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Sacramento Spirits vs. New Jersey Americans

Friday, June 11, 1976 - 7:30 P.M.

Sacramento State University Stadium

The Sacramento Spirits, winless since a 3 to 1 decision over New York, hope to return to the victory column this Friday night (June 11) at the expense of the New Jersey Americans. The two A.S.L. clubs are scheduled for a 7:30 P.M. kickoff at Sacramento State University Stadium.

Presently showing a 2-5-3 record in league action, the Spirits are ready and eager to end a four game losing skid while avenging an earlier loss to the New Jersey team. The Americans won the first meeting between the two teams 4 to 1 as Joe Di Salvo and John Roeslein each scored two goals in the first half. Leo Rojas hit the single goal for the Spirits.

Coach Dick Ott has not named his entire starting lineup for Friday's contest but two newcomers, Victor "Mighty Mouse" Arbelaez and Bernard "Dancing Shoes" Hartze, are certain to get opening kick assignments. Arbelaez, a member of the national championship University of San Francisco soccer team and later with the San Diego Jaws, joined

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the Spirits last week and has already appeared in two tilts. Hartze joined the Sacramento club as part of a recent trade with the Tacoma Tides for Wolfgang Gartner. A native of Capetown, South Africa, Hartze impressed Ott with his steady play against Utah last Sunday.

The New Jersey visitors, coached by C. Richard Melvin, bring a 3-5-1 league record to Sacramento. Coach Melvin, a graduate of Newark State College, was named "Coach of the Year" by the New Jersey Soccer Coaches Association in 1974 while serving as head coach at Neptune High School. Melvin, like the Spirits Dick Ott, believes in a "United States" philosophy of soccer.

In addition to Di Salvo and Roeslein, the Americans have an outstanding goalkeeper in Woody Hartman, a former All-American player at Temple University. Other New Jersey starters to watch include Skip Roderick, a defender from Elizabethtown College; Ed Blaney, defender, St. Joseph's College and Dennis Werner, mid-fielder, St. Louis University. Only three members of the New Jersey roster are non-U.S. college graduates.

Latest Spirits statistics show Otey "Boom-Boom" Cannon still leading the scoring drive with three goals and two assists. Mingo Fajardo has taken a total of 26 shots on goal to lead the team in that category.

(Complete Spirits statistics enclosed)