media release

August 13, 1979

WHITECAPS END SEASON WITH 2ND DIVISION TITLE

FACE DALLAS IN FIRST ROUND PLAYOFF

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VANCOUVER - The Vancouver Whitecaps ended their sixth regular season in the North American Soccer League last weekend in Seattle, taking a strong 2-1 win, and for the second straight season finished as the Champions of the Western Division of the National Conference.

The final game victory gave the Whitecaps a season record of 20 wins against 10 losses for a total of 172 points. That's good for third overall in the National Conference and fourth overall in the NASL.

From all aspects, it was a very successful season for the Whitecaps. Team Manager Tony Waiters said before the season that no team, with the possible exception of the Cosmos, would equal the mark of 24-6 set last year, and that he envisioned it would take 20 wins to secure a Division title. He was right on with his comments. In the stands, Vancouver saw an unprecedented growth in attendance, with the average rising to 23,000 per game.

For the fourth consecutive season, the Whitecaps now head into the playoffs. Their first round opponents will be the Dallas Tornado, who finished in second place in the Central Division with a record of 17 wins and 13 losses. One of those wins came at the expense of the Whitecaps, as the Tornado took the Empire Stadium home opener by 2-1 in shootout, back on March 30.

Since that meeting, Dallas have acquired several new faces, including four from Germany and one from Denmark. Leading Dallas in scoring was Willie Lippens, who had a total of 37 points, one more than the Whitecaps top scorer, Kevin Hector.

In goal, Dallas is led by England International Alex Stepney, who recorded 6 shutouts and a 1.66 average. That doesn't compare to the Whitecaps Phil Parkes, however, who once again led the entire NASL with a 0.965 average and 7 shutouts. For "Lofty", it is the second straight year he has captured top honours in the goalkeeping department.

The first game of the series will be in Dallas on Wednesday night, August 15, starting at 6:00 PM Vancouver time. (Live on CJOR Radio and BCTV). The teams then return to Vancouver to play on Saturday, August 18 starting at 8:00 PM at Empire Stadium. If each team wins one game in the series, it will be decided by a 30-minute "mini-game" immediately following the regular game Saturday night. If there is still no decision after the mini-game, the series will be decided in shootout.

The two changes in the playoff format this season include making the first round a two game series instead of the one game sudden-death round, as it was last season when Vancouver defeated Toronto 4-0 at Empire Stadium. As well, the "mini-game" will not be sudden-death as it was last season.

The playoffs consist of three rounds of play to determine the respective Conference Champions, who then face each other in Soccer Bowl, which will be played on September 8th at Giants Stadium in New York

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT: Josh Keller or Gord Couling at 682-0311.

- 30 -

VANCOUVER WHITECAPS - 1979 FINAL INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

NATIONAL CONFERENCE - WESTERN DIVISION CHAMPIONS

20 WINS 10 LOSSES 172 POINTS

NO	NAME	GP	GS	MINUTES	SHOTS	FOULS	C/E	PK/PKA	GOALS	ASSISTS	POINTS
11	Kevin Hector	25	25	2278:33	102	40	3/0	0/0	15	6	36
23	Alan Ball	15	15	1392:32	27	27	1/0	4/6	8	10	26
9	Trevor Whymark	27	25	2381:04	72	45	0/0	0/1	10	2	22
21	Carl Valentine	29	21	2175:17	36	30	0/0	0/0	4	7	15
20	Willie Johnston	28	27	2532:41	57	59	8/1	0/0	1	12	14
8	Jon Sammels	29	29	2621:04	48	38	0/0	0/1	3	7	13
5	Bob Lenarduzzi	28	27	2468:58	40	40	4/1	0/0	3	3	9
10	Bob Bolitho	27	22	2144:27	34	28	1/0	0/0	0	8	8
2	Ray Lewington	29	29	2629:39	27	71	4/0	0/0	2	4	8
24	Derek Possee	18	12	1002:34	34	20	0/0	0/0	3	2	8
7	Buzz Parsons	22	18	1638:24	22	38	0/0	0/0	1	5	7
17	Peter Daniel	27	27	2413:08	9	72	2/0	0/0	1	0	2
4	John Craven	12	10	858:08	7	13	0/2	0/0	1	0	2
6	Roger Kenyon	10	10	825:44	10	31	2/1	0/0	0	1	1
28	Steve Nesin	2	0	18:59	0	0	0/0	0/0	0	1	1
1	Phil Parkes	29	29	2704:58	0	1	2/0	-	-	1	1
18	Dan Lenarduzzi	6	0	186:31	0	1	0/0	0/0	0	0	0
29	Carl Shearer	2	1	101:21	2	2	0/0	0/0	0	0	0
OTHERS		2	2	136:38	0	6	1/0	0/0	0	0	0
WHITECAPS TOTALS:					527	562	27/5	4/8	52	69	173
OPPONENTS TOTALS:					357	592	39/6	3/4	31	43	106

