

NEWS RELEASE



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DIRECTOR OF
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Into the second half of their American Soccer League schedule, hot in pursuit of Eastern Division leadership and a berth in the championship playoffs, go the Chicago Cats.

They take their exciting brand of play eastward to face two division rivals, the New Jersey Americans July 9 at Freehold, N.J., and the champion New York Apollo July 10 at Hofstra Stadium, Uniondale, N.Y., on Long Island.

The Cats and Apollo then meet in a return game in Chicago, at Hanson Stadium, Wednesday night, July 14. The six teams in the Eastern Division are so closely bunched that each game decision alters the standings markedly.

As an example, following their 2-0 victory over the Connecticut Yankees in their last game, the Cats with six wins, four losses and two ties found themselves with the best record percentage-wise in the Eastern Division, but trailing Rhode Island, 6-6-2, in the standings because the Oceansiders with two more games played had extra bonus points for goals scored.

New York, 5-4-2 at this stage, has won two championships, finished runnerup twice and tied Boston, now defunct, for the crown last year in its remarkable five-year showing in the league. The Apollos' Team to consecutive victories over Poland, 1-0, Canada, 3-0, and Bermuda, 1-0, a feat unmatched by any other U.S. coach. In the past six years he has been head or assistant coach of the U.S. World Cup, Olympic and National Teams.

Iris DeBrito, the former NASL star who recently signed as a Cats' scout, also became a player in the Cats' rout of Connecticut and looked good in the forward line. He is counted on for heavy duty when he fully rounds into shape.

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