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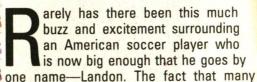
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American fans have not had the opportunity to watch California native Landon Donovan play soccer heightens the fascination.

"He has a flair to his game that not many Americans have," says Los Angeles Galaxy Head Coach and former UCLA coach Sigi Schmid.

This sentiment is echoed by San Jose Earthquakes Head Coach Frank Yallop. "I feel that at every age he's played he's always been the best American player."

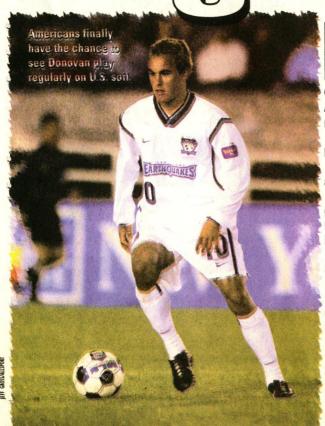
But beginning with the 2001 MLS season, fans have finally been able to witness the genial feats of the 19-year-old wearing the No. 10 jersey for the rejuvenated San Jose Earthquakes. And the support from the soccer-crazed Bay Area faithful for Donovan has not been lacking.

"I think it's good that people are curious and people want to come watch," Donovan says about the curious eyes. "I think it's only going to help our sport. It's exciting."

Few American players in recent history have been able to bring the creativity, flair and imagination to a soccer field as Donovan has. His vision during a match is uncanny and the challenge is for other players on the field to keep up with him. Combining a refined touch, blazing acceleration and commanding control of the ball at breakneck speed, Donovan has the mix of a lethal attacker.

"I'm very fortunate because I realize that I have something most people in the world don't have." he says. "It's nothing that I've worked hard for, nothing that I've been taught; just something I was born with. I'm just lucky to have that."

And he's not afraid to display it on the big stages. In only his second U.S. National Team appearance, Donovan succeeded in lofting an exquisite, swirling, first-time pass to veteran Columbus Crew forward Brian McBride, who ran onto the perfect service to score against





China earlier this year.

"That was great. I didn't think he would find me, to be really honest. I didn't think he even saw me," McBride said after the game. "I wish I was that good at that age."

BORN TO PLAY SOCCER: From the age of five, all Landon Donovan ever wanted to do was run around the grass fields and kick a ball. He had the itch to compete that great players in other sports have.

"Whenever I saw Landon Donovan from the age of 14 on, at youth soccer tournaments, he always had a ball at his feet," Schmid said. "Every time there was a halftime of a game, Landon would jump on his feet, take a ball onto the field and shoot onto goal or dribble or juggle. For him, that ball was a piece of magic and he would never be anywhere without it."

While at Redlands East Valley High School, Donovan was a 1999 Parade High School All-American. He also played on one of the top youth clubs in California, Cal Heat, on which he reached state tournament finals.

Donovan credits that time on his club team with helping him develop the outstanding ball skills he owns today.

"Every practice we had was 95 percent with the ball. We did some fitness, but not a lot," he says. "We'd hit long balls and have touch restrictions or play with the outside of the foot or inside of the foot, dribbling every possible dribble you can imagine. The coach [Clint Greenwood] knew more moves than I think anybody in the world does. That's great for young kids."

"I am very fortunate because I realize that I have something most people in the world don't have. And I'm just lucky to have that."

- Landon Donovan

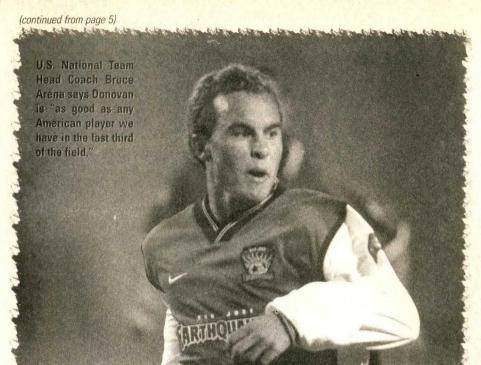
As any young phenom would, Donovan was attracting interest from top clubs around the world. When Germany's Bayer Leverkusen came knocking in 1999 and made an offer he could not resist, the 17-year-old jumped at the dream opportunity to turn pro.

DREAMING IN DEUTSCHLAND: It's a pretty bold move when a teenager decides to turn his life upside-down to pursue a soccer career. But when Donovan moved to Germany, it was a testament as to just how big his dreams were. He found himself in a country where he didn't speak the language, training among the wily veterans of the unforgiving Bundesliga, and bracing through the harsh northern European winters. California was far away.

"It helped me mature as a person, which in turn helped me mature as a soccer player," he says about his time with Leverkusen. "I'm so much more worldly at my age than anybody I know. Whether that's good or bad, I've been exposed to a lot of things that most teenagers aren't exposed to and I think that helps me not only on the soccer field, but also in life."

Donovan trained with U.S. National Team defender Frankie Hejduk and the Leverkusen first team every day and then played with the reserves on the weekend. That routine quickly became old and the competition was not up to his par. He was voted the best player at the Under-17 World Championship in November 1999 in New Zealand, yet he couldn't gain a regular spot on the first-team Leverkusen roster.

"I wish I could put my finger on it and find out exactly why I didn't play," Donovan says. "I guess (continued on page 6)



there are a lot of factors. They have a lot of good players and players who sit the bench who are older, more experienced and, arguably, better players. One thing I didn't understand is that they gave a lot of young players chances and that didn't include me. That was the point when I said I should pursue other options."

His first option was coming back home to MLS.

"Landon's case shows the importance of playing versus the importance of training for young players," Schmid says. "Getting unique training experiences available in Europe are of value but if that's not supplemented with games at the appropriate level, that's going to stall the player's development."

"The soccer I'm used to is what they play in MLS and I think it's creative, good soccer," Donovan says.

"It's a tribute to where the quality of play is that the brightest and most talented young American stars want to play in MLS and help make it one of the world's best leagues."

LOOK OUT WORLD: Donovan was able to get a good feel for the level of play in MLS every time he was called up to the U.S. National Team, where he has become a regular on the squad. In his first senior international match against Mexico this past fall, he made a splash—not only scoring a goal, but setting up another. He followed that up with a brilliant performance against China. Those performances have made him a fixture in the pool of American forwards.

"He's as good as any American player we have in

the last third of the field," U.S. National Team Head Coach Bruce Arena said at national team camp earlier this year. "He's got a great instinct for when to pass the ball, when to take people on, and when to shoot in that part of the field. That's where he excels."

Arena had made it clear to Donovan that he needed to play regularly at a highly competitive level to stay in the mix. The move to MLS allows him to keep fighting for a spot on a potential 2002 U.S. World Cup team.

"I dream about winning a World Cup," Donovan says. "So that's something I've been wanting forever. To be a part of a World Cup would be incredible whether I play or I don't play."

"He's very motivated," Yallop says. "We want that at the end of two years or three years for him to be a starter with the national team. That's our goal and that is his goal."

Before then, he'll be going for the World Cup for Under-20 National Teams at the World Youth Championships. With fellow MLS stars Bobby Convey (D.C. United) and DaMarcus Beasley (Chicago Fire), Donovan will be looking to better the efforts of their U-17 team, which finished fourth at the world championships in 1999.

"At this next U-20 tournament in Trinidad, we feel that we should win every soccer game that we play. We respect everybody we play but we fear no one," Donovan says. "We feel every time we step on the field, at any level, we're going to win the game. We feel like we're the favorites at the U-20 Tournament."

NO PRESSURE AT ALL: In March, Donovan made an arrival in San Jose with much fanfare, joining a forward corps that was already one of the league's strongest on paper. Although the team will be doing its best to shift the pressure off his shoulders, eyes will continue to watch the soccer phenom known as 'Landon.'

"We don't want to place undue expectations on Landon," Earthquakes General Manager Tom Neale said at Donovan's introduction. "That being said, Landon symbolizes an awful lot for this league, for American soccer and for youth soccer. We have to take advantage of the fact that we now have the quintessential future of American soccer in San Jose and in the Bay Area."

But Donovan insists that the spotlight does not bother him. On the contrary, the teenager who has been at the center of some of the United States' major soccer achievements (including a fourth-place finish at the 2000 Olympics), takes some satisfaction in being considered one of the best American players ever.

"Obviously it feels good and it's flattering but it's kind of weird for me," Donovan says. "But you take it with a grain of salt and you understand that people are excited and they want to be excited. It's great."

In Safe Hands

MLS is stocked with solid veteran goalkeepers and a new breed of potential stars.

By Anthony Guido

oalkeepers have long had the reputation of being of a slightly different breed when compared to the other players on a soccer squad.

"No question. It's a different mindset," quips starting MetroStars 'keeper Tim Howard. "You have to be a little bit different to want to play this position, even a bit crazy. It takes a little bit more heart to play goalkeeper."

With all the particulars that go into the position, the United States continues to consistently generate a plethora of quality performers at goalkeeper—more than in any other sector of the field.

Major League Soccer has been the primary beneficiary of this growing trend. Promising young goalkeepers such as Howard, Adin Brown (Colorado Rapids) and Nick Rimando (Miami Fusion) are poised to join a group of top 'keepers in their mid-20s: Kevin Hartman (Los Angeles Galaxy), Matt Jordan (Dallas Burn), Zach Thornton (Chicago Fire) and Joe Cannon (San Jose Earthquakes).

"The competition is very tough at 'keeper, we are stacked at the position in this country," says Cannon, who spent the offseason training in England. "If you look around, you'll find that the U.S. produces as many good goal-keepers as any other country."

Tony Meola, the reigning Aquafina Goalkeeper of the Year (as well as Honda MVP, Ace Comeback Player of the Year and MLS Cup MVP), currently enjoys the status of

(continued on page 10)



Tony Meola had the best season ever for an MLS 'keeper in 2000, becoming the first netminder to win the Honda MVP award. No.1 goalkeeper in MLS. He set a league record with 16 shutouts in 2000 while posting a 0.92 goals-against average (GAA).

