We Bring The World To New Jersey.
May 10, 1971: Governor Cahill signs law creating the NJSEA.

September 1, 1976: The Meadowlands Racetrack opens with 42,133 harness racing fans in attendance.

October 10, 1976: Giants Stadium opens to a sell-out crowd of 76,042 who watch Giants play the Dallas Cowboys.

April 2, 1977: Giants Stadium hosts its first soccer game featuring the Cosmos of the North American Soccer League and international icon Pelé.

October 1, 1977: Soccer legend Pelé plays farewell soccer game before a crowd of 75,646.

September 5, 1978: Dr. Patches upsets Triple Crown winner Seattle Slew in the Paterson Handicap.

July 18, 1980: The Meadowlands Pace becomes the first million-dollar race in horse racing history.

July 2, 1981: Bruce Springsteen opens Brendan Byrne Arena with six sold-out concerts.

August 8, 1981: The world famous Hambletonian moves to the Meadowlands.


September 6, 1984: NY Jets relocate to Giants Stadium, making it the only venue to house two NFL franchises.

August 3, 1985: Nihilator sets a world pace record of 1:49.3 on Hambletonian Day.

July 6, 1986: Giants Stadium hosts the closing ceremonies of the Statue of Liberty Centennial Celebration Weekend.


August 1, 1987: Bet Twice, Alysheba, and Lost Code are separated at the wire by two necks in the Haskell Invitational, held at Monmouth Park.

December 9, 1989: Giants Stadium hosts its first Army/Navy football classic.


February 29, 1992: The Thomas H. Kean State Aquarium at Camden opens to rave reviews.

June 17 - July 13, 1994: Giants Stadium hosts seven sold-out World Cup soccer games that attract 500,000 fans and billions of spectators from around the globe.

June 18-19, 1995: Grateful Dead become the first band in concert history to play before one million fans at a single site.

June 24, 1995: New Jersey Devils sweep the Detroit Red Wings to capture the Stanley Cup at home.

October 5, 1995: Pope John Paul II celebrates Mass at Giants Stadium before 82,948 faithful, setting an all-time stadium attendance record.

March 30-April 1, 1996: The NCAA Division I Men’s Basketball Championship (Final Four) is held at Arena.


June 22, 1996: Jenna’s Beach Boy pacers the fastest mile ever in harness racing history, 1:47.3.

July 20, 1996: The Three Tenors perform to a sold-out Stadium crowd in their only U.S. concert appearance.

May 1-3, 1997: The new $268 million Atlantic City Convention Center opens. It is the largest facility of its kind in the Northeast.

January 10, 1999: Jets defeat the Jacksonville Jaguars in the Divisional Playoffs.

June 19 & 26, 1999: Women’s World Cup opening ceremonies at Giants Stadium attract 78,972 fans, the single largest audience for a women’s sporting event.

June 10, 2000: The New Jersey Devils win their second Stanley Cup Championship.

August 24, 2000: XFL announces that the NY/NJ Hitmen will play at Giants Stadium, making the Meadowlands home to seven professional sports franchises.
TO THE HONORABLE

Donald T. DiFrancesco
Acting Governor of the State of New Jersey
And the Members of the State Legislature

The fall of 2000 marked the beginning of the 25th year of National Football League play in New Jersey and world-class racing at the Meadowlands. In the year ahead, the silver anniversary of the Meadowlands Sports Complex will be celebrated. Thus, the year 2000 at the facilities of the New Jersey Sports and Exposition offers an opportunity for reflection on a special history. We also look forward to the next generation of the sports, racing, entertainment, and convention businesses which the NJSEA oversees.

First and foremost, the Giants marched to the Super Bowl with a great late season run marked by two record attendance playoff games at the Sports Complex. For the second year in a row Giants Stadium led all such facilities worldwide in non-franchise event gross revenue, making it the leading stadium venue for concerts. The 2000 National Football League season for the Giants and the Jets also was the first played on a grass field. A revolutionary tray system allowed the field to be replaced six times during the season.

Continental Airlines Arena maintained its position as one of the world’s most popular venues for sporting and entertainment events in the year 2000, ranking sixth worldwide in non-franchise event revenue (concerts and family shows). On the franchise front, the New Jersey Devils brought their second world championship to the Garden State as Lord Stanley’s Cup returned to the Meadowlands. The Devils have now been National Hockey League Champions twice in the past five years. The NCAA awarded the 2004 East Regional to Continental Airlines Arena for a record tenth time, once again stamping the Meadowlands as a mecca for college basketball.

