

THE BIRTH AND EARLY YEARS OF WEST COAST Men's ULTIMATE 1975-1980

as of 10/5/13

As part of my www.ultimatehistory.com website, I am compiling detailed information about the very early years of Ultimate on the West Coast including California, Oregon and Washington teams and players. I am working with Tom 'TK' Kennedy, and we would appreciate all the help we can get. Please review the information in the next few pages and let us know if you can update or correct anything. And yes we would love any **team photos** you have of West Coast teams during this timeframe. Email: joe@seidler.com

History:

While Ultimate Frisbee in the Northeast was growing rapidly from 1970-1975, especially among colleges, the West was barely aware of the sport. But the West caught up quickly:

- In 1975, the seeds were being planted with 'Frisbee football' being played informally and a few teams beginning to take shape in Southern CA. The 1975 Time article about Ultimate helped to establish a more consistent set of rules.
- In 1976, the first buds were seen with the lone team in various regions in the West finding a game now and then with another lone team from another area. By the end of the year, teams were popping up all over.
- In 1977, things were blossoming quickly with more teams being formed and tournaments being played in California (Western Regionals and Cal States) and moving north into Oregon and Washington. Stanford began playing on campus with many intramural teams.
- In 1978, more tournaments were started like the California NCUFL (later called NCUL). A few college teams were also being formed.
- By 1979, it was beginning to feel like a "real" sport with tournaments you could count on and an organization falling into place.
- The biggest difference between the start of Ultimate in the Northeast vs the West was the dominance of college teams in the NE and the mix of club and college teams in the West.

Birth of Santa Barbara & SoCal Ultimate and the UPA:

(article by Tom 'TK' Kennedy)

<http://www.santabarbaraultimate.com/Pg/SBstart.html>

Please send corrections and additions to:

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WEST COAST Men's TEAMS 1975 - 1977

Note: Ultimate 'Hall of Fame' *Open Player* Inductees shown in **blue**.
Team Founder(s) shown underlined.

OPEN TEAM	LOCATION	START- END	NOTABLE PLAYERS
Clingons	San Jose, CA	1976 - 1980	<u>Steve Anderson</u> , <u>Reach Helmka</u> , Horst 'Beeb' Wolf, Grant Evans, Joe Nardini, Greg Ward, Tom Conlon, Tom McDaniel, Jody Cardoza
S.B. Disc Connection (became Condors)	Santa Barbara, CA	1975 - 1976	<u>Tom 'TK' Kennedy</u> , Bart Merrill, Tom Shepherd, <u>John Schmechel</u> , Greg 'Greggo' Sharp
Flying Disc Artists	San Francisco, CA	1976 - 1979	Tony Zweig, Peter 'PM' Martin, et al
Free Flyers	San Diego, CA	1976 - 1979	Kelly Leonard, John Kirkland, <u>Cliff Marhoefer</u> , Rick LeBeau, Hunter Scott, Ed Noble, Pete Hembrow, Dave Ragland, Chris Perry
Foothill *	Los Angeles, CA	1976 - 1979	<u>Dan 'Stork' Roddick</u> , <u>Irv Kalb</u> , <u>Al Bonopane</u>
Pacific Floaters	Venice, CA	1975 - 1977	John 'Z' Weyand, Gary Perlberg, Don Hoskins, Galen Preston, Michael Casey, P.J. Callender, Jim 'Gus' Emerson, Larry Horowitz, Herb Englehard, Mark Sebastian, Freddie Haft, Chris Taylor
UFOS United Flyers of Sonoma	Sonoma Co. (Sonoma St. U)	1976 - 1979	<u>John Bird</u> , Don Vaughn, Jonathan Wolfson, Evan David, Corey Basso, Billy Caplan

* In early 1976, a team called the LA Frisbee Club existed that played some Ultimate but focused more on Frisbee events. This team played the Condors in the spring 1976 at La Cañada HS (video exists of game). Foothill Institute of Frisbee Culture formed out of this team in the summer/fall of 1976.

Definitions Used Below:

Team – Played multiple games every year during the selected time period.

(note: All-Star teams that played once a year are not included.)

Notable Player - Usually played every game for at least two years during the time period and had an impact on the outcome of most games.
Maximum of 12 notable players in time period.

