ROWDIES NEWS

Tampa Bay Rowdies
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TAMPA, June 5, 1978
VOLUME 4, Number 23
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CRITICAL GAME AGAINST STOMPERS THIS WEDNESDAY

When Oakland stamps into Tampa Stadium this Wednesday, June 7 at 8:00 p.m. they come hot off three victories. They took two at home (victories over the Rowdies' division rivals New England 1-0 and Ft. Lauderdale 2-1) then proved they could do it on the road with a 1-0 victory in Houston. They bring with them an 8-5 record, 64 points and a solid second place standing in the American-Western division. Their appearance in the Bay Area is the second of a three game road trip. They will follow Wednesday's match with a jaunt down south to take on the Strikers on their home ground Saturday. The Rowdies, on the other hand, will host Houston Saturday evening in the second of an upcoming series that sees the Rowdies at home four out of five outings.

This Wednesday's match against the Stompers is a critical one for the Rowdies. In the Eastern division cellar for the first time ever since the inception of the club, the Rowdies badly need a victory to assume the necessary "winning psyche". Off their second four game losing streak of the season, the Rowdies are entering a portion of their schedule that is in their favor should they take advantage of it. The last time the Rowdies turned the tide they ran all over Philadelphia in a 4-0 rout in Tampa Stadium.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT FEVER

After watching the fancy footwork on the field, fans are invited to join the Rowdies, Wowdies and maybe even some Stompers in some frenzied foot-work of their own under the west stands at Tampa Stadium Wednesday night. The Rowdies and Q105 will join in honoring local high school graduates wit "Disco Night" immediately after the game. The music, supplied by the "Q105 Super-van", will go strong till 11:30 for any fan who purchased a ticket to see the game. There will be prizes for dance couples who care to compete and thrills for those who just come to whirl a Wowdie or be mezmerized by Marsh (or maybe even Messing) moves. Fans are invited to come for the view (see how Disco Connell got his name) or the action.

SCOUTING REPORT
THE GOAL

In goal, the Stompers star the inimitable Shep Messing, captain of Oakland and heralded as the highest salaried American in soccer. This 28 year old goalkeeper joined Oakland after starting all of '77 with the champion-ship New York Cosmos, but found himself ousted for current goalie Erol Yasin. He has made headlines on and off the field... In '75 he led the NASL with the Boston Minutemen, posting an admirable .93 goals against average. Then, in 1974 he gained national attention by posing nude for

the centerfold of Viva Magazine. He is currently ranked eighth in the American conference goalkeeping race with a 1.39 goals against average. Back up goalie Eugene DuChateau from the Connecticut BiCentennials is a fine substitute, posting a shutout against the tough New England Tea Men while Messing was injured.

IN DEFENSE

The Oakland defense is guided by the strong and experienced Alec Lindsay. Lindsay came to Oakland this year from England's Stoke City. Previous experience includes a stint on the English National Team and service on English first division Liverpool. He is joined in the back by Peter Enders from West Germany's Bundesleague, Paki Paunovich from Yugoslavia and Sam Rosenthal from Israel. A change in this international back line could come in the return of Joe Raduka to the starting line up. Twenty-three year old Raduka has been sidelined for several weeks with a pulled muscle in his right leg, but could see action Wednesday. This tough tackler hails from first division Red Star of Yugoslavia and is popular in the San Francisco Bay Area for his speed and aggressiveness.

THE LINK MEN

Playing basically a 4-2-4, the Stompers field Andy Atuegbu and Volker Fass in the midfield. Atuegbu was the Stompers' first draft choice from the University of San Francisco, where he led that squad to back-to-back NCAA Championships. During his three years at USF he was selected All American all three years. Fass, like Enders, came to Oakland from West Germany's Bundesleague. At 6'2", 180 lbs, he is a defensive minded midfielder.

The third midfielder who plays further up front is Charlie Mrosko, third leading scorer in the American Conference with 20 points. The third Stomper from Bundesleague, Mrosko has also played for Bayern Munich, Beckenbauer's old club. He has scored nine goals and two assists thus far for the Stompers, leading the club in scoring.

