

# 2005 Team USA

These athletes were selected for their experience, athletic ability, physical and mental fortitude, service to the sport, demonstrated respect for Spirit of the Game, and ambassadorial qualities. They intend to win not only **gold**, but also the respect of their opponents and the sporting world.

The Ultimate competition at the World Games will run from July 22 to July 24. For more information, visit the [official World Games 2005 web site](#).

**Coach** – Ted Munter – Newton, Mass.

## Player Pool

	<b>Height</b>	<b>Hometown</b>	<b>Residence</b>	<b>College</b>
<u>Gwen Ambler</u>	5'10"	Littleton, Colo.	San Francisco, Calif.	Stanford Univ.
<u>Tully Beatty</u>	5'10"	Charlotte, N.C.	Wilmington, N.C.	UNC–Wilmington
<u>Scotty Conway</u>	5'11"	Plano, Tex.	Truckee, Calif.	Colorado State Univ.
<u>Deb Cussen</u>	5'6"	Bolton, Mass.	Seattle, Wash.	Carleton College
<u>Will Deaver</u>	5'8"	Warner Robins, Ga.	Louisville, Colo.	Univ. of Georgia
<u>Jeff Eastham</u>	6'2"	Mountain View, Calif.	Davis, Calif.	UC–Davis
<u>Dominique Fontenette</u>	5'8"	Pine Bluff, Ark.	Cambridge, Mass.	Stanford Univ.
<u>Kati Halmos</u>	5'9"	San Anselmo, Calif.	Seattle, Wash.	Humboldt State Univ.
<u>Ron Kubalanza</u>	5'11"	Oakland, Calif.	Oakland, Calif.	Univ. of Wisconsin
<u>Angela Lin</u>	5'6"	Columbus, Ga.	Atlanta, Ga.	Georgia Tech
<u>Mike Namkung</u>	5'11"	Oakland, Calif.	San Francisco, Calif.	UC–Santa Barbara
<u>Alex Nord</u>	6'4"	Seattle, Wash.	Seattle, Wash.	Carleton College
<u>Miranda Roth</u>	5'9"	Decatur, Ga.	Seattle, Wash.	Carleton College
<u>Stacey Schoemehl</u>	5'8"	St. Louis, Mo.	Santa Cruz, Calif.	UC–Santa Cruz
<u>Chase Sparling-Beckley</u>	6'4"	Seattle, Wash.	Seattle, Wash.	Carleton College
<u>Kirsten Unfried</u>	5'9"	Scotch Plains, N.J.	Berkeley, Calif.	Tufts Univ.
<u>Bart Watson</u>	6'1"	Iowa City, Iowa	Berkeley, Calif.	Stanford Univ.
<u>Jessi Witt</u>	5'9"	Winnetka, Ill.	Charlottesville, Va.	Smith College
<u>Josh Ziperstein</u>	5'10"	Amherst, Mass.	Providence, R.I.	Brown Univ.

### Ted Munter – Coach



Ted brings over 20 years of Ultimate playing and coaching experience to Duisburg. He co-founded the Northfield Mount Hermon high school Ultimate team in 1980 and has played at the highest levels of Ultimate in the U.S., including eight seasons with Boston's Death or Glory, the most recent of which in a coaching capacity. He has coached the Brown University women's team since 2001. During his tenure the team has qualified for the UPA College Championships every year and reached the semifinals in 2003.

### Gwen Ambler



#### **What player has influenced your game the most?**

*Jennifer Donnelly helped me fall in love with the game and has inspired me to constantly push myself further. She was my college coach for two years and then my teammate on Fury for four seasons... I have learned so much from her in terms of strategy, skills, and mental toughness.*

#### **What best exemplifies Spirit of the Game to you?**

*When two athletes are pushing themselves and their opponents to perform at their peaks and yet still respect themselves and their opponents enough to accurately assess their own adherence to the rules.*

- Younger sister Tenise plays for UC–San Diego
- Has played with Fury since 2001, including Club Worlds and WUGC appearances
- Will be pursuing a Masters of Public Health in grad school

Alternate

## Tully Beatty



### What best exemplifies Spirit of the Game to you?

*I have to quote Damien Scott: "If you play in a manner where you win the game but do not win the respect of your opponent and the people who play the game, what have you really won?" Of course, he's speaking of integrity, accountability's cousin. Lance Armstrong wrote about Moreno Argentin locking up his wheels in order to finish 4th so he would not have to share the podium with Armstrong. What a great anecdote. If you realize I'm marking you but not stalling, you'll know why.*

- Married eight years this May
- Lefty the springer is almost 13 and Old Bird the mix is nearly 9
- Has played with many successful North Carolina teams including UNCW, WUFF Warriors, and Ring of Fire

Alternate

## Scotty Conway



### What player has influenced your game the most?

Bob Pease – how to handle an offense with confidence. Jim Glynn – how to play smart and passionate D.