WEST COAST Open TEAMS 1978 - 1980

Note: Number of national championships won by team shown with *no. of asterisks*.

Note: Ultimate 'Hall of Fame' *Open Player Inductees* shown in blue.

Team Founder(s) shown underlined.

OPEN TEAM	LOCATION	START- END	NOTABLE PLAYERS
Arnold Rangers	Arnold, CA	1978 - 1983	Rodney Babcock, Cayse Babcock, Rick Babcock, Marty Schmidt
Berkeley (aka Ents in '79)	Berkeley, CA	1977 - 1979	<u>Walter White</u> , Don Wroblewski, <u>Victor Malafronte</u> , Frank Morrow, <u>Steve Gottlieb</u> , Alan Finkelstein, Damien Lambros, Neal Hoellwarth, Gary Fusco, Dave Leiwant
Buds Humboldt State	Arcata, CA	1978 - present	<u>Dave Claycomb</u> , Kent Mayell, Chuck Dressel, Jon Nakae, George Dudley, Steve Hill
Chabot 101st Airborne	Livermore, CA	1979 - 1988	Pat Pohl, Ken Foote, Bob Throckmorton, Rob Strout, Ed Jessup, Brian Springer
Clingons	San Jose, CA	1976 - 1980	<u>David Barkan</u> , Horst 'Beeb' Wolf, Grant Evans, Joe Nardini, Finlay Waugh, <u>Reach Helmka</u> , Bob Pizante, Mark Finch, Dave Wallace, John Kimball, Matt Williamson, CJ Johnson
Condors**	Santa Barbara, CA	1977 - present	<u>Tom 'TK' Kennedy</u> , Bart Merrill, <u>Cliff Marhoefer</u> , <u>John Schmechel</u> , Greg 'Greggo' Sharp, Kip Harmer, Paul Hooston, Bill Clark, Steve Fisher, Mike Mininni
Dark Star	Eugene, OR	1976 - 1988	<u>Tim Moloney</u> , Johnny Moloney, Henry Callahan, Tom Livernois, Hans Petersen, Doug Voderberg, Joe Millon, Molly Moloney, Todd Stephens, Steve Mason
Evergreen State College	Olympia, WA	1979 - ???	<u>Jefferson Allen</u> , <u>Ben Goldfarb</u>
Flo	San Diego, CA	1979 - 1983	Don Vaughn, Jimmy "G" Gareri, Tom "TP" Peil, Duane Trares, <u>Tim Knoll</u> , Donny Wallace, Jeff "Stretch" Lewis, Mark Dixon, <u>Jason Schoenfeld</u> , Kurt Leinbach, Peter Schmalenberger, Rick Church
S.F. Flying Disc Artists	San Francisco, CA	1976 - 1979	Tony Zweig, Peter 'PM' Martin, Dave Zouzounis, Sun Ray Mueller, Bill Chetel, John Lasley, Desmond O'Shea, Chris Pacitti (sp?), Kevin Aiello
Foothill	Los Angeles, CA	1976 - 1979	<u>Irv Kalb</u> , <u>Dan 'Stork' Roddick</u> , Al Bonopane, Harold Duvall, Charlie Duvall, Steve McLean, Peter Elief, Damien Lambrose, Gerry Geare, Tom Cleworth
Free Flyers	San Diego, CA	1976 - 1979	Kelly Leonard, Pete Hembrow, Ed Noble, Hunter Scott, Dave Ragland, Don Wallace, Dominick Grossi, Geoff Smith, Jimmy Gareri, Chris Perry, Rick LeBeau
Funhogs	Portland, OR	1978 - ????	Irwin Mulnick, Steve 'Yac' Ellis, Todd Stevens, Greg Fajer, Sam Cunliff, Burl Ross
Hot Sox	Woodland Hills, CA	1977 - 1982	Ron Fiala, Gary Fiala, Matt Ferguson, Bruce Allison, Scott Allison, <u>Irv Kalb</u> , Keay Nakae, Steve Youngerman, Brian O'Donnell, Herb Von Winkleman
La Mirada Ethereal Wizzards	La Mirada, CA	1977 - 1981	Dan Mangone, Henry Robinson, Cort Gutherie, Rod Kirkbride, Randy Aiu, John Robinson, Charlie Mott, Russ Rinner, Art Rodriguez, Sean Sheldon, Tony Ginario, Tom Hughes
Low Flying Ducks (UofO)	Eugene, OR	1978 - 1980	<u>Henry Callahan</u> , <u>Hans Petersen</u> , Stephen Mace, Scott McDonald
Mudsharks	Irvine, CA	1979 - 1983	Rich Lee, Dick Sandness, John Witt, Bob Woodruff, Steve 'the Bullet' Brajebich, Drew Long, Dave and Nancy Smythe, Mark

