ROWDIES NEWS

Tampa Bay Rowdies
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FIRST OUTDOOR PRE-SEASON GAME AGAINST STRIKERS

The Tampa Bay Rowdies will play their first outdoor pre-season game this Saturday, March 4 at 6:30 p.m. against the Ft. Lauderdale Strikers at Community College Stadium in Miami.Dade North. The Strikers will go into the match two weeks after their return from a 19 day training tour through England, where they played six games with a 1-4-1 record. The Strikers beat Stockport County 4-2, tied Workington 0-0, and lost to Port Vale 4-2, Blackpool 3-2, Portsmouth 3-1 and Swindon 6-3. Although this is the Rowdies' first '78 outdoor match they have totaled a 5-1 indoor record so far this season. The Strikers were the league leaders in 1977 with 161 points, taking the Eastern Division but losing in the playoffs to eventual title winning Cosmos. This pre-season match will be the first indication of what fans can expect to see between these two natural rivals in the upcoming season. Last year the two teams split with the Rowdies taking the first 1-0 and losing the second 2-3. The game this Saturday will be broadcast by WFLA at 6:15 p.m.

TRAVEL ITINERARY TO MIAMI

The traveling itinerary includes an 8 p.m. Air Florida flight out of Tampa Friday, March 3 arriving in Miami at 8:45 p.m. The team will be returning to Tampa after the game March 4 on Delta flight 292. They will leave Miami at 10:35 p.m. and arrive in Tampa at 11:21. The team will be staying at the Marriott - phone number 305-649-5000.

1978 PRE-SEASON SCHEDULE ANNOUNCED

The impending match against Ft. Lauderdale is the first of a four game outdoor pre-season schedule released last week. The rest of the schedule is as follows:

Rowdies vs Minnesota Kicks, Sunday March 12, 3:00 p.m.
Tangerine Bowl - Orlando
Rowdies vs Detroit Express, Saturday March 18, 8:00 p.m.
Bryant Stadium - Lakeland
Rowdies vs Toronto Metros, Tuesday March 21 or Thursday March 24, 8:00 p.m.
Dunedin High Stadium - Dunedin

Minnesota is in spring training at Eckerd College in St. Petersburg from March 6-26. The Detroit Express will be training in Lakeland from March 5-20 and Toronto will train in Dunedin from March 6-27.

Also included in pre-season activities is a scrimmage and training procedure display at 7:30 p.m. at Schnider Stadium. This event is planned for the benefit of the Plant City youth soccer organization.

IRON-MAN CONNELL INKS TWO YEAR PACT

General Manager Charles Serednesky announced today that Mike Connell signed a two-year contract with the Tampa Bay Rowdies. This iron man was the only Rowdie ever to play every single minute of the season. Last year he totaled 2380:53 minutes of playing time in 26 games. Mike was a member of the 1975 pennant drive but missed 1976 because of military obligations.

COCA-COLA JOINS INSTITUTIONAL SPONSORS

It was announced last week that the Florida Coca-Cola Bottling Company has become a major institutional sponsor of the Rowdies in '78. Martin J. Rotberg, Vice President of Marketing/Sales made the announcement. The Florida Coca-Cola Bottling Company will join the Rowdies' prestigious group of institutional sponsors which include McDonalds (Tampa Bay Area Co-op), Maas Brothers and Exchange Banks.

ROWDIES ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POSITION	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	CITIZENSHIP
1	Paul Hammond	Goalkeeper	6-1	190	British
2	Farrukh Quraishi	Midfielder	5-9	145	British
4	Arsene Auguste	Defender	6-2	185	Haitian
5	Dave Robb	Forward	5-11	172	British
6	Mike Connell	Defender	6-0	150	South African
7	Steve Wegerle	Forward	5-10	145	South African
8	Wes McLeod	Midfielder	5-8	149	Canadian
9	Adrian Alston	Forward	6-0	170	Australian
10	Rodney Marsh	Forward	6-1	180	British
12	Derek Smethursk	Forward	6-1	175	South African
14	Joe Fink	Forward	6-0	160	American
17	Kevin Eagan	Defender	6-3	175	American
18	Winston DuBose	Goalkeeper	6-2	180	American
19	Frantz St-Lot	Defender	5-8	155	American
20	Boris Bandov	Forward	5-10	175	American
23	Tony Crudo	Midfielder	6-0	160	American

