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For Immediate Release

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#### STRIKERS SIGN 1980 NASL MVP ROGER DAVIES

FT. LAUDERDALE (May 3, 1983) ---The Ft. Lauderdale Strikers announced today that they have signed former Seattle Sounders' forward Roger Davies to a one-year contract. The 32-year-old Davies was the North American Soccer League's Most Valuable Player in 1980.

Davies was signed by the Strikers to bolster the team's forward line, thinned recently by the injury to Brian Kidd and Andrew Parkinson's loan to Team America. The affable Englishman is best remembered by Striker fans for a match last September 8 in Game Two of Ft. Lauderdale's semi-final series against Seattle. In that contest, Davies came on a substitute and scored a second half equalizing goal, then after the Strikers had again gone ahead, he notched another tying tally with only 43 seconds remaining in regulation time. That goal kept the Strikers out of Soccer Bowl '83. To add 'insult to injury,' Davies also furnished the key assist on Kenny Hibbitt's overtime winner.

"We're very pleased to be able to sign a player of Roger's abilities," said Striker General Manager Tim Robbie. "We're confident that he can come in and help us immediately. I've heard nothing but good reports about Roger as a player, and his excellent repore with the Seattle fans."

Davies, who is Seattle's all-time leader in scoring points, played only 12 games in 1982 due to knee surgery. The previous season, he saw action in 22 games with six goals and five assists. However, it was the 1980 season that Davies is remembered for. That year, he pumped in 25 goals and added 11 assists to help the Sounders to a league-best 25-7 record. For his efforts, he was named the NASL's Most Valuable Player and was a First Team All-Star. His '80 campaign included nine game-winning goals and a streak of seven consecutive games in which he scored at least one goal. Davies had begun his NASL career in 1979 with the Tulsa Roughnecks before being dealt to Seattle.

"With the injury situation to Brian (Kidd) and the loan of Parkinson to Team America, our team has been depleted of a target player," said Striker Head Coach David Chadwick. "To obtain Roger Davies gives us a quality forward who can step into the lineup right away. His strengths are his heading ability and his excellent body and ball control for a big man."

Davies began his soccer career with Worcester City in 1970, signing his first professional contract with Derby County later that year. He stayed with Derby until a 1976 transfer to Bruges of Belgium, where he scored 20 goals in his 18-month stay to earn Player of the Year honors. In 1977, Bruges sold him to Leicester City of the English First Division for a Leicester record fee of \$500,000.00. The 6-2, 190 lb. Davies spent two years with Leicester before his stateside arrival in the NASL.

#### ROGER DAVIES

DATE OF BIRTH: November 25, 1950  
PLACE OF BIRTH: Wolverhampton, England  
CITIZENSHIP: England  
HEIGHT: 6-2  
WEIGHT: 190 lbs.  
WIFE: Liz  
CHILDREN: Benjamin (19 mos.)

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# DAVIES' NASL STATISTICS

## Regular Season

YEAR	CLUB	GP	GS	MIN	SH	FL	G	A	TP
1979	Tulsa	22	20	1820	73	72	8	7	23
1980	Seattle	29	27	2635	130	101	25	11	61
1981	Seattle	22	21	1710	55	76	6	5	17
1982	Seattle	12	6	751	23	28	1	3	5
4 -YEAR TOTALS		85	74	6916	281	277	40	26	106

## Playoffs

YEAR	CLUB	GP	GS	MIN	SH	FL	G	A	TP
1979	Tulsa	5	5	396	8	12	2	1	5
1980	Seattle	5	5	393	11	10	2	2	6
1981	Seattle	3	3	245	7	3	2	1	5
1982	Seattle	5	0	113	5	6	2	1	5
TOTALS		18	13	1147	31	31	8	5	21