The competition for All-Star spots and the Goalkeeper of the Year award should continue to be intense in 2001. Standouts like Cannon and Jordan did not even make the 2000 All-Star Game, while Thornton was an injury replacement for Hartman at Columbus Crew Stadium last July.

"The honors will come as you win games in this league," Cannon says. "As for why the U.S. grows good goalkeepers, I always credit the hand-eye-coordination factor. American kids grow up playing various sports like basketball and football, where they develop quick hands."

In MLS, statistical leaders consistently change from season to season. Media took home top goal-keeper honors a year ago, while Hartman (1999) and Thornton (1998) earned the previous two awards.

Cannon (1.49
GAA) joined
these 'keepers
among the GAA
leaders with
each averaging
under a goal and
a half in 2000.
And Cannon,
Hartman,
Thornton and
Jordan each
posted seven
shutouts a year
ago, second only to Meola.

"U.S. 'keepers have good hand-eye coordination. American kids grow up playing various sports like basketball and football, where they develop quick hands."

- Joe Cannon

As a consequence, competition for spots on the U.S. National Team are hard to come by, especially for 'keepers. European-based goalkeepers Kasey Keller of Rayo Vallecano and former Columbus Crew 'keeper Brad Friedel of Blackburn Rovers have long been factors on the U.S. squad, but both are in their early 30s. Thornton and Meola have recently been in camp as the team's third 'keeper. Meola started on

and captained the team that won at Barbados, clinching a berth in the final World Cup qualifying round. Brown, Jordan and Hartman have also seen time in U.S. camp under Head Coach Bruce Arena in the past year.

"It is so tough at this position, you just have to bide your time," says Hartman, who set the league record for lowest GAA (0.90) in 1999. "For me, it's always about the wins and losses. I just need to do as well for the Galaxy as I can and the other stuff will follow. Being a part of the national team is certainly a goal down the line."

Howard and Brown were set to make their mark on U.S. Soccer at the 2000 Summer Olympic Games in Australia. However, Brown missed the tournament due to injury, while Howard experienced the depth of the U.S. at 'keeper when Friedel played every match at the Olympics.

"That experience has made me a better player,"

says the 22-yearold Howard, a
clear-cut starter
in MLS for the
first time with
the MetroStars.
"This is my first
chance to join
the elite of this
league. We have
so many good
goalkeepers, but
I feel I can fit in
with those guys."

Howard displayed his outstanding ability in limited playing time in 2000. He went 5-2-2 with four shutouts in nine games for the MetroStars, making plenty of spectacular saves along the way. Brown and Rimando similarly won starting roles with their performances a year ago.

"Hopefully, I can turn some heads in 2001 and make a good impression," Brown says. "It's always been a personal goal to at least train and then play with the national team."

Rimando was not as highly touted as Brown or Howard when he entered the league, but the former UCLA netminder burst onto the scene after being selected as a third-round SuperDraft pick in 2000. The Nike Project-40 product posted 10 wins and a solid 1.84 GAA during the 2000 campaign.

"I didn't think I'd get very much playing time in my rookie year," says Rimando, who took over for Jeff Cassar. "As the year went on, it was all a surprise to me. As we improve in 2001, I hope I can continue to mature into a better 'keeper."

Unlike the other positions on the field, no MLS club is using an international spot (senior, transitional or youth) on a goalkeeper, proof of the abundance of American talent. There are also recognized backups who can

The Galaxy's Kevin Hartman holds the league record for lowest goals-against average: 0.90 (set in 1999).

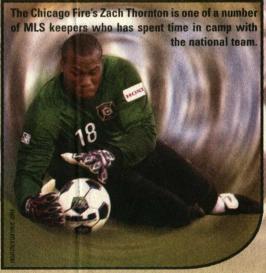
confidently assume the starting role when called upon: Jon Conway in San Jose, Mark Simpson with D.C. United, David Kramer in Colorado and Cassar with the Fusion.

Veterans Scott Garlick and Mike Ammann also deserve mention among MLS' best in goal. Garlick broke the MLS saves record last year, registering 184, while Ammann enjoyed one of the best seasons in 2000. In addition, steady Columbus goalkeeper Mark Dougherty will look to add to his all-time lead in league victories with 65 entering the 2001 season.

What makes the goalkeeping picture even more intriguing is that MLS is a higher-scoring league than the German Bundesliga, the Italian Serie A, Spain's 'La Liga' and the English Premier League. That fact would not seem to bode well with all the praise heaped on the 'keepers.

"It's a great league," Howard says. "You look at some of the strikers we have and they're world class. Our game is played almost like a track meet. You go up and down the field quickly and there are more opportunities to be had on goal. It's not a discredit to the goalkeepers."

So if you're looking for a star on a team, you can probably start by looking between the posts. Nearly every MLS club has a potential All-Star candidate in net. The number of them may seem like a coincidental occurrence at this time, but MLS has yet to see a bad season at the position.





each moved from New Zealand to major college programs, and then to MLS via the 2001 SuperDraft as first-round picks.

"Simon has already proven that he is one of the top players in this league," Nelsen says. "It has clearly opened doors for Duncan and myself. And if we do well, that will give more youngsters from New Zealand a chance to play. The college system has also opened up new options for Kiwis. I think it's perfect—you get a degree and then play at a high level with MLS right after that. I recommend that to

any of the young kids in

New Zealand." While their accents make this trio stand out off the field, their versatility and toughness are characteristics that make them easily recognizable on the field.

Oughton, who like Elliott, grew up in the town of Karoir, feels that their playing style began to develop back home.

"One of our best attributes is that we'll work as hard as anvone." Oughton says. "Simon is really fit, a great worker-he moves front to back for the Galaxy so well. Ryan is the same way; he works real hard. They are both pretty versatile as well. You can probably put Simon on the field at any position and he'd perform well. I was a midfielder in college and already the Crew moved me to the back after drafting me."

Those are the qualities that Oughton thinks have made adapting to MLS a little easier for the gritty threesome.

"Our game back home is a little more harsh, played with a tougher edge," Oughton adds. "You can get away with a lot before you see a card come

> out. It maybe makes us more ready for the physical play of MLS than some of the other foreigners who come into the league."

> MLS is growing in popularity in New Zealand, a place where soccer is clearly third on the sports radar. Newspapers and Internet sites keep tabs on the U.S. trio,

and some matches are shown on tape delay.

"Simon already created quite a following back home last year. Now, there are three of us. Already. we've had radio and TV interviews back in New Zealand," Nelsen says.

"Having three of us here in MLS is great for the league—it lends a global perspective and gets the league out there. There is a lot of enthusiasm back home for MLS now.'

The matches where Elliott, Nelsen or Oughton go head-to-head will surely generate the most attention back home. Nelsen and Oughton will square off on May 19 at Crew Stadium in the first

New Zealand."

"It will be a battle when any of us play against each other. We'll probably kick each other several times on the field," Oughton jokes. "Afterwards, we'll get together and have a laugh and reminisce."

New Zealand National Team starters Elliott and Nelsen will both probably be back home ahead of a

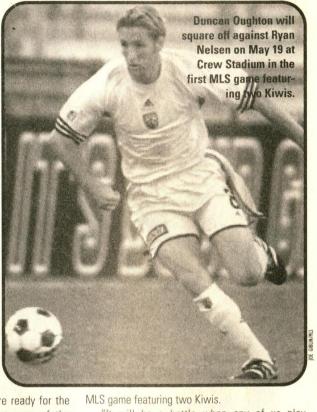
projected June 2 contest. New Zealand's national team, "the All-Whites," begin their qualification for the 2002 World Cup on June 6.

"Qualifying is always difficult for us. because we have to win our group, then win our region-Oceania (likely against Aus-

tralia)—and then take on the fifth place team from South America (a power like Colombia or Paraguay)," Elliott says. "Plus the travel is difficult, but I do believe our experience in MLS will help us at the national team level."

- Ryan Nelsen

If the other players on that New Zealand national team display nearly half the heart and passion of their compatriots in MLS, their chances of advancing to the World Cup are as good as any nation's.



D.C. United's **Ryan Nelsen** has been a starter at defen-

"I think the college system

is perfect—you get a degree

and then play at a high level

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after that. I recommend that

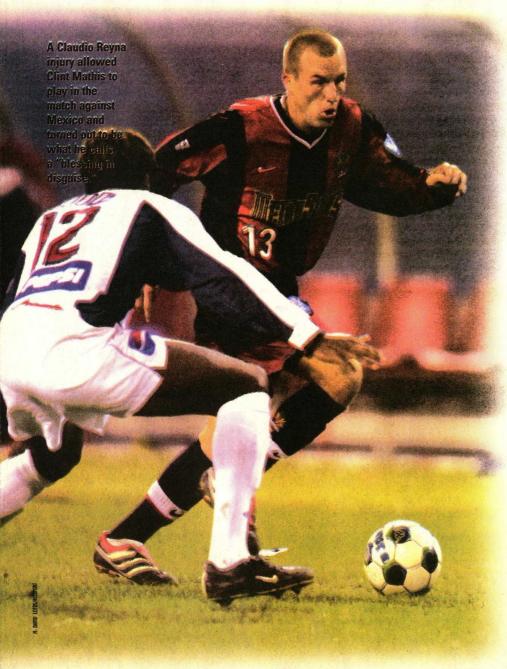
to any of the young kids in

sive midfield

since opening

day.

REAL AMERICAN THE REAL AMERICAN





o MLS fan would argue that Clint Mathis and Josh Wolff are rising stars and undeniably two of the

most talented gamebreakers in the business. But on two nights earlier this year, Mathis and Wolff, both natives of Georgia, even transcended those labels. Two separate performances catapulted Mathis and Wolff into American soccer lore and the hearts of soccer followers across a nation.

MEXICANS CRY 'WOLFF'



Josh Wolff was selected to participate in national team training for the first leg of the final-round World Cup Qualifier against Mexico. He had a total of four appearances with the squad at the time and was not expected to be among the starting eleven. It was a battle for Wolff just to get a spot on the bench.

