

# New England Revolution Game Notes

Wednesday, March 4 - Sunday, March 15

## New England



MLS

vs.

## Wake Forest



NCAA

### GREENSBORO, N.C. (MARCH 4-8)

#### TRIP INFORMATION AND TRAINING SCHEDULE

**Wednesday:** Arrive in Greensboro, N.C.

**Thursday:** Training at Bryan Park Soccer Complex (Greensboro, N.C.), 10 a.m.

**Friday:** Training at Bryan Park Soccer Complex (Greensboro, N.C.), 10 a.m.

**Saturday:** vs. Wake Forest University (Macpherson Stadium, Greensboro, N.C.), 7 p.m.

**Sunday:** Depart Greensboro, N.C.

#### MATCH INFORMATION

**Date:** Saturday, March 7, 2008

**Kickoff:** 7 p.m. ET

**Location:** Macpherson Stadium (Greensboro, N.C.)

**Wake Forest University PR Contact:**

Chad Crunk (o: 336-758-5842), crunkmc@wfu.edu

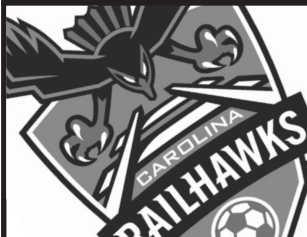
## New England



MLS

at

## Carolina



USL-1

### CARY, N.C. (MARCH 8-15)

#### TRIP INFORMATION AND TRAINING SCHEDULE

**Sunday:** Arrive in Cary, N.C.

**Monday:** Training at WakeMed Soccer Park (Cary, N.C.), 10:30 a.m.

**Tuesday:** Training at WakeMed Soccer Park (Cary, N.C.), 10:30 a.m. and 3 p.m.\*

**Wednesday:** Training at WakeMed Soccer Park (Cary, N.C.), 10:30 a.m. and 3 p.m.\*

**Thursday:** Training at WakeMed Soccer Park (Cary, N.C.), 10:30 a.m. and 3 p.m.\*

**Friday:** Training at WakeMed Soccer Park (Cary, N.C.), 10:30 a.m.

**Saturday:** at Carolina Railhawks (WakeMed Soccer Park, Cary, N.C.), 7 p.m.

**Sunday:** Return to Boston, Mass.

\* Please note that the afternoon sessions on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday are tentative.

#### MATCH INFORMATION

**Date:** Saturday, March 14, 2008

**Kickoff:** 7 p.m. ET

**Location:** WakeMed Soccer Park (Cary, N.C.)

**Carolina Railhawks PR Contacts:**

Marco Rosa (o: 919-859-5425 x 8146), marco@carolinairailhawks.com

### REVOLUTION CONTACT INFORMATION

**Revolution PR Contacts:**

Lizz Summers (o: 508-549-0496) (c: 617-571-2219), lizzs@revolutionsoccer.net

Jeff Lemieux (o: 508-549-0185) (c: 508-958-1370), jlemieux@revolutionsoccer.net

\* Jeff Lemieux will be the traveling PR representative in North Carolina

Please note that the entire schedule is subject to change, and anyone planning to attend a training session should contact the Revolution Communications office to confirm.

### REVOLUTION PRESEASON TRAVEL ROSTER

#	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Last Team
1	Matt Reis	GK	6-1	196	Los Angeles (MLS)
2	Amaechi Igwe	DEF	6-0	170	Santa Clara
3	Chris Albright	DEF	6-1	180	Los Angeles (MLS)
4	Gabriel Badilla	DEF	5-11	165	Saprissa (CRC)
6	Jay Heaps	DEF	5-9	155	Miami (MLS)
7	Wells Thompson	MID	5-10	155	Wake Forest
8	Chris Tierney	DEF	6-0	180	Virginia
11	Kheli Dube	FWD	6-1	155	Coastal Carolina
13	Jeff Larentowicz	M/D	6-1	175	Brown
14	Steve Ralston	MID	5-9	160	Tampa Bay (MLS)
16	Mauricio Castro	MID	5-10	165	Olimpia (HON)
19	Mike Videira	MID	5-10	170	Hamilton Academical (SCO)
21	Shalrie Joseph	MID	6-3	180	N.Y. Freedoms (USL)
22	Rob Valentino	DEF	6-3	190	San Francisco
23	Argenis Fernandez	FWD	5-6	125	LD Alajuelense (CRC)
24	Brad Knighton	GK	6-2	195	UNC-Wilmington
28	Pat Phelan	M/D	6-0	175	Toronto FC (MLS)
29	Kenny Mansally	FWD	5-10	160	Real de Banjul (GAM)
30	Kevin Alston	DEF	5-8	160	Indiana
31	Sainey Nyassi	MID	5-8	135	Ports Authority FC (GAM)
34	Zack Simmons	GK	6-3	200	Massachusetts

