NEWS RELEASE

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AMERICAN SOCCER LEAGUE INC.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

AMERICAN SOCCER LEAGUE OPENS 43rd SEASON

FEATURES MANY AMERICAN COLLEGE STARS

NEW YORK, N.Y.--America's oldest professional soccer league, the American Soccer League, will open its 43rd campaign this coming weekend on Saturday, April 17, when the Sacramento Spirits visit the Los Angeles Skyhawks. Both of these elevens are new entries in the loop, and together with three other new franchises, the Utah Golden Spikers, the Tacoma Tides and the Oakland Buccaneers, form the Western Division of the vastly expanded American Soccer League.

For the first time in the history of the organization, the ASL is comprised of teams extending geographically from the East Coast to the West Coast. There is a heavy accent on going with American player personnel on the part of most teams since each club is limited to seven alien players. Consequently, the coaches have been trying to mingle experienced veteran performers, with World Cup experience, in combination with outstanding collegiate graduates.

The number one draft choice from the collegiate world, Steve Ralbovsky, Brown University, winner of the Robert R. Herrman Trophy (soccer's Heisman Trophy) in 1975, which is awarded annually to the outstanding college soccer player in the Sporting News poll of college coaches, was signed by the Los Angeles Skyhawks. He together with the number two Skyhawk collegiate draftee, Bruce Cryder of Philadelphia Textile will play for coach Ron Newman, a renowned international player and former coach of the championship Dallas Tornados in the NASL. Newman avers that Ralbovsky today is as fine a player as any of the foreign imports playing in major league soccer in the United States.

Some of the other outstanding collegiate draft choices who will be making their first appearances in League games during the next two weeks

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include Chris Whitworth, a fullback from the University of Washington who will perform for the Tacoma Tides; Mark Swafford, a forward from the University of Connecticut, first draft choice of the Rhode Island Oceaneers; Don Clark, a goalie out of San Francisco University, a number one draft choice of the Oakland Buccaneers; the Connecticut Yankees first draft choice of Esteban Sebourne of Bridgeport University; John Roeslein, a forward from St. Louis University who will do his kicking for the New Jersey Americans; John Dolinsky, a Lewis Institute forward with the Chicago Cats; Barry Small, the Colgate All-American with the New York Apollo; Robert Smith, midfielder from Akron University and a member of the 1972 Olympic team, will grace the Cleveland Cobras lineup. Wolfgang Gartner, a graduate of the University of the Pacific, will captain the Sacramento Spirits.

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