SOCCER CLUB COACHES NEWSLETTER
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A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD COACH

By John Welsch

Let me start out by thanking **Kathy McMenamin** for all her time and incredible efforts in organizing the BC Force Silent Auction and Awards Night. It was a wonderful evening at Monarch High School in which we were able to raise money for the **Rachel Small Scholarship Fund** and recognize our players, coaches and volunteers for their outstanding contributions. It was a great atmosphere and it was neat to see that many BC Force families together in one place having a good time.

The league season is winding down and we have several teams still in the hunt for league championships and promotion. To avoid any kind of jinx I will not yet mention the teams and coaches in question.

At this writing staff coach **Rob Johnson** is donning his speedo bathing suit and playing beach soccer on the Copacabana in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil....just kidding, however, Rob is attending the NSCAA Premier License in Brazil. Upon his return he'll be giving his impressions of the Brazilian futebol.....without the speedo I can only hope.

Congratulations to **Jeff Frykholm's Boys U12 Red** and **Hardy Kalisher's Boys U13 Red** for reaching the State Cup quarter finals. In this issue you will find a recap on all our teams.

Preparations for the Rocky Mountain Cup are well under way. Applications are still coming in and it looks like this will be an exciting event which will take place during the weekend of June 17, 18 and 19 at Pleasant View Soccer complex. Contact the office at 303-443-8877 if you are able to volunteer your time during that weekend.

This summer our **Girls 16 Red** team coached by **Barb** and **Gary Beals** will travel to Europe to participate in the Gothia Cup and the Holland Cup. The team is working hard raising the necessary funds and you will find them running the concession stands during the Rocky Mountain Cup.

Congratulations to **Shannon** and **Hardy Kalisher** on the birth of their son **Owen Hunter**, born on Monday May 2nd, 2005.

I want to thank all our coaches, team managers, board members, administrators and volunteers for all their hard work this spring season. This would not work without you. Thanks!

Finally, not much time until tryouts. We recently had our pre-tryout coaches meeting at which I requested that all our current players in the U11 through U17 age groups receive a written evaluation prior to the tryouts. Good luck to all coaches and players during the tryouts.

Have A Better Tryout Performance

Compiled by Hardy Kalisher

At tryouts, you are accompanied by many other players with the exact same goal of making the best team they can. Included in the group of hopefuls are players that fall into five categories: 1) The ones who will surely make the team and know it; 2) The ones who will surely make the team but don't think they will; 3) The ones who have a 50/50 chance of making it; 4) The ones with no chance but think they do; 5) The ones with no shot and know it.

Let's assume you fall into category #3. The tryout is your opportunity to tip the scale in your favor. To ensure that you enter the tryout with every advantage you can, here are some tips.

1. Show Your Strengths

There is something about every player that makes them special. Take a few minutes to figure out what makes you a special player. Make a list and be sure to work on your strengths every day before the tryout. You're going to need them.

You might be an above-average header. You could have a long throw-in. You might be a great organizer, a slick passer, or perhaps you possess a powerful and accurate shot. You might be a tenacious defender, or a hard tackler. You might be able to read the game well, set the pace or run all day. Whatever your strength is, make sure you exhibit it every day.

2. Remain Positive

There is not a coach in the world who is looking for a player whose main strength is whining and complaining. So keep any negative comments to yourself, and be sure to encourage everyone. Coaches want tean players.

3. Be Consistent

You never know when someone is watching. Every activity, stretch or water break deserves your full effort and attention. If you get bored with an activity, find a way to get un-bored quickly. Coaches are not looking for players they have to constantly motivate.

4. Don't Over-Specialize

A coach may ask you what position you play. You should let the coach know where you have played in the past, but you are willing to play anywhere, or you are willing to learn anything. Again, coaches like team players. When you advance a level, chances are pretty good that you will need to play a new position. It's also very rare for two different coaches to look at the same player and see the exact same qualities. Your old coach may have preferred to play you at outside mid, while your new coach may see some tendencies of a central defender in you. Be flexible.

