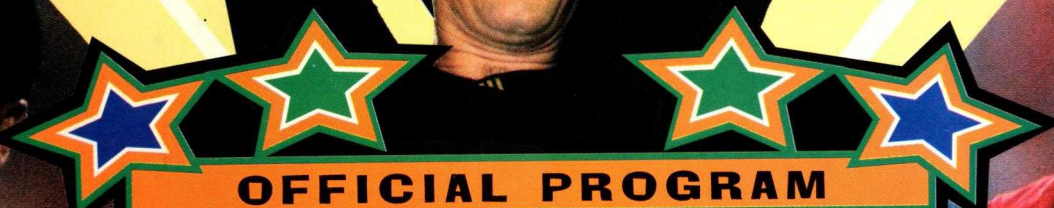
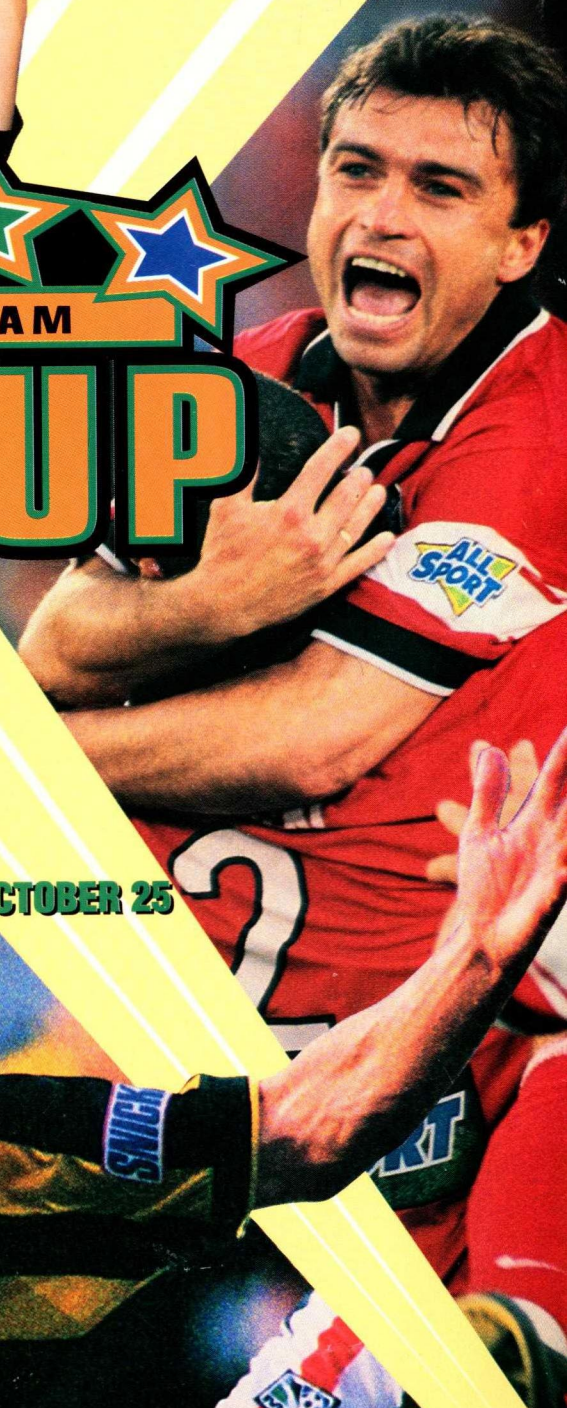
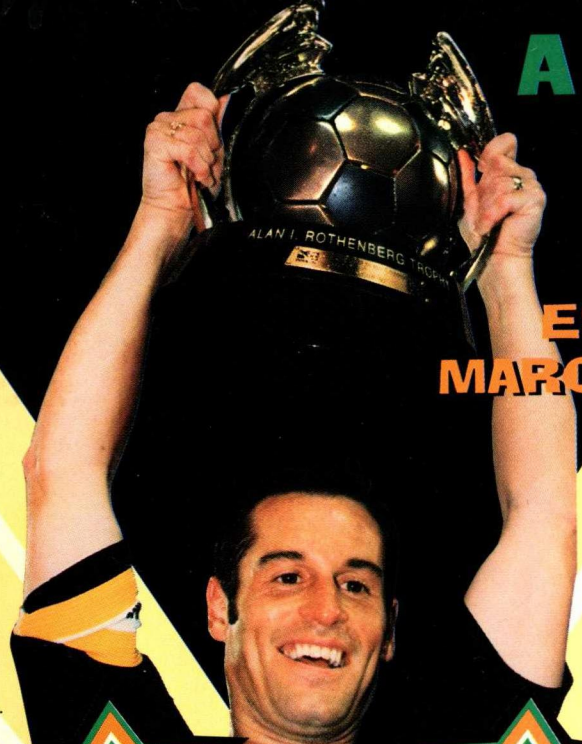


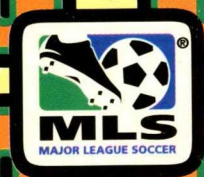
A REVIEW OF 1998



INFORME ESPECIAL SOBRE MARCO ETCHEVERRY



MLS CUP '98



ROSE BOWL

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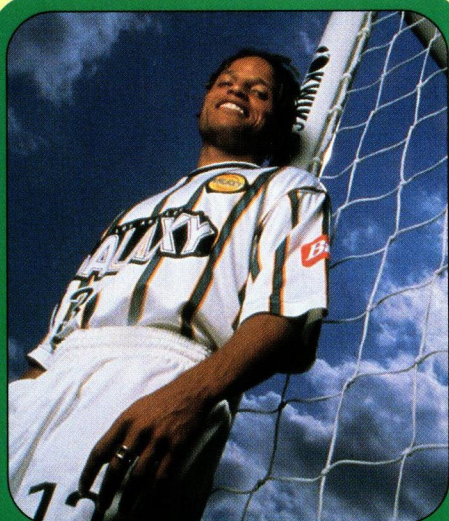
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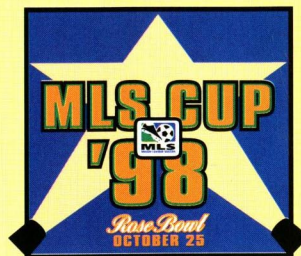
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International Sports Publishing, Inc.

33 W. 34th St., 4th Floor.

New York, NY 10001

(212) 629-9000

President

Frank DeFilippis

Publisher

John M. Shue

Chief Operating Officer

Keith D. Meyer

Business Development

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Art Direction

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WELCOME TO MLS CUP '98

Welcome to the historic Rose Bowl and MLS Cup '98. After two seasons of playing the league's championship game at East Coast venues, we are pleased to host our premier event in the soccer hotbed of Southern California. We've previously enjoyed two outstanding MLS Cup matches and expect another exciting battle for this year's title.

It's been more than seven months since the season opener and we have seen many great moments and numerous records broken during our third season. In 1998, several MLS players exhibited their talents on the World Cup stage, while the overall level of play throughout the league increased as chemistry continued to develop on each squad and world-class international players joined young Americans in the pursuit of one goal: capturing MLS Cup '98!

New expansion teams in Chicago and South Florida provided additional excitement to the Eastern and Western Conference playoff races, each of which went down to the wire. The addition of the Fusion and the Fire along with our enhanced national television schedule has helped MLS broaden its fan base throughout the United States and the world. Without your support, the league's continued success would not be possible.

I want to congratulate both of the teams competing in today's MLS Cup. It's been a long road to make it here and these two organizations both deserve to win the championship. I look forward to the honor of presenting one of them with the Alan I. Rothenberg trophy.

I hope you enjoy today's game between the Eastern and Western Conference champions. We look forward to continuing the MLS Cup tradition that has featured two outstanding games and wonderful support from our fans. We encourage you to sit back and enjoy the greatest game on earth!

Sincerely,

Douglas G. Logan,
Commissioner,
Major League Soccer



Bienvenidos al histórico Rose Bowl y a la Copa MLS'98. Después de haber jugado los dos últimos campeonatos de la liga en el Este del país, nos sentimos contentos de ofrecerles un evento de primera en el Sur de California, cuna ardiente del fútbol. En años anteriores, hemos disfrutado de dos partidos emocionantes por la Copa MLS y esperamos otra batalla excitante por el título de este año.

Han pasado más de siete meses desde que abrió la temporada y hemos visto muchos momentos impresionantes y muchos récords batidos durante nuestra tercera temporada. En 1998, varios jugadores de la MLS exhibieron sus talentos en el escenario de la Copa Mundial, a la vez que aumentaba el nivel de juego en toda la liga en general y se desarrollaba la química de cada equipo, mientras que jugadores internacionales de calibre mundial se juntaban con los jóvenes americanos en busca de un gol: capturar la Copa MLS '98!

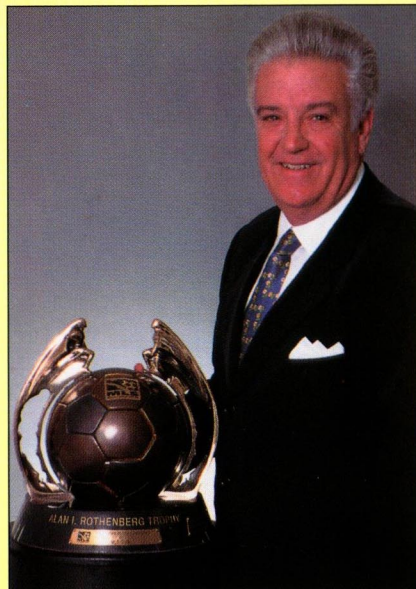
Los nuevos equipos de expansión en Chicago y el Sur de la Florida proporcionaron otras emociones a las carreras de los juegos semifinales de las Conferencias del Este y Oeste, que terminaron cada una en la meta. La adición de los equipos Fusion y Fire, junto con la ampliación de nuestro programa de televisión, ayudaron a expandir la base de fanáticos de la MLS a través de los Estados Unidos y del mundo entero. Sin su apoyo, el éxito seguido de la liga no hubiese sido posible.

Quisiera felicitar a ambos equipos que compiten hoy por la Copa MLS. Ha sido una larga jornada llegar aquí y estas dos organizaciones merecen ambas ganar el campeonato. Espero con anticipación el honor de obsequiar a una de ellas el Trofeo Alan I. Rothenberg.

Espero que disfruten del juego de hoy entre los Campeones de las Conferencias del Este y del Oeste. Por igual, nosotros esperamos continuar la tradición de la Copa MLS que ha realizado dos partidos sobresalientes con el apoyo maravilloso de nuestros fanáticos. Ahora les pedimos que tomen sus asientos y disfruten del mejor juego de la tierra.

Les saluda,

Douglas G. Logan Mendoza
Comisionado,
Major League Soccer

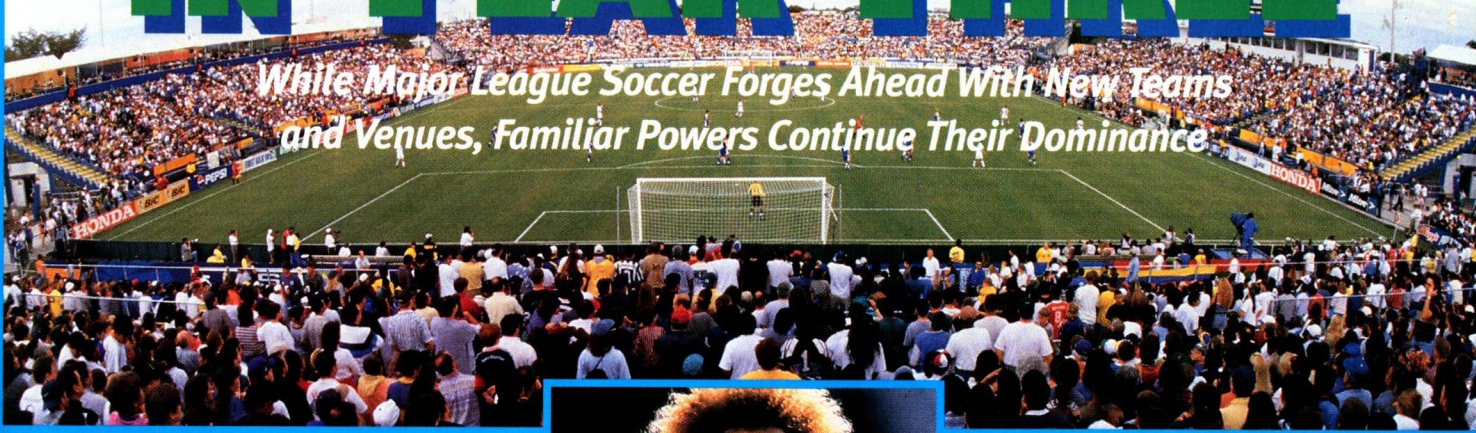


By Dan Herbst

ESSY GHAVAMEDDINI/MLS

THRIVING IN YEAR THREE

While Major League Soccer Forges Ahead With New Teams and Venues, Familiar Powers Continue Their Dominance

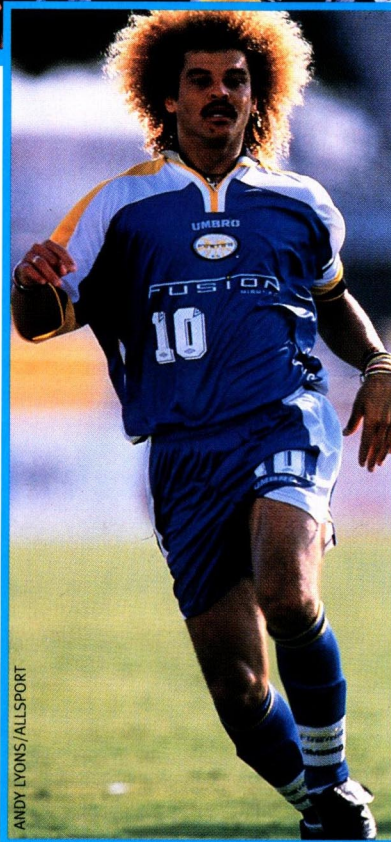


Major League Soccer's third campaign underscored the saying, "the more things change the more they stay the

same." Despite two new teams, a new and impressive network television deal, and great strides toward showcasing soccer in worthy facilities, there remained one undeniable constant from the inaugural season: D.C. United and the Los Angeles Galaxy still comfortably finished atop the regular season pile.

While the Galaxy scored goals at a record-breaking pace, their eastern counterparts were no longer content to merely monopolize the capturing of domestic silverware when United won the CONCACAF Champions' Cup in August. United issued an impressive statement with successive conquests of Mexican League powers Leon (2-0) and Toluca (1-0).

As in MLS Cup '96, defender Eddie Pope accounted for the decisive score in the championship match as United became the first American entrant to capture the CONCACAF Champions' Cup. With the victory, "Arena's Army" is now guaranteed a showdown with Brazil's Copa Libertadores champions Vasco de Gama plus a potential berth in FIFA's proposed world club championship.



Miami midfielder Carlos Valderrama led the Fusion into the playoffs during the club's first season

22,500-seat stadium in Columbus that is scheduled to open next season.

The new facilities were matched by several impressive new faces. MLS fans sang the praises of young Americans

United shattered the MLS standard for most regular-season victories thanks to Marco Etcheverry's pinpoint passing, the lethal finishing of Jaime Moreno, and the all-around play of John Harkes. A key plus was swapping Roy Wegerle to Tampa for explosive striker Roy Lassiter.

Year three marked significant progress on both the real estate and television fronts. ABC and sister networks ESPN and ESPN2 inked a long-term deal with MLS, making MLS Cup '98 the 12th contest (after showing only the league's championship during the first two seasons) to have been aired on ABC this season. Sunday afternoon fare remained a staple on Univision.

With its ongoing effort to make existing facilities more soccer friendly, San Jose's Spartan Stadium was widened to 70 yards and a \$4 million facelift established Fort Lauderdale's Lockhart Stadium as a top-class venue that hosted a standing-room-only opening day crowd of 20,450. In addition, ground was broken for a soccer-specific

(Continued on page 12)

THRIVING IN YEAR THREE *(Continued from page 9)*

Leo Cullen (Miami), Mike Petke (MetroStars), Ben Olsen (D.C.), Josh Wolff (Chicago), Johnny Torres (New England), Clint Mathis (Los Angeles), and Scott Vermillion (Kansas City).

Perhaps the most exciting prospect made his debut on national television in August. After jumping straight from Indiana's Ft. Wayne South High School, where he scored 107 goals, to the New England Revolution, lightning-quick 18-year-old Jamar Beasley showed his explosiveness when he was taken down in the penalty area against Los Angeles. Minutes later he garnered an assist in his first appearance as a professional.

The level of play continued on an exponential rise and was epitomized by the signing of Mexican star Carlos Hermosillo. The third-leading active scorer worldwide joined a star-studded Galaxy lineup that broke the single-year scoring mark by netting its 71st goal in only the club's 25th game. What is arguably MLS' top foreign legion featured El Salvador's Mauricio Cienfuegos, Guatemala's Martin Machon and young Brazilian forward Welton. Veteran Americans Robin Fraser and Paul Caligiuri also contributed greatly to the Galaxy's success.

But the unquestioned headliner was Cobi Jones, who contended for the scoring crown despite missing eight games while on international duty with the U.S. World Cup team. Being a generous chap, Jones even occasionally permitted a colleague to win the Fujifilm Player of the Week award, which the dreadlocked speedster won five times.

Cienfuegos, Jones, and Welton became the third, fourth, and fifth members, respectively, of MLS' career 20-20 (goals-assists) club.

Featuring a new head coach and a revamped lineup, the MetroStars battled down to the wire for the East's second seed with Columbus. Their turnaround owed much to the acquisitions of striker Eduardo Hurtado and Chilean interna-

tional Marcelo Vega. Defender Alexi Lalas cut a new CD and produced two vital early-season game-winning goals to overcome a third consecutive 0-3 start. An unexpected boost came from ex-Long Island Rough Rider (A-League) midfielder Jim Rooney's scoring heroics, while goalkeeper Tony Meola again acquitted himself with distinction.

That the Crew's Brian McBride headed home the USA's lone World Cup goal was fitting as Columbus contributed an

SCOTT INDERMAUR/MLS/ALLSPORT



Sandra Hunt joined Nancy Lay in becoming the first females to serve as head referees of an MLS game

MLS-high five players to the event's rosters. McBride and the Crew offense received considerable support up top from explosive Trinidadian import Stern John. Juergen Sommer, the first American 'keeper to play in the Premiership, returned home from England to join fellow Indiana University grad Brian Maisonneuve. The leadership of USA captain Thomas Dooley and the skills of youngster Andrew Williams gave the Horseshoe's denizens ample cause to roar for the last time at Ohio Stadium.

While both expansion entities beat the odds to qualify for postseason play, it was the Chicago Fire that generated far more heat. Chicago earned a berth in the U.S. Open Cup Final against Columbus and the Windy City squad finished behind only Los Angeles in the West standings.

The home slate began well as 36,444 fans witnessed hometown product Frank Klopas net both goals in a 2-0 conquest of Tampa Bay in the Fire's Soldier Field

debut. Former Poland National Team captain Peter Nowak's inspired midfield play and the contributions of Chicago's "Eastern Bloc" of Lubos Kubik, Roman Kosecki and Jerzy Podbrozny keyed two upsets of Los Angeles to serve notice of the Fire's power. Defensive midfielder Chris Armas and goalkeeper Zach Thornton also posted strong seasons.

The expansion Miami Fusion entered South Florida with a bang. The midyear replacement of Carlos Cordoba behind the bench saw Ivo Wortmann quickly take charge, and the

THRIVING IN YEAR THREE *(Continued from page 12)*

Fusion entered the playoffs at Tampa's and New England's expense.

The Revolution benefited from Raul Diaz Arce's arrival and the playmaking of Joe-Max Moore, but New England's defense was often suspect. Beantown fans proved their mettle as Foxboro Stadium ranked behind only the Rose Bowl and Soldier Field as MLS' most-populated stadium. The late-season return of Walter Zenga – this time to coach with plans to possibly again don goalkeeper gloves in 1999 – provides cause for optimism.

Despite having participated in the last event held in Houlihan's Stadium, the Mutiny suffered through a long season. Colorful Swedish keeper Thomas Ravelli, playmaker Mauricio Ramos, and exciting midfielder/surfer Frankie Hejduk provided most of the spark.

Out west, Colorado continued to make great strides at the gate with its attendance rising rapidly for the second straight summer. Paul Bravo remained one of the most productive, yet underrated, American forwards during a campaign in which he netted his 30th career MLS goal. Second-year midfielder Ross Paule's future seems as bright as his hair.

After tying D.C. with an MLS-best 21 wins last summer, Kansas City slid significantly. Ageless Scottish forward Mo Johnston had a solid year, but while Preki produced some magical goals (including an eight-point game in early September), he fell short of his league-best 41 points in 1997.

Dallas managed to contend for a playoff berth despite a string of injuries, including missing the services of Swiss midfielder Alain Sutter for nearly the entire season. Jason Kreis rebounded in 1998 while the return of the talented but fiery Leonel Alvarez added bite to the midfield.

Despite a disappointing year that was highlighted by the creativity of Ronald Cerritos, San Jose supporters have

ample cause to believe that only their stadium will be Spartan in 1999. Hope abounds following the midseason infusion of leadership from new Investor-Operator Alan Rothenberg. MLS' founder and former U.S. Soccer President, who is credited for helping to stage the hugely-successful 1994 World Cup and the soccer portion of the 1984 Summer Olympic Games, has been a winner at all levels.

