

IN THE NEWS...

Chuck Clegg, who built San Diego State into a national power in the 1980s, has stepped down as men's head coach to concentrate on the women's program.

The Aztecs finished second to Clemson in 1987 and sent three players to the U.S. World Cup team in 1990 (Eric Wynalda, Marcelo Balboa and Christopher Sullivan) and 1994 (Wynalda, Balboa and Cle Kooiman). San Diego State went 4-15-0 in 1999 to leave Clegg six wins shy of the 200 mark. He finishes with a 194-133-40 record. Clegg, who has done double duty the last six years, is succeeded by Lev Kirshner, an assistant the past three seasons.



Former U.S. international Kevin Grimes has been named the new men's head coach at the University of California, succeeding Mark Mallon, who resigned this winter.

Grimes starred at SMU and most recently served as an assistant at the Dallas school. Grimes, who had four caps for the United States, concluded his pro career with the A-League's Orange County Zodiac in 1997. He played briefly in Iceland.

California opened Goldman Field at renovated Edwards Stadium last fall, but there has been speculation that soccer is one of several men's sports that will be dropped if the Cal athletic department doesn't improve its financial situation.



Defending NCAA Division I champion North Carolina has signed Alyssa Ramsey, one of four high seniors invited to the U.S. women's national team camp in Chula Vista, Calif.

Ramsey, a forward, starred at Charlotte's North Mecklenburg High School and for the Charlotte Soccer Club. Other college-bound players at the national team camp are Nandi Pryce (UCLA) and Parade High School Player of the Year Aleisha Cramer (BYU). Veronica Zepeda (Santa Clara), recovering from back problems, may join the camp in May.



Stephanie Gabbert, the 1999 Big 10 Coach of the Year, has left Iowa to become the women's head coach at Iowa State.

Gabbert led the Hawkeyes to third place in the Big 10 in only its third year. She inherits a Cyclone team that finished 11-8-1 in 1999 and reached the Big 12 semifinals.

Edited by Paul Kennedy

WORLDWIDE

U.S. ABROAD Reyna shoots for double

U.S. midfielder Claudio Reyna became the first American to win back-to-back league titles in a major European league when Rangers clinched its 49th league title on April 22.

It celebrated its title with a 2-0 win over St. Johnstone a day after Celtic was held to a 0-0 tie by Hibernian.

Rangers is 20 points ahead with six games left, the earliest the Scottish title has been decided.

Reyna can become the second U.S. player after Paul Caligiuri (East Germany's Hansa Rostock, 1991) to win a league-cup double in Europe when it takes on Aberdeen in the final of the Scottish FA Cup May 27 in Glasgow.

Reyna joined the Glasgow club from German team Wolfsburg just in time to help it take the 1998-99 title.

He played a major role early in the 1999-2000 season, earning Scotland's Player of the Month honors in August.

He was benched during the winter when he returned to play for the United States.

Reyna regained a spot in the starting lineup at a new position — right back — when Italian Sergio Porrini was injured.

Reyna's future in the Rangers' midfield is a matter of debate.

Popular German Jorg Albrecht may leave after this season, but Dick Advocaat still has Scotsman Barry Ferguson, Dutchman Gio Van Bronckhurst and Russian Andrei Kanchelskis with Turk

STEFANO RELLANDINI/REUTERS



BRAZILIAN STAR RONALDO GIVES THE THUMBS-UP IN MILAN, WHERE HE RETURNED AFTER SUCCESSFUL KNEE SURGERY.

Kerimoglu Tugay and Neil McCann in reserve.

Rangers was rebuffed in its bid to sign PSV striker Ruud Van Nistelrooy, but fellow Dutchman Fernando Ricksen (AZ Alkmaar) and Allan Johnston (Bolton Wanderers), both midfielders, are expected to join Rangers this summer.

U.S. SOCCER Wanted: Coaching school boss

Since 1971, the U.S. Soccer Federation has been running coaching schools that offer various levels of diplomas, the highest being the A license.

Bobby Howe, the Director of Coaching Education for the past four years, stepped down in

April to open up a position that may once again undergo some redefining.

"I think we're going to re-evaluate the job description," says Bill Sage, the Federation's chief administration officer. "Our business goal is to develop further programs and expand the ones we have."

Sage insists there are still no candidates to replace Howe, a former pro with West Ham United before coming to the United States to play in the NASL.

However, longtime Federation staff coaches Jay Hoffman

Howe also set the curriculum for state coaching licenses (D, E and F).

While the Federation can't prevent clubs from hiring unlicensed coaches, it does make recommendations.

According to guidelines set forward by Howe, A licenses should be required of coaches of pro teams, national teams, colleges, national instructors, regional coaches, state directors of coaches, ODP state head coaches and youth club directors of coaching.

— Mike Voitalla

pain but tears for five months of work chucked away in five minutes," he said. "There was no logical reason for the injury. I was feeling great before it happened. I had done the strength tests, and the muscles in my leg seemed to be balanced."

Ronaldo, who had come on as a substitute in the match, had been running with the ball when he collapsed.