THE SCORERS

Up front, the Stompers have usually started Alex Lesh, Ben Bozidar and Geoff Wegerle. Lesh, a naturalized American citizen from Yugoslavia, played for the ASL New York Eagles before joining the Stompers as their right winger. Bozidar, another Yugoslavian, has scored three goals this season. On the left wing is Steve Wegerle's younger brother Geoff. Like Steve, Geoff played for the Arcadia Shepherds in South Africa, and is known for speed and dribbling skills. Reserve forward strength comes from University of San Francisco alumni Tony Graham and former Portland Timber Archie Roboostoff.

ANOTHER FIRST FOR THE ROWDIES

On Friday, June 2, the Rowdies signed Perry Van Der Beck, the first player ever drafted out of high school by an NASL club... and the first signed. The Rowdies acquired the rights to the first high school choice prior to the 1978 draft in January from Vancouver. Perry was signed to an amateur contract to protect his Olympic eligibility. He will undoubtedly play a major role in U.S. Olympic competition because of his high level of skill and already extensive international experience. Van Der Beck captained the fall tour of U.S. National Youth Team to Monaco and Germany, scoring the first goal for the U.S. team on an international level in Europe. He also played a vital role in U.S. clean sweep of highly prestigious Bellinzona Easter Tournament in Switzerland. This midfielder from the soccer hotbed of St. Louis, Missouri, played all four years on St. Aquinas High School varsity team -state champs in '75 and '77. He captain the team in '77. On an amateur level he played for Ruiz Soccer Team in St. Louis, captaining the side that won the Juvenile Cup in '76. His ball control and shooting ability should make him a scoring threat. The 5'10" 150 lb 18-year old has been heralded as the most promising young player in the country. He will begin working out with the team immediately.

WEST COAST TRIP - FRUITLESS

The Rowdies' second west coast trip proved as fruitless as their first of the season. After the dust settled in San Diego, the Rowdies had lost two games - both shutouts - by one goal. And although both losses were "wafer thin" according to Coach Jago, the victors tallied seven league points - the Rowdies none. Thursday's game in Vancouver was a game dominated by defense and both excelled. In fact, the recently maligned Rowdie "back bunch" gave a more than credible performance. Said Jago, "They had three chances - we had two. They converted one so they deserved it." The one converted was by Kevin Hector, Vancouver's big gun from Derby County. Sunday's match, dominated throughout by Tampa Bay, was a story of near miss. The Rowdies out shot the Sockers 27 to 20 but just couldn't find the back of the net. Walker McCall (who replaced Derek Smethurst) did at 85:50 and his goal told the tale.

MIKE CONNELL
EXCHANGE BANK
PLAYER OF THE
WEEK

For his steady defensive determination and a regrouping effort in the face of much criticism leveled at the defense, Mike Connell was the overwhelming choice for the Exchange Bank Player of the Week. Vancouver's game was undoubtedly a game of defense - skilled and tenacious. And although Sunday's match should have been a high scoring contest, it wasn't... through lack of conversion and the Rowdies rejuvenated defensive strength. Connell is honored not only for his strength but his much needed consistency.

