



Lizzy Raben, Morgan Stanton and Gabbi Miranda of the Colorado Rush have officially been named to the 2012 Women's National Team for the U17 World Cup! The tournament takes place in Azerbaijan September 22 through October 13. The girls shared some thoughts about being named to the team below:

What was your reaction to hearing that you had been selected? Was it a complete surprise? Did you already have a good idea?

Stanton: "I was very excited when I found out I made the roster but I was equally excited to find out I would continue this journey with Gabbi and Lizzy. When you are invited to the camps every one is a tryout. You always try to perform at your very best, some days are great and some days maybe not your best, but you have to continue to work hard, listen and apply the things they are telling you. I am glad that they have the confidence in me through these camps and international matches we played so far to include me on the World Cup Roster. You're never really sure until they pull you aside and say you have made it."

Miranda: "I had a pretty good idea of my spot but in this program, its just not an option to be content. Its nice to relax and enjoy the satisfaction of being rostered after two long, hard years of sacrifice and dedication."

Where does this rank in greatest soccer moments (or life moments)?

Stanton: "Playing in the World Cup and representing the United States has been something I have been working towards since my first national camp at age U-14, so to be named to the World Cup roster ranks very high in my life moments and I am confident that our team will work hard and I hope to add the experience of the World Cup Games to that list of greatest momements."

Miranda: "This has definitely been a life changing process and what we are about to experience is going to be something we will never forget. We will be playing on the highest stage the game of soccer has to offer at our age..its surreal."

What are you most looking forward to? Are you nervous? Excited? Both?

Stanton: "I'm looking forward to finally playing in the World Cup. It has been a journey and now this team can come together and go out and play the game we all enjoy so much. I am looking forward to representing the U.S. as well as making my family and my club proud, but I won't lie I am also a little nervous and anxious. Once we step on that field I will be ready to play.

"I would also like to thank my coach Erik and the girls on my Nike Team, we missed alot of our ECNL Events last year

attending National Camps and they worked hard and brought success to our Nike team while we were away and always welcomed us back as if we had never left. We have a great group of girls, I love them and I will miss them while we are away but I know they will be home cheering us on!"

Miranda: "I have honestly never been so anxious and excited for anything in my life. This is it. This is what we've been dreaming of and tirelessly preparing for. No more worrying if you have a starting spot, or if you played to the coaches' expectations, or concerning ourselves over silly things like we sometimes have done in past camps. Now its about coming together and winning for our country and each other, no matter the 11 on the field. Its time to literally, show the world what we've got."

For the complete U17 roster, please [click here](#).