



VS



FORWARD
MADISON • FC

JUNE 6, 2021



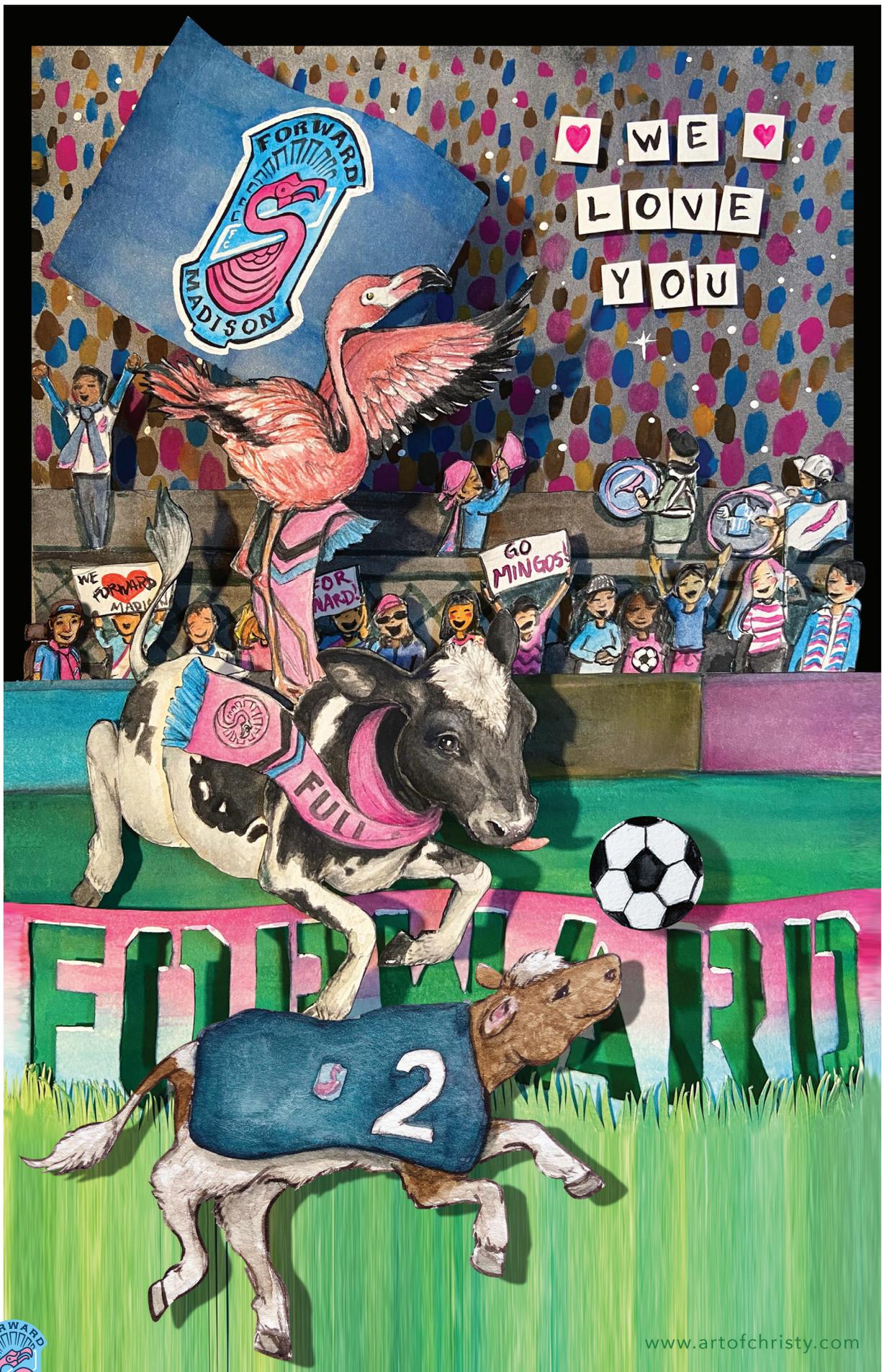
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Forward Madison FC vs. Union Omaha | Sunday, June 6, 2021 - 5:00PM
Breese Stevens Field - Madison, WI
Featuring art by local artist Christy Grace

MATCH PREVIEW



VS



Game Preview: Forward Madison hosts rematch against Union Omaha

Flamingos back at Breese on Sunday for top-of-the-table faceoff with Owls

USL League One - Game 6

Forward Madison FC vs Union Omaha

Sunday, June 6, 2021; 5 p.m. CT

Breese Stevens Field.

