ROWDIES NEWS

Tampa Bay Rowdies
1311 N. Westshore Blvd./Suite 109/Tampa, Florida 33607 (813) 870-1122
Telex 52-619/TPABAYSCOR TPA

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FROM: Francisco Marcos
Vice President Public Relations
and Development

PHONE: (813) 870-1122 (Tampa)
(813) 585-1119 (Pinellas)
(813) 733-3311 (Marcos - home)
Marcia Schallert
Assistant Director Public Relations
(813) 855-5847 (Marcia - home)

AS DIVISION RACE TIGHTENS, ROWDIES HOST TOP MAN - TEA MEN

This Saturday, July 22, the Rowdies will host Eastern division leaders New England Tea Men. Both the Rowdies and the Tea Men will enter the game after losses to recently rejuvenated teams. The Tea Men dropped one Wednesday night 2-0 to the Ft. Lauderdale Strikers and the Rowdies did likewise losing a heartbreaking 3-2 decision to Chicago in the final minutes of the game. Both lost their games at home.

As the division race tightens each game becomes critical. The Rowdies still hold second place in the Eastern Division, but Ft. Lauderdale is only four points behind. This is how the home stretch looks for the top three contenders.

NEW ENGLAND	TAMPA BAY	FT. LAUDERDALE
16-9 139 Pts	14-11 129 Pts	14-12 125 Pts
7/22 @ Tampa Bay(14-11)	7/22 New England (16-9)	7/21 Phila (9-16)
7/26 @ Washington(14-10)	7/26 @ Ft. Laud (14-12)	7/26 Tpa Bay (14-11)
7/30 Tulsa (14-11)	7/30 @ New York (19-5)	7/30 @ Detroit (17-9)
8/2 Detroit (17-9)	8/2 Toronto (14-11)	8/4 Rochester (12-14)
8/5 @ Memphis (8-16	8/4 @ Houston (9-16)	

THE PLAYOFFS

Just a reminder of the playoff format. The first two teams (judged by total points) of each division and two wild card teams from each conference receive playoff positions. So it is very likely that the top three contenders in the American-Eastern will be in the playoffs. But, the first game is single elimination and the four teams to get the very critical home advantage will be the three division leaders and the highest point second. Right now that's Tampa Bay.

MAAS BROTHERS NIGHT - "THEN AND NOW" TEA PARTY

This Saturday's game against New England is "Maas Brothers Night" and the theme is "Then and Now". Both the Rowdies and Maas Brothers will be encouraging fans to tailgate. Awards will be given in the following categories: Most Gourmet, Most Original and Best Ethnic Theme. Food editors from local papers, caterers, media personalities and the Maas Brothers, Abe and Isaac, will judge the categories. The winners will be awarded with $100.00 Maas Brothers gift certificates and silver spoon plaques.

In addition to the regular Maas/Rowdies Junior Player of the Week, Maas Brothers will introduce the honorary Rowdies Player of the Week - 91 year old Harold "Pop" Ream - the official host of the Tampa Birthday celebration. There will also be an antique car show under the stadium stands and following the game, Q-105 Stereo Rock will host a disco dance party.

NEW ENGLAND SCOUTING REPORT - IN GOAL

Guarding the New England nets is the renowned Kevin "Cat" Keelan. He was signed out of English first division Norwich City (where the Rowdies' three loan players will return at the end of the season) and where he has played for 14 seasons ... every game from '71 to '74. Although not a young man, Keelan is hardly past his prime. Just last year he was named "the best goalkeeper in England" by The Daily People, England's largest sporting paper. His initial NASL year has been a highly successful one, posting seven shutouts and a 1.13 goals against average thus far. He is currently ranked second in the American Conference. He combines skill, agility and daring with experience to always put forth a first rate performance.

