NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMERICAN SOCCER LEAGUE INC.

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PENNSYLVANIA NEARS TITLE IN NATIONAL CONFERENCE
SACRAMENTO FIGHTS OFF CHALLENGE IN AMERICAN RACE

NEW YORK, NY - The Pennsylvania Stoners rang up two consecutive shutouts during the past week to move them even further ahead in the National Conference title race, and the Sacramento Spirit increased their advantage in the American Conference as they nipped the California Sunshine, 1-0, on Saturday night in Santa Ana. In the only other action during the past week, the Golden Gate Gales moved back into contention in the American Conference by registering a 3-1 win over the Miami Americans as the American race tightened up moving in to the final weeks of the season.

Pennsylvania moved out in front in the National Conference with victories over the Cleveland Cobras and New York United, and now hold a 33 point lead over second place United. On Friday night in Cleveland, the Stoners defeated the Cobras, 2-0, on second half goals by midfielders Clyde Watson and Steve Long, as Eric Smith was the key to a strong defensive effort by the Stoners back four. On Sunday the Stoners were back home at ASD Stadium in Allentown, where they kept their unscored upon streak alive, and squeaked past New York, 1-0, on a goal by Ron Ost with less than four minutes left in the match. Ost's game winner came when he slammed home a left-footed volley after Steve Long's long range shot had rebounded from the crossbar back out in front. Stoners' keeper Scott Manning took credit for his second shutout in three days, and now has a league-leading ten clean sheets for the season, to go along with his 0.97 average, also tops in the ASL.

Sacramento, which held a two point lead in the American Conference at the beginning of the week, captured their Saturday night showdown with California through an unassisted tally by striker Malcolm Filby with nine minutes remaining. Tom Reynolds turned in the shutout, his eighth of the year for the Spirit, and Sacramento pushed their leading margin to six points in the Conference, ahead of Miami, with 84 points, and California with 82.

Miami missed a great chance to pick up points on Sacramento when they fell at home to Golden Gate on Wednesday by a 3-1 margin. Golden Gate, which has been surging in the past wekks to make it an exciting race in the American Conference, were sparked by the ASL's leading scorer, Mal Roche, who had a hand in all the Gales' goals, notching one himself, and assisting on tallies by Carlos Trelles and Alex Basso. Roche now has 15 goals and 5 assists on the year, good for 35 points in the ASL scoring parade. Golden Gate now sits in fourth place in their conference with 78 points, but they remain in sight of the leaders as the regular season winds to a finish.

Add 1/1/1

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

Roche has again been tabbed for weekly offensive honors for his one goal, two assist performance versus Miami on Wednesday in a 3-1 Gales' victory. Roche has led the ASL scoring parade since the first week of the season, and appears on his way to the 1980 scoring title, as his nearest challenger is nine points behind his 35 points output on 15 goals and 5 assists. The big striker from USF has boosted Golden Gate back in to contention in the American Conference, and continues to prove he is one of the most dangerous frontrunners in the ASL.

DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK - SCOTT MANNING, PENNSYLVANIA STONERS

Manning also is named again for this past week's top performance, as the ASL's leading goalkeeper blanked both Cleveland and New York as the Stoners opened up a commanding lead in the National Conference. Manning faced 26 shots and totalled 11 saves in the two outings, and ran his league-leading shutout total to 10, while staying on top of the circuit with a 0.97 goals against average. The young keeper, who is in his second campaign with the Stoners, has been a major fact in Pennsylvania's compiling of a glittering 17-4-4 record, tops in the ASL this season.

LAST WEEK'S MATCHES (HOME TEAM IN CAPS)

Wednesday, August 13

Golden Gate Gales 3 MIAMI AMERICANS 1 (1:0) (at Miami)

MIA: Poole; Roberts, Delgado, Gaston, Vallejos, Cogan, Tavares, Baptiste, (Buriano, 46), Bodonczy (Mescia, 46), Greene, Njie.

GG: Afshin; Steinberg, ATack, Berico, Hauser, Cornwell, Brooks, Gray (Anton, 46) Hylkema, Roche, Trelles.

SCORING: MIA: Petro Tavares (1) (penalty kick) 78; GG: Carlos Trelles (1) (Mal Roche) 19; Roche (15) (Gerard Hylkema) 56; Alex Basso (3) (Roche) 90; Goalies - Saves: Richard Poole (MIA) 1; Afshin (GG) 5; Shots: MIA-20; GG-6; Offensive MVP - Mal Roche, GG; Defensive MVP - Tony Hauser, GG Referee: F. Fuksman.

Friday, August 15th

Pennsylvania Stoners 2 CLEVELAND COBRAS 0 (0:0) (at Cleveland)

CLE: Cano; Howarth, Mammana, Kelley, Sendobry (Shanee, 61), Barry, Savic, Schlothauer, Fink, Astigarraga (Yepez, 46) Rosul.

PA: Manning; Smith, Tipping, McDonald, Gorleku, Brooks, Watson, Long, Reice (Ehrlich, 77), McDermott, Filby (Ost, 64).

