

# Atlanta Beat

**Investor-Operator:** Cox Enterprises, Inc.

**General Manager:** Eddie Rockwell

**Head Coach:** Tom Stone

**2002 Finish:** 11-9-1 (34 points), fourth place

**2002 Offensive Ranking:** T-5th, (34 goals, 1.62 per game)

**2002 Defensive Ranking:** T-2nd, (29 goals, 1.38 per game)

**Home Stadium, Soccer Capacity, Field Size:** Herndon

Stadium, 15,011, 68yds. x 110yds.

**2002 Average Attendance:** 6,784

**Top Returning Scorer:** Charmaine Hooper (11 goals + 3 assists = 25 points)

**Media Contacts:** Lee Kallman and Stephen Rodriguez

Picked by nearly every media outlet to win it all in 2002, Atlanta struggled out of the gates, going 1-3 to start the season. Head Coach Tom Stone and his staff made some personnel adjustments, and by mid-May Atlanta was back on track, winning four consecutive games. The Beat qualified for the WUSA playoffs for the second consecutive season, going 11-9-1 (34 pts.) to secure a fourth-place finish in the WUSA table. If not for an 89<sup>th</sup>-minute goal that tied the match at Carolina in the playoffs and ultimately saw the Courage win in overtime, Atlanta would have advanced to its second consecutive Founders Cup.

Up front, Atlanta possesses two of the WUSA's most accomplished forwards at the international level in Canadian Charmaine Hooper and American Cindy Parlow. Hooper led the WUSA in game-winning goals in 2002 with six, and is one of the most intense competitors in the league. Parlow's five goals were a bit of a disappointment to many, but the U.S. national team star is a big-game player, as evidenced by 57 goals (5<sup>th</sup> all-time) with the American squad.

The Beat's midfield is one of the league's best, as Homare Sawa and Nikki Serlenga keep opposing defenses off balance, and Kylie Bivens is one of the most versatile players in the WUSA. Defensively, U.S. national team goalkeeper Briana Scurry anchors the back, with Sharolta Nonen, Lisa Kyzkowsky, and the Augustyniak twins all heading into their third WUSA season.

Following two seasons with few changes, Atlanta will feature some new faces in 2003. The Beat parted ways with Chinese internationals Sun Wen and Liping Wang during the offseason, but Coach Stone has added a couple of international stars and some talented rookies to the mix in 2003. German international striker Conny Pohlers and Maribel Dominguez, the all-time leading scorer for Mexico's national team, provide additional firepower and depth during a World Cup year. Rookies Callie Withers (M), Leslie Gaston (D) and Abby Crumpton (F) could all see significant playing time due to national team call-ups.

After one season away from the Founders Cup (Atlanta lost in penalty kicks to San Jose at Founders Cup I), look for the Beat to once again be among the preseason picks to win the WUSA title in 2003.

## Three to Watch

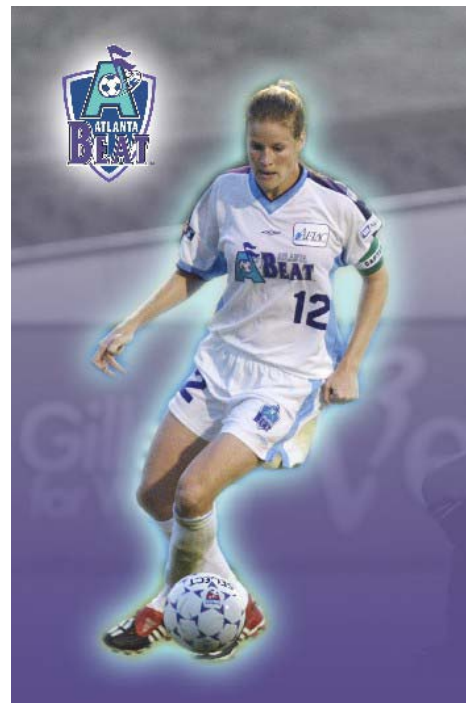
**Charmaine Hooper (F)** – Atlanta's leading scorer for the second consecutive year (11g, 3a, 25 pts.), the 35-year-old Hooper is the Beat's oldest player (and second oldest in the WUSA behind San Jose's Sissi). The Canadian international is a strong physical presence who is comfortable taking on opponents or playing with her back to the goal.

**Homare Sawa (M)** – The Japanese national team standout more than doubled her 2001 goal production, finding the back of the net seven times in 2002 after scoring just three goals in 2001. She possesses superb dribbling skills and the ability to beat players one-on-one.

**Briana Scurry (GK)** – The U.S. national team veteran remains one of the world's best goalkeepers, especially in big games. She possesses excellent athletic ability and a deep knowledge of the goalkeeping position. Her 1.33 GAA was third in the WUSA in 2002.

