

Office of the Governor

NEWS RELEASE

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RELEASE: July 22, 1998

Governor Gives Three Cheers for U.S. Women's National Soccer Team Touts 1999 FIFA Women's World Cup at New Jersey's Giants Stadium

Gov. Christie Whitman today welcomed members of the U.S. Women's National Soccer team to Giants Stadium for a practice session and kicked off the countdown to Women's World Cup 1999 which will be held at the stadium next June. The U.S. Women's team is in town to prepare for the Goodwill Games competition on Long Island.

The Governor was joined on the field by members of the U.S. Women's team, World Cup officials and approximately 1,000 local New Jersey youth soccer players.

"New Jersey's Giants Stadium was proud to host the men's World Cup in 1994, and we're thrilled to be hosting the opening games of the FIFA Women's World Cup next June," said Gov. Whitman. "New Jersey is home of great soccer and some of the nation's top players. And I'm confident that with the members of Team U.S.A. as their inspiration, many of the young players we have here today will be playing on the national team a World Cup or two from now."

"The U.S. Women's National Soccer Team has already made this nation deeply proud by winning the first-ever Women's World Cup in 1991 and earning the gold medal at the Atlanta Olympics in 1996," said the Governor. "Millions of fans in New Jersey and across the country will be rooting hard for this team to recapture the World Cup next year here on our home turf."

The Governor also wished the team good luck in their upcoming competition at the Goodwill Games.

Giants stadium and the Garden State will host Women's World Cup matches including the official opening game and ceremony on June 19 and a first round doubleheader on June 26. Gov. Whitman serves as a member of the Women's World Cup Advisory Board.

The final round of the 1999 Women's World Cup will be held in June and July in the following cities: East Rutherford, Boston, Chicago, Los Angeles, Portland, San Francisco and Washington, DC.