



# The History of ASU Women's Golf



Emilee Klein



Wendy Ward



Heather Farr



JoAnne Carner



Lauri Merten



Tina Tombs



Charlotte Montgomery



Pia Nilsson



Danielle Ammaccapane



Jackie Bertsch

During the last three decades, many of the premier amateur women's golfers have called Arizona State University home. Joanne Carner, Jane Bastanchury-Booth, Heather Farr, Danielle Ammaccapane, Pearl Sinn, Amy Fruhwirth, Brandie Burton and Emilee Klein are just a few.

Arizona State won its fifth National Championship title in 1997 to reinforce its standing as one of the premier golf schools in the United States. The Sun Devils became the first women's collegiate golf team to win five championships in a decade with the 1997 win (1990, '93, '94, '95, '97) and the first team to capture three national titles in a row (1993, '94, '95).

The roots of ASU women's golf began in the 1950s. Then-head coach Betty Graham was blessed with the arrival of Carner, who ruled women's amateur golf in the late 1950s and 1960s.

She began her national reign with victories at the 1956 U.S. Juniors and 1957 U.S. Amateur. A year later, Carner played on the U.S. Curtis Cup team, the first of her four Curtis Cup appearances. In 1960, she won medalist honors at the collegiate national championship.

Carner, who became the first woman in the United States to earn a golf scholarship, won a record five U.S. Amateur crowns and was the top-ranked U.S. female amateur on five occasions, according to *Golf Digest*.

A 1982 LGPA Hall of Fame inductee, Carner has won in excess of \$2 million and 40 tournaments during her nearly 20-year professional career.

Carol Sorenson followed Carner as the Sun Devils' top golfer, capturing the 1962 national collegiate tournament and playing on the '64 and '66 U.S. Curtis Cup teams.

The next Sun Devil ace was Bastanchury-Booth, who garnered a pair of Western Amateur and Trans National crowns. She became ASU's third national collegiate titleist when she won the 1969 AIAW Championship and was a member of three U.S. Curtis Cup teams.

A year later, Cathy Vaughan-Mant collected medalist honors at the AIAW Tournament.

ASU's women's golf tradition reestablished itself after a triumph at the 1975 AIAW Championship. The likes of Kelly Fuiks Leadbetter, Pia Nilsson, Alice Miller, Charlotte Montgomery, Nancy Taylor and Vicki Singleton helped fortify the Sun Devils on the national scene.

The decade of the '80s also marked the blossoming of the Sun Devil golf program with the appointment of former ASU golfer Linda Vollstedt as its fourth head coach. During Vollstedt's tenure, the 1989, '93, '94 and '95 national coach of the year has produced 30 all-Americans, 11 conference medalists and 11 top 10 NCAA finishes, in addition to 56 tournament wins and eight conference