## 2002 ATLANTA LEADERS (Regular Season)

Goals	11	Charmaine Hooper
Assists	6	Homare Sawa Nikki Serlenga
Points	25	Charmaine Hooper
Minutes	1,876	Sharolta Nonen
Games Played	21	Sharolta Nonen Homare Sawa Nikki Serlenga
Games Started	21	Sharolta Nonen
Shots	46	Homare Sawa
Shots on Goal	29	Homare Sawa
Fouls Committed	58	Charmaine Hooper
Fouls Suffered	50	Charmaine Hooper Cindy Parlow
Game-winning Goals	6	Charmaine Hooper
Penalty Kick Goals	1	Nikki Serlenga
Saves	80	Briana Scurry
Goals Against Average	1.33	Briana Scurry



*Cindy Parlow has 57 goals for the U.S. national team.*

# Boston Breakers

**Investor-Operator:** Pilot House Soccer L.L.C.

**General Manager:** Joe Cummings

**Head Coach:** Pia Sundhage

**2002 Finish:** 6-8-7 (25 points), sixth place

**2002 Offensive Ranking:** T-3rd, (36 goals, 1.71 per game)

**2002 Defensive Ranking:** 6th, (35 goals, 1.67 per game)

**Home Stadium, Soccer Capacity, Field Size:** Nickerson Field, 9,749, 120yds. x 70yds.

**2002 Average Attendance:** 8,120

**Top Returning Scorer:** Maren Meinert (7 goals + 16 assists = 30 points)

**Media Contact:** Stephanie Tunnera

**Non-sports P.R. Contact:** Marci Tunnera

Although Boston became the only WUSA team in the league's two-year history to finish the season with an undefeated record at home (5-0-5 in 2002), the Breakers repeated the club's first-year woes by finishing in sixth place for the second consecutive season. After two seasons of missing the playoffs, Jay Hoffman was relieved of his duties and former Philadelphia assistant Pia Sundhage was hired as the club's new head coach.

Finishing with a 6-8-7 (25 pts.) record, the Breakers were known as one of the prettiest and dangerous attacking teams in the WUSA, but the defense lacked toughness. The Breakers scored 36 goals and 90 assists but gave up 37 goals (only San Diego and New York allowed more).

For the second straight season the "Big 3" - Maren Meinert, Kristine Lilly and Dagny Mellgren - was the soul of the Breakers offense. The three players combined for 67 points in 2001 but were more dangerous in 2002 with 83 points, including 72 percent of Boston's 36 goals. German star Meinert finished fourth in the WUSA in scoring (7g, 13a = 30pts). Just behind Meinert in the point standings was Lilly with 29 points (8g, 13a), who finished the season on a 10-game point-scoring streak. The final piece to the triple-threat was Mellgren, the sly Norwegian forward who scored a team-high 11 goals in 2002.

Boston midfielder Angela Hucles had a breakout season as she notched three goals and had four assists. More importantly, Hucles became a regular on the U.S. national team and is in strong contention for a World Cup roster spot. German National Team midfielder Bettina Wiegmann, who retired from the WUSA during the offseason, finished the year with two goals and seven assists.

The defensive woes started early for Boston as the most experienced player - U.S. national team defender Kate Sobrero - missed a month of preseason and the first four games due to a knee injury. The team scrambled to find a solid solution but to no avail. Former reserve player Chrissy McCann elevated her game and started every match in 2003, providing one of the few bright spots in the back for Boston last year.

The 2003 campaign has signs of change already as Sundhage and assistant John Natale are stressing team defense. Offensively, Boston has high expectations with a healthy Ragnhild Gulbrandsen back and newly acquired French national team midfielder Stéphanie Mugneret-Beghe joining the Big 3. First-round draftee Devvyn Hawkins will provide bite as the club's defensive midfielder, but Boston might need goalkeepers Karina LeBlanc and Tracy Ducar to have big seasons for the club to advance to the postseason.

## Three to Watch

**Maren Meinert (F)** - The club's leading scorer, Meinert notched a goal or assist in 16 of the 21 matches. After the 2002 campaign there was speculation she would not return for a third season, but the Breakers' offense will remain potent with her back on the roster.

**Kristine Lilly (M)** - Amazing is one word that describes arguably one of the hardest working players in the game. Lilly finished the year on a 10-game point-scoring streak with eight goals and 13 assists. The two-time All-WUSA first-team selection had a goal or assist in 13 of 21 games and played throughout the 2002 season with a nagging back pain.

**Kate Sobrero (D)** - Hoping to shore up a back line that allowed 1.67 goals per game in 2002, Sobrero will become one of the most important pieces to the Breakers season. A leader by example, she will be counted on to lead this young defense with her work ethic, experience and knowledge.

