



NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTION POSTGAME QUOTES

New England Revolution 4 vs. Montreal Impact 0

Saturday, April 6, 2018

New England Revolution Head Coach Brad Friedel

On the overall performance of the team:

Coach Friedel: “We wanted to try to make [Evan] Bush kick long, as much as possible. We had planned on [Ignacio] Piatti playing. He’s a very, very good player, but also wants the ball to his feet. So, we wanted to limit the opportunities that a [Jeisson] Vargas or he, would get the ball to his feet. Nothing changed when they played [Anthony] Jackson-Hamel in there. I thought the application, again on the press, is very, very hard work, to do that, but then also the application on winning the second ball. One thing I thought we did very well today, which we learned from Houston, is when we went a man advantage, I thought we used the ball a lot better.”

On the importance of scoring four goals tonight:

Coach Friedel: “I think it was nice because in the NYCFC game, I think we left some goals out on the field. I think all the players felt that way. We felt like we could’ve scored more. It’s nice. You’re right, it doesn’t happen every day. I think we created over twenty some odd chances. The stats were just put in front of me and that’s really pleasing. If we could score four every game, I think most of the coaches on the staff would be very happy.”

On Wilfried Zahibo’s performance and growth throughout the early part of the season:

Coach Friedel: “One thing that was big when we were scouting Wilfried [Zahibo], was he’s very good in both boxes. So that’s scoring goals and also defending set pieces. I’m not saying he’s going to be a prolific twenty goal guy in a season, but he will pop up with a few goals. He’s very, very tall in stature. As far as learning his way through MLS, yeah, he’s doing a very good job. He’s still 24, 25 years of age. I think he got to see a real dose of the travel element and the different change in climate, when we went to Houston. So, that was good to get that under the belt early doors. Wilfried’s adapting really well to life here in Boston.”

On the importance of Andrew Farrell’s goal after the missed PK:

Coach Friedel: “Yeah, nothing’s a given in this game. That’s for sure. When we missed the penalty, it was still only one-nil. I think the second goal was definitely helpful. And it took us into halftime with even more confidence from a half that we were well and truly on top.”

On the additions to the team and how they’ve fared thus far:

Coach Friedel: “Not every signing is always going to be the right one, that’s for sure, but we do a lot of work and we’re in this office countless hours, trying to figure out everything that we can find out about a player before we bring him through the door. The easy ones, is to make sure that they can play on the field. The harder thing is to find out what they’re like on a personal level and how they conduct themselves off the field, how they integrate, how they’re willing to integrate into a system, how they’re willing to integrate to learn a new language, how they’re willing to come to a place maybe where the weather’s not as warm as it is. We do a lot of homework on that. There’s no perfect system to it, but we do put our work in with it. It’s nice to see some of the players, or most all the players, are paying dividends right now, but it’s still early in the season. We have to stay firmly focused on the job at hand, but we’re really happy with the signings that we’ve made so far.”



On the explanation given by the official, with regards to the VAR decision:

Coach Friedel: “Yeah, straight away, the fourth official came and said he apologized, but they were having some communication difficulties. And they wanted to get it absolutely correct, instead of making a mistake. And then you’ll have to ask the referees themselves as to what their final decision was on whether it was the foul on Cristian Penilla or the foul on Teal Bunbury that was awarded the penalty. But it was communication difficulty and that’s just something that’ll happen once in a while and we’ll have to deal with. We had to deal with it today.”

On the outside backs getting into the attack tonight:

Coach Friedel: “They played with three in the back and then with two wingbacks. So, I think it’s important to try to get our two fullbacks as high up the field as possible to try to make their wingbacks defend, so they have five across the back. That should make life a little bit easier for our central midfielders and our two central defenders. That was part of the plan that we wanted to implement and when you have guys as fit and as quick as [Andrew] Farrell and Gabriel Somi, then you can do that because they can also get back if in fact, the other team break on you.”

New England Revolution Defender Andrew Farrell

On how long he’s been storing up his goal celebration:

Farrell: “It’s really funny, because sometimes I talk about it before games, that I’m going to score. I talk to my girlfriend about it and it never happens, and then today we were talking about it with Teal [Bunbury], and he was like ‘What are you going to do? Are you going to celebrate? How you going to do it?’ and I was like, ‘I don’t know, I’ll probably explode,’ but it felt really good to get the goal, get on the score sheet. It’s been a long time coming for me. It feels really good.”

