ROWDIES NEWS

Tampa Bay Rowdies
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TAMPA, February 20, 1978
VOLUME 4, Number 8
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ROWDIES WHIP TORNADO

The Tampa Bay Rowdies felled their toughest opponents to date Saturday with a 7-3 victory over the Dallas Tornado in the sold out St. Petersburg Bayfront Center. With only one more game to be played indoors against the Minnesota Kicks March 10, the Rowdies have racked up an impressive 5-1 record in 1978. Coordinated team work, discipline and dazzling individuality won the contest Saturday evening. The first two periods were marked by few goals but exciting, skillful soccer. At the end of each period the score was tied 1-1, then 2-2. At 1:04 in the third period, second year Tornado Gerd Stahl shot in a bomb from nearly forty feet. That was the end of the scoring for Dallas. What followed was a scoring flurry of five goals in 10 1/2 minutes for the Rowdies. It was an exciting burst of energy and skill that delighted the fans, enraged and frustrated the Tornado and decided the match ... for good.

MARSH - MAIN MAN

Rodney Marsh was in true form Saturday night against the Dallas Tornado. For Marsh, true form is dazzling footwork, brilliant passing and a touch of show biz. All the elements were there. Playing as a leader and source of inertia for the better part of two periods, the "clown prince" let loose in the third and charmed everyone except his Dallas opponents. At 2:30 Rodney banged in the equalizer on a pass from Kevin Eagan. But the real show stopper was a free kick goal at 3:37. From a seemingly impossible angle, Marsh curled the ball around a 3 man wall to nestle into the net and clinch the lead for the Rowdies. Rodney's performance Saturday night upped his scoring tally six points (2 goals - 2 assists) to put him in second place in Rowdies scoring with 18 points. His current total of eight assists ties Stewart Scullion's record of assists set in the '76 indoor season

JAGO SAYS DISCIPLINE THE KEY

According to Coach Jago, "The game was won by the discipline of all the players more than anything else. And although it's not common practice for me to single out individuals, I think two players should take credit for their excellent performance - Derek Smethurst in Tulsa and Rodney Marsh against Dallas. But it was a good all-round team performance in both games."

A TIE - FOR PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Two superb performances by the Rowdies in one week have meritted two players of the week. Derek Smethurst's spectacular scoring in Tulsa (5 goals and 1 assist) and Rodney Marsh's ball wizardry Saturday night will earn them both honors as players of the week. This is the second time in the '78 indoor season that Smethurst has been so honored - the first time was the very first week of the indoor season. Derek was quoted after the game Saturday as saying of Rodney, "He's Tampa. I'm Bay." Congratulations Tampa Bay. You did it again!

THE SCORING RACE

The scoring race isn't much of a contest for first, but the competition is hot and heavy for second. Derek Smethurst has run away with first with a staggering total of 32 points (14 goals and 4 assists) in '78 indoor scoring. This total is a new record for Rowdies indoor scoring. Rodney Marsh and Joe Fink are battling it out for second with 18 and 17 points respectively. Wes McLeod upped his total four points with his goals Saturday night to edge in on Farrukh Quraishi's 11. They're a scoring bunch, those Rowdies.

DAVE ROBB - A ROWDIE FOR THREE YEARS

General Manager Chas Serednesky confirmed last week the acquisition of striker Dave Robb from Aberdeen. The announcement was made in conjunction with an announcement in Scotland by Aberdeen manager Billy McNeil. The fiery striker was sold for an undisclosed amount of cash and has come to terms with the Rowdies on a three year contract. Says Gordon Jago of the Rowdies latest acquisition, "He's a robust player who fights for other people. He always gives 100% and is a model professional. He is respected by the other players and popular with the fans." Robb's return will complete the SWARM line of Smethurst, Wegerle, Alston, Robb and Marsh for '78. This forward line of scoring dynamos should offer fans some exciting soccer this year. The popular red haired mad man endeared himself with bay area fans last year by playing four games with his jaws wired shut. He scored eight goals in his stay with the Rowdies and came in third in MVP ballotting at the end of the season. Robb will arrive in the bay area as soon as his visa can be arranged. He is expected no later than the first week in March.

FIRST PRE-SEASON GAME ANNOUNCED

The official announcement of the Tampa - Ft. Lauderdale game in Tamiami Stadium in Miami Dade North on March 4th at 6:30 p.m. was made today by the Rowdies office. Additional pre-season games are expected to be finalized soon.

