NEWS RELEASE

Washington Diplomats Soccer Club ● RFK Stadium ● East Capitol & 22nd Street, N.E. ● Washington, D.C. 20003
(202)544-5425 ● Telex: 987-428

DIPLOMATS SIGN JOHAN CRUYFF

CONTACT: Ken Droz - (202) 544-5425
Home - (703) 823-9116
Tim Gorin - (202) 544-6666

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
June 17, 1981

The Washington Diplomats today announced that they have acquired the services of soccer superstar **Johan Cruyff** for the remainder of the 1981 North American Soccer League season. The announcement was made by Diplomats General Manager **Duncan Hill** at RFK Stadium preceeding today's Diplomats-Cosmos game.

Cruyff will make his return in a Diplomats uniform on **July 1, 1981** when Washington hosts the **San Diego Sockers at RFK Stadium at 7:30 pm.** He will be unable to join the club earlier than that as he recently underwent very minor surgery on a groin muscle and will not be totally fit for another 10 days.

A veteran of two Dutch World Cup teams, Cruyff is the only three-time winner of the **European Footballer of the Year Award.** In 1979, during his first year with the NASL playing for the Los Angeles Aztecs, Cruyff was named the **League's Most Valuable Player.** The following year he played for the Diplomats before they folded at the end of the 1980 season, but not before he scored the **Budweiser Goal of the Year,** and was named the Professional Soccer Reporters Association **Star of the Year.** Most recently Cruyff played with Levante of the Spanish Second Division, after turning down several offers from English First Division clubs.

"When we moved the franchise from Detroit we were approached by everybody regarding Johan Cruyff, and whether or not he could he play with us", said Hill. "It proved impossible at the time as he was under contract elsewhere. About one month ago I discussed it with (Diplomats Coach) Ken Furphy and we really didn't believe it would happen."

After several discussions between Cruyff, Hill, and majority owner **Jimmy Hill** over the last three days they had reached an agreement just minutes before the deadline. "He's the greatest player in America, simple as that," said Hill over his historic coup. "He can become the extra player we've talked about that can take us to the Soccer Bowl."

Jimmy Hill was equally elated over the signing of the newest Diplomat. "It's no discredit to our present team, but I've been here 10 days now and one thing I've seen is that in the capital of the western world, you need to get a superstar. And that's what we got."

"He can create play, score, and be entertaining, and no one does it better than Cruyff," continued the senior Hill. "That's always been my view and not just for today's occasion."

As expected, Diplomats Coach **Ken Furphy** is happy to coach one of the greatest players in the world. "Following my suggestion to Duncan Hill that we look into the situation, it turns out that all the final details could be worked out in time," the only coach in the club's history said. "I'm delighted that he's agreed to join us and I'm looking forward to watching him play as well."

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WASHINGTON DIPLOMATS
1981 NASL Record: 9-7

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

No.	Player	GP	GS	Min.	Shots	Fls	C/E	PK/A	SO/A	G	A	TP
6	Malcolm Waldron	16	15	1511:05	29	33	2/0	2/2	2/3	8	0	16
8	Ross Jenkins	16	15	1232:04	37	31	1/0	0	0	5	4	14
11	Trevor Hebberd	16	16	1505:25	63	36	5/0	0	0/1	5	3	13
15	Peter Baralic	16	16	1353:34	34	30	1/0	0	0/1	3	3	9
5	Heinz Wirtz	11	11	973:10	23	20	1/0	0	0/3	1	3	5
18	Willi Kiefer	7	2	364:14	18	10	0	0	0/1	1	3	5
10	David Bradford	14	14	1288:13	20	12	3/0	0	2/2	0	4	4
1	Jim Brown	15	15	1421:05	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	3
14	David McGill	16	16	1466:05	17	41	5/0	0	1/1	1	1	3
9	Paul Cannell	12	5	565:54	14	19	2/0	0	0	1	0	2
17	Ole Mikkelsen	8	6	395:09	7	9	1/0	0	0	1	0	2
3	Ivan Belfiore	8	5	495:10	4	12	0	0	0	0	2	2
2	Benny Dargle	16	16	1511:05	1	44	1/0	0	0	0	1	1
4	Peter Carr	16	16	1434:30	5	229	3/0	0	0/1	0	0	0
20	Trevor Franklin	5	2	305:48	1	7	1/0	0	1/2	0	0	0
16	Ken Murphy	3	1	147:55	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
*	Angus Moffat	3	1	139:03	2	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	Eddie Colquhoun	4	2	213:40	0	5	1/0	0	0	0	0	0
7	Don Nardiello	4	0	114:01	7	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
21	Dale Baxter	1	1	90:00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Clive Haywood	2	0	61:03	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DIPLOMATS' TOTALS	16	16	1511:05	283	350	27/1	2/2	6/15	27	25	79
	OPPONENTS' TOTALS	16	16	1511:05	284	307	17/1	0/1	6/16	24	38	86

