



MEDIA RELEASE

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HOUSTON HURRICANE VS. EDMONTON DRILLERS FACT SHEET

HOUSTON STILL LOOKING FOR FIRST ROAD WIN

After Saturday night's 1-0 loss to the league-leading Strikers in Ft. Lauderdale, Hurricane Head Coach Eckhard Krautzun was deluged with compliments on his team's aggressive offense and gritty defense. But compliments don't buy points in the standings, and points are what the 1-4 Hurricane needs right now.

Pursuit of those points resumes this weekend when the Hurricane makes the long trek to Edmonton, Canada, to take on the Drillers, led by ex-Houston coach Timo Liekoski. Houston's lone win of the young season came against the Drillers on April 19 in the Astrodome, and a repeat performance would give the Hurricane its first 1980 victory away from home.

KICKOFF

Sunday, May 11, 3:30 p.m. central time, Commonwealth Stadium (42,500 capacity, natural grass, 72 x 110 yards).

RADIO

The game will be broadcast live in the Houston area over KTRH radio (740 AM) with Jerry Trupiano on play by play and David Courtney on color. The broadcast starts with a pre-game show 15 minutes before kickoff. This game will not be telecast back to Houston.

THE RECORDS

Hurricane -- 1-4 (1-2 home, 0-2 away), fourth place in the American Conference Central Division. 1979 record -- division champion with 22-8 regular season record.

Drillers -- As of today, 2-1 (2-0 home, 0-1 away), third place in the American Conference Western Division. That record will change before Sunday's game since the Drillers host the Tampa Bay Rowdies on Wednesday night. 1979 record -- 8-22, third place in same division.

THE SERIES

Houston holds a 3-1 edge over three seasons, starting back in 1978 when the Drillers were the Oakland Stompers (the move to Canada came with the 1979 season). The Hurricane's loss came 1-0 at home in 1978, and it's been nothing but victories since then: 3-2 at Oakland in 1978, 4-3 in shootout at Edmonton in 1979 (the win that clinched Houston's 1979 division title, incidentally), and of course 2-1 in the Astrodome last month (April 19).

LIEKOSKI OFF TO GREAT START ON HOME TURF

Timo Liekoski, who was named NASL Coach of the Year in 1979 for transforming the Hurricane from an also-ran (10-20 record in 1978) to a champion (22-8 last season), seems to be working his magic up in the cold north too. After their season-opening loss at Houston, the Drillers have won two straight at home (4-2 over San Jose on April 27 and 3-2 over Detroit in shootout on May 4). The odds should be about 50-50 that Edmonton will go into Sunday's game against Houston with a 3-0 home record; the Tampa Bay Rowdies are 4-2, for a .633 percentage identical to that of the Drillers, and are 1-1 on the road so far.

HURRICANE HOTLINE -- 960-8038

Call 24 hours a day for breaking Hurricane news, updates, and recorded interviews with players and coaches. This is for strict media use only.



1979 American Conference Central Division Champion

(More)

Add 1, May 5, 1980

The 1980 Drillers are a far cry from the team that went 8-22 last season. Liekoski has returned only four starters from last year's squad, and his stellar additions to the lineup obviously were quite carefully recruited. The differences stand out in more than the win-loss record: While Edmonton scored only 43 goals last season while allowing 78, the totals in three games this year are eight goals scored and six allowed. Leading the Drillers at this point is young (21-year-old) Dutch forward Jan Goosens, who has two goals and two assists for six points and who has been in on the first goal of all three games. Patrolling the nets is young backup goalkeeper John Baretta, with a 1.97 average on those six goals against, since Finnish international 'keeper Pertti Alaja still hasn't gotten a release from his former club.

HURRICANE IS
FRUSTRATED BY
NEAR MISSES

The last six weeks have had to be very frustrating for new Coach Krautzun. He's seen his hard-working, talented Hurricane team fall in four of the season's five games by just a one-goal margin. He had to be more than frustrated last weekend when Houston's 1-0 loss in Ft. Lauderdale came on a goal that appeared both at the time and on game tapes to be clearly offsides.

All four losses were against some of the 1980 season's strongest contenders: division leaders New York, Tulsa, and Ft. Lauderdale, and second-place National-Central opponent Dallas, all of which are well over .500 in the standings. Showing the closeness of those games, only two of Houston's losses came in regulation time.

COACH FISHER'S
ASSESSMENT

Assistant Hurricane Coach Terry Fisher has scouted nine NASL teams, including all five past game rivals, so far this season. Here's his assessment of how the Hurricane stacks up: "Our physical fitness is unsurpassed by any team I've seen. Our tactical play is very good compared to many of the other teams, and our set plays (dead ball plays such as corner kicks and free kicks) are very imaginative. Our overall attitude in the game about what we're trying to do on attack is fundamentally sound. What we've lacked in comparison to our opponents so far is that finishing touch, the ability to convert a good scoring opportunity into a goal."

EARLY INJURY
REPORTS

Hurricane -- Midfielder Horst Bertl probable with digestive tract problems; defender Howie Charbonneau probable with a right thigh strain; midfielder Walter Schuberth out for the season following knee surgery.

