ROWDIES NEWS

Tampa Bay Rowdies
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ROWDIES INDOOR SCHEDULE FINALIZED

The 1978 Rowdies indoor schedule was finalized today with the addition of Dallas to the list of opponents. The schedule includes four (4) home games and four (4) away games, with two (2) away dates at Connecticut and Tulsa to be confirmed. The schedule, the most extensive to date, is as follows:

AWAY	HOME
Saturday, January 28 vs. Washington Diplomats	Friday, February 3 vs. Washington Diplomats
Sunday, January 29 vs. Washington Diplomats	Saturday, February 11 vs. Tulsa Roughnecks
Sunday, February 5 vs. Rochester Lancers (in Hartford, CT)	Saturday, February 18 vs. Dallas Tornado
Tuesday, February 14 vs. Tulsa Roughnecks	Friday, March 10 vs. Minnesota Kicks

All home games will be played at the St. Petersburg Bayfront Center and will start at 8:00 p.m.

TICKETS ON SALE NEXT WEEK

Tickets for the indoor games will go on sale at the outlets on Wednesday, January 18. Because of printing delays this date is two days later than previously announced. They will be available only at Maas Brothers in Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties and the Rowdies Bootique on Westshore Boulevard. Indoor ticket prices are as follows:

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS	SEASON TICKETS
$7.00	$28.00
$5.00	$20.00
$4.00	$16.00

Indoor season ticket renewals will be mailed tomorrow. To renew seats from last year, full payment must be received by Friday, January 20. Outdoor season ticket holders will receive the indoor season ticket order forms in the mail this week.

ORDER BY PHONE OR MAIL

For the first time, the Rowdies will be accepting telephone orders for indoor season tickets. Callers need only give their VISA/Bankamericard or Master Charge number. Fans may also order their season tickets by mail. Full payment must be received by check, money order, or credit card number by January 20. This deadline will assure return of tickets by the first home date.

Groups should contact Marketing Representatives Vickie Peterson and Don Schulte for further information. Because of limited seating in the Bayfront Center there will be no group or Fannies discounts for the indoor season.

NEW 1978 ALIGNMENT OUT

The NASL alignment for the 1978 season was announced today by Commissioner Phil Woosnam. There will be two national conferences - American and National, featuring three divisions of four teams each; Eastern, Central and Western. This new format has cast the Rowdies with their geographical rival Ft. Lauderdale and two new clubs - Boston and Philadelphia. The entire alignment is as follows:

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

EASTERN	CENTRAL	WESTERN
Toronto	Minnesota	Vancouver
Rochester	Colorado	Seattle
New York	Tulsa	Portland
Washington	Dallas	Los Angeles

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

EASTERN	CENTRAL	WESTERN
Boston	Detroit	Oakland
Philadelphia	Chicago	San Jose
Tampa Bay	Memphis	California
Ft. Lauderdale	Houston	San Diego

The Rowdies will no longer face rival Cosmos in their division nor the Washington Diplomats, but rather two traditionally strong first year clubs

Each team will play its division rivals twice, home and away, to be inc in 18 games against conference rivals and 12 inter-conference matches. Eight of those 12 inter-conference games will be played against teams fro the equivalent regional division in the other conference.

THIS IS HOW IT WORKS FOR THE ROWDIES

Tampa will play each team in the Eastern Division of the American Confere twice - six games. The Rowdies will also play two teams each, home and away, in the American Conference - Central and Western Division - eight games. Then two teams once in the Central and Western Division of the American Conference (four games). This totals the 18 Conference games.

Tampa will also play each team from the Eastern Division of the National Conference twice - home and away totaling eight games. The Rowdies will also see action against four other National Conference teams once - two from the Central Division and two from the Western Division. This totals the 12 inter-conference games

PLAYOFFS -

As a result, the Rowdies will play the Cosmos twice, home and away as before, but will not eliminate each other in the playoffs until the confere playoff. Sixteen of the 24 teams will qualify for the playoffs. The for provides for the two top teams in each division, plus two wild card teams from each conference, based on greatest total points to qualify. The 197 NASL regular season extends from April 1st to August 6th and will culmina in Soccer Bowl '78, scheduled for August 27 at Giants Stadium between e two conference champions.