5. Play Smart

No one is expecting you to beat every player on the field every time you touch the ball. There are times you dribble and there are times when you pass. Make sure the coach is impressed, but don't overdo it.

6. Pay Attention

Don't be high-maintenance. If a coach is explaining a drill, watch and listen so you are able to understand it. A coach can tell if you are paying attention because you look them in the eye.

7. Relax

If you are tense and nervous, your performance will show it. You can't concentrate on passing a ball if you are concerned with outside influences.

Other points of advice:

- Run to each session or practice area and try to be the first one to the coaches.
- Coaches notice the players who are within view. Don't hid on the field.
- Show up looking like a pro. Wear soccer shorts. Keep your shirt tucked in.
- Don't try to read the coaches' mind. You can only control yourself.
- Keep it simple. The coaches are looking for good fundamentals and ball control.
- Work hard on defense. If you lose the ball, fight to get it back.
- There is never a time in soccer to just stand still or walk. Coaches are not looking for players who just stand around and wait for the action to come their way.

- Communicate to the other players. Even if you don't know a player's name, you can tell him if they have time to dribble or need to pass the ball.

Tips for parents:
- Be sure to help your child arrive 30 minutes early so they can be ready to play.
- Research shows that players feel more comfortable and play better when their parents watch quietly from a distance.
- Take your child for ice cream after the tryouts.
- Appreciate your child's effort.

Are Development, Winning and Fun Mutually Exclusive or Not?

From Finesoccer.com

When working with youth teams does the coach have to choose between having a winning team, developing players for long term growth or them having fun? How many times have you seen a team that was a powerhouse as a U10 or U11 but by the time they are U14 or U16 they are an average team at best? On the other hand, how often have you seen a team that was average as a younger team but a strong team as they got older? Is there a way to develop players, have them enjoy themselves and still win games in the long run?

Let's first start by looking at why many of these younger, stronger teams win when they are young but frequently don't continue to win, as they get older. Many of these teams will use a style of play that takes advantage of size or speed as well as individual ability and they are able to completely overwhelm most of their opponents. While this works well short term in terms of winning games, it doesn't prepare the players for when they come up against opponents who have more size or speed or have more individual or team ability. Inevitably other teams will have someone who is bigger, stronger, faster or more skillful and when this happens, the team is unprepared to address these issues. On the other hand, the team that struggles when they are younger but are working hard, learning and having fun, will have encountered these more talented players from the start and will learn to combat it by playing smarter (if you are playing against faster players when you are younger and learn to combat speed with better positioning you will be better prepared than the team that has never been in this position before).

Another example of how the win at all cost at the younger ages may hamper a team's development is when you look at playing time decisions. The star players when they are younger are frequently not the dominant players when they are older (it's not uncommon for them to simply be the players who matured earlier and when the others catch up, they are now on equal footing but haven't developed technically or tactically because they were able to get by on other things when they were younger). The teams that make sure everyone gets fair playing time will allow all of the players to develop as opposed to the teams who have some players sitting on the bench for entire games. Maybe this will help those teams win short term but long term the players who were on the bench will not develop the way they should and will probably end up leaving soccer to do something more enjoyable than sitting on the bench. These players who are sitting on the bench are frequently the ones who with training and playing time will develop into better players when they get older because they will eventually catch up physically and will have had to learn the game more when they were younger in order to compete.

It's been my experience that the more teams work hard, learn and have fun, the more they will be successful in the long term.

In my opinion, development, fun and winning not only are not mutually exclusive but at the youth level, in the long run, winning is a direct result of development and fun while those who go in the other direction don't realize that if the emphasis is solely on winning, it's at the expense of development and fun..

BC FORCE HALL OF FAME 2005 INDUCTEE

Our 2005 Hall of Fame Inductee is also known as the Dean of Social Studies at Fairview High School. I'd like to think of him as the Dean of soccer in Boulder.