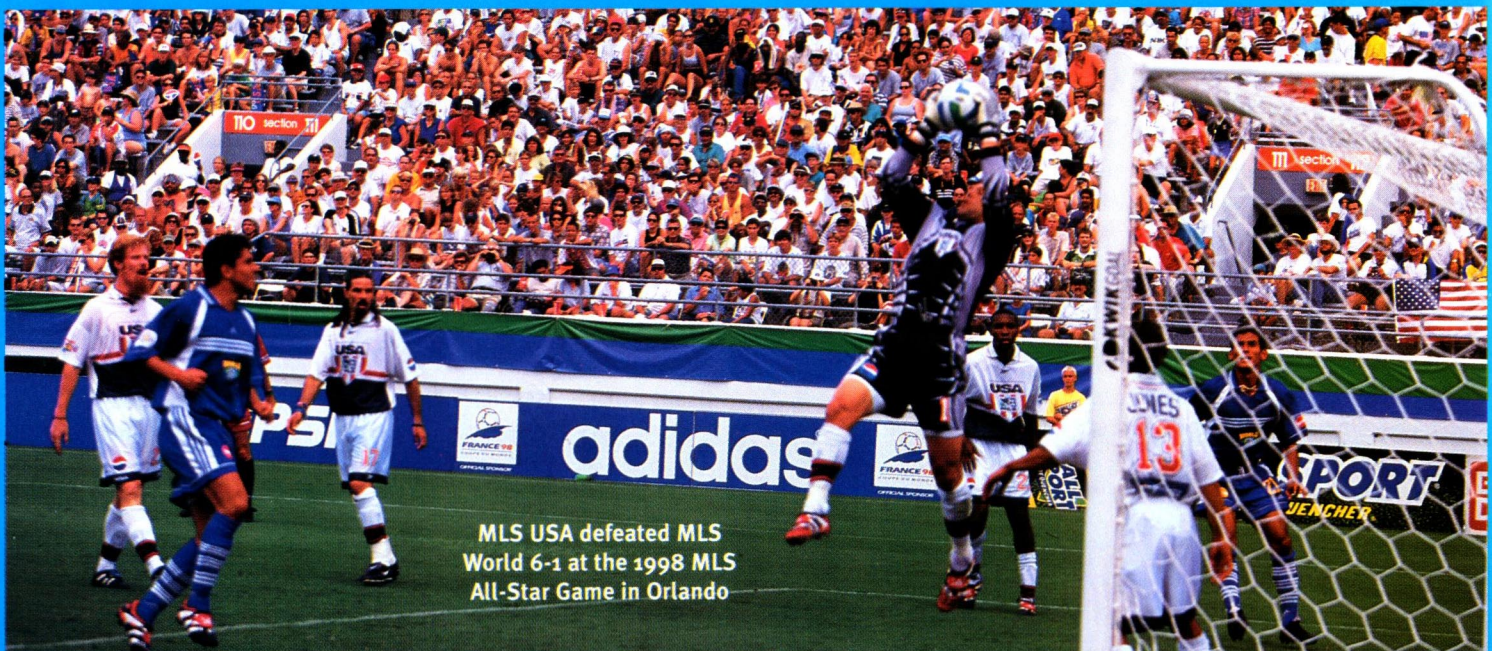
MLS' pioneer spirit was amplified in year three, as the league joined the NBA as the only major professional sports league in the United States to have female referees. Sandra Hunt and Nancy Lay each made their MLS officiating debuts on August 29 and are expected to be fixtures in the league's referee program in the ensuing seasons.

Highlighted by an MLS USA All-Star victory over MLS World, the 1998 MLS All-Star Weekend in Orlando painted a promising future for professional soccer in the United States. With 34,416 in attendance, the game culminated an entire weekend of festivities and soccer-themed events at the Disney Wide World of Sports complex near Orlando.

Large crowds turned out for the three days of events leading up to the 1998 MLS All-Star Game, providing an exciting and unique vacation destination for sports fans and soccer enthusiasts. The Rock'n Soccer Celebrity Game and All-Star Skills Challenge provided fans with plenty of entertainment while Soccer Celebration, the Pro Player Drizzle, Pass & Shoot and the MLS 3v3 Tournament presented by Breathe Right® allowed fans the opportunity to use their skills during the All-Star Weekend.

As soccer continues to thrive in the United States, MLS plans several big events each year, including opening day, the All-Star Weekend and MLS Cup. With a stable of exciting American players and an increasingly elite class of foreigners, MLS leads the charge as soccer heads into the next millenium.

ESSY GHAVAMEDDINI/MLS



MLS USA defeated MLS World 6-1 at the 1998 MLS All-Star Game in Orlando



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Passing Fancy

By Will Kuhns

*Three-time All-Star Marco Etcheverry
Orchestrates D.C. United's Multifaceted Attack*

On a late July day consumed by searing heat and choking humidity, Marco Etcheverry arrived at D.C. United's training facility in Herndon, Va., wearing a thick black sweatshirt and a black hat with a glittery Bolivia insignia. As practice began and teammates sent puzzled stares and wisecracks in his direction, Etcheverry remained unstirred.

"It is very cold," he uttered in crisp English, while focusing intently on his short-passing warmup.

Etcheverry's tormentors grinned, shook their heads and resumed their own training because they knew that was the only explanation they would get for his strange attire. United's players had caught their captain in transition between his two personalities, one for the soccer field and one for everything else.

"He wears some of the strangest things," said United defender Brian Kamler. "To be honest, he is a bit of a mystery to us, especially the English-speaking players because he keeps to himself for the most part. But, he'll surprise you with the things he says in English sometimes."

After establishing himself as one of the premier playmakers in Major League Soccer while leading United to two straight championships, the 28-year-old midfield genius has managed to expand his impact on the team this season.

He still ranked among the league's assist leaders all season, but he scored more goals than in his previous two campaigns and his leadership, although primarily by example, is more pronounced.

"I've always had the same ideas about soccer," Etcheverry said. "I think about it 24 hours a day and I try to pass it on the

way I feel, the way I think, everything when we are on the field."

And when he is playing, whether in training or games, "everything else does not exist," he said, explaining his grave seriousness on the field. But there is more to Marco Etcheverry.

Segundo Pezo, an accountant for D.C. United who is from Peru, was nervous the first time he met Etcheverry. Pezo had only seen what most people see of Etcheverry: an incredible talent with such an intense game face that he earned the nickname "El Diablo" (the Devil). As soon as he shook Etcheverry's hand, however, Pezo began to see another man.

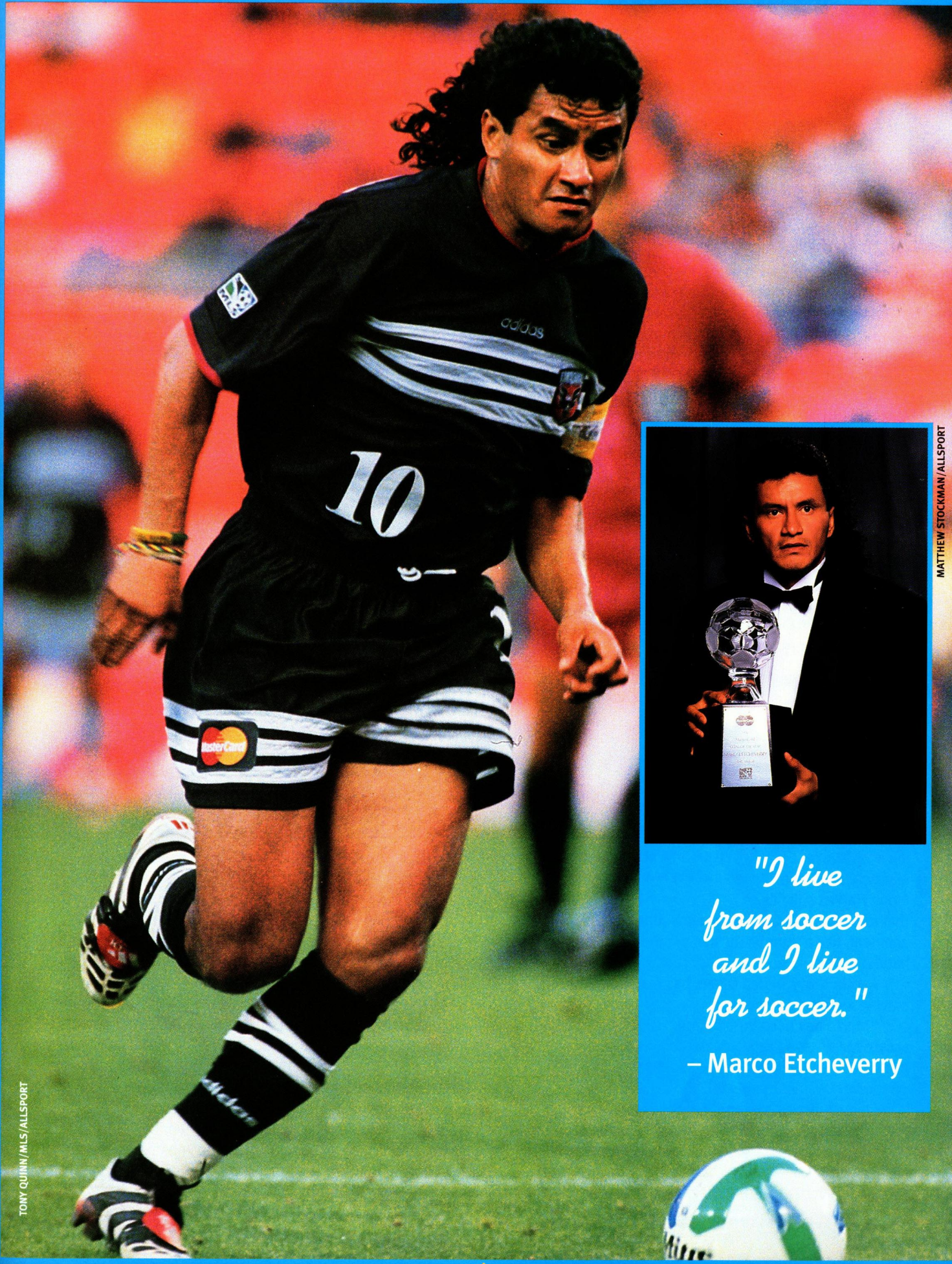
"Too many people look at him on the field and think that is the way he is," Pezo said. "But he is really a friendly person. You can shake his hand, talk to him and make jokes with him, no matter who you are."

Etcheverry and forward Jaime Moreno sponsor a Bolivian men's league in the Washington area and often attend its games, just to watch soccer and socialize.

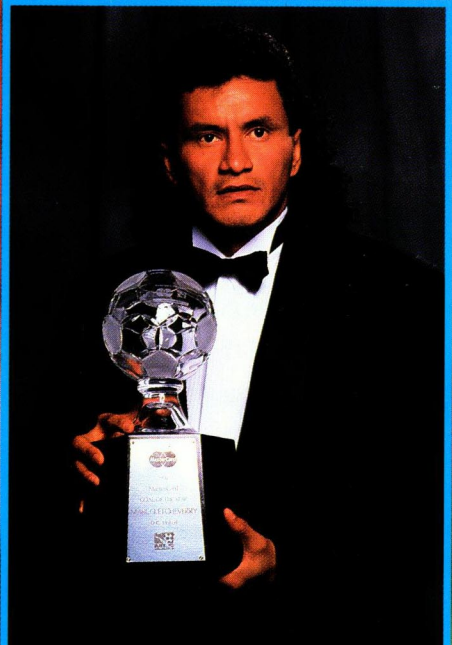
"In terms of personality, Marco is a very warm, caring and generous person," United Coach Bruce Arena said. "He is very supportive of the Bolivian community here in D.C."

Etcheverry is also interested in the future of American soccer, and he wants to establish a soccer school/training center in Washington modeled after the famous Tahuichi Academy which was his second home from age eight to 16 in his hometown of Santa Cruz, Bolivia.

"My vision for soccer in this country is more than most people know," Etcheverry said. "This academy would not just be camp or practices, but a place of teaching soccer. I hope that



TONY QUINN/MLS/ALLSPORT



MATTHEW STOCKMAN/ALLSPORT

"I live from soccer and I live for soccer."
— Marco Etcheverry

someday, from this academy, will come players for the U.S. World Cup team."

Etcheverry's plans reveal an increasing bond to his new hometown and suggest he may be staying for a long time.

"He wants to be a part of making this league work and I think he is a model for what a foreign player can be," Arena said. "Some guys have come here on vacation, but he has come here to make the league better and to work on his game. That is a very special quality that we haven't seen in a lot of the foreign players in this league."

United rookie defender Carey Talley remembers his Major League Soccer debut well: a raucous sellout crowd came to see the Miami Fusion's inaugural game, also on national television. Talley was about to be baptized by fire.

"I didn't know Marco very well before our first game," Talley said. "In the locker room before the game, he came over to me and shook my hand and just said, 'Relax and have fun. It's the first game.' It was a pretty heated game, but afterwards he said, 'See, no problem. Let's go get some dinner.'"

Talley said that Etcheverry becomes more direct and assertive with his teammates on the field, but is positive.

"Etcheverry is not a very vocal leader," Talley said. "John Harkes still fills that role while Marco prefers more subtle forms of encouragement, like a thumbs-up sign or a brief clapping of hands."

Another rookie, Ben Olsen, has reaped the benefits of playing alongside Etcheverry.

"Marco has been great to me," Olsen said. "If you accept Marco as a friend, it's likewise with everyone. Maybe he sometimes treats me like a little brother on the field but off the field we are friends."

Etcheverry has a reputation as a comedian and prankster off the field. He bought a ping-pong table and paddles for the team's practice facility and proceeded to challenge everyone.

"He claims to be the Bolivian national ping-pong cham-

pion," said United trainer Rick Guter. "He may be since I've never seen anyone beat him."

Etcheverry's grasp of English is better than most outsiders realize because he always prefers to speak to the media in Spanish. But Arena no longer has his coaching translated and Etcheverry occasionally surprises the team with one-liners in English.

"He is a really funny guy, and it's even funnier when he says something in English that you don't expect," said Kamler. "Marco is a very family-oriented man, but when he does hang out with the team, he's just one of the guys."

Things like the black sweatshirt episode keep teammates wondering what is going through Etcheverry's mind sometimes, especially since he is so reserved. He communicates through his actions, staying after practice to polish his already brilliant skills. Etcheverry explains that his dedication to soccer is not really a conscious choice.

"I have a thought: I live from soccer and I live for soccer," Etcheverry said. "My life is soccer and if I need to practice longer to get better, I am going to do it. Anything I can do to make the team better. I love soccer and I don't do it out of necessity anymore, but my body needs soccer."



ESSY GHAVAMEDINI/MLS

Etcheverry, shown here dribbling past Tab Ramos at the MLS All-Star Game, is one of the favorites to win the league's 1998 Honda Most Valuable Player award

United General Manager Kevin Payne believes that for the first time since arriving in Washington, Etcheverry is back to the physical level he was at before his serious knee injury in November of 1993. The Bolivian National Team star recovered in time to play for his country at the 1994 World Cup but many experts feel he was never 100 percent healthy even when he joined United in 1996.

"He can do things on the field that nobody else in the league can do, things that involve everybody on his team and put enormous pressure on the other team's defense," Payne said. "The way he handles himself on the field and his willingness to take responsibility is very impressive. He is a quiet leader, but he is a good leader. Everything you could ask of a player, he has been this year."

A Galaxy of Goals

Cobi Jones Lights Up Los Angeles

Consider Cobi Jones' otherworldly abilities, on show all season with the Los Angeles Galaxy. Consider how the joyousness of his play – the wide smile he'll break into when something goes particularly well – is so perfectly complemented by the bounce of his dreadlocks as he sprints down the wing. Consider the screams of the teenage girls.

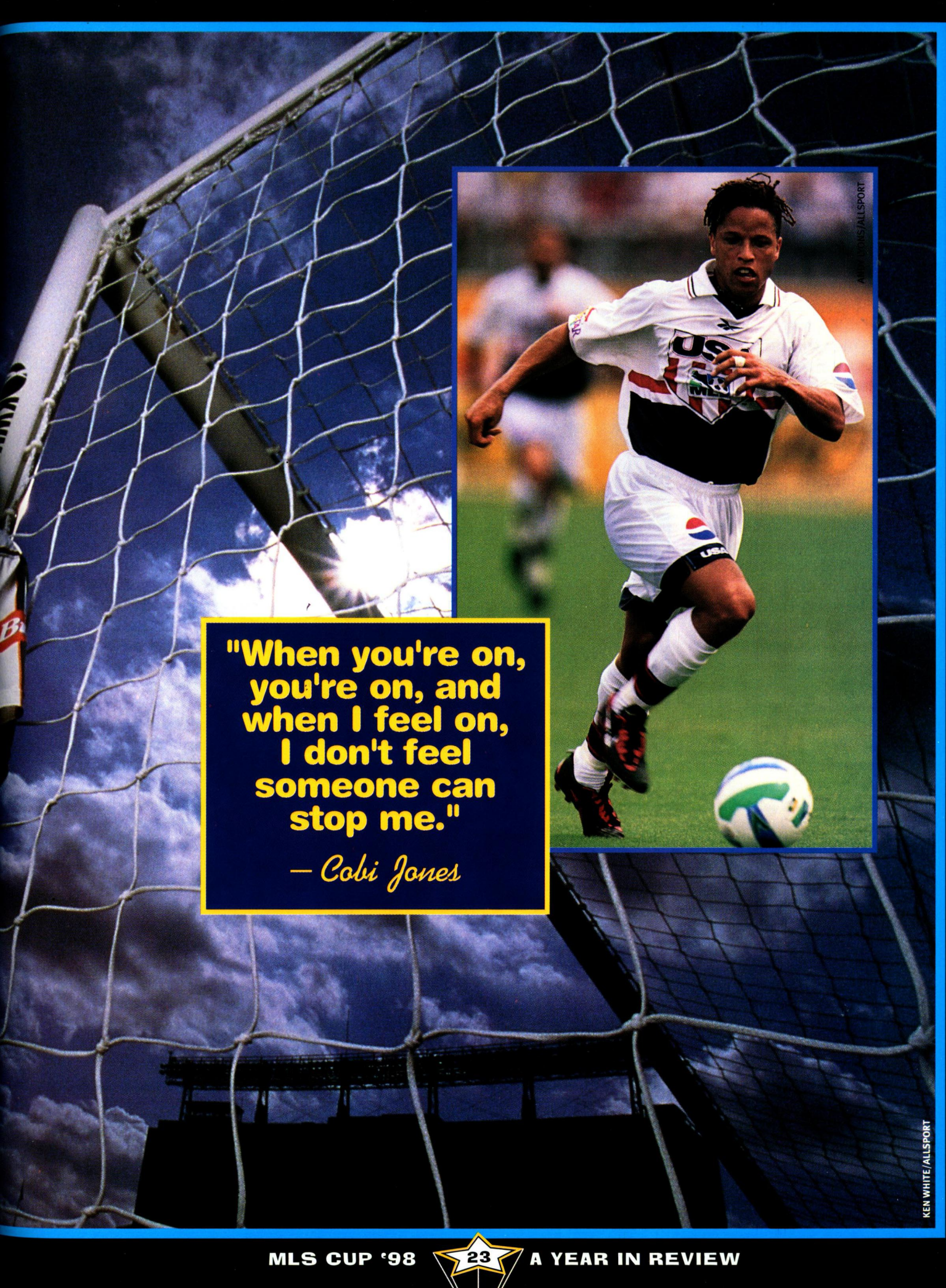
Consider Cobi Jones' take on the whole thing.

"I'm just an average joe," he claims. "I'm just a California kid, that's it. I do all the normal things like everyone else. The same old, same old, just like everyone else."

This shocking piece of news comes with courtesy to opposing defenders, who may be forgiven for thinking the speedy Galaxy star is far from normal. They're right, too – what Jones has achieved in Major League Soccer's third campaign has been out of this world. Consider:

- Nineteen goals and 13 assists, good for the second spot in MLS' Budweiser scoring race.
- Three hat tricks, plus a three-assist game, all at the most opportune times.
- Helping the Galaxy set single season records in most goals (85), most points (68) and best record (24-8) ever in MLS.

By Mark Shell



AP/WIDE WORLD/ALLSPORT

**"When you're on,
you're on, and
when I feel on,
I don't feel
someone can
stop me."
— Cobi Jones**

KEN WHITE/ALLSPORT

A member of the 1994 and 1998 U.S. World Cup teams, Jones holds the MLS record for career hat tricks with four



"This year, I've been on more often than not," Jones offers. "Things have been going my way. And it's funny, when you're in that zone or whatever you want to call it, everything just seems to work. When you're on, you're on, and when I feel on, I don't feel someone can stop me."

But the numbers are only part of the story.

"He's the catalyst in many ways to our team," says Galaxy Head Coach Octavio Zambrano, whose multi-pronged attack also features Carlos Hermosillo (6 goals, 11 assists), Welton (17, 11), Mauricio Cienfuegos (13, 16), Martin Machon (6, 14) and Clint Mathis (5, 10). "The guy always plays with intensity, he's always competitive, he always thinks he has to give his all, and that's infectious."

"On the pitch, he's as intense as any player I've ever seen. I've not seen many players with that competitive level, who challenge themselves in every match."

That kind of approach enabled Jones, now 28, to rise to the top of the American game from rather humble beginnings, and it's helped fire the adulation he receives as America's most popular soccer player. He's easily recognizable – the dreadlocks help – from his appearances in commercials and on MTV (he hosts a fitness program called "Megadose"), and has fans of all ages, even if it's the teenage girls who notice most.

It's something Jones never thought he'd have to deal with.

"I never imagined being this popular, having this recognition," he said. "The average person on the street doesn't imagine he'll be famous."

And Cobi Jones, when you carve away all the trappings – the high-profile profession, the big bucks, the travel, the cheers – is just an average person on the street.

"I'm not a surfer bro or anything like that, but I like the sun and fun. I'm a typical California boy. You know, I don't think I could permanently move someplace else. I could live in other places, but when it comes down to it, the end result, I think I'll end up in Southern California."

He's been here since the move from Detroit, growing up

in Westlake Village, a bedroom community on the Los Angeles/Ventura County border. He was, he says, a bashful kid.

