

Media Release



Member of North American Soccer League

BLIZZARD REVIEW

Contact: James Gray

The Blizzard, now 9-8, has won four straight (the last two in hometown shootouts) and six of its last eight games.

(Actually, the North American Soccer League club has won seven of its last nine contests. The Blizzard beat touring A.S. Roma of Italy 2-1 in Toronto May 29 to start the current streak.)

In NASL play the Blizzard is 6-3 at home, 3-5 on the road.

The team has won its last three away games after opening the season with five consecutive losses on the road.

The Blizzard is 7-4 on artificial turf, 2-4 on natural grass.

After 17 games in 1979, the Blizzard was 8-9. The club finished with a 14-16 record and qualified for the NASL playoffs on the final day of the regular season. Toronto was dispatched by the Cosmos in the quarter-finals.

Elegant midfielder Jomo Sono, a former member of the Cosmos, is the leading Blizzard scorer with seven goals and four assists. He has scored all three regulation-time Toronto goals in the last two games.

Jomo is one of only two Blizzard players (the other is Canadian defender Mike McLenaghan) to have played every minute of every game-- a total of 1575 minutes.

Solid midfielder Drew Busby, who scored just twice in 23 games last season, has five goals and five assists this year. Busby will miss the Blizzard's next home game, Sunday, July 6, against Philadelphia, because of a league suspension from the accumulation of five cautions.

Rookie Gordon Sweetzer, a Canadian-born striker who was hampered early in the 1980 campaign by nagging injuries, shares the Blizzard lead in assists with winger Rob Prentice. Each has six. Sweetzer has four goals, the third highest total on the team.

Of 22 players on the Blizzard roster, 10 are Canadian. Defender Jimmy McAlister is the only American, so half the Toronto roster is comprised of North American citizens.

The 1980 Blizzard has registered five shutouts--Tony Chursky has four, while backup 'keeper Blagoje Tamindzic has one. The Blizzard has been shutout twice.

After 10 home games (nine regular season and one international), the Blizzard average attendance is 15,430. After 10 home games in 1979, the average attendance was 11,159.

1980 BLIZZARD ROSTER

NO.	PLAYER	POS.	AGE	HGT.	WGT.	CITIZENSHIP
1	Tony Chursky	GK	27	5-11	170	Canada
4	Sam Lenarduzzi	DEF	30	5-10	165	Canada
6	Colin Franks, Captain	DEF	29	5-11	180	England
7	Peter Lorimer	FOR	33	5-10	170	Scotland
8	George Gibbs	MID	26	5-11	160	England
10	Cliff Calvert	MID/DEF	26	5-11	160	England
11	Jomo Sono	MID/FOR	25	5-8	180	South Africa
12	Jim Bone	FOR	30	5-10	175	Scotland
14	Gordon Sweetzer	FOR	23	5-11	170	Canada
15	Drew Busby	MID	32	5-9	180	Scotland
16	Randy Ragan	MID	21	6-0	165	Canada
17	Jim McAlister	DEF	23	5-8	140	United States
18	Nick Albanis	DEF	18	5-10	165	Canada
19	Graham Hatley	MID	19	5-10	155	Canada
20	Rob Prentice	MID	26	5-9	160	Scotland
21	Ivan Lukacevic	FOR	33	6-2	175	Yugoslavia
22	Blagoje Tamindzic	GK	28	6-0	175	Canada
23	Mike McLenaghan	DEF/MID	26	5-11	165	Canada
24	Francesco Morini	DEF	35	6-0	170	Italy
25	John Contanas	FOR	18	5-8	150	Canada
26	Jose Velasquez	MID	28	6-1	182	Peru
27	Gordon Wallace	MID/DEF	25	5-8	145	Canada

