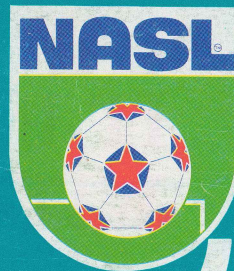


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The Official Magazine Of The North American Soccer League



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1975 NASL Photo Contest Entry

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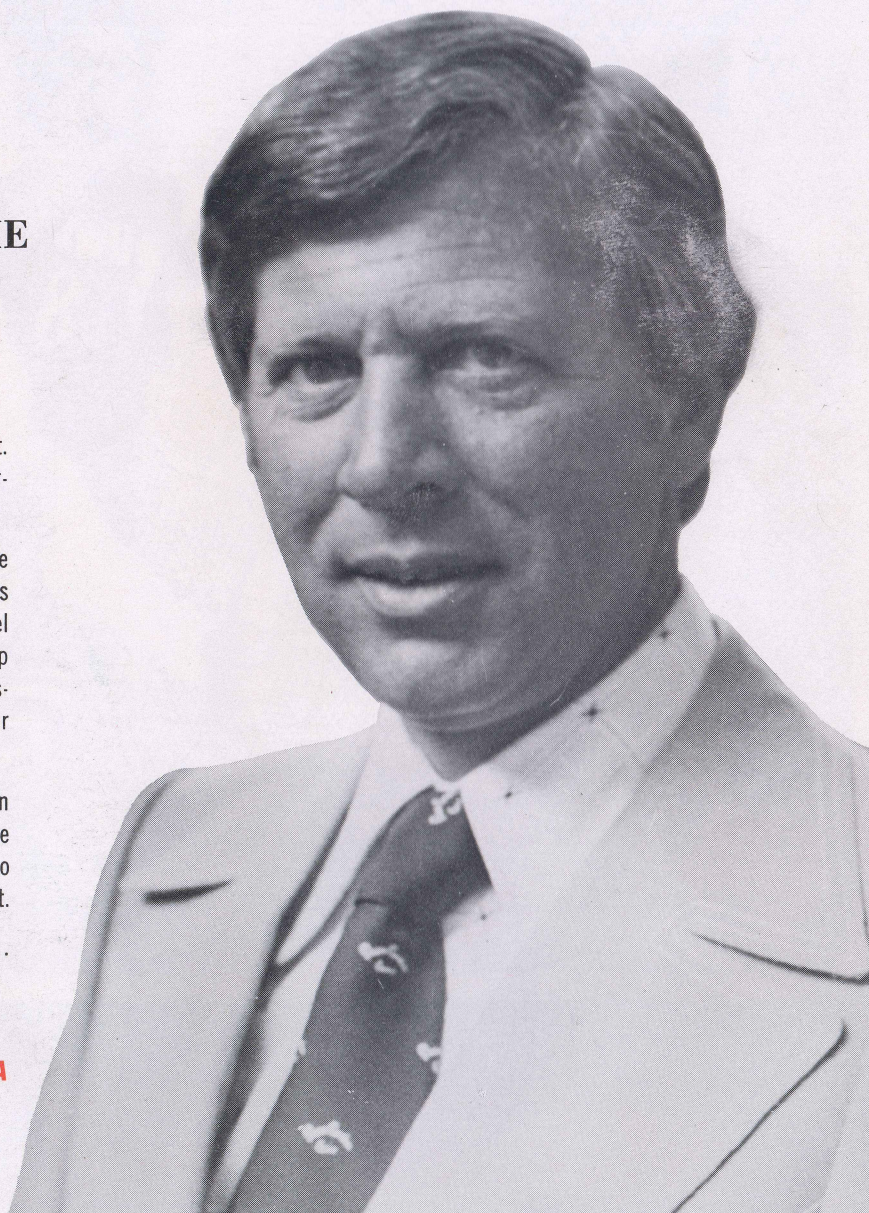
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GUADALAJARA

Evaristo Cardenas President

Philadelphia Atoms

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17th & Locust Streets

Philadelphia, PA 19103

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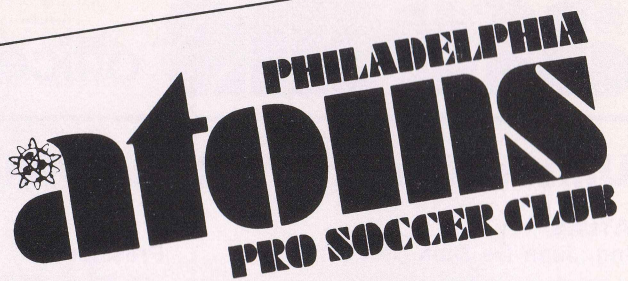
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1976 PHILADELPHIA ATOMS



The Philadelphia Atoms wish to express their appreciation to the Temple University's Intensive English Language Program (I.E.L.P.) for its valuable assistance to our team.

We would like to let our fans know that Temple University has taken special interest in providing day and evening English training programs for non-English speakers in the Greater Philadelphia area.

For information regarding these programs call 787-7899. I.E.L.P. The Official Language Training Program of The Philadelphia Atoms.

Los Atomos de Filadelfia estan muy agradecidos a la Universidad de Temple por su Programa de Ingles Intensivo (I.E.L.P.), y toda la ayuda que han dado al equipo.

Queremos que sepan nuestros fanaticos que la Universidad de Temple ha tomado mucho interes en proveer programas de ingles que son disponibles en el dia y en la noche para las personas de no habla ingles en el area de Filadelfia.

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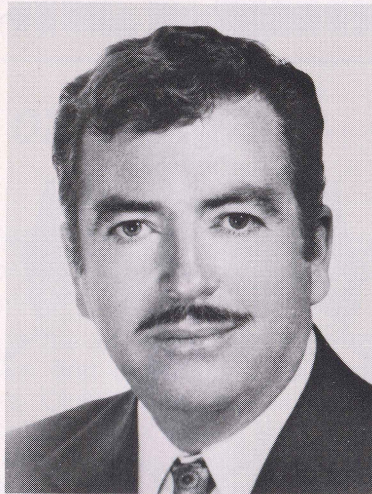


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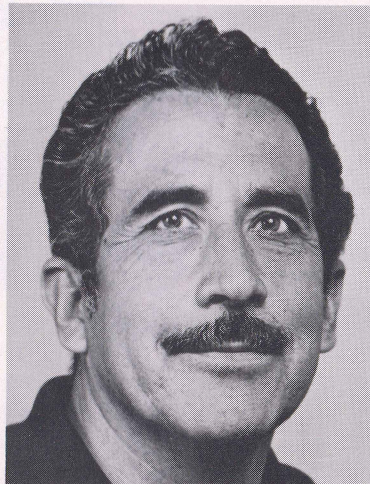
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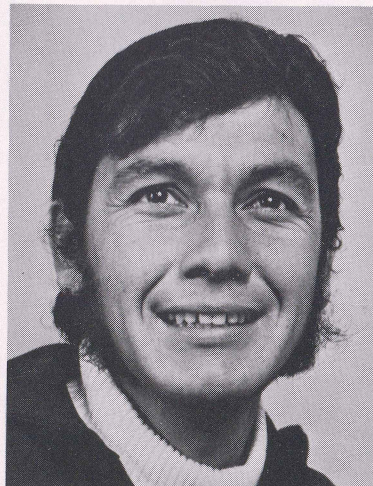
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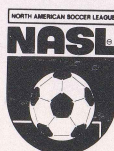
CARLOS OCEGUERA
Vice President
United Clubs of Jalisco



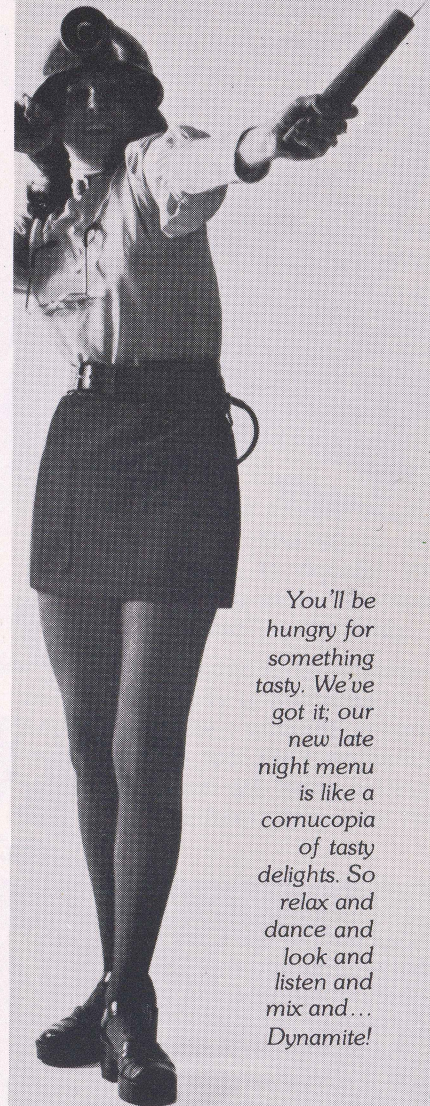
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The Mexican Connection

The United Clubs of Jalisco

Four professional, first division soccer teams in one city! Beautiful Guadalajara, in the Mexican state of Jalisco, is the home of no less than the four pro soccer teams that have banded together to form the United Clubs of Jalisco.

