

"A Living, Breathing Glimpse of Soccer History"

That's how Lynn Berling-Manuel described the "Big 3" enshrinement ceremonies held on August 24th at the Hall of Fame. Lynn, who was the guest speaker at the event, is the President and Publisher of Soccer America magazine. In her opening remarks she spoke of "this remarkable event bringing diverse groups together" and of the great debt of thanks US soccer owes to the hardworking men and women of NISOA, NSCAA, and AYSO. The evening's theme was one of inclusiveness, recognition of accomplishment, and gratitude expressed both by and on behalf of the inductees. "An emotional and inspiring evening," was how Lynn Berling-Manuel later described it.

The "Big 3," as they are known, is made up of the National Intercollegiate Soccer Officials Association (NISOA), National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA), and the American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO). Each of the groups has a gallery within the museum and each has its own hall of fame honors. But they come together annually to present their awards in a grand ceremony at the National Soccer Hall of Fame.

Induction day was gray and overcast but the mood on the day was anything but that. It started in the morning when a hardy bunch of returning Hall of Famers attended the outdoor champagne reception and dedication of the Bettiol Field, and then spent over an hour signing autographs for hordes of young fans. In the evening there was an elegant reception in the atrium, followed by a buffet dinner in the museum where the guests were surrounded by soccer history.

The induction ceremonies were emceed by Joel Mark, President of AYSO who in his opening remarks characterized the Hall as "a tribute to the sport" and great venue for the event. He also paid tribute to the cooperation and "natural partnership" of the three organizations and expressed the hope that the tradition would continue for a long time.



Left to right: Ray Dahlquist, Kenneth Andres, Joe Morrone, Bob Sumpter, Gus Constantine, Harvey Lightstone, and Paul Caligiuri

Jim Thieser, Past President of the NSCAA, presented the award to retired U. Conn. coach Joe Morrone. And NISOA President Mike Allen and Dan Keohane, Chair of the Hall of Fame Committee, did the honors for long-time referees and administrators Gus Constantine, Kenneth G. Andres, Jr., Bob Sumpter, and posthumously Nels Dahlquist. Accepting on behalf of his father, with a touching and quietly emotional speech, was Ray Dahlquist. AYSO Chairman Burt Haimes and Vice President Fred Gregory presented the awards to Paul Caligiuri, former US soccer star, and Harvey Lightstone, respectively. It was interesting to note that, for the most part, the introductions were longer than the acceptance speeches because of the inductees' extraordinary record of accomplishments.

All in all it was a wonderful evening. The inductees' speeches were notable by the extent to which they gave credit to others for their achievements. This was best captured by Paul Caligiuri. He was introduced as the player who changed the course of U.S. soccer history by his winning goal against Trinidad and Tobago, which took the national team to the 1990 World Cup. In his acceptance speech he said, "I kicked the ball. The team scored the goal." That said it all - for all of the inductees!!

"Soccer in American Culture" Symposium

Sunday afternoon featured a cerebral version of Monday's Hall of Fame game. A virtual Who's Who of American Soccer participated in a national symposium dedicated to a discussion of the recent history of soccer in American culture, and how soccer can be further integrated into US cultural patterns and ways of life. The group was broken into three panels with the keynote presentation "Where We've Been, Where We're Going" being made by Hall of Famer, Dr. Len Oliver. The moderator was anthropologist Dr. Craig Bielert from SUNY Oneonta.

The first panel consisted of authors Gloria Averbuch: "The Vision of a Champion;" Geoffrey Douglas: "The Game of their Lives;" Colin Jose and Roger Allaway: "The Encyclopedia of American Soccer History;" Michael Lewis: "Soccer for Dummies;" and Anne Woodworth: "Soccer Zones." The topic was "Soccer in Modern American Literature" with particular emphasis on changes in publishing over the last decade, and whether or not there is a market for books about the culture of soccer.



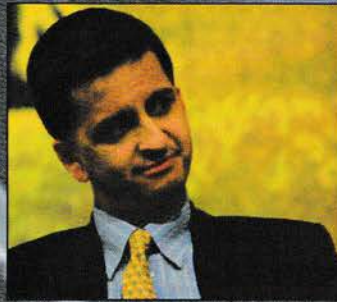
Tim Murphy makes a point.
Left to right: Craig Bielert, Francisco Marcos, Will Lunn, Tim Murphy, and Peter Wilt at the Symposium.

The second panel's topic was "Soccer in the Media" and featured print and broadcast media personalities: Michael Cohen, MLS Exec. Producer; David Birnbaum, NYC radio show host; Paul Kennedy, Editor of Soccer America; Michael Lewis, N.Y. Daily News; Jim Moorhouse, US Soccer; and Jim Trecker, international soccer consultant. Their focus was on changes in the media and its soccer coverage over the last decade, and the extent to which media creates culture and fans.

