



**MOLSON
SOCCER**

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TORONTO BLIZZARD AT NEW YORK COSMOS

SUNDAY, JUNE 17, 1984 @ 3:00 PM

The Blizzard are looking to remain the NASL's only undefeated team and extend their win streak to five consecutive victories today in New York. A victory would also break the club's record for straight wins (4-set in 1979, tied in 1980, 1982).

Currently 4-0 on the season with 31 points, the Blizzard are in second place in the Eastern Division, trailing the Chicago Sting by 14 points but holding four games in hand. The Cosmos, in third place, have played one more game than Toronto and are five points back with a 3-2 record and 26 points. In last place in the east is Tampa Bay with a 3-5 record and 26 points after eight games.

The Blizzard have compiled some impressive statistics in league and international play this season. In NASL play, Toronto have allowed only two goals, recorded two shutouts and picked up 31 of a possible 36 points in four games. In international exhibition play, the Blizzard have played four top European teams, winning three by shutouts and losing only one game on an Own Goal. Overall, Toronto have played eight games this season, allowing only three goals and recording five shutouts.

Today's game is Toronto's first away match in almost a month since defeating the Tulsa Roughnecks 2-1 in overtime back on May 19. Since that game, the Blizzard have hosted four international matches and two league games. The Blizzard are returning to NASL action today following a one week break in which they hosted the Toronto International Soccer Tournament featuring the Glasgow Rangers of Scotland and VFB Stuttgart of W. Germany.

The Blizzard clinched the championship of the Toronto International Soccer Tournament last Friday night winning both of their games in the three-game round-robin tourney. Toronto scored convincing victories over German First Division champions, VFB Stuttgart and Scottish Cup champs, Glasgow Rangers, shutting out both teams 2-0. The final of the tourney will be played today in Toronto at 6:30 pm when Stuttgart and Rangers square off to determine second and third place.

PLAYER UPDATE

Italian superstar, ROBERTO BETTEGA leads the Blizzard in scoring with 3 goals, 1 assist for 7 points in 4 games, two of them being game-winners.

ACE NTSOELENGOE has played only two league games this season because of a swollen knee but his presence has made all the difference in the world. Ace has 2 goals, 1 assist for 5 points and is second in team scoring. He scored the game-winner against San Diego on June 3 and the game-winner against Glasgow Rangers (a nifty back-heeled shot the 'keeper is still looking for) and also set up both goals in a 2-0 win over Stuttgart. Ace set DAVID BYRNE up for the prettiest goal of the season against Stuttgart, chipping a free kick over the heads of the Stuttgart players while Byrne nipped around the wall to put away the goal, catching everyone else flat-footed.

Goalkeeper PAUL HAMMOND has been practically invincible in the nets. He has played every minute and is first in the NASL with a 0.50 goals against average. Hammond must credit his defence for excellent support as he has been forced to make only 6 saves in 4 NASL games. He was voted Molson MVP against Stuttgart because of some sparkling saves in the second half.

Out of the Blizzard lineup today is DEREK SPALDING, suffering from torn abdominal muscles which forced him out of the opening game of the season. Also on the limp is DAVID BYRNE, who took a kick on the ankle in the Stuttgart game and he may not play today.

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MILESTONE FOR HOUGHTON

The Blizzard's win over Stuttgart was BOB HOUGHTON's 50th victory as Head Coach -- including regular season, playoffs and exhibitions. The breakdown is 37 regular season wins, 5 playoff wins and 8 exhibition wins, including victories over the champions of Italy, Portugal and West Germany.

UPCOMING GAMES

The Blizzard play away again in Tampa against the Rowdies on Friday, June 22nd before hosting a top-notch three-game home stand vs. Chicago, June 24, Cosmos, June 27 and Vancouver, July 1.

BLIZZARD VS COSMOS

The Blizzard have faced the Cosmos 16 times in regular season action since 1979, winning four and losing 12 plus two losses in 1979 playoff action.

