

NEWS RELEASE



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PROFILE ON DR. ERNEST PANOS

Being owner of two successful orthodontist offices on Chicago's north side would be enough to occupy the ordinary man in his mid-40's.

But Dr. Ernest Panos isn't ordinary.

He's also owner of two of Greece's largest and most successful television production studios in Athens.

And, if that weren't enough to keep the Cat's leader busy most of his waking and some of his sleeping hours, he also heads up an important Chicago television production company.

Yet, he puts in a good deal of time on promotion of his beloved Chicago Cats and soccer in general. He's wildly, lovingly, happily, enthusiastically and energetically devoted to the sport, which he has served as a player, official and executive.

He recently stated: "I want nothing more in life than to see the great sport of soccer reach the heights in America. And my fondest dream would come true if we were to win the American Soccer League championship in this Bicentennial Year"

Dr. Panos is a patriot. Deeply in love with America. Grateful for the wonderful life it has given him. He tried to repay part of the debt by enlisting in the U.S. Air Force in the Korean War. That gave him, born in Greece, automatic U.S. citizenship.

He had come to this country with his parents as a youth and attended the University of California at Berkeley, Marquette where he played on the soccer team, and then worked as a taxi driver in Chicago while pursuing his studies of orthodontics until graduation at Loyola University.

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Later, he served soccer in Chicago in executive positions, as a club president and as chairman of the local Trial Board.

When he heard last year the Gary franchise in the 44-year old American Soccer League was available, he purchased and moved it to Chicago. Thus the Chicago Cats were born.

Dr. Panos has poured a fortune into the club, bringing in star players from around the globe, a leading coach and an excellent front office staff. He won't recover a fraction of what he's spent this season.

But that doesn't bother him. He's in it for long pull. He has confidence in his team. The Sport. And in Chicago.

"Chicago deserves a champion in a major sport," he was heard to remark. "I hope we can give one to our city this year."

Dr. Panos' wife, Maria, and young daughter, Kathy, hope so, too. They're the team's biggest boosters---next to Doc.