And proudly, they call "Los Atomos de Filadelfia" their fifth club.



EVARISTO CARDENAS
President, United Clubs

Playing in the well-constructed, 70,000-seat Jalisco Stadium, the four clubs—Guadalajara, Jalisco, Atlas, and Universidad—are usually found atop one of the Mexican Federation of Soccer's four first divisions.

In January of 1976 the four-team federation—led by President Evaristo Cardenas—purchased the Philadelphia franchise in the North American Soccer League (NASL) and formed United Clubs of Jalisco Philadelphia, Inc.—known in America as the Atoms.

Seeing Philadelphia as one of the United States' top soccer areas and culturally similar to their own Guadalajara, the United Clubs immediately set to the task of

making the Atoms as organizationally successful as the four clubs.

In the Mexican Federation 20-team first division, the Guadalajara Club is the league's most popular. The reason is simple. The entire roster is homegrown from the City of Guadalajara.

The Club's won-lost record is of little significance. The opposition's capabilities don't really matter. Everywhere in the Republic of Mexico the Guadalajara Club travels, the fans flock to see their local heroes—sometimes in excess of 20,000. The only team in the first division with an all national squad, the fans of Mexico find a certain unity in cheering for Club de Guadalajara.

Carlos Ocegüera, Vice President of the United Clubs and their representative in the Delaware Valley, believes the same fan-for-local-team phenomenon can happen in the States. And he dreams that Philadelphia, through a process similar to the one in Guada-

lajara, will soon have youth programs that will lead to the Atoms becoming the first NASL team to be all local and all American in the truest sense of the phrase.

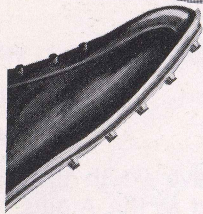
The United Clubs have enough branches to cover a wall of organizational charts. Guadalajara Club alone has 130 teams—from preschoolers to the first division. With trained coaches at the helm at all levels, the players receive an athletic and social education. The city itself, the state capital, is known for producing soccer-football (as it is called in Mexico) players.

But each club is more than just a soccer builder. The social aspect of the club is equally important to the city as is the other athletics provided by the club.

Philadelphia and Guadalajara—alike in its many universities, museums, theatre, population and culture—both feel their exchange in soccer ideas will bring a long-lasting brotherhood between the two cities.



AMERICAN CONNECTION IN GUADALAJARA



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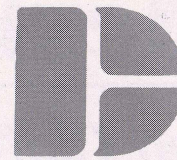
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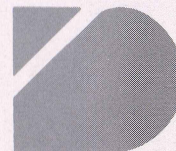
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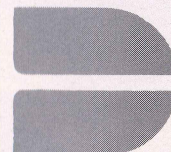
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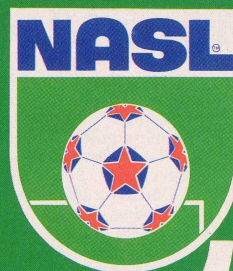
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Photo Courtesy of New York Cosmos



KICK

National Magazine





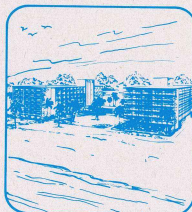
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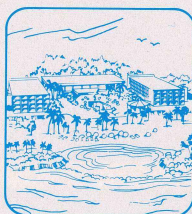
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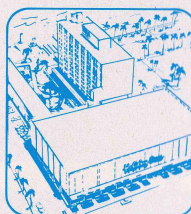
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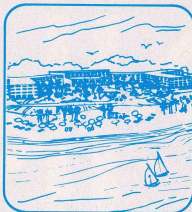
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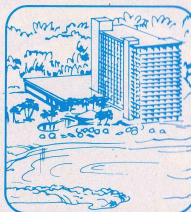
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Paradise Island \$126*

8 days, 7 nights Includes: Air conditioned room; Welcome cocktail; Guide book w/map; Boat trip; Snorkeling lesson; Tennis; Casino gaming guide; Shopper's discount book; Souvenir miniatures; Innkeeper's cocktail party (Sun.); One round mini-golf (18 holes); Pool and beach chaise lounges.



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NASL/Commentary

Bob Ehlinger

NASL Deputy Commissioner



Attending a junior soccer varsity game at Abington High School near Philadelphia, last fall, I became aware after it was under way that one of Abington's players was a girl. I was delighted because I had not read, or heard, the stereotyped story which normally accompanies such "first girl to play on a boys' team" breakthroughs. Terry Landi had made it as a person, a player. And though my son, Pete, griped that Terry sometimes got more playing time than he, "just because she's a girl," my observation was her skills warranted it.

Abington is a very large school, nearly 1,000 in each graduating class. Perennially it wins its league soccer championship and advances far in district and Pennsylvania state championship play. Many of its graduates are now stars with top college teams. One, Randy Garber, was the second round draft choice of the Tampa Bay Rowdies last year after an All-American career at Penn State, and played a role in that expansion team winning the NASL championship.

For Terry Landi to make the junior varsity at Abington illustrates the tremendous quantity of soccer play and quality of players being developed at the grass roots level in North America. From this movement will come the athletes who will lift the United States and Canada into World Cup contention.

The enormous growth of soccer is easily understandable. Soccer is fun. Everybody gets involved; everybody gets to kick the ball. Soccer is for everyone. As Terry's experience indicates, girls, as well as boys, can play and enjoy the satisfaction of proficiency. Soccer is safe. The incidence and severity of injuries is low. Soccer is economical. The costs of uniforms and equipment are significantly less than other sports. Soccer is healthful. The game produces a high level of fitness, stamina and agility.

Veteran NBA coach Butch van Breda Kolff has said of the attraction of the game: "If I was head of the Board of Education, I'd make soccer the major sport in every school. There's more opportunity for more kids. You have to be a giant to play basketball, a monster to play football. Average-sized kids can excel in soccer. There's not much risk of serious injury. Besides, it's the greatest exercise in the world and a beautiful game. Unlike baseball, everybody on the team is constantly involved."

The popularity of soccer as a spectator sport is related to the growth in participation. Youngsters who became involved after attending NASL games or watching them on CBS starting ten seasons ago are now approaching adulthood. Parents who have come to enjoy the game through their children's participation have continued to follow it. And many other persons who have not participated directly see soccer as a classic athletic contest—a combination of simplicity and subtlety showcasing the finest in individual and team skills.

Among the nearly 238 million persons in the United States and Canada, a very large percentage enjoys athletic entertainment predicated primarily on skill, rather than calculated violence. Most North Americans have become satiated with violence in the last decade—assassinations, city bombings, street riots, Vietnam. The same is true in sports.

The new generation—the now generation—sees in the flow of soccer creativity, freedom, expressiveness, unity, skill, satisfaction, beauty, and, yes, toughness. The all-around qualities of soccer players were well demonstrated by the 1976 Superstars performances of the Dallas Tornado's Kyle Rote, Jr., winner for the second time, and the New York Cosmos' Bob Rigby, fourth finisher, in a field of 48 top athletes.

Summing up his letter devoted to soccer in the March 27, 1972 issue of *Sports Illustrated*, then-publisher Dick Munro predicted "we may one day ask not what others saw in the game but why it took us so long to see it ourselves."

That day has arrived.