1978 TV SCHEDULE - MOST EXTENSIVE YET

The Rowdies and WTOG announced today their 1978 TV schedule. The eight locally broadcast games constitute the most extensive schedule to date. One game against the Cosmos at home on April 30 will be broadcast nationally by TVS. The WTOG games include the first two away games against New England and Detroit; games against Eastern division rivals Washington and Toronto; American conference power Chicago; and natural rivals Ft. Lauderdale and the Cosmos. The Houston Hurricane, who may have several Rowdies on their roster, will be the last away game. That final game may be very significant in championship races. WTOG will also cover any play off games that the Rowdies are involved in up to Soccer Bowl, when TVS would cover it nationally. Martin J. Rotbert, Vice President Marketing/Sales and Jim Dowdle, General Manager WTOG made the announcement. Said Dowdle, "WTOG is growing with the Rowdies. Soccer growth is significant in this area and we're proud to be part of it. We're the logical station to carry the Rowdies because we carry TVS too. On our station, viewers may see as many as 15 games between April and August. We hope they

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME
Sunday April 9	New England Tea Men	2:00 P.M.
Sunday April 16	Detroit Express	6:00 P.M.
Saturday May 20	Washington Diplomats	8:00 P.M.
Wednesday June 14	Chicago Sting	8:30 P.M.
Wednesday June 28	Toronto Metros	7:30 P.M.
Wednesday July 26	Ft. Lauderdale Strikers	8:00 P.M.
Sunday July 30	Cosmos	7:30 P.M.
Friday August 4	Houston Hurricane	9:00 P.M.

	GP	SHOTS	GOALS	ASSISTS	PTS	PM
ALSTON, Adrian	3	12	1	1	3	4
AUGUSTE, Arsene	6	11	1	0	2	8
BANDOV, Boris	4	5	0	5	5	0
CONNELL, Mike	6	8	0	1	1	2
CRUDO, Tony	6	9	2	2	6	2
DUBOSE, Winston	5	0	0	0	0	0
EAGAN, Kevin	5	14	0	6	6	0
FINK, Joe	6	39	8	1	17	0
HAMMOND, Paul	1	0	0	0	0	0
LINDSAY, Mark	4	19	3	2	8	0
MARSH, Rodney	6	46	5	8	18	6
MCLEOD, Wes	3	8	5	0	10	6
QURAISHI, Farrukh	6	39	4	3	11	0
ST-LOT, Frantz	6	23	2	1	5	0
SMETHURST, Derek	6	72	14	4	32	2
WEGERLE, Steve	5	20	3	4	10	0
TOTAL	6	325	48	38	134	30
OPPONENTS TOTAL	6	200	27	18	72	30

GOALKEEPERS	GP	SV	GA	AVG
DUBOSE, Winston	5	88	27	4.36
HAMMOND, Paul	1	11	5	5.00
TOTAL	6	99	27	4.46
OPPONENTS TOTAL	6	135	48	7.93

POWER PLAY EFFICIENCY	
ROWDIES	2
OPPONENTS	8-12

SCORING BY PERIODS	1	2	3	O.T.	S.O.	TOTAL
ROWDIES	11	18	19	0	-	48
OPPONENTS	10	5	11	1	-	27

ROWDIES RESULTS

DATE	OPPONENTS	SCORE	ATTENDANCE	SCORERS
Sat. 1/28/78	@Washington	6-7 (L-OT)	3,662	Smethurst 4 (Bandov, Marsh, Quraishi), Alston (Fink), Fink (Smethurst, Wegerle)
Sun. 1/29/78	@Washington	11-3 (W)	3,111	Quraishi 3 (Crudo), Fink 3 (Smethurst, Quraishi), Marsh 2 (Eagan, Wegerle, St-Lot (Wegerle), Crudo (Marsh)
Fri. 2/3/78	WASHINGTON	6-5 (W)	6,410	Smethurst 2 (Marsh, Lindsay 2 (Quraishi Marsh), Auguste (Marsh, Smethurst), Crudo (Alston)
Sat. 2/11/78	TULSA	7-3 (W)	6,384	Smethurst (Lindsay), McLeod 2 (Eagan), Fink 2 (Eagan), Quraishi (St-Lot), Wegerle
Tue. 2/14/78	@Tulsa	11-6 (W)	3,250	Smethurst 5 (Marsh, Connell, Bandov 2, Lindsay), McLeod (Crudo), Wegerle (Eagan), Fink (Wegerle 2), Lindsay St-Lot, Marsh (Smethurst)
Sat. 2/18/78	DALLAS	7-3 (W)	6,399	Smethurst 2 (Marsh 2), Marsh 2 (Eagan 2) McLeod 2 (Bandov 2), Fink

FINAL INDOOR GAME

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	PLACE
Fri. 3/10/78	MINNESOTA	8 P.M.	Bayfront