Forward Madison is going for a second win in two home games against Union Omaha on Sunday at a sold-out Breese Stevens Field. The Flamingos bested the Owls 1-0 on May 26, and will look to repeat the feat this weekend. Gates open at 4 p.m. and kickoff is at 5 p.m.

Forward Madison is off to its best start in team history with no losses, 11 points, and a second place standing in USL League One after five games. The Flamingos solidified their historic start on Tuesday, drawing 2-2 at Fort Lauderdale to finish off a grueling stretch of three games in six days. Forward Derek Gebhard came to the rescue with his equalizing goal in the 85th minute, making it the second time this season he scored a game-deciding goal in the final minutes.

Although Gebhard may have played the hero, he said his sole focus was to help his teammates get a result from a challenging spot.

"We were just a little frustrated because we didn't really feel like [Fort Lauderdale] broke us down a ton," Gebhard said. "When I came in, I was just trying to do everything I could to try and make something happen. We had great build up play, and then I was able to cut inside and have a shot that went in."

According to co-captain, Connor Tobin, the team's culture and locker room mentality has contributed to their exciting start. Still, Tobin was quick to note that Forward Madison has only played five games, and still needs more chances to develop their unique play style while finding areas to improve on.

"I think we're starting to find a little bit of a rhythm, we're starting to figure out the moments and how we want to play," Tobin said. "I think we're starting to figure out areas where we need to improve, but we're also starting to

figure out where are some of the things that make us who we are, what our identity is and how to stay true to that.”

Since the Flamingos’ 1-0 victory over Union Omaha on May 26 (Justin Sukow’s goal sealed their first defeat of the year), the Owls have dropped to third place in USL League One. Omaha’s most recent game came Wednesday, a 1-1 draw at Toronto FC II with Dalton Knuston, scoring the equalizing goal in the 73rd minute.

Having already played this team once this season, Tobin noted that the Flamingos know what to expect from Omaha’s competitive play style.

“We’re aware of what they do and we’re aware that they’re a really good team,” Tobin said. “They’re going to ask questions of us and we have to be prepared for that.”

Looking ahead to Sunday, Gebhard noted that the extra rest and first home game in over a week will help the team feel ready to earn an important three points.

“It was a long trip but we have three home games in a row now, so I think we’re pretty well rested,” Gebhard said. “We’re just looking forward to going against Omaha and getting the three points, because if we can get three points against them this game, it will be huge for us to boost us up the table.”

Following this Sunday’s game, Forward Madison will have a full week of rest before hosting the Richmond Kickers on Saturday, June 12, the first game at a near-full capacity Breese Stevens Field since 2019.



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2021 AWAY KIT

AVAILABLE ONLINE OR AT THE TEAM STORE ON GAME DAYS



1 | PHIL BRENO

2021	GP/GS	MIN	CS	GA	SV	SV%	YC/RC
5/5	450	2	4	7	71.4%	0/0	

GK | 25 | 6'2" | 205 LB | MT. AIRY, MD

- Arrives at Forward Madison following two years with the Charleston Battery in USL Champ'shp.
- Only FMFC player to defeat Greenville Triumph SC, which he did during 2019 US Open Cup.

PRO NUNCIATION
PHIL BREE-no



2 | RONALDO LOMELI

2021	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	SH	PASS%	YC/RC
3/2	185	0	0	3	82.4%	0/0	

DF | 23 | 5'5" | 140 LB | LOS ANGELES, CA

- Started every preseason game for FMFC.
- Can play as a right back or holding midfielder.
- Regular starter for UC-Riverside in 2018-19.

PRO NUNCIATION
ro-NAL-do lo-MEL-ee



3 | ERIC LEONARD

2021	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	SH	PASS%	YC/RC
4/2	138	0	0	1	82%	0/0	

MF | 25 | 5'9" | 165 LB | PALATINE, IL

- Leonard played in every Forward Madison USL game during the team's first two seasons.
- Can play as defensive midfielder or center back.

PRO NUNCIATION
AIR-ik LEN-erd



4 | GUSTAVO FERNANDES

2021	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	SH	PASS%	YC/RC
5/5	450	0	0	1	86.8%	3/0	

DF | 23 | 6'0" | 170 LB | WEST BABYLON, NY

- Played in 11 of 16 games in his rookie season in 2020, serving as FMFC's utility man.
- Brother Leo plays for USL Championship's Tampa Bay Rowdies.

