

The 1975 Season

The 1975 season of Co-Rec looked as though it would not only match the previous season but surpass it. During housing sign-ups there was an intense drive on the part of team captains and coaches to recruit talent to their buildings and to their prospective Co-Rec team. This was especially true in the case of athletic girls, especially those who could throw a football. Captains, begged, pleaded and bribed young women to move to their halls so that they could play on their Co-Rec team. A few girls were so vigorously sought out by numerous teams that some would say that their treatment bordered on harassment. The biggest shocker for that season would be that the great Howie Sabell would move to Cleveland and quarterback Ellen Murraray to Hughes Hall. Also, the number of teams per hall, which had been capped at four, was bumped up to five. Now even more Hinmanites could take part in the action of Hinman College's favorite pastime.ⁱ

Some surprising twists were to come this Co-Rec season. Smith Sonian Institute and Master Betas would join forces (by moving into Smith Hall) and creating a new team the Beta Institute. With them came quarterback Debbie Loeb and quickly became the pre-season favorite to go all the way. Last year's champions, the Wild Ones, lost Carol Streim who had decided to move off-campus. Another favorite would be the Hughes team Sudden Death which had recruited Karen Simon and Jim Lombardo. Another Hughes team, Alcoholic Anonymous, or AA for short, had acquired burgeoning athletic talent Randy Mendelson and Maureen Madar.ⁱⁱ With over 500 students signed up to play Co-Rec and with 46% of them being women, Co-Rec football in Hinman was about to reach new heights of glory.ⁱⁱⁱ

New this year was an off-campus team called OCC-Hinman Alumni. Hinmanites who had moved off-campus still had the Co-Rec bug and asked Bob Giomi if they could form their

own team. He agreed and the first OCC team to play Hinman Co-Rec football was born. The OCC team, complete with much experienced talent, entered into the fray and easily managed to claim the number one spot in only the second week of play. Carol Steim, the star quarterback from the previous year, played on this team and she had lost none of her throwing ability. She threw three touchdown passes, one of which was caught by teammate Bob Buckley, who also had an excellent day when he intercepted two more passes and returned them for scores. The OCC team beat the Tigers 38-6. The Wild Ones, even without Carol Steim, easily beat the Lower East Side 26-0. Sudden Death and 4-Play played a tight and competitive game, with Karen Simon, despite a sore arm, throwing three TD passes. Beta Institute rose to the challenge and beat Pas de Pomplemousse (PDP) 13-9. The game was marked by a tactical error in which PDP threw a pass while they were ahead that was intercepted by Ken O'Brien. When the offense took the field Loeb threw a pass that resulted in a Beta Institute victory. The Roosevelt team Botulism beat out an unorganized Greatest Hits 19-6, moving the undefeated Botulism into the number five spot.^{iv}

The following week of play saw torrential rains turn the quad into a muddy marsh. Still, the teams were determined to play and continued to slog it out even in the mud and the rains. Beta Institute beat out Greatest Hits 19-0. The OCC team (changing its name to Adults Only) conquered the Mishpocheh 44-7 due mostly a strong defensive line. PDP won over Grover's Gang, the final score being 18-2. The team Sudden Death clobbered Post Mortem 49 to nothing with a strong performance by quarterback Ellen Murray.^v

The next week of play saw Sudden Death beat Lower East Side and it moved into the number two rank, lagging behind only the OCC team Adults Only. Sudden Death broke the single day scoring record for a single team, which had been 50 points previously held by the

Wild Ones. The final score was 63-6. Adults Only also jumped in on the action, trouncing Ya Mutha 34-2. In a rather exciting game, Son of What came from behind to beat ACE Menu 19-13, though the latter team planned on protesting the ruling to the coaches' board. Unfortunately, the interminable Binghamton rains did not let up and many games had to be postponed due to the weather.^{vi}

