

SASKIA WEBBER OF PRINCETON HIGH SCHOOL

The 1999 United States Women's National Soccer team was one of the most impactful in the history of women's sports, and New Jersey was part of the roster.

Saskia Webber, who was a star soccer and lacrosse player at Princeton High School before moving onto soccer stardom at Rutgers, was a part of that 1999 team which captivated the nation while winning the Women's World Cup championship, along with another Jerseyan, Christie Pearce Rampone from Point Pleasant.

The United States won the championship with a 5-4 shootout victory over China after scoreless regulation and overtime periods before a record crowd of 90,185 at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, California.

Webber's career took shape from her days at Princeton High, where graduated in 1989. She was an All-Conference player in both of her sports through all four years. She was also an All-State selection in both as a junior and senior.



She made her international soccer debut during those years at age 17 as a member of the U.S. Under-20 team.

When the high school began its Athletic Hall of Fame in 2004, Saskia was part of its charter induction class.

At Rutgers, she was a First Team All-American as a senior in 1992, and also recognized as National Goalkeeper of the Year. She holds the school record for career shutouts with 30, and saves with 413. She helped Rutgers land four berths in ECAC post-season tournaments, with three ECAC championships over her final three seasons. Aside from the national honors as a senior, she was also a two-time All-Region selection. She was inducted to the Rutgers Athletic Hall of Fame in 1998, making her the first women's soccer player to achieve the honor.



Saskia made her debut with the USWNT on August 14, 1992 against Norway. She became the primary starter in 1993.

She was also a member of the 1996 U.S. Olympic team that won a gold medal in Atlanta.

Although she wasn't the starter in the memorable World Cup win over China in 1999, she did have 5-0-1 record in the games she started that year.

She also played from 1996 through 1998 in the Japanese Women's Professional League. When the first U.S. women's pro league began in 2001, she played the first two years for Philadelphia and New York.

Her career evolved into coaching, working as a college assistant at North Carolina State, Rutgers and UCLA. She is also a founding investor in the Angel City FC franchise in the National Women's Soccer League, and is also an analyst on NWSL broadcasts.

