

POST GAME QUOTES
Wednesday, October 2
LAFC vs. STL City SC



STEVE CHERUNDOLO
LAFC HEAD COACH

RE: Opening thoughts

“Good and bad. It was a good first half. We played in a controlled manner, didn’t concede anything at all and had plenty of chances and opportunities to put the game away, but we were a little sloppy in the final third with our chances and movements with the ball that could have become big chances that didn’t due to poor decision making, some technical errors and some off nights from some of our attackers. We missed an opportunity to put this game to bed, but the defenders and midfielders played extremely well defensively. Kike and Ryan played out of position and were flawless defensively which is not easy to do when you’re playing out of position and that was the key to the game to come away with three points. We had an experience like this a couple weeks ago against Austin and we did go away with three points due to mental errors. It’s great to see that we’re learning and growing in those situations and were able to put all the pieces together today.”

RE: On the dominating defensive performance today

“Prioritizing spaces defensively, understanding your opponent, what they’re trying to do and getting your players as good a picture as you can prior to the match. The defensive side of the game is something I also like to train, talk about and take pride in. When our defenders have enough minutes together and some continuity in the backline, we’re quite good.

Understanding that when you come into a new role like Ryan did tonight and Kike did the past two weeks, it’s a new role so working with the other coaches and looking at video and trying to recreate certain moments in training that they’ll recognize and be like, “Ok, this is what’s going to happen in the game. I have to say they have done extremely well and have adapted amazingly. They’ve learned and have applied the lessons learned in training into the real game situations which is not easy to do. So big compliments to our back line, they’ve been massive. Max and Eddy have been going and going and going with no break for a while now. It’s not easy to do and probably not even safe, but we don’t have a choice. The choices, other people make.”

RE: On Ilie missing

“He took a bad challenge in Cincinnati. He just couldn’t turn around fast enough, but he’s fine moving forward this weekend.”