"The week leading up was a tryout and I didn't know if I was even going to dress. Ante [Razov] and I were fighting for a spot," Wolff says. "For me to get on the bench, I did pretty well in the training camp. Bruce [Arena—national team head coach] said if anybody got hurt or if the opportunity came where we needed a goal, that I was going to go in."

The Mexicans watched the speedy 24-year-old Wolff race onto the field when Brian McBride exited with his now-infamous swollen right eye. It was an injury the visitors would rue because the fresh substitute would burn them twice. On a 30-yard sprint to a Mathis long ball, Wolff beat goalkeeper Jorge Campos and easily scored. Then, with only minutes remaining, he used a heel move to beat two defenders and danced along the right end line, into the box, serving up a winning assist to teammate Earnie Stewart.

"When we scored the goals in that atmosphere, it was a rush of emotions, one of the most unique experiences of my life," Wolff says. "The fans were going nuts."

A FREE KICK FOR THE HISTORY BOOKS

It had been more than 11 years since the United States won a World Cup qualifier in the hostile territories of Central America. On March 28, there were 46,000 Hondurans expecting that trend to continue.

With the score tied 1-1 and four minutes left to play, the U.S. was awarded a free kick 25 yards out from a spot in line with the left goal post guarded by Honduras. Mathis and defender Jeff Agoos convened around the ball.

"I took about 40 or 50 [free kicks] the night before and I was hitting them pretty good, so the players told me to take it and I wanted to exact spot it was the night before. For some reason I just felt like I was going to score."

Mathis took the free kick and watched the shot travel in a perfect, curling trajectory over the wall and inside the left post. He could barely break a smile in celebration, overwhelmed by the emotion of the moment. Replays of the world-class strike will bring goosebumps to fans for posterity.

ONE YEAR TO WORLD CUP 2002

As the halfway mark of the 10-match qualifying campaign approaches. Mathis and Wolff are doing their best to book a ticket for the ultimate stage of all—in Japan and Korea with the American squad for the 2002 World Cup. It would be a dream come true for two players who were Georgia State Player

never thought I'd be in a position to have a chance to go to a World Cup, but now take it," Mathis says. "It was in the same it's a reality and I'm trying to make the most of it. To have the opportunity to go to the World Cup is the reason you play soccer."

- Josh Wolff

of the Year honorees and grew up playing club (South Metro Lightning), state, region and youth national team soccer together.

"I never thought I'd be in a position to have a chance to go to a World Cup, but now it's a reality and I'm trying to make the most of it," Wolff says "To have the opportunity to go to a World Cup is the

reason you play soccer."

"It's weird. It's almost like it's not real," Mathis says. "It's like a dream where you think it happens to someone else. It would be a great honor to play in a World Cup but I still have to produce and be consistent to be part of the team."

Both players grew up watching World Cup tournaments as kids, beginning with Diego Maradona's championship-winning 1986 campaign with Argentina. Mathis proudly wore the Maradona jersey that his mom gave him and now tries to emulate the Argentine's creative play that won him adoration worldwide.

"I'd like to think I'm a creative player," says Mathis, who scored against Barbados and world power Brazil before breaking

through against Honduras. "I try my best to do stuff that other people won't attempt. The way people are born to be defenders and goalkeepers, I'm fortunate to be an attacking player."

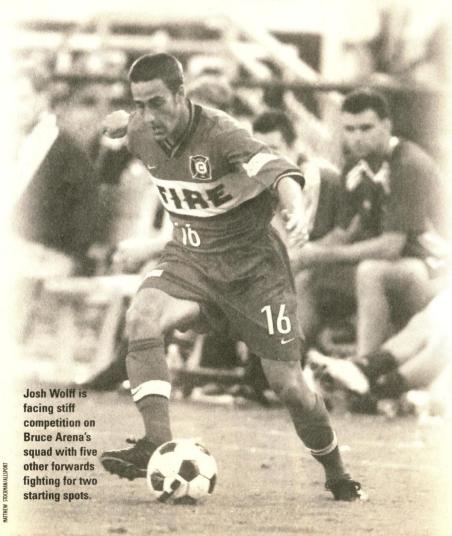
A Claudio Reyna injury allowed Mathis to play in the match against Mexico and turned out to be what he calls a "blessing in disguise." But the attacking midfielder sees no reason why he can't co-exist with the Glasgow Rangers star.

"We're two totally different players—he's more of a controlling type of guy and a playmaker who controls the pace of the game. I'm just a totally different player, more attack-minded. There's a spot for both of us and depending on the formation we go with, those are decisions Bruce [Arena] will make."

In the case of Wolff, he is facing even stiffer competition with five other forwards fighting for the same spot (McBride, Landon Donovan, Razov, Joe Max-Moore and Chris Albright).

"It's obviously a year-long process and I'll be fighting for my spot the whole way. It makes you bring your A-game every time," Wolff says. "The thing I think separates me from the other players is that I'm very aggressive and I like to pick balls up and go at guys. I think I'm a threat to get behind guys. I create chances by dribbling and making defenders take chances."

Whatever the final outcome, Mathis and Wolff have already proven themselves on the international stage. Thanks to them, soccer fans across the country can start dreaming of World Cup glory and the fever that awaits the biggest show on earth can begin in earnest. Due to a pair of magical feats, Mathis and Wolff are now not just Major League Soccer standouts. They've gained a new standing in people's eyes—heroes of a nation.



EMEET THE

ERICO MARIES IN



DEFENDER HT.:5-10 WT.:175 DOB:5-2-68



MIDFIELDER HT.:5-8 WT.:150 DOB:6-23-76



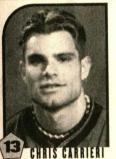
MID/FWD HT.:5-8 WT.:160 DOB:6-27-78



MIDFIELDER HT.:5-6 WT.:150 DOB:1-27-70



JOE CANNON
GOALKEEPER HT.:6-2
WT.:190 DOB:1-1-75



FORWARD HT.:5-8 WT.:150 DOB:4-28-80



FORWARD HT.:5-9 WT.:155 DOB:1-3-75



DEFENDER HT.:6-2 WT.:185 DOB:2-22-77



GOALKEEPER HT.:6-6 WT.:205 DOB:5-6-77



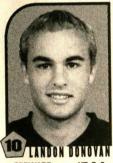
DEFENDER HT.:6-0 WT.:160 DOB:3-12-77



DEFENDER HT.:5-11 WT.:175 DOB:1-21-71



FORWARD HT.:5-10 WT.:164 DOB:5-15-78



FORWARD HT.:5-8 WT.:148 DOB: 3-4-82



DEFENDER HT.:6-1 WT.:170 DOB:8-21-75



DEF/MID HT.:5-11 WT.:170 DOB:6-2-72



MIDFIELDER HT.:5-9 WT.:165 DOB:8-6-76



MIDFIELDER HT.:6-0 WT.:165 DOB:6-1-71



MIDFIELDER HT.:5-9 WT.:160 DOB:11-3-76



DEF/MID HT.:6-1 WT.:180 DOB:6-19-78



MID/FWD HT.:5-10 WT.:170 DOB:8-30-75

ETEAMS IN TOWN

SATURDAY · JUNE 9 · 7:30 PM · ESPN2

Heading into their sixth MLS season, the L.A. Galaxy has already guaranteed that season will be a success by winning the 2000 Football Confederations Champions' Cup and earning a berth at the 2001 FIFA

C I u b W o r I d Champion-

Championship in Spain (7/29-8/12).

In the offseason, Los Angeles added more strength to the best defense in

GALAXY

MLS, acquiring former U.S. National Team defender Alexi Lalas. He joins defensive stalwarts Robin Fraser, Greg Vanney, Paul Caligiuri, Ezra Hendrickson and Danny Califf in the back.

Joining the duo of Mauricio Cienfuegos and Galaxy MVP Simon Elliott in the midfield, are Olympian Peter Vagenas and Danny Peña. Up front, Mexican National

Team striker Luis Hemández will look to make a serious impact.

Kevin Hartman will be asked to lead the defense to a repeat performance of last year's fewest goals allowed (27) and second best goals-against-average (1.00) in MLS.

GALAXY 3

LOS ANGELES ROSTER

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	D.O.B.	No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	D.O.B.
1	Matt Reis	GK	6-1	196	3-28-75	15	Luis Hernández	F	5-7	160	12-22-68
2	Danny Peña	М	6-0	165	6-17-68	16	Alex Bengard	М	6-0	165	3-13-79
3	Greg Vanney	D	5-11	169	6-11-74	17	Ezra Hendrickson	D	6-3	185	1-16-72
6	Craig Waibel	D	6-1	195	8-21-75	18	Adam Frve	D	5-8	159	2-15-74
7	Isaias Bardales Jr.	F	5-10	170	8-18-79	19	Brian Mullan	F	5-8	150	4-23-78
8	Peter Vagenas	М	5-8	160	2-6-78	20	Paul Caligiuri	D	5-10	175	3-9-64
9	Brian Ching	F	6-0	185	5-24-78						
10	Mauricio Cienfuegos	M	5-6	143	2-12-68	22	Kevin Hartman	GK	6-1	185	5-25-74
11	Sasha Victorine	M	6-2	170	2-3-78	23	Danny Califf	D	6-0	180	3-17-80
12	Simon Elliott	M	5-11	175	6-10-74	25	Marvin Quijano	F	5-9	150	10-9-79
13	Cobi Jones	M	5-7	145	6-16-70	30	Alexi Lalas	D	6-3	210	6-1-70

SATURDAY · JUNE 23 · 7:00 PM · FSN

The defending MLS Cup Champion Kansas City Wizards have set their sites on back-to-back titles in 2001. MLS Coach of the Year Bob Gansler

has retained the nucleus of last year's team and has added some offensive weapons to the mix.

