



TRANSCRIPT: Postgame vs. Atlanta United FC (July 25)
Soundbytes from Head Coach Marko Mitrović, M Carles Gil, & M Brooklyn Raines

Revolution Head Coach Marko Mitrović

On his takeaways from the team's performance in tonight's win and what newly-acquired winger Jack Harrison will bring to the team:

Mitrović: "The final score was 4-1, but I don't think the game was as easy as the score says. Atlanta creates a lot of uncertainty when they are on the ball and they have some very talented players that keep you on your toes all the time. I don't think that even with the big score they gave up. They kept going, which is good."

"On Jack [Harrison], any player that we can bring that we believe can improve our team is a great addition. We strongly believe that Jack has all the tools as a player and as a human being to help us grow and move forward. I'm very happy that he joined our organization."

On the contributions in the build-up to the four goals scored by New England tonight:

Mitrović: "[On Wednesday], we spoke about where we can improve as a team. Today we showed in a good amount of the game, certain things that are getting together and that the team has a strong belief and confidence in the things that we're doing. But I still believe that there are areas that we have to improve and get better."

"Also, we have spoken several times on who has to contribute and I think that every player can contribute in any given movement. Whether it is an assist, a goal, what leads to that? Because it's not just the player who makes the assist and scores the goal, it's how the ball gets there, it's the whole pieces that we have to put together. I think today we had moments where all those pieces were together, but we still have moments that we can recognize better on how to behave in order to be even more efficient than we were tonight."

On midfielder Brooklyn Raines netting his first MLS goal tonight and his development as a player:

Mitrović: "I would say, every player, when he scores a goal it is great. I don't think the definition of Brooklyn [Raines] job is to score goals, but we just spoke that whoever is there to make an assist or score a goal, that's great and I think he recognized the right time to go. Even last game he had two shots and it encouraged him like, 'I can get there and score goals.' I actually think outside of the goal he had a very good game tonight."

"Brooklyn is someone that we all strongly believe in. It's not just the staff, every player on the team as well. Brooklyn is a very humble, hard-working player that is never satisfied. He always looks to grow and get better. In the beginning of the season, this was a very new environment for him. Brooklyn is a very young player and maybe he didn't play at the level that people would expect. But I love that he is unlocking himself more and more, game after game. We can see even better performances from Brooklyn in the future."

On how goalkeeper Matt Turner helps start the attack with his distribution:

Mitrović: "When we speak about our team, we always say that every player has to know how he should behave. If we speak purely about attack, in order to provide assists and score goals there's a chain of certain actions on the field. When we're on the ball and we have Matt [Turner] on the ball, Matt has to know how to behave. Same with, for example, Carles [Gil] and Dor [Turgeman]. When we're defending, if they're the highest player on the field, we cannot just expect that Mamadou [Fofana] and Ethan [Kohler] and Matt will stop those [opposing] attacks.

So, there's a first line of doing something. We don't want to say we're working to play out of the back. With Matt, it's more recognition, knowing anywhere where the ball is in any moment of the game, we are like 'What are we doing and how do we behave?' And just repeating those actions day after day with Matt and the rest of the team. I feel we're growing more confident and have more clarity in how to do those things on the field. And Matt contributes in a great way to that."

On how the midfield performed in tonight's win against an Atlanta side that plays to win possession:

Mitrović: "It's more about executing things. We really never speak about amount of possession. You can have 70 percent of the possession but what if that leads nowhere? I'm not saying we're going to sit and defend, we're not a transitional team. We have to understand what we are doing [regardless] of whoever has the ball on the field or wherever the ball is on the field. Because no matter how much you dominate the game somewhere, there can be a certain moment that is a game-changing moment.

"We use two words- it's patient but also determination. Being patient on the ball to create the right moment to go. But then when we go we have to go with full determination. For example, if we have open space, then we go. But we don't rush to get in that space. Also, when we're defending we have to be patient because the opponent is in possession in that moment and they have the first control of the action because the ball is on their feet. Now we have to be patient, to recognize when we're going to win the ball. But when we go, we have to go with full determination. I think that piece was very clinical for us today- going from patient, to determination, to executing the action. I think that was the weight that won the game tonight."

On playing in front of 34,428 fans at Gillette Stadium tonight:

Mitrović: "It's beautiful that you are asking that. I actually wanted to finish with [that topic] to thank people for coming to the game. We all love this game because of the game itself, but then we watch the game. So, then spectators always connect with what's going on the field, and you cannot separate those things. I love that we had the biggest crowd of the season [tonight]. I know the weather helped, and it was a Saturday night, and everything went well.