REMINDER

Renewal deadline for outdoor season ticket holders is Wednesday, January 25. A deposit of $25.00 per person or full payment is required to reserve any seat for the 1978 season.

DRAFT ON JANUARY 23; ROWDIES DRAFT 18TH

The Tampa Bay Rowdies will draft 18th out of 24 clubs when the NASL conducts its Annual Player Selections Meeting on January 23 at New York's Plaza Hotel.

There will be four rounds, with the first two rounds held exclusively for senior and junior college graduates, while the third and fourth rounds are open to high school graduates as well. The Rowdies will also draft in the 22nd slot in the second round in Ft. Lauderdale's position as a result of the deal that sent Colin Fowles to the Strikers. Another draft pick will be the second round's 20th position, from Los Angeles, as part of the Randy Garber deal in 1976. The overall order of the draft is as follows:

1) Colorado, 2) Detroit, 3) Boston, 4) Philadelphia, 5) Houston, 6) Memphis 7) Oakland (to Ft. Lauderdale in 1st round, Philadelphia in second), 8) Chicago, 9) Washington (to Cosmos in first round), 10) Portland, 11) Rochester, 12) San Diego (to Minnesota in first round, San Jose in second) 13) California (to Ft. Lauderdale in second round), 14) Tulsa (to San Jose in second round), 15) Toronto (to Cosmos in first round), 16) San Jose (to Los Angeles in first round), 17) Vancouver (to Cosmos in first round), 18) Tampa Bay, 19) Minnesota, 20) Los Angeles (to Tampa Bay in second round), 21) Dallas, 22) Ft. Lauderdale (to Cosmos in first round, to Tampa in second round), 23) Seattle, 24) New York

WOWDIES UNDER NEW DIRECTION

The Wowdies dance unit will be directed this year by Carla Couture Sagerser. Carla is a member of the Tampa Jazz Dance Company and owner of Carla Dance Studio. Dancing since she was nine years old, she has also been a member of both the Montgomery and Sacremento Civic Ballet Company. The Rowdies are currently accepting applications from women interested in dancing with the Wowdies this year. Audition dates will be announced soon. All interested women with dance experience should contact the Rowdies office as soon as possible.

EAST TAKES SENIOR BOWL

The squad of star seniors from the East won the Senior Bowl Saturday evening in Orlando 3-2 before a crowd of 6,600 and representatives from nearly every NASL team. John Nusum, from Philadelphia Textile, and Mike Ortiz-Velez, from Erskine were named the offensive and defensive players of the match.

NASL NEWS

Houston was announced as the 24th franchise January 5th, ending expansion for 1978. The ownership of the group includes Houston based Gerald D. Hines, a real estate developer; Ben Woodson, president and chief executive officer of American General Insurance Company, and Hans Von Mende, an attorney who will serve as GM and chief operating officer of the club. Also part of the ownership group is Bayly Corp., a casual wear manufacturer and sporting goods store chain and its president Joe Wood. The club plans to play in the 50,000 seat Astrodome.

Bill Gazonas, Captain of the Hartwick Warriors, the 1977 National Collegiate Champions, was awarded the Hermann Trophy January 4th by the NASL. This trophy is awarded to the top collegiate soccer player of the year. Gazonas was selected for the annual award, given since 1967, in a poll conducted by the Sporting News among 299 college soccer coaches. Second to Gozonas in the voting was Andy Atuegbu of USF and third was Greg Makowski of SIU - Edwardsville.

WELLHOFER TO ASSIST IN DIRECTION OF SALES

Ms. Dale Wellhofer, the Rowdies Executive Secretary since its inception in 1975, has been promoted to Assistant Director of Sales under Ross Bartow, Director of Sales. Ms. Wellhofer's promotion is effective immediately.