## 2002 BOSTON LEADERS (Regular Season)

Goals	11	Dagny Mellgren
Assists	16	Maren Meinert
Points	30	Maren Meinert
Minutes	1,879	Christine McCann
Games Played	21	Christine McCann Maren Meinert
Games Started	21	Christine McCann Maren Meinert
Shots	62	Kristine Lilly
Shots on Goal	33	Kristine Lilly
Fouls Committed	33	Maren Meinert
Fouls Suffered	49	Kristine Lilly
Game-winning Goals	2	Angela Hucles Bettina Wiegmann
Penalty Kick Goals	1	Bettina Wiegmann
Saves	64	Karina LeBlanc
Goals Against Average	1.59	Karina LeBlanc



***Kristine Lilly ended 2002 with a 10-game point-scoring streak.***

# Carolina Courage

**Investor-Operator:** Time Warner Cable

**General Manager:** Scott Travasos

**Head Coach:** Jay Entlich

**2002 Finish:** 12-5-4 (40 points), Regular Season Champion and Founders Cup II Champion

**2002 Offensive Ranking:** T-1st, (40 goals, 1.90 per game)

**2002 Defensive Ranking:** T-4th, (30 goals, 1.43 per game)

**Home Stadium, Soccer Capacity, Field Size:** SAS

Stadium, 7,000, 120yds. x 75yds.

**2002 Average Attendance:** 5,839

**Top Returning Scorer:** Danielle Fotopoulos (11 goals + 11 assists = 33 points)

**Media Contact:** Jim Houghton

It was a storybook season for the Carolina Courage in 2002. After finishing in last place with a 6-12-3 (21 pts.) record in 2001, Carolina did a complete 180 and captured Founders Cup II and the WUSA regular season championship in 2002.

Carolina made a number of personnel changes that played key roles in the club's amazing turnaround. Newcomers Birgit Prinz, Danielle Slaton and Unni Lehn made significant impacts, especially German national team standout Prinz who tallied 32 points (12g, 8a) despite playing in just 14 games. Veteran Danielle Fotopoulos, Prinz's partner up front, became the only WUSA player to ever record double digits in goals and assists in the same season (11g, 10a, 32 pts. in 2002).

Led by Norwegian international Hege Riise, the Courage offense presented a multitude of problems for opposing defenses. Fotopoulos and Prinz tied for second in WUSA scoring while Riise's 13 assists tied for second in the league. Hard-nosed Tiffany Roberts and Norwegian national team counterpart Unni Lehn join Riise in the midfield.

Defensively, longtime U.S. national team captain Carla Overbeck was hampered by a knee injury that limited her to nine games, but she came up big in the playoffs when she hammered home the game winner that sent the Courage to Founders Cup II. Slaton (the WUSA Defensive Player of the Year), Nel Fettig and Staci Burt protected goalkeeper Kristin Luckenbill. Luckenbill, who led the WUSA with a league-record 114 saves, played every minute during the 2002 regular season.

The 2003 season will feature the return of all of the Courage's key players, but off the field Carolina did undergo some changes as Head Coach Marcia McDermott moved into a front office role and was replaced by U.S. national team staff coach Jay Entlich. In addition, Scott Travasos was promoted to general manager after Jerome Ramsey accepted a position within the Time Warner Cable family. Although Entlich will only make minor changes in personnel to the defending champions, look for Canadian international Breanna Boyd from the University of Nebraska to add bite to the Courage defense.

## Three to Watch

**Birgit Prinz (F)** – The German national team star dominates at times. She finished tied for second in WUSA scoring (12g, 8a, 32 pts.) despite playing in just 14 games in 2002. No other top 10 scorer played in less than 18 games. She has size (5-9), dribbling skills and speed. Her performance helped Prinz finish third in the 2002 FIFA World Player of the Year voting.

**Hege Riise (M)** – The creative playmaker's 13 assists tied for second in the WUSA last year. She possesses great vision and passing ability that is rivaled by few players in the history of women's soccer. In addition, Riise also is deadly of set pieces.

**Tiffany Roberts (M)** – Considered by many to be the WUSA's top defensive midfielder, Roberts is critical to stopping the opponents' attack before it reaches the Carolina defensive third. Roberts, who was a starter on the 1995 U.S. World Cup team when she was 18 but did not see action in 2000 or 2001 for the American squad. Her strong 2002 WUSA season elevated her back onto the national team, giving her an excellent chance at making the 2003 World Cup squad.

