

POSTGAME QUOTES
Saturday, July 13, 2024
LAFC vs. Columbus Crew



RYAN HOLLINGSHEAD
LAFC DEFENDER

Re: Thoughts on tonight's match

"Tough one. Tough to come up here and talk about it afterwards but we've got a big game on Wednesday so it's time to respond."

Re: When you came off, was it at all related to your foot?

"I got a bad tackle in the first half but no, I feel okay."

Re: Steve said he didn't think anyone played well tonight, that it was just poor individual performances all the way around. What do you think happened?

"Yeah it's hard to put your finger on something like that. Maybe you make a mistake once or twice early and then you're just always trying to play catch up. It's a good moment for us in this part of the season to not take things for granted, to look back at what's caused our success over the last 12 games and to make sure we don't get into this rhythm of thinking results are going to come. Obviously not the way we want to play in a game like this in a chance to see Columbus for the first time since the Cup last year, but I think it's the right time in the season for us to understand and realize that games in this league are not easy - and although we've been on a good streak, it doesn't just come easy. So a big game for us on Wednesday to respond and show that we know how to play at the highest level, we know how to respond when things aren't going well or when we have a result like this where things didn't go well for a game. So I think you will see a good turn around from the guys."

Re: Over the course of this unbeaten streak, while the offense has been great, it's really been the defense that LAFC has seemed to hang their hat on. A game like tonight, and you being one of the players on the back line - what are your feelings on how the defense really didn't show up tonight.

"I think it's the same in every phase of the game. Defensively it's a team effort; offensively it's a team effort. It's so hard when we aren't keeping the ball in possession, when we aren't dictating the pace of the game - especially at home - I think we need to grow in the next stage of learning to weather the storm and be okay with that. I think there is an antsy-ness in us, especially at home when things aren't going the right way where we start getting stressed or we start losing our discipline a little bit because we're just trying to chase the game - and I think you saw that tonight. A lot of individual guys making runs one at a time rather than the collective going together. It just happens. I have been in this league for so long; it's a never a good feeling to lose ever. It's never a good feeling to lose at home. But I have been in the league too long to know it really depends how we respond from this. And this result can just mean so little. It can mean a lot if we respond the wrong way, and it can mean so little if we respond the right way. And so I think you will see a group ready to respond and man, this group just has so much confidence. Even in a bad performance like that, which can happen, this group just has so much confidence that we can get back out there and do it better."

Re: First time since you played Columbus since that final; 8 out of the 11 starters that took the pitch today started in that cup final. How would you assess this Columbus team vs. the team last year?

“Really good team - well coached. A team that we don’t get to see very often and haven’t seen often historically, so this sort of East vs. West matchup is always a good test for us to play against a team that we have to kind of learn on the fly. So we know them from last year but really that was the first time we’d seen them for a long time so a really good team, good individual players, coached really well. A lot of individual talent - big time players; Cucho is one of the best players in the league. Their front three - Rossi a big time player; obviously that meant a lot to this club at a time as well. So you can talk about everyone one of their players and there is a reason that they won it last year and again are fighting for big things this year. They played well - we got to put our hats off to them for playing that well. I hope we get to see them again.