



Washington Diplomats

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News Release

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DIPLOMATS TO FACE NEW YORK COSMOS IN NATIONAL TV GAME THIS SUNDAY

THIS WEEK: A clash of superstars is on tap for the Washington Diplomats this weekend when the New York Cosmos come to Starplex/RFK Stadium for a nationally televised NASL game Sunday at 2:00 p.m. EDT. The Cosmos, with their galaxy of world stars, head into their showdown with the Johan Cruyff-led Diplomats riding atop the National Conference Eastern Division standings. Washington entered the week in second place in the same division.

DIPLOMATS RADIO: The game will be broadcast live in the Washington metropolitan area over WWDC, 1260 on the AM dial. Scott Morrison and former Diplomats star Art Welch will be the commentators. The Diplomats/Saxitone Tape Sales pre-game show will air at 1:50 p.m. on WWDC.

ABC-TV: The star-studded Diplomats-Cosmos matchup will be shown nationwide over the ABC-TV network. The game is the third of five regular season games that ABC will broadcast live in 1980. Emmy award winner Jim McKay will handle the play-by-play announcing, while analyst Paul Gardner will provide color commentary. Verne Lundquist will be stationed on the sidelines to provide interviews and color from field level. The game will mark Washington's third consecutive year with a nationally televised encounter. In 1979, Los Angeles (with Johan Cruyff) beat the Diplomats, 2-1, at RFK in an ABC game. In 1978, Washington toppled Ft. Lauderdale by a 4-1 score in a game shown over the TVS Television Network.

The game will be blacked out in the Washington area.

PROMOTIONAL DAY: One of the most attractive promotions is on tap this Sunday when the Cosmos and Diplomats tangle. The day will be Adidas ball day, and the first 5000 youngsters 14 years and under will receive a soccer ball courtesy of Adidas. The day is also U.S. Army Day at RFK. Special units of the Army will be on hand to provide pre-game and halftime entertainment spectacles for the fans.

THE SERIES: Though the Diplomats have come out on the short end numerous times against the Cosmos, the last three games have been decided by the narrowest of margins. New York holds an 8-3 overall lead in the six years of competition to date,

R.F.K. Stadium — Site of Soccer Bowl - 80

Member North American Soccer League

but were forced to the Shootout both times last year before finally thwarting Washington's efforts. In 1978 at RFK, New York took a 2-1 decision. The last Washington victory in the series came August 6, 1977 at RFK, when the Diplomats took a 2-1 win.

THE GAME: Under new coach Hennes Weisweiler, the powerful Cosmos have run off 7 games without any losses, including a first-place finish in the recent Trans-Atlantic Challenge Cup tournament. Washington, conversely, is seeking to snap a three-game losing streak which has seen the team victimized by crossbars, goalposts and an untimely ejection. Last weekend in Atlanta, midfielder Lozano was red carded in the first half and could only watch as the Diplomats remaining 10 players finally fell in a Shootout, 2-1. Lozano will be unable to participate this week due to the ejection.

Head Coach Gordon Bradley remarks that "our team has run their hearts out the last two weeks and hasn't gotten a break. The Cosmos game is generally the game of the year for any team, and for us now it is especially important. We need to be the aggressor and create our own luck. I certainly don't treat it as an ordinary game and it's a great opportunity to put ourselves right."

Putting oneself right against the Cosmos is no easy order, however. New York boasts a veritable pantheon of soccer stars--Chinaglia, Neeskens, Beckenbauer, Alberto, Romero, Davis, etc. Washington counters with its own legends--Johan Cruyff and Wim Jansen--to provide a field packed with soccer's greatest stars of the era.

Even the two coaches provide an interesting sidelight to this divisional matchup. Gordon Bradley came to Washington after seven years with the Cosmos, where he won the NASL Championship in 1972, while Weisweiler was Cruyff's first coach at Barcelona.

The Cosmos big gun this year has been, as in the past, Giorgio Chinaglia. The tall, powerful striker has hit for 9 goals and 3 assists in the New Yorkers' 9 NASL games to date. Right behind him, however, is newcomer Julio Cesar Romero, a Paraguayan 19-year old. Minding the nets for New York will be Hubert Birkenmeier, a two-year veteran from West Germany.

INJURY REPORT: All regulars are expected to be healthy for the June 1 showdown.

