



Another one bites the dust

... DOUG CHAPMAN, one of the handful of knowledgeable soccer reporters in this country, has resigned from the Providence, R.I., *Journal*. He was transferred from his job covering soccer and other sports to the news department last November, and despite letters and e-mails urging his return, the paper did not relent. We wish him the very best of luck in his new endeavors.

Doug's departure is definitely a loss to soccer....

Football Expo a success

... The 2001 FOOTBALL EXPO held Jan. 29- Feb. 1 in Cannes, France, was a tremendous success. This international trade show has become the place to do soccer business in Europe. There's year's event drew more than 2,200 people representing 824 companies from 70 countries. More than 200 journalists from 125 media organizations also attended. If you're involved in the international business of soccer—or want to be—this has become an important place to make contacts. Each year organizers are improving their program, and this year's workshops and seminars covered a vast range of issues in the game, from international transfers to how professional clubs can fully leverage their Internet presence to the latest research on soccer injuries. Next year's Football Expo, slated for Jan. 9-11, will again be in Cannes. A special congratulations to Football Expo's chief executive, JEAN-MARC PRESTI, and his staff for taking this event up another notch....

USYSA hires exec director

... Congratulations to the United States Youth Soccer Association on the hiring of JIM COSGROVE as its new executive director. Jim has been USYSA's longtime (and very hard-working) director of soccer operations. This has been a long, exhaustive executive search with a couple almost-hires. It's a real pleasure to find out that the right/best candidate was directly under their noses! Going outside the organization for a hire is often attractive, with its potential for bringing in new ideas and experiences. However, there also is great power in hiring from within. Not only does it make clear that there are career opportunities within an organization, but the learning curve is cut to a fraction of what it would be with an outside hire. AYSO had this same experience in 2000. After the brief tenure of an executive director didn't work out, the organization hired hard-working CHERIE TUCKER, who had held a variety of positions within the head office. These two youth organization executive directors should get together and compare notes. Both are delightful execs who REALLY are in soccer for the kids! They may finally cut past some of the often silly politics that have kept these organizations from enjoying a good working relationship....

Camp salary survey unveiled

... The CHALLENGER/BRITISH SOCCER CAMPS recently completed a supervisory compensation survey of 70 camp companies in the United States With 25 responding companies spread throughout the country, the

results are interesting. The mean annual salary for first-line supervisory personnel (supervising programs, coaches, players and volunteers) is \$28,000. The mean annual salary for the next level of supervisory personnel (supervising the supervisors) is \$35,055. The American soccer camps business has become large and complex in its scope. No longer just day or residency camps, these companies are now offering educational services and organized league play. A new kind of position has emerged which is much more than just coach: It is responsible for management and training of coaches, supervising player safety and liability issues, training volunteers and executing employment policies. As we approach the camp season (*Soccer America's* annual Camp Directory will be out next month), it's important to remember that soccer camps are no longer a mom-and-pop business. To ensure the best experience, be sure you thoroughly research any camp you are considering for your youth soccer player....

SLS debuts soccer DVD

... SOCCER LEARNING SYSTEMS INC., the books-and-video company, has released one of its most popular titles on DVD — the very first DVD for soccer. "All the Right Moves," featuring ROBY STAHL, director of coaching development for Ohio South Youth Soccer Association, includes Dolby stereo sound, interactive menus and scene selection. It's a collection of 20 moves and variations, each shown at match speed and in slow motion....