Media Release

AMERICAN SOCCER LEAGUE
532 Main St., Bethlehem, PA 18018 (215) 868-2213

For immediate release upon receipt

August 1, 1983
Contact: Dan Hirshberg
(215) 868-2213

BENSON MAD AS HELL

Bob Benson is as mad as hell and he's not going to take it anymore!

Taking a cue from the movie hit, "Network", Benson, the owner of the American Soccer League's Carolina Lightnin' is tired of hearing the negatives concerning the 49 year old circuit.

"Sure we have our problems," admitted Benson. "But we've got our positives, too... Certainly, we're as competitive on the field as any other professional soccer league."

To prove his point, Benson would love to see the ASL take on the North American Soccer League in one form or another.

Among the ideas he and league officials have thrown around are an ASL-NASL SUPER SOCCER BOWL, which would pit the two league champions against each other; a regional championship cup (for example, a Southeast cup featuring the ASL's Jacksonville Tea Men and the Carolina Lightnin' versus the NASL's Ft. Lauderdale Strikers and the Tampa Bay Rowdies); or an ASL-NASL All-star game.

"Our product is equal to the NASL's," insisted Benson. "Plus, with our emphasis on American players (ASL rules state that team rosters must include at least 14 of 18 players of U.S. citizenry), we have a product that in the long run, will naturally be a favorite in this country."

"We feel that most of our teams could give any NASL team a fight on the field," added Dr. William Burfeind, the President of the ASL. "We do have teams that aren't as competitive as others, but that's the case in the NASL or in any league, for that matter."

Benson and the ASL may not get their wish for an NASL encounter this year, but maybe, just maybe, they'll see one in the not so distant future.

ASL PLAYER OF THE WEEK

It had not been a particularily thrilling season for Tom Fazekas of the Dallas Americans. Until recently, that is.

Behind Fazekas' one goal and four assists, the Americans solidified their hold on the playoff scene with two wins last week. Dallas defeated Pennsylvania 3-1 on July 28, and then, surprised the powerful Jacksonville Tea Men July 29. In the Stoner game, Fazekas drilled in a goal and two assists; against Jacksonville, the 6 foot forward was credited with two important assists as Dallas ended the Tea Men's 10 game home unbeaten streak.

"I was in the right place at the right time, I guess," said Fazekas, who had not seen a single point prior to his outburst.

Until recently, Fazekas had been limited in his on the field appearances. He has now started five games in a row and it seems like the amateur from Midwestern State University (Wichita Falls, TX) is hitting the perfect stride, at the perfect time, as Dallas gets ready for the playoffs.

Fazekas is a home town boy, having grown up and currently living in Dallas.

JACKSONVILLE STREAK ENDS

Two Jacksonville Tea Men streaks came to a jarring halt on the night of July 29.

On that evening in front of 6,025 Gator Bowl fans, the Tea Men lost their first home game of the year, 4-1 to the Dallas Americans. Jacksonville led at the half 1-0 but collapsed in the second stanza behind Jeff Bourne's hat trick. As a result of the loss, Jacksonville's 10 game win streak not only cost the Tea Men a perfect home record, but it also ended goalie Peter Simonini's perfect Gator Bowl mark.

CONSOLIDATED SCHEDULE

Due to stadium difficulties beyond the ASL's control, the 28 game season will be consolidated into a 25 match affair. Thus, the playoffs will begin late next week.

ROUTINE

Last week, the ASL release featured the 1978 All-Star team. The team, for the record was selected by the ASL head coaches...John Kowalski played in every minute of every game with the Tea Men this year. The defenseman's iron man record came to a halt only when an injury forced him to the sidelines at the 59:06 mark...Pennsylvania's nine game winning streak ended July 30 with a 2-1 win over Carolina...Billy Boljevic did not play with the Detroit Express due to a severely sprained ankle...Detroit smashed 22 corner kicks in its 2-1 victory over Carolina July 29. That game, pleayed at the Silverdome attracted 5,71[illegible], a season high for the Express...The 6,025 fans at the Dallas-Jacksonville game of July 29 was a season high at the Gator Bowl.. Oklahoma's six goals against Pennsylvania July 28 tied the City Slickers with Kansas City for the most goals scored by one team in a game this year...The Slickers were whistled for only seven fouls in that 6-2 win... Mario Basualdo has scored in six of the last eight Slicker games...Mario Basualdo was selected by the Kansas City Slickers....