TAMPA BAY ROSTER

NO	NAME	POSITION	AGE	HT	WT	CITIZENSHIP
1	Paul Hammond	Goalkeeper	24	6-1	190	British
3	Jim Fleeting	Defender	22	6-1	159	British
4	Arsene Auguste	Defender	27	6-2	185	Haitian
5	Dave Robb	Forward	30	5-11	172	British
6	Mike Connell	Defender	21	6-0	150	South African
7	Steve Wegerle	Forward	24	5-10	155	South African
8	Wes McLeod	Midfielder	20	5-8	149	Canadian
9	Adrian Alston	Forward	29	6-0	170	Australian
10	Rodney Marsh	Midfielder	33	6-1	180	British
11	Graham Paddon	Midfielder	27	6-0	161	British
12	Peter Anderson	Forward	28	5-10	155	British
13	Mick McGuire	Midfielder	25	5-8	140	British
14	Joe Fink	Midfielder	26	6-0	160	American
15	Luis Papandrea	Defender	25	5-8	160	Argentinian
17	Kevin Eagan	Defender	22	6-3	175	American
18	Winston DuBose	Goalkeeper	22	6-2	180	American
19	Frantz St-Lot	Defender	24	5-8	155	American
20	Boris Bandov	Mid-Fwd	24	5-10	175	American
21	Perry Van Der Beck	Midfielder	18	5-10	150	American
23	Tony Crudo	Defender	19	6-0	160	American
26	Mirandinha	Forward	25	5-10	160	Brazilian

OAKLAND ROSTER

NO	NAME	POSITION	AGE	HT	WT	CITIZENSHIP
1	Shep Messing	Goalkeeper	28	6-0	180	American
2	Joe Raduka	Defender	23	5-10	165	Yugoslavian
3	Alec Lindsay	Defender	29	6-1	180	British
4	Volker Fass	Defender	25	6-2	180	West German
5	Paki Paunovich	Defender	30	5-11	175	Yugoslavian
6	Peter Enders	Midfielder	29	5-9	170	West German
7	Geoff Wegerle	Forward	23	5-11	170	South African
8	Andy Atuegbu	Midfielder	26	5-8	170	Nigerian
10	Charlie Mrosko	Midfielder	30	5-10	165	West German
12	Andy McCulloch	Forward	26	6-2	180	British
14	Alex Lesh	Midfielder	21	5-11	155	American
15	Lee Atack	Defender	25	6-0	170	American
16	Tony Graham	Forward	21	5-6	140	American
18	Bozidar Ban	Forward	26	5-11	170	Yugoslavian
19	Gene DuChateau	Goalkeeper	24	6-0	175	American
20	Archie Roboostoff	Forward	26	6-1	180	American
21	Sam Rosenthal	Midfielder	30	5-11	175	Isreal
22	Johnny Moore	Midfielder	30	5-5	140	American

AMERICAN CONFERENCE	TOTAL							HOME					AWAY				
EASTERN DIVISION	GP	W	L	GF	GA	BP	TP	W	L	GF	GA	BP	W	L	GF	GA	BP
Ft. Lauderdale	14	7	7	20	30	20	62	7	1	16	8	16	0	6	4	22	4
New England	12	7	5	20	13	18	60	3	2	11	6	10	4	3	9	7	8
Philadelphia	13	6	7	18	27	18	54	4	3	10	10	10	2	4	8	17	8
ROWDIES	13	5	8	22	24	20	50	3	3	17	14	15	2	5	5	10	5
CENTRAL DIVISION																	
Detroit	13	7	6	18	14	18	60	4	4	12	8	12	3	2	6	6	6
Houston	14	6	8	22	24	21	57	2	5	11	13	10	4	3	11	11	11
Memphis	13	3	10	15	23	15	33	3	3	8	9	8	0	7	7	14	7
Chicago	13	1	12	12	29	12	18	0	6	6	14	6	1	6	6	15	6
WESTERN DIVISION																	
San Diego	14	9	5	25	21	22	76	6	2	14	9	12	3	3	11	12	10
Oakland	13	8	5	16	18	16	63	5	2	10	9	10	2	4	6	9	6
California	14	7	7	17	20	15	57	4	3	8	9	8	3	4	9	11	7
San Jose	13	5	8	19	23	18	48	2	3	6	7	6	3	5	12	15	11
NATIONAL CONFERENCE																	
EASTERN DIVISION																	
New York	14	12	2	47	15	32	104	7	0	26	8	18	5	2	21	7	14
Washington	14	8	6	25	18	23	71	6	1	14	5	12	2	5	11	13	11
Rochester	13	6	7	20	21	20	56	3	2	10	4	10	3	5	10	17	10
Toronto	13	5	8	19	25	18	48	3	3	10	10	10	2	5	9	15	8
CENTRAL DIVISION																	
Minnesota	13	9	4	26	20	26	80	5	1	15	10	15	4	3	11	10	11
Tulsa	15	9	6	26	20	24	78	5	3	15	8	15	4	3	11	12	9
Dallas	14	7	7	23	22	22	64	3	3	11	9	10	5	3	12	13	12
Colorado	15	4	11	16	29	15	39	2	4	10	11	9	2	7	6	18	6
WESTERN DIVISION																	
Vancouver	15	11	4	15	15	24	90	8	1	16	6	15	3	3	9	9	9
Portland	14	10	4	26	19	25	85	7	1	15	9	15	3	3	11	10	10
Seattle	15	7	8	23	23	23	65	5	1	14	4	14	2	7	9	19	9
Los Angeles	13	5	8	17	23	16	46	0	7	4	15	4	5	1	13	8	12