He grew up on Long Island, NY where his talents as a third baseman caught the eye of his high school coach. From that point on he starred as a goalkeeper for his high school and he then went on to play collegiately at SUNY-Fredonia.

After coming to his senses and moving to Colorado, he quickly immersed himself in the local soccer community. He ran the City of Boulder's adult soccer league and he became the first Head Coach of FC Boulder. His first team, the FC Boulder '68 boys contained a large number of players who eventually ended up on the Fall 1984 Fairview State Runner-Up High School team. His most spectacular graduate was **Brad Walsh**, who eventually played at San Diego State and was captain to **Marcello Balboa** and **Eric Wynalda**.

As a fundraising project for that '68 Boys team and FC Boulder, our inductee established what we now know as the BC Force Indoor Classic. Initially, the tournament was held at multiple venues such as Fairview High, Southern Hills, Burbank, Baseline and Boulder High. The event is now held at the University of Colorado's Field house and is one of the club's major fundraisers.

Our inductee became the Fairview High School Boys and Girls coach in the fall of 1981. He quickly developed the boys' team and took them to the State Final in 1984 and the quarter final in 1985. Fairview dominated the Centennial League for two years. His 1992 boys' team reached the state semi final.

I personally coached against our inductee many times while I was Head Coach at Boulder high school. Too many times I was at the losing end of another frustrating night at Recht Field, and I would be tossing and turning through yet another sleepless night.

During those years, our inductee was a member of the CSYSA staff as well as one of the State's Olympic Development Coaches.

After coaching the Fairview Girls for 11 years, he dedicated himself to some of our very best boys competitive teams. One spring season we actually had two Hall of Fame coaches working with a team which consisted of future collegiate players such as **Patrick Huffer**, **Steve Owens**, **Daniel Biggers**, **Matt Lay** and **Ian Carbone**. I'm sure one of his memorable coaching moments came when he took the BC Force U16 Red team (with his son **Dan Jozwiak**) to Europe and came back with a third place trophy from the Holland Cup.

Any coach or soccer fan who knows our inductee, knows that he has always been willing and eager to keep improving his coaching. He kept adapting his knowledge to both high school and club soccer and he has never stopped playing the game at some level (during the months of January, February and March you can find our inductee every Thursday night in the Fairview gym kicking the ball around with a group of soccer fanatics).

I'm proud to introduce to you this year's Hall of Fame inductee, **Stan Jozwiak**.

