# Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Monday, March 27, 1978

COSMOS OPEN 1978 SEASON
BY HOSTING FT. LAUDERDALE

*Chuck Adams, Director of Public Relations*

The Cosmos open defense of their North American Soccer League championship Sunday, April 2nd, when they entertain the Ft. Lauderdale Strikers at Giants Stadium starting at 2:30 p.m.

The game will be broadcast on WNEW-AM (1130), with Jim Karvellas and Scott Morrison sharing the microphone duties.

The Cosmos, after a flawless pre-season in which they swept three games in Bermuda and scored a 2-0 victory over Chicago on March 25th, will be hosting in Ft. Lauderdale a team they defeated four times last year: a pair of 3-0 decisions during the regular season (March 15 at Giants Stadium and June 8th at Lockhart Stadium) and two wins in the NASL playoffs (8-3 at home on August 14th and a 3-2 shootout win at Ft. Lauderdale on August 17th).

The Strikers, coached by Ron Newman (who led them to a 19-7 regular-season mark last year and captured Coach of the Year honors), feature All-League goalkeeper Gordon Banks, the 38-year-old veteran from England who last season posted a 1.12 goals-against average; forward George Nanchoff, who led Ft. Lauderdale in scoring in 1977 with eight goals and six assists for 22 points and was named NASL Rookie of the Year by the Associated Press; and midfielder Ray Hudson, who was on loan to the Strikers last season and whose contract was purchased last month from Newcastle United of England's First Division for the highest transfer fee ever paid by Ft. Lauderdale.

Giorgio Chinaglia, the Cosmos' regular-season scoring leader the last two years, led the club in pre-season scoring with five goals and four assists for 14 points. Newcomers Dennis Tueart and Vladislav Bogicevic were next on the scoring list; Tueart (who is questionable for Ft. Lauderdale and missed the Chicago game with a pulled hamstring) netted three goals and totaled eight points, while Bogicevic added a pair of goals (including one on a header against Chicago) and two assists for six points. Steve Hunt, playing his first full game since Soccer Bowl '77, picked up right where he left off by assisting on Bogicevic's goal and then scoring in the 85th minute to

'ce the decision over Chicago.

Looking ahead to the regular season, Coach Eddie Firmani says of his team: "We've made all the preparations we can in preseason. Now it's time for the boys to get down to business and get the job done. We've got an outstanding club to put on the field, and I'm anxiously awaiting the start of regular play."

COSMOS PRE-SEASON (RESULTS):

| | |
|---|---|
| March 5 | Cosmos 4, Bermuda 1 |
| March 8 | Cosmos 3, Bermuda Under-23 0 |
| March 11 | Cosmos 4, Bermuda 1 |
| March 25 | Cosmos 2, Chicago 0 |

COSMOS PRE-SEASON (SCORING):

| | GOALS | ASSISTS | POINTS |
|---|---|---|---|
| Giorgio Chinaglia | 5 | 4 | 14 |
| Dennis Tueart | 3 | 2 | 8 |
| Vladislav Bogicevic | 2 | 2 | 6 |
| Steve Hunt | 1 | 1 | 3 |
| Fred Grgurev | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Jim Millinder | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Franz Beckenbauer | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| arlos Alberto | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Gary Etherington | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Ron Atanasio | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Santiago Formoso | 0 | 1 | 1 |

COSMOS NOTES: The Cosmos make their first road trip of the season next weekend, a journey to Los Angeles to play the Aztecs April 9th. The team will leave from Newark Airport at 9:00 a.m. on April 8th, returning after the game. WOR-TV will televise the contest on a tape-delay basis starting at 7:00 p.m. New York Time. Jim Karvellas and Howard David will provide the television commentary. The contest will be broadcast live on WNEW-AM, with Scott Morrison doing the play-by-play and Chip Cipolla providing the analysis.

WOR-TV coverage of the Cosmos' 1978 season begins Saturday, April 8th, with a 90-minute special starting at 6:30 p.m. The program, entitled "Can the Champion Cosmos Be Beaten?", will be hosted by Jim Karvells.

Local members of the United States Soccer Federation Hall of Fame are to be introduced prior to the Ft. Lauderdale game. Hall of Famers who have been invited to appear are Julius Alonzo, Joe Barriskill, Jackie Hynes, Rudy Kunter, Joe Maca, Werner Meith, Gene Olaff, Ted Glover, Wally Peters, Jack Rottenberg, Pete Renzulli, Fred Shields, Archie Stark and Alex Weir.