### What best exemplifies Spirit of the Game to you?

*Some recognition of the great D someone just got on you. Eye contact when shaking hands after a tough loss.*

- Employed as a forester/firefighter with the USDA
- Played with Lake Tahoe's Donner Party 2001–2004, including Club Worlds and WUGC
- Enjoys telemark skiing, fly fishing, mountain biking

Alternate

## Deb Cussen



Versatile player all over the field. Big hucks, tough defense. Deb has some of the best throws in the game but still loves to cut downfield.

*I have always considered Ultimate to be an ideal international ambassadorial sport, primarily because of the respect built into the game through self-officiating and Spirit of the Game. I have always strived to maintain the balance between the highest competitiveness and this respect for my teammates, my opponents, and the game itself.*

- Played with Potlatch champion Hip Hop Wig Shop in 2003
- Captained Seattle's Riot in 2003 and 2004; won UPA Club Championships in 2004

First Team

## Will Deaver



### **What player has influenced your game the most?**

*Robbye Brooks, because he showed me the importance of being a complete player—offense, defense, throwing, receiving, attitude. Brian Harriford and Damien Scott: competing against them in college and club pushed me to never be complacent. And Stu Downs: his attitude about the game and the people who play it and how important it is to strive to be a great person as well as a great player.*

### **What lessons from other sports do you bring to the Ultimate field?**

*From wrestling and track there's simply the ability (and strange desire...almost) to deal with the unpleasant hours of physical training. From tennis and baseball, repetition of specific skills that are needed to make consistent performance second-nature. From soccer, the importance of teamwork, team chemistry, and everyone being a part of the same effort.*

- Works at UPA headquarters as Championship Director
- Captains Johnny Bravo of Boulder, Colo.
- Happily married (two years) to Melanie, captain of Boulder's Rare Air
- Enjoys hiking, dogs, snowboarding, Goaltimate, games, and most anything competitive

First Team

## Jeff Eastham



### **What player has influenced your game the most?**

*A trio of UC–Davis players—Steve Joye, Don Corson and Dan Nice—really formed me as a player when I started playing, serving as guides when it came to throws, intensity and Spirit of the Game, respectively.*

### **What best exemplifies Spirit of the Game to you?**

*Calling a foul on yourself when you know you were in the wrong without being prompted by the person you fouled.*

### **What lessons from other sports do you bring to the Ultimate field?**

*Good sprinting and jumping form from track and field. Good hand-eye coordination from all those hours playing video games as a kid.*

- Played at Mountain View (Calif.) High School, where he was teammates with many currently active club players
- Has been married to his wife, Brandice, for almost two years
- Plays for San Francisco's Jam in the club season

First Team

## Dominique Fontenette



### **What player had the most influence on your development as a player?**

*I've learned a little bit from each person with whom I've played. A few of those players do stand out in my mind. Each through her greatness of play, compassion for the game, patience in sharing knowledge, and continued support of me as a player, Sarah "Savage," Molly Goodwin, Nicole Beck, Gloria Lust-Phillips, and Jennifer Donnelly stand out in my mind as the players who have most influenced my development as a player.*

### **With what team did you have the most success? How did you measure this success?**

*I had the most success with Fury in 1999. The team felt like family, and at the end of the day we had fought our way to a Cinderella National championship title.*

- Currently attends Tufts University School of Medicine
- Won the Callahan Award in 1997 while attending Stanford
- Only member of 2001 World Games squad to play again in 2005

First Team

## Kati Halmos



### **What player has influenced your game the most?**

*The ever-so-tan Chris Archer got me on that ultimate field to play with the Humboldt Hags. But development-wise, my ladies on Riot push me to be my best. I love them for that!*

### **What best exemplifies Spirit of the Game to you?**

*Fierce competition ending with a smile and lots of laughs.*

- Teaches sixth grade math and science at McClure Middle School in Seattle
- Her most supportive fans are her Mom and Pop, Doris and George Halmos
- Enjoys snowboarding, skiing, mountain biking, and surfing

First Team

## Ron Kubalanza



Dangerous offensive player, strong cuts and great range on his throws.

