



TRANSCRIPT (5/14): Match Preview Press Conference *Soundbytes from Head Coach Marko Mitrović & D Will Sands*

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Revolution Head Coach Marko Mitrović

On turning the page from Wednesday's loss to Nashville SC:

Mitrović: "It's a new day. For us, it's always a new day. It doesn't matter what the result of the [previous] game was. Obviously, it's always better when you win, but we already switched our minds to today, to how we can use today to recover, because the game is coming in 48 hours. The staff has completely switched to the next game, and we only speak about Minnesota."

On what he expects from Saturday's opponent, Minnesota United FC:

Mitrović: "[Minnesota] is a very challenging team. They have their uniqueness, both in and out of possession. They have a physical presence on the field as well. It's going to be a very different game than the game against Nashville, in terms of certain tactical demands and challenges both in and out of possession. They're also a team that's very strong on set pieces. That's something we'll have to pay attention to as well. So, we're looking forward to that challenge."

On the status of defender Ilay Feingold and winger Luca Langoni for Saturday's match:

Mitrović: "Both of them are day-by-day. We'll see tomorrow and we'll know much better tomorrow where we stand with them for Saturday."

On how New England will prepare for Minnesota United's style of play:

Mitrović: "[Minnesota] are a team that from one starting shape that they have when they defend, they get into man-to-man and are very aggressive to press you higher on the field. When they create situations, they're very direct, either playing build-up from the mid-third or when they get to finishing their attacks. They don't hesitate to finish their attacks. They're also a team that's very strong on the ball. It's going to be difficult to sustain the attack. We'll have to find a way to break their man-to-man press and find moments where we can control the game with the ball."

On Minnesota United forward Tomas Chancalay returning to New England:

Mitrović: "Today, we were really talking about their team behavior in all four moments, including set pieces. Obviously, you have 11 players on the field, and every player creates a different dynamic. [Tomas] Chancalay has his qualities and the dynamic that he provides to [Minnesota]. He's coming back here; it's probably a known environment for him. Players that he's going to face on our team, most of those guys are guys he knows because he played with them. But we're not having that perspective that we're playing against someone who played here. It's just another game. With all due respect, don't take me wrong, we just didn't talk about that, like, 'Oh we have a player who's coming back because he used to play here.'"

On forward Leo Campana's status for Saturday's match:

Mitrović: "Very similar to Luca [Langoni] and Ilay [Feingold]. I wish I would know much more today regarding all of them for Saturday, but it's still pending for all three of them."

Revolution Defender Will Sands

On how the team will respond to its first home setback this season:

Sands: "I think everyone on this team is very competitive, so obviously, everyone is a little frustrated about the result last night. It was a big game and I think that we just came up a little bit short in the end. I think there were pieces of that match where our identity really came out, and I think there was a piece of the match where we played well. I think it's just little details that kind of broke us in the end. If we can shore that up, I think we are very close. [We were] a little frustrated, but I think [we need to focus on] what Marko has stressed all year of putting one foot in front of the other and taking every day one step at a time. There is definitely stuff we can learn from [yesterday] and prepare for the next match."

On the positive takeaways from New England's match against Nashville SC:

Sands: "Especially in the first half, the buildup was quite good. I think when we were able to play simply, things flowed pretty well. I think once we complicated the game a little bit, it got away from us. But I think there were moments that it was very fluid building out of the back – keeping the ball, hitting them back. I think if we can do that more consistently, that will benefit us a lot."

On his adjustment moving from the left side to right back:

Sands: "It's funny, I have a history of playing right wing growing up. I played right wing and left back. So, this seems to be an interesting synthesis of the two. There are pieces that I really enjoy. I think the attacking aspect of playing as an inverted outside back is really fun. It creates some very interesting opportunities. Then defensively, it is the same principals as left back, so that has been a pretty seamless transition. I've been enjoying it."

On Saturday's game against Minnesota United FC and former teammate Tomas Chancalay:

Sands: "Minnesota is a very good team. I'm excited to play Chanca. He's a wonderful person and a wonderful player. I think everyone is going to be very motivated. I think this will be a big game going into the World Cup break for momentum purposes and to kind of solidify our position in the standings. I am excited to see Tomas and excited to play against Minnesota."