The year ahead will require legislative commitment to the horse racing industry. While the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority was again able to augment the sports’ lifeblood, purses, with additional funds in 2000, the passing of legislation to allow for the creation of off-track wagering facilities and the establishment of account wagering remained in the Legislature. It is the top priority of this Authority to pursue a successful compromise on this vital legislation in the year ahead.

At Meadowlands Racetrack, harness racings biggest day worldwide came again in August as the 75th running of the Hambletonian took place. A total of $7.7 million was wagered that day which was a Hambletonian, Meadowlands, and harness racing industry single day record. The running of the Haskell Invitational at beautiful Monmouth Park capped another extraordinary weekend of Sports Authority racing as combined crowds
of over 71,000 bet a record total of $17 million.

The Meadowlands is simply an international brand name in the sports, racing, and entertainment business exemplified by the seven professional sports franchises calling East Rutherford home, as well as Seton Hall, thoroughbred and standardbred racing, and countless concerts and family shows.

These events, their promoters, and the patrons of the Meadowlands deliver a powerful economic punch for the State of New Jersey, providing $62 million in tax revenue, $1.2 billion in economic impact and supporting 7,500 jobs directly and tens of thousands more indirectly. The empirical evidence shows that East Rutherford will long be the region’s best address for sports, racing, and entertainment.

The year 2000 brings two major administration, legislative, and interagency economic development projects closer to fruition. The Wildwoods Convention Center construction is heading towards its late 2001 completion and early 2002 opening. The historic Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City will debut as a modern special events center with the Miss America Pageant in 2001.

The Authority Commissioners and staff pledge to work cooperatively with the administration and legislature on the vital issues facing the sports, racing, and entertainment industry in the year ahead.

Sincerely,

Raymond H. Bateman
Chairman of the Board

James A. DiEleuterio, Jr.
President and
Chief Executive Officer

2000 annual report

Raymond H. Bateman
Chairman of the Board

James A. DiEleuterio, Jr.
President and
Chief Executive Officer
Giants Stadium, home to the NFL Giants and Jets and Major League Soccer’s New York/New Jersey MetroStars welcomed a fourth tenant, the New York/New Jersey Hitmen of the XFL. Giants Stadium is now the only stadium in the country to house four professional sports teams.

The Giants destroyed Minnesota, 41-0, in the NFC Championship game at Giants Stadium to win its first NFC Championship in ten years. The Giants rode a seven-game winning streak into Super Bowl XXXV but suffered a 34-7 loss to the Baltimore Ravens and finished the season at 14-5.

The Jets began the season with four straight victories but finished 9-7 and missed the playoffs. Herman Edwards was named the new head coach replacing Al Groh who resigned to coach at Virginia, his alma mater.

Natural grass was installed at Giants Stadium for the first time in its history. 6,000 interlocking trays and an underground heating system were put in place to provide a grass field for the entire NFL season. The grass will remain year-round for all events.

The NY/NJ MetroStars finished their stellar season as the 2000 Eastern Division Champions, coming within one game of the MLS Soccer Bowl League Championship game.

USC defeated Penn State, 29-5, in Kickoff Classic XVIII. The game sold out in one week, the quickest sellout in KOC history. Hampton defeated Howard, 26-24, in the annual New York Urban League Classic.

The Dave Matthews Band rocked Giants Stadium for three concerts and Metallica returned on its “Tattoo the Earth” tour.

Giants Stadium received the “No. 1 Stadium Award” for the second straight year from Amusement Business, an entertainment industry publication. This honor is bestowed upon the stadium with the highest box office gross for all non-franchise events.
Continental Airlines Arena is home to the NBA’s New Jersey Nets, NHL’s New Jersey Devils, Big East Basketball’s Seton Hall Pirates and Arena Football League’s Red Dogs.

The Devils defeated the Dallas Stars in six games to win their second Stanley Cup and bring national prominence to New Jersey.

The Nets named Byron Scott as the head coach and selected Kenyon Martin from Cincinnati with the No. 1 pick in the NBA Draft after winning the lottery.

Tommy Amaker brought back memories of the glory years at Seton Hall as the Pirates advanced to the NCAA Tournament Sweet 16 with a 67-65 overtime win against fifth-ranked Temple, the No. 2 seed in the East Region. Excitement remains high with the arrival of one of the nation’s top recruiting classes.

