

CONTENTS

Foreword by 1974 World Cup star Emmanuel Sanon	vii
Preface	ix
<u>Part 1: Soccer Essence & Evolution</u>	1
1 Joy of Soccer	3
2 Art of Soccer	15
3 Soccer and Identity	31
4 Soccer: Social and Political	59
5 Soccer Business and Marketing	77
6 Soccer Injury and Illness	99
<u>Part 2: Soccer Excellence</u>	129
7 Best Players of the Modern Era 1958 – 2006	131
8 Best Teams of the Modern Era 1958 – 2006	195
9 World Cup 2002	221
10 World Cup 2006	297
<u>Part 3: Soccer Chronicles</u>	321
11 Soccer at the Top of the World	323
12 Soccer at the End of the World	339
13 Soccer Dishonor	347
<u>Part 4: Soccer Future</u>	361
14 Soccer: The USA Way	363
15 The Penalty Paradox	379
16 Soccer Future	389
17 Soccer Resources and References	407
<u>Part 5: Epilogue</u>	421
18 Modern Soccer Odyssey	423
Appendix 1	455
Index	459
Color Photos	466-500

Chapter 1 Joy of Soccer

“Baby then learns to walk and is soon running – he is a toddler now. At 15 months, he can manipulate the ball with his feet, keeping it in front of him as he shuffles ahead. At 18 months he kicks the ball repeatedly – dribbling really – and his kicking technique is surprisingly good (see cover photo). He walks the ball into the goal to examine the net. At two years old, he kicks the ball to Mom or Dad, happily waiting for the return pass. As soccer is an intuitive game, his training has begun simply because he is playing. He does not need a coach, only a parent or sibling to participate with him. Soccer coaching comes much later and may not always be beneficial, as poor coaching can destroy the intuitive parts of the game that are its essence.”///

“What is known as *soccer* in the United States of America (USA) is known as *football* in most of the world. The latter term is most logical, since soccer is the only international team sport primarily executed with the feet.

Oxford University student Charles Wreford-Brown is acknowledged to have created the word concept of *soccer* in 1886 from a slang combination of *Association Football*. The abbreviation *Assoc.* was itself abbreviated into “socca” in 1889, “socket” in 1891, and eventually “soccer” in 1895. The term *soccer* instead of *football* was subsequently adopted in only a few countries such as the USA, Canada and Australia where other “football” games derived from rugby had developed. Although the word “soccer” was conceived in England, it is seldom used there due to non-competition for the word and concept of “football.”

Chapter 2 Art of Soccer

“Art has many definitions, ranging from one-word synonyms to encyclopedic efforts attempting to thrash out a concept of Art. One-word synonyms of art include skillfulness, ingenuity, aptitude, craftsmanship, knowledge, expertise, adroitness, dexterity, mastery, knack, faculty, trickery, cunning, guile and cleverness. However, despite the best attempts by thesaurus writers, no single word can do justice to define soccer artistry. Perhaps all the synonyms added together would describe the sublime skills of the soccer artist.

A simple definition of art that efficiently applies to the art of soccer is
“*The use of skill and imagination in the production of beauty.*”

Chapter 3 Soccer and Identity

“In writing this book, *world soccer* was chosen as a vital example of both the diversity and basic similarities between peoples. Not the artificial similarities imposed by brazen cultural impositions of

“globalization, but an existential link between peoples that permeates beyond the conventional boundaries of societies. I was searching for an essential reality by which people globally could identify with on a local level, an entity that empowers them to articulate their own community dynamics. Soccer is very often that cultural force.

I could just as well be writing about medicine and public health in the world, but a surprising truth is that *world soccer may be as or more important to the human spirit than the current availability of Western medicine*. After all, much of the world lacks “modern” medicine, but few parts of the world lack the deceptively simple and elegant art of soccer.”