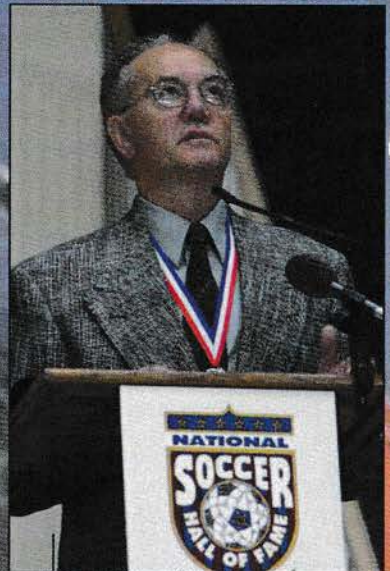
The topic of the third panel was "Voices of Soccer." The panelists, who represented leaders of soccer in the US discussed the cultural and business movement of the game, reflecting on the perspectives of the writers and media and discussing the steps that might be taken to root the game more deeply into the American cultural landscape. On the panel were Kevin Crow, Joe Cummings and Tim Murphy of WUSA; Don Garber and Peter Wilt of the MLS; Francisco Marcos, President of USL; Sunil Gulati, VP US Soccer; and Will Lunn representing the Hall of Fame. The symposium ran for over four hours and generated healthy debate with some interesting differences in points of view between certain of the media and their counterparts in the business of soccer. Nevertheless the consensus was that soccer is here to stay in America, that we have to build the soccer culture into today's young players, and that soccer can be a "bridge to global understanding." A full transcript of the symposium will be made available to the public in the very near future. For more information please contact Janet Gordon at 607-432-3351, ext. 210 or email janet@soccerhall.org.



"Bogie", the media, and the fans



"We need to broaden our base and play up our personalities - the public will follow"
Sunil Gulati, US Soccer VP, at symposium



"I am a simple man. Never in my wildest dreams have I thought of an honor like this" ...Adolph Bachmeier



"We are what we believe we are"....
Don Garber, MLS Commissioner at symposium



Noted the increased popularity of his publication (but)... "soccer is still hard to find on daily sports pages"....
Paul Kennedy, Editor, Soccer America at symposium



"Shannon Higgins-Cirovski was considered the greatest playmaking midfielder of his generation in the world".... Anson Dorrance addressing a packed house



Writer's cramp for Shannon

Only 70 years separates Hall of Famer Gene Olaff from this young fan



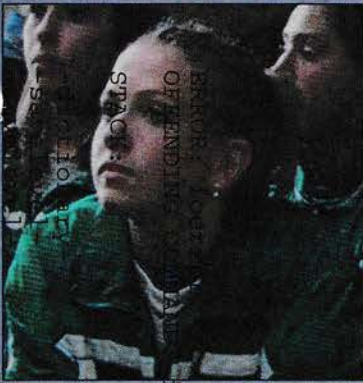
"Mom, this is one of the best days of my life".... daughter Hailey Higgins-Cirovski



Fall foliage, a colorful crowd and a great game

Background image is Sam's Army flag which was displayed in South Korea throughout World Cup 2002. The flag is now on display at the Hall.

Memories of Induction 2002



"Maybe, someday that will be me up there"...
an aspiring soccer player



A beautiful setting



"Women's soccer has come so far
since I began playing... my brothers
and I pretended to be Bogie in the
backyard"... Shannon Higgins-Cirovski



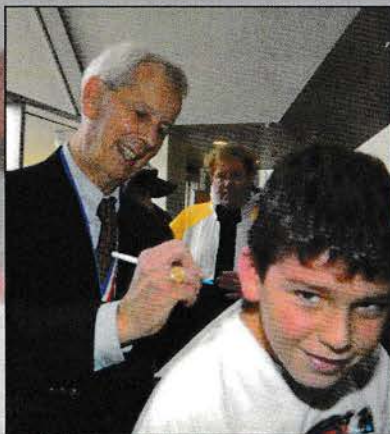
Hall of Famer Alex Ely speaking
at the memorial service held in
the Walk of Fame Plaza



Lorrie Fair of the WUSA Charge -
who just won her 100th cap -
takes time for a young fan



"Bogie played somewhere between
elegance and arrogance"...
Werner Roth quoting Walter Bahr's
description of Bogie's style of play



Hall of Famer George Brown
signing autographs on the
back of a young fan

Some of the Pathfinder Village
soccer team ("adopted" by the Hall)
have an impromptu photo taken at
the Hall of Fame Game. From left to
right: Hall of Famers Chacurian,
Woolam, Keogh (leaning forward),
Ely, Oliver, Bachmeier (slightly hidden)
and Brown. Pathfinder's CEO, Paul
Landers, at extreme right



"I feel like an immigrant field worker
being given credit for the harvest"...
Chairman Doug Willics responding to
an introduction lauding his leadership



Bogie embraces his
old Cosmos team-
mate, Hall of Famer
Werner Roth

Bringing the Selection Process into the 21st Century

In January 2002 the Board established an Eligibility and Awards Committee charged with reviewing the selection policies and procedures and developing recommendations which would meet the following primary objectives:

- Maintain and enhance the highest standards for induction and the integrity of the process
- Streamline the process and increase its transparency
- Expand the involvement of Hall of Famers
- Expand the involvement of WUSA, MLS and the soccer media
- Engage today's soccer fans

After exhaustive research and discussion the committee submitted its report, and on October 14, 2002 the Board of Directors approved significant revisions to the Hall's selection policies and procedures. These revisions will be in effect for Induction 2004.