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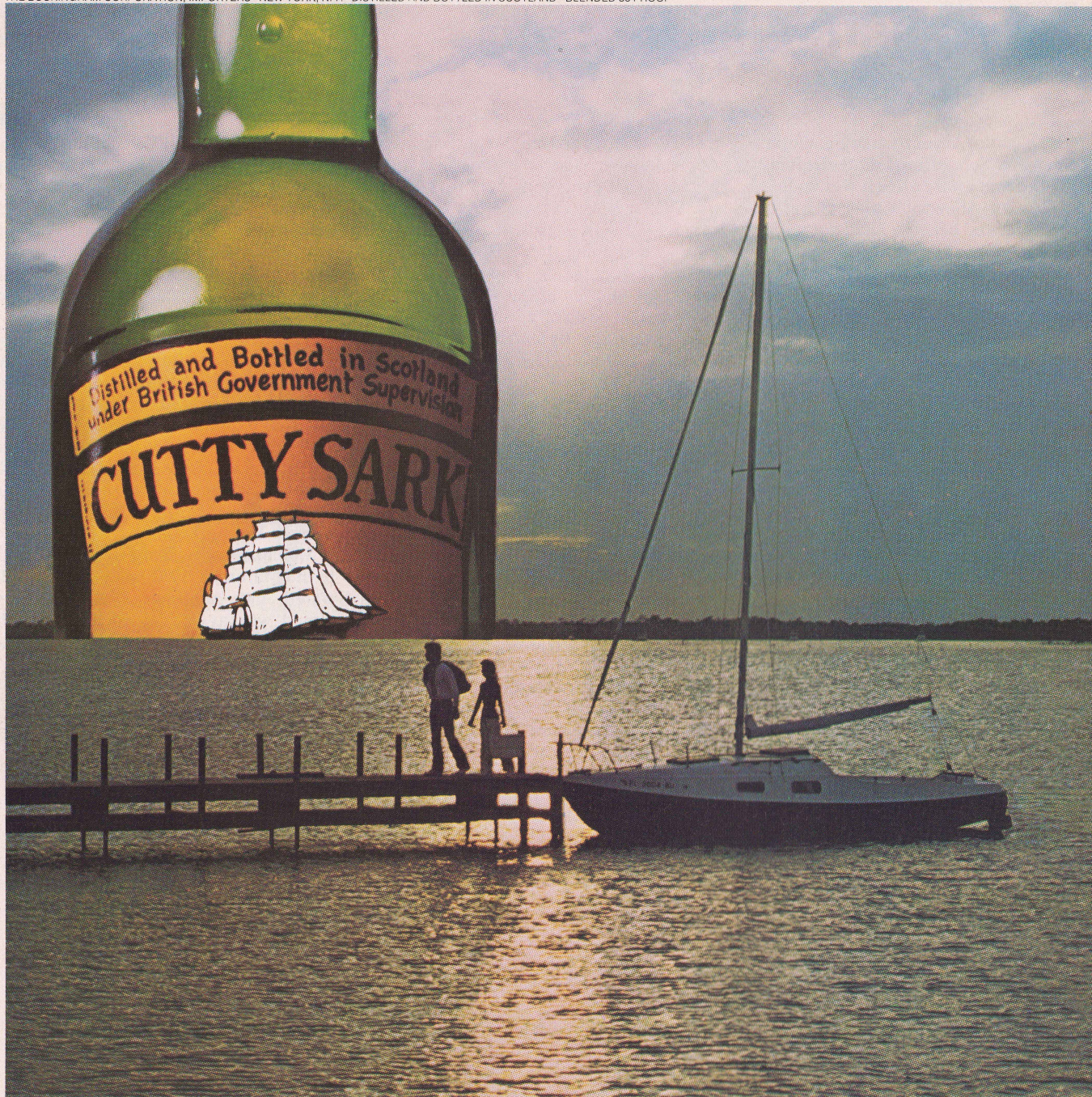
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...and now it's time for a Cutty.

On Shooting Soccer

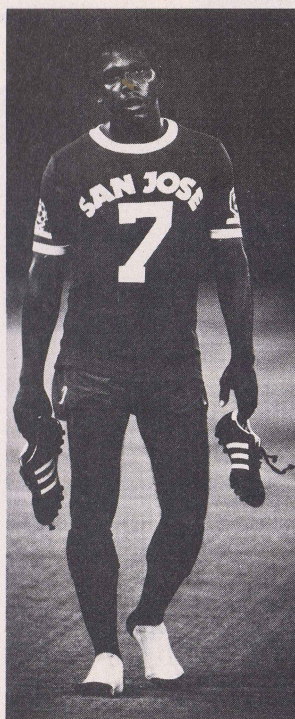
George Tiedemann, photographer for
The Evening and Sunday Bulletin and Philadelphia Atoms

*F*ilm, a motorized camera, a long telephoto lens and a pair of Adidas. With that and the sound of the whistle we're off and running. Yes, that's right, the players, officials, and me. Toting almost ten pounds of photographic equipment I follow that star covered ball up and down the field many times changing direction before getting off a shot.

Click.... Click. Click. Click....run, stop, focus. Click, run, stop, focus, click, click....click....



A corner kick. Oh no, this could be the winning goal! It's on the far side of the field. In a dead sprint 75 yards away I get to the position for the shot...bam...the ball's in flight. In a glance I scan the crowd at the mouth of the goal looking for the players who will be attempting to get their head on the ball. There it is! In an instant the lens is focused...click, click, click.... The goalie swiftly scoops the ball out of the air and with a shot from his foot the ball rockets seventy yards down field. Once again the chase along the sideline continues...run, stop, focus, click, click, click, click....



*E*ight to ten rolls of film later the final whistle sounds. The players and fans make their hasty exit from what is quickly become a silent arena littered with paper cups, candy wrappers, and small paper bags blowing amongst discarded pop corn and peanut shells.

Yes, that final whistle ends the action on the playing field, but it's also a cue for some photographers to take that monstrous telephoto lens off the front of the camera and quickly replace it with a wide angle lens, that's needed to get pictures of near subjects. With the lens switch made, and the Adidas in flight you quickly pass the shower bound players.

The instant the photographer passes the exiting players he must commit his camera to recording the cheers or tears, for in a few seconds the players will disappear under the stadium bleachers.

*A*s the last player passes the camera, the photographer makes his last dash past the exhausted players making their way through the tunnel. This time not to get their pictures but only to get in the middle of the first group of players entering the locker room. Hopefully that maneuver will get the photographer past security and into the locker room. There, with any luck, the photographer will capture on film the private side of victory or defeat. The side that the public will not see without the camera.



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NASL CLOSEUP

GARY DARRELL, Mr. Consistency

WASHINGTON DIPLOMATS



by Chuck Cascio
Alexandria Journal

Mr. Cascio is the author of the newly released book "Soccer U.S.A."

Five-eight and 150 pounds won't usually get you too far in most major American sports. In basketball, it'll get you a stiff neck from looking up at your teammates and the chance to pass off a lot to them. In football, it'll get you a permanent pass to the emergency ward. In baseball, it might help get you to first base via walks. But in soccer, Americans are told, size doesn't matter as much as such factors as conditioning, finesse and thinking. And soccer has proof, particularly in the form of 29-year old Gary Darrell, Washington Diplomats' midfielder.

Darrell, at five-eight and 150, knows how to make his presence felt in soccer's most important way—"He puts the ball in the back of the net," says Diplomats' coach Dennis Viollet in his typically straightforward clipped British way. In fact, in the two year history of the Diplomats, no one has hit the back of the net more than Darrell's 18 times. And he's helped out others with four assists, too.

But how? How can the fans see Gary Darrell make himself a giant on a soccer field?

First of all, watch number 10 on offense when he *doesn't* have the ball. Darrell is one of the most active men in soccer. He's either directing traffic for teammates, feinting to keep an opponent off balance, or breaking for an open spot on the field. No wasted motion. Nothing flashy. Just a sense of where he must be and what he must do to make things happen.

And then, when things do start to happen, watch Darrell with the ball. He dribbles classically, without breaking stride, cutting and kicking in one

fluid motion.

Darrell's full value to the Diplomats, however, is not measured solely in his offensive output. "The thing that makes Gary so valuable is his work rate," Viollet explains. "He's up the field and down the field a lot; he works hard on offense and defense."

As important as the actual work itself is Darrell's attitude toward his work; it is the attitude of a complete pro. Darrell executes instinctively, thoughtfully and precisely. "He knows what his role is on the field," Viollet says, "and he knows how to fill it. He's not a hot dog, so some people underrate him, but make no mistake—he's a gifted athlete."

Eavesdropping, a popular activity around Washington, played an important part in the Diplomats' acquisition of Darrell and his gifts. Seems Darrell became available in 1974 after the Montreal Olympique franchise folded. Viollet, who had just been named coach of the new Washington franchise, overheard NASL Commissioner Phil Woosnam raving about one particular Montreal player. Not one to leave any lead unexplored, Viollet contacted Darrell and offered him a tryout. Viollet, a former Manchester United standout as a player, had no trouble recognizing Darrell's talents, and the Bermuda-born Darrell began playing his soccer in the Nation's Capitol.

