



FLORIDA STATE UNIVERSITY

SPORTS INFORMATION



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**FLORIDA STATE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR DAVE HART ISSUES A
STATEMENT ON GEORGIA'S HIRING OF HEAD SOCCER COACH
PATRICK BAKER**

Florida State Athletic Director Dave Hart issued the following statement concerning Georgia's announcement of the hiring of FSU head soccer coach Patrick Baker to run the Bulldog program.

"While we certainly would have liked for Patrick Baker to continue his role as the women's soccer coach at Florida State, and made that very clear to him prior to his visit to Athens, we accept his decision to take the job at the University of Georgia and wish him and his family the very best. Patrick did a great job during his tenure here and because of that we have a very attractive position, which we must now fill. We will begin that process immediately."

Baker served as the women's soccer head coach at FSU since 1999. In his six-year tenure, Baker posted an 80-46-11 record and played in five straight NCAA Tournaments. He also led the Tribe to the College Cup in 2003 after which he was named *Soccer America's* National Coach of the Year.



US U-19 National Team Coach Mark Krikorian Selected To Head FSU Soccer

Mark Krikorian was named 2002 WUSA Coach of the Year with the Philadelphia Charge.

Jan. 12, 2005

Tallahassee, FL - United States U-19 National Team head coach and 2002 WUSA Coach of the Year Mark Krikorian was announced as the new head women's soccer coach at Florida State today by Athletics Director Dave Hart. Krikorian brings 14 years of head coaching experience to Tallahassee at all levels of the game including college, pro and with the US Olympic Development Program. He is just the third coach in the history of the FSU soccer program.

"Having Mark Krikorian accept our offer to become the head coach of our women's soccer program is certainly cause for much excitement and anticipation," said Hart. "Mark brings a wealth of experience and knowledge from his prior positions on the college, professional and national team levels of competition. He is an accomplished teacher, coach and recruiter who will build on the success which Patrick Baker generated during his outstanding tenure at Florida State. This search produced some truly distinguished candidates, which speaks volumes about our soccer program. We welcome Mark, Linda and their children into our Seminole family."

"I am thrilled to join the Florida State family and am looking forward to working with such an outstanding group of student-athletes," said Krikorian. "I am excited to work with an athletic department that is so committed to excellence."

Krikorian comes to Florida State fresh off leading the United States U-19 National Team to the bronze medal while winning the FIFA Fair Play Award at the 2004 U-19 Women's World Cup. Prior to that he spent 2003 as a scout for the US Women's National Team preparing reports on opponents in both the CONCACAF Qualifications and the Women's World Cup.

As the head coach of the Philadelphia Charge from 2000-2003, Krikorian had another opportunity to coach the top players in the world and he once again proved he could take talent and guide it to great heights. He coached the Charge to two playoff berths in his three seasons and was named the league's coach of the year in 2002. Krikorian drafted and coached 10 WUSA All-Stars and coached an all-star team during his tenure with the league.

"I feel fortunate that I have had so many opportunities and experiences in both the WUSA and with the US National Team program," said Krikorian. "I feel that those experiences will be a huge benefit to us (FSU) as we continue to improve upon the outstanding foundation that Patrick (Baker) and his staff have established."

Krikorian has achieved an equal measure of success on the college level. He coached the University of Hartford for five seasons from 1996-2000 leading the squad to an Elite Eight and two Sweet Sixteen appearances during his four consecutive trips to the NCAA Tournament. He recruited five National Soccer Coaches Association of America (NSCAA) All-Americans, three academic All-Americans and his squads received the NSCAA Team Academic Award on four occasions. Overall, Krikorian's teams averaged 15 wins per season as he posted a 75-30-3 overall record while winning three conference championships. Three of his squads finished the year ranked in the NSCAA's top 15. He coached two of his players to conference player of the year awards and three to conference rookie of the year honors.

Before taking over the Hartford program, Krikorian was the head coach at Franklin Pierce College in Rindge, NH for six seasons from 1990-1996 where his teams won two National Championships, both during undefeated seasons, and appeared in two other final fours. His squads had a remarkable 39-game winning streak and his 1995 National Championship team was 20-0. Krikorian's teams compiled a 93-19-2 record in seven seasons. He recruited three National Players of the Year, eight All-Americans, five academic All-Americans and four national scoring champions. His team at Franklin Pierce also garnered the NSCAA Team Academic Award.

"Academics have always been very important to me wherever I coached and few schools combine the athletic and academic opportunities that FSU provides its student-athletes," said Krikorian. "The average SAT score of an FSU student is 1200 and when you couple that with



United States U-19 National Team head coach and 2002 WUSA Coach of the Year Mark Krikorian was announced as the new head women's soccer coach at Florida State Wednesday.



Thanks to US Soccer for images

what the athletic department has to offer, FSU becomes a very attractive school to potential recruits."

On top of his coach of the year honor from the WUSA, Krikorian was named the NSCAA's Northeast Division I Coach of the Year in 1997, the NSCAA Division II National Coach of the Year in 1992 and 1995, the NSCAA Division II Northeast Region Coach of the Year in 1992 and 1995 and was a two-time New England Collegiate Conference Coach of the Year in 1994 and 1995. In 1990 and 1993 he was named the Division II New England Coach of the Year as well.



Krikorian was a standout player at St. Anselm College in Manchester, NH from 1981-1983. He was a two-time captain and team MVP. In 1983 he was a New England Indoor Soccer League (NEISL) All-Star and a first team All-New England selection.

"This is a very exciting time for our team and this program," said team captain Kelly Rowland. "A lot of the unknowns we were going through are behind us and it is good to have a coach in place. The administration did a great job and we are excited to meet coach Krikorian. I watched him coach the Charge growing up in Philadelphia so it is especially exciting for me. We are all very happy with the decision and look forward to getting started."

Krikorian graduated with a degree in history from St. Anselm College and he earned his master's degree in education from Keene (NH) State College in 1994. Krikorian also served as an assistant men's coach at the University of Maine at Farmington and was a Social Studies teacher at Mt. Abram High School in Maine and Raymond High School in New Hampshire. He is married to the former Linda Mastrogiovanni. They have two children Alexandra (4) and Michael (2).

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