NEWS RELEASE

Haskell Cohen
Director, Public Relations

810 Seventh Avenue
New York, N.Y. 10019
Telephone: (212) 265-7500

Contact: Chip Young
Director, Media Relations
(212) 265-7500

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMERICAN SOCCER LEAGUE INC.

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SACRAMENTO ROUTS CALIFORNIA;

PENNSYLVANIA SECURES SECOND PLACE IN NATIONAL

NEW YORK, N.Y. - In the ASL's biggest goal explosion of the year, Sacramento Gold hammered California Sunshine, 5-1, on Saturday night to maintain sole possession of first place in the American Conference, fourteen points clear of second place Golden Gate. On Sunday in Pennsylvania, the Gales dropped their second game of the week, falling to the Pennsylvania Stoners, 1-0, as the Stoners moved ahead of New York United into second place in the National Conference, four points in front of New York, but still trailing leaders Columbus Magic by 23 points.

Columbus took advantage of a head-to-head meeting with New York on Wednesday, as they disposed of visiting United, 2-0, and pushed their point total to 48, tops in the ASL to date. Their Ohio neighbors, Cleveland Cobras, also notched a home win, as they defeated the Golden Gate Gales, 2-0, on Friday night, beginning a weekend in which the Gales would fail to score a goal while absorbing two defeats.

Sacramento's offensive outburst versus the Sunshine was paced by winger Willie Munguia, who pierced the California defense for three goals, allowing the Gold to avenge a 1-4 loss to the Sunshine on April 25th. Munguia and striker Mike Mancini scored first half goals for the Gold, as Emilio Romero countered for California right before the halftime whistle, but three unanswered goals by Sacramento in the final half, two by Munguia and one by Mickey Brown proved too much for the Sunshine. Mancini also added an assist to his goal, and Ian Filby, the 1979 ASL leading scorer, contributed two assists to the attack.

Pennsylvania capitalized on New York's loss to Columbus in midweek by stopping Golden Gate, 1-0, on a goal by John McDermott, last year's Rookie of the Year while with Las Vegas, in the 56th minute. Christian Nwokocha picked up the assist on the score, as Stoners' goalkeeper Scott Manning registered his fourth shutout of the season, pacing the ASL keepers in that category, and lowering his league leading average to 0.48.

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Columbus Magic received goals from their two 1979 ASL All Stars in defeating New York on Wednesday night at Franklin County Stadium, with Magic's leading scorer George Dewsnip assisting on both tallies. Midfielder Norman Piper gave Magic a 1-0 lead in the 33rd minute, as his low drive eluded United keeper Jamil Canal, and giant defender Daniel Mammana headed home the insurance goal with twenty minutes remaining to play. Both goals were the second of the season for the respective players, while Dewsnip's two assists give him a 4-4-12 point total on the year, second in the ASL to Golden Gate's Mal Roche at 9-1-19.

Cleveland found a way to shut down Roche and his attack-oriented teammates on Friday night, and rediscovered their own offense in the bargain. A vicious full volley by Alan Kelley put the Cobras on the board four minutes before halftime, and Narciso Doval, the ex-Fluminense of Brazil striker converted a penalty kick in the 52nd minute after he had been brought down in the penalty area. Cleveland goalie Marine Cano fashioned his first shutout of the year, and lowered his goals-against average to 0.77 for the season. The Cobras now trail New York by only three points, and Pennsylvania by seven, as the National Conference race tightens up behind Columbus, who hold a solid lead.

NOTE - Due to the recent disturbances in Miami, the Pennsylvania-Miami game scheduled for Friday night was postponed, and has been rescheduled for Friday, August 1st , at Tropical Park.

OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK - WILLIE MUNGUIA, SACRAMENTO GOLD

Munguia, nicknamed "The Ghost" by his Sacramento teammates, has been selected for his three goal performance on Saturday night, as he led the Gold to a 5-1 victory over California Sunshine. The 27-year old Spaniard collected four goals and one assist for the Gold in 1979, and has now almost equalled that output, as he stands tied for fifth in the ASL scoring parade with three goals and two assists for eight points. A tireless worker on the flank, the little winger is regarded as one of the most skilled players on the ball in the ASL. A crowd favorite in Sacramento, his dramatic goal in Sacramento's first playoff game of 1979 with only a minute remaining allowed the Gold to go on and capture the ASL championship.

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK - ALEX ROSUL, CLEVELAND COBRAS

Rosul, a native Ohioan and All American at Cleveland State, has been selected for his play in Cleveland's 2-0 shutout of Golden Gate, in which he gained Defensive MVP honors for shutting down the Gales' Mal Roche, who had been on a near goal-a-game pace. The match also marked Rosul's return to the Cobras' lineup after the fearful collision with Bob Rohrbach earlier in the month in which Rohrbach was hospitalized in serious condition, and Rosul sustained a mild concussion. The big 6'3"central defender has helped to stabilize Cleveland's back four, and his return should aid Cleveland's title hopes.

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LAST WEEK'S SCORES	HOME TEAM IN CAPS			
Wednesday, May 21st	COLUMBUS	2	New York	0
Friday, May 23rd	Pennsylvania at Miami - p'pd.			
	CLEVELAND	2	Golden Gate	0
Saturday, May 24th	SACRAMENTO	5	California	1
Sunday, May 25th	PENNSYLVANIA	1	Golden Gate	0

AMERICAN SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS

	Games	Won	Lost	Tied	Goals For	Goals Against	Bonus Points	Total* Points
AMERICAN CONFERENCE								
Sacramento	9	6	2	1	16	12	14	46
Golden Gate	12	2	7	3	16	24	16	32
California	8	3	5	0	11	16	10	25
Miami	6	1	3	3	8	8	7	16
NATIONAL CONFERENCE								
Columbus	9	6	2	1	16	9	16	48
Pennsylvania	6	4	2	0	5	3	5	25
New York	6	3	3	0	6	6	6	21
Cleveland	6	2	3	1	6	6	6	18

(*The ASL scoring system awards 5 points for a win, 2 points for a tie, and 1 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	12	9	1	19
George Dewsnip, Columbus	9	4	4	12
Malcolm Filby, Sacramento	7	5	1	11
Gerard Hylkema, Golden Gate	11	4	1	9
Willie Munguia, Sacramento	9	3	2	8
Frank Towers, Cleveland	6	3	2	8
Manu Sanon, Miami	5	3	1	7
John Brooks, Golden Gate	11	2	3	7

AMERICAN SOCCER LEAGUE LEADING GOALKEEPERS
(Minimum 450 Minutes Played)

	Minutes	Shots	Saves	Goals Allowed	S.O.	Record	G.A. Ave.
Scott Manning, Penn.	557	88	43	3	4	4-2-0	0.48
Marine Cano, Clev.	470	61	32	4	1	2-2-1	0.77
Tom Reynolds, Sac.	740	77	21	8	3	6-1-1	0.97
Graham Tutt, Col.	830	82	44	9	3	6-2-1	0.98
Jamil Canal, N.Y.	540	107	35	6	3	3-3-0	1.00
Brian Parkinson, Miami	597	63	21	8	0	1-3-2	1.21
John Spurgeon, G.G.G.	780	150	58	17	0	1-4-3	1.96
Greg Schell, Calif.	450	67	24	11	0	1-4-0	2.20

THIS WEEK'S MATCHES
(All Starting Times Are Local Times)

Wednesday, May 28th	Golden Gate at New York	8:05
	Sacramento at Miami	8:05
Friday, May 30th	Columbus at Cleveland	8:05
	Sacramento at Pennsylvania	7:35
Sunday, June 1st	Sacramento at New York	2:05

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LAST WEEK'S MATCHES (HOME TEAM IN CAPS)

Wednesday, May 21

COLUMBUS MAGIC 2 New York United 0 (1:0) (at Columbus)

COL: Tutt; O'Hara, Jentas, Schnettgoecke, Mammana; Piper, Barry(Tesan,82), Hague; Harman, Dewsnip(Graham,82), Newman.