#### NON-ROSTERED DRAFTEES

5	Chris Salvaggione	FWD	5-11	170	UNC-Charlotte
25	Darius Barnes	DEF	6-1	175	Duke
26	Ryan Maxwell	MID	5-9	165	Tampa
35	Dado Hamzagic	MID	5-10	165	St. Louis

### REVOLUTION INJURY REPORT

<b>PROBABLE:</b>	Mauricio Castro (R groin strain)
<b>QUESTIONABLE:</b>	Steve Ralston (R quad strain)
<b>DOUBTFUL:</b>	Gabriel Badilla (lower back sprain)
<b>OUT:</b>	Taylor Twellman (neck pain)

### QUICK FACTS

#### TEAM INFORMATION

Head Coach: Steve Nicol

Assistant Coach: Paul Mariner

Goalkeepers Coach: Gwynne Williams

Equipment Manager: Brian Banfill

Head Athletic Trainer: Sean Kupiec

Asst. Athletic Trainer: Phil Madore

Massage Therapist: Glenn O'Connor

#### CHIEF CLUB OFFICIALS

Investor/Operator: Robert K. Kraft

Investor/Operator: Jonathan A. Kraft

President: Sunil Gulati

Chief Operating Officer: Brian Bilello

VP of Player Personnel: Michael Burns

VP of Business Develop.: Craig Tornberg

Soccer Ops. Coordinator: Nick Kropelin

#### GILLETTE STADIUM

One Patriot Place, Foxborough, MA 02025

MLS Capacity: 20,000

Surface: FieldTurf Monofilament

Field Dimensions: 106 x 75 yards

#### HONORS AND AWARDS

SuperLiga 2008 Champions

2007 U.S. Open Cup Champions

Four-time Eastern Conference Champions

Six-time Eastern Conference Finalists

[www.revolutionsoccer.net](http://www.revolutionsoccer.net)

# NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTION PRESEASON 2009: NORTH CAROLINA

## 2008 MLS STATISTICS

UNF	POS	PLAYER	GP	GS	MIN	G	A	SHT	SOG	FC	FS	OFF	CK	C	E
14	MID	Steve Ralston	21	20	1715	8	7	21	13	13	16	2	75	2	0
20	FWD	Taylor Twellman	16	12	1211	8	2	42	22	7	26	6	1	0	0
7	FWD	Adam Cristman	18	16	1300	6	1	39	24	25	20	5	0	0	0
11	FWD	Kheli Dube	21	13	1252	4	4	29	13	33	30	8	1	1	0
13	MID	Jeff Larentowicz	28	28	2437	4	2	24	12	42	39	0	0	5	1
29	FWD	Kenny Mansally	17	11	979	3	1	14	8	22	26	9	0	1	0
18	MID	Khano Smith	23	18	1515	2	3	26	10	27	23	5	1	3	1
31	MID	Sainey Nyassi	25	18	1661	2	1	28	13	31	39	3	13	7	0
21	MID	Shalrie Joseph	27	27	2384	1	1	27	12	47	32	4	1	5	1
16	MID	Mauricio Castro	24	22	1584	0	3	29	20	16	30	5	44	1	1
6	DEF	Jay Heaps	30	30	2700	0	1	15	4	23	27	0	0	5	0
15	DEF	Michael Parkhurst	28	28	2520	0	1	4	0	9	9	0	0	0	0
27	MID	Wells Thompson	19	8	786	0	1	9	1	17	20	1	5	3	0
8	M/D	Chris Tierney	6	4	340	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0
3	DEF	Chris Albright	26	26	2340	0	0	10	2	17	19	0	1	3	0
4	DEF	Gabriel Badilla	6	5	423	0	0	2	1	7	6	0	0	1	1
23	FWD	Argenis Fernandez	2	0	61	0	0	1	1	0	3	0	1	0	0
17	D/M	Gary Flood	5	2	295	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0
8	M/D	Joe Franchino*	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
5	MID	Joe Germanese	1	0	20	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
25	DEF	Chase Hilgenbrink	4	1	186	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0
2	DEF	Amaechi Igwe	11	6	568	0	0	2	0	14	9	0	0	5	0
28	D/M	Pat Phelan	11	5	467	0	0	1	1	3	2	0	0	0	0
1	GK	Matt Reis	28	28	2485	0	0	0	0	0	8	0	0	1	0
12	GK	Doug Warren	3	2	215	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Own Goals received						2									
<b>TEAM TOTALS</b>			30	30	2700	40	29	323	157	358	417	49	144	44	5
<b>OPPONENT TOTALS</b>			30	30	2700	43	34	384	160	417	358	119	134	61	2

