NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELFASE

AMERICAN SOCCER LEAGUE INC.

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SACRAMENTO AND COLUMBUS GRAB VICTORIES

NEW YORK, N.Y. - Sacramento Gold and Columbus Magic, finalists in last season's ASL Championship Game, both found success in games on the West Coast this past weekend. The Gold won their second straight 2-1 encounter, as they beat New York United by a one goal margin in Sacramento on Friday night. On the same evening in Orange County, Columbus was kicking off their 1980 campaign with a convincing 3-0 win over last year's Western Division champions Cal Sunshine in the Santa Ana Bowl. In the week's final match, Columbus travelled on to Golden-Gate, where they were held to a 1-1 tie by the expansion Gales side.

Sacramento's Danny Payne was responsible for spoiling the coaching debut of New York's Rodney Marsh, as he lofted a shot over United 'keeper Jamil Canal's head in the 62nd minute to give the Gold what proved to be an insurmountable 2-0 lead. "The Man with the Golden Head", Sacramento's Andy Stanton, gave the Gold an early lead with a header in the ninth minute of play, and New York's lone score came with eighteen minutes left from striker Joe Fink. The goal was the first of the season for both Fink and United, as the United forward returned to the track that saw him tie for the ASL lead in goals scored in '79 with fifteen tallies.

Columbus began the season in impressive fashion versus California, lead by George Dewsnip, who took only ten minutes to find the range with a header for his first goal with Columbus, having come to the club during the off-season. Magic's 1979 All-Star midfielder Norman Piper followed with a goal seven minutes later, and in the 28th minute, unfortunate Sunshine defender Kurt Stierle turned the ball past his own goalkeeper to give Columbus a 3-0 lead which they never surrendered. Magic keeper Graham Tutt recorded the ASL's first shutout for 1980, and garnered Defensive Player of the Game honors, while Dewsnip was given the offensive award.

More....

Add 1/1/1

At Pioneer Stadium on Sunday, the Golden Gate Gales rebounded from an opening game loss to Sacramento to hold the powerful Magic to a 1-1 draw. The Gales took an early 1-0 lead through big Mal Roche, who has now scored both of the Gales' goals this season, as he slotted home a pass from former USF teammate Tony Gray in the ninth minute. But George Dewsnip was on target again for the Magic in the 39th minute, as he converted a cross from Ron Wigg to level the score. Golden Gate keeper John Spurgeon's work in goal through the remainder of the game and two overtimes against Magic earned him Defnsive Player of the Game honors in his ASL debut, and Norman Piper's work in midfield for Columbus led to his being voted Offensive Player of the Game by the local press.

ASL NOTES - The California - Columbus tussle marked the debut of Sunshine's seventeen year old midfielder Peter Skouras, the youngest player in American professional socoer. Skouras, a 5'5" Californian, left high school after his sophomore year to pursue a career in pro soccer, and spent last season in the youth and reserve teams of Brighton, members of the English First Division. After being unable to obtain the necessary working papers to stay on with the English club, he returned home to California, where he spotted by Cal coach Derek Lawther and signed to his first pro form. The Sunshine feel he holds enormous potential for the future, and adds even more of a thrust to Lawther's avowed efforts towards Americanization.

In an exhibition match held Thursday, the Miami Americans defeated the Pennsylvania Stoners, 2-1, at Memorial Coliseum in Charlotte, North Carolina. The game was the first of a number of special exhibitions to be held in Charlotte this season by Carolina Pro Soccer, who are members of the ASL and slated to begin play in the 1981 season. The organization in Charlotte, which will be choosing a team name,from the over 6,000 entries submitted in a recent competition,in the near future, have already begun extensive work in youth soccer in the Charlotte area, and will highlight their efforts with special exhibitons during 1980.