*I lead by example by working hard on the fields and believe that I have been a positive influence on the play of my teammates.*

- Played at University of Wisconsin beginning in 1993
- Has played with a number of elite club teams, including Boston's Death or Glory, D.C.'s Electric Pig, and (presently) San Francisco's Jam

Alternate

## Angela Lin



### **What best exemplifies Spirit of the Game to you?**

*Some people live by Spirit of the Game and aren't even Ultimate players. Play hard, play by the rules, and try to make sure your teammates do the same.*

### **With what team did you have the most success? How did you measure this success (winning a tournament, team chemistry, steady improvement, etc.)?**

*I think success is a combination of all things mentioned, and is also subjective based on each teammates' own personal experience. However, I think that for a team to be truly successful, each member of the team has to feel that he/she is an important part in reaching the team's goals. In my mind, two big successes were (1) making it to the finals of Worlds in 2002 with Ozone and (2) College Championships in 2001 with UGA.*

- Plays for Atlanta's Ozone
- Works as a research engineer for Georgia Tech
- Enjoys snowboarding, climbing, Goalty, tennis, eating, bocce, science, sleeping in

Alternate

## Mike Namkung



### **What player had the most influence on you?**

*Two... Andy Crews. He has always been my role model—I always wanted to play like him and I still aspire to be as good a defender as he is. He continually inspires and amazes me with his shut-down defense, his run-by-you blocks, his focus and intensity, his discipline, his humility, his field leadership. John Shelton. John and I pushed each other on and off the field. We hung out together and matched up against each other for years. It was through him that I learned that the connectedness you develop with your teammates not only makes your team stronger and your team experience richer, but also that playing frisbee together is about much more than playing frisbee together.*

### **What lessons from other sports do you bring to the Ultimate field?**

*I took this class called butoh drawing—a fusion of the discipline of butoh dance with the physical act of drawing. It's a pure form of self-expression based on natural body movement, complete sensory openness, and creating*

*art spontaneously from the body within the context of the specific moment. It's basically a performance, a dance, much like ultimate—it teaches me to be present in each moment and approach competition as a canvas for exploring creativity and expression of physical energy.*

- Teaches language and visual arts at Hercules Middle/High School in Hercules, Calif.
- Plays with the Santa Barbara Condors, with whom he represented the U.S. at the 2004 World Ultimate and Guts Championships in Turku, Finland
- Sister Gina is an artist at the National Institute of Arts and Disabilities and makes drawings and other pieces of art for the Condors

First Team

### Alex Nord



**What best exemplifies Spirit of the Game to you?**

*Having fun and playing hard. This carries from the swilliest spring league game through the finals at nationals.*

**With what team did you have the most success? How did you measure this success (winning a tournament, team chemistry, steady improvement, etc.)?**

*Carleton - four years of learning about Ultimate, team dynamics and friendship. Success isn't all about winning, and winning won't always make you feel successful. I am fortunate to be playing with Sockeye now, and I imagine that with some time to build I will feel the same about this team.*

- Plays for Seattle's Sockeye
- Won the 2001 Callahan Award en route to a college championship with Carleton
- Played on the 1996 Junior National team and competed in Jonkoping, Sweden

Alternate



## Miranda Roth



### **What player has influenced your game the most?**

*The players moonlighting as coaches at Paideia High School and Carleton College (Michael Baccarini and Phil Bowen, respectively) gave direction to the desire I always had and have most significantly contributed to the player I have become. her.*

### **With what team did you have the most success? How did you measure this success?**

*Being a part of Seattle Riot's extremely winning season which culminated in winning a national championship was a very satisfying experience. We each had very well-defined roles and played well as a team. We were so talented and our roster was so deep - it was a great feeling to know that whoever was in the game at the end would win it for us.*

- Won the 2004 Callahan Award and finished second with Carleton's Syzygy at the UPA College Championships
- Volunteers for the Epilepsy Foundation Northwest
- Enjoys playing the recorder, listening to non-recorder music, and coaching

Alternate

## Stacey Schoemehl



Talented offensive and defensive player, especially zone defense.