On what he’s going to do about his beard and the ball:

Farrell: “I’m keeping it. I’m keeping the beard. With the ball, I don’t know. I’m just going to put it in my room somewhere. It feels really good to score.”

On whether or not the goal was worth the wait:

Farrell: “Definitely worth the wait. It was a great team win, three points, got another shutout. Obviously, we didn’t expect to be up a man, but I think we did a lot better job managing this game than we did the last game we were up a man, and so we’ve got to move forward. We’ve got a tough game against Dallas coming up next week, but I think a lot of guys put in good performances today, and we got to keep pushing to keep winning.”

On how important the timing of his goal was, after Diego Fagundez missed the penalty kick:

Farrell: “I think it was good. I think we were a little sloppy there in the first half, creating some turnovers, kind of like the Houston game where they were getting in behind a little bit and creating chances, so to get the goal before half was important. And then I think in the second half, we did a lot better job managing that, not letting them get as many chances as we did in the game against Houston, so we got the shutout as well, which was a big-time performance.”

On how important it was to get a shut out:

Farrell: “It’s good. Obviously, there were some times where they got in behind and that’s something that we got to keep working on. It’s been a project of ours since the end of last year to get more shutouts and get better performances with defense, and obviously you don’t expect to go up a man in back-to-back games, but I think there’s progress shown from last game to this game, so we just got to keep moving forward in that aspect.”



On what was going through his head when he put the ball in the net:

Farrell: “I blacked out a little bit. I can’t tell you what happened. I just remember seeing Teal [Bunbury]’s face when I was running around, but it felt good. I knew I got to take a shot there one time, so this fell to me, it was a great ball from [Gabriel] Somo—I think Diego [Fagundez] got a little touch, he’s probably going to try to get an assist for that—but it felt good to help the team on the offensive side of the ball. It’s something that I’ve tried to work on since I’ve gotten here, and I think it’s getting better and better under the system, and I’ll keep working to get better at that.”

New England Revolution Forward Teal Bunbury

On his goal in the 20th minute:

Bunbury: “It was an unbelievable ball [from Wilfried Zaha]. Credit to all the guys, we put a lot of work in this week in training. We had to take advantage of them. They went down a man but we didn’t let up. My job is to make runs, either open up space for people or get the ball. Wil [Wilfried Zaha played] a great ball, I just tried to make something happen. I was able to be one-on-one and finish it – that’s my job. A lot of hard work from a lot of guys tonight, proud that we got three points, got the shutout, and that [Andrew] Farrell scored.”

On the emotion of seeing Farrell score his first MLS goal:

Bunbury: “It’s funny because we we’re actually talking before the game about ‘what would you do if you scored today.’ And he was like, ‘I don’t even know, I think I’ll just go crazy.’ I think he went through about seven or eight different celebrations. It was a lot of fun. You could see that everybody was very excited for him. All the hard work he puts in, sometimes we give him a hard time that he still hasn’t scored yet but we can’t say that anymore. I’m proud of him.”

On taking a two-goal lead into halftime:

Bunbury: “It was really important because they still had a couple chances on the counter even though they were down a man. It was important that we were able to get another goal before half so we could come out in the second half and continue to put pressure on them.”

On fitting into Coach Friedel’s system:

Bunbury: “I think that it’s just a philosophy with all the guys. We all are bought-in to the system. We’re working hard in training and there’s a lot of competition that’s bringing out the best in everybody. I’m just trying to continue to stay motivated, play for the glory of god, and make the most of everything.”

On being a man-up in the first half for a second straight week:

Bunbury: “We were able to take our work ethic and not letting up and not dipping our intensity knowing they were down a man. Some teams can kind of get lulled into ‘Okay, we’re up a man, we can take our foot off the gas.’ Maybe there was glimpses of it here or there but proud of the guys that we were able to keep the pressure on them.”

New England Revolution Midfielder Diego Fagundez

On the team’s performance today:

Fagundez: “I think we all did well today. We all worked hard and when we had our chances, we finished them. Of course, when the referee goes our way a little bit it kind of helps. Overall, we worked hard enough and we deserved that.”

