



# NEWS RELEASE

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KEITH FURPHY SOLD TO ATLANTA

The DETROIT EXPRESS have reached agreement on the sale of forward Keith Furphy, effective immediately, to the ATLANTA CHIEFS. Furphy goes to Atlanta for cash and the Chief's highest first round draft pick in 1980, consisting of either Tampa's or Minnesota's finish this year.

The 22 year old son of EXPRESS head coach, Ken Furphy, was one of the original members of the team when it was formed in 1978. He earned an immediate starting role, and scored the game winner in the first NASL game ever played by the EXPRESS...a 2-1 win over the ROUGHNECKS in Tulsa. Keith finished the 1978 season with a total of 11 goals, 5 of those were game-winning scores. Last season, 1979, he tied Trevor Francis for the goal-scoring team championship. Each netted 14 goals.

With the absence of Francis during the entire indoor season last Winter, Furphy was assigned a full-time forward position and responded to the challenge by scoring a total of 21 goals, 2nd best overall in the NASL. Now in his 3rd season of NASL play, Keith Furphy is recognized around the league as one of it's premier players, and certainly Detroit's best offensive threat.

But despite Keith's production and value to the EXPRESS, he never achieved fan acceptance in Detroit, due primarily to the fact he is coach Ken Furphy's son, and no matter how well he performed, his starting position on the team was always questioned. While a few of his accomplishments were applauded, anything short of perfect everytime was noted by increasing numbers of boos and catcalls from the home-crowd in the Silverdome. As his father, coach Furphy noted, "It's dissapointing that a minority of the crowd has influenced the decision to transfer Keith, but personally, I feel it's good for his own benifit. I hope he continues to show the same prograss he's made over the past 2 seasons."

Detroit fans won't have long to wait to see Keith perform with his new team...the ATLANTA CHIEFS play here Saturday, May 10th, 7:30 in the Silverdome.

The EXPRESS hope to announce by next week the addition of a top goal-scorer from England to replace Keith on the front line.

The club also announced today the release of reserve goal-tender Peter Dawson. Jim Brown remains as the number 1 goal-keeper with Bart Farley serving as backup.

Detroit's next game is Sunday afternoon in Edmonton. (4:30 CKLW)

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