**GAME-WINNING GOALS:** Steve Ralston 4, Taylor Twellman 2, Kheli Dube 2, Khano Smith 1, Sainey Nyassi 1, Jeff Larentowicz 1, Adam Cristman 1

**GAME-WINNING ASSISTS:** Steve Ralston 5, Taylor Twellman 1, Khano Smith 1, Kenny Mansally 1, Shalrie Joseph 1, Kheli Dube 1

**PENALTY KICK GOALS/ATTEMPTS:** Steve Ralston 1-1, Shalrie Joseph 0-1

### NEW ENGLAND REVOLUTION INDIVIDUAL GOALKEEPING

UNF	POS	GOALKEEPER	GP	GS	MIN	SHTS	SV	GA	GAA	PG	PA	W	L	T	SO
1	GK	Matt Reis	28	28	2485	150	107	38	1.38	3	4	11	11	6	6
12	GK	Doug Warren	3	2	215	10	5	5	2.09	0	0	1	0	1	0
<b>TEAM TOTALS</b>			30	30	2700	160	112	43	1.43	3	4	12	11	7	6
<b>OPPONENT TOTALS</b>			30	30	2700	157	116	40	1.33	1	2	11	12	7	7

\* = Played with other teams in 2008. Only New England Revolution statistics listed here.

## 2008 MLS RESULTS

Date	Opponent	Result	Score	Attend.	Record	Place	Pts.	Goal scorers
Sat., Mar. 29	HOUSTON	W	3-0	11,116	1-0-0	T1	3	NE: Ralston (15), Cristman (32), Nyassi (93+)
Thu., Apr. 3	at Chicago	L	0-4	15,553	1-1-0	T2	3	CHI: Barrett (4), Frankowski (22, 39), Blanco (37)
Wed., Apr. 9	at Kansas City	W	3-1	8,096	2-1-0	T1	6	NE: Own goal (12), Nyassi (22), Mansally (40); KC: Jewsbury (28)
Sat., Apr. 12	COLORADO	L	0-1	8,309	2-2-0	T3	6	COL: LaBrocca (68)
Sat., Apr. 19	at New York	T	1-1	12,047	2-2-1	T2	7	NE: Larentowicz (56); NY: Altidore (30)
Thu., Apr. 24	at FC Dallas	W	1-0	10,453	3-2-1	T1	10	NE: Smith (72)
Sat., May 3	CHICAGO	L	0-3	10,858	3-3-1	T3	10	CHI: Rolfe (29), Thorington (50), King (76)
Sun., May 11	at Chivas USA	W	2-1	10,927	4-3-1	3	13	NE: Mansally (18), Twellman (59); CHV: Braun (93+)
Sat., May 17	SAN JOSE	W	2-0	13,004	5-3-1	T2	16	NE: Dube (6), Own goal (23)
Sat., May 24	at Columbus	W	1-0	15,621	6-3-1	T1	19	NE: Dube (89)
Thu., May 29	D.C. UNITED	T	2-2	8,159	6-3-2	1	20	NE: Cristman (59), Dube (72); DC: Emilio (15), Fred (53)
Sun., June 8	FC DALLAS	W	2-1	54,045	7-3-2	1	23	NE: Cristman (5), Ralston (22); DAL: Alvarez (90)
Thu., June 12	at Houston	W	2-0	14,655	8-3-2	1	26	NE: Ralston (8), Dube (35)
Wed., June 18	NEW YORK	T	1-1	10,596	8-3-3	1	27	NE: Ralston (79); NY: Stammler (37)
Sat., June 21	at Real Salt Lake	L	1-2	11,965	8-4-3	1	27	NE: Cristman (8); RSL: Own goal (11), Nunez (60)
Sat., June 28	TORONTO FC	W	2-1	15,863	9-4-3	1	30	NE: Ralston (12, 59); TOR: Own goal (78)
Fri., July 4	at Los Angeles	W	2-1	27,000	10-4-3	1	33	NE: Cristman (33, 37); LA: Beckham (66)
Sat., Aug. 9	CHICAGO	L	1-2	19,240	10-5-3	1	33	NE: Twellman (3); CHI: Segares (81), Conde (86)
Sat., Aug. 16	at San Jose	L	0-4	9,859	10-6-3	2	33	SJ: O'Brien (11, 87), Johnson (71), Sealy (76)
Wed., Aug. 20	D.C. UNITED	W	2-1	14,962	11-6-3	1	36	NE: Twellman (24), Larentowicz (49); DC: Moreno (69)
Sat., Aug. 23	at Toronto FC	T	1-1	20,461	11-6-4	T1	37	NE: Twellman (35); TFC: Barrett (66)
Sat., Aug. 30	LOS ANGELES	T	2-2	39,256	11-6-5	2	38	NE: Twellman (22), Joseph (71); LA: Donovan (33, 55)
Sat., Sept. 6	at Columbus	L	0-4	16,918	11-7-5	T2	38	CLB: Barros Schelotto (39), Iro (46+), Garey (67, 90)
Thu., Sept. 11	CHIVAS USA	W	4-0	7,606	12-7-5	2	41	NE: Twellman (53), Larentowicz (83), Smith (91+), Ralston (92+)
Sat., Sept. 20	at Colorado	T	1-1	12,223	12-7-6	2	42	NE: Mansally (50); COL: Clark (42)
Sat., Sept. 27	COLUMBUS	L	0-1	15,035	12-8-6	2	42	CLB: Marshall (35)
Sat., Oct. 4	REAL SALT LAKE	T	2-2	18,893	12-8-7	2	43	NE: Ralston (77), Twellman (79); RSL: Morales (13), Williams (73)
Sat., Oct. 11	at Kansas City	L	0-1	9,488	12-9-7	2	43	KC: Conrad (61)
Thu., Oct. 16	at D.C. United	L	1-2	16,672	12-10-7	T2	43	NE: Twellman (58); DC: Doe (63, 80)
Sat., Oct. 25	KANSAS CITY	L	1-3	16,764	12-11-7	3	43	NE: Larentowicz (90); KC: Lopez (28), Arnaud (53), Own goal (88)