Rick Davis and Gary Etherington both scored goals as the United States Olympic B Team won three games in the Bellinzona, Switzerland, Easter Tournament. Davis, who captained the U.S. squad, tallied against Muenchengladbach and Etherington scored against Wolverhampton. David Brcic and Jim Millinder also played on the U.S. squad.

MISCELLANY: The Cosmos Reserve Team plays its first game April 5th at Giants Stadium against the New York Eagles. Subsequent dates (and opponents) are as follows: April 12, New Jersey Americans; April 19, New York Apollo; April 26, Connecticut Yankees. All are 4:00 p.m. starts at Giants Stadium (Note: These games are not open to the public). The Reserve Team will also meet the Messina Soccer Club May 3rd at Memorial Stadium in North Brunswick, N.J.; kickoff is 8:00 p.m. . .Mayors of the Meadowlands communities, New Jersey and New York congressmen, and legislators from the two states have been invited to a brunch prior to the Ft. Lauderdale game.

****MEDIA ADVISORY: For game-by-game credentials, our cutoff for accepting such requests will be 5 p.m. the Thursday before a game. Please submit your requests as early in the week as you possibly can.

## COSMOS 1978 NUMERICAL ROSTER

| NO. | NAME | POS. | HT. | WT. | BIRTHDATE | CITIZEN | PREVIOUS TEAM |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0 | Jack Brand | Goal | 6-1 | 175 | 8/4/53 | Canada | Rochester |
| 1 | Erol Yasin | Goal | 6-1 | 170 | 10/11/48 | Turkey | Galatasaray |
| 2 | Bobby Smith | Def. | 5-11 | 165 | 9/31/51 | USA | Phila. Atoms |
| 3 | Nelsi Morais | Def. | 5-9 | 165 | 10/22/51 | Brazil | Santos |
| 4 | Werner Roth | Def. | 6-0 | 180 | 4/4/48 | USA | Cosmos |
| 5 | Carlos Alberto | Def. | 6-0 | 170 | 7/17/44 | Brazil | Flamengo |
| 6 | Franz Beckenbauer | Mid. | 5-11 | 165 | 9/11/45 | W. Germany | Bayern Munich |
| 7 | Dennis Tueart | Fwd. | 5-8 | 156 | 11/27/49 | England | Manchester City |
| 8 | Vladislav Bogicevic | Mid. | 6-1 | 180 | 11/7/50 | Yugoslavia | Red Star |
| 9 | Giorgio Chinaglia | Fwd. | 6-1 | 190 | 1/24/47 | Italy | Lazio |
| 11 | Steve Hunt | Fwd. | 5-8 | 160 | 7/8/56 | England | Aston Villa |
| 14 | Terry Garbett | Mid. | 5-9 | 166 | 9/9/45 | England | Sheffield United |
| 15 | Vito Dimitrijevic | Mid. | 5-10 | 170 | 12/11/48 | Yugoslavia | Olimpia |
| 16 | Tony Donlic | Fwd. | 6-2 | 185 | 3/24/56 | USA | Cosmos |
| 17 | Rick Davis | Mid. | 5-8 | 155 | 11/24/58 | USA | Calif./Santa Clara |
| 18 | Fred Grgurev | Fwd. | 6-1 | 166 | 9/14/51 | USA | N.Y. Apollo |
| 19 | Robert Iarusci | Def. | 6-0 | 180 | 11/8/54 | Canada | Toronto |
| 20 | David Brcic | Goal | 6-2½ | 173 | 1/21/57 | USA | St. Louis Univ. |
| 21 | Gary Etherington | Fwd. | 5-8 | 140 | 4/22/58 | USA | Cosmos |
| 22 | Jim Millinder | Mid. | 5-8 | 150 | 11/27/58 | USA | El Camino J.C. |
| 25 | Santiago Formoso | Def. | 5-9 | 140 | 7/4/53 | USA | Conn. Bicentennials |
| 26 | Ron Atanasio | Fwd. | 5-7½ | 165 | 9/10/56 | USA | Adelphi College |

HEAD COACH: Eddie Firmani
ASSISTANT COACH: Ray Klivecka
CAPTAIN: Werner Roth
TRAINERS: Joel Rosenstein
Jeff Snedeker