Drillers -- Midfielder Andre Oostrom probable with hamstring strain; forward Edward Kirschner probable with a bruised ankle. Not one Edmonton starter has had to sit out a game because of injury so far this year.

HURRICANE
ITINERARY

Depart Houston Intercontinental at 12:05 p.m. May 9 on Braniff 42, arrive in Minneapolis at 2:25 p.m. and switch to Northwest 707 for 6:45 p.m. departure for Edmonton, arriving at 8:20 p.m. The Hurricane is confirmed to depart Edmonton on the day after the game, May 12, on Pacific Western 542 at 11:45 a.m. with a switch in Calgary to Western Continental 774 that arrives in Houston at 9:58 p.m. Efforts are being made to change that day's flight to one leaving Edmonton at 8 a.m. and arriving back in Houston at 2:30 p.m. after a switch in Denver.

Team hotel is the Edmonton Plaza, 403/426-3636.

THIS WEEK'S
PRACTICES*

- Monday -- Off
- Tuesday -- 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Butler Stadium
- Wednesday -- Undetermined as yet, will know Tuesday afternoon
- Thursday -- 9 a.m. and 3:30 p.m., Butler Stadium
- Friday -- Travel day, no practice

These are subject to change, so it's advisable to confirm time and location with Diane Olson before making a trip out to practice. Training sessions run around 90 minutes each.

Add 2, May 5, 1980

P.R. CONTACTS Edmonton P.R. Director Josh Keller may be reached at 404/428-8989 (office) or 403/437-1573 (home). Diane Olson may be reached at the Hurricane office or home through the week and then at the Edmonton Plaza hotel over the weekend.

NEXT FOR THE HURRICANE The Hurricane returns to the Astrodome following nearly a month away next Thursday, May 15, when it hosts the Los Angeles Aztecs at 7:30 p.m.

RIVAL ROSTERS Houston Hurricane (asterisks designate starters from last game)

	No.	Name	Pos.	Age	Ht.	Wt.	Citizen of
	*1	Paul Hammond	GK	26	6-1	190	England
	*2	Ian Anderson (capt)	Def	25	6-0	165	Scotland
	*3	Mark Stahl	Def	26	5-9	155	U.S.A.
#	*4	Peruci	Fwd	28	6-0	160	Brazil
	*5	Nicky Megaloudis	M/D	22	6-0	170	U.S.A.
	*6	Kai Haaskivi	Mid	24	5-10	175	Finland
	7	Walter Schuberth	Mid	30	5-10	163	West Germany
	8	John Strenlau	Mid	26	5-9	165	U.S.A.
	*9	Eduardo Marasco	Fwd	27	5-7	153	Argentina
	*10	Dale Russell	Mid	25	5-10	165	Bermuda
	*13	Stewart Jump	Def	28	5-9	155	England
	14	Horst Bertl	Mid	33	5-10	165	West Germany
#	15	Ruben Morales	Fwd	27	5-7	150	Uruguay
	16	Roland Sikinger	GK	20	6-2	190	U.S.A.
	17	Dan Geerling	Mid	23	5-8	145	U.S.A.
	*18	Howie Charbonneau	Def	24	5-10	165	U.S.A.
	19	Gerry Morielli	Mid	22	5-10	165	Canada
	20	Matt O'Sullivan	Def	24	6-0	180	U.S.A.
	*21	Nino Zec	Mid	30	5-7	135	Yugoslavia
	22	Ron Atanasio	Fwd	23	5-8	165	U.S.A.
	23	Tedd Hamilton	Mid	19	5-10	155	Canada
	27	Mike Bakic	Fwd	27	6-0	170	Canada

Head Coach: Eckhard Krautzun/Assistant Coach: Terry Fisher
Trainer: Randy Gee/Equipment Manager, Assoc. Trainer: Clifford Lee

Edmonton Drillers (asterisks designate starters from May 4 game)

	No.	Name	Pos.	Age	Ht.	Wt.	Citizen of
	1	Pertti Alaja	GK	27	6-1	185	Finland
	2	Joe Raduka	Def	26	5-10	165	Yugoslavia
	*3	Ron Klinkenberg	Def	24	5-9	165	Holland
	*4	Dwight Lodeweges	Def	22	5-10	175	Canada
	*5	John Webb (capt)	Def	28	6-0	175	England
	*6	Andre Oostrom	Mid	27	5-8	160	Holland
	*8	Klaus Heinlein	Mid	26	6-1	176	West Germany
	*9	Edward Kirschner	Fwd	27	6-2	187	West Germany
	*10	Drew Ferguson	Mid	22	5-11	160	Canada
	11	Ross Ongaro	Fwd	20	6-1	170	Canada
	12	Derek Evans	Def	22	5-10	175	U.S.A.
	13	Mike Sweeney	Def	20	5-8	150	Canada
	14	Ulf Ryberg	Fwd	21	6-0	165	Sweden
	15	Hayden Knight	Fwd	23	6-1	170	U.S.A.
	*16	Lorenz Hilkes	Fwd	29	5-10	155	West Germany
#	*17	Jan Goosens	Fwd	21	6-0	160	Holland
	19	Raymond Taylor	Mid	21	5-9	170	Canada
	*20	Bernie James	Def	21	6-0	190	U.S.A.
	21	Mark Snell	GK	22	6-1	175	U.S.A.
	22	Bill Corner	Fwd	18	6-2	175	Canada
	23	Paul Roe	Mid	20	5-8	150	Canada
	*24	John Baretta	GK	25	6-1	182	Canada
	25	Glenn Smiley	Mid	18	5-10	160	Canada
	27	Claudio Perusco	Def	19	5-9	165	Canada
	28	Rob Kociancic	Def	20	5-9	155	Canada