Chapter 4

Soccer: Social and Political

“Food, water, and shelter are basic material human necessities, but sparks of hope and happiness are also essential for human survival. To address these critical emotional needs, aid workers at massive wretched refugee camps in Africa discovered that camp dwellers’ spirits rose immediately once plastic balls were introduced, as the children momentarily forgot their abject misery to play the beautiful game. Play is integral to a child’s happiness everywhere, and soccer fulfills this role brilliantly. Indeed, soccer and a child’s joy are often manifestly entwined, and a happy child is a healthier child.

Nonetheless, many people view soccer as incidental in life – a mere sporting fancy of youth. This chapter aims to illustrate that despite past denials, it is impossible to separate the social, historical, and political facets of life from events in the soccer world.”

Chapter 5

Soccer Business and Marketing

“Beyond pure soccer is the world of soccer business and marketing, which has dramatically changed the sport in the last twenty years. Soccer success always primarily depended on the quality of the soccer art, but more recently business forces have placed equal faith in the quantity and quality of marketing their “soccer product.” The current soccer business model is in many ways analogous to the movie industry – as regardless of the quality of the art produced, both soccer clubs and movie studios will hype their product for maximum profits. Nowadays, it is *not just the sport that professes to entertain*, because multi-million dollar soccer marketing campaigns also aim to add entertainment value to their obvious propaganda mission.

However, *over-marketing* may backfire, as decreasing live audiences in some world soccer markets (such as Italy) suggest. Although soccer is *El Deporte Rey*, the King can always be brought down through greed and corruption. One need only consult with football critic Shakespeare (Chapter 1), or his friend Hamlet.”

Chapter 6

Soccer Injury and Illness

“The human body evolved over millennia into a sophisticated model designed for the pedestrian stalking and hunting of game, with the occasional leap and sprint away from an agitated carnivore. The *corpus humani* was not designed for playing soccer with its high-speed twists and turns stressing the essentially two-dimensional knee joint, and tremendous torque forces placed on the ankle joints. Therefore it is imperative to optimally train and to maintain in prime condition the muscles surrounding the joints, in order to support and relieve pressure of the joint apparatus itself.”

DISCLAIMER: This chapter discusses the ability of players with HIV to perform at top level, why soccer players are at risk of sexually transmitted diseases (because they are the most sexually active age group), and how players can protect themselves and their loved ones from disease. Also, the importance of world soccer in the unprecedented fight against HIV/AIDS is discussed in full.

If a potential reader does not wish to be exposed to such critical information, he should seek other entertainment sources. Children below the age of thirteen could have the book first screened by their parents.

Chapter 7

Best Players of the Modern Era 1958 – 2006

“This chapter features a subjective list of the top one hundred and twenty-five soccer players in the Modern Era, presented in the position they performed the most impressively.

Player roles have evolved in the Modern Era, with a special emphasis on intensified defensive play. The number of defenders on the field was increased from 2 to 3 to 4 or even 5 (such as 3 central defenders and 2 wingbacks), midfielders stayed the same at 3 or increased to 4 or even 5, and strikers were reduced from 5 to 4, to 3 or 2, and in extreme cases, even 1.

Because of position changes over the years, the quantity of outfield players have been averaged and compromised. Therefore, *ten goalkeepers, thirty defenders, forty midfielders, and forty-five strikers* have been selected. Obviously these numbers do not fit any tactical formation; they are just a historical approximation of the importance of each position over time.

Some players who performed well at more than one position were placed in the group in which they were most dominant and ranked highest. Only seven players – Welshman John Charles, Argentine Alfredo Di Stéfano, Brazilian Pelé, Germans Franz Beckenbauer and Lothar Matthäus, and Dutchmen Johan Cruyff and Frank Rijkaard – performed brilliantly enough in two distinct positions to be mentioned for both. Charles is the lone mention at defense and striker, Cruyff, Di Stéfano, and Pelé are mentioned at midfield and striker, and Beckenbauer, Matthäus, and Rijkaard at defense and midfield.”

