### **CHAPTER I**

#### INTRODUCTION

# A. Background of the Study

American football, baseball, softball, and indoor soccer are examples of sports that originated in the United Kingdom and spread to other nations. Conversely, European sports such as volleyball and skateboarding were very different from American football and baseball. US sports have experienced tremendous growth since their founding.

There were two Division 1 soccer leagues in the US prior to the establishment of Major League Soccer (MLS). The American Football Association (AFA) was the first, and it ceased operations in 1924. A few years later, the National American Soccer League (NASL) was established in 1967. Despite this, soccer did become somewhat more popular at this time, particularly after Brazilian football legend Pele of the New York Cosmos played.

Football is not a popular sport in America, which is why I chose this suggestion. Four to five years ago, there were a lot of world-class football players participating in Major League Soccer. Although the league's inception dates back to 1993, the first match took place in 1996. It was shortly before FIFA granted the United States the right to host the World Cup in 1994. Educating the world about US soccer as well.

Born on March 4, 1982, Landon Timothy Donovan is an American who played soccer professionally in the past. In addition, Donovan is a strategic advisor for English team Lincoln City and co-founder and vice-president of soccer operations for USL

Championship team San Diego Loyal SC. Due to his amazing football career, Donovan was a national hero in the United States.

His American football career ended in MLS and then returned to MLS. A standout athlete in Redlands, California, Donovan joined the United States national under-17 (U-17) squad in 1998. German team Bayer Leverkusen saw Donovan's success in U-17 competition and recruited the underage player in 1999. Upon his return to the US, Donovan was an instant success, leading the Earthquakes to an MLS Cup championship in his first season with the squad. Donovan is one of the few examples of why MLS is insufficient for football players; he began his career in the league then moved to Germany to further his career. Donovan is one of the USA's incredible talents.

Another example is Christian Pulisic, who was introduced to football at a young age. Pulisic was born in Pennsylvania in 1998. Both of Pulisic's parents were collegiate soccer players at George Mason University, but it was during the year his family lived overseas in the small English village following his mother Kelley's teaching exchange that the family moved to the UK in 2005 that Pulisic's love for the game truly took off.

Luis Figo, a former Portuguese midfielder who famously defected from Barcelona to Real Madrid, is Pulisic's idol in soccer. As a youngster, Pulisic did travel around a little; at the age of seven, he moved to England to play for Brackley Town. Following yet another relocation by his father, Pulisic found himself on the field again, this time as a player for Michigan Rush in Michigan.

Walker claims that although though Pulisic was physically smaller and a year younger than the rest of the team at the age of seven, his "never say die attitude" served him well. Having a sensible parent was also essential in keeping Pulisic on the correct

path. Pulisic was a member of the local US Soccer Development Academy team in Pennsylvania prior to the family departing for their year abroad in Oxfordshire, and he rejoined the team after the family returned to Hershey.

Scouts from the German club Borussia Dortmund noticed Christian Pulisic while he was playing for the PA Classics in his home state of Pennsylvania and the US youth teams. As Pulisic started his career with Borussia Dortmund in Germany, he got a firsthand look at the highs and lows faced by professional soccer players. Pulisic would come and go from the Borussia Dortmund starting lineup as his quickness was utilized as a substitute.

Travels over Europe: When Pulisic was sixteen, the world seemed to be at his feet. He received offers to improve his game from all over the continent. Mark decided that his son will join German team Borussia Dortmund, a team known for turning raw diamonds into highly valuable players, despite an offer from Spanish powerhouse Barcelona. The 16-year-old Pulisic joined the eight-time German champions in February 2015 and was assigned to the under-17 team right away. The youth teams at Dortmund's academy are well-integrated with one another, and players frequently move between the senior squad and the age level. From the moment he joined Borussia, he shown an exceptional level of performance. Eventually, even the experienced coaches David Wagner, Jurgen Klopp, and Thomas Tuchel realized right away that this young man was exceptional and had a remarkable work ethic, especially in the face of obstacles both on and off the field. Father Mark also traveled to Dortmund to work as a coach, providing additional assistance to Pulisic in adjusting to the relocation to a different nation and a completely new language.

