

Toronto FC Media Conference

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Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Chris Armas

Media Conference



Orlando City 1, Toronto FC 0

Q. Seemed like tonight you created chances against a good Orlando too many but couldn't finish them and on the other end you paid for one defensive let down. What do you take from the performance tonight?

CHRIS ARMAS: I think we will be disappointed in the goal that we let up, but the attitude, the approach, the pressing, the commitment when we don't have the ball, the ability to create chances, the structure, I think there's a lot of positive.

What's not so positive is the way we feel right now. The locker room is down, yeah. It's a big effort. You want to get rewarded for the effort. On the night, disappointed but there's some positives that we'll just keep building on.

Q. Said goals were going to come -- did a lot with play making and normal scoring. Can you give us a comment on the way he played?

CHRIS ARMAS: On who? I missed who you said.

Q. Soteldo.

CHRIS ARMAS: Listen, I think -- I've said it from day one because I watched a lot of Yeferson before he got here, that our league, our club, our supporters, the players, we should be really excited about him because he's a guy that gets you on the edge of your seat because he can unbalance, he can unlock a 1v1 attack. It's a very rare quality these days in a footballer. We thought he was dangerous all night long, getting in line, making plays, giving us chances to score.

He got really close on one. I don't know if he gets blocked off the goal line in the first half but it's going to keep getting better with him. I think it's important he played 90 minutes and physically he's coming long but we're happy with him and he's going to help us. He's going to help us big time create and score goals.

Q. Obviously this is a very difficult Orlando team you were playing. They are just so solid defensively. But

in terms of Urso and Mendez, how difficult did they make it for you guys today because it seemed like they were beasts in that central midfield for Orlando.

CHRIS ARMAS: I don't know, we had 20 shots, I think they had ten -- it's a good team. Defensively it's such a good team. It's maybe the most amount of shots we had all year.

We thought we could find spaces, create spaces wide. We thought we could move the ball. We thought we could put them in a fast game and those guys, they are very athletic, powerful midfield and you can throw per era in there as well.

But against a really good team, we thought we'd created chances and as the game went on, we thought we won the midfield. Yeah, I think those guys are credible and very athletic and a presence, but I think we put those guys in a hard game in central midfield.

Q. What was it like having fans in the stands for this match? I think we saw a bit of the energy that had been missed from playing in empty stadiums in tonight's match.

CHRIS ARMAS: We like the energy. And credit to Orlando and their organization, the fans. They make noise. They are knowledgeable. We thought it was a really good atmosphere. They come to see a performance and some entertainment. They got that tonight and they got to see their team win, but yeah, it was good energy in the building.

Q. You have two more games against Orlando coming up, how much are you guys looking forward to having another look at them after the way today's game went?

CHRIS ARMAS: Yeah, look, looking forward to next weekend. Roll out back out there against Columbus and keep improving, keep getting better. Keep getting guys healthy. I'm looking forward to the next game. I won't look too far ahead.

Orlando is off to a good start this year. They are



well-coached and they have a good team. When we meet them again, we'll look to win that one. But for now, it's on to the next one.

Q. I know you wanted to restrict Urko's (ph) minutes on his return, but he looked to be in a bit of discomfort when he left. Is he okay?

CHRIS ARMAS: Yeah, he was getting looked at after the game by the doctors. He had just a couple of soft tissue injuries this year. He's just trying to get himself going so we'll have to see was it just some cramps, fatigue, not sure yet what exactly but obviously an important piece for us and we've got to help him stay healthy because you know -- he shows up in good spots, yeah, we've got to get him healthy here. We came into the game thinking 45 to 60 minutes. We got that. But we'll take a look and see where he's at.

Q. Wondering about Omar Gonzalez, because he came out late. Was that injury-related precautionary? What can you say about that?

CHRIS ARMAS: Just that Omar has to come off. He gave us the substitution sign and I think it was just cramping with Omar. Hopefully that's just the case but we had to make a change at that moment.

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