"I am also very aware that when we spoke as a team, something that we wanted to do from the beginning of the season was to build trust when people come here that they believe that we can win the game. And [when they do, fans] come with some different energy and [bring] a positive mindset to the field, even before the game. We [as a team] did not speak about the crowd, but we know if we do the right things on the field, we will have them with us.

"I still believe that we are the ones who have to get people with us and get them to be our fans until we change things and they all come back [with the mindset] that we are all together in this. I think we are all together, but we have to earn their claps and their support and make them feel good about us. [We want them to] believe in us and trust us. When we put these things together, it is going to be wonderful."

On trading Brayan Ceballos to CF Montréal:

Mitrović: "I think that in this moment for all three sides [that are involved], it was a great move. I would like to thank Brayan [Ceballos] for everything that he has contributed to the club. When he was on the field, he always played with the highest level of enthusiasm and energy. Everything he has done so far for

us was great. I wish him nothing but the best in his future career, and to him and his family. I know he is going to do great.

"There are certain decisions in this game that you have to make. I like to say that we don't know what the morning will bring to us, and there are decisions that everyone has to make for the best for everyone [involved]. Right now, we have to move forward. We have the team that we have, and we believe in them. Again, I just want to thank Brayn for all that he did for us."

Revolution Midfielder Carles Gil

On tonight's win at home:

Gil: "It was good. We wanted to continue the way we finished the first half of the season. We couldn't score that goal on Wednesday. We know that when you score early in the game, it's easier to manage the tempo and the other team opens up, so it's easier to score another, and we did. We're very happy."

On celebrating his goal by announcing that he and his wife are expecting a second child:

Gil: "Yes, obviously very happy. I'm going to have another one [child] in December. It was a special celebration."

On Dor Turgeman recording a goal and assist:

Gil: "The striker in the end, it's many things, but maybe the most important for them mentally and everything is to score goals. I'm very happy for him, because he trains very hard every day. Dor does, for me, many things, not just goals. The movements he makes are very important, when he can hold the ball for the guys that are coming to support him. Yeah, I'm very happy for his goal and hopefully, now the goal is open for him and more to come."

On the changes since last season:

Gil: "Honestly, you could feel that even the first day with Marko. The first meeting, mentally, and the way we work outside of and on the pitch. We know the type of team he wants. Then, it is to improve and put all these things on the pitch. Sometimes it works, sometimes not, but you know what to do with the ball and without the ball, and this is key. The team needs to have an identity and with Marko, since the beginning, we have that."

On the Revolution acquiring winger Jack Harrison:

Gil: "We are very happy. I'm very happy and excited to play with a guy who played many years in the Premier League. It's difficult to be there. I talked a little with him yesterday and today too. Hopefully he can have his visa very soon and help the team, because we need guys to continue in this position, and he is a quality player for sure. He's going to give us some big moments."

Revolution Midfielder Brooklyn Raines

On netting his first MLS goal and first assist in tonight's win:

Raines: "It feels amazing, especially because my family was here, so I'm glad they got to experience my first MLS goal and assist. But for me, it's all about the team to be honest. To do what I did today, I wouldn't be able to do without them, so I give a lot of props to my teammates."

On earning a win in front of 34,428 fans at Gillette Stadium and if the atmosphere from the home crowd impacted his mentality:

Raines: "No, I just prepared like any other game, regardless of the people that are watching. Obviously, it's really cool when you have a support system like that and it just gives the team energy to keep going and score goals. It was a great atmosphere tonight and I'm happy to get the win."

On playing alongside Alhassan Yusuf and Carles Gil in the midfield:

Raines: “To be honest, I kind of just let [Yusuf and Gil] do their thing. We kind of just have that – we don't really have to say anything. We just have that chemistry, something we have just been able to do from day one. Obviously, they have more experience than me, so I'm just trying to learn as much as I can from them. When we get on the field, we already know our roles, like where each other will be, and then we just play off that. But it's been really exciting to play with them.”

On if he feels his performances have improved throughout the season:

Raines: “100 percent. I think it's the team, the coaches, and also the players. I think the players around me have helped me get a lot better and continue to grow, as well as the coaches helping me do extra [work] after training. I'm just trying to develop the best way I can, and going forward, that will help me in the future.”