## 2002 CAROLINA LEADERS (Regular Season)

Goals	12	Birgit Prinz
Assists	14	Hege Riise
Points	33	Danielle Fotopoulos
Minutes	1,890	Kristine Luckenbill
Games Played	21	Nel Fettig Danielle Fotopoulos Kristin Luckenbill
Games Started	21	Kristin Luckenbill
Shots	90	Danielle Fotopoulos
Shots on Goal	47	Danielle Fotopoulos
Fouls Committed	50	Danielle Fotopoulos
Fouls Suffered	56	Hege Riise
Game-winning Goals	3	Hege Riise Danielle Slaton
Penalty Kick Goals	0	N/A
Saves	114	Kristin Luckenbill
Goals Against Average	1.43	Kristin Luckenbill



***Hege Riise will lead Norway into the Women's World Cup.***

# New York Power

**Investor-Operator:** Time Warner Cable

**General Manager:** Susan Marenoff

**Head Coach:** Tom Sermanni

**2002 Finish:** 3-17-1 (10 points), eighth place

**2002 Offensive Ranking:** 7th, (31 goals, 1.49 per game)

**2002 Defensive Ranking:** 8th, (62 goals, 2.95 per game)

**Home Stadium, Soccer Capacity, Field Size:** Mitchell Athletic Complex, 10,102, 112yds. x 75yds.

**2002 Average Attendance:** 5,575

**Top Returning Scorer:** Tiffeny Milbrett (10 goals + 8 assists = 28 points)

**Media Contacts:** Darren Hawks and John Sciacca

After suffering a disappointing last-place finish (3-17-1, 10 pts.) during the 2002 season, the Power looks to turn things around under new Head Coach Tom Sermanni. Sermanni enters his first season with the Power in 2003, joining the club after two years as Ian Sawyers' top assistant in San Jose.

Up top, New York possesses a dynamic-duo in Tiffeny Milbrett and top draft pick Christie Welsh. Milbrett and Welsh are known for their nose for the goal as noted by Milbrett's 63 career points (WUSA's all-time leader) and Welsh's 216 career points at Penn State University. Both have also produced for the U.S. national team, with Milbrett amassing 96 goals (as of March 1) and Welsh 12 goals for April Heinrichs' squad. Adding depth on the front line will be veteran Tammy Pearman, who has tallied seven goals for the Power in two seasons.

The Power midfield features veteran Emily Janss, who finished second on the team in scoring (8g, 1a, 17pts) last year, and Norwegian national team standout Anita Rapp leading the attack. Although Rapp's Norwegian teammate Linda Ormen was loaned back to her club team in Norway, Australian national team attacking midfielder Joanne Peters was added to orchestrate the offense. Shannon Boxx should assume the role of defensive midfielder after coming over from the San Diego Spirit in an offseason trade.

The defense, which allowed a WUSA-record 62 goals in 2002, received a major upgrade due to preseason trades and the 2003 college draft. The Power will start the 2003 season without the services of defenders Sara Whalen and Kristy Whelchel, both recovering from ACL injuries. Christie Pearce anchors the back as she is now fully recovered from the ACL injury she suffered in 2001 and back with the U.S. national team. Newcomers Cheryl Salisbury, the 6-foot-1 captain of Australia's national team, and 5-foot-10 rookie Lauren Orlandos provide a major physical presence in the middle of the Power's backline. Long Island native Margaret Tietjen also comes home after playing two seasons in San Diego. In net, the Power will have an option in veteran Saskia Webber or newcomer Carly Smolak.

With many new faces and a new coaching staff in 2003, New York has clearly made significant changes to improve upon the 2002 season.

## Three to Watch

**Tiffeny Milbrett (F)** – The WUSA's all-time leading scorer (26g, 11a, 63pts), the 5-foot-2 forward shreds opposing defenses. An explosive player, she led the Power in scoring (28 pts), goals (10) and assists (8) last season. Milbrett was the 2001 WUSA MVP and Offensive Player of the Year.

**Christie Pearce (D)** – 2002 was an injury-riddled season for the Power defender after coming back too soon from an ACL injury she suffered back in 2001. Now at full strength, Pearce has made her way back on the U.S. national team roster. A healthy Pearce should improve a Power defense that allowed a WUSA-record 62 goals in 2002.

**Saskia Webber (GK)** – Playing in only 14 games during the 2002 season, Webber ranked second in the league with 91 saves. She tied a WUSA record with 13 saves at San Jose on July 27. Webber's rigorous offseason workout program has her ready to secure the starting job in 2003.

## 2002 NEW YORK LEADERS (Regular Season)

Goals	10	Tiffeny Milbrett
Assists	8	Tiffeny Milbrett
Points	28	Tiffeny Milbrett
Minutes	1,751	Ronnie Fair
Games Played	21	Ronnie Fair Emily Janss
Games Started	21	Ronnie Fair
Shots	62	Tiffeny Milbrett
Shots on Goal	33	Tiffeny Milbrett
Fouls Committed	28	Kristy Whelchel
Fouls Suffered	32	Tiffeny Milbrett
Game-winning Goals	2	Tiffeny Milbrett
Penalty Kick Goals	1	Tiffeny Milbrett
Saves	91	Saskia Webber
Goals Against Average	2.86	Saskia Webber