"I'd done a lot of training and I'd gone through that movement hundreds of times," he said.

He first partially tore the tendon in an Italian league match last November. The second injury was far more serious and ruptured the tendon completely.

Ronaldo will be out for up to eight months.

He said he was looking forward to spending time at home with his two-week-old son Ronald.

"After the disappointment of this serious injury," he said, "it's good to be at home. Time passes faster, and I feel better."

PLAYER SALARIES

Del Piero tops charts

Juventus striker Alessandro Del Piero is the world's best paid soccer player, according to a survey published by the Paris magazine *France Football*.

Del Piero amasses \$11 million a year in salary, bonuses and endorsements.

Since signing a record new deal with Juventus worth \$5.6 million a year in 1999, Del Piero has overtaken Ronaldo as the world's best paid player.

Ronaldo was paid \$9.2 million, according to *France Football*.

With Ronaldo's Inter Milan teammate, Christian Vieri, at \$6.5 million, the top three all play in Italy's Serie A championship.

David Beckham of Manchester United, who earns \$6 million, Argentine Gabriel Batistuta of Fiorentina (\$5.9 million) and England captain Alan Shearer of Newcastle United (\$5.8 million) are the next best paid.

Real Madrid's Nicolas Anelka is the seventh best paid, with earnings of \$5.7 million, and World Cup star Zinedine Zidane of Juventus is 10th on \$5.2 million.

Zidane is just behind Real's Steve McManaman (\$5.36 million) and Japan's Hidetoshi Nakata of Roma (\$5.33 million).



ARGENTINE STAR DIEGO MARADONA MAY HAVE KICKED HIS COCAINE HABIT IN CUBA, BUT HE CERTAINLY HASN'T KICKED THE HIGH LIFE. HE RIDES A SAILBOAT IN WATERS OFF HAVANA.

and Jay Miller appear to be favorites for the position.

Sage also says the decision on Howe's replacement could be made before the Federation hires a replacement for General Secretary Hank Steinbrecher, who resigned in February.

Though Howe's predecessors, Timo Liekoski and Bob Gansler, also handled player-development responsibilities, the position was subsequently confined to coaching education.

National team coach Bruce Arena will have input on the hiring, but Sage says the Coaching Education department will be run separately from Project 2010.

Howe, who coached the U.S. U-20s at the 1993 U-20 World Cup, oversaw the national instructional staff of 110.

Within the last year, 271 coaches attended the A course, 466 the B course, 878 the C course and 239 the youth-license course.

The courses cost between \$575 and \$975.

RONALDO Ready for some quiet time

Ronaldo vows he will be great again once he recovers from his latest knee injury.

"I'll go to Brazil to recuperate," he said at a news conference held in the courtyard of his home in Milan. "I'd really like a quiet time for the next few months. But when I get back on the field, I want to be back on top."

Ronaldo, 23, returned home on April 21 from Paris after his second operation inside five months.

He tore a tendon after playing for only six minutes of the first leg of the Italian Cup final first leg against Lazio nine days earlier.

The game was to have been his triumphant comeback after months sidelined through injury.

Distraught and grimacing with pain, Ronaldo was carried off.

"They were not just tears of

MLS Scoreless Streaks

TEAM	YEAR	MINUTES
1. Kansas City	1998-99	637
2. Colorado	1999-2000	562
3. *Miami	2000	405
4. MetroStars	1999	375
5. MetroStars	1997	361
6. New England	1999	361
7. MetroStars	1996	348
8. Los Angeles	1997	319
9. San Jose	1996-97	317
9. MetroStars	1999	317
*Active		

WORLD CUP 2002

Bermuda's World Cup dream ended when Antigua & Barbuda held it to a 1-1 tie in the second leg of their second-round Caribbean series in Hamilton and advanced on the away goal rule.

Bermuda was favored after holding Antigua & Barbuda to a 0-0 tie on the road, but it struggled to break down the Antiguan defense. Bermuda's chances were hurt by the absence of its two English-based stars Shaun Goater (Manchester City) and Kyle Lightbourne (Stoke City). Their clubs are involved in tight promotion battles and didn't release them. Coach Robert Calderon had to rely upon a pair of teenage strikers, Furman star John Barry Nusum and Stephen Astwood. He brought on UNC Charlotte junior C.J. Robinson for Nusum in the second half.



St. Vincent & the Grenadines eased into the third round of Caribbean qualifying with a 2-1 win at St. Kitts & Nevis, its fourth straight win in qualifying.

Rodney Jack, who plays for English club Bolton Wanderers, and Kendall Velox, who plays for Courts Caledonian in the Trinidad & Tobago National Professional League, scored for the St. Vincentians, who won, 3-1, on aggregate. St. Vincent & the Grenadines hopes to return to the semifinals of World Cup qualifying in The Football Confederation for the third straight time.



Manchester United's loss to Real Madrid in the quarterfinals of the European Champions League frees up Dwight Yorke to return for Trinidad & Tobago's third-round Caribbean series against Haiti.