The veteran leadership of Honda MVP and MLS Cup MVP Tony Meola (21shutouts in 39 games in 2000), BIC Defender of the Year Peter Vermes and Mo Johnston mixed with rising young stars Nick Garcia, Kerry Zavagnin, Brandon Prideaux and Francisco Gomez should provide the perfect blend.

ve scorer Roy Lassiter (81 goals, 34 assists,

Burciaga and MLS veteran Andrew Gregor. The Wizards' experience and offsea-

scorer Roy Lassiter (81 goals, 34 assists, 196 points), former All-Star Mark Santel and drafting U-20 National Team star Jose Burciaga and MLS veteran Andrew Gregor.

The Wizards' experience and offseason moves have them geared for 2001.



Coach Gansler used the offseason

to add some offensive firepower to his

squad, acquiring MLS all-time leading

KANSAS CITY ROSTER

No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	D.O.B.	No.	Name	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	D.O.B.
1	Tony Meola	GK	6-1	205	2/21/69	13	Andrew Gregor	M	5-11	160	11/22/75
2	Matt McKeon	D/M	6-3	195	9/24/74	14	Michael Green	D	6-4	190	7/16/78
3	Nick Garcia	D	5-10	160	4/9/79	15	Roy Lassiter	F	5-11	160	3/9/69
4	Brandon Prideaux	D	6-1	180	8/18/76	17	Chris Klein	М	6-1	180	1/4/76
5	Brian Johnson	М	5-7	150	3/7/74	18	Tahj Jakins	D	6-2	180	11/11/75
6	Peter Vermes	D	6-1	175	11/21/66	20	Jose Burciaga Jr	D	6-1	166	11/16/81
7	Mark Santel	М	5-10	165	7/5/68	21	Francisco Gomez	М	5-11	170	1/25/79
8	Chris Brown	F	5-11	170	3/10/77	22	Gary Glasgow	F	5-10	155	5/13/76
9	Kerry Zavagnin	M	5-10	170	7/2/74	25	Bo Oshoniyi	GK	6-1	190	11/3/71
10	Mo Johnston	F	5-9	160	4/13/63	26	Narciso Fernandes	M/F	6-3	195	9/20/78
12	Peter Byaruhanga	F	5-10	160	8/18/79	28	Mike Burns	D/M	5-9	165	9/14/70

ETEAMS IN TOWN

WEDNESDAY · JULY 4 · 7:00 PM

Coming off a 2000 campaign that saw the Fusion set club records in points and goals while reaching the U.S. Open Cup final, second-year head coach Ray Hudson

FUSION

acquisitions of World Cup veteran Preki, former Kansas City Wizards' All-Star Chris Henderson and English Premiership veteran lan Bishop. Jay

has put his imprint on the team, blending a young core of talent with experienced newcomers.

Heaps, the 1999 MLS Rookie of the Year and an All-Star in 2000, looks to join the attack, while 2000 Honda MVP Jim Rooney returns at his defensive midfield spot.

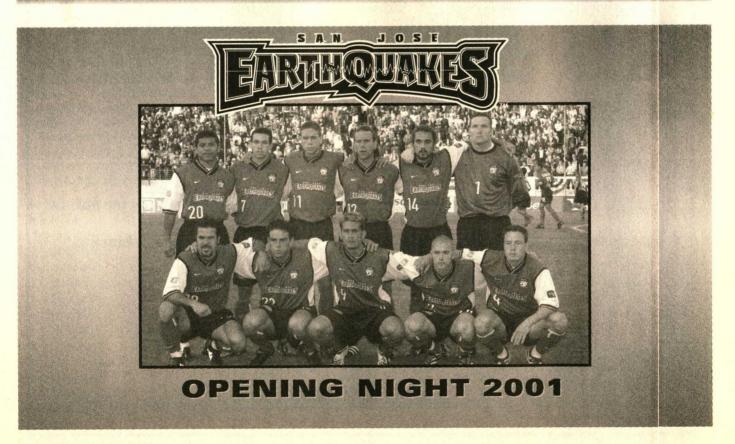
The defense has been bolstered by the acquisition of U.S. National Team regular

Diego Serna, coming off a 42-point season (16 g, 10 a), returns to lead the offensive attack. He will be aided by a new-look midfield featuring the offseason

The defense has been bolstered by the acquisition of U.S. National learn regular Carlos Llamosa. He anchors a back line that features the Fusion's two-time BIC Tough Defensive Player of the Year, Pablo Mastroeni, and the experienced Ivan McKinley. Leo Cullen looks to bounce back from a knee injury that ended his 2000 campaign. The Fusion nets are minded by veteran goalkeeper Jeff Cassar and acrobatic Nick Rimando.



Della 4000			5		ER						
	MANII E										
No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	D.O.B.	No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	D.O.B.
1	Jeff Cassar	GK	6-2	190	2-2-74	12	Pete Marino	F	5-8	145	4-24-73
2	Leo Cullen	D	5-8	160	2-28-76	14	Jim Rooney	M	6-0	165	9-9-68
3	Carlos Llamosa	D	5-11	166	6-30-69	15	Tyrone Marshall	D/M	6-2	190	11-12-74
4	Tim Sahaydak	D	6-1	168	6-1-77	16	Greg Simmonds	F	6-3	190	12-16-75
5	Kyle Beckerman	М	5-10	155	4-3-82	17	Diego Serna	F	5-10	175	10-2-73
6	lan Bishop	М	5-9	165	5-29-65	18	Nick Rimando	GK	5-11	181	6-17-79
7	Jay Heaps	D/M	5-9	150	8-2-76	19	Chris Henderson	M	5-10	150	12-11-70
8	Ivan McKinley	D/M	6-2	185	6-15-69	20	Ali Ngon	F	5-10	185	9-4-81
9	Lazo Alavanja	M	5-11	165	1-18-77	22	Antonio Otero	M	5-11	170	5-20-77
10	Alex Pineda Chacon	M	5-8	150	12-19-69	23	Jeff Bilyk	M	5-7	145	5-7-77
11	Preki	M	5-9	165	6-24-63	25	Pablo Mastroeni	D/M	5-10	170	8-29-76



Three Lucal Heroes

Simula !!

inzu

By Meghan O'Connor

ith nine new players and two new coaches, the San Jose Earthquakes' roster only faintly resembles that of its 2000 season. But in the midst of all the fresh faces are three familiar players that San Jose fans can cheer for again.

Assistant coach Dominic Kinnear and defenders Troy Dayak and Ramiro Corrales all grew up in the Bay Area and played together on the San Jose Clash during its 1997 season before going their separate ways. All three have returned in 2001 to help the Quakes as they make a push for the playoffs.

And if the ovation that Dayak received as he was announced at the home opener is any indication of the fans' appreciation for their hometown heroes, then Dayak's goal in the Quakes' first game is a sign that these local stars are back where they belong.

Troy Dayak found the back of the net in the Quakes' season opener in 2001.

(continued on page 30)



"I was really nervous, I didn't know what to expect or if the fans would remember me," says Dayak. "Their response was heartwarming, I couldn't help but react-I felt like I was jumping to the moon."

Of all the paths back to Spartan Stadium, Dayak's was the rockiest. A neck injury suffered in 1997 that could have permanently sidelined Dayak. slowed, but didn't stop him until a re-injury in 1998 required surgery.

In 1999, Tampa Bay, where current Quakes coach Frank Yallop was then an assistant, tried to sign Dayak, who had recovered from the neck injury. However, the Livermore native opted instead for a slot on the A-League Bay Area Seals squad.

"I care about the community and the team and I don't want to disappoint the people here. I'm going to give my all every game. They've responded because of that; I appreciate it and show it with a response back."

- Troy Dayak

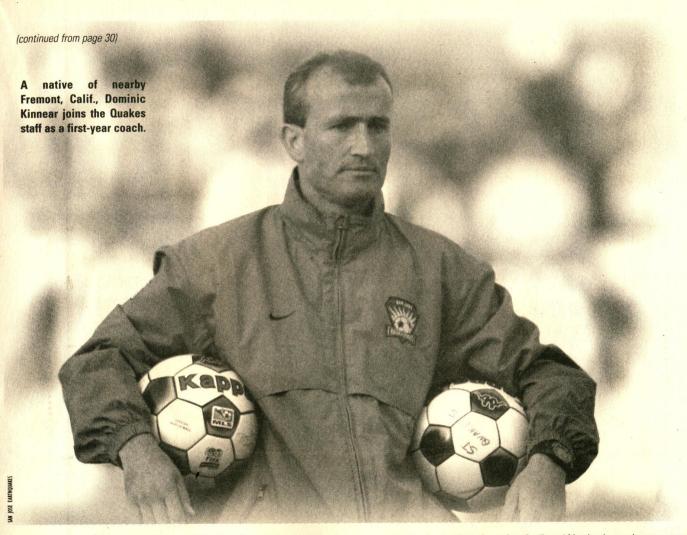
"For me, family is more important in my life than a sport," says Dayak, who also turned down an offer by the MetroStars in 1996. "I didn't want to uproot my daughter from her grandparents, family and friends."

But trouble was not over for the accident-prone 1992 Olympian. With the Seals, Dayak tore the posterior and medial collateral ligaments in his right knee and was forced to sit the rest of the season. It wasn't until the end of the 2000 season that Dayak finally took to the field without the need of any sort of brace.

Healthy, strong, and with ten years of professional experience, Yallop eagerly snagged Dayak for the Quakes squad this year. The former star for the Livermore High School Cowboys has returned to Spartan Stadium.

"I care about the community and the team and I don't want to disappoint the people here," Dayak says. "I'm going to give my all every game. They've responded because of that; I appreciate it and show it with a response back."

Teammate Corrales is equally pleased to show off his skills in front of a hometown crowd. The former North Salinas High School star became the youngest player in the MLS when he was drafted out of high school by the Clash in 1996. Now 24, Corrales



has since played for the Miami Fusion and the MetroStars.

For the past two years, the defensive standout was an integral part of the MetroStars' lineup, bringing his career game total to 82. Between his MLS duties, Corrales has been a member of U.S. national teams since 1997. Last season, he played for the U.S. Olympic Team in Sydney, where the U.S. posted its best finish in history by advancing to the semifinals.