BC FORCE Game Results

Boys 18 Red (P1) 2-4-1 vs Explosion 0-2; vs Aurora 1-3; vs Club Utd 3-0; vs Pikes Peak 2-2; vs SW Cobras 7-1; vs TMSA 0-2; vs Chaffee Utd 2-5
Boys 18 Barca (P2) 6-2-1 vs Xtreme 4-1; vs Pikes Peak 1-3; vs Skyline 3-3; vs Englewood 6-0; vs Grand Mesa 0-1; vs LUSA 3-1; vs Englewood 8-3; vs Pueblo 3-0; vs Canon City 3-1
Boys 17 Red (P1) 6-1-0 vs CSA 1-0; vs Ft Collins 4-0; vs Corinthians 4-3; vs TMSA 5-0; vs LUSA 7-0; vs Club Utd 6-1; vs Storm 1-2
Boys 17 Barca (Cl) 2-6-1 vs CSA 0-1; vs Xtreme 1-1; vs Edge 0-1; vs Littleton 1-3; vs Trebol 2-0; vs C&C 5-1; vs CSA 1-2; vs Xtreme 1-2; vs Edge 1-5
Boys 16 Red (E3) 4-4-0 vs Pueblo 2-0; vs Littleton 3-0; vs Real 0-3; vs Xtreme 1-5; vs Pikes Peak 2-3; vs Ft Collins 2-0; vs Rush 1-2; vs Guadalajara 4-1
Boys 15 Red (P2) 5-2-2 vs Broomfield 3-0; vs Storm 2-1; vs Riverside 6-1; vs Real 0-3; vs Grand Mesa 1-2; vs Explosion 2-2; vs Littleton 4-3; vs TMSA 2-1; vs Pride 1-1
Boys 14 Red (P1) 3-5-1 vs Xtreme 1-1; vs Real 0-1; vs Chivas 1-2; vs Ft Collins 1-0; vs Storm 0-5; vs Ft Collins 3-0; vs Nova 1-4; vs Rush 1-3; vs Edge 1-0
Boys 14 Barca (Cl) 4-4-2 vs Real 2-0; vs LUSA 2-0; vs Pride 1-2; vs Storm 3-3; vs Grand Mesa 0-3; vs Basalt 4-6; vs Storm 0-0; vs Pueblo 2-1; vs Rush 1-3; vs Pride 1-0
Boys 14 Man U (Ch1) 2-7-1 vs Ft Collins 1-2; vs Westminster 0-2; vs Club Utd 0-4; vs Xtreme 2-4; vs Pikes Peak 2-1; vs Broomfield 0-1; vs Explosion 0-5; vs Bear Creek 2-0; vs Pride 1-2
Boys 13 Red (P2) 3-1-4 vs Club Denver 3-3; vs Xtreme 1-1; vs Aurora 1-1; vs Colorado Elite 2-3; vs Pride 2-0; vs Rush 3-3; vs Evergreen 4-2; vs St Vrain 3-0
Boys 13 Barca (Cl) 0-7-0 vs TMSA 0-4; vs Pueblo 1-12; vs Ft Collins 0-7; vs Cheyenne 0-6; vs St Vrain 1-2; vs Real 1-3; vs Nova 1-3
Boys 12 Red (P1) 1-5-3 vs Real 1-7; vs Corinthians 0-1; vs Real 4-0; vs St Vrain 1-1; vs Aurora 0-0; vs Ft Collins 0-2; vs Storm 0-5; vs Rush 2-2; vs Littleton 1-3
Boys 11 Red (P1) 0-8-1 vs Storm 0-3; vs St Vrain 0-2; vs Real 0-4; vs Rush 1-3; vs Edge 2-2; vs Ft Collins 0-9; vs Storm 0-7; vs Broomfield 2-5; vs Aurora 4-5
Boys 11 Barca (Cl) 1-5-2 vs Greeley 0-0; vs Rush 1-5; vs Edge 1-2; vs Corinthians 0-6; vs Club Denver 3-3; vs Storm 4-1; vs Cheyenne 0-3; vs Trebol 1-3
Boys 11 Juve (Cl) 0-7-1 vs Rush 0-2; vs Xtreme 0-3; vs Broomfield 1-3; vs Laramie 0-0; vs TMSA 1-2; vs Pikes Peak 0-4; vs Corinthians 0-5; vs Storm 1-4
Boys 11 Man U (Ch1) 2-7-0 vs Edge 2-4; vs St Vrain 0-5; vs Rush 3-2; vs Pride 1-4; vs Pikes Peak 5-2; vs Colorado Elite 0-9; vs Colorado Elite 0-2; vs Pride 0-4; vs Aurora 1-7

Girls 14 Red (Cl) 6-0-3 vs Xtreme 3-3; vs Trebol 2-1; vs Club Utd 3-0; vs Colorado Elite 1-1; vs Ft Collins 2-0; vs Pride 2-1; vs St Vrain 2-0; vs Storm 2-0; vs Rush 1-2
Girls 13 Red (P2) 5-3-1 vs Aurora 0-1; vs Pueblo 2-4; vs Xtreme 2-0; vs Grand Mesa 2-0; vs Pride 0-0; vs CSA 0-5; vs Nova 3-2; vs Ft Collins 8-2; vs Real 1-0
G13 Tar Heels (Ch1) 4-3-2 vs SW Denver 2-4; vs Storm 0-1; vs Ft Collins 1-1; vs Riverside 4-0; vs TMSA 0-6; vs Nova 2-0; vs Rush 6-0; vs Storm 5-1; vs Rush 4-4
Girls 13 Pilots (Ch2) 2-1-4 vs Explosion 0-0; vs Trebol 2-1; vs Westminster 1-1; vs Club Denver 1-1; vs Wheatridge 3-3; vs Littleton 1-2; vs Skyline 4-0
Girls 12 Red (Ch1) 6-2-0 vs Storm 0-2; vs Evergreen 2-0; vs Colorado Elite 1-0; vs Pikes Peak 3-1; vs Trebol 3-1; vs Edge 3-0; vs Real 1-3; vs Greeley 4-0