Following is the Tuesday Diplomats status report:

Johan Cruyff, midfielder, rt thigh strain, probable
Bobby Stokes, forward, hyperextended rt knee, probable
Sonny Askew, midfielder, toe, probable
Sakib Viteskic, midfielder, left thigh strain, probable
Carmine Posillico, defender, ankle, questionable
Tony Crescitelli, forward, left thigh strain, out

MISCELLANY: Three World Cup Finalist captains will be on the field Sunday afternoon. Johan Cruyff captained Holland in the 1974 Final against Franz Beckenbauer, who wore the captain's armband that day for West Germany. Additionally, Carlos Alberto captained Brazil to the 1970 World Cup title...Giorgio Chinaglia enters the game with a total career scoring output (including exhibitions, internationals, friendlies) of 499 goals...Among the Cosmos most recent victims are three European First Division clubs--Roma, Manchester City and F.C. Cologne, Hennes Weisweiler's former team...Washington's Alan Green has scored a goal or an assist in the last four straight games...Robert Iarusci played his 100th NASL game against Atlanta.

Following are thumbnails on some of the Cosmos stars:

CARLOS ALBERTO

NASL First Team All-Star for past two seasons...Cosmos MVP in 1979..NASL's top defender in 1979...acquired by New York during the 1977 season...his first season with the Cosmos he led the team to the Soccer Bowl Championship...captained Brazil's 1970 World Cup Championship team...he scored the final goal in Brazil's Cup victory against Italy...played for Santos of Brazil beginning in 1966 as a teammate of Pele...played 73 times for Brazilian National Team.

FRANZ BECKENBAUER

Named the NASL's number one midfielder for the past two seasons...a first team All-Star selection for three years running...acquired from Bayern Munich in 1977...scored a goal in his first game with New York and went on to become the League's MVP that season...scored the winning shootout goal against Minnesota in the 1978 playoffs...captained the West German World Cup team that went on to win the 1974 Championship...also captained his Bayern Munich team, leading them to four Bundesliga Championships, four German Cups, and three straight European Cup titles in 1974, 1975 and 1976...chosen European Footballer of the Year in 1972 and 1976 and was runner-up for that award in 1974 and 1975...named German Footballer of the Year in 1966, 1968, 1974 and 1976...his international record stands at an impressive 69 wins, 16 losses and 18 ties.

VLADISLAV BOGICEVIC

In 1979 he broke Pele's assist record with 23...he led the entire NASL in assists and is listed as second in the history of the League...in just two years in the NASL he is third in all-time assists with a total of 40...set a league record for having at least one assist in eight consecutive games last season...tied for fourth in team scoring in 1979 with 25 points...finished second only to Chinaglia in team playoff scoring...named to All-Star second team for the second straight year...is tied for fifth on Cosmos all-time scoring list with 62 points...signed with New York prior to the 1978 season...in his debut game he had a goal and four assists...with three assists against Minnesota, he tied the league playoff record...played 47 times for Yugoslavian National Team...played for Red Stars in Yugoslavia, leading them to five Yugoslavian league titles and four Yugoslavian Cups.

GIORGIO CHINAGLIA

Led the entire NASL with 26 goals last season...finished second in the League in total points with 57, just one point behind the leader..led all playoff scorers with six goals last year...in playoffs over four years he has scored 20 goals in 20 games..has been named to the NASL first team All-Stars three times in four years...his regular season total is 103 goals, making him the League's All-Time Leading Scorer...signed with New York in May of 1976 after playing with Lazio of Italy...holds the NASL record for most points in one game (12) when he scored five goals and two assists against Miami in 1976...holds the record for total scoring in a single season for his 34 goals in 1978...has led Lazaio and then New York in scoring for ten consecutive years.

RICK DAVIS

Voted the NASL's North American Player of the Year in 1979..scored six goals and added 13 assists to finish as fourth leading scorer for New York last season...considered by many to be the top native American player in the history of the game...Cosmos signed him to an amateur registration form after he played one year at the University of California at Santa Clara...has played on the U.S. Olympic and National teams beginning in 1977...will be called upon to lead the 1982 World Cup Team...was a High School All-American in 1975 and 1976.

JOHAN NEESKENS

Joined the Cosmos in June of 1979 just three weeks after leading Spain's Barcelona to the Cup Winners Cup title in Europe...voted to the NASL's All-Star First Team...considered one of the top midfielders in the history of the game...playing for Holland, he helped to raise the country to soccer prominence...began his professional career with Ajax and Holland in 1967, where Johan Cruyff began his career...helped the club win three straight European Cup titles in 1971, 1972 and 1973...in seven years with Ajax, he was instrumental in leading them to five league titles and four Dutch Cups...played in 14 World Cup games for Holland in 1974 and 1978...he took the Dutchmen to the finals, scoring five goals in their 1974 World Cup drive...when Cruyff left Ajax for Barcelona, Neeskens also went to play for the same team until he was obtained by the Cosmos

JULIO CESAR ROMERO

Was acquired by the Cosmos this past December...led all scorers in South American National Youth Tournament with five goals in 1979...led Paraguay in two big international upsets against Brazil and Chile that won them the South American Nations Cup title...for his tremendous play in 1979 he is considered a national hero in Paraguay...at the young age of 20 he is considered one of the most explosive attacking midfielders in the NASL.

