NEWS RELEASE

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AMERICAN SOCCER LEAGUE INC.

RELEASE AT WILL

AMERICAN SOCCER LEAGUE

PRE-SEASON ACTIVITY

NEW YORK, N.Y.--The American Soccer League this year will operate with a Western and Eastern Division. The Western Division is comprised of five new franchises extending along the Pacific Coast and going into the state of Utah. The Tacoma Tides, Sacramento Spirits, Los Angeles Skyhawks, Oakland Buccaneers and the Utah 11, admitted the latter part of the week comprise the Western Division.

The Eastern Division is composed of five teams retained from last year's loop, which includes the Cleveland Cobras, New York Apollo, Connecticut Yankees, Chicago Cats and Rhode Island Oceaneers. A newcomer to the Eastern schedule is the New Jersey Americans, which will play their home games at the Wall Stadium in Wall Township in New Jersey.

Last year's participants dropped from this year's League roster for inability to comply with financial requirements are the Boston Astros, Cincinnati Comets, Pittsburgh Miners and the New Jersey Brewers.

Dan Wood, who coached the highly successful Cornell University team to a co-Ivy League title this year, has been signed as the Tacoma Tides' coach. Wood in seven years led Cornell to five NCAA playoffs.

Ron Newman, the English soccer player who subsequently coached Dallas in the North American Soccer League, is the coach of the Los Angeles Skyhawks, one of the newer additions to the circuit.

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The New Jersey Americans, in its first week of ticket selling, already has disposed of 600 season tickets.

The Sacramento Spirits have signed 12 players, the majority of them being American.

Two of the most successful high school coaches in the country will be leading their respective teams into action this season commencing April 17. Richard Melvin of Neptune High School in New Jersey, a perennial contender for state honors, is the mentor of the newly formed Jersey Americans, while Eugene Chyzowich, a former player in the ASL, a past president of the loop, is the new mentor for the co-champion New York Apollo, who have moved their playing site from White Plains, New York to Hofstra University located on Long Island. Chyzowich in assuming the teaching mantle of the ASL co-champions stated, "I want to Americanize the Apollos. We should develop our own American Pele. It may take three or four years, but we should start somewhere."

Rich Szaro, an All-American football performer at St. Francis High School in Brooklyn, New York, who was recruited for Harvard U's 11 by the late Robert Kennedy, former Attorney General of the United States and a Harvard Graduate, is working out with the New York Apollos. Coach Hank Stramm of the New Orleans Saints in the NFL has granted Szaro permission to join the Apollos. "There is no conflict whatsoever in this arrangement," Stramm explained. "So long as Rich reports to the Saints for the opening practice session, I have no objection to him working out and joining the Apollo roster."

The General Manager of the Cleveland Cobras, Dr. John Gyekenyesi, is a staff scientist at NASA's Lewis Research Center, where he performs basic research in aerospace technology and energy systems. He is a graduate of Case Western Reserve University and holds a PhD. from Michigan State. In the past, Dr. Gyekenyesi has been an amateur and collegiate soccer player of distinction and he has also served as the president of the Lake Erie Soccer League.