PRO NUNCIATION
goo-STAH-voe fer-NAN-des



6 | AARON MOLLOY

2021	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	SH	PASS%	YC/RC
5/4	413	0	2	6	87.9%	1/0	

MF | 24 | 5'11" | 165 LB | DUBLIN, IRELAND

- Picked #16 in the 2020 MLS SuperDraft by the Portland Timbers.
- Father Trevor played pro in Ireland, scored over 100 goals in his career.

PRO NUNCIATION
AIR-in muh-LOY



7 | JAKE KEEGAN (C)

2021	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	SH	PASS%	YC/RC
5/5	450	3	0	12	77.4%	1/0	

FW | 29 | 5'9" | 159 LB | STORMVILLE, NY

- Scored 14 goals across the past two seasons with Greenville Triumph SC.
- Longtime veteran has also played in Ireland and for FC Edmonton.

PRO NUNCIATION
JAKE KEY-ginn



8 | MICHAEL VANG

2021	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	SH	PASS%	YC/RC
5/3	222	0	0	3	87.8%	0/0	

MF | 20 | 5'8" | 152 LB | SAINT PAUL, MN

- Top scorer for Forward Madison in 2020 season and voted team MVP by fans.
- Spent first part of 2021 preseason training with Chicago Fire FC (MLS).

PRO NUNCIATION
MIKE-uhl VANG



10 | CARLOS GOMEZ

2021	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	SH	PASS%	YC/RC
0/0	0	0	0	0	0.0%	0/0	

MF | 27 | 5'9" | 154 LB | MADRID, SPAIN

- Scored seven goals for Greenville Triumph SC in 2019, was part of title-winning team in 2020.
- Played for Rayo Vallecano's youth teams in Spain, Young Harris College in Georgia.

PRO NUNCIATION
CAR-los GO-mez



11 | HEATH MARTIN

2021	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	SH	PASS%	YC/RC
0/0	0	0	0	0	00.0%	0/0	

DF | 19 | 5'11" | 170 LB | KNOXVILLE, TN

- Runs a popular Instagram account, Nonstop Progress, with over 30,000 followers.
- Previously played for Atlanta United and DC United academy teams.

PRO NUNCIATION
HEETH MAR-tin



13 | CONNOR TOBIN (C)

2021	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	SH	PASS%	YC/RC
5/5	450	1	0	7	88.6%	0/0	

DF | 34 | 6'2" | 179 LB | FORT COLLINS, CO

- Team co-captain, has become fan favorite due to involvement with local supporters.
- Hired by the team as Community Engagement Manager prior to 2021 season.

PRO NUNCIATION
CON-ner TOE-bin



17 | DEREK GEBHARD

2021	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	SH	PASS%	YC/RC
5/4	381	3	0	9	76.3%	1/0	

FW | 25 | 6'0" | 150 LB | BLUE HILL, ME

- Played for Charlotte Independence in 2020, has spent past six years in U.S. second tier.
- Scored first goal in El Paso Locomotive history in 2018.

DER-ek
GEB-hard



19 | JUSTIN SUKOW

2021	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	SH	PASS%	YC/RC
5/2	228	1	1	3	85.7%	0/0	

MF | 22 | 5'10" | 160 LB | SAN ANTONIO, TX

- Spent latter part of previous season as a rookie for Reno 1868 in USL Championship.
- Scored nine goals in 20 games for the Univ. of Loyola-Chicago in college.

JUST-in
SOO-koee



20 | AUDI JEPSON

2021	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	SH	PASS%	YC/RC
5/4	349	0	2	6	86.7%	1/0	

MF | 26 | 5'9" | 161 LB | GREEN BAY, WI

- Grew up minutes from Lambeau Field and starred for UW-Green Bay in college.
- Played for Saint Louis FC (USL Ch'ship) in 2018-19, but meniscus injury forced him out in 2020.

AWE-dee
JEP-sin



23 | TYLER ALLEN

2021	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	SH	PASS%	YC/RC
5/5	387	0	0	4	80.1%	0/0	

FW | 22 | 5'9" | 168 LB | HONOLULU, HI

- Spent rookie season with Reno 1868 (USL Ch'ship) in 2020, but did not appear in a game.
- Played regularly as a right back in college, but now usually lines up as a winger.