No.	Goalkeeper	GP	GS	Min.	Shots	Saves	Goals	PK/A	SO/A	SH	GAA
1	Jim Brown	15	15	1421:05	260	87	21	0/1	6/16	4	1.33
21	Dale Baxter	1	1	90:00	14	3	3	0	0	0	3.00
DIPLOMATS' TOTALS		16	16	1511:05	274	90	24	0/1	6/16	4	1.43
OPPONENTS' TOTALS		16	16	1511:05	283	94	27	2/2	6/15	3	1.61

TEAM STATISTICS

	Scoring by periods					Own Goals	Corner Kicks	Offsides
	1	2	OT	SO	T			
DIPLOMATS	12	15	0	2	29	--	98	64
OPPONENTS	12	9	3	1	25	--	103	39

* Released 6/4/81

1981 WASHINGTON DIPLOMATS NUMERICAL ROSTER

NUMBER	NAME	POSITION	AGE	HEIGHT	WEIGHT	CITIZENSHIP
1	Jim Brown	G	29	5-11	172	Scotland
2	Benny Dargle	D	24	5-11	160	United States
3	Ivan Belfiore	D	20	5-11	175	Canada
4	Peter Carr	D	29	5-10	163	England
5	Heinz Wirtz	M/D	27	5-9	174	W. Germany
6	Malcolm Waldron	D	24	6-0	172	England
7	Don Nardiello	F	24	5-9	150	Wales
8	Ross Jenkins	F	29	6-6	185	England
9	Paul Cannell	F	27	5-11	165	England
10	David Bradford	M	27	5-6	138	England
11	Trevor Hebberd	M	22	6-0	160	England
14	David McGill	M/D	21	5-9	155	Canada
15	Peter Baralic	M	29	5-10	170	Yugoslavia
16	Ken Murphy	D	23	5-8	165	United States
17	Ole Mikkelsen	F	22	5-11	160	United States
18	Willi Kiefer	F	25	6-0	172	W. Germany
19	Clive Haywood	F	20	5-10	165	England
20	Trevor Franklin	D	24	5-10	160	United States
21	Dale Baxter	G	19	6-0	175	Canada
22	Eddie Colquhoun	D	35	6-0	170	Scotland
30	Jim Messemer	G	22	6-5	200	United States
	Johan Cruyff	M	34	5-9	150	The Netherlands

Head Coach: Ken Furphy
Assistant Coach: Eddie Colquhoun

Captain: Peter Baralic
Trainer: John Lally

WASHINGTON DIPLOMATS ATTENDANCE: Home Total -108,120 Average - 15,446
1981 Game Account: 9-7 (Home 5-2; Road 4-5) Road Total -125,874 Average - 13,986

Date	Opponent	Score	Attentance	Team Scoring
3/18	at Ft. Lauderdale	1-2 L-OT	14,560	Waldron 1 (unassisted)
4/5	at Atlanta	3-2 W	7,194	Hebberd 1 (Jenkins)
				Brown 1 (unassisted)
				Waldron 2 (unassisted)
4/11	MONTREAL	1-0 W	12,533	Waldron 3 (unassisted)
4/18	FT. LAUDERDALE	1-0 W	9,212	McGill 1 (Hebberd, Belfiore)
4/26	at Toronto	4-2 W	8,213	Hebberd 2 (Bradford, Wirtz)
				Wirtz 1 (Bradford)
				Jenkins 1 (Brown)
				Baralic 1 (unassisted)
5/1	TAMPA BAY	4-1 W	5,825	Hebberd 3 (Baralic, Belfiore)
				Waldron 4 (unassisted)
				Jenkins 2 (Hebberd, Wirtz)
				Baralic 2 (Jenkins, McGill)
5/3	at Cosmos	0-1 L	34,189	None
5/9	at Tampa Bay	1-3 L	16,302	Cannell 1 (Dargle, Hebberd)
5/17	DALLAS	1-0 W-SO	7,515	Team Goal
5/23	COSMOS	3-2 W	27,676	Jenkins 3 (Bradford)
				Mikkelsen 1 (Baralic)
				Baralic 3 (unassisted)
5/25	at Tulsa	2-1 W-SO	14,897	Waldron 5 (unassisted)
				Team Goal
5/31	TULSA	2-3 L-OT	8,484	Jenkins 4 (Wirtz)
				Jenkins 5 (Kiefer)
6/6	at Minnesota	3-4 L-OT	17,034	Waldron 6 (Jenkins)
				Hebberd 4 (Jenkins, Kiefer)
				Hebberd 5 (Kiefer, Bradford)
6/12	at Jacksonville	0-1 L-SO	5,416	None
6/14	at Chicago	2-1 W	8,069	Waldron 7 (penalty kick)
				Kiefer 1 (Baralic)
6/17	COSMOS	1-2 L	36,875	Waldron 8 (Penalty Kick)

UPCOMING GAMES

6/20 at Montreal 2:00pm (WTTG Ch. 5)
6/24 JACKSONVILLE 8:00pm
7/1 SAN DIEGO 7:30pm (USA Network)

* All KO times are EDT