

COMMUNIQUÉ

THE NEW YORK COSMOS...AND A RECORD CROWD GRAB THE BIG O BY STORM

Montreal June 2, 1981 - - Olympic Stadium will tremble with the roar of its biggest soccer crowd this season when Le MANIC de Montréal takes on the renowned NASL powerhouse the New York Cosmos. Tonight's game will be the first of four season match-ups between the Eastern division rivals, the second being in New York on July 22.

Le MANIC will face its second consecutive tough match, the first having been in a rough 2-0 setback against the Central Division leaders, the Chicago Sting. For the New York Cosmos this evening's game is their second one on the road and it closely follows their 2-1 loss at the "feet" of the Tampa Bay Rowdies. Needless to say that both teams will be out to renew a winning streak, - and Le MANIC has been beaten only once at home.

The Montreal squad who seemed to lack stamina in the second half of Chicago's game will have to summon all its strength and then some when it "wrestles" with the Cosmos led by strikers Chinaglia, Cabanas, Van der Elst, and Seminho.

Le MANIC de Montreal's experienced backline, if in a tightly knit formation, should prove to be a valuable "trump card"....coupled with close midfield marking. It's offence, since strengthened by "Artful dodger" Alan Willey (16), the fifth highest scorer in League history, has yet to connect....but tonight, Le MANIC forwards, cheered on by what is expected to be a record crowd, will hopefully power the team onto the scoreboard.

LINE-UP CHANGES

Head coach Eddie Firmani may juggle his midfield to fill the void left by captain Tony Towers (8) who will be out serving the game suspension he received May 24 against the Atlanta Chiefs... and he will have the possibility of fielding of Carmine Marcantonio (12), the spirited defender and midfielder.

Montreal's last line-up was:

Bob Rigby (1)

Damir Sutevski (22)

Bobby Smith (2) (Ejected, 73.58) Andy Lynch (3)

Michel Corre (4)

Robert Vosmaer (7)

Tony Towers (8)

Sonny Askew (14)

(Andrew Parkinson, 45:00)

Thompson Usiyan (10)

Alan Willey (16)

Gordon Hill (11)

HALF-TIME

At half-time Le MANIC de Montreal will be proud to present, in cooperation with la Fédération Québécoise de soccer football, the team captains of the newly formed Quebec Major Junior Soccer League. The new league, which becomes somewhat of a farm system for professional soccer, will create definite openings for aspiring home-grown soccer stars....and it furthermore permits the "rooting" of soccer in Québec.

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