			Williams
Orange Sunshine (split into KAOS)	Santa Cruz, CA	1977 - 1979	David Muñoz, Michael Abbey, Gene Leitner
SDSU	San Diego, CA	1979 - ????	<u>Rick LeBeau</u>
Slugs	Corvallis, OR	1978 - >1985	Al Higinbotham, Chris 'Wheels' Beckett, Vince Merlot, Russ Watkins, Ron Snook, Tom Frisbee, Paul Prizbillawitz, Mike Taylor, Jon King
Stanford Univ.	Palo Alto, CA	1978 - present	<u>Finlay Waugh</u> , Bob Sick, Shep Kinsman, Mike Grace, Tom 'Mouse' Tolles, Chip Burns, Tony Shearhan, Mike 'Grande' Biggar, Dave Robertson, Al Bol, Brad Paulfrey, Matt O'Connor
The Jam	San Jose, CA	1979 - 1981	<u>David Barkan</u> , Tommy Conlon, Matt Williamson, Mark Honerkamp, Mike Becker, Bill Orton, Henry Louke, Ed Warner, Don Meyer, Steve Cortepassi, Chris Brownrider
UFOS (coed) United Flyers of Sonoma	Sonoma, CA	1976 - 1979	Corey Basso, Evan David, John Wright, Mark Dixon, Michele Pezzoli, Jonathan Wolfson
The Ultimate Dogs	Glendale, CA	1977 - 1982	Buddy Steele, Bob Gagliano, Neal Swaney, Ron Barbato, Richard Penniall, Art Munch
UC Davis Dogs	Davis, CA	1977 - present	<u>Mark Claycomb</u> , Rick Montgomery, Paul ???
UCSC KAOS	Santa Cruz, CA	1979 - 1987	David Muñoz, Jim Miller, Dan Hassid, Peter Chase, Alan Friedman, Marty Herkenhoff, David Discher, Ricky Hanford, Craig Drizin, Peter Artusio, Mike Barreda, Bob Montes
UCSD	San Diego, CA	~1979 - present	Scott Wilson, Scott Allison
Whizbo	SoCal	~1978 - ????	Jan Sobel
Windjammers	Seattle, WA	1977 - ????	Bill Nye, Dennis Buckley, Don Bishop, Jeff Elliot, Kai Bune, Mark Freidland

West Coast Tournaments 1976-1980

WESTERN REGIONALS

DATE	TOURNAMENT	LOCATION	CHAMPION/ RUNNER-UP	TEAMS
1977	Western Regionals	UC Irvine	Condors/ Foothill	(8 teams) Condors #1, Foothill Institute, Hot Sox, Free Flyers, Irvine, Whizbo, Clingons, Condors #2
1978	Western Regionals	Stanford	Condors/ Foothill	(16 teams) Condors, Foothill, Stanford, Northwind, Free Flyers, La Mirada, Hot Sox, Berkeley, Flying Disc Artists, Dark Star, Humboldt Buds, Windjammers
Apr. 1979	Western Regionals	UC Santa Barbara	Condors/ Berkeley Ents	(16 teams) Condors, Woodland Hills Hot Sox, Foothill (Midland), Clingons, Berkeley Ents, Free Flyers, La Mirada, Stanford, UC Davis, Dark Star, Univ. of Mars, Windjammers, Boulder Chinooks, Humboldt Buds, Valley of the Sun, A Toda Madre
Nov. 1980	Western Regionals	UCSC	Condors / Dark Star	(? teams) Condors, Flo, Dark Star, Stanford, Flying Circus, SDSU, KAOS (UCSC)



CAL STATES

(founded by Reach Helmka)

