NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
AMERICAN SOCCER LEAGUE INC.

April 28, 1980

GOLDEN GATE ASSUMES LEAD IN AMERICAN CONFERENCE

NEW YORK, N.Y. - Paced by a hat trick by striker Mal Roche, the expansion Golden Gate Gales captured the lead in the ASL's American Conference with a 3-2 overtime win against California Sunshine on Sunday at the Santa Ana Bowl. Golden Gate moved five points ahead of defending ASL champions Sacramento Gold, who fell to the Sunshine, 4-1, on Friday night in Sacramento. In the National Conference, Columbus Magic maintained its first place position with a 2-1 triumph on Sunday over the visiting Cleveland Cobras. The Columbus scoreline was a reversal of the verdict one week ago in Cleveland, and evened the series in the battle for the Ohio Challenge Cup between the neighboring clubs. Columbus tops the National Conference with 26 points, but their division rivals all hold at least two games in hand.

California began the weekend action by exploding offensively versus Sacramento. The Sunshine, who had failed to score in their first two matches of 1980, after leading the ASL in goals in '79, were sparked by center forward Frank Towers, who notched a pair of goals, and All Star midfielder Don Tobin, who chipped in with two assists. Poli Garcia, the 1979 ASL MVP, and Andy Chapman also found the net for California, while big Mike Mancini of Sacramento spoiled Cal keeper Peter Arnautoff's bid for a shutout.

The Sunshine continued its offensive revival versus the Gales on Sunday, but it wasn't enough to match the individual brilliance of Mal Roche. Roche, who now has eight goals in only six games, countered an early score by Cal's Keith Gehling with a tally in the 20th minute to produce a 1-1 halftime score. The Sunshine's Alan Kelley put his team on top four minutes after the interval, but

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Roche again drew the Gales even at 75 minutes on a solo effort. After only three minutes of extra time, Roche was pulled down in the penalty area, and his penalty kick conversion sent Golden Gate home winners, and capped an impressive one-man performance.

Misfortune surrounded the Columbus - Cleveland match on Sunday, putting a damper on Magic's 2-1 victory. Cleveland was forced to play backup goalkeeper Fred Bass, after first team keeper Marine Cano and starting defender Joe Howarth were both injured in an auto accident in Cleveland en route to the team bus for the match. And in the fourth minute of play, Columbus forward Bob Rohrbach and Cobras' defender Alex Rosul collided on a head ball, and both players were knocked unconscious. Rosul remained in the game, but Rohrbach was taken to Mt. Carmel hospital while still unconscious, and remained there in critical condition.

George Dewsnip emerged as the hero of the Columbus match, as he assisted on a goal in the seventh minute by Terry Hickey, and scored what proved to be the winner in the 35th minute on a booming shot from 22 yards. Ruben Astigarraga scored Cleveland's lone goal one minute into the second half, as the Cobras went down for the first time, following their opening game win over the Magic last weekend.

ASL NOTES - The Miami Americans at New York United match, scheduled for Sunday, April 27th, at Shea Stadium, has been rescheduled, and will now be played Monday, June 23rd, at 8:05 PM, EST.
Miami announced the signing of Haitian star Manu Sanon to a three-year contract worth nearly one-half million dollars. Sanon, who had played for Beerschot in the Belgian First Division for the past five years, is a legend in his own country, and has the notable distinction of having never received a caution in his pro career. It was Sanon's goal in Haiti's 3-1 loss to Italy in the 1974 World Cup finals that ended Italian keeper Dino Zoff's unscored record in goal. Sanon will make his debut on Wednesday at Tropical Park in Miami, when the Americans host the Cleveland Cobras.

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OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK - MAL ROCHE, GOLDEN GATE GALES

Roche has been named Offensive Player of the Week for his outstanding three-goal performance versus California Sunshine, which boosted the expansion Gales into first place in the ASL's American Conference. Rookie-of-the-Year in 1977 while with the Sacramento Spirits, the English-born USF graduate has proved unstoppable at the front of the Gales' attack, scoring eight goals in only six matches this season, to top the list of ASL marksmen. He has already topped his goal output of 1979, when he tallied five goals and four assists to finish as the L.A. Skyhawks' third leading scorer with fourteen points. His game-winning goal in overtime on a penalty kick secured the hat trick for the big striker, only the second in the ASL in 1980.

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK - DAN MAMMANA, COLUMBUS MAGIC

Mammana has been named Defensive Player of the Week for his play in defense for Columbus versus the Cleveland Cobras in the Magic's 2-1 triumph over their Ohio rivals. Mammana, who was the defensive star of the game, is the ASL's tallest player at 6'6", and has been a member of the ASL All Star Team for three successive years. Highly skilled despite his size, he already has one goal on the year, as the Magic utilize his height on all set pieces to exploit his heading ability. Mammana began his career in his native country of Argentina with the famous River Plate club, before he moved to the ASL in 1976. He has played on two ASL divisional champions in his stint in the U.S., with the Magic last season, and with Sacramento in 1977.