G12 Tar Heels (Ch2) 2-7-1 vs Club Denver 1-6; vs TMSA 0-1; vs Pride 0-2; vs Rush 3-3; vs Colorado Elite 2-1; vs Storm 0-3; vs Nova 0-5; vs St Vrain 0-3; vs Explosion 1-3; vs Storm 1-0
Girls 11 Red (P2) 6-1-2 vs Ft Collins 1-1; vs Pueblo 4-1; vs Club Denver 4-0; vs Pride 0-2; vs Westminster 2-1; vs Ft Collins 4-0; vs Grand Mesa 1-0; vs Storm 5-0; vs Storm 2-2
G11 Tar Heels (Ch1) 4-5-0 vs Rush 0-2; vs Storm 3-1; vs Storm 0-4; vs Ft Collins 1-4; vs Colorado Elite 1-2; vs Westminster 1-0; vs Corinthians 2-1; vs Edge 0-4; vs Pikes Peak 4-0

THE HIGH SCHOOL PAGE

ALEXANDER DAWSON
Record: 7-6-0

vs Silver Creek		0-9
vs Colorado Academy	0-5	
vs Weld Central	4-0	
vs Holy Family		1-3
vs Academy of Charter		4-0
vs Resurrection Christ	7-2	
vs Heritage Christian	4-3	
vs Jefferson Academy	4-1	
vs Kent Denver		0-10
vs Nederland	7-1	
vs Maranatha Christian		3-4
vs Longmont Christian		2-1
Playoffs: vs Fountain Valley		1-4

BOULDER
Record: 7-7-1

vs Horizon	2-0	
vs Centaurus	3-0	
vs Monarch	4-1	
vs Littleton	3-2	
vs Fort Collins	1-8	
vs Grandview	0-3	
vs Mullen	1-3	
vs Cherry Creek	2-4	
vs Fairview	1-2	
vs Eaglecrest	3-0	
vs Overland	0-1	
vs Evergreen	4-2	
vs Smoky Hill	2-4	
vs Niwot	1-1	

CENTAURUS
Record: 9-7-0

vs Northridge	1-2	
vs Elizabeth	10-0	
vs Boulder	0-3	
vs Holy Family		1-3
vs Monarch	0-6	
vs Adams City	4-0	
vs Skyview	8-0	
vs Denver North	10-0	
vs Aurora Central	1-3	
vs Hinkley	13-3	
vs Brighton	1-3	
vs Westminster		10-0
vs Ranum	5-1	
vs Cherokee Trail	3-0	
vs Montbello	9-0	
Playoffs: vs Niwot		0-2

FAIRVIEW
Record: 8-3-4

vs Columbine	2-1	
vs Thomas Jefferson	3-0	
vs Horizon	4-0	
vs Denver East		3-1
vs Grand Junction	3-1	
vs Palmer	1-1	
vs Eaglecrest	1-1	
vs Overland	3-0	
vs Smoky Hill	0-1	
vs Boulder	2-1	
vs Mullen	1-1	
vs Cherry Creek	1-1	
vs Grandview	2-1	
vs Fort Collins	2-4	
Playoffs: vs Standley Lake		2-1

