



NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTION POSTGAME QUOTES

New England Revolution 2 vs. Orlando City SC 0

Saturday, October 13, 2018

New England Revolution Head Coach Brad Friedel

On :

Coach Friedel: “

New England Revolution Midfielder Diego Fagundez

On the performance tonight and what clicked, despite no longer having a chance at a playoff spot:

Fagundez: “Before the game, I think everybody mentally prepared that we needed to win no matter [what], and then we were going to just hope that everything went our way. But at the end of the day, when we found out that it wasn’t really the miracle that was supposed to happen, we still went out there. We wanted to perform and we wanted to make sure that we gave our fans three points today, played for ourselves, and make sure that everybody knew that we have a good team. We just struggled a little bit, but at the end of the day, like today, you see it out there—how fun it is between us and what we can do.”

On what he saw from the offense tonight:

Fagundez: “The first half, we had a lot of chances. We just weren’t really scoring, and it’s one of those things. We came out at halftime and we knew that we needed one. As soon as you get one, it was going to open up. I think in the second half, we went out there and we definitely gave it to them and won a great goal by Cristian Penilla—corner kick deflected, comes back, and slides it back post, so that opens it up for us—and then we just kept going and we knew that another one would happen and I got lucky to be in the right spot with a great cross by him and I got to finish it.”

On whether or not he felt there was more patience with creating chances tonight:

Fagundez: “I think our midfield definitely did a good job creating the tempo of the game, and how fast we wanted to go, and when it was a good time to relax and make sure that we were getting the right passes together—so it was an overall good game by everybody. Everybody stepped in and performed, but it’s kind of a sad one that it’s over right now. But we still have two more games, so we just have to make sure that we keep building from this and keep getting better and make sure that if we can get six points out of these two, at least we can get our fans happy and ourselves [happy].”

On the overall impact that Cristian Penilla has had on the team this year:

Fagundez: “I think [we knew] Cristian Penilla, since day one when he came, was going to be a different player, and he comes in here and works hard in training, and when he has those chances in the game, he finishes them. We try to get him the ball as much as possible and when he gets the ball, he does magic and then you just have to somehow be in the box; deflection—anything can happen. I think he likes the way we play because he gets open a lot and he can take people one-on-one, so he’s a great person to have on your team. If you’re playing against him, now that’s a different story—but we’re glad that he’s here, and hopefully we can keep him here for a while.”

New England Revolution Midfielder Kelyn Rowe

On putting in a complete performance following the playoff elimination news:

Rowe: “Unfortunately, we’ve felt this before. We put ourselves in a tough spot, we needed help and we didn’t get it. It’s one of those [where] you’re playing for a contract, you’re playing for a little bit of pride. We know we haven’t done well in the past and we want to make sure that our homestand still stays on a



positive note and give something to the fans to look forward to next season. We're not going to sit here and die the next two games. It's one of those you're just going to play for pride."

On coming out strong in the second half with two quick goals:

Rowe: "We were playing well in the first half. We just needed to finish our chances – that final ball, that final finish – and you saw it in the second half. I think we've harped on it all year really. Today you saw a little bit of confidence, I guess a weight off your shoulders a little bit. These guys put the final ball together and I thought Diego [Fagundez] and [Cristian] Penilla did well to do so."

On playing left back against an opponent that sits back:

Rowe: "It gives you a little more time and space on the ball. You can get forward and not have a guy behind me always making me stay [back] a little bit. So I have a little more time to get forward, get on the ball, [Cristian] Penilla and I can then work some one-two's."

On winning for the fans:

Rowe: "Hopefully it keeps [the fans] motivated. It hasn't been our best year, best three years really. We want to give as much as we can. We're going to come out and play as hard as we can no matter the result or the reason for playing. So we're hoping they stay and please believe in us in the next year."

New England Defender Jalil Anibaba

On the pregame message following the elimination news:

Anibaba: "We have everything to play for within the locker room. We have everything to prove to ourselves, to the staff and more importantly our fans that have pride in our craft. We take pride in what we do. That's the main reason why we're all here, so regardless of exterior factors, we're going to put everything we have out on the field until the season is done."

On the halftime message and strong second half start:

Anibaba: "To just keep at it. Keep the tempo high and to finish the game strong—finish the game like we started the game. I think that's been a problem of ours throughout the season. We've played parts of games well and parts of games not so well. Tonight, we played a complete match."

On keeping a clean sheet:

Anibaba: "I thought the guys in front of us made our lives easy tonight. We were sharp on the ball—we were relentless. We kept attacking. We were pretty good in possession tonight, so that always makes our lives easy. As far as cleaning up what we need to clean up in the back, we're always willing to put the work in on the defensive end. Tonight, it was more about being better on the ball."

On having Wilfred Zahibo, Scott Caldwell, and Luis Caicedo in front of the defense:

Anibaba: "It's huge. Obviously, we've seen from [Luis] Caicedo all year that he's willing to die on the field—same with Scotty [Caldwell], same with Wilfred [Zahibo]. It's great to have guys in front of us that will do the dirty work, but more importantly and on the flip side, when they get the ball they can hurt other teams and they can keep the ball for us as well."

Orlando City SC Head Coach James O'Connor

On his overall thoughts on the game:

O'Connor: "I think, obviously in the first half, we defended not too bad—frustrated them. Pass completion was low and I think we were hopeful that we were going to go out and get more from the attack—pass the ball with more accuracy. I think our passing accuracy was 64 or 66 percent. When you've got passing accuracy that low it becomes very difficult to impact a game going forward. When you are passing like



that, you have to defend. We did a decent enough job in the first half. In the second half—really poor start to the second half. A giveaway, two very poor goals, then [we] were chasing the game two nil down.”

On preparation for the final two home games:

O’Connor: “We need to get back. We need to rest. See which players are available for the game against Columbus. It’ll be nice to play at home in front of our supporters, but we need to go, we need to try to finish the season, and try to give a level of performance that the supporters deserve.”

Orlando City SC Goalkeeper Adam Grinwis

On his overall emotions tonight:

Grinwis: “It’s tricky. It’s kind of mixed emotions. Obviously, I came into this match hoping to get a result. I thought we dug deep in the first half, defensively. We were able to get out of the half nil-nil. You just hope to come in and build off that, and unfortunately, we conceded early. I tried to do my best to keep the team in it and get a result. Unfortunately, we fell a bit short tonight.”

On preparing for a quick turnaround against Seattle on Wednesday:

Grinwis: “You’ve got to have a short memory, and get past this quickly. We’ve got to think about it tonight, let it sink in and learn from it, and move on. We got two matches at home. I want to make our fans proud—they deserve it. We have been working hard this year, and though the results haven’t shown it, the fans do deserve more and we want to come out there and give it our best.”

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