GOALKEEPERS	GP	GS	MINUTES	SHOTS	SAVES	PK/PKA	SO/SOA	SO	GA	AVERAGE
Phil Parkes	29	29	2704:58	342	100	3/4	13/21	7	29	0.965
Bruce Grobbelaar	1	1	90:00	15	6	0/0	0/0	0	2	2.00
OPPONENTS	30	30	2794:58	527	170	4/8	10/21	5	52	1.71

GAME BY GAME RESULTS: HOME: 12-3 AWAY: 8-7

HOME ATTENDANCE: 344,436 AVERAGE: 22,964 AWAY ATTENDANCE: 181,222 AVERAGE: 12,081

DATE	OPPONENTS	SCORE	ATTEND.	SCORING
3/30	Dallas	2-1 L(SO)	24,850	Hector(Lewington)
4/6	Edmonton	2-0 W	19,097	Craven(Bolitho) Hector(Lewington)
4/14	at Chicago	3-2 W(SO)	10,130	Sammels(Parsons) Hector(Sammels Bolitho)
4/21	Portland	2-1 W	23,137	Whymark(Valentine Bolitho)
4/27	at San Diego	1-0 L	10,514	Whymark(Hector Sammels) -----
5/2	San Diego	3-1 W	16,985	Whymark(Hector Johnston) Hector - Two
5/5	at San Jose	2-1 W	14,107	Hector(Johnston Bolitho) Daniel(Johnston)
5/11	Rochester	1-0 W(OT)	22,078	Valentine(Bolitho)
5/18	Philadelphia	2-0 W	18,293	Hector(Johnston) Whymark(Johnston)
5/30	at Edmonton	3-1 W	10,529	Hector(Johnston Sammels)
6/2	Houston	1-0 L	26,013	Hector(Johnston Kenyon) Hector(Valentine) -----
6/7	at Tulsa	2-1 W	10,102	Lewington(Valentine) Valentine
6/10	at Minnesota	1-0 L	24,061	-----
6/13	at California	3-2 L(SO)	7,182	Possee(Johnston Hector) Hector(Sammels)
6/6	New York	4-1 W	32,372	Hector(Valentine) Sammels(Hector) Valentine(Johnston Lenarduzzi)
6/24	California	2-1 W(OT)	20,814	Possee(Johnston Lenarduzzi) Johnston(Ball) Ball-PK
6/27	at Atlanta	3-1 W	5,152	Hector(Johnston) Ball-PK Hector(Ball Bolitho)
6/30	at Ft. Lauderdale	3-2 L(SO)	15,259	Whymark Possee(Sammels Ball)
7/4	at Toronto	2-1 L	13,754	Valentine(Ball Possee)
7/7	Seattle	3-1 W	20,041	Ball-PK Whymark(Lewington Hector) Ball(Lenarduzzi Hector)
7/11	Los Angeles	1-0 L	28,764	-----
7/15	at New York	4-2 W	48,753	OG, Hector(Whymark Ball) Lewington Lenarduzzi(Valentine Ball)
7/18	at Washington	2-1 L	12,321	Ball-PK
7/21	Toronto	3-0 W	21,409	Ball(Sammels Parsons) Sammels(Ball Bolitho) Whymark(Valentine Lewington)
7/25	Tulsa	1-0 W	21,196	Whymark(Bolitho Valentine)
7/28	at Portland	3-2 W(OT)	12,727	Whymark(Ball) Lenarduzzi(Parsons Ball) Ball(Parsons)
8/1	Minnesota	1-0 W	24,656	Lenarduzzi(Sammels Ball)
8/4	at Los Angeles	2-0 L	11,157	-----
8/8	San Jose	1-0 W(OT)	25,731	Whymark(Possee Parsons)
8/11	at Seattle	2-1 W	24,196	Parsons(Nesin) Ball(Johnston)