THE DEFENDERS

The tight New England defense has allowed only 31 goals this year, a tally bettered by only three other teams in the league. The back line is made up of English experience and professionalism with American Dave D'Errico adding his somewhat tough touch on the left flank. D'Errico played with Seattle and Minnesota before joining the Tea Men this year, but most of his accolades were earned with the U.S. National Team and college. (D'Errico captained the national team to their victory in Tournament of Americas.) He is an extremely aggressive player that lets little get by him. The right back is Peter Simpson from English first division Arsenal. He is a solid defender who adds both professionalism and stability. He played for England in the '70 World Cup in Mexico and has made 479 appearances for Arsenal. Big Chris Turner (6'2", 169 lbs) and Peter Carr protect the middle. Carr was purchased from Carlisle and is a tough, scrappy defender. Turner played in the NASL last year with the Connecticut Bicentennials.

THE LINK MEN

In the midfield Rowdie followers could see two familiar faces - Ringo Cantillo and Dennis Wit. New England received the rights for both in a pre-season trade with Tampa Bay for draft choices. Cantillo played last year for the championship New Jersey Americans in the ASL and was awarded league MVP. He played for the Rowdies in '75 and went with Eddie Firmani and the Cosmos in their off season tour of China. He usually plays in the middle of what is basically a 4-4-2 formation. Former Rowdie Dennis Wit, who's basically a right midfielder, has been sharing playing time with Kevin Welsh, who usually plays the left. Versatile Captain Keith Weller fills in on either side accordingly. Wit played for the Rowdies in '76 and '77 and was very popular in the Bay Area for his community work as well as on field performances. Last year "Dimmer" was the assistant coach of the U.S.F. soccer team.

Captain Keith Weller is a strong force in the New England midfield. He was signed by Coach Noel Cantwell out of English first division Leicester City. His impressive credentials include four caps with the English National team, careers with Tottenham Hotspurs, Millwall, Chelsea and a $200,000 transfer fee. The other midfield/forward force is Gerry Daly, obtained from first division Derby County. He started his career with Manchester United in '73 and has scored a total of 49 league and cup goals - 23 from the penalty spot. He has had a good season and will be a force to be reckoned with in playoffs but the Rowdies won't have to worry about him Saturday. He's out with a broken jaw.

UP FRONT - SCORING TALENT ABOUNDS

There is no doubt who the scoring powerhouse is on the New England front line. Mike Flanagan, the leading scorer for the American Conference with 63 points, is banging in goals at an absolulety phenomenal rate. He and Giorgio Chinaglia are battling it out for first in the league with 63 and 65 points respectively. Signed out of English first division Charlton Athletic he is described by Coach Cantwell as "seeming to have a natural aptitude for goals ... brilliant in the air, great worker off the ball". It doesn't hurt having Charlton teammates Lawrie Abrahams and Paddy Powell up front with him either. Both are very skilled ball handlers with tremendous speed. Expect action from this explosive front line.

LINEUP AGAINST FT. LAUDERDALE

Kevin Keelan

Peter Simpson Chris Turner Peter Car Dave D'Errico (Brewster)

Dennis Wit (Welsh) Ringo Cantillo Paddy Powell

Brian Alderson Lawrie Abrahams (Gibbons) Mike Flanagan

MARSH BROKE THE RECORDS

With one assist Rodney Marsh set two new team records Wednesday evening. His assist on the first Rowdie goal broke the club's point record for a season (45) and the assist record. The point record was set by ex-Rowdie Derek Smethurst in 1976. Marsh now has a total of 46 points. The assist record was set last year by Marsh and Steve Wegerle (11 assists). Marsh now has 12 for the '78 season. Derek Smethurst still holds the "most goals in a season" record with 20. Four goals by the prolific Mr. Marsh would break that record too.

THE STING STUNG

Before an amazingly large crowd of 14,830 fans who braved abominable weather to watch a soccer match, the Sting stung the Rowdies with a 3-2 last minute defeat. The Rowdies played one of their best games to date pelting Sting goalie Mervyn Cawston with 33 shots to Chicago's 13. But an inability to finish it off put the Sting up 2-0 on a penalty kick and counter attack goal at one point. A goal by defender Arsene Auguste got the Rowdies rolling again and Graham Paddon tied it up at 82:03. But the tie was short lived. Steffanhagan ended the game at 85:54 with an unassisted effort.

