

THE BIRTH AND EARLY YEARS OF WEST COAST Women's ULTIMATE 1977-1985

as of 10/7/13

As part of my www.ultimatehistory.com website, I am compiling information about the very early years of women's Ultimate on the West Coast including California, Oregon and Washington teams and players. Please let me know if you can add or correct anything.

History:

by Michele Pezzoli

The first time there was an all womens game in California was in 1977. The only Ultimate competition at that time was between men's Ultimate teams from L.A. (Foothill) and Santa Barbara (Condors). In Santa Barbara and in L.A., women played with the men at practices. This was in fact the case around the country at that time. Any women who were playing played coed on men's teams. At one of the L.A./S.B. get-togethers in August 1977, we decided to have just the women play each other -- we had just enough on both sides to do that. Our team had about 9 women and theirs about the same. SB won. In 1979 we had another at a Cal States tournament, where women from Southern CA (SB+LA) and women from Northern CA had an informal game. We did this again in Santa Cruz in 1980. Between 1978-1980, I remember players like--Lynn Tabor, Shelly Barclay, Suzanne Bingam, Ann Avery, Laura Shepherd, Dana Lewis, Chisty Ground, Cindy Bourgie, et al.

The Women's Division in the UPA, and thus the first UPA Women's National Championship, didn't come about till 1981. At a meeting in a swimming pool in Irvine, CA in August 1981, I, Suzanne Fields and Louie Mahoney proposed a women's division to the UPA coordinators including TK (UPA's Managing Director). They agreed. Sandy Ross and I were able to gather almost 20 women for the SB team for '81 Regionals mostly from the intramural teams that were pretty popular; so we had lots of interest, some good basic athletic ability, but very little experience. Women from mostly Eugene and Seattle formed NW Synergy who beat SB in the finals to be the first women's Western Regional Champions and go to Nationals.



Women playing high-quality pick-up game at the Westerns.

1980? -- ??? on O vs Barb ??? (Condors) on D
In background: ???, ???, ???

*Please send corrections and additions to Joe Seidler:
joe@seidler.com*

WEST COAST Women's ULTIMATE 1977-1981
(before UPA Women's Division was formed)

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

WEST COAST TEAMS WITH WOMEN PLAYERS 1977-1981

TEAM	LOCATION	AREA	TEAM STARTED	WOMEN PLAYERS 1977-1981
<i>Men's Teams:</i>				
MudSharks	Irvine, CA	West	1979	Nancy Smythe
UFOS	Sonoma, CA	West	1976	Michele Pezzoli
Arnold Rangers	Arnold, CA	West	1979	Cayse Babcock
<i>Women's Teams:</i>				

Definitions Used Below:

**** this is important – please read ****

Nationally Prominent Team - Qualified for Nationals often during the selected time period.

Regionally Prominent Team - Well known in their region and often lost to the region's Nationally Prominent teams in the finals at Regionals 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 Women's TEAMS 1981 – 1985

(5 teams at Nationals)

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

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

Team Founder(s) shown underlined.

NATIONALLY PROMINENT WOMEN TEAMS ON WEST COAST 1981-1985

TEAM	LOCATION	REGION	TEAM STARTED	NOTABLE PLAYERS 1981-1985
Condors**	Santa Barbara	West	1981	<u>Michelle Pezzoli</u> , Sandy Ross, Deanne Turner, Liz Marino, Cathy (Lamoureux) Reimanis, Joanie (Schumacher) Merrill, Julie Lewis Hirsch, Linda Akutagawa, Ann (Cohan) Orders , Katie Mares, Kelly Green
Dark Star	Eugene, OR	West	1982	<u>Molly Maloney</u> , Sue Hawkins, Sally Hawkins, Suzy Bland, Barb Alstot, Becky (Watkins) Millon, Annie Osborn, Stacy (Davidson) Butler, Jane Saulter, Sarah Gage Hunt, Janice Dunn

REGIONALLY PROMINENT WOMEN TEAMS ON WEST COAST 1981-1985

TEAM	LOCATION	REGION	TEAM STARTED	NOTABLE PLAYERS 1981-1985
Pleiades	Berkeley, CA	West	1982	Anne Westcott, et al
Lady Buds	Arcata, CA	West	1982	
Windjammers	San Diego	West	1982	Wende Coates , Jen Scott, Liz Applegate, Laura King, Tracy Headington, Stephanie Hewick, Chris Pavlinch, Chris Wagner, Kate Purmal, Cori Spresser
Sky / Predators	Seattle, WA	West	1981	Lisa Dally Wilson, Mary Lowry, Stephanie Boyd, Jill McGrath
Air Traffic Controllers	Santa Clara, CA	West		
Stanford Red Zingers				
Bay Aerials				
Fusion	San Diego			
Cruz Control				
Entropy	San Diego			
Ulti-Mates				
Seattle Sky	Seattle, WA			
T.H.C.				
Lady Fun Hogs	Portland, OR			
Kaos	Santa Cruz			
Humboldt Connection	Humboldt, CA			

West Coast Women's Tournaments 1981-1985

WESTERN REGIONALS

DATE	LOCATION	CHAMPION/ RUNNER-UP	TEAMS
1981			
1982	Irvine, CA	Dark Star / Condors	Condors, Dark Star, Cruz Control, Air Traffic Controllers, Stanford Red Zingers, Bay Aerials, Fusion, Entropy, Ulti-Mates, Seattle Women, T.H.C., Lady Funhogs
1983	U.C. Davis	Dark Star / Condors	Dark Star, Condors, Seattle Sky, Stanford Tuition, Windjammers, Pleiades, Guacamole Wrestlers, Yetis, South Bay Disc Connection, Entropy, Fusion, Denver Morning D.U.W.
1984	U.C. Davis	Condors / Dark Star	Condors, Dark Star, Windjammers
1985	U.C. Santa Barbara	Condors / Safari	Condors, Safari, Windjammers, Dark Star

CAL STATES

DATE	LOCATION	CHAMPION/ RUNNER-UP	TEAMS
1979		North vs South	North and South
1980			
1981			
1982			
1983			
1984	U.C. Santa Cruz	Condors / Windjammers	Condors, Dark Star, Windjammers
1985			

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ULTIMATE LEAGUE (NCUL)

DATE	LOCATION	CHAMPION/ RUNNER-UP	TEAMS
1981	Bay Area		
1982	Bay Area		
1983	Bay Area		

HUMBOLDT HARVEST

DATE	LOCATION	CHAMPION/ RUNNER-UP	TEAMS
1981	Arcata, CA		
1982	Arcata, CA		Fun Hogs, Kaos, Humboldt Connection, Dark Star, Air Flight Controllers
1983	Arcata, CA		

LIST OF ALL WEST COAST Women's TEAMS 1977-1985
(by Area)

Women's Team	City, State	Area	Year Started	Year Ended
		LA Area		
		LA Area		
		LA Area		
		LA Area		
		LA Area		
		LA Area		
		LA Area		
		LA Area		
		LA Area		
		Nor Cal		
		Nor Cal		
		Nor Cal		
		Nor Cal		
		San Diego		
		San Diego		
		San Diego		
Lady Condors	Santa Barbara, CA	Santa Barbara	1981	present
		SF Bay		
		SF Bay		
		SF Bay		
		SF Bay		
		SF Bay		
		SF Bay		
		SF Bay		
Dark Star	Eugene, OR	Oregon	1982	
		Oregon		
		Oregon		
		Oregon		
		Oregon		
		Washington		
		Washington		