NY: Canal; Tyson, Lane, McCrudden, Philpotts; Kitson, Power, Mardarescu (Codrea,45); Fink(D'Anzi,45), Clavijo, Abbondanza.

SCORING: COL: Norman Piper (2)(George Dewsnip) 33 ; Daniel Mammana (2) (Dewsnip) 70 ; Goalies - Saves: Graham Tutt (COL) 5 ; Jamil Canal (NY) 6 ; Shots: COL - 28 ; NY - 10 ; Offensive MVP - George Dewsnip, COL ; Defensive MVP - Daniel Mammana, COL ; Referee: B. Sosa.

Friday, May 23

CLEVELAND COBRAS 2 Golden Gate Gales 0 (1:0) (at Cleveland)

CLE: Cano; Howarth, Rosul, Sendobry, Rildo; Joy(Sinclair,34), Kelley, Ferreira(Schlothauer,67), Doval, Chapman, Towers(Yepez,84).

GG: Afshin; Dahl, Igwe, Brooks, Hauser; Gray(Anton,61), Atuegbu, Basso; Cornwell(Sproates,61), Roche, Hylkema.

SCORING: CLE: Alan Kelley (1)(Andy Chapman) 41 ; Narciso Doval (2)(Penalty kick) 52 ; Goalies - Saves: Marine Cano (CLE) 6 ; Afshin (GG) 8 ; Shots: CLE - 12 ; GG - 8 ; Offensive MVP - Alan Kelley, CLE ; Defensive MVP - Alex Rosul, CLE ; Referee: J. Salas.

Saturday, May 24

SACRAMENTO GOLD 5 California Sunshine 1 (2:1) (at Sacramento)

SAC: Reynolds; Brown, Stanton, Denkers, Bryant; Payne, Dawkins, Munguia; Mancini, Vicioso, I. Filby.

CAL: Schell; Johnstone, Moraldo, Stierle, Harding; O'Kane, Walley, Tobin; Romero, Burke, Richter.

SCORING: SAC: Mike Mancini (2)(Anselmo Vicioso) 7 ; Willie Munguia (1) (Mancini) 27 ; Mickey Brown (1)(Ian Filby) 58 ; Munguia (2)(Andy Stanton) 65 ; Munguia (3)(I. Filby) 87 ; CAL: Emilio Romero (1)(John O'Kane) 45 ; Goalies - Saves: Tom Reynolds (SAC) 1 ; Greg Schell (CAL) 2 ; Shots: SAC - 23 ; CAL - 10 ; Offensive MVP - Willie Munguia, SAC ; Defensive MVP - Ramon Moraldo, CAL ; Referee: P. Nikol.

Sunday, May 25

PENNSYLVANIA STONERS 1 Golden Gate Gales 0 (0:0) (at Allentown)

PA: Manning; Smith, Gorleku, Tipping, Mancke; Watson, Brooks, McDonald; Long(McDermott,25), Nwokocha(Hundelt,60), Reice(DaSilva,45).

GG: Spurgeon; Igwe(Cornwell,70), Dahl, Brooks, Hauser; Basso, Atuegbu, Hylkema(Sproates,45), Anton, Roche, Gray.

SCORING: PA: John McDermott (1)(Christian Nwokocha) 56 ; Goalies - Saves Scott Manning (PA) 4 ; John Spurgeon (GG) 8 ; Shots: PA - 14 ; GG - 7 ; Offensive MVP - John McDermott, PA ; Defensive MVP - George Gorleku, PA Referee: C. Barcliff.