SENINHO

In his second season with the Cosmos in 1979 he scored the winning goal in New York's season opener...the second game of the season he scored a ninth round shootout goal to beat the Diplomats...injured through the middle of the season, he still managed to score three goals and add eight assists...last season he was successful in converting all of his shootout attempts...joined the Cosmos in June of 1978...known throughout the world for his incredible speed...has played 12 international games for Portugal...has scored over 250 goals in his career.

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INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

NO.	NAME	GP	GS	MIN.	SHOTS	FL.	C/E	PK/PKA	SO/SOA	GOALS	AS.	TP
28	Alan Green	8	8	749:00	41	9	0/0	0/0	1/2	8	1	17
9	Joe Horvath	5	4	382:35	12	4	0/0	0/0	0/1	2	4	8
17	Sonny Askew	8	7	630:02	18	10	0/0	0/0	0/1	3	1	7
4	Lozano	6	6	381:04	28	5	0/1	0/0	0/0	2	1	5
5	Carmine Marcantonio	9	9	840:00	14	25	2/0	0/0	0/1	2	0	4
14	Johan Cruyff	8	8	722:40	23	12	1/0	0/0	0/0	0	4	4
25	Bobby Stokes	9	9	722:25	15	7	2/0	0/1	0/1	0	3	3
12	Wim Jansen	8	8	702:47	4	9	0/0	0/0	0/0	0	2	2
3	Tommy O'Hara	9	9	840:00	4	9	0/0	0/0	1/2	0	2	2
2	Robert Iarusci	8	8	745:34	13	10	0/0	0/0	1/2	0	1	1
15	Ken Mokgojoa	5	1	192:50	6	6	0/0	0/0	0/0	0	0	0
11	Nick Mijatovic	7	7	645:00	1	8	0/0	0/0	0/0	0	0	0
6	Sakib Viteskic	3	0	39:38	2	2	0/0	0/0	0/0	0	0	0
10	Gary Darrell	4	2	208:43	0	0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0	0	0
13	Tony Crescitelli	1	0	15:00	0	0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0	0	0
29	Danny Molendyk	2	0	38:40	0	1	0/0	0/0	0/0	0	0	0
19	Don Droege	4	4	375:00	6	6	0/0	0/0	0/0	0	0	0

WASHINGTON TOTALS				9240:00	187	123	6/1	0/1	3/10	17	19	53
OPPONENT'S TOTALS				9240:00	133	158	6/0	0/0	6/10	18*	17	53

NO.	NAME	GP	GS	MIN.	SHOTS	SAVES	GOALS	PK/PKA	SO/SOA	SH	GAA
31	Bill Irwin	9	9	829:00	133	144	16	0/0	6/10	0	1.74
00	Dragan Radovich	1	0	11:00	0	0	0	0/0	0/0	0	0.00
	WASHINGTON TOTALS			840:00	133	44	16	0/0	6/10	0	1.71
	OPPONENT'S TOTALS			840:00	187	61	17	1/0	3/10	1	1.82

TEAM STATISTICS

	<u>SCORING BY PERIODS</u>					<u>OWN GOALS</u>	<u>CORNERS</u>	<u>OFFSIDES</u>
	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>OT</u>	<u>SH</u>	<u>T</u>			
WASHINGTON	10	7	0	0	17	0	65	23
OPPONENTS	7	9	0	2	18*	0	65	49

1980 RESULTS

RECORD:	OVERALL (3-6)	HOME (3-1)	ROAD (0-5)	
ATTENDANCE:	HOME TOTAL 63,489	HOME AVERAGE 15,872	ROAD AVERAGE 18,124	
	ROAD TOTAL 90,619			
DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	ATTENDANCE	SCORING
3/29	at Tampa Bay	2-3 L (SO)	31,085	Green (Iarusci); Green (Cruyff)
4/5	at Tulsa	1-2 L	21,138	Marcantonio (Stokes)
4/13	Philadelphia	3-1 W	24,203	Askew (Cruyff); Askew (Horvath); Horvath (unass.)
4/20	Dallas	4-2 W	15,273	Marcantonio (Horvath); Horvath (Stokes, Jansen); Green (Horvath, Cruyff); Green (Jansen)
4/27	at Toronto	0-1 L	18,193	
5/4	California	3-1 W	13,379	Lozano (Askew); Green (O'Hara); Green (Stokes)
5/11	Portland	2-4 L	10,634	Askew (Green, O'Hara); Lozano (unas.)
5/17	at Ft. Laud.	1-2 L	14,716	Green (Cruyff)
5/24	at Atlanta	1-2 L (SO)	5,485	Green (Horvath, Lozano)