## MISCELLANEOUS TEAM NOTES

## REVS TO BRING 25 PLAYERS TO NORTH CAROLINA

Of the 26 players currently on the Revolution's preseason roster, all but one will join the team for training in North Carolina, as forward **Taylor Twellman** will remain in New England with neck pain ... meanwhile, three players will not travel with the team on March 4, but will be with the team in North Carolina ... defender **Chris Albright** will miss the Greensboro portion of the trip because of prior family commitments and will join the team in Cary on Sunday, March 8 ... midfielders – and Wake Forest alums – **Wells Thompson** and **Pat Phelan** will not miss any training time, but both will travel separately and meet the team in Greensboro.

## REVOLUTION OPENS PRESEASON WITH 2-0 VICTORY OVER AUSTIN AZTEX FC

Midfielder **Mike Videira** scored the game-winning goal in the seventh minute and goalkeeper **Matt Reis** made three saves in a shutout effort, as the Revs earned a 2-0 victory over USL-1 club Austin Aztex FC in their first preseason match on Saturday, Feb. 28 ... speedy wing play set up the opening goal, as **Kenny Mansally** - playing left midfield - sent left back **Kevin Alston** charging down the wing on an overlapping run ... the rookie defender's deflected cross found Videira, who finished into the lower right corner ... New England doubled its advantage in the 57th minute when Mansally's corner kick was redirected by an Aztex defender into his own goal ... several Revs players were unavailable because of injury: defender **Gabriel Badilla** (back), midfielders **Steve Ralston** (quad strain) and **Mauricio Castro** (groin strain), and forward **Taylor Twellman** (head/neck).

## REVS TO CLOSE PRESEASON WITH MATCHES AGAINST WAKE, CAROLINA

After returning from their week-long stay in Austin, Texas, the Revs will now head to North Carolina for a 12-day preseason training trip (March 4-15) ... the excursion will be the club's second and final trip before opening the season at San Jose on March 21 ... the Revs will be stationed in Greensboro for the first four days of the trip and will play a match against 2007 NCAA Champion Wake Forest University at 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 7 ... the club will then travel to Cary for the remaining eight days of the trip, which will conclude with a match against the USL-1 Carolina Railhawks at 7 p.m. on Saturday, March 14.