Head Coach: Timo Liekoski/Assistant Coach: Jay "Dusty" Hoffman
Trainers: Todd Snyder, Kip Petch

designates goalscorers in the April 19 Hurricane-Drillers game.

(More)

HOUSTON HURRICANE
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
Current Record:

No.	Name	GP	GS	Min.	Shots	Fl.	C/E	PK/PKA	SO/SOA	Goals	As.	TP
2	Ian Anderson	5	5	470	9	9	1/0	2/2	1/1	2	1	5
4	Peruci	2	2	158	3	3	0/0	0/0	0/0	1	0	2
15	Ruben Morales	3	1	211	3	2	0/0	0/0	0/0	1	0	2
21	Nino Zec	4	4	350	4	6	1/0	0/0	0/1	1	0	2
6	Kai Haaskivi	5	5	446	4	4	1/0	0/0	1/1	0	1	1
3	Mark Stahl	5	5	470	1	4	0/0	0/0	0/1	0	0	0
5	Nicky Megaloudis	3	3	255	1	4	1/0	0/0	0/0	0	0	0
7	Walter Schuberth	1	0	6	1	0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0	0	0
8	John Stremlau	3	0	56	0	0	0/0	0/0	0/1	0	0	0
9	Eduardo Marasco	4	4	342	12	5	0/1	0/0	0/1	0	0	0
10	Dale Russell	5	5	470	10	11	0/0	0/0	0/1	0	0	0
13	Stewart Jump	5	5	470	2	2	0/0	0/0	0/1	0	0	0
14	Horst Bertl	4	4	348	8	3	1/0	0/0	0/0	0	0	0
18	Howie Charbonneau	5	5	470	1	11	0/0	0/0	0/1	0	0	0
19	Gerry Morielli	2	0	45	2	1	0/0	0/0	0/1	0	0	0
23	Ron Atanasio	2	2	145	4	7	1/0	0/0	0/0	0	0	0
27	Mike Bakic	1	0	9	0	0	0/0	0/0	0/0	0	0	0

HOUSTON TOTALS	5	5	470	70	73	5/1	2/2	3/10	5	2	12
OPPONENTS TOTALS	5	5	470	95	83	11/1	0/0	4/10	8	12	28

No.	Goalkeeper	GP	GS	Min.	Shots	Saves	Goals	PK/PKA	SO/SOA	SH	GAA
1	Paul Hammond	5	5	470	95	31	7 *	0/0	4/10	0	1.34
HOUSTON TOTALS		5	5	470	95	31	7	0/0	4/10	0	1.34
OPPONENTS TOTALS		5	5	470	70	30	5	2/2	3/10	3	0.96

TEAM STATISTICS

Scoring by Period:						OG	CK	OF
	1	2	OT	SO	T			
HOUSTON TOTALS	3	2	0	0	5	0	31	17
OPPONENTS TOTALS	1	3	1	1	8	0	40	22

Legend: GP - Games Played; GS - Games Started; Min. - Minutes; Fl. - Fouls; C/E - Cautions/Ejections; PK/PKA - Penalty Kicks Made/Penalty Kicks Attempted; SO/SOA - Shootout Goals Made/Shootout Goals Attempted; As. - Assists; TP - Total Points; SH - Shutouts; GAA - Goals-Against Average; OG - Own Goals; CK - Corner Kicks; OF - Offsides

*The goal awarded for a shootout win does not go against a goalkeeper's record; therefore, Paul Hammond has only seven goals against on his record while eight have been recorded against the Hurricane.

HOUSTON HURRICANE
GAME-BY-GAME RESULTS
Game Account: 1-4

Record:	Home	1-2	Road	0-2
Attendance:	Home Total	29,356	Average	9,785
	Road Total	20,904	Average	10,452

Date	Opponent	Score	Attendance	Team Scoring
3/29	Tulsa	1-0 L	7,319	---
4/5	New York	4-3 L (SO)	15,916	Zec 10:43, Anderson (PK) 77:00, Anderson (PK) 81:41
4/12	at Dallas	1-0 L (OT)	4,408	---
4/19	Edmonton	2-1 W	6,121	Peruci (Anderson, Haaskivi) 18:06, Morales 42:19
5/3	at Ft. Laud.	1-0 L	16,496	---