POSTGAME TRANSCRIPT: November 1 vs. Inter Miami CF

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

Revolution Head Coach Marko Mitrović

On Inter Miami CF moving ahead of the New England Revolution for second place in the Eastern Conference following tonight's match:
Mitrović: "From a standings perspective, it was not our intention to chase the second position. Our intention was, we have the champion of the league come to us and we wanted to see where we are and how can we compete against [one of] the best teams in the league, where we are right now, and how this can help us keep going.

"I actually think it was a really good game. There were moments when we were up 1-0 where we had the game in our hands. And there were certain details that I think we could have done better, but it's easy now to say that in this kind of game when things don't go in your direction. But we'll analyze this game like everything else and move forward."

On how the team prepared to defend against Lionel Messi:
Mitrović: "I think when you play against players like [Lionel Messi], he's top-notch; probably the best player in the history of this game. They have those inspirational moments when they can come up. I think the goal that he scored actually was kind of like a little bit, mess around, and he has a high level of execution to execute those things. Players at the highest level are the players that have that inside of them, they can convert those small situations in their favor. I think before that, we had good control of Messi, but one thing with players like Messi is they need that inspirational moment that can change a game in any given situation."

On if he was given an explanation for the disallowed game-tying goal:
Mitrović: "[The officials] said it's offside. If they said it's offside, it's offside. I didn't watch it after the game."

On Inter Miami CF getting better chances in the second half:
Mitrović: "I still have to watch the game again to be accurate with what I'm saying. But there were a couple of situations. I would say in the first half, we had very good patience on the ball, and creating and finding that extra pass and being very patient, because [Inter Miami CF] are a patient team on the ball, and we want to be a patient team on the ball. I felt that we were really mature in picking the right timing of when we're going to speed up the attack and then go to finish. Maybe in a couple of situations we could have had a better set up behind the ball.

"Then in the second half when it was 1-0, there were two particular situations where I felt like we rushed to play and play in the spaces where it's not our spaces, and it kind of built momentum for them. It was a little bit more difficult in those moments for us to kind of get back in the control of the game with the ball. This is something that for me is a big takeaway when you play these games, all those details matter so much. One or two wrong passes can change the dynamic of the game completely."

On the team's ability to bounce back from losses and prepare for 'do-or-die' scenarios with the postseason starting later this month:
Mitrović: "We don't talk about those things, 'Oh we lost the game, we have to have a response.' I've mentioned many times that our approach is the same. I have nothing else to expect from the guys than tomorrow is a day off, recover, and then Tuesday we go again. We don't live from the outcomes. We are

using every opportunity to get better. Doesn't matter what the outcome [is]. And I don't think that now we have to bounce back because we lost the game. We don't have that approach. And those games 'do-or-die, there is no 'do-or-die,' nobody's going to die after those games. So, we'll play them, we'll be who we are, and we'll live with the outcome from those games."

On the team progressing in its system and heading into the postseason in good form:
Mitrović: "I think that's something - exactly what you were saying - that's probably the biggest step forward for us. Can we be who we are, no matter who we play against? That's what matters to us most. All those games, all those training sessions, we are using them to get the best version of ourselves, having clarity of who we want to be. All those games help us a lot because [if you] look at the last three games, we had three very unique, different styles of playing where you have to face those teams, and you have to use tools that you have and adapt to teams that have a strong identity on the field.

"Philly, Red Bull [New York] their identity. Now, Inter [Miami CF] has so much quality everywhere around the field. And that's where we thrive, is exactly what you're saying. We want to be who we are, and we are ready to live with the outcome as long as we have the right intentions on the field. Whatever the outcome is, we just keep going."

On if making substitutions earlier in the match could have helped prevent Inter Miami CF'S momentum:
Mitrović: "I think after the battle, anybody can be the general and think 'Oh, we could've done this better or [we did this] wrong.' [Inter Miami CF] did what they had to do. They made the changes when they thought it was time for them. We made them when we thought it [was time for us]. Maybe the momentum was changing like you're saying, but we didn't feel like any of our guys in that moment was tired or couldn't keep going. Sometimes to make a change just to change something; you have to read the game.

"Obviously, we have an outcome after the game and then you can say, 'We should've done it this or that way.' But I always say that after the battle anybody can be the general. We will analyze our performance from the coaching side and see what we could have done better. As you said, when momentum started to shift, could we have done something different from what we did?"

On midfielder Dániel Gazdag scoring for the second consecutive match and finding his rhythm after joining New England in September:
Mitrović: "Scoring goals is a really high quality that players can have in them. At the end of the day, you win the game by scoring goals. Something that we know about Dániel [Gazdag] is that Dániel has the capacity to score goals. He has proven in this league that he can [score goals] over and over again. When Dániel joined us, I think for us the biggest challenge was to learn who he is and how we can use him in the best possible way. But also, for Dániel to learn about us.

"I think we're learning. We're getting better and better. But I still believe that Dániel will need them time. Since Dániel came to the club, we have players that Dániel still hasn't had one training session [with]. It's just [him] learning about them, and we're still learning about Dániel. But the steps forward are there and that's what is important."

<u>Revolution Defender/Winger Peyton Miller</u>

On his confidence when aggressively taking on defenders one-on-one:
Miller: "It's very important. I think that all of that came with the help of Marko [Mitrović] working with me every single day. The more I'm taking on guys, the more confident I'm getting."

On what the team could have done differently in the second half:
Miller: “I mean, maybe we could have made a couple more fouls. But overall, I think that we defended [Inter Miami CF] very well. And, I mean, it was a good header back by [Lionel] Messi to get that goal. I mean, you can't really do much about that.”

On the value of New England having multiple attacking threats:
Miller: “Yeah, it's very valuable. We have a lot of offensive threats on our team, especially the guys that start, and guys that are coming off the bench. They just bring energy to the game.”

Revolution Defender Josh Wynder

On his overall thoughts on tonight’s loss to Inter Miami CF:
Wynder: “I think we started well. We had the things that we wanted to go into the game and do, and we did [those things] in the first half. I think the second half, [Miami] kind of woke up a little bit and made the game tough for us. But we know what we need to work on and it's just on to the next game.”

On Head Coach Marko Mitrović encouraging him to be involved in the attack:
Wynder: “I think we have a system, but I think Marko [Mitrović] always lets us have our own things that we can do and play with freedom. So, I think I just like to do that when I can, of course, when the team needs it. But I'm just here to help the team.”

On defender Andrew Farrell being honored with a tifo from the supporters tonight after announcing his retirement last week following 14 seasons with New England:
Wynder: “[Farrell] is a legend. I grew up watching him in Louisville. I think I have a jersey of him back home. So, he's an amazing player and person. All love to him.”