. With the second team it wasn't exactly where I wanted to be, but it was so valuable, and I learned so much and made so many incredible relationships on that team. I'm so thankful for the time that I had there, and to be able to share that moment with Damaro [McIntosh], Javaun [Mussenden], Gabe, and a bunch of other guys, it was really special."

On what he has learned from playing under Marko Mitrović and his messaging to the players tonight:

Fry: "Marko [Mitrović] talked to the group a lot about just playing with freedom tonight, not playing with

fear, not playing with any weight on those shoulders. When a coach tells you that, it's the best thing of all time. Before the game he was just telling me, 'Go at the guy, go at the guy, go at the guy.' There's nothing better as a player to get that reassurance from a coach.

"Marko makes football fun and makes it enjoyable. He said it recently, he lives this game, and we can see it. When I saw that quote, I was like, 'He 100 percent is not just saying that.' I love playing for Marko. He makes me want to get better. He makes me want to fight for him. He makes me want to fight for the guys around me. I feel so grateful that I'm able to spend time with him. Forget football, I feel like I'm learning so much from him as a person, as a coach, everything that he brings, the way he carries himself in the [training] facility. I'm very thankful for being able to be around him."