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ASL STANDINGS

EASTERN DIVISION	W	L	GF	GA	BP	TP
Jacksonville	17	6	57	31	50	135
Pennsylvania	12	13	46	48	46	106
Carolina	10	12	36	32	36	86

WESTERN DIVISION	W	L	GF	GA	BP	TP
Dallas	12	11	42	36	43	103
Detroit	12	12	36	42	38	98
Oklahoma City	7	16	23	51	22	57

5 points for a win, 1 bonus point for every goal up to three in a game, 2 points for the losing team in a shootout---listed under bonus points, no points for a loss in regulation. Goals in overtime count under bonus points.

RESULTS LAST WEEK

Thursday, July 28	OKLAHOMA CITY 6, Detroit 2
	DALLAS 3, Pennsylvania 1
Friday, July 29	DETROIT 2, Carolina 1
	Dallas 4, JACKSONVILLE 1
Saturday, July 30	Pennsylvania 2, CAROLINA 1
Sunday, July 31	PENNSYLVANIA 3, Jacksonville 2

THIS WEEK's SCHEDULE

Monday, August 1	Detroit at Carolina
Thursday, August 4	Dallas at Oklahoma City
Friday, August 5	Carolina at Jacksonville
Saturday, August 6	Jacksonville at Carolina
	Oklahoma City at Dallas (OFFICIAL ENDING OF SEASON)

ASL SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	TP
Zivaljevic, Jacksonville	16	5	37
Bourne, Dallas	14	3	31
English, Jacksonville	11	8	30
Garcia, Jacksonville	9	10	28
Boljevic, Detroit	9	6	24
Lee, Carolina	10	2	22
Chapman, Detroit	9	3	21
Hilton, Pennsylvania	8	3	19
Bernardi, Pennsylvania	9	1	19
Johnson, Pennsylvania	6	6	18
Welsch, Dallas	6	4	16
Suarez, Carolina	6	3	15
Paonessa, Pennsylvania	5	3	13
Ralbovsky, Jacksonville	6	1	13

GOALTENDING LEADERS

	G	MIN	SAV	GA	SHO	REC	GAA
Simonini, Jaksonville	23	2210	129	31	8	16-6	1.26
Kennedy, Carolina	21	1950	126	30	5	10-11	1.39
Delorm, Detroit	23	2129	201	39	5	12-11	1.65
Barbarick, Pennsylvania	16	1500	94	28	1	8-7	1.68

ASL PLAYER OF THE WEEK: Tom Fazekas, Dallas Americans

TEAM VS. TEAM RECORDS

	Car.	Dal.	Det.	Jack.	Okl.	Pa.
Car.	X	3	1	1	4	1
Dal.	1	X	3	2	4	2
Det.	4	2	X	1	2	3
Jack.	3	3	3	X	4	4
Okl.	0	0	3	1	X	3
Pa.	4	3	2	1	2	X

Longest winning streak: Jacksonville 8 Longest losing streak: Oklahoma City 8

TEAM RECORDS

CAROLINA	Home	7-4
	Away	3-8
	Total	10-12
DALLAS	Home	8-3
	Away	4-8
	Total	12-11
DETROIT	Home	10-3
	Away	2-9
	Total	12-12
JACKSONVILLE	Home	10-1
	Away	7-5
	Total	17-6
OKLAHOMA CITY	Home	4-8
	Away	3-8
	Total	7-16
PENNSYLVANIA	Home	8-4
	Away	4-9
	Total	12-13

ATTENDANCE

CAROLINA	No. dates	11
	Total	51,013
	Avg.	4,637
	Best	16,081
DALLAS	No. dates	11
	Total	43,336
	Avg.	3,940
	Best	4,832
DETROIT	No. dates	13
	Total	52,904
	Avg.	4,069
	Best	5,711
JACKSONVILLE	No. dates	11
	Total	46,818
	Avg.	4,256
	Best	6,025
OKLAHOMA CITY	No. dates	12
	Total	15,378
	Avg.	1,281
	Best	2,012
PENNSYLVANIA	No. dates	12
	Total	16,088
	Avg.	1,340
	Best	2,886