On to what he attributes the team’s run of form:

Fagundez: “Just all the hard work and all the teammates that I have, everything that I’ve been giving out from day one. It’s a new year, so I’m just trying to do everything that I can to get as many goals under my belt. But of course, as long as the team is winning that’s more important.”



On imposing their will after Montreal went down a man:

Fagundez: "We all said, "Now we have to work harder than them." Someone goes down a man, they need to work hard, so we need to make sure we stepped it up a level and I think everybody definitely did that today."

On getting off to a fast start this season:

Fagundez: "From day one in preseason, we knew it was going to be a different year for us. We've been working hard all year and you can see it in the games, it's showing. We just need to keep developing and keep going, keep rolling with the train."

On if the team is buying into Head Coach Brad Friedel's system:

Fagundez: "Yeah, I think everybody [is]. When they want us to pressure, we all pressure as a team, we're not doing it [individually]. Of course you notice when someone is scoring, we're all happy, we're all celebrating. That's what we want, we want our team to be together and bonding, and at the end of the day, this coaching staff definitely brought that to us."

On seeing Andrew Farrell score his first MLS goal:

Fagundez: "It's huge, I was very happy for him. Especially for him, he's had so many chances all these years and to finally get one, I know the first one is of course special. So we're all very excited for him and I tried to get the game ball, and I did for him because he didn't really want it, but we need it for him."

On how far along the team is in adopting Coach Friedel's system:

Fagundez: "I don't think we're far at all. We're almost there, maybe a couple more games. Everybody has clicked already, but it's going to show how this team is doing when we're getting all these hard games coming up and most important, when we go away and our team is doing well. These couple games coming up [are] going to be huge. Especially at home, we need to win every game that we can, we need to keep this vibe going."

Montreal Impact Head Coach Rémi Garde

On his overall thoughts on the game:

Coach Garde: "I think the look of the game is not the same when you are playing one man down. If you look at the first 15 minutes, it was a good game from our part. We had a good situation in front of their goal that we didn't play very well. Then after that we were 10 men against 11, which was more difficult. After that, we tried to do our best, but it was not our night."

Montreal Impact Midfielder Samuel Piette

On going down to 10 men early in the match:

Piette: "It's frustrating, obviously. It's funny to say, but I think we dealt very well against these guys 11 against 11 the first minutes of the game. I think we could've good chances with even guys on the field. But to lose Saphir (Taïder), a big player for us, it's hard. We fought really well today, but it was really tough – and almost impossible – because they played very well."

On playing through the cold weather:

Piette: "For me, it was okay. I was a bit scared when we were at the hotel seeing the snow coming down, but it was good. Not too cold, not too hot. I like when it's cold like that and the pitch was in nice coordination."



On added pressure playing a man down and Evan Bush's performance:

Piette: "We have to be really focused, especially defensively. We have to stay compact, work really hard, and run more than we're usually used to. I think Evan [Bush] played very well. We lost 4-0, but it could have been more. The goals were not his fault. Just a collective effort was lacking today. We just have to work on that."

Montreal Impact Goalkeeper Evan Bush

On the night as a whole:

Bush: "It was a real tough night. When you go down a man early, it kind of changes the whole game obviously. We came in already missing a couple of guys. It made a tough job even tougher. We just wash our hands clean of this one and be thankful that, as the coach said after the game, sometimes it's better to lose one game 4-0 than lose four games 1-0. That's our mentality. We know there's a lot of positive things still, and this was just kind of an outlier."

On not taking advantage of momentum:

Bush: "It could have led to something and to be fair we had a couple of chances toward the end of that first half before they got that second goal, where if we're a little bit better and more clinical in those situations it gets to 1-1. But in a game like this where you're down a man against a team that is already in good form, they kick the ball pretty well, you need to take advantage of the situation. You're only probably going to get one or two if I'm being honest, and then we didn't [take advantage], they get the second goal before halftime and it's a backbreaker. Obviously the third goal, that goal kind of symbolized what the whole night was. A guy is three yards from the goal and gets the ball. I didn't see the replay to see if he was offside or not, obviously he wasn't, because there's VAR. Just having that type of goal be the third goal is just kind of the way the night went."

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