The Arena hosted 23 concerts including performances by Tina Turner, Ricky Martin, KISS, Limp Bizkit, Bon Jovi, Cher, Crosby Stills, Nash & Young, The Irish Tenors, Korn and NSYNC. Country music returned for the first time since 1993 when Faith Hill and Tim McGraw took the stage.

Family show entertainment included Disney On Ice “Toy Story” and “Jungle Adventures”, WWF Wrestling, Champions On Ice, Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus and record ticket sales for Sesame Street Live and the Harlem Globetrotters.

The Arena ranked No. 6 for Top Arenas Worldwide (capacity 15,001+) by Amusement Business. The award is based on total tickets sales in 2000 for family shows, concerts and special events.

The NJSIAA Wrestling Finals were held at the Arena for the first time and rave reviews from coaches, athletes, fans and media rated the tournament the best ever. The event will return in 2001.

The 5th annual Jimmy V Classic featured four ranked teams including defending national champion Michigan State. A check for $100,000 was presented to The V Foundation for Cancer Research bringing the total raised by the game to nearly $400,000.
The 2000 Harness meet at the Meadowlands Racetrack was strong and marked another year of great finishes and industry firsts. The meet was highlighted by Yankee Paco’s impressive victory in the 75th edition of the $1 million Hambletonian. Held on August 5, the Hambletonian attracted over 30,000 enthusiastic racing fans who wagered over $1.18 million on the Hambletonian Final. The $2,245,760 bet on both the Final and Eliminations, combined, were Hambletonian records. The total wagering on the 15-race card was $7,724,420, which was a Hambletonian, Meadowlands and harness racing industry single day record.

A record $564 million was wagered on the 151 dates of Meadowlands harness racing for a record average of $3.74 million daily. For the first time, total US simulcast exports exceeded $402 million, a $100 million increase over the past two seasons.

It was also a record year for purse distribution with $50,491,667 in the 2000 season. The average of $334,381 per day was up 10.3 percent over the 1999 average. The daily average for overnight purses (excluding stakes) was $209,853, an increase of 10.5 percent. Stakes purses were the highest ever, with a total of $5,171,895.

The Meadowlands Pace crowd of 19,801 wagered $1,906,384 on-track toward a total harness handle of $6,712,884. The total handle was the second highest for a Meadowlands Pace card (trailing the stakes record of $6,771,499 in 1995) and was the fourth highest in Meadowlands and harness racing history.

With 214 victories and $4.5 million in earnings, driver Luc Ouellette took his second driving title in just four years at the Meadowlands. Trainer Ross Croghan wrapped up the meet with 89 victories and $1.8 million in earnings. Bob Glazer topped the Meadowlands owner standings for the sixth consecutive year with 68 victories and earnings of $1.6 million.
The Meadowlands had a successful 54-day thoroughbred meet in 2000. The Meadowlands on-track handle was $529,945 and the total nightly thoroughbred handle averaged $1.8 million. Total on-site wagering increased 5.9 percent and exceeded $119 million for the entire thoroughbred meet.

Haskell Day was the major highlight of the 2000 Monmouth Park meet. A crowd of 41,630 filled the track and wagered nearly $5 million. A total of 703,690 attended the 72-day Monmouth meet, a slight drop from 1999 figures. On-track handle was $64,459,934 for the season.

Some of the brightest equine stars made appearances at Monmouth Park and the Meadowlands in 2000, including a trio of horses who went on to compete in the Breeders’ Cup, thoroughbred racing’s championship day. Spain, who had won the Monmouth Oaks, went on to capture the Breeders Cup. North East Bound, winner of the Meadowlands Cup, and Distaff just missed by a whisker in the Breeders Cup Mile. Captain Steve, runner-up in Monmouth’s premier event, the Grade I Haskell, finished third in the Breeders’ Cup Classic.

The Meadowlands’ fall meet included the first $3 million handle for Pegasus Handicap night and a total of $3 million was wagered on the Breeders’ Cup races at both the Meadowlands and Monmouth combined. Breeders’ Cup Day attendance marks were also set at the Meadowlands (8,453) and Monmouth (5,108).

By evening’s end, nearly $5 million was wagered at the Meadowlands on Breeders’ Cup Day.