*I have coached and captained many teams and I believe success comes from finding a balance between having a winning attitude and enjoying the experience along the way. You can do everything in your power to win but if you don't enjoy the people and the trip along the way it is just not worth it.*

- Has played with San Francisco's Fury since 1999
- Coaches the UC–Santa Cruz women's teams

Alternate

## Chase Sparling-Beckley



### **What best exemplifies Spirit of the Game to you?**

*When your opponent makes a sweet play, even if it is someone who you wholly dislike, you help him or her up and tell them that it was sweet.*

### **With what team did you have the most success? How did you measure this success?**

*Carleton Ultimate Team. Personally, I feel like I learned enough about myself and about the dynamics of team sports to last a lifetime (though I am in no way done learning). I measure it in the satisfaction and love that I feel when I remember each and every one of my teammates.*

- Helped Seattle's Sockeye win their first Club Championship in 2004
- Majored in art and biology at Carleton College

First Team

## Kirsten Unfried



### **What lessons from other sports do you bring to the Ultimate field?**

*I played field hockey, basketball, and softball starting in fourth grade through high school and then played softball in college. The most important lesson I got is that the team is more important than any one player and that the all the hard work is worth it. Field hockey and basketball taught me skills such as field sense, defense/offense theories, and seeing holes in the defense. Softball taught me the discipline and commitment that have helped me to improve my game as an ultimate player.*

### **With what team did you have the most success? How did you measure this success (winning a tournament, team chemistry, steady improvement, etc.)?**

*Fury 2003...national champs. We had our losses during the season. We didn't win our region. We didn't even take the second spot at Regionals...which made it all the sweeter a few weeks later at the Club Championships - after a couple more weekends of practice - to have a great tournament as a team...to feel things come together, to feel stronger and more confident with each game, to achieve the goal we had set at the beginning of the season.*

- Earned an M.S. in Exercise Science with a concentration in biomechanics at UC-Davis

- Enjoys Goaltimate, crossword puzzles, thrift shops, arts & crafts, hiking, working on my Spanish skills (or lack thereof), and volunteering (like with Habitat for Humanity)

First Team

### Bart Watson



#### What player has influenced your game the most?

*Two players I can think of... First, Damien Scott. Damien is the best player I have ever been on the field with. Beyond his Ultimate skill, however, his drive, determination, and intensity on the field, coupled with his unparalleled spirit and social skills off the field, have taught me a lot about this game and how it should be played. As for on-field knowledge, my longtime college coach and current teammate Mike Payne contributed greatly to my strategic approach and playing style.*

#### What best exemplifies Spirit of the Game to you?

*Spirit of the Game is having enough respect in your opponents to treat them as competitors and teammates at all times, both on and off the field.*

- Working on a PhD in political science at UC–Berkeley
- Is a sports fanatic, oenophile, and piano player
- Plays for San Francisco's Jam; played for Stanford (2000–2003) and UC–Berkeley (2004), making it to the college finals twice and winning it all once (2002)

First Team

## Jessi Witt



### **What player has influenced your game the most?**

*Probably Bill Stewart (Boston) for teaching me the flick huck and a really good understanding of the game. Other influential players have been Nancy Glass (Chicago) and Brian Dobyys (North Carolina).*

### **With what team did you have the most success? How did you measure this success (winning a tournament, team chemistry, steady improvement, etc.)?**

*Backhoe - 2004: Although we did not meet our own expectations to win, we made it to the semifinals for the first time in the history of Backhoe, everyone on the team played in all of the games and contributed to our success, and we had so much fun playing together.*

- Current grad student in cognitive psychology at the University of Virginia
- Enjoys soccer, kayaking, kite-surfing, basketball, and dancing

First Team

## Josh Ziperstein



### **What player has influenced your game the most?**

*Moses Rifkin - a model for how to play ultimate at an incredibly high level with an amazing amount of integrity. Paul Greff - greatest player to ever play the game. Showed me the sacrifices that each player and team must make if trying to be the best. Nathan Wicks - great player, great teacher, great coach, great teammate, great friend.*

### **What lessons from other sports do you bring to the Ultimate field?**

*Work ethic and conditioning knowledge from years of running track; field sense and team sense from playing soccer since I was a kid.*

- Current senior at Brown University, led team to semifinals at the 2004 College Championships, majoring in biomedical engineering
- Younger sister Dory plays Ultimate and has "incredible catching hands"
- Enjoys cooking, traveling, and \_\_\_\_\_boarding (snow, long, wake, etc.)

First Team