STRIKERS ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POSITION	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	CITIZENSHIP
1	Gordon Banks	Goalkeeper	5-11	170	British
2	Maurice Whittle	Defender	5-8	150	British
6	Tony Whelan	Forward	6-1	170	British
7	David Chadwick	Midfielder	5-7	145	British
8	Robert Aguirre	Defender	5-11	178	Argentinian
9	Dennis Vaninger	Forward	6-2	190	American
11	Gordon Fearnley	Forward	5-10	165	British
12	David Irving	Forward	5-9	170	British
13	David Proctor	Forward	6-1	165	Canadian
15	Alan Hamlyn	Defender	5-10	170	American
16	Mike Ortiz-Velez	Midfielder	5-8	150	American
18	Marine Cano	Goalkeeper	6-1	175	American
19	George Nanchoff	Defender	5-11	160	American
20	Les Peterson	Defender	5-10	155	American
22	Colin Fowles	Midfielder	5-10	170	American
23	Ken Hammond	Forward	5-9	145	American
24	Curtis Leeper	Midfielder	5-11	160	American
25	Jan Kapstad	Forward	5-11	163	American
	Burt Bidos	Forward	5-9	168	American
	Nico Bodonczy	Forward	6-0	165	American
	Tibor Gemeri	Midfielder	5-8	160	Yugoslavian
	Kevin McClinton	Forward	5-11	160	British
	Steve Norris	Midfielder	5-11	170	British
	Jim Tonrey	Forward	5-11	165	British

ROWDIES ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POSITION	HT	WT	CITIZENSHIP
1	Paul Hammond	Goalkeeper	6-1	190	British
2	Farrukh Quraishi	Midfielder	5-9	145	British
4	Arsene Auguste	Defender	6-2	185	Haitian
5	Dave Robb	Forward	5-11	172	British
6	Mike Connell	Defender	6-0	150	South African
7	Steve Wegerle	Forward	5-10	145	South African
8	Wes McLeod	Midfielder	5-8	149	Canadian
9	Adrian Alston	Forward	6-0	170	Australian
10	Rodney Marsh	Midfielder	6-1	180	British
12	Derek Smethurst	Forward	6-1	175	South African
14	Joe Fink	Forward	6-0	160	American
17	Kevin Eagan	Defender	6-3	175	American
18	Winston DuBose	Goalkeeper	6-2	180	American
19	Frantz St-Lot	Defender	5-8	155	American
[illegible]	Boris Bandov	Forward	5-10	175	American
[illegible]	Tony Crudo	Defender	6-0	160	American

KICKS ROSTER

NO.	NAME	POSITION	HT	WT	CITIZENSHIP
1	Geoff Barnett	Goalkeeper	6-0	182	British
2	Bruce Twamley	Defender	5-9	160	Canadian
3	Tony Want	Defender	5-8	150	British
4	Mike Bailey	Defender	5-8	165	British
5	Gary Vogel	Defender	5-8	155	American
6	Alan Merrick	Defender	5-10	160	British
7	Mike Flater	Midfielder	5-11	160	American
8	Mark Moran	Midfielder	5-11	165	American
9	Alan Willey	Forward	5-11	163	British
10	Emilio Romero	Forward	5-8	150	American
11	Ace Ntsoelengoe	Midfielder	5-8	155	South African
12	Peter Short	Defender	6-0	170	American & British
14	Greg Villa	Forward	6-1	190	American
15	Ian Hamilton "Chico"	Forward	5-7	155	British
16	Tino Lettieri	Goalkeeper	5-8	165	Canadian
[illegible]	Sam Bick	Defender	5-11	180	American
[illegible]	Roman Stanko	Midfielder	5-11	150	American
19	Marko Vujkovic	Midfielder	5-11	170	Yugoslavian
20	Tim Twellman	Forward	5-11	175	American
21	Ade Coker	Forward	5-8	148	British-Nigerian
24	Dirk Denkers	Midfielder	6-0	180	American
	Dave Dolphus	Goalkeeper	6-4	195	American
	Gary Legrand	Goalkeeper	5-10	158	American