"His most remarkable asset," Viollet says, "is seeing the open spaces on the field and taking advantage of them." And while Darrell's ability may make him an unsung hero to fans around the NASL, opposing teams have learned the hard way not to let Darrell's unimposing physical presence lull them into overlooking him. In 1974, for example,

playing in San Jose, Darrell scored all three Washington goals against the Earthquakes, leading the Diplomats to a 3-2 victory. It was San Jose's only loss at home for the entire season. Regularly over the past two seasons, Darrell has been the man who scores in close contests where one goal can mean the difference between winning and losing.

Darrell has developed his nose for the goal through 25 years of soccer playing in the sun of his native Bermuda. He played for the Bermudian National Team from 1966 through 1974 and he led the Bermudian League in scoring in 1974 as a member of the Devonshire Colts. He is also involved in a lucrative carpet business with his brother in Bermuda, where he lives with his wife Jackie and son Cleavaughn.

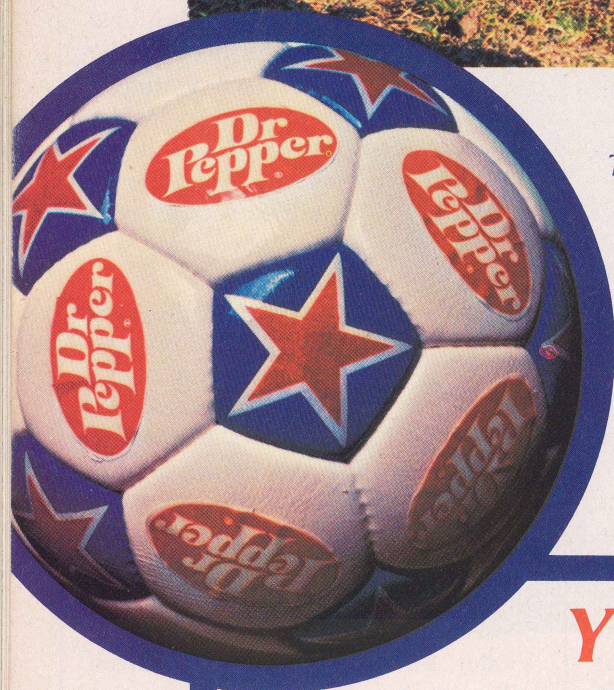
In the Washington area, Darrell provides the Diplomats with good off-field representation, making regular appearances at youth clinics and even as an official at youth games.

Darrell returns to the Diplomats in 1976 as somewhat of a fixture in midfield. For the Diplomats to reach the NASL playoffs in the tough Eastern Division against the likes of Tampa Bay and Miami, they will need another consistent performance from Darrell. Viollet, for one, is confident Darrell will come through.

"I don't plan any changes for Gary," Viollet says. "Nothing different is planned. He knows what I want from him and I'm sure he'll continue to produce."

There's no reason to expect him not to. Gary Darrell is consistent. He's a pro. And in soccer, pros come in all sizes.

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PHILADELPHIA **atoms** Roster

No.	Player	Position	Height (Meters)	Weight (Kilos)	Age	1975 Club
1	RENE VIZCAINO	Goalkeeper	5-8 (1.73)	150 (68)	29	Univ. de Guad.
1	JIM MILLER	Goalkeeper	6-0 (1.82)	175 (80)	24	Ukrainian Natl.
1	DINO PRONCHICK	Goalkeeper	6-2 (1.90)	175 (80)	23	None
2	BARRY BARTO	Midfielder	5-8 (1.72)	155 (71)	26	ATOMS
3	RAFAEL CONTRERAS	Defender	5-9 (1.77)	156 (71)	23	Guadalajara
4	JORGE GOMEZ	Defender	5-9 (1.77)	163 (74)	29	Univ. de Guad.
5	SALVADOR NAVARRO	Defender	5-9 (1.77)	145 (66)	26	Guadalajara
6	CARLOS CALDERON	Forward	5-10 (1.78)	155 (71)	31	Guadalajara
7	BELISARIO LOPEZ	Forward	5-8 (1.72)	145 (66)	25	Univ. de Guad.
8	JUAN OLAGUE	Midfielder	5-10 (1.78)	152 (69)	26	Guadalajara
9	EMILIO CAMACHO	Forward	6-0 (1.82)	158 (72)	28	Guadalajara
10	PEDRO HERRADA	Midfielder	5-8 (1.72)	147 (67)	28	Guadalajara
11	GEORGE O'NEILL	Midfielder	5-8 (1.73)	155 (71)	33	ATOMS
12	TOM GALATI	Defender	5-8 (1.72)	185 (84)	24	ATOMS
13	VICTOR MEDINA	Midfielder	5-8 (1.72)	148 (66)	24	Guadalajara
15	VICTOR PEREZ	Forward	5-9 (1.75)	143 (65)	26	Guadalajara
16	EDDIE ENGERTH	Forward	5-11 (1.79)	165 (75)	21	Tampa Bay
17	BILL STRAUB	Defender	6-1 (1.85)	165 (75)	25	ATOMS
18	JORGE PULITA	Forward	6-2 (1.90)	185 (84)	29	Ukrainian Natl.
19	JOHN BOROZZI	Midfielder	5-9 (1.77)	160 (73)	22	Univ. of Pa.

Coach: JESUS "Chuco" PONCE
Assistant Coach: MALAQUIAS CASTILLO
Trainer: MARCO COLLAZOS
Equipment: CARLOS LIRA

Atoms Schedule and Results

	Atoms Results	Goals
St. Louis Stars	(L) 1-3	Perez
Hartford Bicentennials	(L) 1-2	Perez
Rochester Lancers	(W) 1-0	Perez
New York Cosmos	(W) 2-1 OT	Perez, Lopez
Los Angeles Aztecs	(L) 1-2 TB	Herrada
Boston Minutemen	(L) 1-2	Perez
Miami Toros	(L) 0-1 TB	—
Dallas Tornadoes	(L) 1-3	O'Neill
Tampa Bay Rowdies	(W) 2-1	Herrada, Own Goal
San Diego Jaws	(W) 1-0	Olague
Chicago Sting	(L) 1-5	Calderon
Toronto Metros	(W) 1-0	Lopez

1976 ATOMS RESULTS (5-7)

(As of June 20, 1976)

Wednesday, June 23—Boston Minutemen	7:30 p.m.
Friday, June 25—at Rochester	8:00 p.m.
Tuesday, June 29—Washington Diplomats	7:30 p.m.
Friday, July 2—Chicago Sting	7:30 p.m.
Saturday, July 10—New York Cosmos	7:30 p.m.
Friday, July 16—Hartford Bicentennials	7:30 p.m.
Saturday, July 17—at Miami	7:30 p.m.
Wednesday, July 21—at Tampa Bay	7:30 p.m.
Saturday, July 24—at Seattle	10:30 p.m.
Friday, July 30—Vancouver Whitecaps	7:30 p.m.
Friday, August 6—Toronto Metros	7:30 p.m.
Friday, August 13—at Washington	8:00 p.m.

NASL Games This Week

TONIGHT	— BOSTON at ATOMS NEW YORK at CHICAGO ROCHESTER at TAMPA BAY
THURSDAY	— SAN DIEGO at HARTFORD
FRIDAY	— ATOMS at ROCHESTER (8:00 P.M.) SEATTLE at MINNESOTA MIAMI at VANCOUVER
SATURDAY	— SAN JOSE at PORTLAND SAN DIEGO at ST. LOUIS HARTFORD at DALLAS MINNESOTA at LOS ANGELES CHICAGO at SAN ANTONIO
SUNDAY	— SEATTLE at BOSTON MIAMI at TORONTO NEW YORK at WASHINGTON DALLAS at SAN JOSE
TUESDAY	— WASHINGTON at ATOMS (7:30 P.M.)
NEXT WED.	— SAN ANTONIO at HARTFORD ROCHESTER at NEW YORK BOSTON at PORTLAND DALLAS at SEATTLE

PHILADELPHIA atoms lineup

No.	Name	Position	Shots	Goals	Assists	Points	Fouls
1	Rene Vizcaino	Gk.					
1	Jim Miller	Gk.					
1	Dino Pronchick	Gk.					
2	Barry Barto	Mfd.					
3	Rafael Contreras	Def.					
4	Jorge Gomez	Def.					
5	Salvador Navarro	Def.					
6	Carlos Calderon	Fwd.					
7	Belisario Lopez	Fwd.					
8	Juan Olague	Mfd.					
9	Emilio Camacho	Fwd.					
10	Pedro Herrada	Mfd.					
11	George O'Neill	Mfd.					
12	Tom Galati	Def.					
13	Victor Medina	Mfd.					
15	Victor Perez	Fwd.					
16	Eddie Engerth	Fwd.					
17	Bill Straub	Def.					
18	Jorge Pulita	Fwd.					
19	John Borozzi	Mfd.					