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Add 2/2/2

LAST WEEK'S SCORES (HOME TEAM IN CAPS)

Friday, April 4th	SACRAMENTO	2	New York	1	
	Columbus	3	CALIFORNIA	0	
Sunday, April 6th	GOLDEN GATE	1	Columbus	1	(OT)

AMERICAN SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS

	Games	Won	Lost	Tied	Goals For	Goals Against	Bonus Points	Total* Points
AMERICAN CONFERENCE								
Sacramento	2	2	0	0	4	2	4	14
Golden Gate	2	0	1	1	2	3	2	4
Miami	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
California	1	0	1	0	0	3	0	0
NATIONAL CONFERENCE								
Columbus	2	1	0	1	4	1	4	11
New York	1	0	1	0	1	2	1	1
Cleveland	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Pennsylvania	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

*(The ASL scoring system awards 5 points for a win, 2 points for a tie, and one bonus point for each goal scored up to a miximum of 3 per team, per game)

THIS WEEK'S MATCHES

(All Starting Times are Local Times)

Wednesday, April 9th	New York at California	7:35
Friday, April 11th	Columbus at Sacramento	8:05
Sunday, April 13th	New York at Golden Gate	2:05

LAST WEEK'S MATCHES (HOME TEAM IN CAPS)

Friday, April 4th

SACRAMENTO GOLD 2 New York United 1 (1:0) (at Sacramento)

SAC: Reynolds; Brown, Stanton, Arber, Bryant; Carrizo(Munguia, 61), Dawkins(McKeown, 75), Payne; I. Filby, Vicioso, M. Filby(Mancini, 80).

NY: Canal; Tyson, Lane, McCrudden, Concha(Eden, 71); Power, Mardarescu, Collins, Clavijo; Kitson, Fink.

SCORING: SAC: Andy Stanton (1)(unasst'd) 9 ; Danny Payne (1)(Ian Filby) 62 ; NY: Joe Fink (1)(Dan McCrudden) 72 ; Goalies - Saves: Tom Reynolds (SAC) 5; Jamil Canal (NY) 2; Shots: SAC - 13; NY - 9; Offensive MVP - Paul Kitson, NY; Defensive MVP - Mark Bryant, SAC; Referee: K. Kretschmer.

More...

Friday, April 4th

Columbus Magic 3 CALIFORNIA SUNSHINE 0 (3:0) (at Santa Ana)

CAL: Schell; Stierle(Gehling, 68), Moraldo, Kelley, Johnstone; Evans, Walley, Tobin; Burke(Houseman, 45), Chapman, Douglas(Skouras, 76).

COL: Tutt; Schnettgoecke, Mammana, Hague, O'Hara; Lacevic, Piper, Barry; Wigg, Graham, Dewsnip.

SCORING: COL: George Dewsnip (1)(Neil Hague) 10 ; Norman Piper (1)(unasst'd) 17 ; Kurt Stierle (Own Goal) 28; Goalies - Saves: Greg Schell (CAL) 4; Graham Tutt (COL) 6; Shots: CAL - 9; COL - 7; Offensive MVP - George Dewsnip, COL; Defensive MVP - Graham Tutt, COL; Referee: D. Goldman.

Sunday, April 6th

GOLDEN GATE GALES 1 Columbus Magic 1 (OT) (1:1) (at Hayward)

GG: Spurgeon; Igwe, Hulewsky, Dahl, Berico, Sproates, Brooks, Gray; Tshimanga(Lockett, 70), Roche, Cornwell.

COL: Tutt; O'Hara, Schnettgoecke, Mammana, Hague; Piper, Barry, Graham(Hickey, 75), Rohrbach, Dewsnip, Wigg.

SCORING: GG: Mal Roche (2)(Tony Gray) 7 ; COL: George Dewsnip (2)(Ron Wigg) 39 ; Goalies - Saves: John Spurgeon (GG) 10; Graham Tutt (COL) 1; Shots: GG - 6; COL - 22; Offensive MVP - Norman Piper, COL; Defensive MVP - John Spurgeon, GG; Referee: T. Kibritjian.