Media Release

AMERICAN SOCCER LEAGUE
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For immediate release upon receipt

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ASL AND THE SOCCER HEALL OF FAME WORK TOGETHER

Everyone's heard of the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY and the Fottball Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio. And for those of you who never realized it, yes, there is an American Soccer Hall of Fame.

Located in Oneonta, New York, the Hall has been in operation since 1979. It was in 1980, that the ASL connection was made.

"Mario Machado was the commissioner then," recalled Al Colone, the force behind the Hall of Fame. "Our intention was to include the ASL because of its Americanization. We wanted to give that league the opportunity to play in the Hall of Fame 's annual game, as part of an annual Hall of Fame Week."

In May of 1981, the first game was played between the New York United and the Pennsylvania Stoners. United won that first one, 1-0. In 1982, the Rochester Flash and the Oklahoma City Slickers faced off, and last week, it was the Slickers and the Stoners who met in the tiny New York State community.

"It's a real pleasure to participate in something like this," said Brian Harvey, the Slicker coach. "Anything to help out the promotion of soccer in this country is important."

Certainly Oklahoma City has got to be considered dedicated, considering that the team played in Oklahoma on Friday night, the Hall game was Saturday evening, and then they had a trip to Bethlehem, PA for a second match with the Stoners on Sunday night.

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On Saturday night, the Stoners topped the Western Division Club, 2-1; behind goal from Solomon Hilton and Frank Lawson. The Slicker goal was scored by Mark Kerlin.

"We're hoping to establish a yearly program," said Colone. "We want to raise the consciousness of people in America to the long history of soccer in this country."

In the meantime, the ASL, with its 49 year history behind it, and the Soccer Hall of Fame, have made their connection.

Although the Hall still has a long way to go, it is a beginning. Presently, it is situated in a large house, with hopes for a larger building held out for the future.

The Stoners, who arrived on Friday, participated in many of the Soccer Hall of Fame week activities, including a banquet Friday night (attended by 240 people), which had Howard Samuels of the NASL as the featured speaker, a clinic, and more. Several of the Stoners visited the Hall.

PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Solomon Hilton of the Pennsylvania Stoners has been named this week's ASL player of the week. The veteran forward booted two goals in the Stoner's 2-0 home-opener over Oklahoma City Sunday night.

Last year, Hilton collected six goals and six assists, making him Pennsylvania's 1982 leading scorer Ironically, while many other Stoner veterans were either cut or released during training, Hilton was kept on by coach Kalman Csapo.

Hilton, who played briefly with the New York Cosmos, a few years back, had a big night Saturday in the Soccer Hall of Fame game. Hilton's first half goal helped to spark Pennsylvania to a 2-1 win over Oklahoma City.

ASL PROSPECT?

Dan Hirshberg, the ASL Director of Public Relations, worked out with the Stoners Saturday morning. After holding his own in the early going, he ran into some trouble keeping up with the team. Afterwards, Hirshberg insisted that his troubles stemmed from faulty sneakers. Assistant coach Gary Hindley quickly retorted, "The way you were kicking the ball around, nothing would've helped." Hirshberg still has hope and plans to hold out for as long as possible in anticipation of that $1,000,000 contract.

ASL HOTLINE

The Carolina Lightnin' have scheduled a Beach Boys concert as part of an ASL concert night. The Lightnin's take on Dallas at 6:30 PM, June 10, and 30 minutes after the game is over, California's Boys of Summer will take the stage...Stuart Lee, who played with the Kansas City Comets of the MISL, has been signed by the Carolina Lightnin'. Lee has also played with the NASL's Portland Timber...The Stoners victory over Oklahoma Sunday night, was its first ASL win in 13 games. Hilton's two goals marked the first time since June 18, 1982, that one Stoner scored twice in a single game. Rich Reice was the Stoner who did it in a match against Georgia...The Oklahoma City Slickers have yet to score a goal this year...Walt Schlothauer and Carlos Madeira, both of the Stoners, ate 16 peach and ice cream desert specials between them at the Hall of Fame banquet...Tornado warnings were on the air Friday night, as Jacksonville and Oklahoma City prepared to face off. A torrential downpour nearly postponed the match...Dallas' first home game drew 4,200 fans. The crowd was sent home quite happy as the Americans defeated Carolina 2-1 in its first game ever...Jacksonville's debut in the ASL was a success, too, as it defeated Oklahoma City, 1-0, despite the rain...

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ASL STANDINGS

EASTERN DIVISION	W	L	GF	GA	BP	TP
Pennsylvania	1	1	2	1	2	7
Jacksonville	1	0	1	0	1	6
Carolina	0	1	1	2	1	1
WESTERN DIVISION						
Detroit	2	0	3	1	3	13
Dallas	1	1	3	3	3	8
Oklahoma City	0	2	0	3	0	0

RESULTS LAST WEEK

Thursday, May 12	Dallas 2, Carolina 1
Friday, May 13	Jacksonville 1, Oklahoma City 0
Saturday, May 14	Detroit 2, Dallas 1
Sunday, May 15	Pennsylvania 2, Oklahoma City 0

THIS WEEK's SCHEDULE

Thursday, May 19	Detroit at Oklahoma City
Friday, May 20	Dallas at Jacksonville
	Oklahoma City at Carolina
Saturday, May 21	Carolina at Detroit
	Pennsylvania at Dallas
Sunday, May 22	Jacksonville at Pennsylvania

ASL LEADERS

Scoring	G	A	TP
Boljevic, Detroit	2	0	4
Rausch, Dallas	2	0	4
Hilton, Pennsylvania	2	0	4
Chapman, Detroit	1	0	2
Walsch, Dallas	1	0	2
Fouser, Carolina	1	0	2
Lignos, Jacksonville	1	0	2

GOALTENDER	G	MIN	SAVES	GA	SHO	RECORD	AVG
Simonini, Jacksonville	1	90	5	0	1	1-0	0.00
Taratsides, Pennsylvania	2	180	10	1	1	1-1	0.50
Delorm, Detroit	2	180	22	1	1	2-0	0.50

ASL PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Solomon Hilton, Pennsylvania