HOME ATTENDANCE

19,193 - 3 Dates
6,398 - Average

INDOOR CAREER SCORING

NAME	YRS	GP	SHOTS	GOALS	ASSISTS	PTS	PM
Derek Smethurst	3	12	130	23	6	52	2
Rodney Marsh	3	11	87	13	15	41	12
Farrukh Quraishi	3	12	93	9	6	24	8
Steve Wegerle	2	7	37	6	7	19	0
Joe Fink	3	9	50	9	1	19	0
Mark Lindsay	3	11	52	7	2	16	2
Wes McLeod	2	5	17	5	0	10	6
Adrian Alston	2	5	21	2	3	7	4
Arsene Auguste	3	12	29	2	2	6	10
Tony Crudo	1	6	9	2	2	6	2
Kevin Eagan	1	5	14	0	6	6	0
Mike Connell	3	12	29	1	3	5	2
Frantz St-Lot	1	6	23	2	1	5	0
Boris Bandov	1	4	5	0	5	5	0
Paul Hammond	2	3	0	0	0	0	2
Winston DuBose	1	5	0	0	0	0	0

Rowdies Devotion Turns To Outdoors

JIM HENDERSON
bune Sports Writer

"Now," says Tampa Bay Rowdies ch Gordon Jago, "we have a chance concentrate on what matters."

What matters for Jago and his team of course, the 1978 North American cer League outdoor season, which ins officially on April 1 at Tampa dium against the expansion Mem- s Rogues.

Between now and then, the Rowdies l devote almost their full attention to season, the 1978 indoor campaign ng all but history.

After disposing of the Dallas Tornado 7-3 at the Bayfront Center in St. Petersburg Saturday night, the Rowdies find themselves with an outdoor date in Miami against Ft. Lauderdale in two weeks and only one more indoor game — on March 10 at the Bayfront against Minnesota — to go.

In the two weeks prior to the Ft. Lauderdale game, the Rowdies will have no less than ten practices at the University of South Florida, four weight sessions at the Florida Athletic Center in Largo and full-scale scrimmages against both South Florida and Rollins.

The work begins today with two USF practices.

"We are really going to get into the meat of it," said Jago. "We'll work a lot on the 4-3 defense and in preparing the dead ball situations.

most."

Jago got some enjoyment Saturday night as the Rowdies overcame a 3-2 Dallas lead with five third-period goals to win their fifth straight match after a season-opening 7-6 overtime loss in Washington.

Midfielders Rodney Marsh and Wes McLeod and striker Derek Smethurst scored two goals each to pace the attack and Marsh got his two in the early moments of the third period to pull the Rowdies from behind and ahead to stay.

The game itself was the best seen in the bay area this year and looked like what you might think an indoor NASL title game would look like — if, of course, there was such a creature.

Even though there were only four goals scored in the first two periods (two apiece), the action was reminiscent of a good hockey match. There were pin-point passes; hard, driving shots; acrobatic saves by both Dallas goalie Ken Cooper and Rowdies keeper Winston DuBose and close, close checking by both teams.

Marsh picked up two minutes in the penalty box at 2:32 of the second period for running over Kai Haaskivi and then Tornado defender Steve Pecher after his bicycle kick attempt at the ball resulted in his foot being planted squarely in Pecher's back.

The scuffle didn't last long and Marsh left the game. But, as he was attempting to leap over the railing to the bench, he slipped and hit his head on the floor.

Marsh got up and was apparently all right, but after he started clowning around a bit following his goals at 2:50 and 3:37 of the final stanza, the standard joke after the game was that the fall knocked him senseless.

Not so, said the 34-year-old superstar. He was at the top of his game and was merely having a bit of fun. Everyone loved it, it seemed, but the Tornado.

This letting loose, Marsh said, does not mean he will become the Clown Prince of Soccer as he was known during his English and early Rowdies days.

"Nothing does," he said when asked if he would return to the days when he used to get a lot of his own people mad as well as the opposition, including former coach Eddie Firmani, now of the Cosmos, who claimed Marsh was one of the reasons he left suddenly last year. Marsh and many others never bought the reasoning.

"If only Eddie Firmani could see you now," said a reporter to Marsh.

"He will," said Rod, a twinkle coming into his eyes. "I can assure you — he will."

Soaring Rowdies, Marsh ground Tornado 7-3

By MIKE TIERNEY
St. Petersburg Times Staff Writer

Prior to their indoor soccer opener, the show-biz Tampa Bay Rowdies wheeled into Bayfront Center Arena in Rolls Royces. For their second match, the mode of transportation was an army truck. Saturday night, a double-decker bus.

They might consider, for the indoor finale March 10 against the Minnesota Kicks, borrowing a plane next door at Albert Whitted Airport.

The Rowdies are soaring.