*Includes two shootout goals

1980 WASHINGTON DIPLOMATS ALPHABETICAL ROSTER

<u>NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>POS.</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>HT.</u>	<u>WT.</u>	<u>CITIZENSHIP</u>	<u>WASH YR.</u>	<u>NASL YR.</u>
17	Askew, Sonny	M	23	6-1	175	USA	4	4
16	Boyce, Barney	D	19	5-10	160	USA	1	1
22	Byrd, Steve	F	19	5-9	150	USA	1	1
13	Crescitelli, Tony	F	23	5-11	175	USA	2	2
14	Cruyff, Johan	M	32	5-9	150	The Netherlands	1	2
10	Darrell, Gary	D	33	5-9	155	Bermuda	7	9
19	Droege, Don	D	24	6-0	180	USA	2	4
18	Germain, Kip	D	23	5-9	150	USA	2	2
28	Green, Alan	F	26	5-8	145	England	3	3
9	Horvath, Joe	M	30	6-2	170	Hungary	2	2
2	Iarusci, Bob	D	25	6-0	180	Canada	2	5
31	Irwin, Bill	G	28	6-2	190	No. Ireland	3	3
12	Jansen, Wim	M	33	5-7	156	The Netherlands	1	1
4	Lozano	M	24	5-8	155	Spain	1	1
5	Marcantonio, Carmine	M	25	5-9	150	Canada	3	5
11	Mijatovic, Nick	D	32	6-0	180	Yugoslavia	1	5
15	Mokgojoa, Ken	F	25	5-11	155	So. Africa	3	3
29	Molendyk, Danny	F	25	5-11	165	The Netherlands	2	2
3	O'Hara, Tommy	D	27	5-9	153	Scotland	3	3
21	Posillico, Carmine	D	20	5-7	145	USA	1	1
00	Radovich, Dragan	G	23	6-0	170	USA	2	2
25	Stokes, Bobby	F/M	29	5-9	160	England	4	4
6	Viteskic, Sakib	M	27	5-11	170	Yugoslavia	3	3
7	Welch, Art	F	35	5-8	160	USA	4	14

DISABLED LIST

20	Dillon, Mike	D	27	5-11	175	England	3	8
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1980 WASHINGTON DIPLOMATS NUMERICAL ROSTER

00	Radovich, Dragan	G	23	6-0	170	USA	2	2
2	Iarusci, Bob	D	25	6-0	180	Canada	2	5
3	O'Hara, Tommy	D	27	5-9	153	Scotland	3	3
4	Lozano	M	24	5-8	155	Spain	1	1
5	Marcantonio, Carmine	M	25	5-9	150	Canada	3	4
6	Viteskic, Sakib	M	27	5-11	170	Yugoslavia	3	3
7	Welch, Art	F	32	5-8	160	USA	4	14
9	Horvath, Joe	M	30	6-2	170	Hungary	2	3
10	Darrell, Gary	D	33	5-9	150	Bermuda	7	9
11	Mijatovic, Nick	D	32	6-0	180	Yugoslavia	1	5
12	Jansen, Wim	M	33	5-7	156	The Netherlands	1	1
13	Crescitelli, Tony	F	23	5-11	175	USA	2	2
14	Cruyff, Johan	M	32	5-9	150	The Netherlands	1	2
15	Mokgojoa, Ken	F	25	5-11	155	So. Africa	3	3
16	Boyce, Barney	D	19	5-10	160	USA	1	1
17	Askew, Sonny	M	23	6-1	175	USA	4	4
18	Germain, Kip	D	23	5-9	150	USA	2	2
19	Droege, Don	D	24	6-0	180	USA	2	4
21	Posillico, Carmine	D	20	5-7	145	USA	1	1
22	Byrd, Steve	F	19	5-9	150	USA	1	1
25	Stokes, Bobby	F/M	29	5-9	160	England	4	4
28	Green, Alan	F	25	5-8	145	England	3	3
29	Molendyk, Danny	F	24	5-11	165	The Netherlands	2	2
31	Irwin, Bill	G	28	6-2	190	No. Ireland	3	3

HEAD COACH: Gordon Bradley
 ASS'T COACH: Joe Mallett