*Tiffeny Milbrett is the WUSA's all-time leading scorer.*

# Philadelphia Charge

**Investor-Operator:** Comcast Corporation

**General Manager:** Tim Murphy

**Head Coach:** Mark Krikorian

**2002 Finish:** 11-4-6 (39 points), second place

**2002 Offensive Ranking:** T-3rd, (36 goals, 1.71 per game)

**2002 Defensive Ranking:** 1st, (22 goals, 1.05 per game)

**Home Stadium, Soccer Capacity, Field Size:** Villanova Stadium, 11,800, 120yds. x 65yds.

**2002 Average Attendance:** 6,880

**Top Returning Scorer:** Marinette Pichon (14 goals + 1 assist = 29 points)

**Media Contact:** Greg Wiley

Most reporters pegged Philadelphia as a middle-of-the-pack team heading into the 2002 season. And that was before attacking midfielder Kelly Smith, who was on her way to an MVP season, went down with a season-ending knee injury on June 1.

Once again, the Charge overcame the skeptics and cruised to their second consecutive postseason appearance and a second-place finish in the WUSA standings. With Smith gone for the season, Head Coach Mark Krikorian relied on an unknown Frenchwoman (Marinette Pichon) to lead the club to an 11-4-6 record (39 pts).

Pichon, who tied for fourth in WUSA scoring with 29 points, was the only Philadelphia player to finish among the league's top 20 scorers. "Frenchie" (as she is known to teammates) spent the majority of the season playing as the sole forward in a 4-5-1 formation.

The Charge midfield features U.S. national team standout Lorrie Fair, but it was Arizona State rookie Stacey Tullock who came on strong at the end of the regular season, scoring two goals during the Charge's four games in August.

Defensively, Philadelphia allowed the lowest number of goals in the WUSA. Jennifer Tietjen-Prozzo, Erica Iverson, Jenny Benson and Heather Mitts kept opposing teams off the scoreboard in the first 15 minutes of each game until Atlanta's Nikki Serlenga scored in the final game of the regular season. Goalkeeper Melissa Moore was a steady force as she led the WUSA with a 1.00 goals against average.

Coming off a tough loss to Washington in the playoffs last year, Philadelphia looks ready to make a run at the Founders Cup III championship. With Smith back at full strength, all eyes will be on the English national team star as she hopes to play her first injury-free WUSA season (she broke her ankle in 2001). Former German national team midfielder Melanie Hoffman was acquired in the offseason to add scoring punch and to fill the shoes of Zhao Lihong, who is being loaned to back to her Chinese club team and scheduled to return in 2003.

With Mandy Clemens traded to San Jose during the offseason, look for 20-year-old Czech national team forward Pavlina Scasna to complement Pichon up front. In addition, draft picks Hope Solo (GK), Deliah Arrington (F) and Mary McVeigh (M/D) should provide plenty of depth. Although assistant coaches Pia Sundhage and John Natale are now with the Boston Breakers, Krikorian's club will once again be considered one of the WUSA's elite teams in 2003.

## Three to Watch

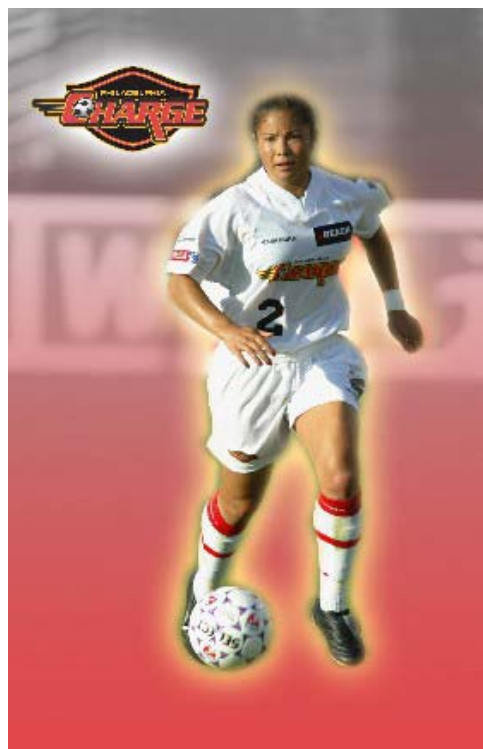
**Marinette Pichon (F)** – Many soccer experts questioned how the French national team standout would adapt to the WUSA. Pichon's sophisticated runs and clinical finishing resulted in 14 goals (2<sup>nd</sup> in the WUSA). She also was the key reason why France advanced to its first World Cup berth.

**Lorrie Fair (M)** – The U.S. national team regular doesn't put up big scoring numbers (0g, 5a, 5 pts. in 2002), but she orchestrates the Charge offense with her smooth play on the ball and excellent vision. Also, Fair has been a winner everywhere she has played – college, pros and international level.

**Kelly Smith (M)** – She was the top candidate for WUSA MVP when she was lost for the season with a torn ACL in June. Will the English national team star be 100 percent in 2003?

