

Cheney, Lindsey make U.S. World Cup squad

Well-decorated Ben Davis, Pike graduates will play in summer soccer tournament in Germany

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Two soccer players from Indianapolis, Lauren Cheney and Lori Lindsey, were among the 21 women named Monday to the U.S. team for the World Cup. It will be the first World Cup for both. Cheney, 23, is a forward from Ben Davis High School, and Lindsey, 31, a midfielder from Pike. In the Women's Professional Soccer league, Cheney plays for the Boston Breakers and Lindsey for the Philadelphia Independence. Five of the selections are natives of New Jersey and four are from California. Indiana is the only other state with more than one. The World Cup will be played June 26 to July 17 at nine sites in Germany. The top-seeded Americans are in Group C with North Korea, Colombia and Sweden. The United States, which hasn't won the World Cup since 1999, opens June 28 against North Korea at Dresden.

The appointment of Lindsey, a two-time Atlantic Coast Conference Player of the Year at Virginia, culminated a long climb. She played once for the national team in 2005 and not again until making 10 national team appearances in 2010. She has five national team appearances in 2011, finding a role off the bench in center midfield. Cheney was one of 14 chosen who were on the team that won a gold medal at the 2008 Beijing Olympics. She was a four-time All-American at UCLA and the No. 2 pick in last year's WPS draft. Cheney has scored 13 goals in 39 games for the national team.

"Lauren Cheney is a force on the field," Breakers coach Tony DiCicco said in a statement. "She can hold the ball up top with the best in the world, and I'm sure is going to score key goals for the USA in Germany." DiCicco coached the 1999 team that won the World Cup. The Americans will play Japan on Saturday at Columbus, Ohio, and again May 18 in Cary, N.C. They have a June 5 game against Mexico in Harrison, N.J., before traveling to Austria for a pre-World Cup training camp.

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