Player Profile Template

[Data for active players is accurate to March 30, 2006]

[Rank] Name Country Represented Birth date

[Summary of National and Club Career]

Awards: Awards received.
International: Appearances and goals scored.
World Cup: Years played. Appearances and goals scored.
Club: Clubs listed in chronological order.

Chapter 8

Best Teams of the Modern Era 1958 – 2006

“What makes a soccer team one of the best of their era? Certainly it is somewhat measurable by the actual championships they have won, but accountable for those victories are essential intangibles such as the skills and imagination of the footballers, and how successfully a coach inspires his players. Then there are always some tactics involved (usually separated simply into “attacking” or “counter-attacking” strategies), which are most often less important than the inherent cohesiveness and attitude of the team.”///

“There have been quite a few stellar national teams in the Modern Era, and it is difficult to compare the 20 excellent teams below (7 South American and 13 European). The top national team of all time is generally acknowledged to be the 1970 Brazil World Cup-winning team, although virtually any team on the list could have given them a scare on a particular day. That potential equity contributes to the passion and splendor of international soccer.”///

“Unlike the national team rankings, it is pointless to discuss which was the number one club team was in the Modern Era. Four superlative teams stand out and define the football of their time, and they are presented in alphabetical order (Ajax Amsterdam 1971-1973, AC Milan 1989-1990, Real Madrid 1956-1960, and Santos 1962-1963). Twenty-one other excellent teams follow the best four.”

Chapter 9

World Cup 2002

“The 17th FIFA World Cup co-hosted by Japan and South Korea in 2002 made soccer history, as it was the initial World Cup competition in Asia, and the first World Cup shared between two nations. Problems of this unique co-host arrangement were minimal, probably because of the earlier “practice” co-hosting of the 2001 Confederations Cup by the same nations. European neighbors Holland and Belgium had paved the way for this bi-national format by successfully co-hosting the 2000 European Championships.

Prior to the 2002 World Cup, only the 1958 Brazil team had won a World Cup outside of their continent and hemisphere. The odds were formidable for one of the two hosting Asian nations or the other two qualified Asian nations to triumph in their continent at the 2002 World Cup. Entering the 2002 Cup, Japan and South Korea were still searching for their first World Cup Final wins, China had never before appeared in the World Cup Finals, and Saudi Arabia had reached the second round only once before. Therefore, it seemed inevitable that another team would duplicate the 1958 Brazil squad's achievement of winning the World Cup in a continent other than their own."

Chapter 10 — World Cup 2006

"The soccer World Cup may be the single most watched and followed *event of any type* in modern human society – more popular than the crowning of monarchs or religious figures, and more monitored than many political events. Millions of people travel to witness the spectacle of the World Cup, ranging from international tourists watching the games in person to poor villagers seeking basic television access.

The World Cup is definitely the world's most popular *sporting competition of any type*. Doubters of soccer's popularity propose that the Olympic games are more popular, as nearly every nation participates and there are dozens of sports in addition to a soccer competition. But global popularity can now be objectively measured by counting Internet visits and page views of representative websites such as the official websites of the 2002 Olympic Games and the 2002 FIFA World Cup. By the middle of the competition, the 2002 World Cup website had recorded more than one billion visits – three times more than the 350 million visits for the entire 2002 Olympic competition. The 2002 FIFA World Cup website eventually totaled 2.4 billion visits, thereby erasing any doubt of which global sporting competition is more popular."///

World Cup 2006 Germany Special Historical Significance to 1936 & 1974

"The 18th FIFA World Cup is hosted by Germany, which unified previously divided East and West Germany in 1991. Unified Germany rehearsed their 2006 World Cup logistics by hosting the 2005 Confederations Cup event, which was won by Brazil over Argentina 4-1.

West Germany previously hosted the World Cup in 1974, and even after losing to their neighbors East Germany in the first round, they emerged as champions after beating the fancied Dutch "Orange Machine" team.

