



TRANSCRIPT: Match Preview Press Conference (Sept. 11)

Soundbytes from Head Coach Marko Mitrović & D/W Peyton Miller

Revolution Head Coach Marko Mitrović

On what the team expects from Sunday's opponent, Chicago Fire FC:

Mitrović: "I would say, number one, we're going to face a team that has a lot of quality and is very well coached. They're where they are for a reason, near the top of the standings, and they're a team with a lot of potential. I think every team that faces, or has faced, Chicago Fire this season knows it's a difficult matchup and a very strong opponent."

On his time coaching as an assistant with Chicago Fire FC from 2016-2019:

Mitrović: "I mean, everything we do in our lives is part of what brings us experience. Especially being around this league for four years with Chicago Fire, it helped me a lot to understand the uniqueness that this league provides. I had a really great time, and I'm very appreciative of those four years with Chicago."

On maintaining the same approach during the final 10 regular season matches:

Mitrović: "I mean, every game is important. Game one, game 21, and game 34. Every game has value. Every game we play is for three points, and we're not going to change our approach going into this game or any other game. We want to give our best, play with full energy and enthusiasm every game, no matter when it comes during the season. I would say it's, in a good way, just another game for us."

On the team's recent road success and preparing for another difficult road test:

Mitrović: "I think I got a lot of questions maybe three or four weeks ago about our road record, and I always said that for us it was very important to focus on the way we perform and knowing that, if we have the right intentions, more often than not we'll get the right outcome. We really don't separate home games and away games. Obviously, a few weeks ago, our home record was much better than our away record, but I was never worried about this team and this group. I never felt that we were missing something big or crucial to be successful on the road as well."

"We have to be who we are. We have to be at our best in every aspect, every game, and we have another great opponent, a really great opponent. I have massive respect for Chicago Fire, their team, and their coaching staff, and I know it's going to be a very good challenge for us."

On how the team has overcome challenges in matches and Chicago's strengths:

Mitrović: "There are moments in every game when you have to suffer. Obviously, we have to define that word and how we use it when I talk to the players, but there are moments when you go into a game with one idea of how you want to play and then things don't go your way. We just have to accept that and find our way into the game."

"I think in the game against New York City, for example, there was never an idea for us to sit back and defend after the goal, but we couldn't find our momentum on the ball. When we can't find the moments where we can have the control we want, we still have to find ways to control the game."

"Now, when you look at Chicago, I think they're a team that can challenge you in many different ways. They have a lot of variety on the ball and a lot of talent when they're building attacks and finishing attacks. They're also very well organized defensively. So, I think there are going to be a lot of moments in the game where we're going to challenge each other, and we just have to be ready for those moments, whether we're in possession or out of possession."

On the availability statuses of midfielder Alhassan Yusuf, winger Jack Harrison, and defender Will Sands for Sunday's match:

Mitrović: "They're all still being evaluated right now. I think all three of them are at the evaluation stage, and we'll learn more about the seriousness of their injuries and what the next steps will be."

Revolution Defender/Winger Peyton Miller

On playing against Chicago Fire FC on Sunday:

Miller: "I'm expecting [Chicago] to be a very well-organized team. They're a very good team, and they obviously have been doing well, so I think it is going to be a great matchup."

On if there is any change in the game plan for playing against Chicago's Robert Lewandowski:

Miller: "For me, no. I think, as a team, we go into it as any other game. Obviously, he is an offensive threat, so it's something to be aware of but we go into it like any other game."

On how his experiences playing under Marko Mitrović for the U.S. Under-20 team helped him adjust more quickly this season:

Miller: "Yeah, there's definitely lots of things that I took away. The biggest thing for me that I took away was probably the mentality. As a group, we have a very strong mentality and personality on the field, so I think that's the biggest thing that he brought to the Revs."

On playing on the opposite wing from Jack Harrison and what he has learned from him:

Miller: "Jack [Harrison] is one of those players that I can make a run and he's just going to put it right there for me, as well as Carles [Gil]. Those are guys that I can make the run and I know the ball is just going to be there at my feet."

On Sunday's match potentially marking his 50th MLS start at just 18 years old:

Miller: "It's a very big accomplishment. That's something I wasn't really aware of, so it makes me happy, but I just take it day-by-day and game-by-game."

On the importance of learning how to win in different ways:

Miller: "For sure it's very important. It's not every game you're going to start off on the front foot, so to be able to be comfortable in uncomfortable situations is very important for our team. That's stuff that we work on the field, especially like the last game [at New York City FC] we were pinned back. That can happen in a game at any moment and any time."

On the challenges in balancing long road trips with staying prepared physically:

Miller: "It's definitely challenging with the travel. The most important thing is being able to get good sleep and do the things that you can do to prepare yourself for the matches."