"Back in high school, I was the shy guy," he says. "I kind of kept to myself, wasn't really an outgoing person in terms of relationships with people, with girls. I wasn't part of the popular crowd . . . I wasn't the one the girls were looking to go out with. But I was friends with them all. I was the buddy."

His soccer career began taking off while he was at Westlake, thanks to attention drawn by teammate Eric Wynalda.

He received an invitation to walk on at UCLA, where he earned a starting position just a few games into his freshman season and parlayed that into a spot on the 1992 Olympic team and, after that, a key role with the U.S. national team.

It wasn't as easy as it sounds. Twice he was cut from the Olympic team before getting an invitation to Barcelona.

And he nearly found himself off the national team before he'd ever debuted.

"I went down to Saudi Arabia (for the Confederations Cup in October 1992), and the rumors were that I was going to be cut basically for giving my opinion (to the media) as a young player on how the team played," Jones says. "In the game against Ivory Coast, I'm on the bench, and (Chris) Henderson goes up for a header and hits his head. Bora (Milutinovic, then the U.S. coach) had me go warm-up, but then Chris was all right and one of the older players told me to come back and sit down."

"Chris goes up again, hits head again, and – boom – he's out. Bora looks over for me. Where am I? He looks over on the bench, and I'm on the bench. He's all mad because I'm not warming up. So he called me over and said the next time I do that, I'm not going to be on this team anymore."

Jones scored one goal and assisted on another as the Yanks beat the African champions, 5-2. He's been part of the mix ever since, a fairly regular starter since the middle of 1993. He was the fastest player in history to reach 100 appearances, has played well in two World Cups (he was

one of the few bright spots in the U.S. lineup in France this summer), spent stints playing in England (Coventry City, 1994-95) and Brazil (Vasco da Gama, 1995-96) and became the most popular – and dangerous – player in American soccer.

"He's a tough load to handle," says Robin Fraser, Jones' Galaxy teammate. "Give him an inch, and he'll kill you."

Speed has always been Jones' chief weapon, but in the early years of his pro career it was widely thought his only weapon. His control of the ball was sporadic, his goal-scoring ability negligible, his defensive skills merely adequate. He could run the wing like no American before him, but what else could he do?

"Cobi's always had a lot of raw talent," says Steve Sampson, the former U.S. coach, "and it was just a matter of time for that raw talent to be honed into the level of technical and tactical sophistication that would allow him to play with anybody in the world.

"What he's doing doesn't surprise me at all. He's one of the individuals who gives 100 percent of himself during training and games. And he's a much more mature and confident professional. He's made the most of the talent he has by sheer will and intelligence."

Jones credits a break in his schedule late last year for his remarkable form in 1998. Once the 1997 MLS season was over and the Americans had finished their qualifying campaign for the World Cup, he took a month off, traveling to Miami Beach, to Lake Tahoe and spending a couple weeks relaxing at home. It was the best thing he could have done.

He returned to the field refreshed, hungry, and ready to work, and it's paid off for the Galaxy. He had eight goals and seven assists in his first eight games before taking off for the Americans' final World Cup preparations. Jones emerged unscathed from the Yanks' controversial stint in France – he played well and was far removed from the conflict between Sampson and several other big-name players – and picked up where he left off after returning to Los Angeles, totaling



nine goals and four assists during a 7-1 tear that wrapped up the Western Conference regular-season title.

"I've always rated Cobi as one of the best players this country has ever produced," says Zambrano. "Cobi has really showcased himself this year, and I think right now he's close to reaching his particularly highest level. Every player aspires to do that, I'm just glad to see Cobi doing it for my team."

And Jones was happy to be back with the Galaxy after the struggles in France.

"It was nice for a variety of reasons," he says. "I was away from all the crap (that surrounded the U.S. team in France), but when I got back I didn't know how I'd be received. But I had no reason to worry. The players know what can happen, and the fans, they understand conflict can happen on any team. Some blamed the coach, some blamed the players, but the response I got was that I played very well and I did well by not getting my name in

the paper, not getting into a shouting match. I just kind of did my own thing."

Jones has certainly done his own thing in MLS this season, as Zambrano gives him the freedom to do as he wishes in the Galaxy attack.

"What we try to do is allow players to express themselves, and I am a firm believer that when a player is allowed to do that, he performs his best," Zambrano says. "I think Cobi, for sure, needs that freedom to perform."

"We want him to go to goal. That mentality – our mentality is we want to win a match, not try not to lose – plays perfectly into the natural character Cobi has."

Jones isn't satisfied. "There's still room for improvement," he says. "I can always improve. There's some things I still need to do, little extra secret things."

Things that could be countered, perhaps, if they weren't secret?

"No," he shakes his head. "I don't think you can counter them. They can't be countered."

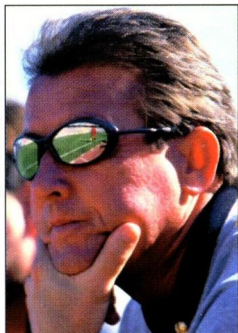
Mark Shell is a freelance writer in Southern California.



With a solid blend of youthful enthusiasm and veteran experience, the Columbus Crew entered the playoffs as one of the Eastern Conference's most dangerous teams. While U.S. National Team stalwarts Thomas Dooley and Brian McBride are joined by American stars Juergen Sommer, Brian Maisonneuve and Todd Yeagley, internationals such as Stern John, Andy Williams, Robert Warzycha,

Ansil Elcock and Ricardo Iribarren stepped up their games to make Columbus a force in the East.

Head Coach Tom Fitzgerald has seen several young players breathe life into the Crew squad, as forwards John, Williams, Jeff Cunningham and Brian West, all between 20-22 years of age, add speed, savvy and sharp finishing to the Crew attack. Combined with the excellence in the air and the sheer determination of Brian McBride, Columbus scores goals in bunches, trailing only D.C. United and the Los Angeles Galaxy in that category. Role players such as Jason Farrell, Rob Smith, Mike Clark and Billy Thompson do the dirty work that enables Columbus' stars to shine.



Head Coach Tom Fitzgerald

U.S. National Team goalkeeper Sommer joins Dooley in guiding the Crew's defense. Sommer was the first American goalkeeper to play in the prestigious English Premier League, and spent World Cup France '98 with the U.S. squad. Mark Dougherty, who entered the 1998 MLS season as the league's all-time win leader, serves as Sommer's backup for the team many experts believe will challenge for the Eastern Conference crown for years to come.

Crew Roster

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Hometown
25	U. Abukusumo	D	6-2	170	21	Albuquerque, New Mexico
7	Scott Cannon	D	5-9	155	30	Evansville, Indiana
22	Marcelo Carrera	M/F	5-8	156	35	Canton, Ohio
3	Mike Clark	D	6-0	170	25	Indianapolis, Indiana
11	Jeff Cunningham	F	5-8	155	22	Tampa, Florida
5	Thomas Dooley	D/M	6-1	170	37	Mission Viejo, California
33	Mark Dougherty	GK	6-2	180	30	Cupertino, California
13	Ansil Elcock	D	5-11	160	29	Caroni, Trinidad
12	Jason Farrell	M/F	5-10	170	27	Seattle, Washington
15	Andrew Gregor	M	5-11	160	22	Portland, Oregon
4	Ricardo Iribarren	D	6-0	175	31	La Plata, Argentina
14	Stern John	F	6-1	180	21	Tunapuna, Trinidad
2	Mike Lapper	D	6-0	170	28	Huntington Beach, Calif.
10	Brian Maisonneuve	M	5-11	170	25	Warren, Michigan
20	Brian McBride	F	6-1	170	26	Arlington Heights, Illinois
16	Rob Smith	M	5-10	150	25	Wilmington, Delaware
1	Juergen Sommer	GK	6-5	215	29	Naples, Florida
9	Billy Thompson	F	5-6	140	30	Cupertino, California
19	Robert Warzycha	M	5-8	160	35	Warsaw, Poland
17	Brian West	F	5-9	155	20	Columbia, Maryland
8	Andrew Williams	F	5-8	155	20	Kingston, Jamaica
6	Todd Yeagley	D/M	6-0	170	25	Bloomington, Indiana

1998 Regular Season Results

DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE
March 21	@ Tampa Bay	2-1	July 9	Chicago	3-0
March 29	@ Dallas	2-1	July 19	@ MetroStars	0-3
April 4	D.C. United	2-1	July 25	Dallas	1-2
April 11	New England	3-2	July 29	@ Miami	2-3
April 18	Miami	5-1	August 8	New England	6-1
April 26	@ D.C. United	1-2 (SO)	August 12	@ MetroStars	1-3
April 30	@ Tampa Bay	1-0	August 16	Kansas City	5-3
May 9	@ Miami	0-2	August 22	Tampa Bay	2-1
May 17	Los Angeles	2-4	August 29	@ Los Angeles	3-0
May 22	@ New England	2-0	Sept. 6	MetroStars	3-2
May 27	@ Kansas City	1-2	Sept. 9	Miami	1-0
May 30	San Jose	4-1	Sept. 12	@ New England	0-2
June 6	@ Chicago	0-2	Sept. 16	Colorado	2-4
June 13	D.C. United	3-4 (SO)	Sept. 19	@ Colorado	1-2
June 20	MetroStars	2-1	Sept. 24	Tampa Bay	3-4
July 3	@ San Jose	1-2 (SO)	Sept. 27	@ D.C. United	2-3 (SO)

MAGIC MOMENT

Jamaican midfielder/forward Andy Williams was unable to report to the Crew for the first several months of the MLS season due to World Cup France '98, but certainly kicked off his MLS career in style upon his arrival to the league. Despite trying to familiarize himself with teammates and mesh with Brian McBride and Stern John on the attack, the 20-year-old product from the University of Rhode Island tallied assists in each of his first seven games, breaking a league record formerly held by Marco Etcheverry and Crew teammate Brian Maisonneuve.



Andy Williams is one of four Columbus players with Caribbean roots who make up the Crew's "Caribbean Connection"



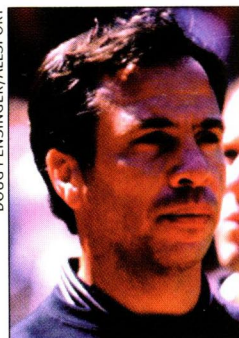
Two-time MLS defending champion D.C. United elevated its game to a new level in 1998, breaking its own league record with 24 wins this season (United shared the 21-11 mark last year with Kansas City) and scoring 74 times to surpass its former league record of 70 goals, set last year (which was shattered by Los Angeles' 85 goals this season).

Yes, Marco Etcheverry, Jaime Moreno and John Harkes form the backbone of the D.C. dynasty, but Head Coach Bruce Arena was forced to utilize some new faces in 1998 due to injuries and World Cup France '98. By acquiring forward Roy Lassiter in a late April trade for the World Cup-bound Roy Wegerle, Arena and D.C. pulled off the coup of the year as Lassiter finished in the top five among the Budweiser Scoring Leaders with 18 goals and 8 assists for 44 points.

Due to injuries to utility-men Tony Sanneh and Brian Kamler and staunch defender Carlos Llamosa, and World Cup duty for defenders Jeff Agoos and Eddie Pope, two faces fresh to MLS served notice that United's future looks as bright as its past. Midfielder Ben Olsen impressed Arena so much that MLS' winningest coach was forced

to change his formation from a 4-4-2 to a 3-5-2 to fit the Project-40 signee in the starting 11, while rookie defender Carey Talley was baptized by fire early in the season and proved his worth week-in, week-out.

U.S. National Team standouts Pope (the 1997 BIC Defender of the Year) and Agoos (who joined Pope on the 1997 AT&T Best 11) did not lose a game in the United strip between April 18 and early September. Between the pipes, Scott Garlick won 19 games and is looking to spark United to an MLS Cup three-peat.



Head Coach
Bruce Arena

DOUG PENSINGER/ALLSPORT

1998 Regular Season Results

DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE
March 15	@ Miami	2-0	June 12	@ Columbus	4-3 (SO)
March 21	Kansas City	3-2	June 25	@ Colorado	1-3
March 29	New England	2-1 (SO)	July 2	Miami	3-1
April 4	@ Columbus	1-2	July 10	Los Angeles	3-0
April 11	Colorado	4-3 (SO)	July 15	@ New England	1-0
April 18	@ New England	1-2 (SO)	July 18	Chicago	4-1
April 26	Columbus	2-1 (SO)	July 25	@ Los Angeles	1-0
April 29	San Jose	3-1	July 29	Tampa Bay	3-2 (SO)
May 2	@ Chicago	3-1	August 7	@ Dallas	1-0
May 9	MetroStars	2-0	August 22	MetroStars	2-1
May 13	New England	3-2	August 26	@ Kansas City	2-1
May 16	@ MetroStars	3-4	August 29	@ Tampa Bay	2-3 (SO)
May 23	Tampa Bay	3-2	Sept. 13	@ Miami	3-4
May 30	@ Tampa Bay	2-1 (SO)	Sept. 16	@ MetroStars	5-0
June 3	@ San Jose	4-0	Sept. 19	Miami	1-3
June 7	Dallas	4-5 (SO)	Sept. 27	Columbus	3-2 (SO)



In August, United became the first-ever American team to capture the CONCACAF Champions' Cup, defeating club teams from Trinidad and Mexico by an 11-0 aggregate score (Lassiter tallied six of the 11 goals) in the quarterfinals, semifinals and championship game. By virtue of the win, the champion of the three-year-old MLS earns a berth to face Brazil's top club, Vasco de Gama, in the Interamerican Cup, and possibly a chance to play in a FIFA-proposed world club championship next year.



TONY QUINN/MLS/ALLSPORT

A three-time MLS All-Star, Marco Etcheverry is Major League Soccer's career assist leader

United Roster

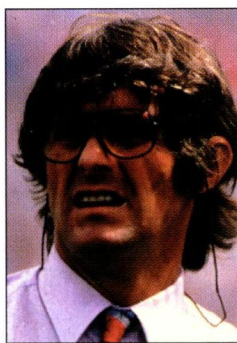
No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Hometown
12	Jeff Agoos	D	5-10	175	30	Dallas, Texas
5	Geoff Aunger	D	5-11	170	30	Vancouver, B.C.
25	Danny Care	D	5-10	178	24	Peachtree City, Georgia
33	Judah Cooks	M	6-1	175	21	Bethesda, Maryland
10	Marco Etcheverry	M	5-10	160	28	Santa Cruz, Bolivia
1	Scott Garlick	GK	6-2	185	26	Phoenix, Arizona
11	Mario Gori	D	5-7	165	25	Rosario, Argentina
6	John Harkes	M	5-11	165	31	Kearny, New Jersey
8	Brian Kamler	D/M	6-1	175	26	Ballwin, Missouri
15	Roy Lassiter	F	5-8	165	29	Raleigh, North Carolina
18	Carlos Llamosa	D	5-11	166	29	Maspeth, New York
9	Jaime Moreno	F	5-10	163	24	Santa Cruz, Bolivia
14	Ben Olsen	M/F	5-8	140	21	Middletown, Penn.
24	Curt Onalfo	D	6-2	185	28	Tampico, Mexico
23	Eddie Pope	D	6-0	175	24	High Point, North Carolina
22	Tom Presthus	GK	6-4	205	23	Dallas, Texas
20	Tony Sanneh	M	6-2	190	27	St. Paul, Minnesota
19	Mike Slivinski	M	5-7	165	23	St. Charles, Missouri
3	Carey Talley	D/M	6-2	180	22	Cordova, Tennessee
16	Richie Williams	M	5-5	145	28	Middletown, New Jersey
7	A.J. Wood	F	6-2	195	25	Rockville, Maryland



Stabilized by the backbone of goalkeeper Tony Meola, bolstered by the emergence of unknowns such as defender Mike Petke and midfielder Jim Rooney, and augmented by the shrewd acquisitions of forward Eduardo Hurtado, defenders Alexi Lalas and Diego Soñora and midfielder/forward Marcelo Vega, the 1998 MetroStars have served notice to Major League Soccer that they are a team capable of winning it all.

The new faces melded with 1997 holdovers Tab Ramos, Mike Sorber, Giovanni Savarese and Rhett Harty to put a team on the field that battles for 90 minutes, producing more wins than the club has ever enjoyed. Despite a late-season coaching change that jettisoned Alfonso Mondelo, the winningest coach in team history, in favor of former U.S. National Team coach Bora Milutinovic, the talented MetroStars could be a force to reckon with during the playoffs.

Joining Lalas and Harty on the defensive end in front of 1998 All-Star Meola are Mike Duhaney and Arley Palacios. On the attack, "El Tanque" Hurtado set team and personal marks for most assists in a season to go along with his touch for goalscoring, while Ramos,



Head Coach
Bora Milutinovic

Chilean World Cup player Vega and Savarese, the team's all-time leading goal producer, provide numerous weapons on the attack.

Argentine defender Soñora utilizes his experience to shut down opponents, while his versatility on the counterattack has paid huge dividends on offense. Defensive midfielder Sorber does everything that is asked of him, marking the opposition's playmaker and serving as the link to the attack. Young players like Brian Kelly, Miles Joseph and Kerry Zavagnin also contribute heavily.

1998 Regular Season Results

DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE
March 28	@ Los Angeles	2-3	July 4	@ Colorado	0-1
April 4	@ Kansas City	0-2	July 11	Tampa Bay	1-2
April 11	Los Angeles	2-3	July 19	Columbus	3-0
April 17	@ Chicago	1-0	July 25	Chicago	3-2
April 25	San Jose	4-3	July 29	Kansas City	3-2 (SO)
May 3	@ Tampa Bay	1-0	August 9	@ San Jose	1-5
May 6	Dallas	0-1	August 12	Columbus	3-1
May 9	@ D.C. United	0-2	August 15	@ Miami	1-3
May 16	D.C. United	4-3	August 18	Colorado	4-1
May 23	Miami	4-2	August 22	@ D.C. United	1-2
May 31	@ New England	2-1 (SO)	August 29	@ Dallas	0-2
June 3	Tampa Bay	1-2	Sept. 2	New England	0-2
June 7	@ Miami	2-1	Sept. 6	@ Columbus	2-3
June 13	Miami	3-1	Sept. 13	@ Tampa Bay	1-2
June 20	@ Columbus	1-2	Sept. 16	D.C. United	0-5
June 24	New England	5-3	Sept. 26	@ New England	1-0 (SO)



Midfielder Tab Ramos recovered from knee injuries that caused him to miss most of the last two seasons to return four games into the '98 campaign and help lead the MetroStars to its finest MLS showing in the league's three-year history. During the crunch time of the MLS playoffs, having a clutch performer like Ramos on your side is a key to victory.



ANDY LYONS/ALLSPORT

Tab Ramos is one of three American players to play in three World Cups

MetroStars Roster

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Hometown
16	Ramiro Corrales	D	6-0	160	21	Salinas, California
8	Mike Duhaney	D	5-11	165	24	San Diego, California
15	Rhett Harty	D	6-1	178	28	Whittier, California
18	Tim Howard	GK	6-2	190	19	North Brunswick, N.J.
29	Eduardo Hurtado	F	6-3	200	29	Esmeraldas, Ecuador
19	Miles Joseph	M/F	5-9	165	24	Clifton Park, New York
20	Brian Kelly	M	5-7	140	24	Shavertown, Pennsylvania
22	Alexi Lalas	D	6-3	195	28	Detroit, Michigan
1	Tony Meola	GK	6-1	205	29	Kearny, New Jersey
5	Arley Palacios	D	6-1	175	25	Medellin, Colombia
12	Mike Petke	D	6-2	185	22	Bohemia, New York
10	Tab Ramos	M	5-7	140	32	Kearny, New Jersey
13	Jim Rooney	M	6-0	165	30	Deer Park, New York
17	Giovanni Savarese	F	6-0	180	27	Howard Beach, New York
3	Mark Semioli	D	6-0	175	30	Palo Alto, California
4	Diego Sonora	D/M	5-8	165	29	Buenos Aires, Argentina
6	Mike Sorber	M	5-10	165	27	St. Louis, Missouri
27	Barry Swift	F	5-9	150	21	Brooklyn, New York
9	Marcelo Vega	M	5-10	160	27	Santiago, Chile
24	Billy Walsh	M	6-2	185	23	Chatham, New Jersey
2	Jeff Zaun	D	6-0	165	27	Medford, New Jersey
21	Kerry Zavagnin	D	5-10	170	24	Plymouth, Michigan





One of Major League Soccer's two expansion teams for the 1998 season, the Miami Fusion endured numerous changes throughout the season, from finding a consistent starting eleven, to sending unproductive international players back

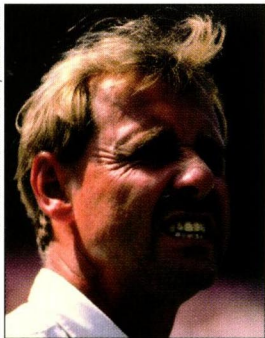
home, to finally making a move in the standings after hiring its second head coach 19 games into the season.

Built around MLS superstar Carlos Valderrama, the Fusion struggled early to find its core performers. But forward Diego Serna has proven his ability to step up and spark the attack, while midfielders Henry Gutierrez, Nelson Vargas, John Maessner and Carlos Parra fill in wherever needed. First-year players Pablo Mastroeni, Jason Boyce and Tyrone Marshall give Valderrama and company options on the attack, as do international forwards Paulinho McLaren (Brazil) and Roger Thomas (Jamaica).

On defense, veterans Cle Kooiman and Wade Webber brought Bandai Rookie of the Year candidate Leo Cullen under their wing in front of goalkeeper Jeff Cassar, who often made several spectacular

saves just to keep the Fusion in the game. If Cassar is out due to injury, keep an eye on Project-40 netminder Matt Napoleon, who set league season-highs in his MLS debut with 10 saves in a half and 12 saves in a game.

