



NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTION POSTGAME QUOTES

New England Revolution 2 vs. New York Red Bulls 1

Saturday, June 2, 2018

New England Revolution Head Coach Brad Friedel

On the team's performance tonight:

Coach Friedel: "Really happy with the performance. Really happy again, with the character that the players showed, going a goal down, especially so early. [We] stuck to the plan. We've had three games this week. Everybody knows that we talk about fitness and we have been from day one. Our team is very capable of playing three-game weeks. I've also said that we have a tremendous squad, we have a lot of depth in the squad, which we do. We felt bringing a smaller, little bit different type of midfield suited this game because they try to swarm around the ball. I thought Kelyn [Rowe] and Diego [Fagundez], and Luis Caicedo did an exceptionally good job in the center of midfield. And then Gabriel Somi failed a fitness test this afternoon, and I thought Claude Dielna did an excellent job of filling in at left back."

On if he anticipated Fagundez's first-half goal due to the team's extended possession:

Coach Friedel: "It felt like it was coming in the Dallas game as well, and it never did. That was a great time to score, really good play, and a fantastic goal by Diego [Fagundez]. And again, a lot of really good performers on the evening. Toni [Antonio Delamea] and Jalil [Anibaba] dealt with Bradley Wright-Phillips, with the exception obviously of, he got the goal. But for the most part, they played a lot of direct balls and they had to deal with a lot of situations in the air. And then our midfield had to clean up a lot of second balls. So, we're very, very pleased."

On the decision to start Krisztián Németh:

Coach Friedel: "We had three games this week. Krisztián [Németh] has been working very, very hard. It has been unfortunate for him, but fortunate for us, that Teal [Bunbury] has been scoring many, many goals and playing incredibly well. We wanted to change the formation a little bit and play with a more three-striker approach and try to keep [Kemar] Lawrence from going forward and trying to keep [Connor] Lade from going forward. I think, for the most part, that worked. Krisztián Németh has played on the right, as more of a right-wing striker before. He was very comfortable in doing it and I thought he had an excellent game."

On the play of Cristian Penilla and his assist on Teal Bunbury's game-winning goal:

Coach Friedel: "I think it doesn't happen without Luis Caicedo's involvement in it as well. We stand up here most times after games and talk about something good that Cristian Penilla did. He's very quick, very difficult to defend against. And when he gets in one-on-one situations, once he shifts the ball to his right or his left hand side, it's not impossible, but it's very difficult to stop him. Cristian is really enjoying life here. He's enjoying the soccer here and he's expressing himself."

On Krisztián Németh's performance and his penalty shout in the first half:

Coach Friedel: "I haven't watched them back, but from my understanding, the first one probably was. The second one, not so sure. I'll have to look at them. Yeah, but Krisztián Németh's been doing a very good job and likewise Brian Wright. This is where I talk about our depth, our strength in depth. Brian Wright could've had a penalty in the Columbus game and could've had a penalty at the end of the Vancouver game. We have a lot of options in the squad."

On Németh's ability to get himself in position to draw fouls in the penalty area:

Coach Friedel: "He's quick. He's good. He's a total, all-rounded footballer—soccer player, sorry. He understands where he should be, whether he's playing as a nine or playing as a winger. And again, he works hard every single day and he's technically very, very gifted. Teal [Bunbury] got the start. He's on a



run of a lot of goals, as everyone knows. And Krisztián Németh, with a change of formation, benefited from that this evening.”

On what the officials told him when he asked them about the non-penalty call:

Coach Friedel: “We’re checking it. I get that a lot. The fourth official—very, very nice guy. From where I was, it looked like it was a penalty, but I could be wrong. We’ll have to wait and see.”

On Gabriel Somi failing the fitness test:

Coach Friedel: “He twisted his ankle a little bit. I think that people saw the play in the last game. With only a couple days in between games, we brought him out and he just couldn’t sprint to the full extent. And if you can’t sprint to the full extent, it’s difficult to play. We’re hoping that he’s fit for our Open Cup game, if selected for that, and the Chicago game. It’s nothing too serious.”