"My family and I traveled all around the U.S., but we always thought California was the place we wanted to live. But to start coaching with the Earthquakes in the capacity that I'm in is fantastic and very flattering."

- Assistant Coach Dominic Kinnear

But after traveling the globe, Corrales is back where he started. Though Corrales first discovered his love for soccer as a child in Mexico, it was his role on the North Salinas squad that led him into the pros.

"I'm happy to be back home," Corrales says of his return to the Bay Area. "I'll have

to try harder now that I'm in front of my family and friends who are there to support me."

North of Salinas, in Fremont, Kinnear grew up idealizing the NASL's Earthquakes before he became a member of the Clash in 1997.

"I come from a Scottish background and a soccer-playing family," Kinnear says.
"When I was growing up we didn't miss too many Earthquakes games. I think watching professional soccer keeps your interest very keen."

Along with the influence of older brothers and the NASL, Kinnear had a strong group of soccer players to play with growing up, including former Earthquakes captain John Doyle.

"Since U-10s we played together; we were rivals in high school but it's always been friendly," says Kinnear of his days at John F. Kennedy High School. "He was the first one that made it on the national scene. It was good for me to see that I was just as good as those guys."

Indeed, Kinnear proved to be one of the nation's best as he made 56 appearances with the U.S. National Team and posted nine goals. He would have appeared in the 1994 World Cup if an emergency appendectomy hadn't sidelined him.

In MLS, Kinnear was shuffled from Colorado to San Jose to Tampa Bay, playing a key role in all three places and appearing in over 100 matches.

"My family and I traveled all around the States in the 1990s, but we always thought California was the place we wanted to live," Kinnear says. "But to start coaching with the Earthquakes in the capacity that I'm in is fantastic and very flattering."

Yallop is happy with Kinnear's decision to return to the Bay Area as well.

"He's more relaxed in his job, he's more focused on doing well for the team, instead of having to settle in," Yallop says. "He's never been a coach before, but you'd never know it."

GFAN ZONE

QUAKES REACH OUT TO YOUTH SOCCER COMMUNITY THROUGH COACHING

t the San Jose Earthquakes' home opener this season, nearly 14,000 fans were there to cheer on their favorite local soccer stars. The strong support by the community has not gone unnoticed by the men in blue, and while a game-winning shot or a nail-biting overtime may keep fans enthralled on the field, the Quakes like to show their gratitude off the field, as well.

Each player stays involved in the community by participating in various youth-soccer clinics and over two-thirds of the squad regularly coach youth teams or clinics throughout the Bay Area.

"This is my second year coaching this team," Richard Mulrooney says of his U-13 De Anza Earthquakes. "It's exciting this year to see how the players have



developed. I enjoy being involved with developing young players and I'm happy to give back to the community in this way."

Earthquakes legend Troy Dayak, who grew up playing soccer in Livermore, Calif., now coaches in his hometown as well as in Tracy, his current residence. The former Olympian has received both a USSF "B" coaching license and an NSCAA Advanced National Diploma.

"He's our most famous product of Livermore and the kids love him to death," says Mike Ridolfi of his U-16 Livermore girls' squad, for which Dayak has run training sessions. "He brings a certain level of professionalism and excellence. He's all business but he also has a lot of heart and he connects very well with the girls."

Even members of the Quakes' coaching staff can't seem to satisfy their soccer craving by working solely with the professional squad. Goalkeeper Coach Tim Hanley heads U-19 and U-15 Palo Alto squads when he isn't busy with the Quakes. Like Dayak, he has also acquired a USSF "B" license but when his instruction isn't enough, he's got a whole roster of Quakes ready to step in. Hanley says midfielder Scott Bower and goalkeeper Jon Conway are always a big hit at practice.

"I enjoy teaching and helping youth players improve," Hanley says. "Being involved at the highest level and being involved with youth players keeps me in a good balance. It's really the best of both worlds."

Most of the players agree that it's the rewarding feelings that come from watching a young player score his first goal or nail his first head ball that make coaching so appealing. But for many, simply sharing the excitement of the game and providing young players with an opportunity to achieve gives coaching its purpose.

"When I was young I didn't have any coaching until I was a teenager," says Quakes all-time leading scorer Ronald Cerritos. "I wish I'd had more formal coaching, but I feel like I'm contributing to the success of these young players."

THE FOLLOWING ORGANIZATIONS ARE PROUD SPONSORS OF THE MAYOR'S KICKS FOR KIDS PROGRAM:



pasta pomodoro





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ACM Aviation, Inc., Air Systems, Inc., Fairmount Hotel, Ionics Fidelity Purewater, Wicks Consulting Corporation

62001 EARTHQUAKES SCHEDULE

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME/RESULT	TV/RECORD
April			
	. at Los Angeles	3-2 W	1-0-0 3 pts.
Sat. 14	. Dallas	0-1 L	1-1-0 3 pts.
Sat. 21	. at Miami	1-2 L	1-2-0 3 pts.
Sat. 28	at Kansas City	0-0 (OT)	1-2-1 4 pts.
May			
The state of the s	. New England	3-2 W	2-2-1 7 pts.
	at D.C. United		
	. MetroStars		100
	. at Dallas		
	. at Chicago		
	. Colorado		
June			
	. at Colorado	6:00 n m	FSN
	Los Angeles		
	at MetroStars	CPRICE CONTROL	
	. Kansas City		
	. at New England		
July		7.00	TDA
	. Miami		
	. at Colorado		
	. Tampa Bay	- 2 Access	
	. D.C. United		
	. at Columbus		
Sat. 28	. MLS All-Star Game	12:30 p.m	ABC
August			
Sat. 4	. at Tampa Bay	4:00 p.m	FSN
Sat. 11	. Columbus	7:00 p.m	TBA
	. Chicago		
Sat. 25	. Colorado	7:00 p.m	TBA
Septembe	er		
	. Kansas City	7:00 p.m	TBA
	. at Kansas City		
	. at Los Angeles		
	. Los Angeles		

All times Pacific. All times and dates are subject to change. All home games at Spartan Stadium. NOTE: FSN = Fox Sports Network



QUAKES UPCOMING EVENTS

SOCCER CELEBRATION

Earthquakes fans, start your game day experience before the game at the Soccer Celebration festival area on the north side of Spartan Stadium. Kids can participate in interactive games, including: Human Foosball, 4v4 games, New York Life Dribble, Pass and Shoot, Pepsi Goalkeeper Challenge, Kellogg's Bowl, McAfee Kick the Virus into the Net, plus much more.

Soccer Celebration, free with your game ticket, opens two hours before kick off, and will be held on the following dates: June 9 vs. Los Angeles, June 23 vs. Kansas City, August 25 vs. Colorado, and September 16 vs. Los Angeles.

SPEND YOUR BIRTHDAY WITH THE QUAKES

What better way to spend your birthday than with the Earthquakes at Spartan Stadium? The Earthquakes Birthday Bash is the ideal birthday present for your favorite Earthquakes fan.

The Earthquakes Birthday Bash consists of: 10 tickets, 10 Earthquakes T-shirts, 10 Earthquakes meal deals (hot dog, drink, chips or candy), 10 Earthquakes bumper stickers, and a birthday greeting on the in-stadium message board.

The Earthquakes Birthday Bash is available for as low as \$159.99 for Rumble seats or for \$199.99 for Shaker seats. For more information, call the Ticket Office at (408) 985-GOAL or log on to www.sjearthquakes.com.

Danish Star Arrives Lead Midfield

ast season, the Kansas City Wizards capped an amazing worst to first sea-Ison by winning the MLS Cup, 1-0 over the Chicago Fire at RFK Stadium. One of the keys to the Wizards turnaround was the play of Danish forward Miklos Molnar, who retired immediately following the championship game.

In 2001, the San Jose Earthquakes are hoping that one of Molnar's 1992 Danish Olympic Team teammates will provide a similar spark for them. Midfielder Ronnie Ekelund signed with the Earthquakes on April 10, 2001, and after sorting out his work permit, arrived in San Jose on April 25 to assume the role of midfield organizer.

"Ronnie is going to enhance our midfield play with his vision and his experience," says Earthquakes Head Coach Frank Yallop. "He is a good fit for our team. He works hard off the ball and that is a big part of my coaching philosophy."

"Ronnie is going to enhance our midfield play with his vision and his experience."

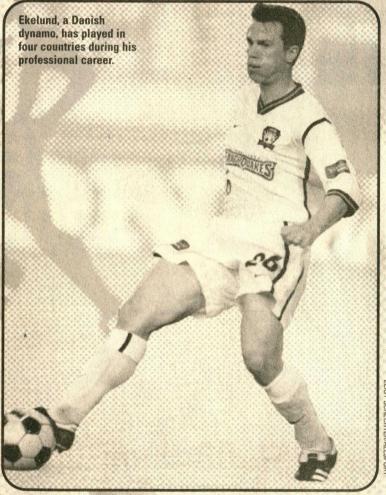
- Quakes Head Coach Frank Yallop

Ekelund's experience in Europe and his impressive performance in MLS Spring Training this past March while on trial with the Earthquakes convinced the Quakes' coaching staff and front office that he would be a strong addition to the team. Ekelund, 28, started all three games in Spring Training in Fort Lauderdale, Fla., and recorded two assists, while earning the respect of his teammates.

"I like playing with Ronnie," says Quakes all-time leading scorer Ronald Cerritos. "He is a very good passer and we understand each other well. I am excited to have him here."

This native of Glostrup, Denmark, has played in four countries (Denmark, Spain, England and France) during his professional career, and his experience should prove important to a team whose average age was 25 at the start of the season.