Fusion Head Coach Ivo Wortmann was hired on July 23 and helped spark the team to five regulation wins in his first seven games, then saw his squad defeat defending MLS champ D.C. United in back-to-back games to clinch the final Eastern Conference playoff spot.



Head Coach
Ivo Wortmann

Fusion Roster

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Hometown
7	Jason Boyce	F	5-7	152	22	Newport Beach, California
18	Scott Budnick	GK	6-2	195	26	Louisville, Kentucky
1	Jeff Cassar	GK	6-2	190	24	Livonia, Michigan
2	Leo Cullen	D	5-8	160	22	Burnsville, Minnesota
20	Henry Gutierrez	M	5-7	150	30	Miami, Florida
14	Kris Kelderman	D	6-1	185	29	Neenah, Wisconsin
12	Matt Kmosko	D/M	6-1	173	26	Ship Bottom, New Jersey
25	Matt Knowles	D	6-1	190	28	Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
4	Cle Kooiman	D	6-1	190	35	Ontario, California
21	Alen Kozic	D	6-0	170	22	Tampa, Florida
11	John Maessner	M	5-10	162	29	Mercerville, New Jersey
15	Tyrone Marshall	F	6-2	190	23	Lauderhill, Fla.
24	Joey Martinez	D	6-1	150	22	Escondido, California
25	Pablo Mastroeni	M	5-9	150	22	Phoenix, Arizona
9	Paulinho McLaren	F	5-11	170	35	Sao Paulo, Brazil
22	Matt Napoleon	GK	6-1	175	21	Feasterville, Penn.
16	Carlos Parra	M	6-0	165	21	West Haven, Connecticut
17	Diego Serna	M/F	5-10	175	25	Medellin, Colombia
19	Dan Stebbins	F	5-11	170	28	Milwaukee, Wisconsin
23	Roger Thomas	F	5-9	170	25	Miami, Florida
10	Carlos Valderrama	M	5-9	157	37	Barranquilla, Colombia
6	Nelson Vargas	M	5-7	150	24	Miami, Florida
3	Wade Webber	D	6-3	195	31	Auburn, Washington

1998 Regular Season Results

DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE
March 15	D.C. United	0-2	July 2	@ D.C. United	1-3
March 21	Chicago	0-2	July 15	San Jose	3-2 (SO)
March 26	@ Tampa Bay	1-0 (SO)	July 18	@ Los Angeles	3-2 (SO)
April 4	New England	2-1	July 26	@ New England	2-1
April 11	Kansas City	2-1 (SO)	July 29	Columbus	3-2
April 18	@ Columbus	1-5	August 6	@ Tampa Bay	1-3
April 25	@ New England	0-3	August 15	MetroStars	3-1
May 2	Colorado	3-2	August 19	Dallas	2-1
May 9	Columbus	2-0	August 23	@ Kansas City	0-2
May 16	@ San Jose	0-2	August 30	New England	3-2
May 23	@ MetroStars	2-4	Sept. 2	@ Chicago	2-3
May 28	@ Colorado	0-3	Sept. 5	Los Angeles	3-5
May 31	@ Dallas	0-2	Sept. 9	@ Columbus	0-1
June 7	MetroStars	1-2	Sept. 13	D.C. United	4-3
June 13	@ MetroStars	1-3	Sept. 19	@ D.C. United	3-1
June 27	Tampa Bay	2-1 (SO)	Sept. 27	Tampa Bay	1-3



Head Coach Ivo Wortmann has extensive international experience both as a coach and as a player, where he appeared on the Brazilian National Team in the mid-1970's and legendary club side Palmeiras. As a coach, Wortmann led the Saudi Arabian team to the U-17 World Youth Championship in 1989, and has also guided the Saudi Arabian National and Olympic Teams.



The league's 1996 Honda Most Valuable Player, Carlos Valderrama has led Colombia to three consecutive World Cup appearances



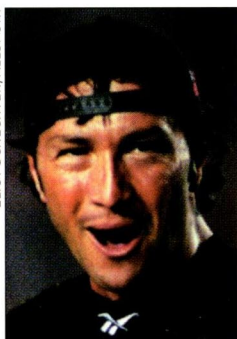
The New England Revolution began the 1998 season by dropping its first three games, then kicked off a five-game win streak with a nationally-televised shootout victory over D.C. United, the team that eliminated the Revs from last season's playoffs, in New England's home opener. From that point, however,

the Revolution won just three of its next 15 games, resulting in the resignation of 1996 All Sport Coach of the Year Thomas Rongen.

Enter Walter Zenga, the charismatic former goalkeeper and Italian soccer icon, who assumed the Revolution coaching reins with six games remaining in the regular season and a playoff berth still within reach. Zenga, known affectionately throughout his Italian career as "L'Uomo Ragno" (translated: "Spiderman") for his goalkeeping style, had a core of talented players at his disposal: forwards Raul Diaz Arce, Joe-Max Moore and Johnny Torres (a Bandai Rookie of the Year candidate); midfielders Jair, Imad Baba and David Nakhid; and defenders Mike Burns, Edwin Gorter, Richard Goulooze, Ivan McKinley and Brian Dunseth.

Forwards Diaz Arce and Moore sparked the offense, but it was too little too late for the Revolution, who joined the San Jose Clash as the first MLS teams to miss out on postseason play in two of the club's first three seasons. Moore, a veteran of the U.S. National Team for both World Cup USA 1994 and World Cup France '98, scored 7 goals and 15 assists.

While many thought that Diaz Arce would struggle without the benefit of Marco Etcheverry and Jaime Moreno to help set him up and ease the offensive burden, the Salvadoran international has thrived in New England, with the Foxboro faithful cheering him on every goal of the way.



Head Coach
Walter Zenga

Revolution Roster

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Hometown
8	Imad Baba	M	5-10	170	24	Humble, Texas
17	Jamar Beasley	F	5-10	160	18	Ft. Wayne, Indiana
4	Mike Burns	D	5-9	165	28	Marlboro, Massachusetts
26	Jeff Causey	GK	6-3	195	26	Gainesville, Virginia
5	Ted Chronopoulos	D	6-0	168	26	Loma Linda, California
11	Damian	F	5-9	155	25	Veracruz, Mexico
21	Raul Diaz Arce	F	5-9	160	28	San Salvador, El Salvador
2	Brian Dunseth	D	6-0	170	21	Upland, California
1	Ian Feuer	GK	6-6	220	27	Los Angeles, California
10	Edwin Gorter	M	5-10	170	35	Amsterdam, Netherlands
7	Richard Goulooze	D	6-0	180	30	Amsterdam, Netherlands
16	Jair	M	5-8	155	23	Boston, Massachusetts
18	Paul Keegan	F	6-0	165	25	Dublin, Ireland
14	Ivan McKinley	M	6-2	180	29	Palm Bay, Florida
3	Janusz Michallik	D	5-11	170	32	New Britain, Connecticut
6	Dahir Mohammed	D	6-2	185	25	Brookfield, Wisconsin
9	Joe-Max Moore	M/F	5-9	150	27	Miami, Florida
24	Manny Motajo	D/M	6-0	170	28	Green Belt, Maryland
12	David Nakhid	M	6-1	180	34	Champs Fleurs, Trinidad
33	Carlos Rocha	F	5-10	165	24	Lisbon, Portugal
20	Johnny Torres	M	5-8	140	22	Dickinson, Texas
19	Jesse Van Saun	F	5-9	160	22	Hillsdale, New Jersey

1998 Regular Season Results

DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE
March 29	@ D.C. United	1-2 (SO)	July 4	@ Tampa Bay	3-2
April 4	@ Miami	1-2	July 11	@ Colorado	1-2
April 11	@ Columbus	2-3	July 15	D.C. United	0-1
April 18	D.C. United	2-1 (SO)	July 18	@ Dallas	3-1
April 25	Miami	3-0	July 26	Miami	1-2
May 3	@ San Jose	3-1	July 29	Colorado	1-3
May 10	Tampa Bay	4-3	August 5	San Jose	3-0
May 13	@ D.C. United	2-3	August 8	@ Columbus	1-6
May 16	Kansas City	1-3	August 14	@ Tampa Bay	2-1 (SO)
May 22	Columbus	0-2	August 22	Los Angeles	1-5
May 31	MetroStars	1-2 (SO)	August 30	@ Miami	2-3
June 7	@ Los Angeles	1-5	Sept. 2	@ MetroStars	2-0
June 14	Chicago	1-3	Sept. 12	Columbus	2-0
June 24	@ MetroStars	3-5	Sept. 19	Tampa Bay	3-0
June 27	Dallas	3-4 (SO)	Sept. 23	@ Chicago	2-3
July 1	@ Kansas City	0-1	Sept. 26	MetroStars	0-1 (SO)

MAGIC MOMENT

The hiring of Walter Zenga on August 25 infused an energy and confidence into the Revolution side that few had seen since during the latter part of the 1997 season, when the Italian international recovered from knee surgery to help New England win three of its four games and snare the final playoff spot. This season, the Revolution dropped its first game under Zenga, but then goalkeeper Ian Feuer, at 6-foot-6 the tallest netminder in MLS, and the New England defense shutout its next three opponents for a combined 280 consecutive minutes, as the Revolution won three straight while making a valiant run at the 1998 postseason.



Joe-Max Moore teams with Raul Diaz Arce to give New England one of the most potent scoring combinations in MLS

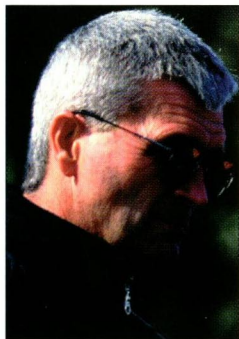


Despite suffering through a disappointing season that saw the winningest home team during MLS' first two years (the Mutiny were 24-8 at home in 1996 and 1997) win just six of its 16 home games in their final year at storied Houlihan's (née Tampa Stadium), the Tampa Bay Mutiny entered the final month of the 1998 MLS campaign with a shot at capturing the final playoff spot in the East.

Although the team failed to make the playoffs for the first time in its three years, Head Coach Tim Hankinson finished with a respectable 9-8 record after the team started out 3-12 under John Kowalski. Flamboyant goalkeeper Thomas Ravelli, a veteran of two World Cups for Sweden in 1990 and 1994 and the world's all-time leader in international appearances (147), teamed with U.S. World Cup players Frankie Hejduk and Roy Wegerle and 1996 Bandai Rookie of the Year Steve Ralston to lead the Mutiny.

Midseason addition Mauricio Ramos, from Bolivia, quickly established himself as one of the league's elite playmakers.

Several young players made names for themselves throughout the Mutiny's ordeal, as central defender Chris "The Undertaker" Houser is a 1998 Bandai Rookie of the Year award candidate and forward Alan Prampin was named the team's Honda Most Valuable Player and Budweiser Scoring Champion. Guillermo Jara, Evans Wise, Musa Shannon, Project-40 defender Chad McCarty and young netminder Doug Petras served notice that they will be forces in the future of MLS.



Head Coach
Tim Hankinson

Ramos and Hankinson combined to help the Mutiny improve considerably over the last half of the season.

Mutiny Roster

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Hometown
9	Paul Dougherty	M/F	5-3	130	31	Escondido, California
3	Jan Eriksson	D	6-1	170	31	Stockholm, Sweden
4	Sam George	M	5-11	175	28	Santa Margarita, California
13	Frankie Hejduk	M/D	5-8	155	24	Cardiff, California
20	Chris Houser	D	6-3	195	25	Sioux Falls, South Dakota
18	Guillermo Jara	F	5-8	145	24	Sacramento, California
6	Dominic Kinnear	M	5-11	155	31	Fremont, California
25	Brian Loftin	F	5-10	172	26	Kansas City, Kansas
23	Chad McCarty	D	5-11	175	20	Clovis, California
2	R.T. Moore	D	6-0	175	22	Rockford, Illinois
22	Doug Petras	GK	6-3	205	26	Pittsburgh, Penn.
8	Alan Prampin	F	5-7	165	26	Dallas, Texas
21	Eric Quill	F	6-0	165	20	Missouri City, Texas
14	Steve Ralston	M	5-9	150	24	St. Louis, Missouri
19	Mauricio Ramos	M/F	5-9	160	29	Santa Cruz, Bolivia
1	Thomas Ravelli	GK	6-2	185	39	Vaxjo, Sweden
10	Jorge Salcedo	M	6-1	175	26	Cerritos, California
7	Musa Shannon	M/F	5-11	170	23	Monrovia, Liberia
77	Roy Wegerle	F	5-11	170	34	Tampa, Florida
11	Evans Wise	M	6-0	155	24	Port of Spain, Trinidad
5	Frank Yallop	D	5-10	160	34	Vancouver, Canada
16	Paul Young	F	5-9	165	30	Kingston, Jamaica

1998 Regular Season Results

DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE
March 21	Columbus	1-2	June 27	@ Miami	1-2 (SO)
March 26	Miami	0-1 (SO)	July 4	New England	2-3
April 4	@ Chicago	0-2	July 11	@ MetroStars	2-1
April 11	Dallas	3-1	July 15	Los Angeles	1-3
April 19	@ Colorado	0-3	July 18	@ San Jose	1-0
April 25	@ Los Angeles	1-5	July 25	Colorado	2-3
April 30	Columbus	0-1	July 29	@ D.C. United	2-3 (SO)
May 3	MetroStars	0-1	August 6	Miami	3-1
May 10	@ New England	3-4	August 14	New England	1-2 (SO)
May 13	Kansas City	2-1	August 22	@ Columbus	1-3
May 16	Chicago	1-2	August 29	D.C. United	3-2 (SO)
May 23	@ D.C. United	2-3	Sept. 3	San Jose	2-1
May 30	D.C. United	1-2 (SO)	Sept. 13	MetroStars	2-1
June 3	@ MetroStars	2-1	Sept. 19	@ New England	0-3
June 6	@ Kansas City	0-1	Sept. 24	@ Columbus	4-3
June 21	@ Dallas	1-0	Sept. 27	@ Miami	3-1



Bolivian midfielder Mauricio Ramos came to MLS shortly before Tim Hankinson, formerly Major League Soccer's director of player development and U.S. Pro-40 coach, became head coach of the Mutiny. Ramos, a veteran of Bolivia's national team where he plays alongside D.C. United's Marco Etcheverry and Jaime Moreno, is a dazzling playmaker who is also very adept at creating his own shot. Within a week of arriving in the United States, Ramos reeled off not one but two potential MasterCard Goal of the Year candidates, unleashing high-velocity, twisting shots that found the back of the net.



Bolivian midfielder Mauricio Ramos used his creative playmaking skills to ignite the Mutiny offense in 1998

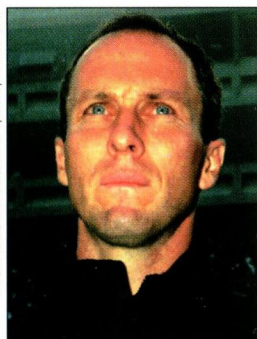


Fire Head Coach Bob Bradley knows precisely what it takes to build a championship team, as he was Bruce Arena's right-hand man during D.C. United's runs to capture the Alan I. Rothenberg trophy in both 1996 and 1997. Bradley built a Chicago MLS team so powerful that it belied its expansion status, winning 20 games in its inaugural season.

Via the expansion draft and free agency, the Fire has taken little-known role players and backup performers from the league's first two seasons, such as Zach Thornton, Jesse Marsch and Ante Razov, joined them with first-year MLS players Richie Kotschau, C.J. Brown and Josh Wolff, and placed this group in the spotlight.

The "Eastern Bloc" of Polish allocations include Honda MVP candidate Peter Nowak and his countrymen, Roman Kosecki and Jerzy Podbrozny, and Czech defender Lubos Kubik, a candidate for BIC Defender of the Year. They give the team some international flair, bolstered further by the shrewd acquisition of flamboyant goalkeeper Jorge Campos. Campos' former Los Angeles teammate Chris Armas and international soccer scene veterans Frank Klopas and Francis Okaroh complete the backbone of Bradley's roster.

The team formed an almost familial bond on the field, as Chicago handed front-running Los Angeles both of its early-season losses, (the only two Galaxy setbacks in L.A.'s first 17 games), and distanced itself from the rest of the Western Conference with stellar home play in front of the hordes of Fire faithful at Soldier Field. Combining youth, leadership, strong chemistry and exceptional skill, the Chicago Fire could be a force to be reckoned with in the Western Conference in years ahead.



Head Coach
Bob Bradley

Fire Roster

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Hometown
14	Chris Armas	M	5-7	150	26	Brentwood, New York
2	C.J. Brown	D	6-0	185	23	Hayward, California
1	Jorge Campos	GK/F	5-6	150	31	Acapulco, Mexico
8	Diego Gutierrez	M	5-7	155	25	Kansas City, Missouri
25	Zak Ibsen	D	5-11	165	26	Santa Clara, California
19	Josh Keller	M	5-10	155	23	Laguna Niguel, California
41	Frank Klopas	M/F	5-9	155	22	Chicago, Illinois
11	Roman Kosecki	M/F	5-8	165	32	Piaseczno, Poland
3	Rich Kotschau	D	5-10	170	22	Levittown, New York
5	Lubos Kubik	D	6-3	195	34	Prague, Czechoslovakia
22	Tony Kuhn	F	6-2	185	22	Memphis, Tennessee
7	Manny Lagos	M	6-0	165	27	St. Paul, Minnesota
17	Andrew Lewis	D	6-1	175	24	New Providence
15	Jesse Marsch	M	5-11	170	24	Racine, Wisconsin
10	Peter Nowak	M	5-7	145	34	Pabianice, Poland
20	Francis Okaroh	D	6-0	170	35	Enugu, Nigeria
9	Jerzy Podbrozny	F	5-10	170	31	Przemysl, Poland
12	Ante Razov	F	6-1	175	24	Whittier, California
6	Tom Soehn	D	5-10	175	32	Frisco, Texas
18	Zach Thornton	GK	6-3	210	24	Edgewood, Maryland
16	Josh Wolff	F	5-8	160	21	Stone Mountain, Georgia

1998 Regular Season Results

DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE
March 21	@ Miami	2-0	July 1	Dallas	4-1
April 4	Tampa Bay	2-0	July 4	@ Dallas	1-0
April 8	@ Kansas City	0-1	July 9	@ Columbus	0-3
April 11	@ San Jose*	0-1	July 18	@ D.C. United	1-4
April 17	MetroStars	0-1	July 25	@ MetroStars	2-3
April 25	@ Colorado	4-5 (SO)	July 29	@ San Jose	0-3
May 2	D.C. United	1-3	August 8	Los Angeles	1-2
May 16	@ Tampa Bay	2-1	August 15	San Jose	2-1
May 20	Los Angeles	3-1	August 21	@ Colorado	2-0
May 23	Colorado	5-0	August 29	@ Kansas City	3-2 (SO)
May 30	@ Los Angeles	2-1 (SO)	Sept. 2	Miami	3-2
June 6	Columbus	2-0	Sept. 10	@ Dallas	2-3
June 11	San Jose	5-2	Sept. 13	Colorado	3-1
June 14	@ New England	3-1	Sept. 17	Kansas City	1-0
June 17	Dallas	1-0	Sept. 23	New England	3-2
June 24	Kansas City	4-1	Sept. 27	at Los Angeles	0-1



Led by midfield engine Peter Nowak and the Eastern Bloc, the Fire served notice to the league that they would be a force to contend with by reeling off 11 consecutive wins in May, June and July, a streak which included two wins against West rival Los Angeles, the team which calls the Rose Bowl, the site of MLS Cup '98, its home field.



Fire captain Peter Nowak is considered a top candidate for the league's Honda Most Valuable Player award



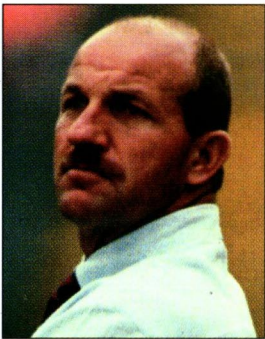
Colorado often resembled a schizophrenic team during the 1998 season, at times exhibiting the never-say-die spirit that took the squad from worst-to-first in the Western Conference and inspired the Cinderella-

story run to MLS Cup '97. However, during other stretches of the season, the Rapids looked much like the team that finished with a league-worst 11-21 mark in 1996.

Head Coach Glenn Myernick's team stumbled out of the gates, a surprise considering that Marcelo Balboa, Paul Bravo, Peter Vermes and Chris Henderson each spent time at the U.S. National Team training camp in the offseason. Only Balboa was selected to go to France, and the remaining trio combined with Rapids' internationals Wolde Harris (who broke the team-record of 11 goals scored in a season by finding the back of the net 13 times), Adrian Paz and Waldir to prove that the run to MLS Cup '97 was no fluke.

Behind the sometimes brilliant goalkeeping of Marcus Hahnemann and the emergence of Ross Paule, Chris Martinez and

Joey DiGiamarino, Colorado won eight of 10 games entering the 1998 All-Star break. However, the Rapids dropped five straight in early August, prompting the addition of Canadian defender/midfielder Jason Bent to the starting lineup and the acquisition of former D.C. United defender David Vaudreuil in a trade with Miami. Colorado finally clinched the third seed in the Western Conference by winning 5 of its last 6 games, demonstrating the talent necessary to make another playoff surge.