SCORING

TEAM	PLAYER

1	ATOMS

Officials for Boston Game

Referee

Gino D'Ippolito

Linesmen

Donald Byron

Howard Krollfeife

1976 ATOMS STATISTICS

(as of June 20)

(WON 5, LOST 7)

	Games	Minutes	Goals	Assists	Points	Shots	Fouls
PEREZ	10	998	5	0	10	35	6
LOPEZ	12	1111	2	4	8	36	32
HERRADA	10	764	2	4	8	14	11
OLAGUE	11	987	1	2	4	35	10
O'NEILL	5	465	1	0	2	6	8
CALDERON	3	217	1	0	2	3	4
CONTRERAS	12	1070	0	1	1	3	16
CAMACHO	7	591	0	1	1	10	18
MATOS	4	119	0	1	1	3	1
MEDINA	10	931	0	0	0	12	23
GALATI	10	916	0	0	0	6	22
PULITA	1	66	0	0	0	5	4
NAVARRO	12	1062	0	0	0	4	15
ENGERTH	2	72	0	0	0	3	1
GARCIA	1	90	0	0	0	3	0
BARTO	5	204	0	0	0	2	3
BOROZZI	3	69	0	0	0	1	2
GOMEZ	12	1111	0	0	0	0	15
STRAUB	4	236	0	0	0	0	1

ATOMS 12 1111 13* 13 37 181 192

Opponents 12 1111 20† 19 59 233 198

*Including own goal.

†Including 2 tiebreaker goals.

GOALKEEPERS

	Games	Minutes	Saves	Shots	Goals vs.	S.O.	Avg.
VIZCAINO	12	1058	107	226	17	4	1.45
MILLER	2	53	3	7	1	0	1.43

ATOMS 12 1111 110 233 18 4 1.46

Opponents 12 1111 86 181 13 1 1.06



PELE RETURNS FOR REVENGE—JULY 10, THIS TIME
GIORGIO CHINAGLIA and the rest of The Eastern D

SUMMARY



minutemen lineup

	TIME	ASSISTS

2	OT	TB	Final

Officials for Washington Game

Referee

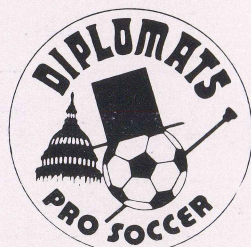
James Highet

Linesmen

Donald Byron

James Ross

No.	Name	Position	Shots	Goals	Assists	Points	Fouls
0	Tom Guerry	Gk.					
1	Shep Messing	Gk.					
1	Mickey Cohen	Gk.					
3	Alan Wooler	Def.					
6	Derek Jefferson	Def.					
8	Peter Nover	Def.					
9	Bert Bowery	Fwd.					
10	Wolfgang Suhnholz	Mfd.					
12	Ade Coker	Fwd.					
13	Tom Walsh	Def.					
14	Phil David	Def.					
16	Jorge Calado	Def.					
17	Jose Soroa	Mfd.					
18	Robert Garcia	Mfd.					
21	Gene Geimer	Fwd.					
22	Geoff Davies	Fwd.					



diplomats lineup



WITH ITALIAN SCORING STAR
Division rival New York Cosmos.

No.	Name	Position	Shots	Goals	Assists	Points	Fouls
1	Eric Martin	Gk.					
2	Roger Minton	Def.					
3	Trevor Thompson	Def.					
4	Alain Maca	Def.					
5	Tony Macken	Mfd.					
6	Alan Spavin	Mfd.					
7	John Kerr	Mfd.					
8	Leroy DeLeon	Fwd.					
9	Paul Cannell	Fwd.					
10	Gary Darrell	Mfd.					
11	Gerry Ingram	Fwd.					
12	Stojan Trickovic	Fwd.					
14	Tom McConville	Def.					
15	Roy Ellam	Def.					
16	Roy Willner	Mfd.					
17	John Grasser	Gk.					
18	Don Reiter	Def.					
20	Mark Lowenstein	Def.					



Boston Minutemen Roster

No.	Player	Position	Height	Weight	Age	Nationality
0	TOM GUERRY	Goalkeeper	6-1	170	22	American
1	SHEP MESSING	Goalkeeper	6-0	170	26	American
1	MICKEY COHEN	Goalkeeper	5-9	155	27	American
3	ALAN WOOLER	Defender	6-1	170	22	British
6	DEREK JEFFERSON	Defender	5-11	170	28	British
8	PETER NOVER	Defender	6-5	195	26	German
9	BERT BOWERY	Forward	6-1	195	21	British
10	WOLFGANG SUHNHOLZ	Midfielder	5-10	163	29	German
12	ADE COKER	Forward	5-9	150	23	British
13	TOM WALSH	Defender	5-11	175	22	American
14	PHIL DAVID	Defender	6-1	185	30	England
16	JORGE CALADO	Defender	6-3	185	32	Portuguese
17	JOSE SOROA	Midfielder	6-0	170	26	Uruguayan
18	ROBERT GARCIA	Midfielder	5-7	155	22	American
21	GENE GEIMER	Forward	5-10	170	26	American
22	GEOFF DAVIES	Forward	6-0	175	29	British