## 2002 PHILADELPHIA LEADERS (Regular Season)

Goals	14	Marinette Pichon
Assists	9	Zhao Lihong
Points	29	Marinette Pichon
Minutes	1,800	Melissa Moore Jennifer Tietjen
Games Played	20	Liu Ailing Melissa Moore Jennifer Tietjen-Prozzo
Games Started	20	Melissa Moore Jennifer Tietjen-Prozzo
Shots	68	Marinette Pichon
Shots on Goal	36	Marinette Pichon
Fouls Committed	28	Jenny Benson
Fouls Suffered	23	Kelly Smith
Game-winning Goals	3	Kelly Smith
Penalty Kick Goals	2	Kelly Smith
Saves	86	Melissa Moore
Goals Against Average	1.00	Melissa Moore



**Lorrie Fair is one of 17 WUSA players on the U.S. Algarve Cup roster.**

# San Diego Overview

**Investor-Operator:** Cox Communications, Inc.

**General Manager:** Dave Presher

**Head Coach:** Omid Namazi

**2002 Finish:** 5-11-5 (20 points), seventh place

**2002 Offensive Ranking:** 8th, (28 goals, 1.33 per game)

**2002 Defensive Ranking:** 7th, (42 goals, 2.00 per game)

**Home Stadium, Soccer Capacity, Field Size:** Torero Stadium, 7,035, 115yds. x 70yds.

**2002 Average Attendance:** 5,883

**Top Returning Scorer:** Shannon MacMillan (5 goals + 8 assists = 18 points)

**Media Contacts:** Aaron Heifetz and Jon Greene

The San Diego Spirit continued its up and down ways in 2002, picking up some big victories early in the season, including a WUSA record 6-1 romp over New York, and a 1-0 win over Philadelphia on May 19, handing the Charge the club's first loss of the season. However, the highs were sandwiched around numerous aggravating lows, as the Spirit dropped its home opener for the second straight year and had a four-game losing streak to sit at 2-6-2 at the 10-game mark. Head coach Carlos Juarez was dismissed after eight games, the first coached fired in the WUSA history, and general manager Kevin Crow guided the team to a 3-7-3 finish (seventh place) after a 2-4-2 start.

There were a few bright spots for the Spirit in 2002, as the team set attendance records, drawing its top three crowds in club history to the expanded Torero Stadium. Captain Julie Foudy, who did not score in 2001, pounded five goals and four assists to finish second on the team in scoring. Chinese international Zhang Ouying started strong for the Spirit, finishing the season with five goals and was named WUSA Co-Player of the Month for April. Despite a sub-par year for Shannon MacMillan, the popular San Diego native led the team in scoring (5g, 8a, 18pts). A late season surprise was Scottish international Julie Fleeting, who scored three goals in just seven starts and played in the last eight games of the season. Joy Fawcett played her first complete WUSA season and was named team MVP while leading the team from the back.

The Spirit will have a different look in 2003, with perhaps as many as 11 players who saw action in 2002 not on the squad this year. Zhang will return, but gone is Chinese international Fan Yunjie, the Spirit's first pick in the Inaugural WUSA Draft, and Nigerian Mercy Akide, whose two-year stint came to an end. The Spirit's two new international signings, rugged Canadian international forward Christine Latham and 19-year-old Brazilian midfielder Daniela are expected to add grit to the Spirit side.

The most exciting addition to the Spirit might be Aly Wagner, the first pick in the 2003 WUSA Draft and the starting attacking midfielder for the U.S. national team. A rising international star with incredibly unique playmaking talents, Wagner will likely run the show for the Spirit as her passing ability is expected to make her teammates even better.

## Three to Watch

**Joy Fawcett (D)** – The highest scoring defender in U.S. national team history is still going strong at 35. America's #1 soccer mom will anchor the Spirit's defense and her experience and composure will be key in helping a group of young defenders excel.

**Julie Foudy (M)** – The captain of the United States and the Spirit, Foudy is a leader through words and action. With five goals in 2002, she showed she can add to the attack through scoring as well as through her tremendous work rate. With the addition of Wagner, Foudy will not be asked to carry the entire load in the midfield and her leadership skills are vitally important to turning the Spirit around in 2003.

**Aly Wagner (M)** – The top pick in the 2003 WUSA Draft, Wagner will look to ply her craft at Torero Stadium, where fans can expect exquisite balls skills and deft passing as well as goal scoring ability. The winner of the 2002 MAC Hermann Trophy as college soccer's top player, Wagner finished a brilliant career at Santa Clara University and helped the Broncos to the 2001 NCAA championship. She figures to play a key role for the USA at the 2003 Women's World Cup.