Head Coach
Glenn Myernick

BRIAN BAHR/ALLSPORT

1998 Regular Season Results

DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE
March 21	@ Dallas	1-2 (SO)	July 4	MetroStars	1-0
March 28	@ San Jose	3-2 (SO)	July 11	New England	2-1
April 4	Los Angeles	0-1	July 19	@ Kansas City	1-4
April 11	@ D.C. United	3-4	July 25	@ Tampa Bay	3-2
April 19	Tampa Bay	3-0	July 29	@ New England	3-1
April 25	Chicago	5-4 (SO)	August 5	Los Angeles	1-6
May 2	@ Miami	2-3	August 8	@ Kansas City	1-3
May 6	@ Los Angeles	4-7	August 15	Dallas	0-1
May 9	San Jose	2-3	August 18	@ MetroStars	1-4
May 16	@ Dallas	1-2	August 21	Chicago	0-2
May 23	@ Chicago	0-5	August 29	@ San Jose	3-1
May 28	Miami	3-0	Sept. 2	Kansas City	3-2
May 31	Kansas City	2-1	Sept. 6	@ Chicago	1-3
June 6	San Jose	2-0	Sept. 16	@ Columbus	4-2
June 18	@ Los Angeles	1-2	Sept. 19	Columbus	2-1
June 25	D.C. United	3-1	Sept. 26	Dallas	3-1



Colorado midfielder/forward Paul Bravo and forward Wolde Harris, who has emerged as the team's "supersub" off the bench, led the Rapids to consecutive wins in must-win games over Kansas City and San Jose in mid-September to solidify Colorado's playoff position. Following a road loss against playoff opponent Chicago, the Rapids went on to sweep vaunted Columbus in a home-and-home series to enter the playoffs as a hot team.



Paul Bravo led Colorado in scoring with 11 goals and eight assists for 30 points in 1998

ALAN YAMAMOTO/MLS/ALLSPORT

Rapids Roster

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Hometown
17	Marcelo Balboa	D	6-1	175	31	Cerritos, California
5	Jason Bent	D/M	5-9	165	21	Bramton, Ontario
9	Paul Bravo	M	6-0	175	30	San Jose, California
22	Joey DiGiamarino	D	5-10	160	21	Corona, California
18	Paul Grafer	GK	6-3	184	24	Pt. Washington, New York
1	Marcus Hahnemann	GK	6-3	218	26	Bellevue, Washington
13	Wolde Harris	F	5-10	190	24	Kingston, Jamaica
19	Chris Henderson	M	5-10	150	27	Everett, Washington
3	Sean Henderson	M	6-0	160	26	Everett, Washington
15	Tahj Jakins	D	6-2	182	22	Huntington Beach, CA
14	Chris Martinez	D	6-2	190	27	Denver, Colorado
21	Andre Nunley	D	6-0	171	24	Denver, Colorado
20	Ross Paule	M	5-10	160	22	Cordova, Tennessee
11	Adrian Paz	F	5-10	168	30	Montevideo, Uruguay
4	Steve Trittschuh	D	6-0	170	33	Granite City, Illinois
7	David Vaudreuil	D/M	5-7	158	31	Canton, Connecticut
6	Peter Vermes	D/M	6-1	175	32	Delran, New Jersey
10	Waldir	F	5-9	155	25	Lima, Peru
12	Marquis White	M/F	5-7	145	29	Moraga, California



Entering the 1998 season, many experts predicted that Dallas would challenge for the Western Conference title in 1998 because: A) Head Coach David Dir's roster was blessed with talent at every position, and: B) not one player on the Burn roster would miss six-to-eight weeks of the MLS

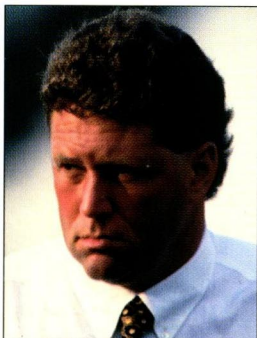
season due to World Cup France '98 commitments. On paper, Dallas looked poised and ready to join MLS' elite, as the team won six of its first eight games, picking up where it left off after defeating D.C. United in the 1997 U.S. Open Cup championship game.

Three members of the Burn's backbone – goalkeeper Mark Dodd, midfielder Jason Kreis and forward Dante Washington – missed numerous games due to injury, while the team's spiritual leader – captain Leonel Alvarez – struggled to find the form that made him a member of the 1996 AT&T Best 11. Other solid contributors, such as Swiss international Alain Sutter, Gerell Elliott, Mark Santel, Jorge Rodriguez and Brian Haynes, also missed part of the season while injured.

However, three newcomers – forward Mickey Trotman, late-season acquisition Oscar Pareja and U.S. World Cup standout Chad

Deering – provided a spark. Dallas' defense cut its goals allowed average in half after acquiring Deering and moving the versatile player to sweeper.

Dallas eliminated Kansas City from the 1998 playoffs with a hard-fought road win at Arrowhead in late September, enabling the Burn to clinch the lone remaining playoff spot. In that game, Dallas demonstrated its experience and talent, and proved that they could be a force in the West when Dir has everyone reading from the same page.



Head Coach
David Dir

Burn Roster

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Hometown
14	Leonel Alvarez	M	5-10	160	33	Medellin, Colombia
6	Brian Bates	D	6-1	190	25	Woodbridge, Virginia
2	Eric Dade	D	6-1	190	28	Buffalo, New York
15	Chad Deering	M	6-1	165	28	Plano, Texas Indiana
1	Mark Dodd	GK	6-2	180	33	Dallas, Texas Duke
41	Ted Eck	M	6-1	185	32	Springfield, Illinois
8	Gerell Elliott	F	5-11	150	28	Fresno, California
18	Richard Farrer	M/D	6-0	175	27	Albuquerque, New Mexico
5	Jorge Flores	M	5-8	155	21	Los Angeles, California
13	Brian Haynes	M	6-0	170	36	Kansas City, Kansas
22	Matt Jordan	GK	6-2	185	22	Aurora, Colorado
9	Jason Kreis	M	5-10	155	25	Durham, North Carolina
30	Garth Lagerwey	GK	6-0	195	25	Quincy, Illinois
11	Oscar Pareja	M	5-8	150	30	Medellin, Colombia
12	Brandon Pollard	D	5-10	165	25	Richmond, Virginia
17	Jorge Rodriguez	D/M	5-9	155	27	La Union, El Salvador
7	Mark Santel	D/M	5-10	165	30	St. Louis, Missouri
25	Juan Sastoque	F	6-2	185	21	El Cajon, California
16	Temoc Suarez	M	5-7	155	23	Mt. Pleasant, SC
66	Alain Sutter	M	5-9	165	30	Bern, Switzerland
20	Mickey Trotman	F	5-9	175	23	Arima, Trinidad
10	Dante Washington	F	5-11	190	27	Columbia, Maryland

1998 Regular Season Results

DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE
March 21	Colorado	2-1 (SO)	July 1	@ Chicago	1-4
March 29	Columbus	2-1	July 4	Chicago	0-1
April 5	@ San Jose	3-2 (SO)	July 11	@ Kansas City	0-2
April 11	@ Tampa Bay	1-3	July 18	New England	1-3
April 18	San Jose	1-2	July 25	@ Columbus	2-1
April 25	Kansas City	3-1	July 29	Los Angeles	3-0
May 6	@ MetroStars	1-0	August 7	D.C. United	0-1
May 16	Colorado	2-1	August 15	@ Colorado	1-0
May 20	Kansas City	1-2 (SO)	August 19	@ Miami	1-2
May 23	@ Los Angeles	1-4	August 22	@ San Jose	1-2 (SO)
May 31	Miami	2-0	August 29	MetroStars	2-0
June 4	Los Angeles	1-8	Sept. 2	@ Los Angeles	0-3
June 7	@ D.C. United	5-4 (SO)	Sept. 10	Chicago	3-2
June 17	@ Chicago	0-1	Sept. 13	San Jose	1-3
June 21	Tampa Bay	0-1	Sept. 20	@ Kansas City	1-0
June 27	@ New England	4-3 (SO)	Sept. 26	@ Colorado	1-3



On Sept. 10, 1998, at the Cotton Bowl, Dallas goalkeeper Mark Dodd tracked down a loose ball in his own corner with 12 seconds remaining in a 2-2 game against Chicago. Dodd played the ball to Leonel Alvarez, who sent a 50-yard pass to Oscar Pareja. With five seconds on the clock, Pareja sent a diagonal ball to Jorge Rodriguez who beat Fire goalkeeper Zach Thonton to the ball and launched the finest buzzer-beater in MLS history, scoring with just one second remaining. The win vaulted Dallas past Kansas City in the West standings and set the tone for the playoff run.



Dallas native Mark Dodd won the 1988 NCAA soccer championship while at Duke University



The 1997 Western Conference regular-season champion Kansas City Wizards entered this season intent on erasing the playoff sweep suffered against Colorado last year and focusing on the ability and chemistry that guided the team to an MLS-record 21 wins last year. Head Coach Ron

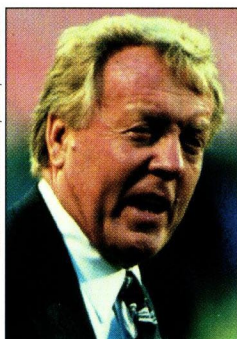
Newman augmented his core of Preki, last year's Honda Most Valuable Player, and Mark Chung, a member of the AT&T Best 11, with internationals Paul Rideout (England) and Refik Sabanadzovic (Yugoslavia).

Joining the above quartet on the Wizards' roster for 1998 were veterans Mo Johnston, Digital Takawira and Paul Wright, forwards with speed to burn who have noses for the goal, goalkeeper Mike Ammann, who set a league record for wins in a season in 1997, and defenders Uche Okafor, Sean Bowers and Matt McKeon. Youngsters Scott Vermillion, Chris Klein and Ryan Tinsley stepped up to prove their worth in MLS.

However, this year's Kansas City edition did not find the magic of last year, winning back-to-back games on just three occasions all season. Kansas City's success was nowhere to be found on the road,

where the team won just two of its 16 games, earning a league-record low of four points. In July and August, the Wizards dropped six of eight games, blowing a chance to distance themselves from the Western Conference pack when they couldn't hold on to 1-0 leads in three consecutive games, including two at home.

As the playoffs drew near, the Wizards dropped seven of 10 games to Colorado, Dallas and other Western Conference rivals that they needed to defeat to advance to the playoffs in pursuit of MLS Cup '98.



**Head Coach
Ron Newman**

Wizards Roster

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Hometown
1	Mike Ammann	GK	6-3	205	27	Orange, California
6	Sean Bowers	D	6-2	185	30	San Diego, California
13	Mark Chung	M	5-7	155	28	Pembroke Pines, Florida
16	Jake Dancy	D	5-10	165	20	Diamond Bar, Calif.
23	Nino Da Silva	M	5-7	150	19	Hoffman Estates, Illinois
14	John DeBrito	D	5-10	155	25	Waterbury, Connecticut
5	Goran Hunjak	M	5-9	165	32	Kansas City, Kansas
22	Brian Johnson	M	5-7	150	24	Livermore, California
10	Mo Johnston	M/F	5-9	160	35	Glasgow, Scotland
17	Chris Klein	M	6-1	180	22	St. Louis, Missouri
24	Pete Marino	F	5-7	145	25	Pompano Beach, Florida
2	Matt McKeon	D	6-2	190	24	St. Louis, Missouri
20	Uche Okafor	D	6-3	190	31	Owerri, Nigeria
11	Preki	M	5-9	165	35	Belgrade, Yugoslavia
15	Paul Rideout	F	5-11	168	34	Bournemouth, England
25	Refik Sabanadzovic	D/M	5-11	165	33	Belgrade, Yugoslavia
18	Chris Snitko	GK	6-3	195	25	Anaheim, California
12	Vitalis Takawira	F	5-9	145	26	Harare, Zimbabwe
9	Ryan Tinsley	M	5-9	155	27	Lake Forest, California
4	Scott Uderitz	D	5-10	175	28	Edmonds, Washington
19	Scott Vermillion	D	5-11	175	21	Olathe, Kansas
3	Paul Wright	M/F	5-9	160	29	Los Angeles, California

1998 Regular Season Results

DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE
March 21	@ D.C. United	2-3	July 4	@ Los Angeles	0-2
April 4	MetroStars	2-0	July 11	Dallas	2-0
April 8	Chicago	1-0	July 19	Colorado	4-1
April 11	@ Miami	1-2 (SO)	July 25	@ San Jose	1-2 (SO)
April 18	Los Angeles	1-2	July 29	@ MetroStars	2-3 (SO)
April 25	@ Dallas	1-3	August 8	Colorado	3-1
April 29	Los Angeles	0-2	August 13	@ Los Angeles	0-3
May 13	@ Tampa Bay	1-2	August 16	@ Columbus	3-5
May 16	@ New England	3-1	August 23	Miami	2-0
May 20	@ Dallas	2-1 (SO)	August 26	D.C. United	1-2
May 23	San Jose	0-1	August 29	Chicago	2-3 (SO)
May 27	Columbus	2-1 (SO)	Sept. 2	@ Colorado	2-3
May 31	@ Colorado	1-2	Sept. 5	San Jose	5-1
June 6	Tampa Bay	1-0	Sept. 17	@ Chicago	0-1
June 24	@ Chicago	1-4	Sept. 20	Dallas	0-1
July 1	New England	1-0	Sept. 27	@ San Jose	0-2



As amazing as it sounds, the Kansas City Wizards played their best soccer of 1998 during May and June without star midfielder Preki, winner of the 1997 Honda MVP award honoring the league's top player. During that period, the Wizards won five of its eight games, often due to the fine performances of goalkeeper Mike Ammann, who tallied two clean sheets and allowed more than one goal per game just twice in that span.



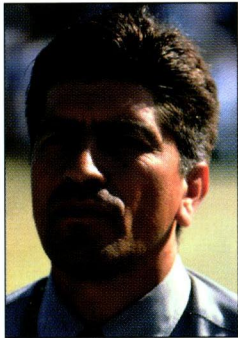
Preki tied an MLS record with eight points when he scored three goals and two assists in a 5-1 win over San Jose on Sept. 5



Los Angeles kicked off the season with a 4-3 shootout win at home against San Jose, then ran off eight consecutive regulation wins as Head Coach Octavio Zambrano's squad dominated the Western Conference from the outset. No MLS team can boast as many offensive weapons as the Galaxy, which has Cobi Jones, Welton, Mauricio

Cienfuegos and Carlos Hermosillo as its top point-producers. With six games remaining on its regular-season schedule, the Galaxy broke the league record for goals in a season, scoring the team's 71st goal (D.C. United scored 70 goals in 1997), and with four games remaining, Los Angeles earned its 61st standings point to break Tampa Bay's league mark of 58 points, set during the 1996 season. The Galaxy also set a league record for most road wins in a season, as the team went 13-3 away from the Rose Bowl. With a 1-0 win over Chicago in the last regular season game, Zambrano's squad also set the record for wins in a season by a team (24) and finished with three players – Jones, Welton and Cienfuegos – in the top five of the Budweiser Scoring Race.

In addition to the Galaxy's marquee names, however, the strength of the team can be found in the blend of experienced professionals – captain Robin Fraser, Dan Calichman, Danny Peña, Paul Caligiuri and Martin Machon – and the slew of young players that have excelled in their roles – Kevin Hartman, Ezra Hendrickson, Clint Mathis, Joe Franchino and Daniel Hernandez. Zambrano has a roster deeper than any in Major League Soccer, and will have ample opportunity to show off his bench talent in the quest for MLS Cup '98.



Head Coach
Octavio Zambrano

Galaxy Roster

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Hometown
8	Jose Botello	M	6-0	165	22	Los Angeles, California
6	Dan Calichman	D	6-0	180	30	Huntington Station, NY
20	Paul Caligiuri	D	5-10	175	34	Walnut, California
10	Mauricio Cienfuegos	M	5-6	143	30	San Salvador, El Salvador
16	Joe Franchino	D	5-7	140	22	Alta Loma, California
4	Robin Fraser	D	6-1	175	31	Denver, Colorado
22	Kevin Hartman	GK	6-1	174	24	Palos Verdes, California
17	Ezra Hendrickson	D/M	6-3	185	26	Kokomo, Indiana
27	Carlos Hermosillo	F	6-2	187	34	Veracruz, Mexico
23	Daniel Hernandez	M	5-10	165	22	Tyler, Texas
15	Steve Jolley	M	6-1	190	22	Virginia Beach, VA
13	Cobi Jones	M	5-7	145	28	Westlake Village, California
18	Lawrence Lozzano	F	6-1	185	28	Cerritos, California
5	Martin Machon	M	5-10	160	25	Guatemala City, Guatemala
14	Clint Mathis	M	5-10	170	21	Conyers, Georgia
2	Danny Peña	M	6-0	165	30	Culver City, California
1	Matt Reis	GK	6-1	196	23	Mission Viejo, California
7	Wellington Sanchez	M	5-11	185	23	Ambato, Ecuador
3	Greg Vanney	D	5-11	169	24	Tempe, Arizona
9	Jose Vasquez	M/F	6-0	175	29	Santa Ana, California
19	Welton	M/F	5-9	145	23	Cabuci, Brazil

1998 Regular Season Results

DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE
March 21	San Jose	4-3 (SO)	July 4	Kansas City	2-0
March 28	MetroStars	3-2	July 10	@ D.C. United	0-3
April 4	@ Colorado	1-0	July 15	@ Tampa Bay	3-1
April 11	@ MetroStars	3-2	July 18	Miami	2-3 (SO)
April 18	@ Kansas City	2-1	July 25	D.C. United	0-1
April 25	Tampa Bay	5-1	July 29	@ Dallas	0-3
April 29	@ Kansas City	2-0	August 5	@ Colorado	6-1
May 6	Colorado	7-4	August 8	@ Chicago	2-1
May 17	@ Columbus	4-2	August 13	Kansas City	3-0
May 20	@ Chicago	1-3	August 22	@ New England	5-1
May 23	Dallas	4-1	August 29	Columbus	0-3
May 30	Chicago	1-2 (SO)	Sept. 2	Dallas	3-0
June 4	@ Dallas	8-1	Sept. 5	@ Miami	5-3
June 7	New England	5-1	Sept. 16	@ San Jose	1-0 (SO)
June 18	Colorado	2-1	Sept. 20	San Jose	0-1
June 27	@ San Jose	2-1	Sept. 27	Chicago	1-0

MAGIC MOMENT

Dredlocked wonder Cobi Jones provided several magic moments for the Galaxy this season, capturing the Fujinmi Player of the Week Award an unprecedented five times and becoming the all-time MLS leader in career hat tricks, with four (three of them during the '98 season). A strong candidate for Major League Soccer's 1998 Honda Most Valuable Player award, Jones has been a one-man wrecking crew for the Galaxy this season.



Cobi Jones played in every game for the United States at World Cup France '98 and World Cup USA '94

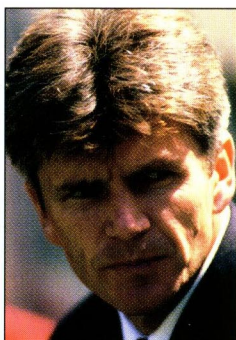


Forgive San Jose Clash Head Coach Brian Quinn if he feels as though he was watching a live replay of the 1997 season as the Clash forged ahead through the 1998 campaign. Many similarities existed between last year's San Jose season and this, the '98 version. Star forward Eric Wynalda missed numerous games in each season due to injury, and also this year due to World Cup France '98. San Jose dropped nearly two of

every three games during the first half of the season. And goals were flying fast and furious past the Clash defense, more so than into the opponents' nets.

Joining Wynalda and Ronald Cerritos on the Clash attack were Victor Mella, who enjoyed a stint with the team in 1996, and midfielders Braeden Cloutier and Shawn Medved, both professional veterans. The San Jose defense, led by captain John Doyle, was augmented with the midseason addition of Scotland native Richard Gough, who was a 1997 AT&T Best 11 member with the Kansas City Wizards, but missed several Clash games due to injury.

With the stretch run for the playoffs looming, the Clash still had an outside chance at postseason play, needing wins against Western Conference opponents on the road and help from other teams. However, the Clash's finest performances came after it was eliminated from the playoffs in late September, as Quinn's team shut down the high-scoring Los Angeles Galaxy attack twice in five days in a home-and-home series where goalkeeper David Kramer earned two clean sheets. Even with the home shutout, the Clash dropped a 1-0 shootout decision due to their inability to find the back of the net.



Head Coach
Brian Quinn

Clash Roster

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Hometown
8	Jeff Baicher	F	5-10	160	29	Sunnyvale, California
24	Wade Barrett	M	5-8	150	22	Virginia Beach, Virginia
20	Ronald Cerritos	M/F	5-9	155	23	San Salvador, El Salvador
7	Braeden Cloutier	M	5-11	165	23	Wichita, Kansas
12	Troy Dayak	D	5-11	175	27	Livermore, California
3	John Doyle	D	6-3	185	32	Fremont, California
5	Oscar Draguicevich	D	6-1	180	29	Dallas, Texas
23	Vicente Figueroa	M	5-6	140	20	San Jose, California
4	Richard Gough	D	6-3	185	36	Troon, Scotland
9	Harut Karapetyan	F	5-9	165	26	Van Nuys, California
1	Andy Kirk	GK	6-0	177	20	Milwaukee, Wisconsin
18	David Kramer	GK	6-3	185	26	Cupertino, California
21	Eddie Lewis	M	5-10	180	24	Cerritos, California
17	Tim Martin	D	5-11	165	31	San Jose, California
13	Shawn Medved	M	5-11	172	31	Issaquah, Washington
15	Victor Mella	M	5-9	152	23	Santiago, Chile
14	Esmundo Rodriguez	M	5-8	140	21	Dallas, Texas
19	Brian Sebapole	F	5-8	150	23	Johannesburg, S. Africa
10	Francisco Uribe	F	5-11	170	32	Cuernavaca, Mexico
6	Martin Vasquez	M	6-0	178	34	West Covina, California
16	Tim Weaver	D	5-11	170	23	Livermore, California
11	Eric Wynalda	F	6-1	172	29	Westlake Village, CA

1998 Regular Season Results

DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE	DATE	OPPONENT	SCORE
March 21	@ Los Angeles	3-4 (SO)	July 3	Columbus	2-1 (SO)
March 28	Colorado	2-3 (SO)	July 15	@ Miami	2-3 (SO)
April 5	Dallas	2-3 (SO)	July 18	Tampa Bay	0-1
April 11	Chicago	1-0	July 25	Kansas City	2-1 (SO)
April 18	@ Dallas	2-1	July 29	Chicago	3-0
April 25	@ MetroStars	3-4	August 5	@ New England	0-3
April 29	@ D.C. United	1-3	August 9	MetroStars	5-1
May 3	New England	1-3	August 15	@ Chicago	1-2
May 9	@ Colorado	3-2	August 22	Dallas	2-1 (SO)
May 16	Miami	2-0	August 29	Colorado	1-3
May 23	@ Kansas City	1-0	Sept. 3	@ Tampa Bay	1-2
May 30	@ Columbus	1-4	Sept. 5	@ Kansas City	1-5
June 3	D.C. United	0-4	Sept. 13	@ Dallas	3-1
June 6	@ Colorado	0-2	Sept. 16	Los Angeles	0-1 (SO)
June 11	@ Chicago	2-5	Sept. 20	@ Los Angeles	1-0
June 27	Los Angeles	1-2	Sept. 27	Kansas City	2-0



The San Jose Clash saw its investor-ownership rights transferred from the league investor group to an outside entity on July 30, 1998. The man leading the group that acquired the Clash operating rights is MLS founder Alan I. Rothenberg, the past president of U.S. Soccer and the man who brought the 1994 World Cup to the United States. Rothenberg is joined by Dentsu, Inc., and a group of local Bay Area investors.



