

World Cup: It's Big Bora



BRAD EMMONS

It's only a day away.
World Cup fever?
It feels more like a worldwide virus. It's enough to make you sick.
When the world comes to America — excuse me — when Brazil, Romania, Sweden and Switzerland come to the Pontiac Silverdome — it's supposed to captivate all the non-phobic soccer fans.
They tell us it's going to capture our hearts and our imagination. (That's what local soccer ambassador Andy Chapman tells us every week in the Detroit News.)
Sorry, I won't get near the place.
I had my fill when the Brits and the Germans played an exhibition game last summer.

Local coverage, hey?
Being the cheap reporter that I am, and with 17 years experience covering soccer at the grass-roots level — how could you forget those stirring accounts of Wolverine tournaments and Churchill-Stevenson classics? — I wasn't good enough to get a media credential. Not enough room in the press box, said FIFA (or is it FIFI?), the world governing body of soccer.

Being the good American reporter that I am, I thought they would allow a guy like me to see world-class soccer, up close and personal. Isn't that what this mega-event is all about, promot-

ing a foreign game in this country?
(By the way, it's easier getting a credential for the Michigan-Notre Dame football game.)
Although kicked in the shins by a FIFA, I was fortunate to get a ticket to that exhibition a year ago through friend Jim Duggan of the Michigan Host Committee, and to attend a reception afterward for the English team at the Main Event.

Real exhibition game
At least I got a taste of it. I saw a few hooligans staggering around draped in Union Jacks. I felt like a real fan, herded, livestock-style, through a huge line into the Silverdome.

I also felt very secure.
If something bad was going to happen, at least the fans had good backup. On hand was the ATF, FBI, the Michigan State Police SWAT team (with rifles in hand), U.S. Border Patrol, the National Guard, Brinks, Oakland County sheriff's deputies and the Pontiac Police. And don't forget the thousands of volunteer security staff.

I understand Dagnett (Jack Webb's crew), the Man From U.N.C.L.E., and the A-Team (including Mr. T) will be there for this month's Brazil-Sweden encounter.

They say the popularity of soccer in this country hinges upon the performance of Team USA.

But who are these guys?
Recently, CNN featured a group of young soccer players from Georgia and asked them who was their favorite U.S. player.

Each response drew a puzzled and blank look.

Name those players

When the kids were asked about their favorite NBA star, answers ranged from Michael Jordan (obviously) to Shaquille O'Neal.

Sorry to say, I can identify only three U.S. players myself: Bloomfield Hills' Alexi Lalas (he is related to the Ghouli), goalkeeper Tony Meola (didn't he have a bit part in "Scarface"?), and Cobi Jones (one of the original Little Rascals). And don't forget the head coach, Bora, Bora, Bora.

Another facet of this team is that they like to wear a lot of jewelry, earrings in particular. This is the kind of team Marge Schott would love to own.

Enough jokes.
This stuff is serious business. So serious that the Brazilian team was mocked by a paper in Rio after trying Canada recently, 1-1. "The whole team deserves to have its ears pulled," screamed the headline.

Then there are the loyal U.S. fans.

Who's rooting for us?

Recently at Giants Stadium, where USA and Greece played, a majority of the audience rooted for the foreign team. The same thing happened at the Rose Bowl, where Mexico was treated like the home team before more than 90,000.

Maybe there are more illegal aliens than we think.
Also, burglars allegedly hit Greece's locker room over the weekend, stealing almost \$18,000 in cash and jewelry.

Good at damage control, World

Cup USA 1994 chairman Alan Rothenberg, a University of Michigan law grad, said it was an inside job, done by somebody in the Greek delegation.

This comes from the former man-in-command of that NBA title-contending LA Clipper ball-club.

The other day I got a call from a GMC Truck public relations flack who asked me if I was interested in interviewing former Peruvian great Teofilo (Nene) Cubillas, the only player to have scored five goals in two World Cups (1970 and '78).

Cubillas appeared from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday at the Southfield Civic Center to assist in a speed kick contest as part of the Legacy Tour.

Wrong invitation sent

In recent weeks, I've received all kinds of that type of invitation to attend all sorts of functions surrounding the World Cup, but when it comes to the actual game, my phone remains silent.