Going back to the beginning, Pulisic declared he would be "open" to a move to the Premier League in November 2018, two months before his huge money move to Chelsea was completed. The excitement among Chelsea supporters has increased since he signed with the team in January after spending the second part of the 2018–19 campaign on loan back at Dortmund and managing to regain some decent form. Pulisic is joining a squad that lost their key player, Eden Hazard, to Real Madrid; nevertheless, manager Sarri has been replaced by club veteran Lampard. American Chelsea superfan Goldberg has gained a lot of fans because to his sharp observations and fervent support for the Blues. As a result, Chelsea players like Mason Mount and Callum Hudson-Odoi have thanked Goldberg in videos. According to Goldberg, the presence of an American player in the Premier League with one of the top clubs will have a positive impact back home.

In actuality, there are thousands of Christian Pulisics on our sports grounds who aspire to success, fame, and money, as well as to lead their teams and country. There are sportsmen and families that properly focus on their one sport while maintaining their moral principles. I contend that, despite growing media and medical attention, this is not a recent occurrence. We haven't been aware of athletes' specializations for decades; they have been happening for decades. For instance, it's evident that two of my son's Division I teammates and my son both became specialists in soccer at an early age; they both recently finished four years of intense Division I soccer at a demanding academic university and, as of this writing, are both happy professional soccer players. Both are doing well and enjoying their childhood fantasies of "playing at the next level." Neither has experienced any severe, life-threatening injuries, nor does he regret choosing to focus on soccer more than ten years ago.

How can Major League Soccer improve going forward? An introduction of soccer in the US is provided in Soccer and the American Dream, which also employs case studies to investigate why American university students choose to pursue a soccer scholarship while taking into account the influence of social class, family, and job growth on social mobility and the game itself.

How does Major League Soccer compare to other European football competitions? Teams in Europe advance through the pyramidal structure at the conclusion of each season. This implies that a certain amount of teams in a division will move up to a lower tier. Teams who place first in every league, with the exception of the top tier, advance.

## **B.** Problem Formulation

Based on the background above, the researcher formulates some problems stated as follows:

- How is American Soccer player produce Popular Culture as Reflected in Christian Pulisic Biography
- 2. How are American soccer's player dreams as soccer player in Europe?

# C. Objective of the Study

- How can US soccer player produce as Reflected in Christian Pulisic Biography
- 2. To analyze soccer player dreams as Reflected in American soccer

# D. Scope of the Study

An introduction of soccer in the US is provided in Soccer and the American Dream, which also employs case studies to investigate why American university students choose to pursue a soccer scholarship while taking into account the influence of social class, family, and job growth on social mobility and the game itself.

Soccer is the Fourth popular sport in America that's why I do this research. In this research I focus on developing Major League Soccer, and making Major League Soccer compete with European football

#### E. Review of the Related Studies

One of the more well-known teams in soccer, German Bundesliga team Borussia Dortmund, revealed on January 5, 2016, that young American Christian Pulisic would start working with the team's senior squad. Pulisic, who is originally from Pennsylvania, was a member of the first generation of young American players to leave the country in search of opportunities in more competitive leagues than MLS currently provides. When Pulisic and his family noticed his enormous potential at a young age, it was likely because of his father's previous professional indoor soccer career in America that they were more aware of how to utilize his gift.

Using a comprehensive dataset of national soccer teams' match outcomes dating back to the 19th century, soccer is examined in terms of its global expansion and success. Due to the volume and variety of data available, the intricacy of the MLS business model,

and the imprecise nature of the terms "viability" and "sustainability" in relation to soccer clubs, a deeper examination of the financial viability of MLS is challenging.

Studies on the attendance of professional sports events have discovered that general factors such as ticket costs, travel expenses, population, income, team and player quality, game conditions, competition from other sports or media, and the ethnic makeup of a team and its fan base all have an impact on participation (Jewell & Molina, 2005).

