CLEVELAND COBRAS

COBRA NEWS

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RELEASE DATE

COBRAS WIN OPENER

Not even a driving rainstorm could halt the Cleveland Cobras as they recorded a 2-1 victory over the Chicago Cats in the Windy City. Playing their season's opener, the Cobras displayed a rugged defense which only relented during the last minute of the game, when Chicago was finally able to get on the board.

Vito Colonna scored the Cobras first goal on a 20 foot shot from the center of the field at the 18 minute mark. Just two minutes later, Roberto Oliveira, the Cobras 20 year old star from Brazil, tallied on a 10 foot shot after receiving a brilliant pass from Robert Smith.

Fred Kovacs accounted for the Cats only score as he slipped a shot past Cobras goalie, Paul Chymovic, with less than a minute to play.

It was the Cobras defense, their most glaring weakness last season, which was the game's deciding factor. It was apparent that the college draft strengthened the Cobras in this area as first round choice, Billy Polack, impressed everyone with his physical play and leadership abilities. Captain Dave Leckie teamed with Polack to give the Cobras an awesome twosome in front of goalie, Paul Chymovic. Chymovic came up with three key saves early in the contest to keep the Cobras in command.

"I was overjoyed with the play of our defense," beamed Coach Herbie Haller. "Polack and Leckie really established the tone of the game for us as they really kept the Cats away from our net. Defense was the key to our success tonight."

The Cobras dominated most of the action as they out shot the Cats 21-13. Paul Chymovic had eight saves for Cleveland, while former Cobra, Chris Swain, stopped 11 shots.

The Cobras play on the road this weekend against the New Jersey Americans and the defending A.S.L. champions, the New York Apollos. The Apollos supply the first opposition for the Cobras at home as the two clubs meet in an exhibition game on May 15 at Baldwin Wallace