

POST GAME QUOTES
Friday, August 11, 2023
LAFC VS. C.F. Monterrey



STEVE CHERUNDOLO
LAFC HEAD COACH

RE: Overall thoughts

“Look we’re disappointed we are not advancing in this tournament. I think my message to the players as well was look you have to congratulate Monterrey for putting in an effort tonight that was excellent. They pushed and pushed and pushed to try to get goals and to try to advance. They’ve won away on the road in Seattle, in Portland, in Salt Lake, and here in LA so hats off to them. They’re a good team and they showed it. It is of course a tough one to swallow for us. I do really think the officials were a disaster, misusing VAR, not using it at the right moments, and just an all-around disaster tonight. That makes it a little more difficult to accept, but we do accept it and I think for us in the locker room right now we need to be a little bit more proactive about playing with a lead and not just defending and I think that in the end that is why you lose games. Of course, a few calls could have gone our way, but they didn’t. Like I said I still think we are good enough sports to congratulate Monterrey and wish them the rest of the way all the luck in the world.”

RE: On why the team has been so successful protecting leads and playing from ahead, aside from tonight

“It’s a matter of inches. [If] we go up 3-0, we had a non-penalty call in the first half. It was clear as day. Their penalty was not clear as day. Then the chance from [Denis Bouanga] and Mario [Gonzalez] to go up 3-1. We could be sitting up here talking about that as well, but we’re not. The margins are really small. When you play good teams, that’s how it should be and that’s how it was tonight.”

RE: On the decision to start Mario Gonzalez instead of Nathan Ordaz

“When somebody plays over somebody else, it’s not because we are not happy with the other person. It’s just, sometimes, allocating minutes. Mario [Gonzalez] is new and we have high hopes for him. We want to integrate him as soon as possible.”

