NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMERICAN SOCCER LEAGUE INC.

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ERIC SMITH CHOSEN 1980 ROOKIE OF THE YEAR
WALTER SCHLOTHAUER VOTED TOP AMERICAN ROOKIE

NEW YORK, N.Y. - Eric Smith, a defender on the National Conference champion Pennsylvania Stoners, has been named as the American Soccer League's 1980 Rookie of the Year, the League office announced today. Also midfielder Walter Schlothauer of the Cleveland Cobras, was selected American Rookie of the Year, an award restricted to only United States citizens.

Smith, who graduated last year from Clemson University, was a revelation in the Pennsylvania defense this season, and his consistent performance at left back was a major reason for the Stoners' finishing with top record in the ASL, as well as having the leading defense in the circuit. A native of Guyana, Smith also recently received another honor, when he was selected for the National Team of Guyana, and the ASL's premier first year player will travel to his home country after the season to participate in his native country's World Cup qualifying matches. He played in 24 games for the Stoners, contributing one assist while being confined to predominately defensive chores, which were handled surely enough for opposing coaches to select him for the Rookie of the Year honors.

Schlothauer, the Cobras' number one draft pick from Cleveland State in 1980, proved a worthy selection, as he rang up seven goals and nine assists in 22 games for Cleveland, and finished eighth in the ASL scoring race. A native of Cleveland, the 22 year old Schlothauer possesses a booming shot in his left foot, and perceptive vision in the middle of the field, two attributes which made him a consensus All American at Cleveland State in 1979. He also delighted his hometown fans with an ability to push forward in to attack effectively, as well as operate as an orthodox left winger when the situation demanded. With Schlothauer's deep roots in the Cleveland community, and his recognized and undeniable ability, he is at the vanguard of the Cobras' plans for the future.

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