BLIZZARD 1980 REGULAR SEASON STATISTICS

No.	Player	GP	MIN	SH	G	A	PTS	FOULS	CAUTIONS/ EJECTIONS	SHOOTOUT
4	Sam Lenarduzzi	7	615:00	2	0	0	0	2	-	0/1
6	Colin Franks	16	1369:23	11	1	1	3	19	4/	-
7	Peter Lorimer	10	734:48	23	0	2	2	15	1/	0/1
8	George Gibbs	11	769:12	8	1	0	2	17	3/	1/1
10	Cliff Calvert	17	1494:24	35	1	5	7	33	2/	0/1
11	Jomo Sono	17	1575:00	42	7	4	18	25	-	2/3
12	Jim Bone	11	1020:00	27	3	3	9	20	2/	1/1
14	Gordon Sweetzer	13	940:10	25	4	6	14	34	-	-
15	Drew Busby	17	1563:09	38	5	5	15	56	5/	0/1
16	Randy Ragan	3	72:13	0	0	0	0	1	-	-
17	Jim McAlister	8	735:00	2	0	0	0	17	1/	0/1
19	Graham Hatley	1	12:43	1	0	1	1	1	-	-
20	Rob Prentice	14	1039:07	15	0	6	6	14	1/	1/3
21	Ivan Lukacevic	11	668:06	24	3	2	8	13	-	2/2
23	Mike McLenaghan	17	1575:00	7	0	4	4	26	1/	2/2
24	Francesco Morini	11	885:14	0	0	0	0	19	-	-
26	Jose Velasquez	6	419:26	1	0	1	1	15	1/	-
x	Released Players	4	268:57	1	0	0	0	7	1/1	-
(*Includes 1 Own Goal)			TOTALS	262	26*	40	90	335	22/1	9/17
			Opponents	335	26	39	91	274	16/2	7/17

No.	Goalkeeper	GP	MIN	SAVES	GA	SO	AVG.	FOULS	CAUTIONS/ EJECTIONS
1	Tony Chursky	15	1395:00	125	23	4	1.48	-	-
22	Blagoje Tamindzic	2	180:00	11	3	1	1.50	1	-

SEASON SCORING	1ST HALF	2ND HALF	OVERTIME	CORNERS	OFFSIDES
BLIZZARD	15	11	0	96	58
Opponents	11	15	0	142	39

Date	Opponent	RESULTS Score	Attendance	Scorers
April 5	at Fort Lauderdale	0-2 (L)	13,477	-
April 12	at Atlanta	1-3 (L)	3,279	Sono
April 20	ROCHESTER	3-0 (W)	22,051	Busby, Lukacevic, Sono
April 27	WASHINGTON	1-0 (W)	18,193	Lukacevic
May 3	at New England	2-3 (L-SO)	4,264	Franks, Sono
May 8	NEW YORK	1-3 (L)	24,913	Busby
May 11	TULSA	2-0 (W)	10,287	Calvert, Bone
May 21	at Rochester	1-3 (L)	5,940	Sono
May 24	at Chicago	0-3 (L)	8,116	-
May 29	A.S.ROMA (International)	2-1 (W)	14,789	Sweetzer, Prentice
June 1	DALLAS	4-2 (W)	8,212	Busby(2), Sweetzer, Bone
June 5	DETROIT	1-2 (L)	7,683	Own Goal
June 7	at Dallas	2-0 (W)	6,192	Gibbs, Lukacevic
June 12	VANCOUVER	1-2 (L)	14,377	Bone
June 14	at Minnesota	2-1 (W)	14,906	Sweetzer(2)
June 17	at Memphis	2-0 (W)	13,125	Busby, Sweetzer
June 22	LOS ANGELES	2-1 (W-SO)	14,573	Sono
June 26	SAN JOSE	3-2 (W-SO)	19,224	Sono(2)



Member, North American Soccer League
Affiliated, Canadian Soccer Association

BLIZZARD PLAYER PROFILE

#26 JOSE VELASQUEZ

Position: Midfielder
Height: 6-1 Weight: 182
Birthdate: June 4, 1952
Citizen: Peru

Velasquez played in five of six Peru's 1978 World Cup games, including the 3-1 defeat of Scotland and the 0-0 tie with Holland, eventual runners-up.

Velasquez, 28, was purchased by Medellin of Colombia from Alianza of Peru following the 1978 World Cup for \$250,000.

Velasquez was purchased by the Blizzard in mid-April.