Ronald Cerritos scored in double figures in goals and assists for the second consecutive season

La Fantasía del Pase



por Will Kuhns

El As del Fútbol por Tres Temporadas, Marco Etcheverry Orquestea el Ataque Multifacético de D.C. United

Un día a finales de julio, consumido por un calor abrazador y una humedad agobiante, Marco Etcheverry llegó a las facilidades de entrenamiento de D. C. United en Herndon, Virginia, vestido en camiseta de entrenamiento y una gorra negra con una relumbrante insignia de Bolivia. Etcheverry se mantuvo sin inmutarse ante las miradas extrañas de sus compañeros durante el entrenamiento.

"Hace mucho frio" dijo en ingles preciso, mientras se concentraba intensamente en su corto y pasajero calentamiento.

Los tormentadores de Etcheverry con una mueca y un sacudir de cabeza resumieron su propio entrenamiento porque sabían que esa iba a ser la única explicación que recibirían por este extraño atuendo. Los jugadores del equipo United sorprendieron a su Capitán en el momento de transición de sus dos personalidades - una para el terreno de juego y la otra para todo lo demás.

"El se pone las cosas mas estrañas" dijo el defensor de United, Brian Kamler. "Para ser honesto, es algo misterioso para nosotros, especialmente para los jugadores de lengua inglesa porque por la mayor parte del tiempo se mantiene al margen. Pero al mismo tiempo algunas veces te sorprende con las cosas que dice en inglés".

Después de establecerse como uno de los jugadores de primer rango en Major League Soccer, al mismo tiempo que llevaba a United a dos campeonatos consecutivos, el genio medio-campista de 28 años de edad ha logrado ampliar su impacto sobre su equipo esta temporada.

Se ha mantenido dentro de los líderes en goles asistidos de la liga durante toda la temporada anotando, al mismo tiempo,

más goles que en las temporadas anteriores y su liderazgo, aunque impartido primordialmente con su ejemplo, se hace sentir aún más.

"Siempre he tenido las mismas ideas sobre el fútbol", dijo Etcheverry. "Pienso en el fútbol 24 horas al día y trato de expresarlo en lo que siento, en lo que pienso, en todo, cuando estamos en el campo de juego".

Y cuando está jugando, ya sea durante el entrenamiento o durante los partidos "no existe nada más", dijo, explicando su alto nivel de seriedad en el campo de juego. Pero Marco Etcheverry se trata de algo mas.

Segundo Pezo, un contable de D.C. United, peruano de nacimiento, se puso nervioso cuando conoció a Etcheverry. Pezo solamente había visto lo que todo el mundo ve en Etcheverry: un talento increíble con un rostro intenso cuando juega que le ganó el apodo de "El Diablo". Mas sin embargo, tan pronto le dió la mano a Etcheverry, Pezo comenzó a ver a otro hombre.

"Hay mucha gente que cuando lo mira en el terreno de juego piensa que él es así." dijo Pezo. "Pero él es verdaderamente simpático. Puedes darle la mano, hablar y bromear con él, no importa quien seas."

Etcheverry y el delantero Jaime Moreno patrocinan una liga de soccer masculina en el area de Washington y con frecuencia asisten a los partidos, simplemente para verlo juego y relacionarse.

"Marco es un hombre con una personalidad cálida, afectuosa y generosa" dice el Técnico de D.C. United, Bruce Arena. "Le dá mucho apoyo a la comunidad boliviana en D. C."



JOHN TODD/MLS/ALLSPORT

TONY QUINN/MLS/ALLSPORT

Etcheverry también está interesado en el futuro del fútbol en los Estados Unidos, y quiere establecer una academia y centro de entrenamiento de fútbol en Washington siguiendo el modelo de la famosa Academia Tahuichi, que fué como un segundo hogar para él desde los 8 años hasta los 16 en su nativo pueblo de Santa Cruz, Bolivia.

"Mi visión del fútbol en este país es más amplia de lo que mucha gente sabe" dice Etcheverry. "Esta academia no solamente sería un campamento para practicar, sino que también sería un lugar donde se enseñaría a jugar fútbol. Yo espero que de esta academia salgan algún día jugadores para la Selección Nacional Americana de la Copa Mundial.

Los planes de Etcheverry revelan el desarrollo de un apego a su nuevo pueblo lo cual indica que se podría quedar por mucho tiempo.

"El quiere participar en el funcionamiento de la liga y pienso que es un modelo de lo que un jugador internacional puede ser", dice Arena. "Algunos de los muchachos han venido aquí de vacaciones, pero él ha venido para mejorar la liga y desarrollar su nivel de juego. Esta es una cualidad muy especial que no la habíamos visto en ningún otro jugador internacional, en esta liga."

El novato defensor Carey Talley recuerda su debut en Major League Soccer muy bien: En estadio completamente lleno, una audiencia estridente vino a ver el juego inaugural de Miami Fusion, que también fué televisado. Talley estaba apunto de ser bautizado con fuego.

"Yo no conocía a Marco muy bien antes de este primer juego," dijo Talley. "En los vestidores antes del juego, se dirigió a mí y me dió la mano y solamente dijo, 'Relájate y diviértete, este es el primer juego.' Fué un juego bien acalorado, pero después dijo 'ves, ningún problema. Vamos a cenar.'"

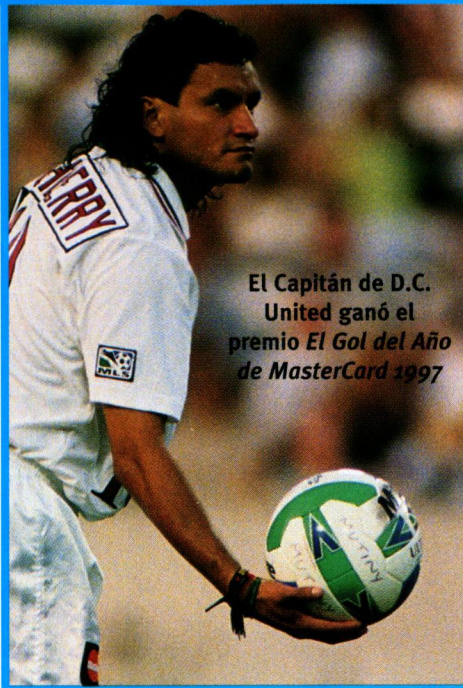
Talley dijo que Etcheverry es más directo y firme con sus compañeros en el terreno de juego, pero es también positivo.

"Etcheverry no es un líder muy vocal" dice Talley. "John Harkes todavía llena ese papel mientras que Marco prefiere formas de motivación más sutiles, como un señal de aprobación con el pulgar o un corto palmoteo".

Otro novato, Ben Olsen, también se ha beneficiado jugando junto a Etcheverry.

"Marco se ha portado muy bien conmigo", dijo Olsen. "Si aceptas a Marco como un amigo, será como cualquier otra persona. Quizás en el campo de juego algunas veces me trata como su hermano menor, pero fuera somos amigos."

Etcheverry tiene la reputación de comediante y chistoso



El Capitán de D.C. United ganó el premio *El Gol del Año de MasterCard 1997*

SCOTT HALLERAN/ALLSPORT

fuera del terreno de juego. El compró una mesa de ping-pong y raquetas para el centro de prácticas del equipo y comenzó a retar a todo el mundo.

"El dice ser el Campeón Nacional de Ping-Pong de Bolivia," dice el entrenador de United, Rick Guter. "Y debe serlo, ya que no he visto a nadie que le haya ganado".

El conocimiento del inglés de Etcheverry es mejor de lo que muchos piensan porque el siempre prefiere hablar en español a los medios de comunicación. Pero Arena no necesita buscar un intérprete para Etcheverry quien de vez en cuando sorprende al equipo con frases idiomáticas en inglés.

"Es un hombre verdaderamente chistoso, y aun más chistoso cuando dice algo en inglés que no esperabas", dijo Kamler. "Marco es un hombre muy dedicado a su familia, pero cuando comparte con el equipo, es otro compañero más".

Episodios como el de la camiseta de entrenamiento mantienen a los demás jugadores preguntándose algunas veces lo que pasa por la mente de Etcheverry, especialmente porque es tan reservado. El se comunica por medio de su comportamiento, quedándose después de las prácticas para mejorar una técnicas de por sí brillante. Etcheverry explica que su dedicación al fútbol no se trata de un esfuerzo consciente.

"Tengo un pensamiento: Yo vivo del fútbol y vivo para el fútbol," dijo Etcheverry. "Mi vida es el fútbol y si he de practicar más tiempo para ser mejor, lo voy a hacer, todo lo que pueda hacer para mejorar el equipo. Yo amo el fútbol y no lo hago porque lo necesito, sino porque mi cuerpo necesita el fútbol."

Kevin Payne, Gerente General del equipo United, cree que por primera vez después de llegar a Washington, Etcheverry está de nuevo al mismo nivel físico que tenía antes de una delicada operación de la rodilla en 1993. La estrella de la Selección Nacional de Bolivia se recuperó a tiempo para poder participar en la Copa Mundial del 1994, pero muchos expertos piensan que no estaba un cien por ciento recuperado cuando ingresó al United en 1996.

"El puede hacer jugadas en el campo que nadie mas en la liga puede hacer, jugadas que envuelven a cada uno de sus compañeros de juego, lo cual pone una gran presión a la defensa del otro equipo", dijo Payne. "La forma en la cual Etcheverry se comporta en el terreno de juego y su disposición para tomar responsabilidades hacen de él un buen líder, pero un líder reservado. Todo lo que se puede pedir de un jugador, eso lo ha sido Etcheverry este año."

D.C. United Reigns In The Rain

Amidst the celebration and champagne showers in the locker room following United's triumphant defense of MLS Cup, D.C. Head Coach Bruce Arena gathered the troops for one last rally. "I just want to congratulate each and every one of you for a tremendous season," said the elated coach. "You have made myself and the organization extremely proud, and for that I thank you. What a great day for soccer!"



John Harkes (holding trophy), Jeff Agoos (right) and company celebrate D.C. United's MLS Cup '97 championship

And what a day it was, both on and off the field. In a thrilling battle for survival pitting the defending champs against the Cinderella upstart, D.C. United defeated the Colorado Rapids 2-1 to capture its second consecutive MLS championship. The victory earned the Black-and-Red a spot in Washington, D.C. sports record books as the first professional team from the city to successfully defend a championship title.

Even more spectacular than the victory was the crowd that assembled to witness it. "I've never really heard any-

thing like it," said goalkeeper Scott Garlick. Nor have most. More than 57,000 fans, the majority of whom arrived at RFK Stadium several hours before kickoff and whipped themselves into a soccer frenzy, represented the second-largest crowd ever to witness a soccer game at East Capitol Street, despite a steady rain that fell from kickoff to the final whistle. "All those people braving the rain, it was unbelievable. It gave me the chills when we took the field," said midfielder Richie Williams.

United took its home field as heavy favorites, as the only

team to finish first or second in its conference to advance past the first round of the playoffs. Also, United was the MLS "Supercampeon," posting the league's best regular-season record (21-11) with 58 points. United set the MLS record for goals in a season scoring 70, an average of 2.19 per match.

For the first 45 minutes, D.C. showed why most prognosticators had the defending champs pegged for repeat glory. D.C.'s defensive back four stood solid while Marco Etcheverry's precision passing and Jaime Moreno's dangerous runs on the flank kept the Rapids backpedaling for most of the half. United finally hit the scoresheet in the 37th minute when Tony Sanneh sent a low cross across the box to an onrushing Raul Diaz Arce. Diaz Arce played a magical "dummy" which allowed Jaime Moreno to settle the ball and fire a low blast past a sprawling Marcus Hahnemann. "Usually I can't remember my goals," Moreno said afterward. "But Tony crossed the ball and Raul opened his legs. I was a little bit surprised that (Raul) didn't shoot the ball because he was in a better position than me."

The rain and United's attack continued to pound in the second half, as D.C. looked to build upon its 14-1 mark when leading at the half. Thirteen minutes into the second stanza, United's lead increased to 2-0 when John Harkes shook a defender in the left corner and lofted a high cross to the far post. Tony Sanneh rose up unchallenged to power the ball just inside the near post, in a fashion similar to the goal he scored one year earlier to set the table for United's comeback in MLS Cup '96.

But the Rapids had survived on a "never-say-die" spirit, surprising higher Western Conference seeds Kansas City and Dallas on their way to MLS Cup, and this day would be no different. Marcelo Balboa's magnificent bicycle kick in the 70th minute, saved by Garlick, energized the Rapids, and a wicked blast from a tight angle by substitute Adrian Paz cut the margin to 2-1 with 15 minutes left on the clock. What remained was an exciting, end-to-end battle that left every person in the stadium exhausted. When referee Brian Hall signaled to the center circle as the last precious seconds ticked off, he pointed to the spot where United, in triumphant relief and for the second time in as many years, would hoist the Alan I. Rothenberg Trophy, the only club in Major League Soccer's young history to have that honor.

And United they stood: 20 men, 57,431 fans, one champion. The storybook ending to D.C. United's 1997 season wasn't without many trials and tribulations, and those who came in

contact with the organization are quick to point out that the championship, the various postseason awards and honors, and the aura of invincibility that surrounded D.C. United should not overshadow the blood, sweat and tears that enabled D.C. to enjoy these successes:

- Ten straight playoff wins - In 1996, United opened the Eastern Conference semifinals with a shootout loss to MetroStars. then rolled off five consecutive wins on the way to the inaugural MLS Championship. In 1997, United ran the table in five games, sweeping both the New England Revolution and the Columbus Crew before defeating Western Conference Champion Colorado in MLS Cup '97.



AL BELLO/ALLSPORT

John Harkes and Jaime Moreno are expected to once again play key roles in D.C. United's quest for a third MLS Cup

- A 22-game unbeaten-in-regulation streak - Including the 1996 playoffs and U.S. Open Cup, United did not lose a game in regulation from September 6, 1996, until June 21, 1997, in a 6-1 loss at Kansas City.

- Four players named to the AT&T Best 11 - Forward Jaime Moreno, who finished one point shy of the Budweiser Scoring Championship, joined teammates Marco Etcheverry (a member of the 1996 AT&T Best Eleven), Eddie Pope (who scored the golden goal in MLS Cup '96) and Jeff Agoos (a stalwart defender who also stars on the U.S. National Team).

- The BIC Defender of the Year - Pope was judged by MLS general managers and coaching staffs to be the league's top defender during the 1997 regular season.

- The MasterCard Goal of the Year - Etcheverry dazzled everyone with his awesome mastery of dribbling in tight space, eluding several New England Revolution players and nutmegging a defender for the score, winning the honor selected by the fans.

- The All Sport Coach of the Year - Arena was recognized by the media for his team's consistent domination of the MLS, U.S. Open Cup, and exhibition schedules.

Although United fell short of capturing its second consecutive "Double," as the team lost to the Dallas Burn, 1-0, in a penalty-kick shootout after 120 minutes in the 1997 U.S. Open Cup final, Arena and company have established themselves not only as the MLS team that 11 others have to continue to chase, but as the model professional soccer organization in the Western Hemisphere.

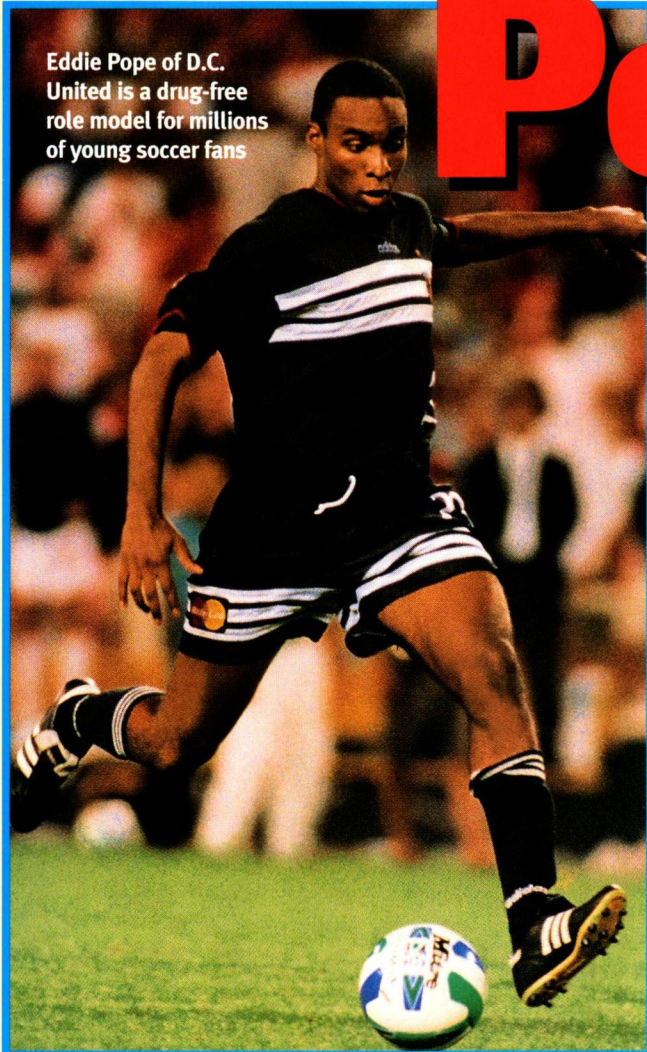
The tradition continues ...

Special thanks to Michael Kammarman and Rick Lawes for their contribution to this article.

No Drugs Period!

TONY QUINN/MLS/ALLSPORT

Eddie Pope of D.C. United is a drug-free role model for millions of young soccer fans



Major League Soccer Takes a Hard Line

There are important reasons why MLS takes the issue of drug abuse so seriously, especially with respect to the players. Athletes have a responsibility to take care of their bodies so that they can perform at the highest level possible. They must practice hard, eat nutritious meals, sleep well, and refrain from activities that may harm their bodies. One such activity is the use of drugs.

Drugs can affect a person in many ways. Physically, drugs can cause damage by breaking down body tissues and organs that an athlete needs to perform at one hundred percent. A player's strength and endurance can be reduced. When the weakened body is subjected to the intense use that soccer demands, the chance of serious injury increases.

On a mental level, drugs can slow down or alter thought processes, thus depriving an athlete of the sharpness required to make plays or fulfill his role on the team. This can wreak havoc on the field where one wrong move can cost the team a goal or one reckless tackle can endanger another player.

Drugs can also have an effect on the personality. Drug use often causes moodiness and irritability that can be perceived as an "attitude problem." Erratic behavior strains team chemistry and prevents a team from functioning as a unit.

In a competitive environment such as Major League Soccer, no distraction can be tolerated. Teams must use all their resources and be completely focused on winning. This is important for the success of the individual teams and for the integrity of the league.

Being drug-free is also important for the players as they become highly visible role models to the millions of young soccer fans throughout the U.S. Not only are the players looking out for their own well being by adhering to the league's code, they are setting a great example for children. The league's drug policy is yet another way Major League Soccer is shaping the future of American soccer.



"Zero-tolerance for drugs" is the resounding message from Major League Soccer's anti-drug policy. The rules laid out by the league apply to all personnel, including office staff, coaches and, of course, players. The policy is strictly enforced at both the league and team levels.

"Major League Soccer's goal is to present a positive and innovative image to the American sports fan," explains Commissioner Doug Logan. "As American professional soccer comes of age, it is important that MLS set an example by having absolutely no tolerance for drug usage. The league can only flourish if the staff and players earn the respect of the fans by conducting themselves with complete integrity."

California To 'Team'!

*Southern California Tradition of Rich Soccer
Talent Pervades MLS and the World*

By Michael Jago

Somewhere in the back of young minds on thousands of Southern California soccer fields every weekend, youth soccer players run up and down the pitch, chasing a ball and asking themselves, "Where can I go with this? Where will soccer take me?"

Several current Major League Soccer players, who grew up developing their skills in USYSA and AYSO leagues across the country, answer that burning question with eight words: "Anywhere in the world I want to go."

However, a few years back it was a hard question to answer. While a young baseball player's chances of reaching the Major Leagues were remote, they were more tangible than a budding American soccer player's prospects of playing professionally in his native country. There were few opportunities beyond college;

ESSY GHAVAMEDINI/MLS



Los Angeles' Paul Caligiuri grew up playing for the Diamond Bar Kickers after beginning his youth career in AYSO

a serious player turned to playing in Europe or in Latin America. Yes, there had been many attempts at creating a professional American league, but nearly all, for a variety of reasons, had floundered.