To the glee of another full house announced at 6,399, Tampa Bay grounded the Dallas Tornado 7-3 by cramming five consecutive goals inside 10½ minutes of the third period. The astonishing rally against easily Tampa Bay's toughest opponent to date ballooned the Rowdies' record to 5-1 with one match left unsettled. Dallas dipped to 1-2.

"IF ANYTHING won it for us, it was discipline," surmised Coach Gordon Jago. "And our superior fitness."

Three Rowdies sat out with ailments, but they were hardly missed.

Tampa Bay's main mao was Rodney Marsh, who shrugged off a number of nagging pains — one of them self-inflicted — to score two goals and dish out two assists.

For most of two periods, Marsh was the match's dominant performer. Then, substituting on the fly, Rodney attempted to hoist himself over the waist-high boards, slipped and disappeared to the floor. After several anxious seconds, Marsh wobbled back to his feet. "It knocked me out for a second," he would say later while massaging a bump on his face.

Whatever, he might try it again. For when Jago reinserted Marsh, he played like — well — only Marsh can.

"This," said Jago, "is what the man is capable of. He's got a hard head, anyway."

Marsh's show-stopper was a gentle free kick goal that snapped a 3-3 deadlock and left Dallas keeper Ken Cooper aching to see a replay.

LINED UP AT a sharp angle to the left of the goal, Marsh curled the shot around the Tornado's human wall and beyond Cooper. Said Marsh of the man who can boast indoor soccer's only NASL shutout, "He just was in the wrong position."

Only 47 seconds earlier and with 2:50 elapsed, Marsh banged in a cross-court pass from Kevin Eagan for the equalizer. Wes McLeod joined the fun at 5:49, the Marsh-Derek Smethurst connection clicked at 11:49 and McLeod iced it at 13:14.

Tampa Bay outgunned Dallas by a two-to-one margin in the first period and wangled three power-play opportunities in the second. Each period, however, ended in a tie.

For some time, the match resembled a scoreless football game in which both clubs roll up 300 yards. Only the scorekeeper was bored.

Boris Bandov, a fresh body who just entered the match seconds before, and Joey Fink finally found the combination to unlock Cooper. Fink got the goal, Bandov the assist at 15:56.

Dallas' Steve Newman beat the first-period clock as well as Rowdie goalkeeper Winston DuBose when he scored 23 seconds before the horn. And when Marsh was banished to the penalty box — arguing all the while — early in Period Two, the Tornado gave Tampa Bay a lesson in the power play with Newman's second goal.

THE ROWDIES didn't learn well. Dallas took to all sorts of nastiness — delay of game, tripping and attempting to iron Marsh to the Bayfront rug. "It was like getting hit by Leon Spinks," Marsh said.

For six minutes, the Rowdies had an extra man afield, but Dallas proved particularly adept at milking the clock.

The Rowdies [illegible] with both squads at full strength. Fittingly, the Rowdies' assist leader, Marsh, set up their goals leader, Smethurst.

Gerd Stahl cracked the tie in Dallas' favor with 1:04 elapsed in the final period with a blast from almost 40 feet.

That was Marsh's cue.

Al Miller, the fan, was awed. But Al Miller, the Dallas coach, was critical of Marsh's "intimidation" of the opponents.

"I have no respect for him," Miller spat. "He's a (bleep). He's a great player, but he has no (bleeping) brains."

Closer inspection of Marsh will prove Miller wrong. The brains just happened to be scrambled with a wicked fall to the Bayfront's concrete floor.

Dallas	1	1	1—3
Tampa Bay	1	1	5—7

1, Tampa Bay, Fink (Bandov) 15:56; 2, Dallas, Newman (Ryan) 19:37. 3, Dallas, Newman (Ryan) 3:50; 4, Tampa Bay, Smethurst (Marsh) 9:45. Penalties: Tampa Bay — Marsh (conduct) 2:32; Dallas — Stahl (delay) 5:38, DeLong (tripping) 10:42, Smith (tripping) 19:40. 5, Dallas, Stahl (unassisted) 1:04; 6, Tampa Bay, Marsh (Eagan) 2:50; 7, Tampa Bay, Marsh (unassisted) 3:37; 8, Tampa Bay, McLeod (Bandov) 5:49; 9, Tampa Bay, Smethurst (Marsh) 11:49; 10, Tampa Bay, McLeod (Eagan) 13:14. Penalties: Tampa Bay — Connel (delay) 18:00. Shots on goal

Dallas	6	9	8—23
Tampa Bay	14	13	17—44

Saves: Dallas — Cooper 18; Tampa Bay — DuBose 13. Fouls: Dallas 18, Tampa Bay 8. A: 6,399.