## 2002 SAN DIEGO LEADERS (Regular Season)

Goals	5	Julie Foudy Shannon MacMillan Zhang Ouying
Assists	8	Shannon MacMillan
Points	18	Shannon MacMillan
Minutes	1,645	Julie Foudy
Games Played	21	Sherrill Kester
Games Started	19	Joy Fawcett Julie Foudy
Shots	56	Shannon MacMillan
Shots on Goal	27	Shannon MacMillan
Fouls Committed	35	Shannon Boxx
Fouls Suffered	34	Shannon MacMillan
Game-winning Goals	3	Julie Foudy
Penalty Kick Goals	1	Julie Foudy
Saves	54	Jaime Pagliarulo
Goals Against Average	1.75	Carly Smolak



*Julie Foudy is the captain of the U.S. national team.*

# San Jose Overview

**Investor-Operator:** John S. Hendricks and Pilot House Soccer, LLC

**General Manager:** Marlene Bjornsrud

**Head Coach:** Ian Sawyers

**2002 Finish:** 8-8-5 (29 points), fifth place

**2002 Offensive Ranking:** T-5th, (34 goals, 1.62 per game)

**2002 Defensive Ranking:** T-4th, (30 goals, 1.43 per game)

**Home Stadium, Soccer Capacity, Field Size:** Spartan Stadium, 16,000, 110yds. x 70yds.

**2002 Average Attendance:** 7,167

**Top Returning Scorer:** Katia (15 goals + 6 assists = 36 points)

**Media Contact:** Jody Meacham

In the short history of the WUSA, the San Jose CyberRays have won 50 percent of the league's championships. But their most recent (and only) time holding the Founders Cup was in 2001, and missing the playoffs last season was bittersweet.

The CyberRays won that first WUSA championship with a strangling defense, led by 1999 World Cup hero Brandi Chastain, and a pair of international forwards – Julie Murray from the Australian national team and Katia from Brazil – who combined were the best goal-scoring tandem in the league. But in defending their title, the CyberRays had to make do with Katia as their only effective forward following Murray's retirement.

Katia came through with a league-record 15 goals in 21 games, but without a companion threat up top – and Coach Ian Sawyers tried everyone from Chastain to his rookie forwards beside her – she couldn't carry the scoring load alone in 2002. The CyberRays finished 8-8-5 (29 pts.) in fifth place, one spot out of the playoffs.

Sawyers has a lot to build around for 2003; however, and he may have solved the scoring problem with an offseason trade with the Philadelphia Charge that landed forward Mandy Clemens. Clemens played on four Final Four teams when she was at perennial national power Santa Clara University, a program that ranks as the second biggest producer of professional women's soccer talent in the country. She joins fellow SCU alum Chastain on the CyberRays.

Still, the strength of the 2003 CyberRays lies in their defense and midfield. Stars in the back include U.S. national team goalkeeper LaKeysia Beene; the WUSA's career shutout leader; gritty central defender Kelly Lindsey; Thori Bryan, probably the league's speediest player; and Chastain. The midfield has proven the league's strongest in its ability to maintain possession of the ball because of Sissi, the Brazilian distributor, and Tisha Venturini-Hoch, a playmaker on the U.S. World Cup team in '99 and last season's No.2 scorer on the club. In the 2003 draft, the CyberRays added defensive mid Betsy Barr from the NCAA champion Portland Pilots.

The CyberRays will find out quickly if this year's team is back to the caliber of its 2001 championship squad. The club's first three home matches at Spartan Stadium are against the Philadelphia, Washington and defending champion Carolina.

## Three to Watch

**Katia (F)** – Katia had a breakthrough season, leading the league with 15 goals, and her 36 points set the WUSA's single-season scoring record. Voted Offensive Player of the Year by her teammates, she had four multi-goal games in 2002. She will play for Brazil in World Cup qualifying this spring.

**Brandi Chastain (D/M)** – The team captain, Chastain has started at every position but goalkeeper for the CyberRays, but offseason acquisitions will allow her to return to left back where she will be free to roam in the CyberRays attack in 2003. She's a probable U.S. starter this fall in the FIFA Women's World Cup.

**LaKeysia Beene (GK)** – Beene is poised to recover her form of 2001 when she established league records for shutouts (8), consecutive shutouts (6) and consecutive shutout minutes (624) to be named WUSA Goalkeeper of the Year. Last season she split time with the U.S. national team and is a strong candidate for America's World Cup team in September.

## 2002 SAN JOSE LEADERS (Regular Season)

Goals	15	Katia
Assists	9	Sissi
Points	36	Katia
Minutes	1,890	Thori Bryan
Games Played	21	Thori Bryan Tisha Vneturini-Hoch Katia Pretinha Sissi
Games Started	21	Thori Bryan Katia
Shots	96	Katia
Shots on Goal	54	Katia
Fouls Committed	41	Katia
Fouls Suffered	52	Pretinha
Game-winning Goals	4	Katia
Penalty Kick Goals	2	Katia
Saves	72	LaKeysia Beene
Goals Against Average	1.35	LaKeysia Beene



**Brandi Chastain anchors the San Jose defense.**

# Washington Freedom

**Investor-Operator:** John Hendricks

**General Manager:** Katy Button

**Head Coach:** Jim Gabarra

**2002 Finish:** 11-5-5 (38 points), third place

**2002 Offensive Ranking:** T-1st, (40 goals, 1.90 per game)

**2002 Defensive Ranking:** T-2nd, (29 goals, 1.38 per game)

**Home Stadium, Soccer Capacity, Field Size:** RFK

Stadium, 22,410, 110yds. x 74yds.