Then came Major League Soccer. Initially treated as the latest attempt in a long chain that would, in due course, fall flat on its face, MLS came into the marketplace with a solid financial plan and a determination to create the opportunities for young American players that were signally absent from the



Colorado's Marcelo Balboa played for the national champion FRAM-Culver team while growing up in Cerritos, California

blueprints of its predecessors. Caution and controlled expansion were the keynotes, so much so that uninformed critics wondered how a league of 10 teams could provide career options for aspiring professionals. Above all, how would MLS provide the standard of soccer that serious fans so desperately wanted to see in their national league?

Such questions were quickly answered by the infrastructure that MLS established. By creating a system of affiliate leagues, Major League Soccer and the USISL (United System of Independent Soccer Leagues) created the most important element in a young player's career – access. The vast gulf between the 80,000 players in California Youth Soccer Association-South and the 10 charter MLS teams was bridged by a number of local professional teams that offered players a sport they can play beyond college, providing answers to the question, "Why are we still playing?"

Things have come a long way in three years. There is now a great deal of professional soccer being played in Los Angeles, Orange County and San Diego. Lovers of the sport may grumble that Serie A or the Premier League does not exist in this country, but one should stop and think back to how English soccer was the black sheep of the world's game 10 years ago and how far it has progressed, both in style and in substance, in the past decade.

What makes the present system different from previous attempts at creating a league is that it is a home-based, homegrown, organic product that will achieve its growth in tandem with the development of the sport itself in the United States. Yes, there are imported players – name a league that doesn't have foreign players – but MLS doesn't depend on Johan Cruyff, Pele, Franz Beckenbauer or their modern-day equivalents. The fact is that there are talented



Tampa Bay's Jorge Salcedo is one of many MLS players who played for North Huntington Beach FC before playing college soccer at UCLA

Americans playing in the professional ranks and these players far outnumber the older European and South Americans imported to give the fledgling league initial appeal. In fact, many of the league's top young players come from Southern California.

The list of top players who developed their skills in Southern California youth leagues is literally a who's who of Major League Soccer. North Huntington Beach FC has produced many talented players including Mike Lapper (Columbus), Jason Boyce (Miami), Ante Razov (Chicago), Jorge Salcedo and Sam George (Tampa Bay), Joe-Max Moore (New England), and Mike Ammann and Chris Snitko (Kansas City).

The national champion FRAM-

Culver team was led by Danny Peña (Los Angeles) and Marcelo Balboa (Colorado), while Cle Kooiman (Miami) and Paul Caligiuri (Los Angeles) played for the Diamond Bar Kickers. Rhett Harty (MetroStars) played his youth soccer with Whittier Goldstars while U.S. National Team all-time leading scorer Eric Wynalda (San Jose) was a star with Las Virgenes SC during his younger years.

Los Angeles Galaxy midfielder Cobi Jones, a five-time Fujifilm Player of the Week in 1998 and a strong candidate for the league's Honda Most Valuable Player award, also cut his teeth in the Conejo Valley before walking on to the program at UCLA.

"The warm weather year-round combined with solid coaching and excellent facilities gives Southern California an advantage over other areas of the country," said Caligiuri. "Also, there are numerous opportunities to compete against many of the top club teams from around the world, whether playing at home or traveling with your club team overseas."

The 34-year-old Caligiuri is considered one of the pioneers of the youth soccer explosion in the 1970's. He began his playing career in AYSO before moving on to the club level three years later. The man who scored the "shot heard 'round the world" that sent the United States to the 1990 World Cup credits his father Robert and youth soccer coach George Ratajczak with helping him focus on soccer at a young age.

"After starting in AYSO, we formed a local all-star team which became the Diamond Bar Kickers," said Caligiuri. "We played against some of the best clubs in our region and eventually were able to travel overseas."

Caligiuri remembers playing against many of his current Galaxy teammates and MLS opponents during his youth days and in college at UCLA.

"From a very young age you just knew Marcelo Balboa was going to become one of the country's best players," Caligiuri added. "Younger guys like Danny (Peña) and Eric (Wynalda) were also destined to play at the top level."

Cerritos native Marcelo Balboa echoes Caligiuri's thoughts on the high quality of talent in the Southland.

"Soccer in Southern California is huge – from the youth levels all the way up to the great college soccer in the area," said Balboa. "It is great to see all the players from the area do so well at the higher levels, especially in MLS."

Southern California, as much as any other area, has an enormous human investment in professional soccer. Add to the ranks of the MLS players the long roster of players in the A-League, USISL and indoor leagues, particularly the Orange County Zodiac and the San Diego Flash, and there is an impressive constituency of local-league graduates playing every week around the state.

"The Los Angeles area is a very diverse community,



JOHN TODD/MLS/ALLSPORT

San Jose's Eric Wynalda, the all-time leading scorer for the U.S. National Team, was a star with Las Virgenes FC in his youth

which provides great opportunities for young soccer players," said Jones, who still resides in Ventura County where he grew up. "There's a lot of talent out there (in Southern California) and we should see many more players entering MLS in the future."

This year, for the first time, MLS Cup is being played at the Rose Bowl. For all fans in Southern California this is a day to cherish. Major League Soccer, in its third year, has given fans a glimpse of the future of American soccer.

"It will be great having the MLS Cup out there," said Balboa from his home in Denver. "It is such a hotbed of soccer. The area very much deserves the high-profile game after all of the past All-Star Games and MLS Cup games have been out east. Nothing against the east, the games have been great, but it is well-deserved that it's Southern Cal's

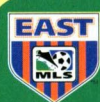
chance to be in the sun on October 25."

Southern Californians have a heritage provided by the pioneers in the sport, the players who found their way to the national team when there were few opportunities and little encouragement at home. Balboa, Caligiuri and Wynalda had to take circuitous routes to gain recognition even in their own backyard. Every young player in California owes them a huge debt. They showed the way – fortunately a way that today's aspiring players are not forced to take.

MLS has provided the stepping stones that lead from Coast Soccer League to a solid professional career. Southern California soccer fans should be able to look forward to an increasing flow of talented Californian players into the Third and Second Divisions, into Major League Soccer and the national team.

Thanks to the recent direction of American soccer, the original question of "Where will soccer take me?" has been firmly and positively answered.

1998 MLS REGULAR SEASON STATISTICS



Eastern Conference

TEAM	W	L	PTS	GF	GA	SOW
1-D.C. UNITED	24	8	58	74	48	7
2-COLUMBUS CREW	15	17	45	67	56	0
3-METROSTARS	15	17	39	54	63	3
4-MIAMI FUSION	15	17	35	46	68	5
TAMPA BAY MUTINY	12	20	34	46	57	1
N.E. REVOLUTION	11	21	29	53	66	2

corresponds to playoff seed



Western Conference

TEAM	W	L	PTS	GF	GA	SOW
1-LOS ANGELES GALAXY	24	8	68	85	44	2
2-CHICAGO FIRE	20	12	56	62	45	2
3-COLORADO RAPIDS	16	16	44	62	69	2
4-DALLAS BURN	15	17	37	43	59	4
SAN JOSE CLASH	13	19	33	48	60	3
KANSAS CITY WIZARDS	12	20	32	45	50	2

corresponds to playoff seed

BUDWEISER LEADING SCORERS

NAME	TEAM	GAMES	GOALS	ASSISTS	POINTS
1 STERN JOHN	CLB	27	26	5	57
2 COBI JONES	LA	24	19	13	51
3 WELTON	LA	31	17	11	45
4 ROY LASSITER	DC	31	18	8	44
RAUL DIAZ ARCE	NE	32	18	8	44
6 JAIME MORENO	DC	31	16	11	43
7 MAURICIO CIENFUEGOS	LA	30	13	16	42
8 MARCO ETCHEVERRY	DC	29	10	19	39
9 RONALD CERRITOS	SJ	31	13	12	38
10 EDUARDO HURTADO	MET	29	11	15	37

MLS SHOT LEADERS

NAME	TEAM	GAMES	SHOTS
1 STERN JOHN	CLB	27	116
2 EDUARDO HURTADO	MET	29	101
ROY LASSITER	DC	31	101
4 JASON KREIS	DAL	30	97
5 PAUL BRAVO	COL	30	90
RAUL DIAZ ARCE	NE	32	90

MLS MINUTES PLAYED LEADERS

NAME	TEAM	MINUTES PLAYED
1 RAUL DIAZ ARCE	NE	2878
2 EDDIE LEWIS	SJ	2835
3 CHRIS ARMAS	CHI	2790
LUBOS KUBIK	CHI	2790
TONY MEOLA	MET	2790

MLS GOALKEEPING LEADERS

NAME	TEAM	GP	MIN	SHTS	SVS	C/P	GA	GAA	W	L
1 Z. THORNTON	CHI	25	2076	118	85	86	27	1.17	16	8
2 K. HARTMAN	LA	29	2544	146	103	85	39	1.38	22	7
3 S. GARLICK	DC	25	2205	129	88	81	35	1.43	19	5
4 M. AMMANN	KC	27	2430	134	85	64	42	1.56	11	16
5 D. KRAMER	SJ	24	2125	132	82	66	39	1.65	10	14

MLS GOALKEEPER SAVE LEADERS

NAME	TEAM	GAMES	SAVES
1 TONY MEOLA	MET	31	164
2 MARCUS HAHNEMANN	COL	28	138
3 MARK DODD	DAL	25	134
4 THOMAS RAVELLI	TB	23	131
5 IAN FEUER	NE	26	113

MLS GOAL-SCORING LEADERS

NAME	TEAM	GAMES	GOALS
1 STERN JOHN	CLB	27	26
2 COBI JONES	LA	24	19
3 ROY LASSITER	DC	31	18
RAUL DIAZ ARCE	NE	32	18
5 WELTON	LA	31	17

MLS GOALKEEPER SHUTOUT LEADERS

NAME	TEAM	GAMES	SHUTOUTS
1 ZACH THORNTON	CHI	25	8
2 SCOTT GARLICK	DC	25	7
KEVIN HARTMAN	LA	29	7
4 MARK DODD	DAL	25	6

MLS ASSIST LEADERS

NAME	TEAM	GAMES	ASSISTS
1 MARCO ETCHEVERRY	DC	29	19
2 MAURICIO CIENFUEGOS	LA	30	16
3 JOE-MAX MOORE	NE	21	15
EDUARDO HURTADO	MET	29	15
5 JERZY PODBROZNY	CHI	26	14
MARTIN MACHON	LA	31	14

PTS = Points; GF = Goals For; GA = Goals Against; SOW = Shootout wins; GP = Games Played; MIN = Minutes played; SHTS = Shots; SVS = Saves; C/P = Catch/Punches; GA = Goals Allowed; GAA = Goals Against Average (Goals allowed per 90 minutes); W = Wins; L = Losses.

If a movie is made about being a member of a wall in soccer, it could be called Saving Private Parts.

"It's not very funny," Frankie Hejduk of the Tampa Bay Mutiny said. "The first worry is a shot to the lower half. If it doesn't go to the lower half, it strikes the face."

Neither is a pleasant thought.

"I've seen guys go down. You almost feel like running the other way," said Mike Burns of New England.

Ouch.

What would possess a player to stand 10 yards from someone who has the potential to commit bodily harm with a free shot?

"It's your job," said Alexi Lalas of the MetroStars. "You take it. It's a matter of do you want it badly enough? You put yourself, your body on the line and sacrifice your face or other parts."

Restarts are an essential but sometimes overlooked part of the game. Free kicks are issued for fouls and offenses such as dangerous play and hand balls outside the penalty area.

"We work on it a little bit almost every day," Columbus Crew Head Coach Tom Fitzgerald said.

There are two types of free kicks: A "direct" can be scored directly into the goal by the kicker. An "indirect" can be scored only after being touched by someone other than the kicker.

The wall is set up by an opponent to prevent a shot on goal. The number of players in the wall varies, largely depending on the location of the free kick.

If it is a straight-on shot to the goal box, Fitzgerald has five blockers and a rusher, a player who goes after the ball. If the free kick is to either side of the goal box but not outside an imaginary line extending beyond the penalty area, he employs four blockers and a rusher. Two blockers are used for free kicks near the sidelines.

Players are assigned numbers from one to five. For the Crew, defender Todd Yeagley draws number one. He is in the direct line of fire.

"Being No. 1, it's usually your responsibility setting the wall along with the goalkeeper," he said. "You tend to be in a tough position. A lot of times the shot is right at you."

Sometimes on purpose.

"A lot of teams have a stronger shooter hit the first shot into the wall as hard as he

**"IT'S SCARY.
YOU'RE
DOING IT
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YOU TAKE IT.
GRIT YOUR
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BITE
THE BULLET."**

— Frankie Hejduk
Tampa Bay Mutiny



JOHN TODD/MLS/ALLSPORT

can," Fitzgerald said. "It sets up the guy who shoots next."

Hejduk said, "If you ever want to get back at me, it's a good time. But they're always trying to score. If they hit the wall, it's a mistake."

Defending a shot takes machismo.

"You have to protect yourself, as everyone might see in the game," Yeagley said. "It's important to put fears aside. You don't want to duck and let the ball go in."

Many MLS marksmen can put the ball through the wall for a goal. Others like to bend the ball over or around the wall.

"It's scary," Hejduk said. "You're doing it for the team. You take it. Grit your teeth. Bite the bullet."

Lalas said when the ball is shot he takes a step forward and goes skyward.

"I'm almost 6-4. I add another 5 inches when I jump. Jumping is the key," he said.

A good vertical leap, however, is not always a good thing.

"We tell them if they come off the ground to make sure it's no further than height of the ball," Fitzgerald said. "The ball could go under the wall. Sometimes we have alternate guys jumping."

There's another problem along the wall.

"You do naturally flinch," Yeagley said. "It's OK as long as you keep your position and not move your head down. Two inches can make a difference. They're firing at the head of the wall."

When it comes to practicing scoring plays, the players fortunately don't have to be on the receiving end of the shots. A

portable wall, which looks like a blocking sled, takes the beating.

"There's an art to it," Fitzgerald said. "There's a lot of finesse and some deception. We have guys running over the ball as decoys, plays that shoot around the wall. We have a basic setup."

The kickers have two or three options. With Columbus, midfielders Andy Williams and Robert Warzycha take most of the kicks, although strikers Brian McBride and Stern John are called upon for power. In Chicago, defender Lubos Kubik is the designated player for free kicks.

Everyone, it seems, has war stories from shots they've taken to sensitive areas.

"It doesn't feel too good afterward," Hejduk said. "You use ice, lots of ice. Next time you say I'm going to be the third man, or fourth or fifth."

Fitzgerald has seen his share of guys knocked woozy by blows to the noggin.

"It's not so much square-on as the side of the head, the temple area," he said. "You become very familiar with the anatomy of the body when you're one of the wall members."

Each time a player survives a 60-70 mile per hour shot, he is thankful.

"You hope your nose is not in two places after a shot," Yeagley said.

Or worse.



THE WALL

The goal of the wall in soccer is to stop blistering shots, and that requires not only strategy but a lot of old-fashioned chutzpah

By Craig Merz

MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER

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Phone: (212) 450-1200 Fax: (212) 450-1300

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mail@burnsoccer.com

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Fax: (816) 472-0299
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Ohio Stadium
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E-mail address:
thecrew@mlsnet.com

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Fax: (703) 736-9451
RFK Stadium
For ticket information, contact the
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E-mail address:
united-fan@mlsnet.com

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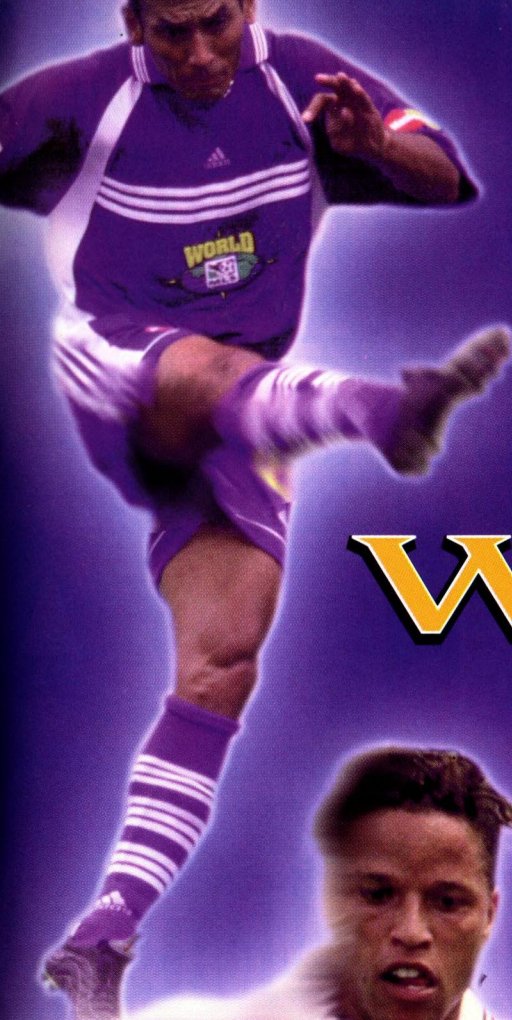


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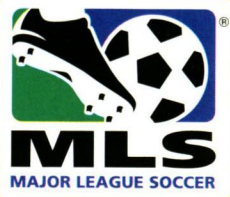


1999 MLS All-Star Weekend



July 15 • July 17, 1999
San Diego, CA
Qualcomm Stadium





1998 REGULAR SEASON RESULTS



SUNDAY, March 15				
DC United	2-0	Miami		20,450
SATURDAY, March 21				
Columbus	2-1	Tampa Bay		16,122
Chicago	2-0	Miami		14,653
Kansas City	2-3	DC United		18,108
Colorado	1-2	Dallas	(SO 1-2)	11,103
San Jose	3-4	Los Angeles	(SO 1-3)	36,281
THURSDAY, March 26				
Miami	1-0	Tampa Bay	(SO 4-2)	6,036
SATURDAY, March 28				
MetroStars	2-3	Los Angeles		11,921
Colorado	3-2	San Jose	(SO 4-2)	15,028
SUNDAY, March 29				
Columbus	1-2	Dallas		10,261
New England	1-2	DC United	(SO 2-3)	22,263

March

SATURDAY, April 4				
New England	1-2	Miami		11,132
DC United	1-2	Columbus		14,148
Tampa Bay	0-2	Chicago		36,444
MetroStars	0-2	Kansas City		10,299
Los Angeles	1-0	Colorado		19,252
SUNDAY, April 5				
Dallas	3-2	San Jose	(SO 3-2)	10,069
WEDNESDAY, April 8				
Chicago	0-1	Kansas City		4,130
SATURDAY, April 11				
Los Angeles	3-2	MetroStars		29,380
Dallas	1-3	Tampa Bay		11,822
Colorado	3-4	DC United	(SO 0-2)	14,009
Kansas City	1-2	Miami	(SO 1-2)	11,247
New England	2-3	Columbus		10,121
Chicago	0-1	San Jose		9,937

April

FRIDAY, April 17				
MetroStars	1-0	Chicago		24,661
SATURDAY, April 18				
DC United	1-2	New England	(SO 2-3)	24,133
Miami	1-5	Columbus		12,636
Los Angeles	2-1	Kansas City		11,500
San Jose	2-1	Dallas		12,939
SUNDAY, April 19				
Tampa Bay	0-3	Colorado		7,842
SATURDAY, April 25				
San Jose	3-4	MetroStars		17,380
Miami	0-3	New England		15,326
Kansas City	1-3	Dallas		13,134
Chicago	4-5	Colorado	(SO 1-3)	10,736
Tampa Bay	1-5	Los Angeles		23,121

SUNDAY, April 26				
Columbus	1-2	DC United	(SO 2-3)	11,338
WEDNESDAY, April 29				
San Jose	1-3	DC United		9,755
Los Angeles	2-0	Kansas City		4,406
THURSDAY, April 30				
Columbus	1-0	Tampa Bay		4,892
SATURDAY, May 2				
Colorado	2-3	Miami		10,096
DC United	3-1	Chicago		27,136
SUNDAY, May 3				
MetroStars	1-0	Tampa Bay		6,142
New England	3-1	San Jose		13,563
WEDNESDAY, May 6				
Dallas	1-0	MetroStars		10,300
Colorado	4-7	Los Angeles		12,013
SATURDAY, May 9				
Columbus	0-2	Miami		9,010
MetroStars	0-2	DC United		17,027
San Jose	3-2	Colorado		11,543

May

SUNDAY, May 10				
Tampa Bay	3-4	New England		14,723
WEDNESDAY, May 13				
New England	2-3	DC United		14,442
Kansas City	1-2	Tampa Bay		4,473
SATURDAY, May 16				
DC United	3-4	MetroStars		15,322
Chicago	2-1	Tampa Bay		6,391
Kansas City	3-1	New England		20,613
Colorado	1-2	Dallas		15,280
Miami	0-2	San Jose		23,861
SUNDAY, May 17				
Los Angeles	4-2	Columbus		10,854
WEDNESDAY, May 20				
Kansas City	2-1	Dallas	(SO 4-3)	9,179
Los Angeles	1-3	Chicago		10,520

FRIDAY, May 22				
Columbus	2-0	New England		14,302
SATURDAY, May 23				
Miami	2-4	MetroStars		56,404
Tampa Bay	2-3	DC United		16,991
Colorado	0-5	Chicago		23,789
San Jose	1-0	Kansas City		10,333
Dallas	1-4	Los Angeles		21,173
WEDNESDAY, May 27				
Columbus	1-2	Kansas City	(SO 2-3)	5,027
THURSDAY, May 28				
Miami	0-3	Colorado		6,954
SATURDAY, May 30				
DC United	2-1	Tampa Bay	(SO 2-1)	8,324
San Jose	1-4	Columbus		10,903
Chicago	2-1	Los Angeles	(SO 3-1)	28,241