Last season, the teams met four times with Cosmos winning three games. Toronto opened the 1983 season with a 2-1 victory in front of one of their biggest home crowds (25,375). Back in New York on June 19, however, it was a different story with the Cosmos blitzing the Blizz 5-1. Toronto were shutout only twice in 1983 and the Cosmos picked up one of those courtesy of a 1-0 overtime win in Toronto on August 16. Their final meeting, on September 2 in New York, is a game best forgotten by Blizzard fans with New York walking away 6-3 victors, Toronto's worst defeat since April of 1979 when they lost 7-1 to the Rowdies.

This season the divisional rivals face each other three times. The Cosmos play in Toronto on June 27 and the Blizzard return to the Meadowlands for their final regular season road game on September 5.

MOLSON MVP

Current standings for the Molson "Blizzard Player of the Year" are as follows:

		<u>International Series - Molson MVP's</u>	
Roberto Bettega	11 pts		
David Byrne	8	Ajax, Holland	Conny Karlsson
Randy Ragan	5	Udinese, Italy	Randy Ragan
Ace Ntsoelengoe	5	Stuttgart, Germany	Paul Hammond
Cliff Calvert	3	Rangers, Scotland	John Paskin
Jimmy Nicholl	2		
Trevor McCallum	1		
Paul Hammond	1		

RADIO

Today's game is being broadcast live on the CHIN-FM Radio Network. MIKE INGLIS will call the play-by-by action with Toronto Sun Sports Editor, GEORGE GROSS handling the colour analysis.

LAST GAME LINEUP (vs Stuttgart)

Hammond (90:00), Miller, McCallum, Deluca (Karlsson 45:00), Wilson (Konert 45:00), Wegerle, Ntsoelengoe (Ragan 45:00), Falzon, James (Calvert 45:00), Paskin, Bettega (Nicholl 45:00).

* * * * *

RECORD: Overall 4-0 (31 pts)
 Home 3-0 (24 pts)
 Away 1-0 (7 pts)
 Int'l 3-1

CURRENT BLIZZARD STATS

ATTENDANCE: Home 29,742
 Avg. 9,914
 Away 7,319
 Avg. 7,319

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

NO.	PLAYER	GP	GS	MINS	SH	FL	C/E	PK	SO	G	A	PTS
11	ROBERTO BETTEGA	4	4	362	10	8	1/0	0/0	0/0	3	1	7
8	ACE NTSOELENGOE	2	1	135	7	1	0/0	0/0	0/0	2	1	5
19	DAVID BYRNE	4	4	362	13	21	2/0	0/0	0/0	1	3	5
16	RANDY RAGAN	4	4	362	7	11	1/0	0/0	0/0	1	1	3
5	JIMMY NICHOLL	4	4	362	5	11	1/0	0/0	0/0	0	3	3
10	CLIFF CALVERT	4	4	362	3	7	0/0	0/0	0/0	1	0	2
15	PAUL JAMES	4	3	278	4	2	0/0	0/0	0/0	0	2	2
12	PASQUALE DELUCA	4	4	362	1	1	0/0	0/0	0/0	0	1	1
21	TREVOR MCCALLUM	1	1	92	1	3	0/0	0/0	0/0	0	1	1
4	CONNY KARLSSON	4	4	362	0	6	0/0	0/0	0/0	0	0	0
24	COLIN MILLER	4	3	275	0	0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0	0	0
2	BRUCE WILSON	2	2	194	0	2	0/0	0/0	0/0	0	0	0
17	DEREK SPALDING	1	1	61	0	2	0/0	0/0	0/0	0	0	0
9	JOHN PASKIN	2	0	31	1	1	0/0	0/0	0/0	0	0	0
20	CHARLIE FALZON	1	0	28	1	0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0	0	0
BLIZZARD TOTALS					53	76	5/0	0/0	0/0	8	13	29
OPPONENTS TOTALS					31	70	8/0	0/0	0/0	2	3	7