Joe Bravo topped the jockey standings at both the Meadowlands and Monmouth Park winning 113 races. Bravo bankrolled nearly $2.8 million in purse money at Monmouth and annexed the Meadowlands title with 48 victories and $1.1 million in earnings. Top trainers were Ben Perkins Jr. (29 victories) at Monmouth and Edwin T. Broome (17 Victories) at the Meadowlands. Runnin Horse Farms Inc’s 14 wins provide a narrow margin of victory in the owners’ race at Monmouth while Richard Englander posted 15 wins for owners’ honors at the Meadowlands.
The opening of the $268 million Atlantic City Convention Center in May 1997 brought the region into the forefront of the nation’s convention industry. In 2000, the Atlantic City Convention Center hosted a total of 134 conventions and trade shows, public shows, and special events attended by 646,628 visitors.

Visitors’ spending by convention and trade shows, public shows, and special events generated more than $2.2 billion in economic benefits to the State in 2000.

The New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority is now overseeing the renovation and transformation of the historic Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City. Opened in 1929 and designated an Historic Landmark in 1987, Boardwalk Hall is undergoing a $90 million renovation scheduled for completion in time for the 2001 Miss America Pageant. As the site of some of the world’s greatest entertainers, from the Beatles to Pavarotti, championship boxing and the home of the Miss America Pageant since 1933, the building will host concerts, sporting events, and family entertainment.

Under the supervision of the NJSEA, work is well underway for the new Wildwoods Convention Center. Planned for completion in early 2002, the new convention center will total over 260,000 square feet, including a main exhibition and assembly hall, meeting rooms, ballrooms, and retail space.
The New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority was created by the New Jersey Legislature in May, 1971. There are nine members appointed by the Governor to four-year terms, subject to confirmation by the New Jersey Senate, and four “ex officio” members, including the Authority President, State Attorney General, State Treasurer, and a designated representative of the Hackensack Meadowlands Development Commission.

The Sports and Exposition Authority is the governing body which oversees the operations of Meadowlands Racetrack, Giants Stadium, Continental Airlines Arena, and Monmouth Park Racetrack. At the State’s request, it constructed the State Aquarium at Camden. It built and operates the Atlantic City Convention Center and is restoring Historic Boardwalk Hall. The State Legislature gave the Authority the task of building and operating a new convention facility for the Wildwoods, which is currently under construction. The Authority holds regularly scheduled meetings which are open to the public. The minutes of all Authority meetings are subject to approval by the Governor.

**AUTHORITY MEMBERS**

- Raymond H. Bateman, Chairman
- James A. DiEleuterio, Jr., President & CEO
- Candace L. Straight, Vice Chairman
- Ronald J. Burton
- Joetta Clark Diggs
- M. Joseph Montuoro
- Joseph J. Plumeri, II
- Aubrey C. Lewis
- Barbara Sobel
- Peter D. Sudler
- Peter R. Lawrence, Acting Treasurer, State of New Jersey
- John J. Farmer, Jr., Attorney General, State of New Jersey
- Jane Kenny, Representative, Hackensack Meadowlands Development Commission

**SENIOR MANAGEMENT**

- James A. DiEleuterio, Jr., President and Chief Executive Officer
- Robert J. Castronovo, Senior Executive Vice President & Chief Operating Officer, Arena/Stadium
- Joseph Consolazio, Senior Vice President, Finance & Chief Financial Officer
- Timothy D. Hassett, Senior Vice President, Sports & Entertainment Development
- Christine H. Steinberg, Senior Vice President & General Counsel
- Bruce Garland, Senior Executive Vice President, Racing
- Richard C. Wolffe, Jr., Senior Vice President, Business Operations
- John Samerjan, Vice President, Public Affairs/Communications
The New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority presents the finest in sports, racing, and entertainment and is committed to promoting the multi-billion dollar industry it created in the state through its operated facilities in East Rutherford, Oceanport, Atlantic City and Wildwood.

The NJSEA maintains the world-class status of the Meadowlands Sports Complex, Monmouth Park Racetrack and the Atlantic City Convention Center through continuing facility re-investment and event development. Expanding and improving the entertainment product mix at NJSEA facilities and anticipating the demands of the marketplace in our core businesses is our continuing goal.

The NJSEA honors its continuing statewide economic development role through the Wildwoods Convention Center and the Atlantic City Historic Boardwalk Hall construction. They join the State Aquarium in Camden, Rutgers athletic facilities, and the Atlantic City Convention Center as projects of the NJSEA.

The NJSEA goal is for the state, its citizens, and our guests to reap the entertainment and economic benefits from NJSEA facilities and events for generations to come.