## REVS HAVE DISTINCT NORTH CAROLINA ROOTS

Seven current members of the Revolution played their college soccer in North Carolina, representing about 27 percent of the club's preseason roster ... **Jay Heaps**, **Mike Videira** and **Darrius Barnes** all attended Duke University; **Wells Thompson** and **Pat Phelan** attended Wake Forest University; **Brad Knighton** attended UNC-Wilmington; and **Chris Salvaggione** attended UNC-Charlotte ... Barnes (Raleigh, N.C.), Thompson (Winston-Salem, N.C.) and Knighton (Hickory, N.C.) were all born in North Carolina ... additionally, **Kheli Dube** played his college soccer in South Carolina at Coastal Carolina University.

## THE WAKE FOREST CONNECTION

When the Revolution plays against Wake Forest University on Saturday, March 7 at Macpherson Stadium in Greensboro, two current Revs will be facing their alma mater ... midfielders **Wells Thompson** and **Pat Phelan** both attended Wake Forest before becoming first-round draft picks in Major League Soccer ... Revolution head coach **Steve Nicol**'s affinity for Wake Forest players has been well-documented in the past, as former Revs Michael Parkhurst and James Riley were also Demon Deacons.

## TWO YEARS AFTER HEATED BATTLE, REVS AND RAILHAWKS MEET AGAIN

The Carolina Railhawks will be a familiar opponent for the Revolution, as the two clubs met in the semifinals of the 2007 Lamar Hunt U.S. Open Cup ... the Revs - who hosted the match in New Britain, Conn. - won in extra time, 2-1, to advance to the competition's title match, which they ultimately won to claim their first-ever cup championship ... the match was not without incident, as the Railhawks had two players ejected and the Revolution's **Shalrie Joseph** was also shown a red card ... additionally, Carolina amassed six yellow cards, while the Revs had three players cautioned.

## REVS TO OPEN 2009 SEASON AT SAN JOSE ON MARCH 21

The Revolution will open the 2009 season with a road match at the San Jose Earthquakes during MLS First Kick on Saturday, March 21, while the club will host its home opener on Saturday, April 4, against FC Dallas at Gillette Stadium ... the Revs and Earthquakes will meet at Buck Shaw Stadium in Santa Clara, Calif., at 10:30 p.m. ET, one of seven games in the league's opening week of play ... in Week 2, the Revolution will travel to play the MLS Cup runners-up and rival New York Red Bulls on Saturday, March 28, before returning to New England for the home opener.

## REVOLUTION IN UNFAMILIAR TERRITORY

For the first time in four years, the New England Revolution entered preseason training following an extended offseason, as last year marked the first time since 2004 that the Revs weren't playing on the last day of the season in the MLS Cup Final ... New England's record streak of six consecutive appearances in the Eastern Conference Final was also snapped last season, as the club fell to the rival Chicago Fire in a hotly-contested Eastern Conference Semifinal Series ... although the Revolution extended the league's longest current active streak of playoff appearances to seven, the loss to Chicago in the first round

marked the earliest that the club's season ended since 2001 ... for that reason, preseason preparations have become increasingly important as the Revs aim to regain their spot atop the Eastern Conference and finally claim an elusive MLS Cup title.

## LUCKY SEVEN

The Revolution has qualified for the postseason in each of the last seven seasons (2002-08), marking the longest active streak of consecutive playoff appearances in the league ... the streak began when **Steve Nicol** took over as head coach in 2002, and the club has reached the playoffs every season that the Scot has been in charge ... however, simply making the postseason no longer satisfies the Revs, who are aiming to win their first-ever MLS Cup title after falling short in the championship game on four occasions.

## FOR EIGHTH STRAIGHT YEAR, NICOL IS BACK FOR MORE

Head coach **Steve Nicol** returns to New England in 2009 for his eighth straight season in charge of the Revolution, making the Scot the longest-tenured head coach in Major League Soccer ... a Liverpool legend from his playing days, Nicol has been remarkably successful during his stint at the Revolution's helm, winning four Eastern Conference championships and appearing in six Eastern Conference Finals in his first seven years of service ... Nicol has led the Revolution to the postseason in each of his seven seasons as head coach, and he is currently third all-time on MLS' career wins list (87) ... returning to the sidelines along with Nicol are assistant coach **Paul Mariner** (sixth season) and goalkeepers coach **Gwynne Williams** (third season).