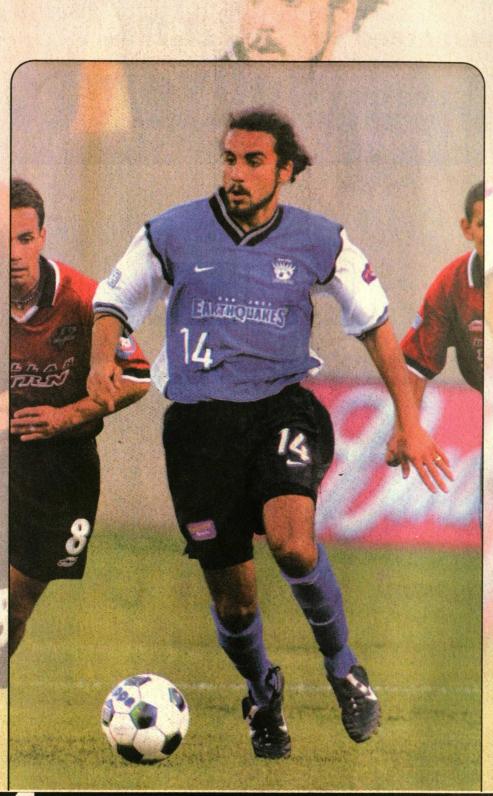
"I have played in a lot of places and had many different experiences in soccer," says Ekelund. "I felt very comfortable playing with the team in preseason, and I hope that I can contribute some of my knowledge and experience to the team."



Ekelund began his professional career with legendary Danish side Brondby, where he won two Danish League Championships. He also played for Spanish giant Barcelona alongside current Chicago Fire striker Hristo Stoitchkov and highscoring Brazilian Romario. He made stops with Coventry City, Manchester City, Southampton and Walsall in England, as well as a stop in France with Toulouse before deciding to come to the United States to continue his professional career.

In his first game with the Earthquakes on April 28, against the Kansas City Wizards, Ekelund immediately displayed his excellent vision and passing ability as he organized the Quakes attack.

Yallop had one word to sum up Ronnie's play in that game: "superb." If Ekelund can repeat his first-game performance for the rest of the season, Quakes fans will be treated to some first-class soccer.



#14 DWAYNE DEROSARIO

SAN JOSE EARTHOUAKES



YOU Make The Cal soccer knowledge.

Put on the striped shirt and test your

- 1. A player takes a throw-in and sends the ball toward a fellow goalkeeper. But the 'keeper slips and falls and the ball trickles into the net. You make the call:
 - a. It's an own goal
 - b. A corner kick for the opposing team
 - c. The throw-in is taken again
 - d. Other team takes over the throw-in
- 2. An indirect free kick is awarded to a team but the referee does not raise his hand to signal it's indirect. On the set piece, the ball then goes directly into the opponents' goal without touching any other player. You make the call:
 - a. The kicking team didn't know: so it's a goal
 - b. The defending team is awarded a free kick
 - c. The free kick is re-taken by the attacking team
 - d. The defending team is awarded a goal kick.
- 3. A goalkeeper has a strong arm and throws the ball toward the opposite net. With the help of the wind, it carries all the way across the field and somehow gets by the other goalkeeper into the back of the net without being touched.

Marcelo Balboa has a lighter moment with Noel Kenny, one of the most popular referYou make the call:

- a. The goalkeeper throws it again
- b. It's a goal
- c. It's a goal kick for the opposing team
- 4. The two opposing goalkeepers step onto the field wearing the same jer sey. The rules say one of them needs to change jerseys but a different shirt can't be found. You make the call:
 - a. The game is postponed until a new shirt is found
 - b. The game is allowed to proceed all the same
 - c. The game is abandoned after 15 minutes
- 5. The referee notices that one team has an extra player on the field. But the referee only notices after a goal is scored by the team with the extra player and play has re-started. You make the call:
 - a. The referee removes and cautions the player and the goal stands
 - b. The game is suspended and replayed at a later date
 - c. The referee removes and cautions the player and disallows the goal

Referees like Ali Saheli must know all the fine details of the rules of the game.



1=p: S=q: 3=p: 4=p: 2=8



ees in MLS.

CONE ON ONE

#9 Scott Bower

Position: Midfielder

Date of Birth: June 27, 1978

Place of Birth: Port Angeles, Wash

Height: 5-8
Weight: 160

At what age did you begin playing soccer?

Six.

When and where did you make your MLS debut?

March 20, 1999, vs. Chicago at Spartan Stadium.

What are your superstitions concerning soccer?

I put my sock, shin guard and cleat on my right leg first. Then I go to my left.

Who is your favorite superhero and why?

Johnny Bravo, because he is always confident no matter what happens.

Who has had the most influence on your soccer career?

The biggest influence for me was watching games on television. It made me realize what I wanted to do.

Who is your biggest fan?

My mom.

Where do you see yourself in 10 years?

Happily married and successful at what I am doing.

If you could invite two people from history to dinner, who would they be?

John Wayne and my grandfather.



HAILTOTHECLASSOF By Dan Herbst

Tony Media (left) and John Harkes celebrate after the U.S. National Team defeated Trinidad & Tobago to qualify for the 1990 World Cup Finals. SIRTON

emember the old adage, "the more things change more they stay the same?" Well, don't believe it. When it comes to American soccer, the more things change, the more they really do change.

Much of the credit for the amazing expedition that is the evolution of soccer in America falls squarely on the shoulders of a handful of remarkable men who ended a 40-year drought by helping the USA qualify for the 1990 World Cup.

"Qualifying for the 1990 World Cup led to a chain of events," asserts Los Angeles Galaxy defender Paul Caligiuri with pride. "We gained vital experience in Italy [1990] while showcasing our abilities as a steppingstone to get to Europe. All of the experience gained by the core players playing for European clubs led to our success in 1994. And qualifying in 1990 also allowed us to solidify and legitimize our bid to host the 1994 World Cup while keeping our National Team program alive. We were on the verge of losing sponsors and going into a shell for another two or three years. The 1994 World Cup enabled Major League Soccer to be launched."

So dramatically altered is the American soccer landscape from the recent past that you can't help but think of the beginning when soccer was barely a blip on a map.

For example, the current U.S. squad packed a soccer-specific facility for a World Cup qualification match. Bruce Arena's squad conquered Mexico, 2-0, before a standing room-only crowd of 24,624 at Columbus Crew Stadium in February. On August 13, 1988, the USA defeated Jamaica, 5-1, at the St. Louis Soccer Park in Fenton, Missouri, Current MetroStars' midfield ace Tab Ramos recalls feeling "pretty excited" when he discovered that all of the 6,100 seats were filled.

Most home qualification games back then took place in outposts like New Britain, Connecticut or El Camino Community College in Torrance, Calif. That the 10,000 to 12,000-seat stadiums were somewhat

(continued on page 58)

crowded was also primarily due to the presence of the opposition's supporters.

On the television front, this year ABC, ESPN, ESPN2 and Telemundo are combining to broadcast nine of the United States' 10 final-stage qualifying matches. Leading up to Italia '90 some games were shown but often on tape-delay and usually with

action interrupted in favor of airing commercials during play.

The singular moment that served as a catalyst for the transformation came late in the first half of the do-or-die 1989 duel in Trinidad. Needing nothing less than an upset win to book their passage to Italia '90, the USA rode a 30-yard Paul

"There is a special feeling that I have for that group of people. These guys were responsible for taking American soccer into the mainstream for good."

- Tab Ramos

soccer balls everywhere. It's

become the true American sport. I

don't want to take anything away

from baseball but baseball is not

played by men and women, boys

and girls. It's not a family event

where on the weekend everyone

Caligiuri volley and some breathtaking Tony Meola goalkeeping heroics to glory at the expense of a T&T squad that featured future Manchester United superstar Dwight Yorke.

Now a regular starter with the Galaxy, Caligiuri can still vividly recall how things once were. "We weren't playing in major venues," understates the only man to have worn the U.S. National Men's Team uniform for 14 consecutive years. "We were happy to find any community that would support us with 5,000 to 10,000 fans. Now we can go to virtually any major city in the United States and draw a big crowd.

"Soccer is really what's happening today. You see soccer commercials," Caligiuri says. "You see

gets in the minivan and heads to a tournament. Soccer has become imbedded in American society."

The existence of a viable domestic professional league coupled with significantly greater U.S. Soccer Federation financial resources has produced a far deeper pool of talent. The senior citizens among the 22 athletes that coach Bob Gansler took to the 1990 World Cup were 27vear-old defensive midfielder

John Stollmeyer and reserve 'keeper

Captain Mike Windischmann had the most experience at the time with his then-U.S. record of 48 international appearances. In contrast, Arena's starting unit against Mexico this past February averaged 61 caps and 29 years of age. "We were pretty much a college all-star team," concedes the voungest member of the 1990 squad, the Miami Fusion's Chris Henderson.

Recollects Ramos, "People in this country didn't even know that we existed. I actually had a reporter from a major néwspaper ask me how many players there were on a soccer field. We were thrilled if we got mentioned by the media."

That U.S. squad was poorly viewed. "We played a lot against club teams because other national

teams didn't want to play us," Henderson notes. "We tried to schedule three national teams before the 1990 World Cup and they all declined. Our national team's standard of play is so much better than it was then. There had to be someone to start that and to pave the road for where we are today."

"We were perceived much differently," concurs Caligiuri. "In 1989, we were underdogs defying the odds to qualify. Today, we are making a strong claim to be the top nation in the Football Confederation."

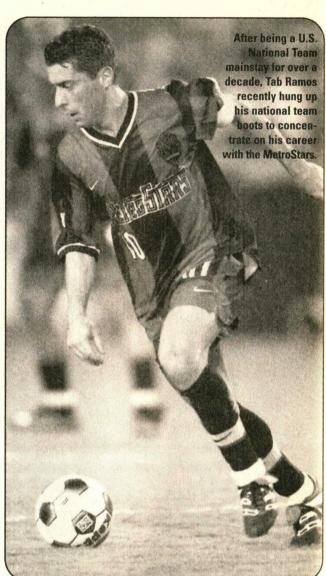
Arena fields players who developed in MLS or who are employed by top-flight European clubs. It wasn't long ago that the existence of MLS was but a dream while virtually all Europeans were of the belief that Americans couldn't play soccer. It took shattering that prejudice to open doors for future countrymen.