LEGEND: GP - Games Played; W - Won; L - Lost; GF - Goals For; GA - Goals Against; BP - Bonus Points; TP - Total Points

NATIONAL CONFERENCE - LEADING GOALKEEPERS

Player - Team	GP	MP	SV	GA	SO	AVG
Erol Yasin, NYK	12	1052	79	12	4	1.03
Phil Parkes, Van	13	1170	58	14	6	1.08
Colin Boulton, Tul	12	1085	72	14	5	1.16
Bill Irwin, Wash	14	1290	92	17	5	1.19
Mick Poole, Ptl	14	1312	83	19	3	1.30
Bob Rigby, LA	11	1049	65	17	0	1.46

AMERICAN CONFERENCE - LEADING GOALKEEPERS

Player - Team	GP	MP	SV	GA	SO	AV
Mike Hewitt, SJ	9	833	64	8	4	.
Kevin Keelan, NE	12	1043	65	11	4	.
Steve Hardwick, Det	13	1193	76	14	4	1.
Dave Jokerst, Cal	11	1034	53	13	4	1.
John Houska, Mem	6	522	31	7	2	1.
Keith Von Eron, Hou	11	1020	78	14	5	1.

NATIONAL CONFERENCE - LEADING SCORERS

Player - Team	GP	G	A	PTS
Giorgio Chinaglia, NY	13	16	7	39
Alan Willey, Minn	13	13	0	26
Jeff Bourne, Dal	14	10	3	23
Vladislav Bogicevic, NY	13	6	10	22
Kevin Hector , Van	14	9	3	21
Paul Cannell, Wash	11	8	4	20

AMERICAN CONFERENCE - LEADING SCORERS

Player - Team	GP	G	A	PTS
Mike Flanagan, NE	12	12	3	27
RODNEY MARSH, TPA	12	8	4	20
Charlie Mrosko, Oak	11	9	2	20
Tony Field, Mem	12	6	3	15
Keith Furphy, Det	13	6	3	15
DAVID ROBB, TPA	13	7	0	14

GAME RESULTS

5/29
Port 4, LA 1
Minn 3, Wash 2

5/31
Sea 2, Calif 0
Oak 2, Ft. Laud 1
SD 2, NE 1
Roch 2, SJ 1
Dal 2, Colo 1
Det 3, Phila 0

6/1
Van 1, Tpa 0
Tul 4, Hou 2
NY 5, Toro 1

6/3
Minn 3, Sea 2
Memp 2, Colo 0
Phila 3, LA 1
Roch 3, Chic 2
Toro 3, Wash 0
Ft. Laud 2, NE 0

6/4
NY 3, Van 2
Oak 1, Hou 0
SD 1, Tpa 0
Tul 2, Dal 0

UPCOMING GAMES

6/7
Los Angeles at Portland
Seattle at Rochester
Vancouver at New England
Chicago at California
OAKLAND AT TAMPA BAY
Philadelphia at San Diego
Memphis at San Jose
Ft. Lauderdale at Dallas
Tulsa at Detroit
Washington at Houston