Playoffs: vs Heritage 1-2

MONARCH
Record: 10-6-0

vs Gateway 8-0
vs Grandview 1-4
vs Air Academy 1-0
vs Boulder 1-4
vs Centaurus 6-0
vs Horizon 4-1
vs Legacy 3-2
vs Poudre 3-1
vs Thornton 3-0
vs Rocky Mountain 0-3
vs Bear Creek 2-3
vs Loveland 7-0
vs Fort Collins 0-3
vs Northglenn 2-1
vs Golden 3-0
Playoffs: vs Lewis-Palmer 1-2

BC FORCE Awards Individual Honors Of The Year

Boys Competitive Coach Of The Year:
Andrew Hackbarth (U13 Boys Barca)

Andrew coaches our Boys U13 Barca team. After a terrific fall season, in which the boys moved up to the Classic division, the team has had a rougher time against tougher competition. Yet, Andy's positive coaching has kept the boys motivated and they are still enjoying the game.

Developmental Coach Of The Year:
Boys: John Windsor (Team England)

Developmental Coach Of The Year:
Girls: Deborah Breakell (Team Spain)

Girls Competitive Coach Of The Year:
Barb and Gary Beals (U16 Girls Red)

Barb and Gary have been involved with our club for a long time. Initially they coached the younger girls' teams, however, these past years they have been involved with the high school age groups. Besides their knowledge and love for the game, their strength has been in giving our players lifetime memories of not just soccer, but of long lasting friendships. Barb and Gary were masters of creating bonds and unity within a team. Through team dinners, midnight hikes, bowling parties, sleep overs and out-of-state travel to tournaments, our players will always remember Barb and Gary.

Barb and Gary recently moved from Boulder to the Southern part of our state. They will coach the girls during the tournament season as well as on their trip to Europe.

Barb and Gary, we will miss you. Thank you for all you have done. You guys are great!

BC Force Volunteer Of The Year:
Lauren Hager

Lauren has the difficult task of assigning the officials to all our league games. One can only imagine the amount of phone calls it takes to get a Saturday schedule filled. Lauren, thanks!

BC Force Manager Of The Year:
Nancy Harpin

Nancy, aka 'Guidette', is very active with our Colorado Rapids fundraising events. Thanks for all your hard work.

Girls' Competitive Player Of The Year
U15-U18: Kami York-Fern

Boys' Competitive Player Of The Year
U15-U18: Wynn Sullivan

Girls' Competitive Player Of The Year
U11-U14: Devon Muldoon

Boys' Competitive Player Of The Year
U11-U14: Devin Kuh

Developmental Player Of The Year
Girls: Kristin Breakell

Developmental Player Of The Year
Boys: Bryan Windsor

Team Awards:

U10's: Jeremy Katz, Caitlyn Cole, Chris Frank.
U11's: Ali Hinton, Katlyn Lokay, Rosa Loredo, Nikki Machalek, Kourtney Fosse, Julia Damico, Alex Lugbill, Caleb Killian, Matt Ginley-Hidinger, Jack Marshall, Austin Peterman, Oak Nelson, Dakota Muench, Grey O'Neill, Jake Lowell, Jack Huettel, Thomas Taylor, Eric Kronenberg.
U12's: Libby Marsden, Ali Carleton, Isabella Funke, Carlee Lough, Sara Hafen, Deanna Montzka, Logan Ernst, Christopher Cartwright, Peter Van Dusen.
U13's: Leslie Tanis, Gabi Murillo, Lindsie Katz, Lauren Robb, Laura Farnsworth, Lucy Jacobson, Annie Stuller, Janina Korba, Kelly Emery, Logan Manaker, Josh Hinseth-Rohr, Luke Ogden, Lucas Pena-Gonzales.
U14's: Devin Muldoon, Katie Perry, Sara VanDore, Marcus Kyte, Taylor Rastello, Forrest Peterman, George Haydock, Charlie Hager, Adam Hinkelman, Kevin Pocalyko, Andrew Flint.
U15's: Alissa Halvorson, Jennie Bellhouse, Gwen McGillivray, Megan VanDore, Maya Neam, Nina Onsager, Kara Peters, Kayla Simmering, Malia Guy, Suvan Yang, Brian Fauver, AJ Falloon.
U16's: Melanie Pitkin, Claire Sarson, Rachel Hilmer, Emily Schewe, Tanya Thielen, Jessica Frye, Nathan Kafer, Ben Donovan, Michael Lehrer.
U17's: Jordan Puckett, Jenny Heitman, Emily Wigington, Tim Doherty, Paul Foley, Mike Gaisbauer, Eduardo Leal, Peter Rumbles, Doug Harano.
U18's: Kami York-Fern, Megan Arndt, Jordan Miller, Amy Sailer, Andrea Roberts, Lauren Deese, Chase LaPointe, Alex McCaffree, Sebastian De Cunsel, Ben Forbes.