On approaching the busy schedule coming up with the U.S. Open Cup starting on Tuesday:

Coach Friedel: “We’ve got a really good squad. Whoever I put on the field, I fully expect to win. We’re going to Louisville to win the game. I’ve said this many times. Losing can be a bad habit that you get into and winning can be a great habit that you get into. No matter who goes on the field, we expect to have a good performance and hopefully we can progress in the Open Cup.”

New England Revolution Midfielder Diego Fagundez

On his celebration with his shin guards:

Fagundez: “I got these custom made, half Uruguay and half U.S. I got my family on the Uruguay, and then my girlfriend and my daughter on the U.S. one. I scored as a dad for the first time, so I had to somehow get her into it.”

On whether or not he had been planning it for a long time:

Fagundez: “No, it wasn’t that I was planning it. I had Under Armour with her name on it and once you get suspended for five yellows, you don’t want to get another one for something like that, so I thought it was a little bit easier just to show the shin guards off and celebrate it.”

On what led up to his goal:

Fagundez: “It was a good throw in by Claude [Dielna]. Every time he got a chance to throw, he’d find Teal [Bunbury], and I remember Teal turning and once he played it across the box, I didn’t know if Krisztián Németh was going to touch it or not, but I knew the ball was going to end up there, and he gave it a little touch and I just had to do my job and try to finish it.”

On how important it was to get the pay-off after a decent stretch of pressure before his goal:

Fagundez: “It was huge. When you score early in the half or at the end of the half, it brings the momentum up for your team. It was the perfect timing for us. We went back and we fixed what we had to fix, but we knew that when we went back in the locker room, we had to come stronger. They were going to come with everything. At the end of the day, we got the three points, so we’re all happy about it.”

On how he thinks Uruguay is going to do going into the World Cup and in the World Cup:

Fagundez: “I don’t think I want to talk about the World Cup right now. We have another game on Tuesday and then Saturday and then hopefully Wednesday and then hopefully Saturday again, so it’s tough to start looking at the World Cup right now. I’m trying to focus right now on our team and trying to get as much rest as possible, especially with these big games coming back-to-back-to-back, but once we have a little break, I think I’ll get a little bit more into who, what and what, but hopefully they go far, and I’ll be rooting for them of course.”

On what he has seen from the players that Brad Friedel has been rotating in:



Fagundez: "You never when you come into the locker room what's going to happen. No one knows who's the starting 11, who's the 18. No one knows anything. We go out there and we have to perform in training and then at the end of the day, he's making these choices for players, but everybody should be ready. And you can see today, Krisztián Németh went out there and did his job. He was taking on people one-on-one. [He was] unlucky that he couldn't get a goal in, but it's nice to see that we have fresh legs that can come in and help out our team, especially now with all these new games coming. Maybe there's going to be new faces on the field and we're definitely going to be excited, but everybody's going to be ready for it."

On what Teal's done in the past few months to hit this run:

Fagundez: "What *hasn't* he done? That's the truth. He's been scoring goals when we need 'em. I think going back to Atlanta, I think when we had the PK, we wanted to get him to keep scoring goals and that's why he went out there, stepped up and took the PK. But today, he stepped up again and scored for us. We have to make sure that he stays happy and he stays scoring goals, because when he's scoring goals, I think our team's doing well. Between everybody on the team and Teal [Bunbury], and Cristian [Penilla], and me up top, we're trying to do everything possible to make sure that we're in games, but we have to create those chances first for us to score. Overall, I think it was a team performance today and you can tell how much it meant to us."

New England Revolution Forward Teal Bunbury

Thoughts on the match:

Bunbury: "Pleased. New York's a great team. We got three points at home in front of an unbelievable crowd. Really proud of how everyone played, the whole 90 minutes. Conceding a goal, [and] being able to bury one at the end of the first half. Sticking to our plan. We got three points, so we got to be pleased."

