

COSMOS



MEDIA RELEASE

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PELE TO DON #10 AGAIN IN BECKENBAUER FAREWELL

The great Pele, seeking his own special way of paying tribute to his former teammate and respected friend Franz Beckenbauer, has asked to wear his legendary #10 one more time and play for the Cosmos against the NASL Select in the 'Franz Beckenbauer Farewell Match', it was announced today by Cosmos President Ahmet Ertegun.

Pele will start at forward for the Cosmos, who will host the match at Giants Stadium on September 24th at 9:00 pm against a Select Team from the rest of the league which is being voted on by Cosmos fans and will be announced later this week.

After four NASL seasons, Beckenbauer has decided to return to his native West Germany to play with Hamburg at the conclusion of the Cosmos tour of Europe this fall. The 'Farewell Match' will be his final appearance for the Cosmos in North America.

"When the Cosmos won the 1977 NASL championship in my last year, it was a perfect going-away present for me, and Franz Beckenbauer (the league MVP that year) had a lot to do with that championship," said Pele. "I hope that by playing in his Farewell game, I can help in some way to make his going-away present just as memorable."

The game will mark Pele's first appearance in a Cosmos uniform since halftime of his own farewell game in Giants Stadium on October 1, 1977, when he ceremoniously switched back to his Santos of Brazil shirt for the second half.

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