## WHO'S BACK?

The 2009 New England Revolution returns 19 players from the 2008 roster, including last season's club MVP and "MLS Original" **Steve Ralston**, who will be playing in his 14th season in the league ... joining Ralston on the list of returnees is the Revolution's all-time leading goal scorer, **Taylor Twellman**, who tied for the team lead in goals last year despite missing half the season with various injuries ... other starters who will be back in New England this season include **Shalrie Joseph**, **Matt Reis**, **Jay Heaps**, **Chris Albright**, **Jeff Larentowicz**, **Mauricio Castro**, **Sainey Nyassi** and **Kheli Dube** ... goalkeeper **Brad Knighton**, defenders **Gabriel Badilla**, **Amaechi Igwe**, **Chris Tierney** and **Rob Valentino**, midfielders **Wells Thompson** and **Pat Phelan**, and forwards **Kenny Mansally** and **Argenis Fernandez** will also return to provide the Revolution with a solid batch of experienced players.

## WHO'S NOT?

Defender **Michael Parkhurst**, midfielder **Khano Smith** and forward **Adam Cristman** have all left the Revolution this offseason, although all three departed via different routes ... Parkhurst made a free transfer to Danish club FC Nordsjælland after his contract with the Revolution expired at the end of 2008 ... Smith was selected by Seattle Sounders FC with one of its 10 selections in the 2008 MLS Expansion Draft on Nov. 26, although he has since been traded to the New York Red Bulls ... Cristman was traded to the Kansas City Wizards in exchange for allocation money and the Wizards' natural third-round selection in the 2009 MLS SuperDraft ... additionally, New England waived goalkeeper **Doug Warren** and forward **Jose Angulo**, while letting the developmental contracts of **Joe Germanese**, **Gary Flood**, **Brandon Tyler**, **Brandon Manzonelli** and **Sam Brill** expire.

## REVS ADD SEVEN AT 2009 MLS SUPERDRAFT

The Revolution selected seven players at the 2009 Major League Soccer SuperDraft, which was conducted at the St. Louis Convention Center: America's Center on Thursday, Jan. 15 ... a pair of first-round selections – Indiana defender **Kevin Alston** and Tampa outside midfielder **Ryan Maxwell** – highlighted the class that included a league-high seven selections ... also chosen were Creighton midfielder **Andrei Gotsmanov**, St. Louis midfielder **Dado Hamzagic**, UNC-Charlotte forward **Chris Salvaggione**, Duke defender **Darrius Barnes** and Tulsa goalkeeper **Tyrel Lacey**.

## ON THE LOOKOUT: NEW FACES IN NEW ENGLAND

The Revolution has several new faces on the club's 2009 preseason roster ... 2009 SuperDraft selections **Kevin Alston**, **Ryan Maxwell**, **Dado Hamzagic**, **Chris Salvaggione** and **Darrius Barnes** are all currently training with the Revs, while 2008 SuperDraft selection **Mike Videira** – who was signed by the Revolution on Dec. 29, 2008, after a brief stint in Scotland – is also taking part in his first preseason camp ... a new goalkeeper – **Zack Simmons** (UMass), who was signed as an undrafted free agent on Jan. 30, 2009 – is also in camp.

## REVS DRAFT PICKS GOTSMANOV AND LACEY REMAIN IN SCHOOL

2009 Revolution draft selections **Andrei Gotsmanov** and **Tyrel Lacey** will remain in school to earn their degrees before joining the team to begin training in May ... Gotsmanov, a 22-year-old midfielder out of Creighton, was selected in the second round (24th overall) of the 2009 MLS SuperDraft, while Lacey, a 22-year-old goalkeeper out of Tulsa, was drafted in the fourth round (55th overall) ... both players are set to graduate in early May and will have their chance to earn a roster spot when they join the team for training shortly following graduation.

## AGELESS RALSTON SHOWS NO SIGNS OF STOPPING IN 2009

Captain **Steve Ralston** was a driving force in the Revolution's success last season, and the 34-year old was rewarded through his recognition as the club's 2008 Team MVP ... despite missing nine regular-season games and the entire postseason with various injuries – including a dislocated left shoulder and a broken right fibula – Ralston struck for club-leading marks in goals (8) and assists (7) ... while Ralston's statistics alone were enough to build a case for league MVP honors, a deeper look into the numbers reveals just how vital Ralston was to New England's achievements in 2008:

- The Revs were 10-0-3 in regular-season games in which Ralston recorded a goal or an assist last season, as opposed to 2-11-4 when he wasn't involved in any scoring.
- The Revs went 10-5-5 with Ralston in the lineup and 2-6-2 without him.
- Ralston's eight goals were a career-high in his 13th year in the league.
- Despite missing one-third of the season because of injury, Ralston tied for the league-lead in both game-winning goals (4) and game-winning assists (5).
- Ralston was vital to New England's SuperLiga 2008 victory, as he recorded one goal and four assists in four appearances to key the Revs' attack.
- The veteran midfielder owns five MLS career records: minutes (31,600), games (358), starts (355), assists (128) and game-winning assists (38) entering 2009.