SCORING: PA: Clyde Watson (8) (Riche Reice) 70; Steve Long (3) (unasst'd) 87; Goalies - Saves: Marine Cano (CLE) 7; Scott Manning (PA) 4; Shots: CLE-16; PA-18; Offensive MVP - Steve Long, PA; Defensive MVP - Eric Smith, PA; Referee: T. Campbell.

More.....

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Saturday, August 16th

Sacramento Gold 1 CALIFORNIA SUNSHINE 0 (0:0) (at Santa Ana)

CAL: Parkinson; Morlado, Gehling, Nickeas, Zavaleta, Tobin, O'Kane, Arbalaez (Harding, 68), Rolland, Richter (Towers, 59), Johnstone.

SAC: Reynolds; R. Avila, Stanton, Arber, Denkers, Bryant, McKeown (Carrizo, 46), Dawkins, Munguia, M. Avila, Filby.

SCORING: SAC: Malcolm Filby (9) (unasst'd) 81; Goalies - Saves: Brian Parkinson (CAL) 4; Tom Reynolds (SAC) 4; Shots: CAL-13; SAC-10; Offensive MVP - Malcolm Filby, SAC; Defensive MVP - Tom Reynolds, SAC. Referee: L. Macias.

Sunday, August 17th

PENNSYLVANIA STONERS 1 New York United 0 (0:0) (at Allentown)

PA: Manning; Smith, Gorleku, McDonald, Tipping, Watson, Ost, Long, Filby (McDermott, 36), Nwokocha (Urbanczuk, 65), Brooks (Ehrlich, 79)

NY: Canal; Tyson, Lane, Concha, Mardarescu (Kitson, 66), Collins (Papoulias, 59), Clavijo, Barthou, Cabrera, D;Anzi (McCrudden, 75), Wilson.

SCORING: PA: Ron Ost (1) (unasst'd) 86; Goalies - Saves: Scott Manning (PA) 4; Jamil Canal (NY) 7; Shots: PA-21; NY-10; Offensive MVP - Ron Ost, PA; Defensive MVP - Jeff Tipping, PA; Referee: C. Barcliff.

More...

Add 3/3/3

LAST WEEK'S SCORES	HOME TEAM IN CAPS			
Wednesday, August 13th	Golden Gate	3	MIAMI	1
Friday, August 15th	Pennsylvania	2	CLEVELAND	0
Saturday, August 16th	Sacramento	1	CALIFORNIA	0
Sunday, August 17th	PENNSYLVANIA	1	New York	0

AMERICAN SOCCER LEAGUE STANDINGS

	Games	Won	Lost	Tied	Goals For	Goals Against	Bonus Points	Total* Points
AMERICAN CONFERENCE								
Sacramento	27	11	14	2	34	35	31	90
Miami**	25	9	13	3	35	47	33	84
California	22	10	11	1	33	40	30	82
Golden Gate	24	7	12	5	34	41	33	78
NATIONAL CONFERENCE								
Pennsylvania	25	17	4	4	46	25	39	132
New York	23	13	10	0	38	29	34	99
Columbus	23	11	9	3	34	26	32	93
Cleveland	25	9	14	2	33	44	31	80

(*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.)

(**Includes game forfeited by Columbus)

AMERICAN SOCCER LEAGUE SCORING LEADERS

	Games	Goals	Assists	Total Points
Mal Roche, Golden Gate Gales	23	15	5	35
Jim Rolland, California	17	8	10	26
Andy Chapman, Cleveland	17	9	2	20
Malcolm Filby, Sacramento	13	9	2	20
Joe Fink, Cleveland	20	9	1	19
Walter Schlothauer, Cleveland	20	6	7	19
Ian Filby, Pennsylvania	21	8	3	19
George Dewsnip, Columbus	19	5	8	18
Ruben Astigarraga, Cleveland	21	6	6	18
Adrian Brooks, Pennsylvania	20	5	7	17

AMERICAN SOCCER LEAGUE LEADING GOALKEEPERS
(Minimum 1080 Minutes Played)

	Minutes	Shots	Saves	Goals Allowed	S.O.	Record	G.A. Ave.
Scott Manning, PA	2143	313	141	23	10	15-4-4	0.97
Tom Reynolds, SAC	1815	249	81	21	8	11-7-2	1.04
Graham Tutt, Columbus	1655	198	79	20	5	10-5-3	1.09
Jamil Canal, New York	2003	382	159	29	5	12-10-0	1.30
Brian Parkinson, CA	1760	237	102	32	2	6-9-4	1.64
Marine Cano, Cleveland	2170	370	156	42	3	8-13-2	1.74
John Spurgeon, GGG	1143	214	86	23	0	3-6-3	1.81
Neil Ramsbottom, Miami	1255	217	62	32	2	5-9-0	2.29

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

Wednesday, August 20th	New York at Golden Gate	8:05
Friday, August 22nd	Miami at Cleveland	8:05
	New York at Sacramento	8:05
Sunday, August 24th	Golden Gate at California	4:05