

EM'S SCHEDULE

June 23: Bellingham in Eugene.
June 24: Bellingham in Eugene.
June 25: Bellingham in Eugene.
June 26: Bellingham in Eugene.
June 27: Bellingham in Eugene.
June 28: Everett at Everett.
June 29: Everett at Everett.
June 30: Everett at Everett.

July 1: Everett at Everett.
July 2: Everett at Everett.
Monday through Saturday games start at 7 p.m.
Sunday games start at 6 p.m.
Sunday day games start at 2 p.m.
Boldface type denotes home games.
(Information courtesy of the Eugene Emeralds)

After years of defeat America is bound for Round of 16

By Mark McTyre
Oregon Daily Emerald

The United States soccer team has done the unthinkable, at 50-1 odds the United States has picked up its first World Cup win in 44 years and did it against Colombia to stay undefeated in World Cup '94 and almost assuredly secured a berth into the Round of 16.

On Wednesday, the United States squared off against the Colombians at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Calif., at game time, the temperature was a blistering 90 degrees and over 90,000 fans were in attendance. With more than half of the stadium cheering for the Colombians to win the game, the only thing going for the United States was its undefeated record it held at the Rose Bowl, 3-0. Another mark going against the United States was the remarkable record the Colombians had backing them; only two losses since 1991 (one of those being their last game against Romania 3-1) the other being the unconscious performance they had against Argentina prior to the World Cup, a 5-0 blow out.

As the game kicked off, both teams made unmarked offensive runs at each others goals. At the 2:35 mark of the first half, the American Eric Wynalda got a breakaway toward the Colombian goal, as he went to take his shot he just wasn't able to get a foot squarely on it. Following Wynalda's missed attempt, Ernie Stewart got another breakaway toward Colombia's goalkeeper Oscar Cordoba, as Stewart broke down the left side he sent a low worm burner toward the far post. As the shot went on its way all Cordoba could do was watch as he was out of position. The shot deflected of the post and out of dangers way for Colombia; Stewart would get his chance later in the game.

The United States also had its troubles with its own defense at the start, but all of a sudden they came up huge. Off of a Colombian corner kick the Colombians fired numerous shots on goal none of which were able to cross the goal line. Of the shots on goal, only one of them was saved by United States goalkeeper Tony Meola, the rest were saved by diving defenders.

The United States got on the board at the 34 minute mark of the first half off of one of the most embarrassing plays in World Cup history. United States midfielder John Harkes brought the ball down the left side of the field looking to cross the ball to a breaking Stewart down the middle. As Harkes made the crossing pass to the middle of the penalty box, Colombia's defender Andres Escobar tried to kick the ball out of bounds toward the baseline, but instead his kick went straight passed his goalkeeper; Harkes was credited with the goal. The United States took this lead that was handed to it into the locker room at the half.

The United States started the second half the same way they left the first, being very aggressive. With three minutes past United States defenseman Alexi Lalas scored from 13 yards out but his goal was taken away because of an offside call. With the score still 1-0 the United States forwards did not stop their relentless attack on Cordoba. At the six minute mark of the half, midfielder Tab Ramos gave Stewart a leading pass that he tucked around a charging Cordoba off of the bounce that skimmed the inside of the goal post and went in for the goal to make the score 2-0. Cordoba has been criticized by many for his unorthodox play in net. In this game he did the unthinkable, as a goalkeeper he took a throw in.

Surprises abound in World Cup groupings

By Mark McTyre
Oregon Daily Emerald

What has happened to Group A of World Cup '94? The United States is tied with Switzerland for first place as each team has one win and one tie giving them each four points.

This is a group that was supposed to be dominated by Colombia, a team that started the tournament at 12-1 odds and coming off of a prior demolition of 9-1 odds Argentina 5-0. Colombia's opener quickly turned into a nightmare for them as Romania wiped their cleats on them, winning 3-1. After that shocker two more were to come, as on Wednesday Switzerland beat Romania 4-1 and the United States beat Colombia 2-1 giving them their first World Cup victory in 44 years.

Now that the spotlight has been taken off of Group E which had two opening round upsets as the Irish-Americans went

absolutely wild when Ireland beat Italy 1-0 and the Norwegians got a last minute goal to beat Mexico 1-0, it is time for the American team and the great American fans to be heard, "We're for real and you better believe it!"

With one game left in the opening round for the United States, they have a chance to do something that no other US team has done since the 1930 World Cup, get a two game winning streak in a World Cup. To do this they will have to beat a Romanian team that has had its ups and downs.

The players to watch for Romania are Gheorghe Hagi who had a goal in each of the first two World Cup games and Florin Raducioiu who had two goals in their victory over Colombia. Romania's and the United States' chances of winning will depend heavily on these two players.

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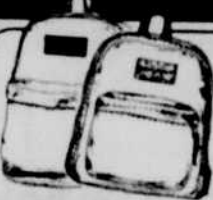


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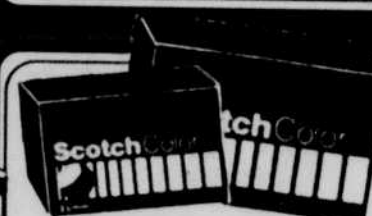
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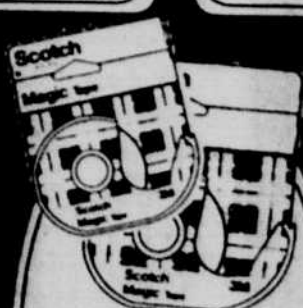
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