POST GAME QUOTES Saturday, October 28, 2023 LAFC vs Vancouver Whitecaps

STEVE CHERUNDOLO LAFC HEAD COACH



RE: On tonight's performance in the first half, compared to the second:

"Not very different performances. Both halves were in control, how we wanted it. Very similar to the first half in Vancouver a week ago. Maybe the only difference is, maybe a little more urgency to score a goal and play forward in the second half, in relation to the first half. Then, not making the silly errors that we talked to them about in the first half. Fouls in and around the box and small, short passes into midfield, which we obviously vocalized all week. We made two errors and two mistakes, and it turned into two goals. It's just one of those moments where it's, again, we make life very difficult on ourselves and our mistakes are being punished. But, what I was very happy to see is the answer from the guys. The mentality and the urgency to play forward, to be proactive, to be the aggressor and to force the issue and score more goals."

RE: On the success on set pieces today:

"Marc [Dos Santos] is on top of set pieces all season long. We've worked with the guys. In the end, it comes down to the consistency of the service and the timing of the runs. The third factor in set pieces is, in any league around the world, is the will to go get the ball first. Tonight, our guys showed that they were hungry. They took advantage of set pieces. Obviously, the coaching from Marc in that regard, putting guys in the right spot and making sure the service is there, too. It worked out tonight. I think in playoff time, in tournaments and finals, in all competitions around the world, set pieces unlock games and unlock results. It did tonight."

RE: On the team's defense heading into the second match of the series:

"We weren't as efficient as Vancouver tonight. They had two chances and two goals. So, I think there's room for improvement there. I'm not sure there is a conversation. I think it's pretty clear what not to do. It's not like this happens every week. I don't think there needs to be a conversation. We'll obviously review the video with the guys, but in this case it's pretty black and white. There isn't really any argument going on, or discussing, or reasons why. It's pretty clear. The answer in the second half was better."