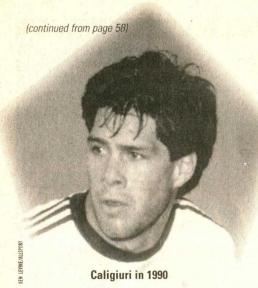
Kansas City defensive stalwart Peter Vermes more than held his own with club teams in Hungary and Holland while Caligiuri played well in West Germany.

During the 1991 campaign in which he helped Sparta Prague to capture the championship of the









Czechoslovakian First Division, current Tampa Bay Mutiny defender Steve Trittschuh became the first U.S. citizen to compete in what is now known as the European Champion's League.

Meanwhile, the New England Revolution's John Harkes became a starter and fan favorite for Sheffield Wednesday, Prior to leading D.C. United to two MLS crowns, Harkes walked up the famed 39 steps of London's Wembley Stadium to lift the 1991 English League Cup. Two years later, he became the first American to appear in an F.A. Cup Final and he is still the only Yank to have scored in a League Cup Final.

The vital experience that several of Gansler's charges received abroad following Italia '90 resulted in the USA fielding a far more competitive team on home soil during the 1994 World Cup, when the team took a significant step in reaching the round of 16. The defining performance was a battle against Carlos Valderrama and a Colombian team that, after a 5-0 rout of Argentina during qualifying, prompted Pelé to tip them as his Cup favorites.

The credibility gained in that 2-1 win over the Colombians was a vital contributing factor to the successful launching of MLS two years later, the day MLS lured the highly regarded Tab Ramos home from Spain.

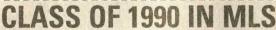
Members of the Class of '90 continue to leave their mark. It was Ramos' 23-yard laser off a feed from Marcelo Balboa that sank Costa Rica 1-0 to clinch a berth in the 1998 World Cup for the Americans. New England Revs' striker Eric Wynalda, who remains the all-time leading marksman in the 85year history of the U.S. National Team, netted the first goal in MLS history. Balboa and Caligiuri became the first two Americans to reach the coveted 100-cap milestone. San Jose's recently retired John Doyle was honored as MLS' 1996 BIC Defender of the Year. Still excelling in MLS is K.C.'s 2000 MLS Aquafina Goalkeeper of the Year and Honda Most Valuable Player, Tony Meola.

Other '90 alums include MLS assistant coaches Eric Eichmann (Miami) and Brian Bliss (K.C.). Head Coach Bob Gansler led the Wizards to MLS Cup glory last summer while his former USA right-hand man, Ralph Perez, is an assistant coach with Los Angeles. Goalkeeping Coach Joe Machnik now serves as MLS' Vice President of Games Operations.

While the uniform shirts of that 1990 roster are now of different colors, there remains an unmistakable bond. "There is a special feeling that I have for that group of people," Ramos says. "It isn't anything that's ever said between us when we see each other. It's all about what we accomplished together. These guys were responsible for taking American soccer into the mainstream for good."

"What we accomplished in the last 10 years was amazing," Caligiuri said, "Because of what we started in 1990, I don't think there's any looking back from here on out. That period will be looked upon as the true turning point for American soccer. We're now entering a new phase of our growth period. It's incredible to think where we will be 10 years from today."







Marcelo Balboa D - Colorado



Brian Bliss Coach - Kansas City D - Los Angeles



Paul Caligiuri



Eric Eichman Coach - Miami



John Harkes M - New England



Chris Henderson M - Miami



Tony Meola GK - Kansas City



Tab Ramos M - MetroStars





D - Kansas City



Eric Wynalda F-New England



Head Coach - K.C. Coach - Los Angeles Operations - MLS



D - Tampa Bay



Ralph Perez



Joe Machnik



FIFA CLUB WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SPAIN 2001

or Head
Coach Sigi
Schmid
and the Los
Angeles Galaxy,
the real preparations for the
FIFA Club World
Championship
will not begin

until July 18—11 days before the kickoff of the tournament. But Schmid says that every ounce of work during the MLS season also helps ahead of the summer trip to Spain. There are rookies and new players like Alexi Lalas who are using the first busy part of the regular season to fit in with the Galaxy.

With many fans already looking forward to the Club World Championship, Schmid took the time off to give *FreeKick* a preview of what can be expected from the scheduled opponents who represent soccer from three different continents in the FIFA Club World Championship.

HEARTS OF OAK (Ghana - Africa)



"They're certainly athletically unbelievable. Having coached with the U-20 National Team against teams like Cameroon, some of the things they can do with the ball are tremendous. When you look at some of the players in our league like a Joe Addo [who once played for Hearts of Oak] or a Mamadou Diallo, certainly they're very skilful and physically powerful players. I'm sure that's what

we're going to face with Hearts of Oak,'

ONE OF THE BEST AFRICAN TEAMS: "The club has long been one of Africa's better teams. They're a team that from the athletic and technical side is very good. There's always a knock on the African teams tactically, but I think they've come a long way tactically—just as our country has—and they're a team I expect to do very well. Many of the teams are adding players to their roster and I've heard Hearts of Oak already have added players who they're bringing back to play in this particular championship. They'll be difficult opponents."

REAL MADRID (Spain - Europe)



"I think the European teams are certainly going to take this competition much more seriously than they did the last Club World Championship. I don't think Real Madrid is going to come in with the attitude that Manchester United had when they came in for the World Championship in Brazil last year. So I expect a team that's going to be very focused on winning this particular competition."

GALAXY'S DREAM MATCHUP: "It's fantastic and tremendous to have the opportunity to play against a team with their history, with their reputation and to play against the individual players we're going to play against. It's a dream come true for our team."

PRESSURE'S ON THEM: "We have no pressure. The pressure is all on Real Madrid. The expectations are for them to come out with a real convincing victory. There's no pressure on us. Whatever we do, people are going to look upon it as either, 'That was expected' or 'That was much better than we thought they could do.' From that standpoint there's no pressure, but our team puts pressure on itself because they're competitive athletes and they're competitive soccer players and I know they view it as a challenge for us to hold our own with a type of club like Real."

NO REAL WEAKNESS: "There's no way I'm going to say that Real Madrid has any weaknesses because I don't think they do. Certainly they've got a number of marvelous attacking players with outstanding skills like Luis Figo, and cold-blooded fixtures like Raul. And then they go to the bench to get players like Savio and Steve McManaman. So, their depth is much better than any of the teams in the tournament and they're a team that has some very good attacking talent. They're going to view the game as one where they're going to have possession and go at us. And when a team comes at us, that should open up some spaces for us to get forward so that we can utilize the speed of Cobi Jones and Luis Hernández in counterattacking situations."

JUBILO IWATA (Japan - Asia)



"This club is almost synonymous with the Japanese National Team because they have 10 players that are in the national team pool. That's significant. Having gone to Japan in preseason is a big plus for us because we got to play against a couple of J-League teams [Tokyo Verdy 1969 and Urawa Red Diamonds], and that gave us a picture of that quality. And having coached against the

Japanese U-20 team and knowing their national team coach Philippe Troussier makes it a little easier for me to understand the philosophy that they're going to play with."



2001 National Broadcast Schedule

APRIL

Sat. Apr. 7 CHI @ CLB 7:30 ES2 Sat. Apr. 14 DC @ CHI 9:00 ES2 Sat. Apr. 21 TB @ MET 3:00 ES2 CHI @ DAL 4:00 TEL Sat. Apr. 28 LA @ MIA 4:00 TEL CHI@TB 4:00 ESP

MAY

Sat. May 5 MIA @ CLB 4:00 TEL NE @ SJ 9:00 ES2 Sat. May 12 TB @ COL 4:00 TEL LA @ MET 7:30 ES2 Sat. May 19 MET @ SJ 4:00 TEL KC @ CHI 9:00 ES2 Sat. May 26 SJ @ CHI 4:00 TEL

JUNE

Sat. Jun. 2 CHI@ DC 2:00 ESP LA @ CLB 4:00 TEL KC @ TB 7:00 ES2 Sat. Jun. 9 DC @ DAL 1:00 ESP KC @ MIA 4:00 TEL LA @ SJ 10:30 ES2 Sat. Jun. 16 CHI@ KC 4:00 ESP LA @ MIA 8:00 ES2 Sat. Jun. 23 MET @ LA 4:00 ESP CLB @ DAL 8:00 ES2 Sat. Jun. 30 LA @ DAL 4:00 ESP MET @ CHI 8:00 ES2

JULY

Sat. Jul. 7 DAL @ CLB 4:00 ESP KC @ NE 8:00 ES2 Sat. Jul. 14 TB @ SJ 4:00 ESP MIA @ LA 10:00 ES2 Sat. Jul. 21 DC @ MET 4:00 ESP Sat. Jul. 28 All-Star Game 3:30 ABC

AUGUST

Sat. Aug. 4 MIA @ MET 8:00 ES2 Sat. Aug. 11 KC @ COL 4:00 TEL Sat. Aug. 18 DC @ NE 4:00 TEL TB @ LA 11:00 ES2 Sat. Aug. 25 CLB @ DC 2:00 ES2 CHI@LA 4:00 TEL

SEPTEMBER

Sat. Sep. 1 CHI @ MET 4:00 TEL Sat. Sep. 8 DC @ MIA 4:00 TEL Sun. Sep. 9 CLB @ TB 5:00 ES2 Sat. Sep. 15 COL @ KC 4:00 TEL Sun. Sep. 16 LA @ SJ 4:00 ES2

OCTOBER Sun. Oct. 21 MLS CUP 1:30 ABC



TEAM KEY

CHI Chicago Fire CLB Columbus Crew COL Colorado Rapids DAL Dallas Burn

Los Angeles Galaxy MET MetroStars MIA Miami Fusion NE New England Revolution San Jose Earthquakes KC Kansas City Wizards TB Tampa Bay Mutiny

BROADCAST KEY

ABC ABC Sports ESP ESPN

TEL Telemundo ES2

Schedule subject to change. All times are Eastern Standard Time



CAN'T MAKE IT TO THE STADIUM?

Watch MLS action on Soccer Saturday.