6/8
Colorado at Toronto

05 June 1978

NAME	GP	GS	SUB	MP	FOULS	SHOTS	TB	G	A	PTS
ALSTON, Adrian	2	2	0	133:53	1	8	0	1	1	3
ANDERSON, Peter	2	1	1	108:25	4	4	0	0	0	0
AUGUSTE, Arsene	9	9	0	825:00	23	12	0	0	0	0
BANDOV, Boris	3	1	2	168:57	3	2	0/1	0	0	0
CONNELL, Mike	13	13	0	1185:00	26	13	0	0	0	0
CRUDO, Tony	7	6	1	521:57	9	4	0	0	0	0
DUBOSE, Winston	6	6	0	540:00	0	0	0	0	0	0
EAGAN, Kevin	5	2	3	197:18	7	3	0	0	0	0
FINK, Joe	1	1	0	105:00	2	3	1/1	0	0	0
FLEETING, Jim	12	9	3	960:02	15	8	0	2	0	4
HAMMOND, Paul	8	7	1	645:00	0	0	0	0	0	0
MARSH, Rodney	12	12	0	1056:50	23	42	0/1	8	4	20
MCGUIRE, Mick	12	11	1	985:27	20	13	0	0	0	0
MCLEOD, Wes	12	12	0	1050:02	14	35	0/1	1	2	4
MIRANDINHA	3	1	2	146:73	0	8	0	0	1	1
NEWMAN, Guy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PADDON, Graham	9	9	0	810:00	7	24	0	1	0	2
PAPANDREA, Luis	9	7	2	692:00	18	3	0	0	0	0
ROBB, David	13	13	0	1106:49	38	44	0/1	7	0	14
ST-LOT, Frantz	8	7	1	599:01	13	4	0	0	1	1
SMETHURST, Derek *	4	2	2	173:44	3	11	0	0	1	1
WEGERLE, Steve	12	12	0	992:59	3	32	0	1	6	8
TOTAL	13			13001:57	230	293	1	21	15	58
OPPONENTS TOTAL	13			13009:26	233	226	2	24	16	58

GOALKEEPERS:	MP	SV	GA	SO	AVG
HAMMOND, Paul	645:00	38	13	0	1.81
DUBOSE, Winston	540:00	24	11	1	1.83
TOTAL	1185:00	62	24	1	1.82
OPPONENTS	1185:00	89	22	4	1.69

SCORING BY PERIODS:	1st	2nd	OT	TB	TOTAL
ROWDIES	12	10	0	0	22
OPPONENTS	10	13	0	1	24

	ROWDIES	OPPONENTS
CORNER KICKS	88	66
OFFSIDES	41	14
CAUTIONS	12	12
EJECTIONS	1	1
PENALTY KICKS	2	2

HOME ATTENDANCE
117,425 / 6 Games
19,571 / Average

ROAD ATTENDANCE
97,732 / 7 Games
13,962 / Average

TOTAL ATTENDANCE
221,333 / 13 Games
17,026 / Average

DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	ATTN	SCORERS
4/1/78	MEMPHIS	2-1 (W)	26,233	Alston; Marsh (Alston)
4/9/78	@ New England	2-1 (W)	11,360	Fleeting (Marsh); Robb (Wegerle)
4/16/78	@ Detroit	2-1 (W)	28,528	Own Goal; Fleeting (Wegerle)
4/22/78	SAN JOSE	3-4 (L-SO)	17,860	Marsh 2 (Smethurst, McLeod); Robb (Marsh)
4/30/78	NEW YORK	2-5 (L)	41,888	Marsh; McLeod
5/7/78	@ San Jose	0-1 (L)	13,593	-
5/9/78	@ California	0-3 (L)	9,591	-
5/13/78	PHILADELPHIA	4-0 (W)	11,250	Marsh 2(Wegerle); Robb (McLeod); Wegerle
5/17/78	SAN DIEGO	4-1 (W)	9,603	Marsh 2(Wegerle 2); Paddon(Marsh); Robb(Wegerl
5/20/78	@ Washington	1-2 (L)	15,325	Robb (St-Lot)
5/24/78	MINNESOTA	2-3 (L)	10,591	Robb 2 (Marsh, Mirandinha)
5/28/78	MANCHESTER U.	2-1 (W)	15,235	Connell (Mirandinha); Robb
6/1/78	@ Vancouver	0-1 (L)	14,051	-
6/4/78	@ San Diego	0-1 (L)	5,289	-