GOALKEEPERS STATISTICS

	GP	GS	MINS	SH	SVS	GA	AVG.	PKA/GA	SOA/GA	SH.
1 PAUL HAMMOND	4	4	362	31	8	2	0.50	0/0	0/0	2
OPPONENTS TOTALS	4	4	362	53	12	8	1.99	0/0	0/0	0

TEAM STATISTICS

SCORING	1ST HALF	2ND HALF	OT	SO	TG	OG	CKS	FLS	OFF	PKS
BLIZZARD	4	3	1	0	8	0	24	76	25	0
OPPONENTS	1	1	0	0	2	0	28	70	28	0

GAME-BY-GAME RESULTS

DATE	OPPONENTS	SCORE	ATTENDANCE	SCORING
May 13	TULSA ROUGHNECKS	2-0 (W)	10,710	BETTEGA (Byrne/Nicholl), NTSOELENGOE (Bettega/Ragan)
May 19	@ Tulsa Roughnecks	2-1 (W-OT)	7,319	BYRNE (McCallum), BETTEGA (Byrne/DelUCA)
May 21	AJAX OF AMSTERDAM (International)	0-1 (L)	11,357	OWN GOAL (DelUCA)
May 30	UDINESE OF ITALY (International)	1-0 (W)	7,113	RAGAN (Bettega/Nicholl)
June 3	MINNESOTA STRIKERS	2-0 (W)	10,066	* CALVERT (Nicholl/James), RAGAN (unasst)
June 10	SAN DIEGO SOCKERS	2-1 (W)	8,796	BETTEGA (Ntsoelengoe/Nicholl), NTSOELENGOE (Byrne/James)
Toronto International Soccer Tournament				
June 13	STUTTGART	2-0 (W)	9,104	WEGERLE (Ntsoelengoe), BYRNE (Ace)
June 15	GLASGOW RANGERS	2-0 (W)	7,482	NTSOELENGOE (Paskin/Falzon),

TORONTO BLIZZARD ROSTER - 1984

NO.	NAME	POSITION	BIRTHDATE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	CITIZEN	1983 CLUB
00	SVEN HABERMANN	GK	November 3/61	6-3	204	Canada	Blizzard
1	PAUL HAMMOND	GK	July 26/53	6-1	196	United States	Team America
2	BRUCE WILSON	D	June 20/51	5-10	155	Canada	Blizzard
4	CONNY KARLSSON	D	November 21/53	6-1	190	Sweden	Blizzard
5	JIMMY NICHOLL	M	December 28/56	5-10	165	Canada	Blizzard
8	ACE NTSOELENGOE	M	February 26/52	5-9	155	South Africa	Blizzard
9	JOHN PASKIN	F	February 1/62	6-1	170	South Africa	Hellenic
10	CLIFF CALVERT	M/D	April 21/54	5-10	165	Canada	Blizzard
11	ROBERTO BETTEGA	F	December 27/50	6-1	172	Italy	Blizzard
12	PASQUALE DELUCA	M	May 26/62	5-9	150	Canada	Blizzard
14	GEOFF WEGERLE	F	June 9/54	5-8	153	South Africa	Blizzard
15	PAUL JAMES	M	November 11/63	5-10	153	Canada	Blizzard
16	RANDY RAGAN	M/D	June 7/59	5-11	163	Canada	Blizzard
17	DEREK SPALDING	D	December 20/54	5-9	180	United States	Blizzard
19	DAVID BYRNE	F	January 11/60	5-11	160	England	Blizzard
20	CHARLIE FALZON	M	November 14/61	5-9	150	Canada	Blizzard/Montreal
21	TREVOR MCCALLUM	D	February 26/64	6-0	180	Canada	Blizzard
24	COLIN MILLER	M/D	October 4/64	5-8	165	Canada	Blizzard

HEAD COACH	BOB HOUGHTON
ASSISTANT COACH	DAVID TURNER
RESERVE TEAM COACH	COLIN TOAL
HEAD TRAINER	JIM PANNO
ASSISTANT TRAINER	MARCEL CHARLAND