TY-ler
AL-en



24 | AIDAN HOGAN

2021	GP/GS	MIN	CS	GA	SV	SV%	YC/RC
0/0	0	0	0	0	0	00.0%	0/0

GK | 24 | 6'2" | 200 LB | KOHLER, WI

- Spent both 2020 and 2021 preseason on trial with FMFC.
- One of two Wisconsin players (with Audi Jepson) on the Flamingos' roster.

AY-din
HO-gin



27 | CHRISTIAN DIAZ

2021	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	SH	PASS%	YC/RC
5/2	265	0	0	1	75%	0/0	

DF | 30 | 5'9" | 155 LB | GUADLAJARA, MX

- Named to USL League One Best XI in 2019, was finalist for Defender of the Year award.
- Started career with Atlas FC in Mexico at 17.
- Nickname is "Pato" ("Duck").

CHRIS-tian
DEE-az



31 | NOAH FUSON

2021	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	SH	PASS%	YC/RC
5/1	132	0	0	2	78.6%	1/0	

FW | 21 | 6'1" | 165 LB | LOS ANGELES, CA

- Signed mid-season in 2020 to first professional contract, scored first goal 10/24/20 vs NE II.
- Trained with ex-England international Daniel Sturridge during preseason this year.

NO-uh
few-SAHN



44 | JOSIAH TRIMMINGHAM

2021	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	SH	PASS%	YC/RC
0/0	0	0	0	0	0	00.0%	0/0

DF | 24 | 6'2" | 210 LB | SAN JUAN, T&T

- Started 13/16 games for FMFC in 2020, earning the nickname "Tank" from teammates.
- Captained Trinidad & Tobago in friendly vs USA on Jan. 31 in Orlando.

jo-SI-uh
TRIM-ing-ham



77 | JIRO BARRIGA TOYAMA

2021	GP/GS	MIN	G	A	SH	PASS%	YC/RC
5/5	450	0	0	1	78.9%	1/0	

DF | 26 | 5'9" | 166 LB | CHIBA, JAPAN

- One of four players to have been with the team all three seasons
- Born in Panama to a Colombian father and Japanese mother, hence his two last names
- Scored FMFC's 2020 Goal of the Year in season finale vs New England

JEER-oh
buh-REE-guh
toh-YAH-muh



HEAD COACH | CARL CRAIG

- Over 25 years of coaching experience, including as a head coach for Minnesota United in 2016.
- One-time punk rocker during his youth; introduced the "Wonderwall" tradition in Minnesota.
- Also serves as FMFC's Technical Director.

PRONUNCIATION
CARL
CRAIG



ASSISTANT COACH | NEIL HLAVATY

- Joined Flamingos in 2019 for first pro coaching job after lengthy playing career.
- Played from 2008-18, making stops in Europe and U.S. lower leagues.
- Marked milestone on 6/7/19, stepping in as head coach during Daryl Shore's suspension.

PRONUNCIATION
NEE-uhl
HLAV-a-tee



ASSISTANT COACH | JIM LAUNDER

- Coached University of Wisconsin Men's Soccer from 1986-1996, winning national title in 1995.
- Previously managed Madison 56ers in National Premier Soccer League.
- Currently splits time between FMFC and Wisconsin Youth Soccer Association.

PRONUNCIATION
JIM
LAUN-der



GOALKEEPER COACH | EMERSON LOVATO

- Previously served as assistant coach for DIII colleges, most recently at Newberry College (S.C.)
- First season on the Flamingos' coaching staff.

PRONUNCIATION
EM-er-son
lo-VAH-toh



PERFORMANCE ANALYST | ERIC WILDE

- Graduated from Marquette University in 2016, specializes in video analytics.
- Has worked with FMFC since inaugural season in 2019.

PRONUNCIATION
AIR-ic
WIL-dee



EQUIPMENT MANAGER | CHRIS STANTON

- Worked as operations manager for Lansing Ignite before joining FMFC in 2020.
- Also serves as team's Director of Soccer Operations.