DATE	TOURNAMENT	LOCATION	CHAMPION/ RUNNER-UP	TEAMS
1977	Cal States	San Jose	Foothill / Condors	(10 teams) Condors, Foothill Institute, Berkeley, Clingons, Flying Disc Artists, UFOS, Buds, Stanford
1978	Cal States	San Jose	??? / ???	(? teams) Condors, Foothill, Berkeley, Flying Disc Artists, Clingons, The Ultimate Dogs, Dark Star?, Humboldt Buds
Dec. 1979	IFA Cal States	San Jose	Berkeley / Condors A	(19 teams) Condors, Foothill, Clingons, Berkeley, Flying Disc Artists, The Ultimate Dogs, Dark Star, Humboldt Buds, Mdland, Mudsharks, Goodtimes, Jam, HotSox, UCLA, etc.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ULTIMATE FRISBEE LEAGUE (NCUFL – became NCUL after 1980)

(founded by Reach Helmka)

DATE	TOURNAMENT	LOCATION	CHAMPION/ RUNNER-UP	TEAMS
1978	NCUFL	Bay Area	Flying Disc Artists / Berkeley	(11 teams) Flying Disc Artists, Berkeley Ents, Clingons, Sonoma, Stanford, Menlo Park, Santa Cruz, San Jose "B", Berkeley "B", Davis, Los Gatos
1979	NCUFL	Bay Area	Flying Disc Artists / Clingons	(? teams) Flying Disc Artists, Clingons, Berkeley, Stanford, Sonoma State, Chico State (Airheads)
1980	NCUFL	Bay Area	??? / ???	(16 teams) ???

LIST OF ALL WEST COAST Open TEAMS 1975-1980

(by Region)

Open Team	City, State	Region	Year Started	Year Ended
Orange Skymonsters	Southern CA	LA Area	?	?
Foothill Institute of Frisbee Culture	Los Angeles, CA	LA Area	1976	1979
Hot Sox	Woodland Hills, CA	LA Area	~1977	1982
La Mirada Ethereal Wizzards	La Mirada, CA	LA Area	1977	1981
Pacific Floaters	Venice, CA	LA Area	1975	1977
The Ultimate Dogs	Glendale, CA	LA Area	1977	1982
Whizbo	?, CA	LA Area	~1978	?
Mudsharks	Irvine, CA	LA Area	1979	1983
UFOS (United Flyers of Sonoma)	Sonoma, CA	Nor Cal	1976	1979
UC Davis Dogs	Davis, CA	Nor Cal	1977	present
Arnold Rangers	Arnold, CA	Nor Cal	1978	1983
Buds (Humboldt State U)	Arcata, CA	Nor Cal	1978	present
Flo	San Diego, CA	San Diego	1979	1983
Free Flyers	San Diego, CA	San Diego	1976	1979
UCSD	San Diego, CA	San Diego	1978/9	present
SDSU	San Diego, CA	San Diego	1979	present
S.B. Disc Connection Condors	Santa Barbara, CA	Santa Barbara	1975 1977	1976 present
Clingons	San Jose, CA	SF Bay	1976	1980
Flying Disc Artists	San Francisco, CA	SF Bay	1976	1979
Orange Sunshine S.C. Ultimate KAOS (UCSC)	Santa Cruz, CA	SF Bay	1977 1979	1979 1987
Berkeley (aka Ents in '79)	Berkeley, CA		1977	1979
Berkeley Flying Circus	Berkeley, CA	SF Bay	1980	1982
Flying Circus	SF Bay Area, CA		1983	1986
Stanford Univ.	Palo Alto, CA	SF Bay	1978	present
Chabot 101 st Airborne	Livermore, CA	SF Bay	1979	1988
The Jam	SF South Bay	SF Bay	1979	1981
Dark Star	Eugene, OR	Oregon	1977	~1988
Funhogs	Portland, OR	Oregon	1978	?
Low Flying Ducks (UO)	Eugene, OR	Oregon	1978	1980
Oregon Donors	OR & NorCA	Oregon	?	?
Slugs	Corvallis, OR	Oregon	~1978	>1985
Evergreen State College	Olympia, WA	Washington	1979	?
Windjammers	Seattle, WA	Washington	1977	?

Tom 'TK' Kennedy has a few Ultimate DVDs from '78-'86 tournaments.

You can see the list and ordering info here:

www.ultimatehistory.com/booksvideosdvs/DVDs78-86.html