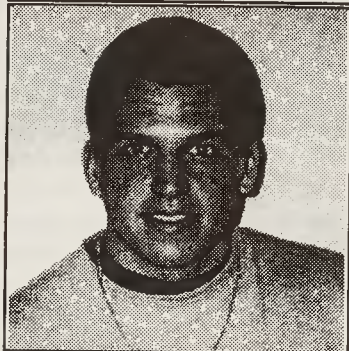


# Up close with senior athletes

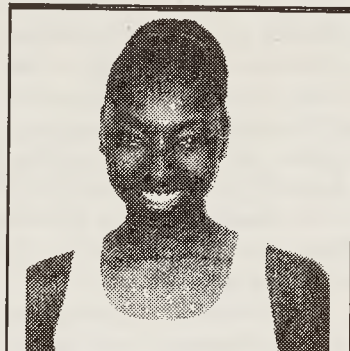
By Emily Sanders  
Reporter



Cooper photo

## Sam Bystrzycki

**Name:** Sam Bystrzycki  
**Sport:** Football  
**Position:** Nose guard  
**Future Plans:** Go to college  
**What type milk do you drink:** 2%  
**Favorite Teacher:** Coach Joe Franks  
**Favorite Sports Memory:** Coming so close to beating Page last year  
**Biggest Fear:** Losing a loved one  
**Coke or Pepsi:** Coke  
**Carolina or Duke:** Carolina  
**Nike or Adidas:** Nike  
**Favorite Foods:** Jr. bacons, steak, fried chicken  
**Pre-Game Rituals:** Two Advil, bottle of Spark, listening to music  
**Favorite Ice Cream Place:** Yum Yum's  
**Farthest West Traveled:** Las Vegas  
**What You Did This Summer:** Just chilled and kept it real  
**Favorite CD:** DEL- future development  
**Personal Quote:** "Chill..."  
**Favorite Cartoon:** Bevis and Butthead  
**Dream Car:** '91 Limited Edition Camry  
**Waffles or Pancakes:** Pancakes  
**When and why did you begin playing:** 3rd grade; it looked like fun  
**If you could be any animal, what would you be:** White owl  
**Favorite articles of clothing:** sweatpants and hoodie  
**Favorite cereal:** Fruity Pebbles  
**Favorite store:** Kashish Food Mart  
**Who is more overrated, Hillary Duff or Olsen twins:** "Olsen twins; too hot to be overrated."  
**Have you ever engaged in vandalism:** Yes  
**Have you ever been on television:** Yes  
**If you could change Grimsley's mascot, what would it be:** "Bad question. We are the only school in the country called Grimsley Whirlies."  
**Of which television family you would like to be a member:** Hugh Hefner's family  
**Where you were born:** Wilmington, NC  
**Tattoo:** "Nah."  
**Shower or bath:** shower  
**Favorite word?** Yo...  
**Beauty or intelligence:** a little of both



Leung photo

## Angelica Milton

**Name:** Angelica Milton  
**Sport:** Cheerleading  
**Sports Accomplishments:** Varsity captain  
**Position:** Base  
**Future Plans:** College  
**What type milk do you drink:** Whole milk  
**Favorite Teacher:** Mrs. Cobb  
**Favorite Sports Memory:** When we almost beat Page last year.  
**Biggest Fear:** Falling on my face in front of everybody  
**Coke or Pepsi:** Pepsi  
**Carolina or Duke:** Duke  
**Nike or Adidas:** Nike  
**Favorite Foods:** Chinese food, chicken, pizza, baked spaghetti, everything that tastes good.  
**Pre-Game Rituals:** "I go home, eat, and take a shower."  
**Farthest West Traveled:** Louisiana  
**What You Did This Summer:** "It's a secret!"  
**Favorite CD:** "Dangerously in Love" by Beyonce  
**Personal Quote:** "Are y'all about to get right?"  
**Favorite Cartoon:** Tweety Bird  
**Dream Car:** Acura  
**Waffles or Pancakes:** Waffles  
**When and why did you begin playing:** "Because I wanted to do something extracurricular."  
**If you could be any animal, what would you be:** Siberian White Tiger  
**Favorite article of clothing:** "Baby Phat, even though I don't wear it."  
**Favorite cereal:** Fruit Loops  
**Who is more overrated, Hillary Duff or Olsen twins:** Olsen twins  
**Ever engaged in vandalism:** "No, not me!"  
**Have you ever been on television:** Yes, the news  
**If you could change Grimsley's mascot, what it would be:** "I don't know."  
**Of which television family you would like to be a member:** The Bernie Mac Show family  
**Favorite cologne/perfume scent:** Tommy Hilfiger  
**Where were you born:** Fort Park, Louisiana  
**Shower or bath:** Shower  
**Beauty or intelligence:** Both