SHUTOUTS

CAROLINA	For	5	DETROIT	For	5
	Against	1		Against	5
DALLAS	For	4	JACKSONVILLE	For	8
	Against	3		Against	1
OKLAHOMA CITY	For	2	PENNSYLVANIA	For	2
	Against	11		Against	5

SHOOTOUT RECORDS

CAROLINA	W-2	DETROIT	W-0	OKLAHOMA CITY	W-2
	L-1		L-1		L-1
DALLAS	W-0	JACKSONVILLE	W-3	PENNSYLVANIA	W-1
	L-2		L-1		L-2

FOULS - SEASON AND GAME HIGHS, LOWS

CAROLINA	Games	22	DALLAS	Games	23
	Total	448		Total	362
	Avg.	20.4		Avg.	15.7
	Most	38		Most	28
	(vs. Dal. 6/10)			(vs. Pa., 6/5)	
	Least	9		Least	5
	(vs. Dals. 7/16)			(vs. Car. 6/16)	
DETROIT	Games	24	JACKSONVILLE	Games	23
	Total	471		Total	426
	Avg.	19.6		Avg.	18.5
	Most	37		Most	30
	(vs. Pa. 5/25)			(vs. Pa. 5/22)	
				(vs. Dal. 7/7)	
	Least	9		Least	9
	(vs. Car. 7/29)			(vs. Car. 5/27)	

(more)

FOULS - SEASON AND GAME HIGHS, LOWS (con't.)

OKLAHOMA CITY	Games	23	PENNSYLVANIA	Games	25
	Total	419		Total	510
	Avg.	18.2		Avg.	20.4
	Most	33		Most	30
	(vs. Jack. 6/16)			(vs. Det. 5/25)	
	Least	7		Least	10
	(vs. Det. 7/28)			(vs. Det. 7/2)	

HIGH GAME:

Pennsylvania-Detroit	(5/25)	67

LOW GAME:

Carolina-Dallas	(6/16)	20

Thursday, July 28

Detroit	2
Oklahoma City	6

Attendance: 1,020
Referee: Bill Scofield
Scoring: Detroit: Watson (Cabarra) 48:58; Watson (una) 80:54
Oklahoma City: Alioto (Ley) 37:38; Alioto (Kerlin) 50:34; Kerlin (una) 54:12; Pena (Millinder) 57:49; Kerlin (una) 72:45; Millinder (Fleps) 87:19

Cautions: Detroit: None
Oklahoma City: None

	D	O
Shots	14	20
Saves	5	7
Corners	3	9
Fouls	16	7
Offsides	5	8

Detroit: Delorm, St.Westbrook, Franklin, Wilson, Sc.Westbrook (Mihailovich), Watson, Moffat, Powers, Cabarra (Tinnion), Furphy, Chapman

Oklahoma City: Allen, Alioto, Knezic, Millinder, Ley; Gehling, Kramer, Pena, Killingsworth (Husband), Kerlin, Khoury (Fleps)

OFF. MVP Kerlin
DEF. MVP Alioto

Thursday, July 28

Pennsylvania	1
Dallas	3

Attendance: 3,123
Referee: Bob Evans
Scoring: Pennsylvania: Bernardi (Yepez) 77:23
Dallas: Rausch (Fazekas) 12:30; Fazekas (Rausch) 53:40; Sedlacek (Fazekas) 88:14

Cautions: Pennsylvania: Bernardi (yellow) 40:15; Schlothauer (yellow) 79:40
Dallas: Elder (yellow) 84:12

	P	D
Shots	13	22
Saves	7	2
Corners	6	7
Fouls	12	14
Offsides	6	2

Pennsylvania: Barbarick, Smith, Carr, Schlothauer, Davis, Nezaj, Martin (Ramsey) Yepez, Paonessa, Bernardi, Johnson

Thursday, July 28 (Pennsylvania-Dallas con't.)