ROWDIES AT OLYMPIC FESTIVAL

For Rowdie "babes" Perry Van Der Beck and Sandje Ivanchukov, the travelling continues. After playing for the "reserves" on Monday in Ft. Lauderdale, they're now on their way to Colorado Springs to participate in the two week long "Olympic Festival " . Four regional teams - East, South, Midwest and Far West will train and compete in soccer and Olympic coach Walt Chyzowych is expected to whittle down the 60-strong contingent further down to the eventual Olympic squad. Tony Crudo may also join the Olympians later in the week.

1978 NASL STANDINGS
20 July 1978

	TOTALS						
AMERICAN CONFERENCE							
EASTERN DIVISION	GP	W	L	GF	GA	BP	TP
New England	25	16	9	54	31	43	139
ROWDIES	25	14	11	49	41	45	129
Ft. Lauderdale	26	14	12	44	52	41	125
Philadelphia	25	9	16	30	49	29	83
CENTRAL DIVISION							
Detroit	26	17	9	59	30	48	150
Chicago	26	9	17	47	57	42	95
Houston	25	9	16	33	48	32	86
Memphis	24	8	16	35	48	33	81
WESTERN DIVISION							
San Diego	26	16	10	56	50	49	145
California	25	12	13	34	37	33	102
Oakland	25	11	14	27	43	24	90
San Jose	25	5	20	30	68	29	59
NATIONAL CONFERENCE							
EASTERN DIVISION							
New York	24	19	5	71	29	53	167
Washington	24	14	10	47	36	42	126
Toronto	25	14	11	51	36	41	125
Rochester	26	12	14	40	43	40	112
CENTRAL DIVISION							
Tulsa	25	14	11	40	40	37	121
Minnesota	25	13	12	42	40	43	121
Dallas	25	12	13	39	43	28	110
Colorado	26	7	19	29	57	28	70
WESTERN DIVISION							
Vancouver	25	19	6	48	25	52	156
Portland	26	18	8	43	29	40	148
Seattle	25	12	13	38	36	38	110
Los Angeles	25	8	17	33	53	29	79

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

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NAME	GP	GS	SUB	MP	FOULS	SHOTS	TB	G	A	PTS
ALSTON, Adrian	2	2	0	133:53	2	8	0	1	1	3
ANDERSON, Peter *	23	22	1	2003:56	35	60	0	8	6	22
AUGUSTE, Arsene	20	20	0	1814:03	44	21	0	1	0	2
BANDOV, Boris	3	1	2	168:57	3	2	0/1	0	0	0
CHANDLER, Peter	4	2	2	203:35	8	3	0	0	0	0
CONNELL, Mike	24	24	0	2188:39	46	17	0	0	0	0
CRUDO, Tony	9	6	3	571:04	11	4	0	0	0	0
EAGAN, Kevin	5	2	3	197:16	7	4	0	0	0	0
FINK, Joe	7	4	3	435:19	9	20	1/1	3	1	7
FLEETING, Jim	23	20	3	1964:01	19	8	0	2	0	4
IVANCHUKOV, Sandje	1	0	1	8:33	1	0	0	0	0	0
MARSH, Rodney	22	22	0	1965:17	37	89	0/1	17	12	46
MCGUIRE, Mick	20	18	2	1647:36	31	27	0	0	0	0
MCLEOD, Wes	24	21	3	1878:64	23	65	0/1	4	4	12
MIRANDINHA	12	6	6	734:35	5	42	0	0	2	2
PADDON, Graham	21	20	1	1800:79	19	53	0	4	2	10
PAPANDREA, Luis	13	11	2	1010:44	22	3	0	0	0	0
ROBB, David	22	22	0	1840:32	61	72	0/1	9	5	23
ST-LOT, Frantz	18	16	2	1371:56	24	8	0	0	1	1
SMETHURST, Derek **	4	2	2	173:44	2	11	0	0	1	1
VAN DER BECK, Perry	1	0	1	5:12	0	0	0	0	0	0
WEGERLE, Steve	21	20	1	1686:56	8	54	0	5	9	19
TOTAL				25035:50	394	528	1	47	41	135
OPPONENTS TOTAL				24984:56	144	377	2	41	30	88