The 18th World Cup is the first international soccer competition in unified Germany since the 1936 Olympics. The refurbished Berlin Olympiastadion – built especially for the 1936 "Nazi" Olympics and the site of the Italy-Austria 1936 Olympic Soccer Final – is also scheduled to host the 2006 FIFA World Cup Final.

The 2006 World Cup in Germany is also special because of two other historical soccer events that occurred in Berlin and West Germany:

- (1). The 1936 Olympic Soccer tournament held in unified Nazi Germany – sponsored by FIFA – allowed Peru to be unfairly eliminated after winning all their matches. This gross error can never be rectified; however, it should be officially recognized as a xenophobic event that should never

again recur in organized soccer (see Chapter 13). An official tribute to the 1936 Peru Olympic team at the World Cup in Germany would be long overdue, but certainly welcome.

(2). The 1974 World Cup in West Germany featured the first players participating in a World Cup that later died of AIDS – the most catastrophic illness of the 20th (and possibly 21st) century (see Chapter 6). One envisions a special commemoration and dedication to soccer taking a primary role in the global education and prevention of HIV/AIDS at World Cup Germany 2006 (see Chapters 6 & 16). Some players (such as Ronaldo – Brazil, Claudio Pizarro – Peru, Cobi Jones – USA) have already made themselves available for hosting HIV/AIDS education events, but many more soccer players and institutions are needed to participate in targeted health campaigns in their own countries. Therefore, the 2006 World Cup provides an unprecedented opportunity to advance HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment awareness that must not be missed.

Both of the above events should be recognized at Germany 2006 – not only to honor the memory of the 1936 Peru team and the suffering of the 1974 World Cup players – but to harness the full power of international soccer for global health and human rights.”

Chapter 11

Soccer at the Top of the World

“How much does altitude affect players? The simple answer is that it affects players to different degrees, depending on their mental and physical attributes and preparation.

Teófilo “Nene” Cubillas played at locations above 3000 meters numerous times in his career, and for him altitude was “the great equalizer” physically (meaning one had to arrive in peak physical condition in order to compete successfully). Still, for Cubillas, up to a certain altitude level, “the difference was mainly mental,” and the *attitude* the player brings into *altitude* is a critical factor to performance. Cubillas said he never had a problem in Huancayo or even Cusco; at those altitudes he could prepare mentally and physically by flying up to Andean altitude the morning of the matches.

But even Cubillas, a top player used to adapting to altitude, had a limit that he could not exclusively mentally adjust to and physically overcome. According to Cubillas, La Paz at 3636 meters, Puno at 3900 meters, and especially Cerro de Pasco at 4340 meters, were brutal environments to perform in unless significant acclimatization training had been planned and executed. At those extreme altitudes, mental preparation is inevitably subordinate to physical acclimatization. The body simply cannot get enough oxygen, and players may develop tachycardia (a rapid heart beat) after jogging for only a few minutes, which can be frightening for the mentally unprepared. Therefore, performing at altitudes above 3000 meters is the supreme test of both physical and mental conditioning for players and teams.”///

“The best international example of high altitude advantage (or preparation) is the 1993 Brazil – Bolivia World Cup qualifying match in La Paz. Until that game, Brazil had the amazing record of *never having lost a World Cup qualifying game since the beginning of the competition in 1930*. Bolivia had previously played many home matches in the jungle city of Santa Cruz at 416 meters (1350 feet), but had lobbied hard to play the World Cup qualifiers at 3636 meters at the Estadio Hernan Siles Suazo in La Paz, the highest capital city in the world. The Brazil team prepared poorly for the La Paz altitude, were subsequently outmatched, and lost 2-0. Up until that game, *Brazil had only lost by two goals once before in the World Cup Final competition*. That was the 4-2 “Battle of Bern” loss in the 1954 World Cup against Hungary, arguably the greatest team of the early 1950s. But in La Paz, Brazil lost against the best ever Bolivian team, including their “number 10” Marco Etcheverry, nicknamed *El Diablo* (“the

Devil”) for his prodigious dribbling and passing skills (see Chapter 7). Brazil had to be content with embarrassing Bolivia 6-0 later at their home sea level venue in Recife.”