62001 MLS SCHEDULE Obe SPORTS





		SAPARAS.
1-2	MetroStars	
2-3	D.C. United	
1-2	Miami	
1-1	Columbus	(OT)
4-2	Dallas	
3-2	Los Angeles	
	1-2 2-3 1-2 1-1 4-2	1-2 MetroStars 2-3 D.C. United 1-2 Miami 1-1 Columbus 4-2 Dallas

Saturday,	April	14
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Columbus	2-1	Tampa Bay	
Miami	1-0	New England	
Los Angeles	1-2	Kansas City	
D.C. United	0-2	Chicago	
MetroStars	1-1	Colorado	(OT)
Dallas	1-0	San Jose	

Wednesday, April 18

100	-			
Miami		1-2	Kansas	City

Saturday, April 2	1		
Tampa Bay	3-1	MetroStars	
Chicago	2-3	Dallas	(OT
New England	1-2	D.C. United	
San Jose	1-2	Miami	
Kansas City	3-0	Columbus	
Colorado	0-1	Los Angeles	

Saturday, April 28

Chicago	at	Tampa Bay	4:00
Los Angeles	at	Colorado	4:00
Dallas	at	MetroStars	7:00
New England	at	Miami	7:30
San Jose	at	Kansas City	8:30

9:00

Wednesday, May		MetroStars	8:00
Kansas City	at	Metrostars	0.00
Saturday, May 5			
Miami	at	Columbus	4:00
D.C. United	at	MetroStars	7:00
Tampa Bay	at	Chicago	8:00
Colorado	at	Dallas	8:30
New England	at	San Jose	9:00
Kansas City	at	Los Angeles	10:00
Wednesday, Mag	9		
Los Angeles	at	Tampa Bay	7:00
New England	at	D.C. United	8:00

Los Angeles	at	MetroStars	7:30
Chicago	at	New England	7:30
San Jose	at	D.C. United	7:30
Columbus	at	Dallas	8:30
Wednesday, May	16		
Columbus	at	New England	7:30
Colorado	at	MetroStars	8:00
Saturday, May 15	2		
MetroStars	at	San Jose	4:00
Tampa Bay	at	Miami	7:30
D.C. United	at	Columbus	7:30
Kansas City	at	Chicago	9:00
New England	at	Colorado	9:00
Dallas	at	Los Angeles	10:00
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Wednesday, May	23		
San Jose	at	Dallas	8:30
Miami	at	Colorado	9:00
Thursday May 2	4		
Thursday, May 2		Vanaga City	8:30
MetroStars	at	Kansas City	0.30
Saturday, May 2	6		
San Jose	at	Chicago	4:00
Miami	at	Tampa Bay	7:00
Dallas	at	D.C. United	7:30
Colorado	at	Columbus	7:30
New England	at	Los Angeles	10:00
Wednesday, Ma	•	Minmi	7.20
D.C. United	at	Miami	7:30
Los Angeles	at	Chicago	8:30
Colorado	at	San Jose	10:00

Saturday, June 2	2			
Chicago	at	D.C. United	2:00	
Los Angeles	at	Columbus	4:00	
Kansas City	at	Tampa Bay	7:00	
Miami	at	Dallas	8:30	
San Jose	at	Colorado	9:00	
Sunday, June 3				
MetroStars	at	New England	4:00	
Wednesday, Jul	ne 6			
Dallas	at	Tampa Bay	7:00	
D.C. United	at	Los Angeles	10:00	
Saturday, June	9			
D.C. United	at	Dallas	1:00	
Kansas City	at	Miami	4:00	

Tampa Bay	at	New England	7:30
Columbus	at	Chicago	8:00
Los Angeles	at	San Jose	10:30
Wednesday, Jun	e 13		
MetroStars	at	D.C. United	8:00
Kansas City	at	Los Angeles	10:00
Saturday, June 1	6		
D.C. United	at	Kansas City	4:00
San Jose	at	MetroStars	7:00
Tampa Bay	at	Columbus	7:30
Los Angeles	at	Miami	8:00
Dallas	at	Colorado	9:00
Wednesday, Jun	e 20		
Colorado	at	New England	9:30
Saturday, June 2	23		
MetroStars	at	Los Angeles	4:00
D.C. United	at	Tampa Bay	7:00
New England	at	Chicago	8:00
Columbus	at	Dallas	8:00
Kansas City	at	San Jose	10:00
Saturday, June 3	30		
Los Angeles	at	Dallas	4:00
San Jose	at	New England	7:30
Colorado	at	D.C. United	7:30
Columbus	at	Miami	7:30
MetroStars	at	Chicago	8:00
Tampa Bay	at	Kansas City	8:30

Tampa Bay D.C. United

Colorado

MetroStars	at	Tampa Bay	7:00
New England	at	Dallas	8:30
Chicago	at	Kansas City	8:30
D.C. United	at	Colorado	9:00
Columbus	at	Los Angeles	10:00
Miami	at	San Jose	10:00
Saturday, July 7			
Dallas	at	Columbus	4:00
Chicago	at	Tampa Bay	7:00
Kansas City	at	New England	8:00
MetroStars	at	Miami	7:30
Los Angeles	at	D.C. United	8:00
San Jose	at	Colorado	9:00

San Jose

Chicago

New England

4:00

7:30 8:00

Tampa Bay

Dallas	at	Kansas City	8:30	Sunday, August	19			, V	1620	01
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Chicago MetroStars	at	Miami Columbus	7:30	New England	at	Tampa Bay	7:00	Sat., June 9		2:00 p.m.
Tampa Bay	at at	Dallas	7:30	MetroStars	at	Miami	7:30		D.C. United at Dallas	1:00 p.m.
Kansas City	at	Colorado	8:30	Kansas City	at	Dallas	8:30	Sat., June 16	D.C. United at Kansas City	4:00 p.m.
D.C. United	at	San Jose	9:00 10:00	Colorado	at	San Jose	10:00	Sat., June 23	MetroStars at Los Angeles	4:00 p.m.
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turday, July 2	1			Wednesday, Aug	gust 2			Sat., July 7	Dallas at Columbus	4:00 p.m.
D.C. United	at	MetroStars	4:00	Dallas	at	Tampa Bay	7:00	Sat., July 14	Tampa Bay at San Jose	4:00 p.m.
Colorado	at	Tampa Bay	7:00	Columbus	at	Chicago	8:30	Sat., July 21	D.C. United at MetroStars	4:00 p.m.
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San Jose	at	Columbus	7:30	(Jan		-1.1.1-)	7.	On ESPN2	N 5 1 1 6	
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turday, July 2				Tampa Bay	at	D.C. United	12:30	Sat., May 19	Kansas City at Chicago	9:00 p.m.
2001 ALL-STAR	GAME	San Jose, Calif.	3:30	Chicago	at	MetroStars	4:00	Sat., June 2	Kansas City at Tampa Bay	7:00 p.m.
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New England	at	Kansas City	8:30					Sat., July 21	Dallas at Chicago	10:00 p.m. (*TD)
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Columbus	at	MetroStars Kanaga City	8:00	Los Angeles	at	Colorado	9:00	Sun., Sept. 9	Columbus at Tampa Bay	5:00 p.m.
Chicago	at	Kansas City	8:30	A A MARKET				Sun., Sept. 16	Los Angeles at San Jose	4:00 p.m.
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ansas City	at	Colorado	4:00	Columbus	at	Colorado	9:00	Sat., June 9	Kansas City at Miami	4:00 p.m.
Miami	at	New England	7:30	San Jose	at	Los Angeles	10:00	Sun., July 8	Los Angeles at D.C. United	TBA (*TD)
ampa Bay	at	Chicago	8:00	Saturday, Septen	.h-	I.E.		Sat., Aug. 11	Kansas City at Colorado	4:00 p.m.
MetroStars	at	Dallas	8:30	Colorado			4.00	Sat., Aug. 18	D.C. United at New England	4:00 p.m.
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dnesday, Aug	ust 15			Tampa Bay	at	D.C. United	7:30	Sat., Sept. 8	D.C. United at Miami	4:00 p.m.
allas	at	Columbus	7:30	Chicago	at	Columbus	7:30	Sat., Sept. 15	Colorado at Kansas City	4:00 p.m.
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s Angeles	at	Kansas City	8:30	Sunday, Septemb	or 10			On ABC		
J		2. 3		Los Angeles	at	San Jose	4:00	Sat., July 28	MLS 2001 All-Star Game	3:30 p.m.
urday, August	18			2007 (1190100	ut	Sall JUSE	4.00	Sun., Oct. 21	MLS Cup 2001	1:30 p.m.
.C. United	at	New England	4:00	Playoffs TBD				*TD = Tape Delay		
allas	at	Miami	7:30	75.10					game will be aired July 8 on TEL.	
hicago	at	San Jose	10:00	Sunday, October	21			THE July 7 L.A./D.C.		
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KIDS KORNER

Show us you're a fan! Send us your name and a picture of what you wear to the stadium and you may see it in the next FreeKick!! Send them to: FreeKick Fanatics, 110 E. 42nd Street, 10th Floor, New York, NY 10017.





Identify this current player:

- · Earned first two national team caps against China and Colombia in 2001.
- ·Won the silver ball at the FIFA U-17 World Championship in New Zealand.
- · His nickname is "Jitterbug."

WHO'S THIS KID?

MLS MATCHUP

Match up the records below with the numerical figures at the bottom:

- A. Most Assists in a season-Carlos Valderrama
- B. Most Goals in a season-Roy Lassiter
- C. Most Shutouts in a season—Tony Meola
- D. Most Wins by a 'keeper in a season-Kevin Hartman

(1)16(2)22 (3)26(4)27

Answers: a = 3; b = 4; c = 1; d = 2





scored the most goals in MLS (16)

Mike Ammann had the most wins by a goalkeeper (21)

the highest-scoring team (70 goals)

Carlos Valderrama had the most assists (19)

Let us know what stories you want to read about. Send us your comments and suggestions at freekick@mlsnet.com.