Coach: HUBERT VOGELSINGER

Trainer: TONY DOUGAL

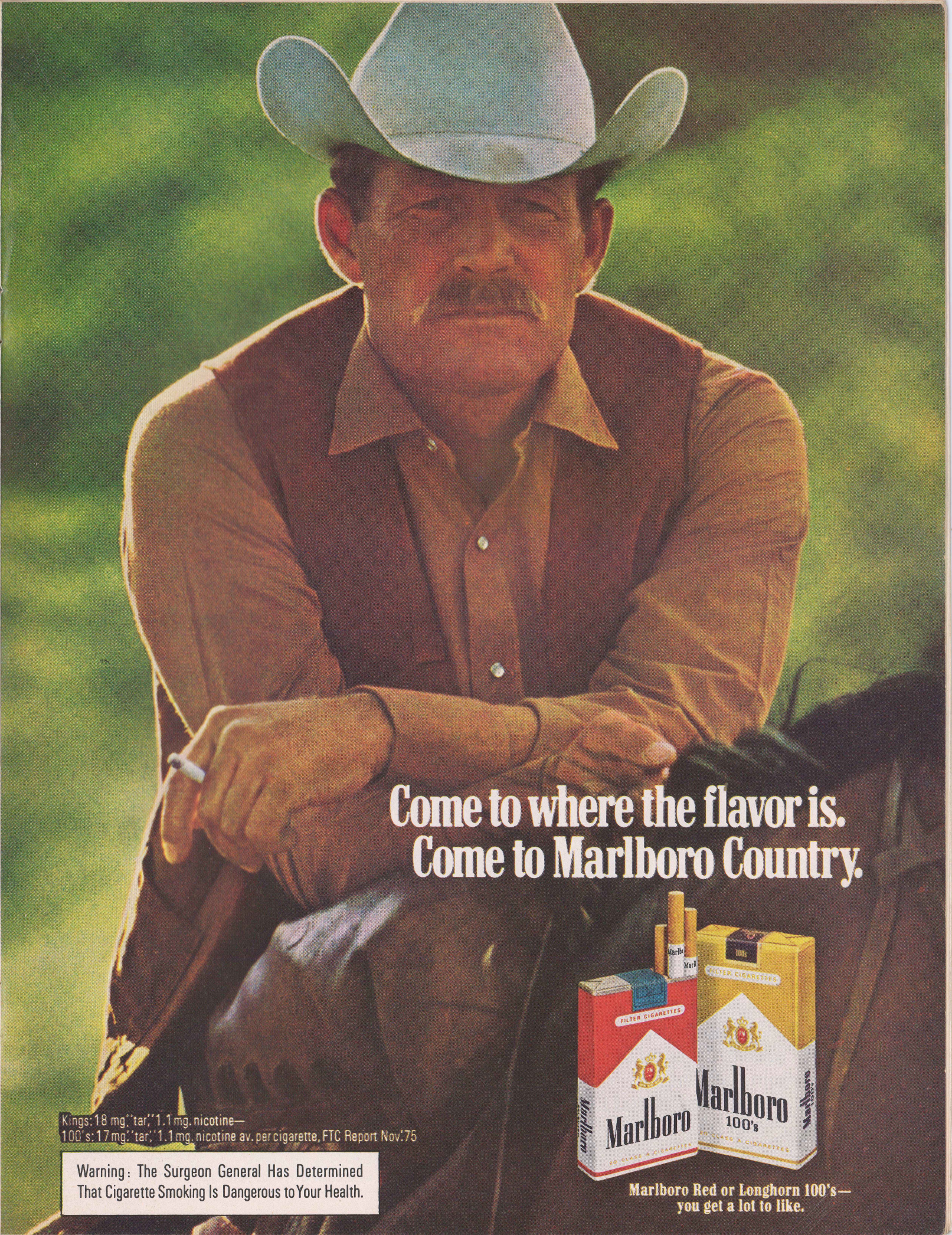


Washington Diplomats Roster

No.	Player	Position	Height	Weight	Age	Birthplace
1	ERIC MARTIN	Goalkeeper	6-0	175	30	England
2	ROGER MINTON	Defender	5-9	160	25	England
3	TREVOR THOMPSON	Defender	5-9	155	20	England
4	ALAIN MACA	Defender	6-1	180	25	Belgium
5	TONY MACKEN	Midfielder	5-9	165	26	Ireland
6	ALAN SPAVIN	Midfielder	5-8	160	34	England
7	JOHN KERR	Midfielder	5-7	150	32	Scotland
8	LEROY DE LEON	Forward	5-9	165	28	Trinidad
9	PAUL CANNELL	Forward	5-11	165	23	England
10	GARY DARRELL	Midfielder	5-8	150	29	Bermuda
11	GERRY INGRAM	Forward	5-10	160	29	England
12	STOJAN TRICKOVIC	Forward	5-8	150	29	Yugoslavia
14	TOM McCONVILLE	Defender	5-11	170	30	Ireland
15	ROY ELLAM	Defender	6-1	180	33	England
16	ROY WILLNER	Midfielder	5-7	145	26	USA
17	JOHN GRASSER	Goalkeeper	6-2	175	23	USA
18	DON REITER	Defender	6-1	175	21	USA
20	MARK LOWENSTEIN	Defender	5-6	145	23	USA

Head Coach: DENNIS VIOLETT

Assistant Coach: ALAN SPAVIN



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NASL Alignment/1976

NORTH AMERICAN SOCCER LEAGUE

Atlantic Conference

Northern Division

Boston Minutemen
Chicago Sting
Hartford Bicentennials
Rochester Lancers
Toronto Metros

Eastern Division

Miami Toros
New York Cosmos
Philadelphia Atoms
Tampa Bay Rowdies
Washington Diplomats

Pacific Conference

Southern Division

Dallas Tornado
Los Angeles Aztecs
San Antonio Thunder
San Diego Jaws
San Jose Earthquakes

Western Division

Minnesota Kicks
Portland Timbers
St. Louis Stars
Seattle Sounders
Vancouver Whitecaps

TEAM STANDINGS

Each winning team will be awarded six points toward its NASL season standings, whether victory occurs in regulation or overtime play. No points will be granted for a loss. Winners and losers will receive one bonus point for each goal scored in regulation or overtime play up to a maximum of three bonus points per team per game.

PLAYOFF FORMAT

The NASL's Playoff format has been expanded for the 1976 season with 12 teams reaching the playoffs as compared to eight in 1975. The two top teams in each Division will automatically qualify. In addition, the two teams with the highest total points from the remaining six teams in each conference will qualify. Under this structure, it is possible for four teams to qualify from one division.

SOCCER BOWL 76

The NASL Championship Game Soccer Bowl—76 will climax the season on Saturday, August 28 at the new Kingdome in Seattle.



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Winning the Super Stars again this year did a lot for Kyle Rote Jr.'s favorite charities, and it gave the modest Theology student as big an ego boost as he will allow himself to savor.

But it underlined one of the overriding ironies of his 24-year-old life. "People think that somehow winning the Superstars makes me a better soccer player," Rote comments. "Of course, it does not."

Coping with Superstaritis has been a major challenge for America's best-known soccer player since he first won the TV-created event in 1974. Even as he was accepting another trophy this year, Rote was even more concerned about how he would match those achievements on the soccer field.

First and foremost, Rote is a center forward for the Dallas Tornado. At least he will continue to be that if he can overcome the challenges of this season, a summer which promises to be the toughest yet of his pro career.

Ever since he burst upon the NASL in 1973 winning the scoring championship and the Rookie of the Year Award, Rote has been a starter and a hub of the Dallas offense. Even as the team declined in 1975, Rote continued to be a focal point, a constant. He led the team in scoring again this season, though his and the team's totals were small.

Almost as formidable a hurdle as the pressures of improving defenses and the fading of Dallas team play were the relentless demands of his celebrity. Always there were dozens of requests to make personal appearances, to travel everywhere. Wherever the Tornado went, it was Rote who was solicited to come early, ahead of his teammates, for interviews, luncheons, promotions and so on. Autograph seekers clogged his path in every direction. Increasingly the league office scheduled trips for him. He found himself missing team meetings, even practices, more often than either he or his coach liked.

After the disturbing 9-13 season of last year the Tornado cleaned house and rebuilt the club from top to bottom. It was then that Rote sat himself down reflectively and resolved to rededicate himself to soccer this year.

"I was disappointed in myself last year," he admitted. "Because I allowed myself to think too much about what was wrong with the team or the club and this affected my contribution. I resolved that I would throw myself deeply into soccer preparation for this year just as totally as I had for the Superstars the first year."

Even as he was honing himself for the cash rich Superstars finals, working out seven different events in rotation, Rote was out on winter mornings learning soccer, one on one, with new Dallas coach Al Miller.

Into the teams training camp the intensified work continued. Rote had to look no farther than the daily papers to see that

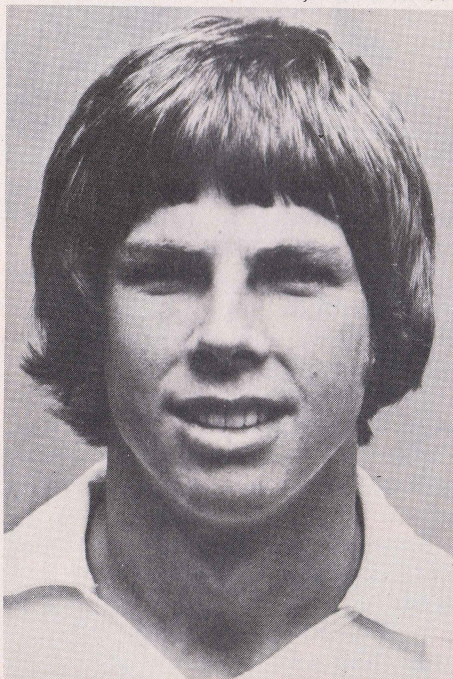
NASL CLOSEUP

KYLE ROTE Jr.

DALLAS TORNADO

by
Temple Pouncey
Dallas News

Courtesy of Dallas Tornado



"Kyle is getting the message. He is showing the kind of toughness I wanted to see. This kid is a great learner. You know he is intelligent, picks things up quickly and he is becoming more mobile on the field. More active, which makes him harder to handle."

Miller planned to bring 3 new forwards over from England. Since Miller plays a 4-3-3 system, this clearly meant there was no place for Rote in the starting lineup unless he made measurable progress.

"What we needed to have from Kyle at that point—Miller remarked, was more aggressiveness." "He's proven he can take his lumps without complaint, but if he is to be a top notch winning player he has to dish it out more. Punish the defenders just as much as they punish him."

After only 2 pre-season games Miller en-

thused, "Kyle is getting the message. He is showing the kind of toughness I wanted to see. This kid is a great learner. You know he is intelligent, he picks things up quickly and he is becoming more mobile on the field. More active, which makes him harder to handle."

Almost all soccer fans know Rote's familiar story, presented in his recent as told to book—"Beyond the Goal." Son of the pro football star, he followed the familiar grid-iron path through his college freshman year at Oklahoma State. Then after knee surgery and deep contemplation of his values he switched to scholar and played soccer at the University of the South in Sewanee, Tennessee. There he met and married a Georgia blonde, Mary Lynne Lykins, and together they live, with 3 cats, in a plain and modest one story brick house on a quiet street in the Inwood area of North Dallas.