Chapter 12 **Soccer at the End of the World**

“The “End of the World,” a place so remote as to be nearly hidden from mankind, was usually imagined to be associated with water. That body of water was an apparently limitless ocean into which explorers sailed away into, not knowing if they would ever reach land again. The literary scenario of the end of the world is epitomized by the mythical underwater world of Atlantis.

Although there are precious few unexplored parts of the planet today, the “End of the World” is still associated with water. With all oceans conquered, among the most inaccessible areas of the planet are now some black-water rivers of the Amazon basin that drain from hidden swamplands, and inhabited only by hardy rainforest dwellers who have endured centuries of relative isolation.

In the concrete jungle of the 21st century, primary rainforest at the lowland origins of the Amazon river system can justly be characterized as the “End of the World.” Even now there exist unexplored and seemingly impenetrable regions of this massive and wondrous – yet increasingly endangered – Amazon river and jungle system. Therein are contained small tribal groups not yet well described by anthropologists, which have created their own self-sufficient cultures enduring for centuries. The few persevering groups know nature well, as they must depend on their wits to survive in this extraordinary corner of the world. This is the story of one such group recently exposed to soccer.”

Chapter 13 **Soccer Dishonor**

“The tenets of *Soccer Fair Play* – both on the playing field and in the structural integrity of competitions – can never be compromised, because if undermined, those actions may affect human societal dynamics. For that reason, the importance of the events documented below cannot be overemphasized – that the inappropriate, unfair, and ultimately xenophobic actions of FIFA and the IOC in the 1936 Berlin “Nazi” Olympics served both the world sport and human dynamics poorly.

Why bring these heretofore unexamined events to the forefront now, and why are they important to modern soccer history? Two reasons are that these critical events have never been explored in such detail, and heretofore only parts have been published in Spanish. The third reason is because world soccer returns to a unified Berlin and Germany for the first time in seventy years at the 2006 FIFA World Cup in Germany – from a time when the 1936 Olympics glorified Hitler’s murderous Nazi regime to a world still struggling with its essential human diversity. Now is the time to reflect on these past events in order to secure the future integrity of organized soccer by ensuring that this type of shameful action – be it as large as 1936 or smaller – will blight neither the game nor humanity again.”

Chapter 14

Soccer: The USA Way

“The USA men’s soccer team was initially very successful in international play, as they participated in three of the first four World Cups (1930 Uruguay, 1934 Italy and the 1950 Brazil World Cups). USA striker Bert Patenaude was the first player to score three goals (a “hat trick”) in a World Cup game, as the USA advanced to the semi-finals in 1930. Moreover, in 1934, eventual champions and host Italy narrowly beat the USA 1-0.

It is ironic that the only Olympic Games since 1900 that failed to host a soccer tournament was the 1932 Olympics held in Los Angeles. The reason for the 1932 omission was ostensibly a disagreement over the concept of amateur and professional soccer credentials. Although the USA has qualified for and competed in twelve of the twenty-three Olympic soccer tournaments held so far, it has never earned a soccer medal. The best USA finish was fourth in 2000, but they did not qualify for the 2004 tournament.

However, in 1950, the USA enjoyed the most unexpected result ever in the World Cup; beating heavily favored England 1-0 in Brazil. The scorer of the goal was Joe Gaetjens, a Haitian who later returned to his native country and disappeared during the dictatorship of Papa Doc Duvalier (he is assumed to have been killed by Duvalier’s personal terrorist squad, the Tonton Macoute).

