



## Toronto FC Media Conference

*Wednesday, September 18, 2024*

*Toronto, Ontario, Canada*

### Matty Longstaff

Media Conference

Columbus 2, Toronto FC 0

**Q. Tough result against a very good team. Can you describe how you thought the team performed tonight?**

**MATTY LONGSTAFF:** Yeah, obviously I thought the first half we were pretty dominant. Obviously would like to score a goal. Created some good chances but sometimes it's just not our night. Obviously we know there are they are a top team and they are a definitely team to play against the way they move the ball in a triangle. I thought we stopped them from creating too many chances, and it would have nice to first take the lead but as I said perfect, sometimes it's not your night.

**Q. There were chances --**

**MATTY LONGSTAFF:** I guess you never know in hindsight. We took the lead in the football, put a bit of pressure on them, something we would have liked. But as I said it didn't happen, and obviously it was disappointing to not score at all.

**Q. What did losing Oso do, did that affect the team, if at all?**

**MATTY LONGSTAFF:** He's a big player for us, and I think his mentality is such a big thing for the team, as well. He gets in great position, and as a team, you never want to lose your captain, especially the run we're on, and obviously we need to win games and stay in the fight. Hopefully it's not too bad and we have him back for the weekend, if not in Vancouver.

**Q. Yesterday when you guys went down to Columbus -- seemed like it was very different.**

**MATTY LONGSTAFF:** Obviously we're at home and we want to try to put our stamp on the game. I think you know where they are going to have periods on the ball that and you're going to have to suffer but defensively we were really good. We might have only gave up one shot in the first half which shows that. I thought on the ball, we could have went forward a bit more in terms of the buildup and stuff.

But as I said before, I thought we created chances and got in some really good areas, but sometimes it just doesn't happen.

**Q. To go and battle with a team that's done what Columbus has done --**

**MATTY LONGSTAFF:** Yeah, obviously it's a bit of a killer when they score. But when you've got a player like Cucho, obviously he's one of the best in the League for a reason. Yeah, he kind of scores out of nothing. A second ball that drops down and he touch and hits it from outside the box, it's a great finish. But even at that stage I still thought we could make a goal and get back in it, and you never know, especially we get the crowd behind us. But as I said, it just seemed to never come.



**Q. What do you no --**

**MATTY LONGSTAFF:** As you said, play again on Saturday in Colorado. We are going to go there and pick up points, such a close run at the minute for the playoffs. It's a fight we are glad to be in, and going into Colorado knowing we need points, and we'll be all be ready.

**Q. John kept us up-to-date on the table. How does that --**

**MATTY LONGSTAFF:** Not really. I think every player looks after a game and sees the results, but I think the biggest thing for us at the minute is that we're in it. We're in a playoff position and we need to make sure we finish the season, one game at a time, we'll take it on to Colorado now and hopefully we can pick up points.

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