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Add 3/3/3

LAST WEEK'S SCORES — HOME TEAM IN CAPS

Friday, April 25th	California 4 SACRAMENTO 1
Sunday, April 27th	Golden Gate 3 CALIFORNIA 2 (OT)
	COLUMBUS 2 Cleveland 1
	Miami at New York - Postponed

AMERICAN SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS

	Games	Won	Lost	Tied	Goals For	Goals Against	Bonus Points	Total* Points
AMERICAN CONFERENCE								
Golden Gate	6	2	2	2	11	11	11	25
Sacramento	5	2	2	1	8	11	8	20
California	5	2	3	0	8	9	7	17
Miami	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0
NATIONAL CONFERENCE								
Columbus	5	3	1	1	9	4	9	26
Cleveland	2	1	1	0	3	3	3	8
New York	3	1	2	0	3	4	3	8
Pennsylvania	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	6

(*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 maximum of 3 per team, per game.)

AMERICAN SOCCER LEAGUE SCORING LEADERS

	Games	Goals	Assists	Total Points
Mal Roche, Golden Gate	6	8	0	16
George Dewsnip, Columbus	5	3	2	8
Malcolm Filby, Sacramento	5	3	1	7
Frank Towers, California	4	3	1	7
Joe Fink, New York	3	3	0	6

AMERICAN SOCCER LEAGUE LEADING GOALKEEPERS
(Minimum 180 Minutes Played)

	Minutes	Shots	Saves	Goals Allowed	S.O.	Record	G.A. Ave.
Graham Tutt, Columbus	470	44	24	4	2	3-1-1	0.77
Jamil Canal, New York	270	41	10	4	1	1-2-0	1.33
John Spurgeon, Golden	400	67	30	7	0	1-1-2	1.58
Tom Reynolds, Sacramento	380	33	14	7	0	2-1-1	1.66
Peter Arnautoff, California	183	36	8	4	0	1-1-0	1.97
Greg Schell, California	180	20	13	4	0	0-2-0	2.00
Afshin, Golden Gate	183	27	10	5	0	0-2-0	2.46

THIS WEEK'S MATCHES

(All Starting Times Are Local Times)

Wednesday, April 30th	Cleveland at Miami	8:05
Friday, May 2nd	Pennsylvania at Cleveland	8:05
	New York at Columbus	7:35
Saturday, May 3rd	Sacramento at Golden Gate	2:05
Sunday, May 4th	New York at Pennsylvania	6:35

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Add 4/4/4

LAST WEEK'S MATCHES (HOME TEAM IN CAPS)

Friday, April 25th

California Sunshine 4 SACRAMENTO GOLD 1 (2:0) (at Sacramento)

SAC: Amos; Brown, Arber, Bryant(Carrizo, 71), Denkers; Dawkins, Munguia, Payne; M. Filby, Vicioso(Mancini, 84), M. Avila.

CAL: Arnautoff; Moraldo, Gehling, Kelley, Johnstone; Walley, Tobin, Renkert(Harding, 79); Towers, Chapman, Rolland(Garcia, 73).

SCORING: SAC: Mike Mancini (1)(Willie Munguia) 84 ; CAL: Andy Chapman (1)(Don Tobin) 21 ; Frank Towers (2)(Tobin) 42 ; Towers (3)(Alan Kelley) 49 ; Poli Garcia (1)(unasst'd) 88 ; Goalies - Saves: Jim Amos (SAC) 2 ; Peter Arnautoff (CAL) 3 ; Shots: SAC - 15 ; CAL - 15 ; Offensive MVP - Frank Towers, CAL ; Defensive MVP - Ramon Moraldo, CAL ; Referee: C. deGroot.

Sunday, April 27th

COLUMBUS MAGIC 2 Cleveland Cobras 1 (2:0) (at Columbus)

COL: Tutt; O'Hara, Mammana, Hague, Harman; Hickey, Piper, Barry(Tesan, 86); Wigg, Dewsnip, Rohrbach(Graham, 4).

CLE: Bass; Rojas, Rosul(Yepez, 84), Joy, Rildo; Shanee(Sendobry, 45), Sinclair, Schlothauer; Ferreira, Doval, Astigarraga.

SCORING: COL: Terry Hickey (1)(George Dewsnip) 7 ; Dewsnip (3)(unasstd) 35 ; CLE: Ruben Astigarraga (2)(Walter Schlothauer) 46 ; Goalies - Saves: Graham Tutt (COL) 8 ; Fred Bass (CLE) 6 ; Shots: COL - 19 ; CLE - 11 ; Offensive MVP - George Dewsnip, COL ; Defensive MVP - Dan Mammana ; Referee: B. Sosa.

Golden Gate Gales 3 CALIFORNIA SUNSHINE 2 (OT) (1:1) (at Santa Ana)

CAL: Arnautoff; Moraldo, Gehling, Kelley, Johnstone; Tobin, Walley (Skouras, 76), Chapman(Garcia, 66); Rolland, Renkert(Harding, 90), Towers.

GG: Afshin; Igwe, Dahl, Cornwell(Hauser, 26), Spurgeon(Sproates, 16); Moore, Hylkema, Basso(Lockett, 45); Anton(Berico, 45), Brooks, Roche.

SCORING: CAL: Keith Gehling (1)(Jay Johnstone) 17 ; Alan Kelley (1) (Frank Towers) 49 ; GG: Mal Roche (6)(Tony Igwe) 20 ; Roche (7) (unasst'd) 75 ; Roche (8)(penalty kick) 93 ; Goalies - Saves: Peter Arnautoff (CAL) 5 ; Afshin (GG) 3 ; Shots: CAL - 17 ; GG - 21 ; Offensive MVP - Mal Roche, GG ; Defensive MVP - Alan Kelley CAL/ Bjorn Dahl GG ; Referee: J. Gonzalez.