# National Women's League booted out; WUSA closes doors to aspiring athletes

*The sudden shutdown of the Women's United Soccer Association leaves up-and-coming female athletes as well as students at a loss.*

By Ellen Burgin  
Staff Writer

June 2000: the year marked the first ever women's professional soccer league in the history of the United States, the WUSA (Women's United Soccer Association).

Many well-known veterans of the sport advocated for the league's creation, including the players' chief spokeswoman, Julie Foudy.

Although leagues in Europe offer alternate opportunities, the league attracted international stars as well as many Americans throughout its existence—Britig Prinz of Germany, the MVP of the 2002 championship game, Sun Wen of China, Sisi and Katia of Brazil, Marinette Pichon of France, and Uni Lehn and Hege Riise of

"Women's soccer isn't where it needs to be in comparison to men's soccer. People don't take it seriously. Girls' sports are shafted."

-Catherine Rierson  
Sophomore

Norway, to name a few.

Eight teams were involved, including NC's own Carolina Courage. Highly populated areas were assigned to the teams in order to draw fans and make money. After the first year a new stadium was built for the Courage, which had previously been using UNC Chapel Hill's facility in Cary.

Behind the illusion of success, major problems evidently occurred. After three seasons, the WUSA collapsed. The announcement was made on September 15<sup>th</sup>. According to the official website, WUSA.com, the fulfillment of payments from sponsors fell through. Sponsors included well-known companies such as Coca Cola and McDonald's. One would not think of these as experiencing complications in completing their finances.

The league that many women players dreamed of crumbled before the players' eyes. The Carolina Courage team posted a letter to their fans on WUSA.com saying the players were "surprised" as well. The Courage, in their letter, revealed their organization had some of the most sufficient funds in the league. Sound fiscal, or money, policy is now of no help since there are no teams to benefit from profits.

The league seemed to be doing well, leaving speculation as to the cause of its collapse. Many people feel the competition between women's sports and men's sports is to blame.

"Men's soccer is equally as interesting as women's even though society often emphasizes male domination in sports," said junior Morgan Radford, who coaches a children's co-ed team.

"Women's soccer isn't where it needs to be in comparison to men's soccer. People don't take it seriously. Girls' sports are shafted," said sophomore Catherine Rierson, a Grimsley varsity soccer player.

The US men's national team received attention for the 2002 World Cup. This year's World Cup occurred in the US, but some students such as Alex Leeder do not feel the media gave the tournament enough early attention.

"It's ridiculous. It's the World Cup—almost every single country plays in it. The WUSA went down because no one knows anything about it [either]," said sophomore Leeder, a Grimsley

Varsity soccer player.

To play soccer after college, one must return to the days where only a trip across an ocean would fulfill aspirations of soccer on the highest level, the professionals. The league's downfall may have long-term effects on the growing soccer movement in the United States although it is too early to know definitely.

"I think that the closing of the WUSA is a big blow for the growth of professional women's soccer," said senior Chase Lowrance, another Grimsley Varsity soccer player.

Considering the amount of time taken to create the WUSA in the first place suggests that the establishment of another league may not happen for some time.

"Yes, [the WUSA can come back] if it gets corporate sponsors and more fans," said freshman Mike Jones, a spectator of soccer.

Perhaps the participation of the US team in the recent tournament will be a booster for another league, but the effort will most likely take a while. Until then, count on watching only the men play on television, since there is now only one US professional league.

### Current WUSA Teams

- Boston Breakers
- Atlanta Beat
- San Diego Spirit
- Washington Freedom
- New York Power
- San Jose Cyber Rays
- Carolina Courage
- Philadelphia Charge

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