**2002 Average Attendance:** 9,297

**Top Returning Scorer:** Abby Wambach (10 goals + 10 assists = 30 points)

**Media Contact:** Esten Perez

Picked by many soccer experts and prominent journalists to finish at the bottom of the WUSA standings in 2002, the Washington Freedom continued its losing ways early in the season. Coming off a 2001 campaign where the club finished tied for last place in the WUSA and went 2-10-1 in its final 13 games, Washington was mired in sixth place with a 2-4-3 (9 pts.) record prior to June 12.

So what happened June 12? Well, U.S. national team star Mia Hamm made her 2002 Freedom debut. She played in only 506 minutes (entering as a second half sub), but the world's all-time leading scorer at the international level led her team to a 9-1-2 regular season record (8-1-2 with Hamm in the lineup) since returning from knee surgery on June 12. The Freedom picked up 29 points in its final 12 matches to finish 11-5-5 (38 pts.), while securing its first playoff berth. Following the club's third-place finish during the regular season, Washington and Hamm continued their incredible run in the playoffs, winning at Philadelphia and nearly defeating Carolina at Founders Cup II.

But it wasn't just Hamm who made an impact, as German national team standout Steffi Jones steadied the defense and goalkeeper Siri Mullinix made many big saves to keep Washington in a number of games. Jones joined the team in early June and Mullinix missed the beginning of the season while recovering from shoulder surgery.

The loss of defensive midfielder Lindsay Stoecker to a season-ending knee injury was a blow at midseason, but Carrie Moore helped fill the void as the club's defensive stopper. Defenders Jen Grubb and Emmy Barr, who each played in all 21 games, also stepped up their level of play as the Freedom went from one of the league's worst defenses on opening day to allowing the second lowest goals in the WUSA in 2002.

The core of the Freedom returns in 2003, including Hamm, Mullinix, Jones (who will be with the team from the start) and 2002 WUSA Rookie of the Year Abby Wambach. Although Chinese midfielder Pu Wei will play in China in 2003 (with a return to Washington in 2004), Chinese national team standout Bai Jie returns to spark the attack from the midfield. In addition, Gabarra added two international newcomers as Australian national team forward Kelly Golebiowski provides depth up front and while the club hopes to sign German national team defender Sandra Minnert to anchor the backline.

With Hamm now 100 percent healthy and Mullinix, Jones, Bai and Wambach all playing extensively during the offseason with their respective national teams, Washington is positioned to make a return trip to Founders Cup.

## Three to Watch

**Mia Hamm (F)** – She was the most exciting player to watch during the 2002 season, but her knee injury limited her to coming on as a sub after halftime. Hamm finished 12<sup>th</sup> in WUSA scoring (8g, 6a, 22 pts.) despite having played just 506 minutes (which equates to 5.6 full games).

**Abby Wambach (F)** – The WUSA's leading rookie scorer (10g, 9 a, 29 pts. – tied for fourth in overall scoring), the 5-foot-10 Wambach powers through opposing defenses. She scored two goals and added an assist to win the Hyundai MVP trophy at the 2002 WUSA All-Star Game in Portland.

**Siri Mullinix (GK)** – After undergoing offseason shoulder surgery, Mullinix did not make her first start until May 18. She set a WUSA record with 13 saves at Boston on June 1 and ended up with a 1.19 goals against average, the second best mark in the WUSA. Her 84 saves ranked fourth in the WUSA. Look for the North Carolina product to compete with Atlanta's Briana Scurry and San Jose's LaKeyisia Beene for the starting role with the U.S. World Cup team.

## 2002 WASHINGTON LEADERS (Regular Season)

Goals	10	Abby Wambach
Assists	10	Abby Wambach
Points	30	Abby Wambach
Minutes	1,890	Jennifer Grubb
Games Played	21	Emmy Barr Jennifer Grubb
Games Started	21	Emmy Barr Jennifer Grubb
Shots	54	Abby Wambach
Shots on Goal	34	Abby Wambach
Fouls Committed	56	Abby Wambach
Fouls Suffered	35	Abby Wambach
Game-winning Goals	3	Mia Hamm
Penalty Kick Goals	2	Jennifer Grubb
Saves	84	Siri Mullinix
Goals Against Average	1.19	Siri Mullinix



*Siri Mullinix holds the WUSA record with 13 saves in one game.*