Rob's Ramblings

As some of you might have heard I had the honor of spending eight days in Brazil. Now this was not a vacation but a coaching class. 76 people applied to this course and 36 fortunate ones got accepted to the NSCAA International Premier Course. This course is the equivalent of the USSF 'A' License.

The only drawback of taking a course in Brazil is having to actually travel to Brazil. I left my house on Friday May 6th at 5:15 AM and after three different flights arrived in Brazil on Saturday May 7th at 9:10 AM, jet-lagged and delirious.

The course was held at the Clube Paranesse Athletico's professional soccer training grounds. This was the best part of the whole trip. Seeing a professional club and how it works was amazing. This club has five teams, the U13's, U15's, U17's, U20's and the Pro team. They train at the same time right next to each other. The complex has multiple soccer fields and also fields with different types of surfaces. There's a skills area and a beach soccer area. There's a full medical staff and a complete weight room. There are also dormitories for the younger players on site. This was the complete package. We observed the players during their practices and scrimmages. We also saw the U15's play a game against one of the local town club teams. The highlight of the week was watching the Pro team's Cup game in their stadium. There was a terrific atmosphere, although after the home team lost I felt a little vulnerable leaving the stadium. Apparently, the fans believed that the 'Americans' had put a hex on the game.

There were four NSCAA Staff coaches conducting the daily sessions, as well as the Head Coach of the CAP youth teams. The NSCAA instructors were Schellas Hyndman (SMU's Men's head coach), Barry Gorman (Penn State's Men's head coach), Jeff Tipping (NSCAA Director of Coaching) and Anson Dorrance (North Carolina's Women's head coach).

The course was structured so that each day we dealt with a different system of play. We discussed the 3-4-3, 3-5-2, 4-4-2 and 4-3-3. We analyzed how to play each system, as well as how to beat them. Each of the instructors runs one of these formations with their respective teams. The funny part of this was that when Anson Dorrance talked about the 3-4-3 formation, he mentioned the weakness of it, but he said "What do you think we work on in practice?" "So if you look at my system and try to play the ball into the corner to beat us don't you think we have worked on it?" I had never thought that way before. At the club level with only three practices per week, we do not have time to work on the weaknesses of our systems.

As much fun as this was, and a once in a life time trip, it was also pretty physically demanding. To pass the course you were tested in three areas. Match analysis, oral questions and a field session. The first two areas are self explanatory, but the field session was not easy. There were 36 candidates, which means two teams of 18. You had to run a twenty minute practice on your topic and then a ten minute scrimmage against the other team. During the scrimmage you needed to make two coaching points pertaining to your topic. This was the difficult part. When you're watching the game, can you analyze the problem, take that problem out of the game, fix it, and then put it back into the game. Many coaches have a tough time doing this.

Many soccer people believe that Brazilian soccer is merely assembling some players, roll out the ball and be entertained. I can now tell you that this is definitely not the case. Their practices are very organized, actually broken down to the minute. They run the players through patterns, work on lots of finishing and different 1 vs 1 situations. They work on every aspect of the game to make all of their players complete soccer players. Brazil is a country rich in soccer tradition. Their game is very attack oriented, but to play that way you must have good defenders.