Yorke has yet to play in any of Trinidad & Tobago's qualifiers. T&T did not need him for easy wins over the Netherlands Antilles and Dominican Republic. Coach Ian Porterfield also hopes to have Stern John. The former Columbus Crew star was injured this winter playing for English club Nottingham Forest.

TFC QUALIFYING

**Caribbean Zone
Third Round, First Leg
May 7**
Cuba vs. Barbados
St. Vincent & Gren. vs. Antigua & Barbuda
Trin & Tobago vs. Haiti
**Third Round, Second Leg
May 20**
Haiti vs. Trin S Tobago
May 21
Barbados vs. Cuba
Antigua & Barbuda vs. St. Vincent & Gren.

Four players, four views

The women who won a world championship last year have made their feelings known: They're fully behind John Hendricks' proposed Women's United Soccer Association.

What about other players?

WUSA, one of two primary contenders for sanction as a Division I women's professional league, claims support for their plan is widespread.

Soccer America asked four prospective WUSA players for their thoughts.

Charmaine Hooper. "There are concerns [with the salary structure, \$35,000-\$45,000 for foreign stars and young U.S. national team players]," said the Canadian star, who has signed a letter-of-intent with WUSA. "I don't know if it's fair to say that these players, just out of college, are grouped into the same category as [top foreign players]. I feel to be grouped in the same category is kind of cheap.

"They're good players, but I don't think these college players have the same experience I've had. It doesn't make me feel like I'm going to [be playing] in the best league in the world."

Debbie Keller. "The main reason [I haven't signed a letter-of-intent] is that Tony [DiCicco], Lauren [Gregg] and Anson [Dorrance] are all directly involved in it," said the former U.S. forward, whose international career waned about

the time she filed a sexual harassment suit against Dorrance, her coach at North Carolina, and other North Carolina employees.

"Personally, I'd rather not have anything to do with Tony. Lauren and Anson.... I'd love to

play, and it would be great if the league got started. But until it's up and running, it's just kind of out there and nothing's final. Until it's sanctioned and running, I can't sign anything."

Julie Murray. "After the Olympic Games, international players will have, I would imagine, far greater opportunity in Europe, and perhaps Japan will get another league up and running," said the Australian forward, whom WUSA announced it had signed to a letter-of-intent. "Players will be looking out for their own best interests. ... No agreement, certainly, on paper has been made between myself and the league, but a verbal expression of interest in the league — that's what I've given. I haven't actually seen a letter-of-intent, and I certainly wouldn't be signing it without having a good look at it."

Staci Wilson. "We're in need of a league so bad, whoever comes up with it is fine with me," says the '96 U.S. Olympian. "It might be good to have some competition [with two leagues], so that players are not totally taken advantage of, and they have a [choice] to play elsewhere.

I'm not expecting that, but I think competition in general is good. This is America."

— Scott French

WUSA



TONY QUINN/SOCCERPIXUSA



IAN HODGSON/REUTERS

REAL MADRID'S FERNANDO REDONDO RUNS AWAY FROM MANCHESTER UNITED'S ROY KEANE EN ROUTE TO A BERTH IN THE SEMIFINALS OF THE CHAMPIONS LEAGUE



Spanish soccer made history in qualifying three teams for the semifinals of the Champions League: Barcelona, Valencia and Real Madrid. Only twice previously have two teams from the same country reached the semifinals of the European Cup, and they were Spanish clubs. Real Madrid and Atletico Madrid met in 1959 and Real Madrid faced Barcelona a year later.



Something has to give in the increasingly crowded European calendar, and it appears to be **domestic cup competitions**, which have taken a beating this year. Manchester United fielded a reserve team for the English League Cup and promptly got wiped out. It withdrew from the FA Cup because of its commitment to play in the FIFA World Club Championship. Now, Barcelona has withdrawn from the Spanish Cup after its request to reschedule the second leg of its semifinal series with Atletico Madrid was rejected.



One cup competition that is actually thriving is the French League Cup, which offers big prize money (\$2 million) and a place in the UEFA Cup for the winner. France's top clubs take the competition very seriously, so it was a big shock when tiny Second Division club **Gueugnon** (population: 9,000) upset Paris St. Germain, 2-0, in the final. It's almost as big as Fourth Division club Calais' march to the final of the French Cup.



Eric Gerets, the former Belgian international defender, is making quite a reputation for himself as a coach. He led PSV Eindhoven to the Dutch title, giving him three titles with three different clubs in the last four years. He previously led Lierse and Club Brugge to the Belgian title.

English Repeat Champions

YEAR	CLUB	
1949-1950	Manchester United	Portsmouth
1999-2000	Manchester United	1933-1935 Arsenal
1996-1997	Manchester United	1928-1930 Sheffield Wednesday
1993-1994	Manchester United	1923-1925 Huddersfield Town
1982-1984	Liverpool	1922-1923 Liverpool
1979-1980	Liverpool	1903-1904 The Wednesday
1958-1959	Wolverhampton	1899-1900 Aston Villa
1956-1957	Manchester United	1895-1897 Aston Villa