## "MLS ORIGINAL" RALSTON HOPES 2009 IS THE YEAR

When **Steve Ralston** was selected by the Tampa Bay Mutiny with the 18th overall selection in the 1996 college draft, he couldn't have imagined the career that lay ahead of him ... since winning MLS Rookie of the Year honors in that inaugural season, Ralston has won four Team MVP awards, been named to seven all-star teams and three "Best XI" teams, won four Eastern Conference Championships and appeared 36 times for the U.S. National Team ... however, through 13 years plying his trade in the league, one prize has eluded Ralston - an MLS Cup title ... of the four remaining "MLS Originals" - players who have played at least one minute in each and every season in league history - Ralston is the only one not to have won an MLS Cup ... the other remaining "MLS Originals" are Ante Razov (Chivas USA), Jesse Marsch (Chivas USA) and Jaime Moreno (D.C. United).

## PERENNIAL MVP CANDIDATE JOSEPH SET TO DRIVE THE REVS AGAIN

After earning his third career "Best XI" selection and playing on his fifth consecutive MLS All-Star team in 2008, **Shalrie Joseph** returns as the Revolution's fulcrum in the center of midfield for the seventh straight season in 2009 ... an imposing player who controls play at both ends of the field, Joseph is a Grenada National Team star and was named the 2007 Caribbean Footballer of the Year ... a perennial candidate for MLS Most Valuable Player, he signed a long-term contract extension with the Revs at the end of the 2007 season after drawing interest from several clubs overseas ... although more renowned for his defensive toughness and ability to distribute out of the midfield, Joseph can score goals when needed - he led all scorers in SuperLiga 2008 with three goals as he helped guide the Revs to the title.

## CONSISTENCY THE KEY FOR REIS

Goalkeeper **Matt Reis** solidified his reputation as one of the most consistent performers in Major League Soccer history last season, as the 33-year-old set the MLS record for consecutive minutes played ... before suffering a right adductor strain in the 55th minute of the Aug. 16 match at San Jose, Reis guarded the Revolution's net for 7,975 straight minutes, a mark that spanned 89 regular-season matches and dated back to Sept. 3, 2005 ... including postseason matches, Reis played 9,145 consecutive minutes (spanning 101 matches), though MLS does not recognize that as a record ... after returning from his injury, Reis played the Revolution's final nine games of the regular season and both of the club's playoff matches, so perhaps a new streak is in the works entering 2009 ... Reis' 36 regular-season shutouts since the start of the 2005 season represents the highest total by any goalkeeper in that time span.

## A REVOLUTION STALWART, HEAPS AIMS FOR HISTORY IN 2009

**Jay Heaps** is not only the Revolution's leader in every career longevity record - games played (218), games started (213) and minutes played (19,449) - but at age 32, he continues to be the club's defensive catalyst ... last season, Heaps was one of only two field players in all of Major League Soccer to play every minute of every game (30 games, 2,700 minutes), while he appeared in 38 of the Revolution's 42 games in all competitions ... with just 551 minutes to go, Heaps is also on pace to become the first player in club history to play 20,000 minutes for the Revolution in 2009.

## ALBRIGHT REBORN WITH REVOLUTION

After he was a member of the U.S.' 23-man squad at the 2006 FIFA World Cup in Germany, **Chris Albright** was supposed to continue his development as one of the best defenders in Major League Soccer with the Los Angeles Galaxy in 2007 ... however, a torn hamstring just five games into the season derailed that goal, and he missed the remainder of the year because of the injury ... after recovering from the injury enough to participate in 2008 pre-season activities with the Galaxy, he was traded to the Revolution on draft day in January 2008, providing the Philadelphia native with a fresh start ... the right back made the most of his new opportunity, amassing new career-highs in games started (26) and minutes played (2,340) with New England in 2008 ... now 30 years old, Albright shows no signs of slowing down as he gears up for another successful season with the Revs.

## UNSUNG HERO LARENTOWICZ FINALLY DUE FOR RECOGNITION

While many recognize the New England Revolution's central midfield as one of the best in the league, it's often **Shalrie Joseph** that is singled out for praise, and not undeservedly ... however, Joseph's partner in the center of midfield, **Jeff Larentowicz**, is perhaps one of the most underrated players in Major League Soccer - and Joseph will be the first to sing his praises ... a central defender during his four-year career at Brown University, Larentowicz made the transition to defensive midfielder when he joined the Revs in 2005 and has paired brilliantly with Joseph for the past three seasons ... while his duties are primarily defensive, Larentowicz does occasionally join into the attack, and not without success ... Larentowicz scored four goals last season - all from outside the 18-yard box - to establish a new career high.

