

Lewis Page Takes Over As New Mens Soccer Coach

By Marc MacDonald
Sports Editor

The UPEI Men's Soccer team who were AUAA champions in 1998 and went 12-2 last season, will have a new head coach next season. The new coach, Lewis Page has been an assistant coach to the team for the past five seasons as well as head coach of the Women's soccer team in 1996 and 1997. Page has also been Technical Director for the PEI Soccer Association for the past five years and has coached in Halifax before coaching at UPEI.

The head coach position was left open when former head coach Bruce Norton announced his retirement last November. Norton had first coached the Panthers in 1990-91 for a season and then from 1994 to 1999. In that time Norton took the team from a 3-7-1 record to a 10-2-1 record. In 1996-97 Norton was named Coach of the Year. UPEI's other assistant coach Dave Snowie who coached with Norton for seven years also announced his

retirement in November. "I have really enjoyed working with the athletes and the opportunity to coach at this level," said Norton. "We have had a fine group of student athletes who dedicated themselves to soccer at UPEI. I will miss the camaraderie that comes from working closely with the team."

Aside from having spent several years behind the bench with Norton and Snowie, Page has a strong background in soccer. "He has an exceptional soccer background both as a player and a coach" said Athletic Director Barb Mullaly. Lewis is currently finishing his Canadian Soccer Association "A" License, having completed his "B" licence in 1996. "He has a strong knowledge base and good coaching experience. These two factors coupled with his familiarity of the UPEI program make him well suited to take over the reigns of men's soccer. His challenge will be to maintain UPEI program as a force in the AUAA and continue to attract the top student athletes from PEI." Mullaly added.

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