PRONUNCIATION
CHRIS
STAN-tin



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UNION OMAHA



RASHID NUHU
Goalkeeper
24



KEVIN PIEDRAHITA
Goalkeeper
33



ETHAN VANACORE-DECKER
Midfielder
7



JOHN MURPHY
Midfielder
8



DÁMIA VIADER
Defender
3



DALRYN KNUTSON
Defender
13



NICOLAS FIRMINO
Midfielder
10



AUSTIN PANCHOT
Midfielder
12



JACOB CRULL
Defender
16



BLAKE MALONE
Defender
18



CHRISTIAN MOLINA
Midfielder
14



JOHN PAUL SCEARCE
Midfielder
17



PANZANI SOUSA FERREY
Defender
25



ABDUL OSUMANU ILLAL
Defender
28



DEVIN BOYCE
Midfielder
20



CONNOR DOYLE
Midfielder
22



EMIR ALIHODŽIĆ
Midfielder
2



TOBIAS OMONDI OTIENO
Midfielder
5



GREG HURST
Forward
9



EVAN CONWAY
Forward
11



ETHAN VANACORE-DECKER
Midfielder
7



JOHN MURPHY
Midfielder
8



ELMA NFOR
Forward
15

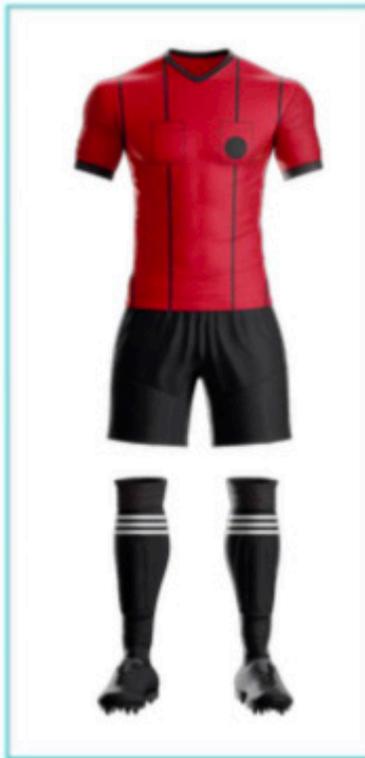


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A soccer ball with black and white panels is shown hitting a white goal net. The background is a solid green color.

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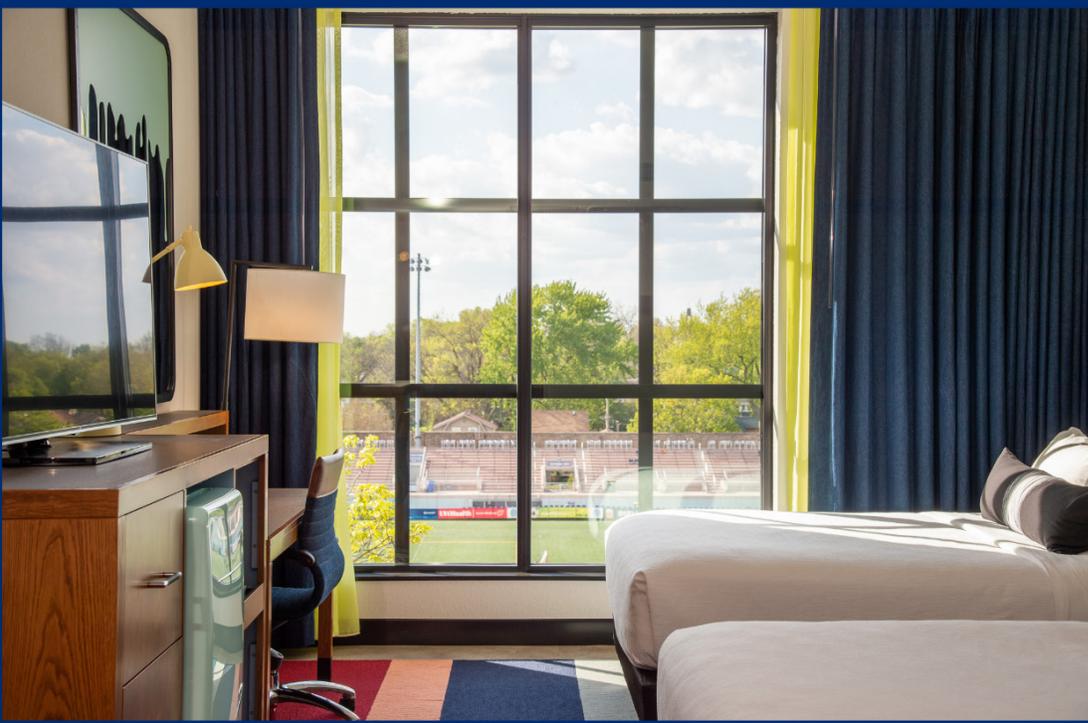
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