Thorns win with record crowd in advance of MLS All-Star Game

By Jody Lim
The Asian Reporter

Events held in advance of Major League Soccer's (MLS) All-Star Game kicked off last Friday in the Rose City. In addition to activities such as live concerts, a Grilled Cheese Throwdown, autograph sessions, a screening of the classic soccer film *Sixty-Six*, and more, the Portland Thorns hosted the Houston Dash in the squad's second-to-last regular-season home match of the National Women's Soccer League (NWSL).

The Thorns defeated the Dash 1-0 with a perfect finish by Verónica Boquete in the 54th minute. Teammate Steph Catley assisted on the goal. Portland played the match in front of a record-breaking NWSL crowd, as 19,123 soccer-crazy fans cheered the Thorns to victory.

The three points earned with the win gives the team 33 points, just one point behind the Washington Spirit, who sit in third place with 34.

Fans who were unable to attend MLS All-Star Game activities during the weekend have not missed out. Events are planned everyday until Wednesday's match between German side Bayern Munich and the MLS all-stars.

RECORD-BREAKING CROWD. *Meleana "Mana" Shim of the Portland Thorns crosses a ball during a National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) match against the Houston Dash on August 3, 2014. The game, one of many activities held in advance of Major League Soccer's (MLS) All-Star Game held in Portland, was played before a NWSL record-breaking 19,123 fans. (AR Photo/Jody Lim)*

On Monday, sports fans can go to Pioneer Courthouse Square to check out the "MLS Experience" (noon to 9:00pm), join a ceremony and take part in family-friendly activities at the dedication of a new field at east Portland's Montavilla Park (10:00am to 4:00pm), attend the Chipotle MLS Homegrown Game at Providence Park (6:00 to 9:00pm), and witness the "Men in Blazers" live show at Pioneer Courthouse Square (9:00 to 10:00pm).

The "MLS Experience" continues on Tuesday and Wednesday from noon to 9:00pm. In addition, Tuesday also features open practice sessions for both teams. Fans can watch Bayern Munich's practice from 10:00 to 11:30am and the MLS all-stars from 1:00 to 2:00pm. Gates at Providence Park open at 9:30am and close at 3:30pm.

In addition to the all-star game on Wednesday evening (kickoff is scheduled for 6:30pm), several events take place between 7:30am and 10:00pm. Fans without tickets to the match at Providence Park can watch the game on the big screen for free at Pioneer Courthouse Square.

To view a complete list of events and activities held as part of the MLS All-Star Game, visit <www.timbers.com/mlsallstar/events>.

Lust, Caution actress Tang marries in Sweden

By Angela Chen
The Associated Press

HONG KONG — *Lust, Caution* star Tang Wei found legendary director Ingmar Bergman's island home to be the perfect scene for a wedding.

The Chinese actress and South Korean director Kim Tae-yong wed in a small ceremony July 12 at Bergman's home on the Swedish island of Faro.

The couple had announced their engagement early last month. Tang's management sent out a statement saying the couple visited the Bergman home to pay their respects to the late film director and the wedding was a spur-of-the-moment decision.

At a public appearance in Shanghai, Tang was asked about her engagement and replied that when a woman comes across a "life-changing opportunity," she shouldn't let it pass her by.

Tang and Kim met on the set of his romance drama *Late Autumn* in 2010.

She received rave reviews for her big-screen debut in *Lust, Caution*, Ang Lee's 2007 spy thriller, but the politically sensitive role of a traitor reportedly landed her on the blacklist of Chinese film officials for three years. Her other films include *Crossing Hennessy*, *Wu Xia*, and *Finding Mr. Right*.

She will make her Hollywood debut in director Michael Mann's new thriller *Cyber* in 2015.

Kim made his directorial debut with the coming-of-age film *Free to Fly* in 1997. His other writing and directing credits include *Memento Mori* and *Family Ties*.

This is the first marriage for Tang and second for Kim.

Faro was Bergman's home for decades and the setting of some of his best films. The director of *Through a Glass Darkly*, *Scenes from a Marriage*, and *Wild Strawberries* died in 2007.

TANG TIES THE KNOT. *Chinese actress Tang Wei poses on the red carpet of the 33rd Hong Kong Film Awards in Hong Kong in this April 13, 2014 file photo.* Lust, Caution *star Tang and South Korean director Kim Tae-yong wed in a small ceremony last month at legendary director Ingmar Bergman's home on the Swedish island of Faro. Tang's management sent out a statement saying the couple visited the Bergman home to pay their respects to the late film director and the wedding was a spur-of-the-moment decision. (AP Photo/Vincent Yu, File)*