Dallas: R.Phillips, James, Cohen, Rausch (Sedlacek), Kadupski, McMonigle (Elder), Roentved, Dolinsky, Welsch, Bourne, Fazekas

Off. MVP Fazekas
Def. MVP Cohen

Friday, July 29

Dallas	4
Jacksonville	1

Attendance: 6,025
Referee: Chris Bayley
Scoring: Dallas: Hellenkamp (Fazekas) 62:57; Bourne (Fazekas) 68:08; Bourne (Welsch) 77:39; Bourne (Sedlacek) 83:42
Jacksonville: Bapst (Rosul) 42:28

Cautions: Dallas: None
Jacksonville: None

	D	J
Shots	12	22
Saves	10	3
Corners	3	4
Fouls	16	12
Offsides	3	6

Dallas: B.Phillips, Kadupski, Rausch, McMonigle, James, Bourne, Hellenkamp, Roentved, Dolinsky, Welsch, Fazekas (Sedlacek)

Jacksonville: Simonini, Lignos, Berrio, Bapst, Ralbovsky, Zec, Carbognani, Fall, Zivaljevic, Garcia, English (Rosul)

Off. MVP Bourne
Def. MVP James

Friday, July 29

Carolina	1
Detroit	2

Attendance: 5,711
Referee: Mike Rado
Scoring: Carolina: Fidelia (una) 23:19
Detroit: Powers (una) 45:25; Tinnion (Furphy) 68:54

Cautions: Carolina: None
Detroit: None

	C	D
Shots	13	16
Saves	6	6
Corners	5	22
Fouls	16	9
Offsides	4	4

Carolina: Kennedy, Borg, Power, Philpotts, Heileman, Lee, Suarez (Payne), Tobin, Crouch, Pierce, Fidelia

Detroit: Delorm, St.Westbrook, Sc.Westbrook, Franklin, Christensen, Moffat (Wilson) Tinnion (Mihailovich), Watson, Powers, Furphy, Chapman

Off. MVP Tinnion
Def. MVP Powers

Saturday, July 30

Pennsylvania	2
Carolina	1

Attendance: 4,023
Referee: Derek Davis
Scoring: Pennsylvania: Bernardi (Nezaj) 31:37; Johnson (una) 63:42
Carolina: Lee (Tobin) 58:20

Cautions: Pennsylvania: None
Carolina: Lee (yellow) 24:16; Borg (yellow) 24:20; Team Trainer (yellow) 76:28

	P	C
Shots	18	10
Saves	5	7
Corners	4	2
Fouls	14	18
Offsides	4	4

Pennsylvania: Barbarick, Smith, Carr, Schlothauer, Bernardi, Johnson (Hilton), Nezaj, Davis, Yepez, McDonald, Horvath

Carolina: Kennedy, Heileman, Power, Groark, Philpotts, Suarez, Lee, Tobin, Pierce, Borg, Fidelia (Fouser)

Off. MVP Johnson
Def. MVP Barbarick

Sunday, July 31

Jacksonville	2
Pennsylvania	3

Attendance: 1,551
Referee: Julio Salas
Scoring: Jacksonville: Zivaljevic (Garcia) 21:34; Garcia (Rosul) 64:49
Pennsylvania: Nezaj (una) 20:24; Johnson (Horvath) 47:18; Bernardi (Johnson) 59:40

Cautions: Jacksonville: Zec (yellow) 65:45; Rosul (yellow) 73:12
Pennsylvania: Johnson (yellow) 50:14; Davis (yellow) 81:25

	J	P
Shots	18	22
Saves	7	6
Corners	5	5
Fouls	20	26
Offsides	4	8

Jacksonville: Simonini, Fall, Ralbovsky, Lignos, Zec, Zivaljevic (Strecker), Garcia, Bapst (Meyer), Berrio, Rosul, Carbonani

Pennsylvania: Barbarick, Carr, Schlothauer, Smith, Davis, McDonald, Yepez, Nezaj, Horvath (Hilton), Johnson, Bernardi (Pennessa)

Off. MVP Johnson
Def. MVP Barbarick