After a year of Law School, Rote switched to Theology School at SMU from which he is currently on sabbatical. Much of his non-soccer time goes into church work—the Rotes are Episcopalans and they list among their favorite activities, church retreats on weekends.

The six foot, 190 pound athlete, with the heavily muscled thighs, jogs, plays tennis, reads and writes for relaxation. He is seldom without a legal size yellow pad upon which he jots pages of personal thoughts after games and other activities.

"It is kind of a compulsive thing," he says of his writing, "to get my thoughts together, to clear my mind."

The Rotes spend part of each summer conducting youth soccer camps and Kyle was appointed director of all the Tornado's camp programs this year. Having played baseball, football, basketball, and hockey as a boy, Rote believes strongly in encouraging young people to play all the sports rather than concentrating on just one. So the round ball is only half of his camp sessions.

Though he has limited his appearances, Rote continues to attend carefully selected functions with invariably lucid well thought out "speeches" given in a disarmingly informal style and he remains one of sports most polite and indefatigable autograph signers.

"One of the things that impresses me about him the most" Rote said of Pele last year, "is the way he handles his celebrity." The same could be and has been said of Rote, mature at 24.

For the future Rote is interested in writing more books, returning to Theology school, founding a camp for exceptional children, building a house from scratch with his own labor and in founding a soccer players association.

A more immediate goal however, is to establish himself in the minds of everyone that he is as much of a contributor on the soccer field as he is on the TV Superstars screen.

John Kowalik often has been described as a soccer player who seems to always be in the right place at the right time. Chicago Sting management is hoping that description will take on a double meaning this year.

When the regular portion of the North American Soccer League outdoor season opens in April, Sting owner Lee Stern is counting on Kowalik to aid his young franchise in at least two ways.

On the field, there really isn't much concern over Kowalik's ability to fill the scoring void left by departed striker Gordon Hill, the Sting's leading goal producer last season and an NASL All-Star. Hill won't be back due to the purchase of his contract by Manchester United of England's First Division.

Kowalik, a 32-year old veteran of world class competition, definitely should become a top threat on offense for Chicago. He always has been one of the leading pointmakers in European professional circles and several seasons ago was Holland's No. 1 scorer.

But perhaps just as important to Stern and Sting general manager Jim Walker, Kowalik hopefully will serve as a magnet to boost attendance in Chicago's cavernous Soldier Field. The team could use some help in that department.

Despite playing an excellent, attacking style of soccer in its inaugural season last summer under coach Bill Foulkes, the franchise's average crowd was 4,330 for NASL contests which made it 15th among the league's 20 teams.

That really wasn't too bad for starters considering there wasn't enough time for a full-fledged, pre-season promotion campaign. But it definitely left room for improvement.

Several exhibitions helped hike the Sting's turnstile count to more respectable figures and the game which really lit the lightbulbs in Stern's mind was the Soldier Field visit by Poland's national side.

Chicago's huge Polish population, the biggest this side of Warsaw, turned out in force on that warm, summer evening and the final count was just under 14,000 spectators. It was the Sting's largest home crowd of the season.

And, it is no coincidence Kowalik is Polish.

Kowalik was Poland's Player of the Year as a 20-year old. Twenty times he was a member of the country's international team.

NASL CLOSEUP

JOHN KOWALIK

by
Mike Conklin
Chicago Tribune

CHICAGO STING



Bill Smith



"We realized after the exhibition game how important it would be for us to get a Polish star like John," said Stern. "We also had several others in mind, but we were hampered with this being an Olympic year.

"John should be a tremendous asset for us," Stern continued. "I'm sure a lot of Chicagoans, and not just our Polish, will be anxious to see him play.

"The thing is," added Stern, "John is an exceptional person off the field, too. I'm sure we'll keep him busy with plenty of appearances and speaking engagements."

Kowalik should prove to be a popular, entertaining guest at anyone's party.

An exceptionally erudite, well-traveled chap who once was a history teacher, he can speak several languages fluently, collects art, studies Egyptian archeology, and loves good food as he also operates a restaurant in Holland where he's most recently been playing for the Nijmegen club.

"John is the type of person who really enjoys being around other people," says George Fishwick, Sting personnel director and long-time soccer official in this country and Europe. "He never really likes to make a big thing out of his own accomplishments. He prefers to know more about others."

Fishwick, like many other Chicagoans, became a big Kowalik fan when he played in the Windy City in 1968 for the old Mustangs of the NASL. He left some lasting impressions before the team dropped from the league after one season.

The 5-foot-7-inch, 145-pound crafty forward finessed his way to 30 goals in that single campaign for the Mustangs

and the total still stands as a NASL one-year record. His 69 total points for the summer also is in the league's record book, where he is still listed as the 19th all-time scorer.

For his efforts, he was named the NASL's Most Valuable Player in 1968.

Kowalik has returned to Chicago on a number of occasions since that year to visit relatives and old friends. A Chicago recreational group, the Menomonee Club, still makes an annual award in his name.

Last summer Kowalik dropped in for a visit at the Sting's plush offices high atop Michigan Avenue and also attended a game: Chicago's 6-2 shellacking of the Philadelphia Atoms.

Naturally, both parties became interested in each other.

Foulkes made several trips to Holland on off-season scouting tours to watch Kowalik compete. Stern joined the coach for one of the journeys earlier this year and it was then he came to terms with Kowalik.

"It was the same arrangement we have with some of our English players like Eddie Cliff and Clive Griffiths," explained Stern. "We simply bought his contract and that means he isn't considered a 'loan' player.

"He's ours," added Stern, "and we're fortunate. John still has a lot of good seasons left in him because he keeps in such good shape like most Polish players."

Kowalik has been a teammate of the Sting's Stefan Szefer on several past occasions. Szefer also belongs to his fan club.

The chances appear great that John Kowalik once again will be in the right place at the right time.

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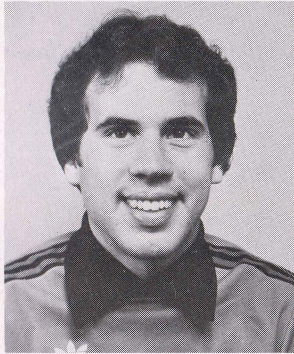
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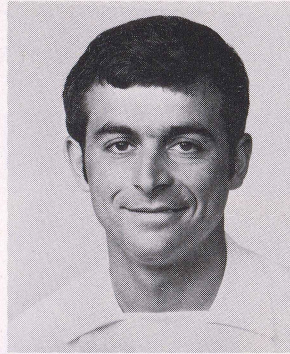
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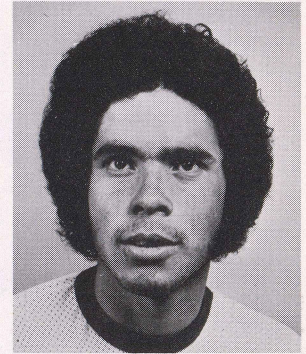
1 Rene Vizcaino
Goalkeeper