Thereafter followed a forty-year hiatus in World Cup appearances from 1950-1990, in which the USA failed to qualify for nine consecutive World Cups. Those decades encompassed the expansion of the professional baseball, basketball, USA-football and ice hockey leagues, as the USA populace was seduced by the four native North American sports and neglected soccer. However, during those four decades a series of professional soccer leagues were formed, culminating in the ambitious NASL that existed for eighteen years (1967-1984, see Chapter 18).”///

“The biggest success in women’s soccer so far has been the USA national team, which in a span of thirteen years twice won the FIFA Women’s World Cup (1991 and 1999) and the Olympic Gold Medal (1996 and 2004). USA women’s soccer development was originally boosted by the landmark 1972 Title IX federal statute, which mandated equitable university sports programs regardless of gender. After an initial sluggish period to enforce the statute, sport funding increased proportionately and women were able to increase their athletic competitiveness in the university setting.”

Chapter 15

The Penalty Paradox

“Writing as a fan and a soccer player, penalty kicks are an abomination when used to decide important matches. Most fans derive little or no joy, and cannot tolerate many more matches decided by the penalty kick lottery. People would prefer endless sudden death, or a fair replay after tied matches.

Many fans do not consider the team that made one more penalty kick an authentic winner. By this standard, Brazil’s 4th star on their canary yellow shirts representing the 1994 World Cup penalty win is forever tainted by an asterisk, by virtue of a scoreless tie and penalty kick competition in the Final.

Penalty kick shootouts take away the essence of the game, and when they are used to decide major competitions, after-time penalties remain a major embarrassment for the sport of soccer.

The following is a partial list of major soccer cups decided by the penalty kick lottery.....”///

“Transforming the penalty pseudo-competition to decide a game winner will be a main challenge in the coming decade to those responsible for the Laws of Football. Although the after-time penalty competition rule has been in effect for only 30 years, the fans have already seen enough. Despite the game’s inherent simplicity, the penalty paradox mocks soccer’s essence by creating a superfluous and frivolous endgame. If soccer authorities cannot organize an effective, fair, and entertaining finish to the grand spectacle of a championship soccer match, the sport may well be headed for an international decline.”

Chapter 16 **Soccer Future**

“The future of soccer is uncertain, but not for want of speculation. Thousands of sportswriters and general reporters opine daily on the subject, and even scholarly reviews have appeared. The only certainty is that soccer is dynamic and will change with time.

Rodney Marsh made a prescient statement in the early 1980’s when he said, “in fifteen years the face of soccer will have changed completely.” Marsh suspected soccer would change, but few could have predicted a surplus of multi-millionaire players, ubiquitous advertising on uniforms and surrounding the pitch, and a faster, more violent, and often, a less creative game than 20 years ago.

Marsh’s observation of soccer change will likely be repeated every 15 or 20 years. Indeed, Zeman has now identified two of the most pervasive negative modern changes; the search to make the game more physical through pharmaceutical means, and the increasing importance of money over the essence of soccer (“winning above all else”). But the most essential aspect of future soccer is that it must be positive; to create *positive play*, *positive sportsmanship*, and a *positive societal impression*.”

Chapter 17 **Soccer Resources and References**

Contains 60 of the most enjoyable football books in English, 18 in Spanish, and one in German, and has complete international magazine and internet information.

Chapter 18 **Modern Soccer Odyssey**

“Every person who has played soccer seriously has a story about how, when and where they developed soccer skills, learned the nuances of the sport, and fell in love with the beautiful game. I must admit an initial reluctance to share my story because it might seem egotistic and/or irrelevant. After all, my official soccer “career” was only university and semi-professional soccer until I pursued a career in medicine and public health.

So this chapter was originally written only to commit to paper the soccer experiences in my life, never intending to publish. But at the conclusion of recording the soccer tokens of my memory, I

realized this chapter both explores human diversity and illustrates the mystique of soccer in a life; two international themes that merit further investigation.

It is my sincere hope that including my experiences will allow the reader to flow back into time and reminisce of how and with whom they learned and enjoyed the game.”

[Text End]