Background

Historically, inductees into the Hall of Fame were selected from a list of those nominated by State Associations. In 1998 the nomination process was dropped and Master Lists of candidates who met certain minimum criteria were developed by The Society for American Soccer History (SASH). There are three Hall of Fame categories: Players, Veterans and Builders.

New Policies and Procedures – Effective 2004

Players

A player must have been retired for at least 3 years but no more than 10 years. Eligibility commences in the third calendar year after the calendar year in which he/she played the last professional game. He/she must have appeared in at least 20 full international games for the USA, of which at least one must have been in a World Cup or World Cup Qualifying match. This is reduced to 10 games if they were played prior to 1990, in recognition of the fact that fewer international matches were played pre-1990. Or a player must have played at least 5 seasons in a First Division USSF Professional League and won either the League Championship, the US Open Cup or have been a League All Star.

The Selection Committee consists of all present and former coaches of the Men's and Women's full National Team and all active WUSA/MLS coaches with a minimum of four years as Head

Coach. It also includes Owner's representatives, MLS and WUSA Commissioners, plus the USSF Secretary General. In addition the committee includes a bloc consisting of all those designated on the official media lists of MLS/WUSA and US Soccer. A Master List of all those who meet the minimum eligibility criteria is provided by SASH.

Up to three players may be elected annually. The two players who receive the highest number of votes are elected (a minimum of 50% is required), plus the next highest player providing he/she receives at least 80% of the vote.

Veterans

A veteran must have been retired for at least ten years. The criteria are similar to those in the Player category except that, if retired after 1959, he or she must have played in at least ten full international games for the USA. If the games were played prior to 1960 this is reduced to 5 full international games. These reduced criteria recognize the fact that fewer international matches were played in the earlier eras.

The Screening Committee which consists of sixteen Hall of Famers, votes for those who will go on the Final Ballot. The Selection Committee, which consists of all Hall of Famers, votes for those to be inducted. A Master List of all those known to meet the minimum criteria is provided by SASH. Nominations for this category (pre-1969) will also be accepted since data prior to that date is not entirely complete. All nominations will be screened by SASH to insure that they meet the minimum criteria.

Up to two veterans may be elected annually. The veteran who receives the most votes is elected (a minimum of 50% is required), plus the next highest vote-getter providing he or she receives at least 80% of the vote.

Builders

This category consists of all non-players who have had a major, sustained and positive impact on US soccer at the National or First Division Professional level. Due to the broad, general nature of the criteria, nominations for this category will be considered. All nominations will be screened by SASH to insure that they meet the criteria.

The Selection Committee consists of the USSF Director of Officials, MLS and WUSA Owner's Representatives and Commissioners, the USSF Secretary General and all Hall of Fame Builders. The builder who receives the most votes is elected (with a minimum of 50% required). One builder may be elected annually.

Special NASL Induction in 2003

A key element of the overall recommendations by the Eligibility and Awards Committee was that a special catch-up be conducted to correct the effect of systemic flaws in the old system. As a result of the old nominating process a number of exceptional individuals were overlooked because they had simply never been nominated. This was particularly true in the case of the North American Soccer League (NASL) which was in existence for 17 seasons. A relatively limited number of individuals from the NASL have been inducted. Accordingly the Board has approved the designation of Induction 2003 as a special catch-up year for the NASL and will forego regular inductions in 2003. A similar catch-up will be conducted for pre-NASL-era players and builders in the year 2004, in conjunction with the regular inductions.



Former NASL'ers C. Babr, K. Crow, J. Trecker, W. Roth, "Bogie," P. Woosnam, T. Meredith

Two blue-ribbon committees are in the process of being established to vote on NASL inductees. Members will be drawn primarily from Hall of Famers from the NASL as well as NASL-era media. The basic criteria for candidates will be that they played at least 5 seasons in the NASL and either won the League Championship, were selected to the League All Star team, or played in at least 10 full US National Team matches, one of which must have been in the World Cup or World Cup Qualifying. SASH will provide a Master List of all those who meet the minimum criteria. The criterion for Builders will be that they had a major, sustained and positive impact on US soccer thru the NASL.