Tampa Bay first to sign draft choice

By RICHARD MUDRY
Times Sports Writer

Perry Van Der Beck got the jump on the rest of this year's graduating class Thursday when he became the first of the 16 high school draft choices to sign with his North American Soccer League club.

The 18-year-old midfielder from Florissant, Mo., signed an amateur contract with the Tampa Bay Rowdies to gain some NASL experience while leaving open his options to play for the United States in the 1980 Olympics and possibly the World Cup in 1982.

"Yes, sir, I kind of feel like a pioneer," said the youngster. "I think more and more players will be doing this in the future. Of the 16 drafted this year, I'll bet half will sign with pro teams."

Joining the highly structured pro system is a must as far as he's concerned, the U.S. national junior team player said.

"In order for the U.S. to compete in world soccer," he said, "we (amateurs) must do the same things other countries do.

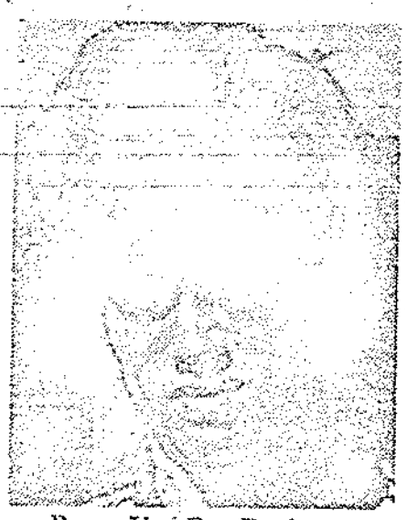
"Other countries have amateurs playing on pro clubs as young as possible and for us to expect to make the World Cup in the future, we've got to go this way, too."

Three other Rowdy draftees — Sandje Ivanchukov of Howell, N.J., Hyon Lee of St. Petersburg and Tommy Mauer of Philadelphia — are still unsigned.

The decision to forego college for now (the Rowdies must place money in escrow for his education) was a difficult one, said Van Der Beck.

"I listened to everybody and waited things out," he said of the deluge of calls he received from friends and college and pro coaches.

"I chose pro soccer because it is something I always wanted to do. I hope I'll make it. I heard a lot of good and a lot of bad things since the Rowdies drafted me. There is more good than bad in my view."



Perry Van Der Beck
...signs with Rowdies

Van Der Beck was heavily recruited by the best soccer schools in the country — St. Louis, Southern Illinois, Quincy, Connecticut, Indiana and such.

He plans to settle into the Tampa scene in the next few days and await the Rowdies' return from a Sunday game in San Diego.

It won't be his first meeting with the Rowdy players.

When the U.S. national junior team trained briefly in Tampa before heading to Bellizona, Switzerland, in early April, Van Der Beck talked with coach Gordon Jago's players.

"I can't wait to be with them. They are nice guys," he said. "Will there be any problems? Maybe playing with world class players. They are more advanced than me. They've just signed a Brazilian (Mirandinha) and in order for me to compete, it might take awhile to get used to them."

Is he intimidated, as some Americans are, at the prospect of playing alongside very experienced players?

"I'm not scared at all," he said. "If I'd not played anywhere else except America, then I might be. I've played in all parts of the world, though."

Van Der Beck said he doesn't intend to sit patiently and watch for the rest of the season.

"I hope to get a lot of playing time and the chance is there," he said. "It is up to me and I expect a lot out of me."

And if things turn out for the better, Van Der Beck won't have to leave Tuesday for Puerto Rico with the U.S. national junior team.