There is nothing wrong at all with the American fixation with being the greatest at everything. We have seen that throughout the nation's history, they have consistently strived for victory in all endeavors. The United States of America is a nation that has battled to be the world's leading superpower throughout its entire history, and they currently hold this position. The idea is that American culture is characterized by a constant desire to be at the top of the pyramid and to have everything under control.

American soccer has been waiting decades for a true star like Christian Pulisic, one who can compete in the top five European leagues and is also among the league's finest players. Even while the two most well-known modern American soccer players, Landon Donovan and Clint Dempsey, had stints on Premier League teams in the past, none of them ever demonstrated the kind of extraordinary potential that Pulisic has already demonstrated at the age of 21. In fact, Pulisic became the youngest captain of the US squad in history in 2018, a vote of confidence from teammates who are much older and who already acknowledge the superiority of his skill set.

### F. Research Method

The researcher explain3 point that included the method of research. The first is the source of data that contains and supporting data, the second is the technique of collecting data, and then last is a technique of analyzing.

## 1. Data and Source of Data

### a. Main data

The researcher has two sources to collect the data for this research. First is the primary data directly conducted by ussoccer. (2023, december 15). Making The Case Christian Pulisic for U.S. Soccer Male Player of the Year. Data from biography and documentaries video of American Soccer documentary. There are *Christian Pulisic Daily Routine* from Youtube. They were analyzed and interpreted using the theory presented before

## b. Supporting data

The supporting data that support main data are the pre-existing source that have been collected for different purpose by others, not only by the researcher. The supporting data is taken from article, internet sources, social media, youtube videos, and discussion to the topic of research.

# 2. Method and Technique of Collecting Data

In qualitative methodology data is usually done in observation in non numerical, descriptive, applies reasoning and used words with the purpose to understand the meaning, feeling, and describe situation. conducted by ussoccer. (2023, december

15). Data collection is the collection of specific evidence that allows researchers to properly analyze the results of all activities through research plans and procedures.

Data are information or facts used to discuss or determine how to answer a research question. Data are very important for certain studies. In addition, we need data to support the various arguments in our findings. A study data source is a subject from whom data can be collected for research purposes. The researcher used a biography, article, journal and youtube video as data sources.

## 3. Method and Technique of Analyzing Data

The next step that has to be done after collecting the data, is analyze the data. Analyzing data means examining tabular material to determine the facts or meanings of character. It is the decomposing of existing complex elements into simpler parts and the assembly of those parts into new arrangements for interpretation In analyzing the data, the researcher applies a qualitative descriptive approach, in qualitative methodology data is usually done in observation in non numerical, descriptive, applies reasoning and uses words with the purpose to understand the meaning, feeling, describe the situation. It is designed to find out how people think and feels about a particular subject

Qualitative has four major types, there are action research, case study research, ethnography, grounded theory, qualitative case study, critical qualitative research, and narrative analysis.

The key word analyze by using the theory of American Dream to describe and analyze soccer player and also using Popular culture Theory to analyze development progress American soccer player.

Rothenberg and the other founders of MLS understood that in order to control expenses without running afoul of antitrust laws, they would require a centralized organization.30 They decided to employ a limited liability corporation with just one entity. When this kind of organization was first proposed, the limited liability corporation would deal as an entity in all player contracts, television deals, marketing deals, and even stadium deals. The "owners" of those teams would just be investors who earn membership interests in the limited liability business; the teams would be merely divisions of the organization itself.

The step that the researcher use is: the first in analyzing the data based on structural elements. The focus will be paid on Christian Pulisic. The second step analyzing the data on the biographies of Christian Pulisic.

## **G.** Presentation

In this study I do research by data and discussing about Stability on Major League Soccer and talking about players, supporter, and business on Major League Soccer, one of popular sport in America, I would be interested to discuss this topic because a few years ago Major League Soccer going viral because they are can be bringing World class players. I hope I enjoying for next step on this proposal. scope of the study, review of the related studies, method of research, significance of the Study and presentation.