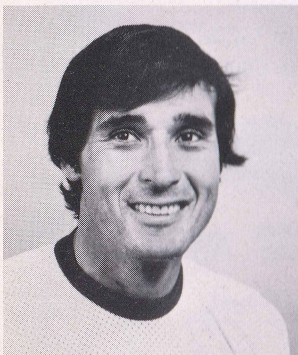
1 Jim Miller
Goalkeeper



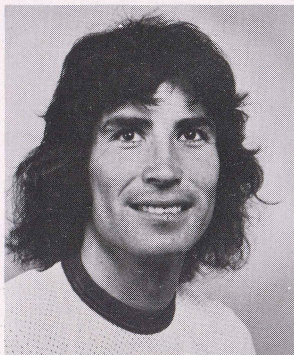
2 Barry Barto
Midfield



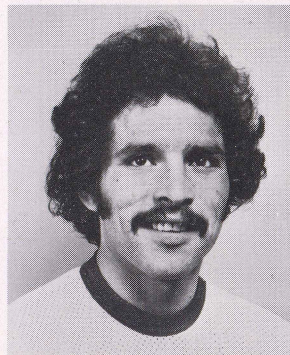
3 Rafael Contreras
Defense



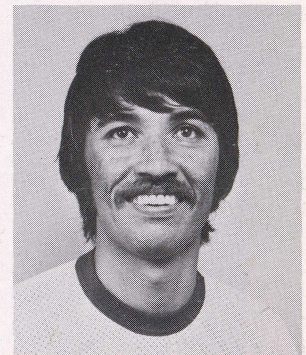
4 Jorge Gomez
Defense



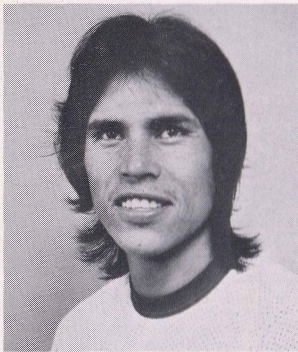
5 Salvador Navarro
Defense



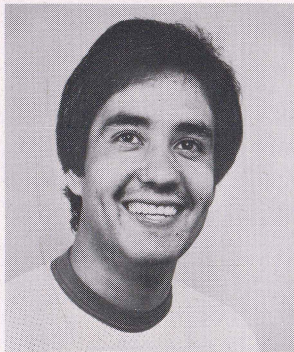
7 Belisario Lopez
Forward



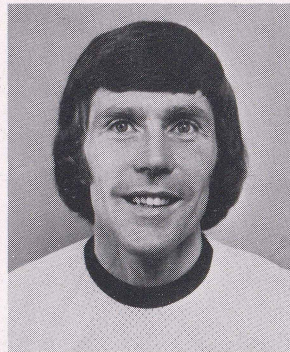
8 Juan Olague
Midfield



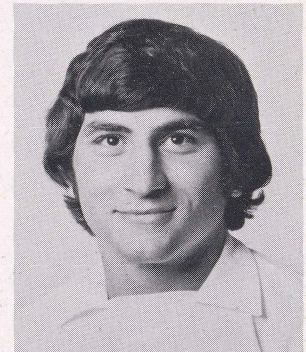
9 Emilio Camacho
Forward



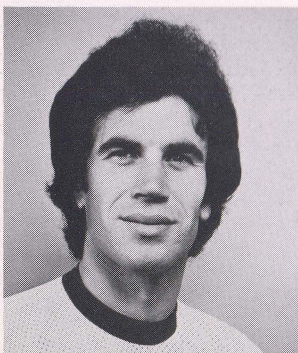
10 Pedro Herrada
Midfield



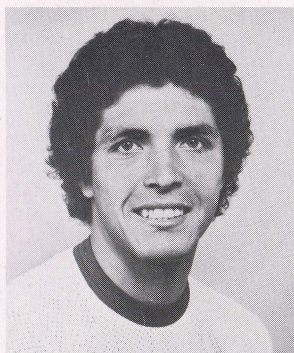
11 George O'Neill
Midfield



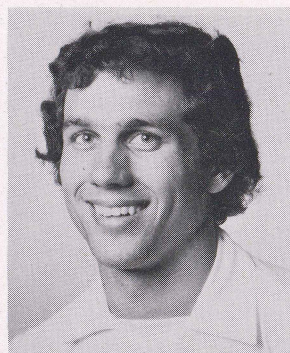
12 Tom Galati
Defense



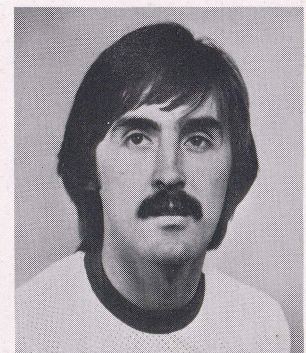
14 Manny Matos
Midfield



16 Alejandro Pena
Midfield



17 Bill Straub
Defense

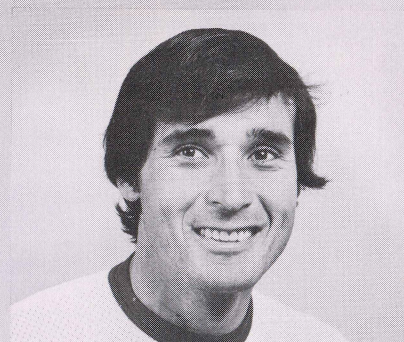


18 Luis Lefauere
Forward

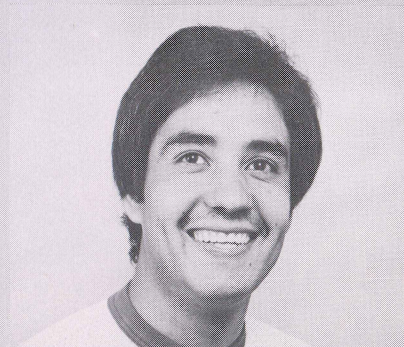
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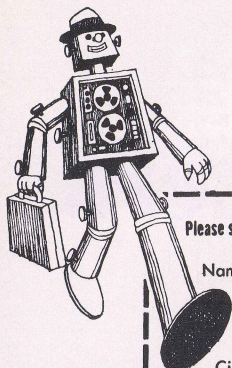
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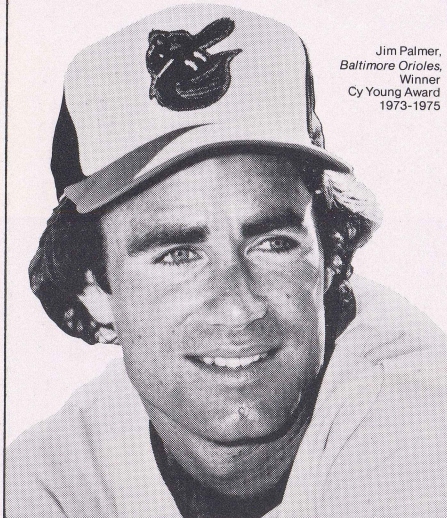
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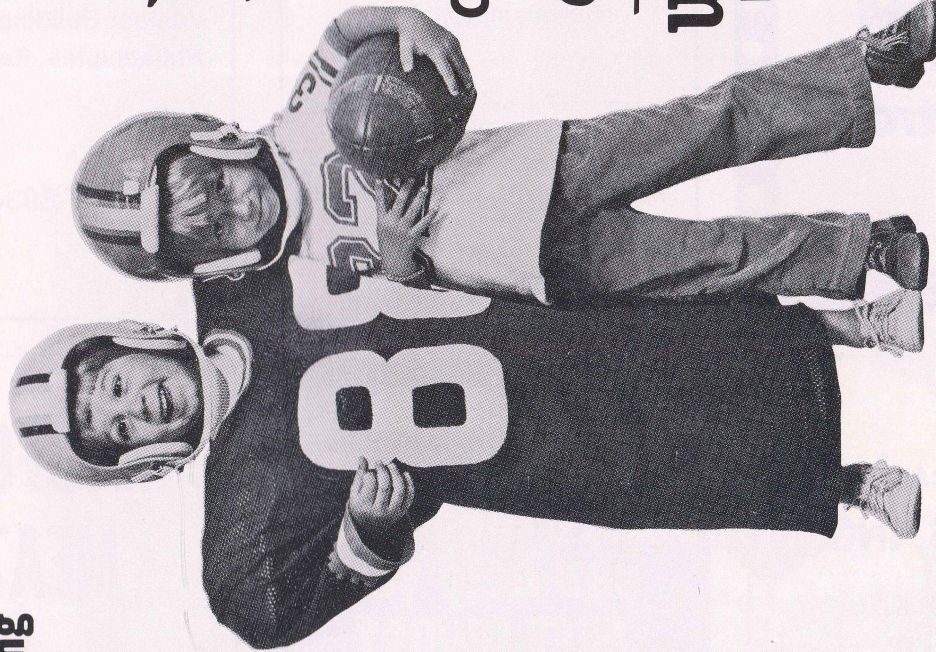
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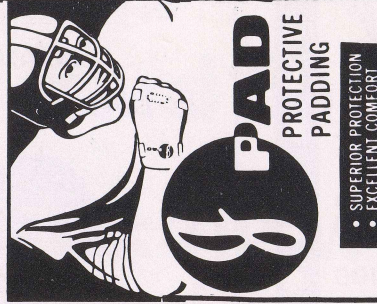
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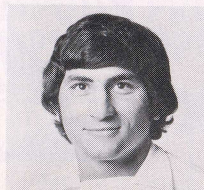
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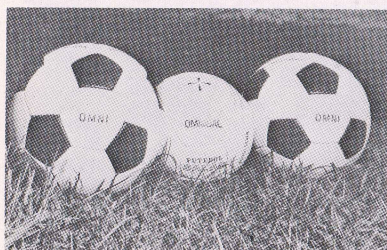
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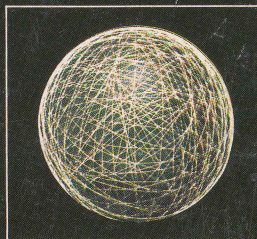
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