

PUBblurb

"What we have here is a failure to communicate"

cjvg

Unquestionable silence of being

With the general furor that has developed through March, in part over Ian Kennet's candid interview with the BCSA's staff coach Michael Findlay, we thought my God, we've actually done it, we've cracked the code of silence that seethes in the underbelly of BC football.

That's BC football in general, not a specific reference to the BCSA. The whole bloody Canadian football industry is so ripe with protectionism, self-gratification, inadequacy, mediocrity and conspiracy that it's a blue moon indeed when someone actually has the nads to say what they think, for better or worse (hopefully better), on the record.

We've seen it ever so rarely in these pages, yet I personally here it all the time. The irony of last issue's article and subsequent flame-throwing was that the BCSA themselves took exception to their own realizations of how this game should best benefit kids and country. Namely, that the best prerequisite for raising talented, passionate footballers is a well developed club system that operates under the guidance of it's parent provincial and national bodies. Sounds good to me.

I haven't found a soul who will argue with that notion. I also haven't found a soul who could dramatically articulate such in regards to the BC game, in time for this issue. Those we have chatted with for this issue's follow-through on the initial subject, are, shall we say, careful with their words. And unfortunately Victor Montagliani of the BCSA could not meet press deadlines in regards to our original plans to paint via his palette, a clear picture of BCSA structure and youth initiatives.

The BCSA was also unable to respond to an emailed request for clarification on current proceedings regarding Abbotsford Soccer Club and the hiatus from the recent u16 Provincial Camp in Burnaby.

What's truly unfortunate here is that I already know more than I can ethically or legally print without confirmation, and much of that information came not from the BCSA, nor any club

or coach involved, but from an accountable parent of a boy attending the camp!

It's all so bloody frustrating when media and public alike is left to feast on here-say and speculation, when the answers are right here. This unquestionable silence of being, this iron-clad veil of secrecy, this tight-lipped, keep us in the dark nonsense is getting nobody nowhere, except maybe certain age-old powers that one high-ranking local would suggest have a mandate to keep the whole bloody system confusing and in general chaos. You can't question those you can't find!

So here we are with concerns the size of this country, a lively, honest, entertaining and completely dedicated newspaper forum to contain them all, and too few souls brave enough to actually take the plunge, scream bloody murder at the madness, and fill these pages.

Point being, we don't collectively get anywhere until we start behaving like a collective, with common goals for our kids and cleat-clad grandfather's alike, and common methods for reaching those goals coast-to-coast.

Please read Andy Sharpe on page 6 – a short, but rather brazenly honest appraisal of what it takes to know this game, to live this game. Sharpe is speaking on a national, even global scale, and what we in BC need, is everyone doing the same damned thing, on our scale.

I chatted with PCSL president Len Mc Adams on the weekend during the Surrey vs. Westside Imperial Cup Semi-final. He's not involved in the Y-League and therefore has little to offer regarding that which has frustrated Miller and Lenarduzzi among others, but claims to be an avid supporter of the club system highlighted by Findlay. As is VMSL president William Azzi, who has kindly offered to step on the field and keep the ball rolling. As Azzi will tell you, he has no paycheque allegiances and is free to speak his mind – we will take him up on that. We'll take anyone up on that infact. That's why we're here, with no political persuasion, and no restrictions to how many opinions we'll print. Give us yours. ●

CONTENTStable

VMSL Imperial Cup:
A determined Surrey United upset the defending 2003 champions, Westside Rino, to book a spot in the Final. April 4, against Pegasus



PHOTO:
MARK OKOTH, Digital Action

PEOPLEfeatures

Fonseca • Lenarduzzi • Miller • De Rosario • Elvis Pano • Sharpe • Bates

RESULTSwrap

UVic Spring Cup **4**
FIFA RANKS • ESPN25 • FA Cup **7, 8**
CHAMPS • Big 13 Euro leagues • FIFA A friendlies **8, 9, 20**
 VMSL • VISL • WCSL • FVSL • MWSL • RSSL • Amateur Cup Finals **10, 11**

Therest of the story

Super Y-League • Whitecaps pre-season • Whitecaps Try-outs • Tri-Cities Xtreme CSA shortlist • FIFA rule changes • Chelsea • Champions World schedule
 Welsh football • Tim Howard • Imperial Cup • YellowBellies • UBC Thunderbirds
 Coq. City Wild • Burnaby Selects • Ekrem's Field Studies • Brazilian Soccer School
 Guarding the Goal • Saibo's Soldiers • Footy Survival Guide • NSCAA

The Comfortable Chair • Gaelic football • White Cap Condoms

LETTERS • TV • HOOLIGANS • DIRECTORY

UPfor grabs

SHOW US YOUR BALLS we have a winner **16**
50% OFF FREE KICK we have a winner **17**
LUCKY BUGGER DRAW courtesy of Rough Guides **18**

ONLINEextras

EXPORTS and other nonsense

NEXTissue

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Madman at the Helm: Chris J. Vaughan Griffiths **Scribes:** Ben Adam, Willy Azzi, Shel Brodsgaard, Elvio Chies, Gian-Luca DiRocco, Liz Goodman, Ted Gudlaugson, Jason Karp, Ian Kennett, Alastair Knott, Paul Roett, Duane G. Rollins, Devon Rowcliffe, CJVG **Scrubber:** Out to lunch **A different sort of fella:** Hande Holden **Beans:** Grant Hodgson, **Pillar of strength:** Laura Hunse **Shutterfluffs:** Richard Howes, Mark Okoth, Devon Rowcliffe, CJVG, Sportsline **Memos:** Stuart Allen, BCSRA, BCSA, Scott Fletcher, John O'Flynn, Steve Holmes, Richard Howes, SoccerNet, UEFA, Voyagers and hundreds more little people

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