On if he is currently the most confident that he has been in his career:

Bunbury: "Probably, I'm feeling good. We're winning games, so yeah, I'm happy. "

On if he has set a personal benchmark for goals:

Bunbury: "No, I'm going out there trying to work for my team. Whatever it takes, goals, working hard, pumping guys up. That's my method."

On the team's hard work in the match:

Bunbury: "Yeah, it's been like that all season. I mean, [Cristian] Penilla is a game changer. He goes at guys all game long, created something out of nothing. It's my job to kind of be in the mix in the box, and we got the win. He makes my job easy. More times than not, he's going to beat his guy. I got to be in the right position, whether it's a near post run, far post run, something like that."

How he feels regarding his fitness:

Bunbury: "I feel great. I feel good. Obviously, tired after that game, but I feel like we've been preparing all season and preseason to be sharp. We're getting proper rest when we need it. I think everybody's taking care of their body."

New England Revolution Goalkeeper Matt Turner

On tonight's involvement:

Turner: "We had a plan, we stuck to it. We really limited their chances. They had to resort to a lot of long balls and we did a good job of winning the first ones and cleaning up the second. It's my job when they come into our box and they had a few down the stretch – just be ready to make the save and make it cleanly. My favorite moment of the game was probably taking that cross in the 90th minute. I mean, that just relieves a lot of pressure and helps the team get up, get behind the ball and reset. I'm really proud of



the guys, we fought back from one-nil down, went up two-one, and then we were able to hold on to this lead so, it's a good performance."

On the team's mentality:

Turner: "That's the main message, stick to the plan. Goals happen in soccer, it was a good goal. Sometimes no matter how good you play, teams are going to score so, there's no reason to freak out. We did a good job of keeping our composure, trusting our plan and it paid off in the 46th minute."

On the importance of this win ahead of a stretch of road games:

Turner: "We played three tough teams. Vancouver [Whitecaps] is not easy, Atlanta [United FC] at home, [New York] Red Bulls at home. Getting five points from those three is pretty good. It's not exactly what we wanted, we were in a position to do better, but at the end of the day, we were able to come out with three today and keep it rolling as we go forward and bring our three-point mentality on the road with us."

On Claude Dielna playing at left back and the other players in front of him:

Turner: "Everyone was good, there was a lot of communication. We talked Claude [Dielna] through the game. He's a good defender and a good athlete. He was able to get himself forward a few times, too. I don't think too much danger came from that side, so [he] played really well. [Andrew] Farrell, Jalil [Anibaba], Toni [Antonio Delamea], Claude [Dielna] – they made my job a lot easier tonight."

New York Red Bulls Head Coach Jesse Marsch

On if the team did enough to get a point:

Coach Marsch: "I think just not good enough. We were pretty honest with ourselves after the game, not enough good performances. Not enough desire on the field to take care of the game. Not enough sharpness to create chances. Then, it winds up that when you play against a combative team that you're not rewarding yourself for creating little moments, because you're just not able to be sharp. I don't think we got enough out of our pressing and counter-pressing. I don't think we got enough out of our play with the ball. I don't think we got enough out of our game plan. I don't think we did well on set pieces. We gave up two goals off of throw-ins – one at the end of the half. In a lot of ways, just short. Just short in a lot of areas. If you combine that with not having good performances, then you're going to probably be on the wrong end of the result."

On if the starting lineup had enough pieces to contend with the Revs:

Coach Marsch: "They've [the Revolution] had a tough week. They've had to dig in. They got two draws, and so it meant a lot for them to make sure to squeeze everything out of this game, and they played with a little bit of desperation, a little bit of edge, and we didn't. We played like we just thought we were going to be able to take care of the game, and in some ways, maybe that early goal fed to that. Again, we had an honest conversation with ourselves to make sure that we don't listen to the talk that's out there. We don't watch the power rankings. We don't start thinking that we are better than we are, because that's the way to put a big halt into the progress that's being made within our season. It's normal that you have a game where you're not at your best, but we have to make sure that this is not a habit and that we learn from it and that we grow from it."