GOALKEEPERS	MP	SV	GA	SO	AVG
JOHNS, Nicky	720:31	39	14	2	1.75
DUBOSE, Winston	913:08	35	13	4	1.30
HAMMOND, Paul***	645:00	38	13	0	1.81
TOTAL	2278:39	112	41	6	1.70
OPPONENTS	2278:39	152	49	4	2.04

	ROWDIES	OPPONENTS
CORNER KICKS	150	136
OFFSIDES	89	29
CAUTIONS	18	28
EJECTIONS	1	3
PENALTY KICKS	6	4

SCORING BY PERIODS:	1st	2nd	OT	TB	TOT
ROWDIES	22	25	2	0	49
OPPONENTS	19	21	0	1	41

HOME ATTENDANCE	ROAD ATTENDANCE	TOTAL ATTENDANCE
229,353 / 13 Games	135,143 / 12 Games	374,496 / 25 Games
17,643 / Average	11,261 / Average	14,980 / Average

RESULTS

ATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	ATTN	SCORERS
/1/78	MEMPHIS	2-1(W)	26,233	Alston; Marsh (Alston)
/9/78	@ New England	2-1(W)	11,360	Fleeting (Marsh); Robb (Wegerle)
/16/78	@ Detroit	2-1(W)	28,528	Own Goal; Fleeting (Wegerle)
/22/78	SAN JOSE	3-4(L-TB)	17,860	Marsh 2(Smethurst, McLeod); Robb (Marsh)
/30/78	NEW YORK	2-5(L)	41,888	Marsh (Penalty); McLeod
/7/78	@ San Jose	0-1(L)	13,593	-
/9/78	@ California	0-3(L)	9,591	-
/13/78	PHILADELPHIA	4-0(W)	11,250	Marsh 2 (Penalty,Wegerle); Robb (McLeod); Wegerl
/17/78	SAN DIEGO	4-1(W)	9,603	Marsh 2(Wegerle 2); Paddon (Marsh); Robb (Wegerl
/20/78	@ Washington	1-2(L)	15,325	Robb (St-Lot)
/24/78	MINNESOTA	2-3(L)	10,591	Robb 2 (Marsh, Mirandinha)
/28/78	MANCHESTER U.	2-1(W)	15,235	Connell (Mirandinha); Robb
/1/78	@ Vancouver	0-1(L)	14,051	-
/4/78	@ San Diego	0-1(L)	5,289	-
/7/78	OAKLAND	1-0(W)	9,446	Wegerle (Paddon)
/10/78	HOUSTON	2-0(W)	12,770	Marsh (Wegerle); Wegerle (Marsh)
/14/78	@ Chicago	5-4(W)	2,130	Paddon (Marsh-Robb, Marsh); Anderson(Robb-Marsh) Wegerle (Anderson); Marsh (Wegerle)
/17/78	FT LAUDERDALE	3-2(W-OT)	22,506	Marsh 3 (Penalty - 2, Fink)
/21/78	PORTLAND	2-0(W)	13,777	McLeod; Robb (Marsh)
/25/78	@ Rochester	1-2(L)	6,282	Marsh (McLeod)
/28/78	@ Toronto	2-1(W)	5,399	Wegerle (Paddon); Fink (Wegerle-Anderson)
/1/78	WASHINGTON	3-2(W)	20,648	Marsh 2(Penalty, Mirandinha-Robb);Anderson(Marsh
/4/78	ROCHESTER	1-0(W-OT)	17,951	Marsh (Penalty)
/8/78	@ Tulsa	3-0(W)	17,721	McLeod 2 (Robb); Fink (Robb)
/11/78	@ Philadelphia	2-3(L)	5,874	Robb (Marsh); Fink (McLeod)
/19/78	CHICAGO	2-3(L)	14,830	Auguste (Marsh-Anderson); Paddon (Anderson)

Peter Andrson's totals include his 11 games with San Diego
* Derek Smethurst traded to San Diego
** Paul Hammond traded to Houston