SUNDAY, May 31				
Miami	0-2	Dallas		10,101
MetroStars	2-1	New England	(SO 3-2)	18,692
Kansas City	1-2	Colorado		11,273
WEDNESDAY, June 3				
Tampa Bay	2-1	MetroStars		8,826
DC United	4-0	San Jose		10,191
THURSDAY, June 4				
Los Angeles	8-1	Dallas		10,047
SATURDAY, June 6				
Columbus	0-2	Chicago		19,801
Tampa Bay	0-1	Kansas City		10,067
San Jose	0-2	Colorado		18,473
SUNDAY, June 7				
New England	1-5	Los Angeles		38,383
Dallas	5-4	DC United	(SO 3-1)	13,454
MetroStars	2-1	Miami		9,073

THURSDAY, June 11				
San Jose	2-5	Chicago		7,598
SATURDAY, June 13				
Miami	1-3	MetroStars		15,215
DC United	4-3	Columbus	(SO 4-3)	13,347
SUNDAY, June 14				
Chicago	3-1	New England		17,054
WEDNESDAY, June 17				
Dallas	0-1	Chicago		9,638
THURSDAY, June 18				
Colorado	1-2	Los Angeles		9,741
SATURDAY, June 20				
MetroStars	1-2	Columbus		11,301
SUNDAY, June 21				
Tampa Bay	1-0	Dallas		10,238
WEDNESDAY, June 24				
New England	3-5	MetroStars		10,310
Kansas City	1-4	Chicago		13,396

June



July

THURSDAY, June 25	DC United	1-3	Colorado		9,132
SATURDAY, June 27	Dallas	4-3	New England	(SO 4-2)	18,206
	Tampa Bay	1-2	Miami	(SO 2-3)	8,343
	Los Angeles	2-1	San Jose		22,694
WEDNESDAY, July 1	Dallas	1-4	Chicago		13,615
	New England	0-1	Kansas City		5,304
THURSDAY, July 2	Miami	1-3	DC United		13,030
FRIDAY, July 3	Columbus	1-2	San Jose	(SO 2-4)	10,326
SATURDAY, July 4	New England	3-2	Tampa Bay		22,704
	Chicago	1-0	Dallas		12,372
	MetroStars	0-1	Colorado		46,722
	Kansas City	0-2	Los Angeles		53,655
THURSDAY, July 9	Chicago	0-3	Columbus		10,091
FRIDAY, July 10	Los Angeles	0-3	DC United		23,631
SATURDAY, July 11	Tampa Bay	2-1	MetroStars		14,322
	Dallas	0-2	Kansas City		10,053
	New England	1-2	Colorado		8,996
WEDNESDAY, July 15	DC United	1-0	New England		17,206
	Los Angeles	3-1	Tampa Bay		6,560
	San Jose	2-3	Miami	(SO 2-3)	8,078
SATURDAY, July 18	Chicago	1-4	DC United		16,779
	New England	3-1	Dallas		10,073
	Miami	3-2	Los Angeles	(SO 3-0)	16,882
	Tampa Bay	1-0	San Jose		10,136
SUNDAY, July 19	Columbus	0-3	MetroStars		13,826
	Colorado	1-4	Kansas City		5,458
SATURDAY, July 25	Chicago	2-3	MetroStars		15,130
	Colorado	3-2	Tampa Bay		10,088
	Dallas	2-1	Columbus		15,628
	DC United	1-0	Los Angeles		26,873
	Kansas City	1-2	San Jose	(SO 0-3)	10,182
SUNDAY, July 26	Miami	2-1	New England		18,337
WEDNESDAY, July 29	Kansas City	2-3	MetroStars	(SO 1-2)	10,624
	Colorado	3-1	New England		13,074
	Columbus	2-3	Miami		8,182
	Tampa Bay	2-3	DC United	(SO 3-4)	11,062
	Los Angeles	0-3	Dallas		9,720
	Chicago	0-3	San Jose		12,299
WEDNESDAY, August 5	San Jose	0-3	New England		14,163
	Los Angeles	6-1	Colorado		9,342
THURSDAY, August 6	Miami	1-3	Tampa Bay		6,511
FRIDAY, August 7	DC United	1-0	Dallas		9,437
SATURDAY, August 8	Los Angeles	2-1	Chicago		37,122
	New England	1-6	Columbus		13,712
	Colorado	1-3	Kansas City		9,380
SUNDAY, August 9	MetroStars	1-5	San Jose		9,102
WEDNESDAY, August 12	Columbus	1-3	MetroStars		12,117
THURSDAY, August 13	Kansas City	0-3	Los Angeles		10,291
FRIDAY, August 14	New England	2-1	Tampa Bay	(SO 3-2)	8,429
SATURDAY, August 15	MetroStars	1-3	Miami		10,271
	San Jose	1-2	Chicago		16,610

August

	Dallas	1-0	Colorado		8,321
SUNDAY, August 16	Kansas City	3-5	Columbus		11,922
TUESDAY, August 18	Colorado	1-4	MetroStars		10,217
WEDNESDAY, August 19	Dallas	1-2	Miami		7,051
FRIDAY, August 21	Chicago	2-0	Colorado		24,450
SATURDAY, August 22	Los Angeles	5-1	New England		24,143
	MetroStars	1-2	DC United		16,729
	Tampa Bay	1-3	Columbus		25,110
	Dallas	1-2	San Jose	(SO 0-2)	11,706
SUNDAY, August 23	Miami	0-2	Kansas City		8,283
WEDNESDAY, August 26	DC United	2-1	Kansas City		6,401
SATURDAY, August 29	DC United	2-3	Tampa Bay	(SO 0-1)	12,670
	Chicago	3-2	Kansas City	(SO 3-2)	8,621
	MetroStars	0-2	Dallas		11,235
	Columbus	3-0	Los Angeles		19,633
	Colorado	3-1	San Jose		15,101
SUNDAY, August 30	New England	2-3	Miami		6,127
WEDNESDAY, September 2	New England	2-0	MetroStars		10,826
	Miami	2-3	Chicago		11,319
	Kansas City	2-3	Colorado		5,485
	Dallas	0-3	Los Angeles		9,113
THURSDAY, September 3	San Jose	1-2	Tampa Bay		5,880
SATURDAY, September 5	Los Angeles	5-3	Miami		14,731
	San Jose	1-5	Kansas City		6,755
SUNDAY, September 6	MetroStars	3-4	Columbus		13,598
WEDNESDAY, September 9	Miami	0-1	Columbus		9,305
THURSDAY, September 10	Chicago	2-3	Dallas		9,745
SATURDAY, September 12	Columbus	0-2	New England		35,462
SUNDAY, September 13	Colorado	1-3	Chicago		15,014
	DC United	3-4	Miami		8,255
	San Jose	3-1	Dallas		10,325
	MetroStars	1-2	Tampa Bay		27,954
WEDNESDAY, September 16	DC United	5-0	MetroStars		14,117
	Colorado	4-2	Columbus		9,166
	Los Angeles	1-0	San Jose	(SO 4-3)	15,893
THURSDAY, September 17	Kansas City	0-1	Chicago		8,283
SATURDAY, September 19	Tampa Bay	0-3	New England		16,807
	Miami	3-1	DC United		23,069
	Dallas	1-0	Kansas City		13,146
	Columbus	1-2	Colorado		23,452
SUNDAY, September 20	San Jose	1-0	Los Angeles		11,123
WEDNESDAY, September 23	New England	2-3	Chicago		11,244
THURSDAY, September 24	Tampa Bay	4-3	Columbus		14,552
SATURDAY, September 26	MetroStars	1-0	New England	(SO 4-2)	24,763
	Dallas	1-3	Colorado		15,022
SUNDAY, September 27	Tampa Bay	3-1	Miami		7,849
	Columbus	2-3	DC United	(SO 2-3)	14,440
	Kansas City	0-2	San Jose		18,362
	Chicago	0-1	Los Angeles		20,105

September

THE ROSE BOWL

Site of
MLS Cup '98



More than 92,000 fans witnessed the Los Angeles Galaxy battle the Tampa Bay Mutiny on June 16, 1996 at the Rose Bowl.

The Rose Bowl's plush green grass has been the field of dreams for professional, amateur and college athletes since the historic stadium opened in 1922. Considered one of the world's premier soccer venues, the Rose Bowl was the site of the 1994 World Cup championship match and was the soccer venue at the 1932 and 1984 Summer Olympic Games. This year Major League Soccer's premier event, MLS Cup '98, heads west to the Rose Bowl after being played at East Coast venues during the league's first two seasons.

Home to MLS' Los Angeles Galaxy and the UCLA football team, and the future site of the 1999 FIFA Women's World Cup Final, the Rose Bowl opened its gates on October 28, 1922, for its historical first gridiron football game when the University of California and the University of Southern California battled to a grueling finish. Since its opening, sports fans have attended five NFL Super Bowls and numerous other top-flight sporting events, including the annual Rose Bowl New Year's Day college football classic.

Along with the championship battle between Brazil and Italy at the 1994 World Cup, the Rose Bowl's storied soccer history has seen many large crowds, including the 92,216 fans who witnessed the Galaxy and Tampa Bay Mutiny along with

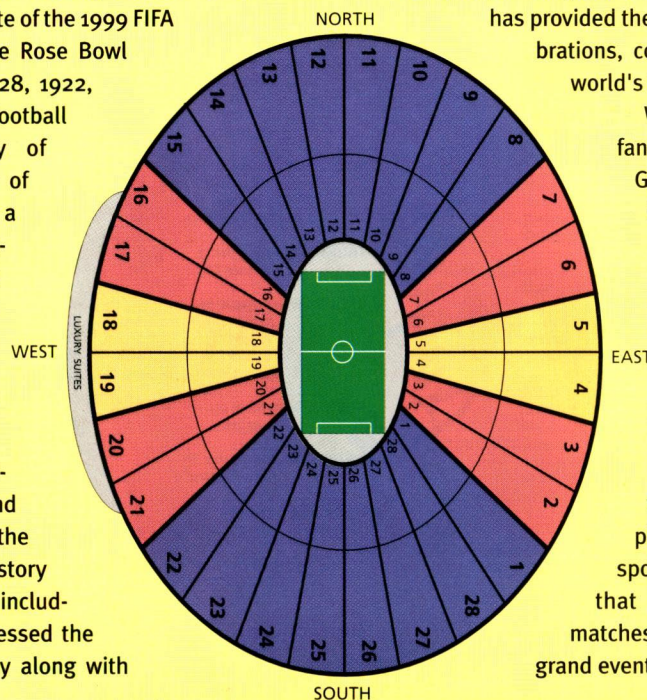
the United States vs. Mexico on June 16, 1996.

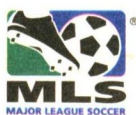
Legendary soccer stars such as Johann Cruyff, Franz Beckenbauer and Romario have all graced the Rose Bowl pitch. Next summer's FIFA Women's World Cup will bring top female soccer players to the historic venue.

Originally built to accommodate 57,000 fans, the Rose Bowl, named by police reporter and the first Tournament of Roses press officer Harlan W. Hall, has nearly doubled in size during the last 75 years and will seat more than 92,000 fans for MLS Cup. In addition to being a sports fan's fantasy arena, the Rose Bowl has provided the center stage for Fourth of July celebrations, concerts, religious services and the world's largest flea market, R.G. Canning.

With nearly more than 1.2 million fans coming through the turnstiles for Galaxy home games during three MLS seasons, sports fans are sure to come out in record numbers to experience the passion of MLS Cup '98.

"Major League Soccer is thrilled to have one of its premier events in Southern California," MLS Commissioner Douglas G. Logan said. "The Rose Bowl is a wonderful facility to host our championship match and the Southland sports community has demonstrated that it will support top-flight soccer matches. We look forward to staging a grand event."





OCTOBER 25

MLS CUP '98

ROSE BOWL



No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Hometown
18	ZACH THORNTON	GK	6-3	210	25	Edgewood, Maryland
24	DUSTY HUDOCK	GK	6-2	186	26	Phoenix, Arizona
2	C.J. BROWN	D	6-0	185	23	Hayward, California
3	RICH KOTSCHAU	D	5-10	170	22	Levittown, New York
5	LUBOS KUBIK	D	6-3	195	34	Prague, Czechoslovakia
6	TOM SOEHN	D	5-10	175	32	Frisco, Texas
17	ANDREW LEWIS	D	6-1	175	24	New Providence
20	FRANCIS OKAROH	D	6-0	170	35	Enugu, Nigeria
25	ZAK IBSEN	D	5-11	165	26	Santa Clara, California
7	MANNY LAGOS	M	6-0	165	27	St. Paul, Minnesota
8	DIEGO GUTIERREZ	M	5-7	155	25	Kansas City, Missouri
10	PETER NOWAK	M	5-7	145	34	Pabianice, Poland
11	ROMAN KOSECKI	M/F	5-8	165	32	Piaseczno, Poland
14	CHRIS ARMAS	M	5-7	150	26	Brentwood, New York
15	JESSE MARSCH	M	5-7	170	24	Racine, Wisconsin
19	JOSH KELLER	M	5-10	155	23	Laguna Niguel, California
41	FRANK KLOPAS	M/F	5-9	151	32	Chicago, Illinois
9	JERZY PODBROZNY	F	5-10	170	31	Przemysl, Poland
12	ANTE RAZOV	F	6-7	175	24	Whittier, California
16	JOSH WOLFF	F	5-8	160	21	Stone Mountain, Georgia
22	TONY KUHN	F	6-7	185	22	Memphis, Tennessee

HEAD COACH: Bob Bradley ASSISTANT COACHES: Mike Jeffries and Denis Hamlett

REGULAR SEASON TEAM LEADERS

SCORING

PLAYER	GOALS	ASSISTS	PTS
ANTE RAZOV	10	9	29
ROMAN KOSECKI	9	9	27
JERZY PODBROZNY	6	14	26
PETER NOWAK	6	12	24
LUBOS KUBIK	7	8	22
JOSH WOLFF	8	3	19
FRANK KLOPAS	6	4	16
CHRIS ARMAS	1	10	12
RICH KOTSCHAU	4	3	11
JESSE MARSCH	2	3	7

MINUTES PLAYED

PLAYER	GAMES	STARTS	MIN
CHRIS ARMAS	31	31	2790
LUBOS KUBIK	31	31	2790
C.J. BROWN	28	28	2470
FRANCIS OKAROH	26	26	2294
JESSE MARSCH	29	25	2199
ANTE RAZOV	30	24	2091
ZACH THORNTON	25	23	2076
ROMAN KOSECKI	25	25	1999
JERZY PODBROZNY	26	25	1979
RICH KOTSCHAU	24	23	1973

GOALKEEPING

GOALKEEPER	GAMES	GA	GAA	W	L
ZACH THORNTON	25	27	1.17	16	8
JORGE CAMPOS	8	15	1.89	4	3
SCOTT COUFAL	1	3	3.00	0	1

KEY:
GA=GOALS AGAINST
GAA=GOALS AGAINST AVERAGE

If the game is tied there will be 30 minutes of sudden-death overtime followed by a shootout.



OCTOBER 25

MLS CUP '98

ROSE BOWL



D.C. UNITED™

No.	Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.	Age	Hometown
1	SCOTT GARLICK	GK	6-2	185	26	Phoenix, Arizona
22	TOM PRESTHUS	GK	6-4	205	23	Dallas, Texas
3	CAREY TALLEY	D/M	6-2	180	22	Cordova, Tennessee
5	GEOFF AUNGER	D	5-11	170	30	Vancouver, British Columbia
8	BRIAN KAMLER	D/M	6-1	175	26	Ballwin, Missouri
11	MARIO GORI	D	5-7	165	25	Rosario, Argentina
12	JEFF AGOOS	D	5-10	175	30	Dallas, Texas
18	CARLOS LLAMOSA	D	5-11	166	29	Maspeth, New York
23	EDDIE POPE	D	6-0	175	24	High Point, North Carolina
24	CURT ONALFO	D	6-2	185	28	Tampico, Mexico
25	DANNY CARE	D	5-10	178	24	Peachtree City, Georgia
6	JOHN HARKES	M	5-11	165	31	Kearny, New Jersey
10	MARCO ETCHEVERRY	M	5-10	160	28	Santa Cruz, Bolivia
14	BEN OLSEN	M/F	5-8	140	21	Middletown, Pennsylvania
16	RICHIE WILLIAMS	M	5-5	145	28	Middletown, New Jersey
19	MIKE SLIVINSKI	M	5-7	165	23	St. Charles, Missouri
20	TONY SANNEH	M	6-2	190	27	St. Paul, Minnesota
33	JUDAH COOKS	M	6-1	175	21	Bethesda, Maryland
7	A.J. WOOD	F	6-2	195	25	Rockville, Maryland
9	JAIME MORENO	F	5-10	163	24	Santa Cruz, Bolivia
15	ROY LASSITER	F	5-8	165	29	Raleigh, North Carolina

HEAD COACH: Bruce Arena ASSISTANT COACH: Dave Sarachan

REGULAR SEASON TEAM LEADERS

SCORING

PLAYER	GOALS	ASSISTS	PTS
ROY LASSITER	18	6	42
WITH TAMPA BAY	0	2	2
TOTAL	18	8	44
JAIME MORENO	16	11	43
MARCO ETCHEVERRY	10	19	39
JOHN HARKES	6	6	18
BEN OLSEN	4	8	16
TONY SANNEH	5	6	16
RICHIE WILLIAMS	3	4	10

MINUTES PLAYED

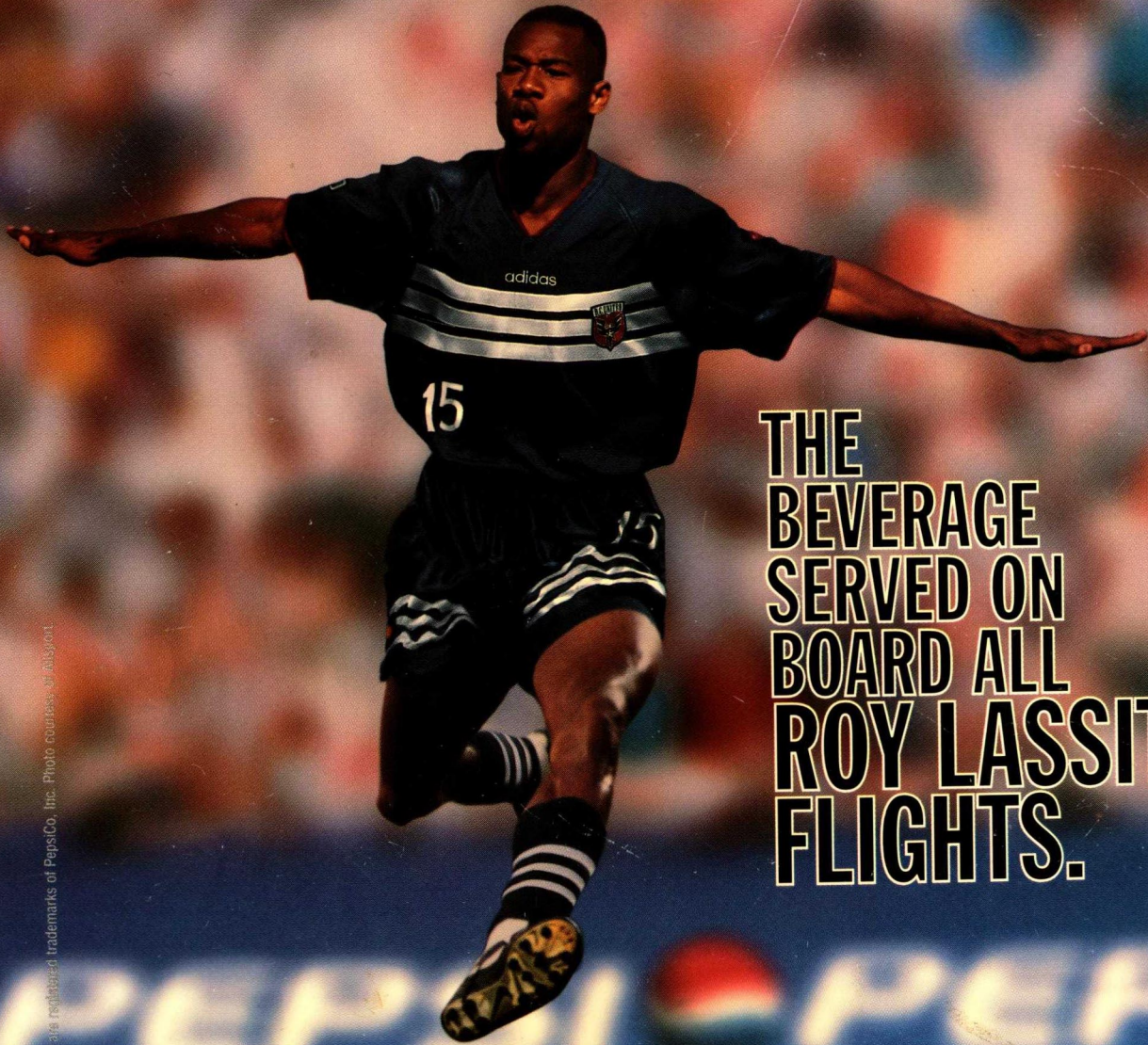
PLAYER	GAMES	STARTS	MIN
ROY LASSITER	25	23	2151
WITH TAMPA BAY	6	6	540
TOTAL	31	29	2691
RICHIE WILLIAMS	31	30	2672
JAIME MORENO	31	31	2610
JOHN HARKES	29	29	2600
MARCO ETCHEVERRY	29	29	2590
SCOTT GARLICK	25	25	2205
BEN OLSEN	31	24	2107

GOALKEEPING

GOALKEEPER	GAMES	GA	GAA	W	L
SCOTT GARLICK	25	35	1.43	19	5
TOM PRESTHUS	6	8	1.45	5	1
MARK SIMPSON	2	5	2.50	0	2

KEY:
GA=GOALS AGAINST
GAA=GOALS AGAINST AVERAGE

If the game is tied there will be 30 minutes of sudden-death overtime followed by a shootout.



**THE
BEVERAGE
SERVED ON
BOARD ALL
ROY LASSITER
FLIGHTS.**

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