

■ BOYZ BACK TO BASICS

Bruce Arena's new-look American team faces its first road test against CONCACAF opposition on Feb. 12 in Kingston, Jamaica, against the Reggae Boyz.

The United States is unbeaten in five games at Kingston's National Stadium, including a pair of 0-0 ties in qualifying for the 1998 and 2002 World Cups.

Feb. 12 is an international fixture, so Jamaica coach Carl

Brown will be able to recall his many English-based players, but he has relied heavily on young players in recent games.

The Boyz had their 10-game unbeaten streak since the 2002 World Cup snapped Jan. 12, falling, 1-0, to Barbados in Bridgetown.

Brown, who returned as national team coach in late 2001 after a succession of Brazilian coaches since 1994, started three MLS players against Barbados: defender Tyrone Marshall of the Los Angeles Galaxy and MetroStars midfielders Andrew Williams and Craig Ziadie.