On if his frustration stems from his own team's efforts:

Coach Marsch: "Yeah, giving them throw-ins, giving them set pieces. I mean, inviting them into our box too much, and then losing little duels and battles that lead to dangerous moments in the box. And then on the flipside, our attacking players didn't do enough to make it hard on their defenders and win little edges and little duels and little battles, and wrestling matches, and footraces. The ball kept coming, they keep pressing us, they keep coming at us, and they keep putting the ball forward. We don't do well enough, and they do better and they want it more, and so then it leads to the ball being around our box more, and then ultimately to two goals off of throw-ins."



On the tough upcoming schedule for the Red Bulls:

Coach Marsch: "It doesn't get easier. It gets tougher. We know that. We knew that going into this two-week-stretch that it was going to be very difficult. We got to call on a lot of different guys to be prepared, and be ready to go and have better performances. Not a good start to the four-game-stretch, but we'll find a way to learn from it and get better and be ready for Wednesday – a big Open Cup match against New York City."

New York Red Bulls Forward Bradley Wright-Phillips

On frustration with tonight's result:

Wright-Phillips: "Yeah, just a lot of frustration. Obviously, we got off to a decent start, but I think to sum up the game, there's not enough good performances or final play creation. There just weren't enough today."

On lacking creativity in the final third:

Wright-Phillips: "That's what I've been thinking since I came in here. I don't know why. I think we had a good game plan. I think we could've done better on getting second balls to set up attacks, and I think on that we didn't do too well either. I think that just shows that if we don't do the things that make us play well, we won't get results."

On the key to success entering a busy stretch of the season:

Wright-Phillips: "Individually, we need better performances. We've got a tough week coming up. We wanted to start off this week with a win and unfortunately we didn't, but we've still got two games to make it right. I think we win the Open Cup game and get a good result in Columbus, it's a successful week, but it's just disappointing tonight."

On missing key players to international duty and the players that stepped into the rotation:

Wright-Phillips: "I think we got that spot on. I just think when we [were] winning second balls and the balls [were] dropping, we didn't do enough with the ball, especially in the final third. Sloppy turnovers – I don't think it had anything to do with personnel. I think the guys that have come in today have earned their spots. They've been working hard all season. I don't think it was that. I just think when we had chances to play and create, we didn't."

New York Red Bulls Goalkeeper Ryan Meara

On if he felt he kept the team in the game during the first half:

Meara: "I think this game turned out to be exactly what we had prepared for. Coming up here, through the years, it's always a hard game up here. They are a good, strong, combative team and they're in a good way so far this season. So tonight was exactly what we expected, and I thought even though they probably had more chances than us in the first half and the ball was in our defensive half for most of the first half, I thought we had weathered the storm. Obviously, they get that goal right before halftime, that deflates us, but even still in the second half I thought we came out okay. There were just a couple plays, a couple moments that got away from us. I'd say they [the Revolution] deserved to come out 2-1 winners tonight. We weren't fully deserving of it."

On if New England deserves credit for disrupting New York's game plan:

Meara: "It seemed like in the attacking third, we just couldn't really put enough plays together to really be dangerous and to put their back four on their toes enough. It's a big week for us. Tonight is disappointing, but it's onto Wednesday against NYC. We want to make another run in the Open Cup."

On if last year's Open Cup run plays into the equation for this year:



Meara: "I think we can take a lot from that run. Obviously, we want to do that again, but we know it's one game at a time. You look at that run last year and I think each game was decided by one goal if I'm not mistaken. So, we want to make that run again, but we know it starts Wednesday, and you're only as good as the game in front of you. We hope to get off to a good start on Wednesday and just take it from there."

On how much more comfortable he's feeling in net:

Meara: "For me, for anyone, the more games you play the more comfortable you feel in your position. I think each game I've gotten more comfortable with the goalkeeper-to-back-four relationship and that's huge for a team. Tonight, we had a couple of breakdowns. They made us pay, but I think overall we're headed in the right direction."

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