## "RED AND DREAD" PATROL MIDFIELD ONCE AGAIN

The Revolution's central midfield tandem of **Jeff Larentowicz** and **Shalrie Joseph** - playfully nicknamed "**Red and Dread**" in reference to Larentowicz's red hair and Joseph's dreads - will pair up for the fourth straight year in 2009 ... with Joseph's imposing presence and effective distribution and Larentowicz's solid positioning and offensive abilities, New England's central midfield has long been considered one of the best in the league.

## WITH EXPERIENCE GAINED, YOUNG GAMBIANS LOOK TO RAMP IT UP IN 2009

Gambians **Kenny Mansally** and **Saine Nyassi** burst onto the scene as teenagers in 2008, each earning significant playing time in their first full seasons with the Revolution ... Mansally struck for three goals and one assist in 17 appearances while missing six games while on national team duty ... Nyassi played in 25 of New England's 30 regular-season matches, starting 18 of them and recording two goals and one assist ... now both 20 years old, the pair enters 2009 aiming to become major players in the Revolution's lineup ... with more than a year of professional experience in the United States now under their belts, the time has come to fulfill their immense promise.

## LATE-SEASON SIGNING BADILLA OUT TO PROVE HIS WORTH

Costa Rica National Team member **Gabriel Badilla** barely had time to introduce himself to his teammates before he was thrust into the spotlight last season, making his MLS debut against the Los Angeles Galaxy - featuring David Beckham and Landon Donovan - just two days after arriving in the United States ... national team call-ups and a red-card suspension prevented Badilla from ever really getting a chance to make his mark with the Revs, as he made just six appearances in the regular-season and one substitute appearance in the playoffs ... however, now settled into the U.S. and more familiar with his teammates, Badilla - who can play anywhere across the back or in the defensive midfield, but is primarily a central defender - is ready to prove his worth to the Revolution's coaching staff as he fights for a starting spot ... in fact, Badilla is so dedicated to becoming accustomed to life in the U.S. and communicating with his teammates that he is currently taking English lessons.

## 2008 ROOKIE OF THE YEAR FINALIST DUBE READY FOR PRIME TIME

**Kheli Dube** defied the odds in 2008 ... the Zimbabwe native entered the Revolution's preseason training camp as a long-shot to even make the team, as the Coastal Carolina forward was selected by New England in the 2008 MLS Supplemental Draft after going undrafted in the SuperDraft ... however, not only did Dube make the team, he became a regular contributor and established himself as one of the top rookies in the league in 2008 ... Dube notched four goals and four assists to lead MLS rookies in both categories, as he was named one of three finalists for MLS Gatorade Rookie of the Year ... with his successful rookie campaign behind him, Dube returns to the Revs in 2009 hungry to improve upon his first year as he aims to stake his claim as a full-time starter.

## WELCOME HOME, MIKE VIDEIRA

When the Revolution drafted **Mike Videira** in the second round of the 2008 MLS SuperDraft, the club knew that the Duke graduate had aspirations to play in Europe ... after meeting with the New England coaching staff to explain his decision, Videira embarked on a European journey, going on trials with a number of British clubs before eventually signing with Hamilton Academical of the Scottish Premier League ... however, injuries shortened Videira's stay in Scotland and he was released by Hamilton in December 2008 ... after returning home to Milford, Mass., - just a short drive away from Gillette Stadium - the Revs saw their opportunity and signed Videira ahead of the 2009 season ... with his injury in the past, Videira is healthy and ready to contribute to the Revolution more than one year after the club originally drafted him ... the young midfielder is off to a good start, as he scored the game-winning goal just seven minutes into the Revolution's first preseason match.

## ALSTON BECOMES REVOLUTION'S THIRD MEMBER OF GENERATION ADIDAS

With the selection of Indiana defender **Kevin Alston** as the 10th overall pick in the 2009 MLS SuperDraft, the Revolution added a third member of Generation adidas to its 2009 roster ... Alston joins 2008 draft pick **Rob Valentino** and 2007 selection **Amaechi Igwe** as New England's Generation adidas representatives ... Alston, 20, was a two-time All-Big Ten selection during his three-year career at Indiana after spending more than two years in the U.S. Under-17 residential program in Bradenton, Fla. ... an outside defender, he signed a Generation adidas contract with MLS after leaving the Hoosiers following his junior season.