I've been promoting their game at the local level for nearly 17 years — just ask the people from Vardar, the Chiquita Challenge, Livonia's LYSC and all those Little Caesars premier leagues, not to mention all soccer tryouts and soccer camp items which, at times, dominate this newspaper.

Some thanks for all my effort.
I won't attend the World Cup now, even if I get a free ticket.

It almost makes me want to root against the . . . No, I would never do that.
That would be un-American. But this World Cup stuff makes me want to be a baseball fan again.

Early sign-up good move



AL HARRISON

It's time for the "early birds" to sign up for the Pro-Am competition of the Greater Detroit Open at Taylor Lanes.

This is an opportunity to bowl for cash prizes with the help of some of the world's greatest pros. The sign-up forms are now available for early entries which:

- Saves money — the entry fee is discounted.
- Assures first choice of squad time preference.
- Allows for early delivery of the Gold Rhino Pro bowling ball which enters the entry fee.

This is the 10th consecutive year in which the PBA tour has landed at Taylor Lanes, which is convenient to all communities in the area. Co-owners Adeline and Alan DiBiasi have made the bowling center one of the show-places of bowling.

For further details or early bird entry forms, call 946-9092.

The Michigan Women's Senior tournament took place at Cloverlages in Livonia last week and the all-time winner was Peggy Satko of Garden City. Peggy ran up a score of 1,394 including handi-

cap with 700 for singles and 694 in doubles.

Her victory was in Class C, each age division having a specific group: D (55-59 years), C (59-64), B (65-69), A (69-74) and AA (70 and over). The winners from each class also receive a free trip to Tucson, Ariz., for the Senior Nationals.

It seems most appropriate that Peggy Satko takes the title — she is next in line for the office of president of the Detroit Women's Bowling Association.

Brian Dzmelyk of Farmington Hills bowled a fantastic four-game series in the Summer Classic Trio at Wonderland Lanes in Livonia. He opened with a 300, followed with a 237, a 267 and finished with 259. It was his first ever 300 game, and the first three scores total 804, his first 800 series.

It added up to 1,063 for four games. He threw 42 strikes out of a possible 48. Dzmelyk, a part-timer at a tool company, remarked afterward, "I was really feeling relaxed on the lanes, and that helped me run up these scores."

Bowling Honor Roll
Country Lanes (Farmington Hills): Battle of the Seas — Tim Smith 235; Starkey Skovran, 271; Sherry McManan, 207; Chuck Smith 255; Bill Slawey, 234.

Parent Youth — Paul Koenig, 249/656; Bill Wood, 223/335; Sandy Wood, 221; Rick Moscor, 721.
Monday seniors — Joe O'Donohy, 244/673; John Marabio, 200; Char Sullivan, 200; Vic Sorenson, 193.

Monday Trio — Jim Herman, 285; Larry Frost, 279; Mike Geraghty, 268; Mike Kulon, 268; Duane Henderson, 258; Jack Treder, 267.

Super Bowl (Canton): Battle of the Seas — Steve Wahl, 299; Dave Kowalski, 298; Lisa McClanahan, 248; Lorie Paeze, 720.

Woodland Lanes Woodland Summer Trio — Jeff Adamczyk, 299/992 (four-game series); Tom Smith, 276; Karl Joffres, 988; John Weiss, 1031.
Golf & Dots — Mark Linner, 725.
Kaperstein — Lisa Varry, 201 (95 avg. plus 100); Guy Buring, 183-203-220/618; Terry Schmitke, 509; Paula Brobst, 570; Linda Sporkman, 537; Tim Hill, 550; Pat Seyan, 519.

Woodland Lanes (Livonia): Classic Trio — Ken McManan, 268; Chris Johnson, 275-256; Ken Gashara, 268.
Oak Lanes (Westland): Ladies Nine Out — Jan Tronzo, 214-203/564; Mary McKenzie, 192; Sybil Myers, 181.
Wednesday Summer Men's Trio — Brian Schrak, 226/564; Ken Eshelman, 257-236/873; Kris Dodd, 258; Gary Vay, 227.

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