The coaches' board, after reviewing the ACE Menu's protest, ruled that they were correct. The problem arose when during the game, the ball had been jarred loose from a player on ACE Menu. It was then touched by a player on Son of What before hitting the ground. The referee awarded the ball to Son of What because he claimed that Son of What had had possession of the ball before it touched the ground. However, the coach's board ruled that possession is defined as control of the ball and not simply touching it. It was ruled that the ACE Menu-Son of What game would be replayed if the outcome would affect who would make the playoffs.^{vii} While to some this might have seemed like a simply misunderstanding or as a bad call, the reality was that Co-Rec football at this time in Hinman was taken very seriously. ACE Menu was determined to get a second chance. When other teams would have simply let it go, they decided to fight the ruling and were found in favor. This was not unique simply to ACE Menu, this type of competitive attitude would be found in virtually every other Co-Rec team. Sure, they were all there to have fun, but under no circumstances would they simply give up. Co-Rec football was serious business.

Besides overturning bad calls, that week also saw some exciting Co-Rec action. The Wild Ones/Sudden Death game was covered by the local newspaper *The Press and Sun-Bulletin*. During the game, 18 year-old sophomore Laura Devlin suffered a collision in the face and had the wind knocked out of her. After a few moments she got up and walked off the field to cheers

from the crowd. There was no permanent damage and she rejoined the game after a brief respite. Sudden Death player Eve Zuckergood even brought out her pet dog Reginald Dynamite Van Gleason (“Reggie”). Reggie became the team mascot and wore a red shirt just like the team and when at half time the team changed to white shirts, so too did Reggie. For a little over an hour the two teams battled it out and interesting plays like a crisscrossing maneuver where the ball was handed off four times made the game exciting to players and spectators alike. At the end of regulation time, the score was 18-18 and instead of sudden death, penetration was used. Penetration was invented by Bob Giomi, mostly as a time saving measure. Penetration had the ball start at the 50 yard line, and in following eight plays whichever team had made the most progress into their opponent’s territory or whoever made a touchdown was the winner. The Wild Ones took this game, but both teams showed good sportsmanship and congratulated each other on a well-played game.^{viii} Other games played during that week were Blome vs. Adults, with the final score being 12-7 in Blome’s favor. Son of What clobbered Star-O with a score of 33-0 and Beta Institute shut out Botulism 15-0 as did Greatest Hits over PDP. Coming back from a two-touchdown deficit, the Tampon Tigers won over Ya Mutha during Penetration.^{ix}

The next week saw the beginning of the playoffs for that season and some astounding upsets. Sudden Death was squeezed out of a playoff berth when they were defeated by the Wild Ones. During the game, the Wild Ones took a quick lead on an intercepted pass and then proceeded to score two more quick touchdowns. The final score was 39-12. Contagious, another more favored team, was beat out by Beta Institute in a see-saw battle with the final tally being 33-27. Other highlights from that week’s events saw Adults Only shutout Blome 33-0, with the Adults Only defense receiving kudos for their efforts. In the protested game between

Son of What and ACE Menu, ACE made it onto the board first but couldn't continue on to the main course. The final score was 33-6 in favor of Son of What.^x

The fifth Annual Hinman Co-Rec Championship game debuted to much fanfare and excitement amidst the usual pageantry and flair of the Co-Rec weekend; however, this time it was raining. At 1:00 p.m. the floats rolled out onto the Hinman Quad. Cleveland had a bicentennial themed float, Lehman had a large football, Smith had a scoreboard for a float, Hughes had a large Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade-style balloon, and Roosevelt had a gigantic football filled with balloons that were released skyward. The magnitude of the parade, according to the report in *Hinman Halitosis*, nearly made this year made Hinman's Co-Rec weekend eclipse the Rose Bowl Parade.^{xi}

The two teams playing in Hinman's version of the Super Bowl were the controversial OCC team Adults Only and the previous year's winners, The Wild Ones. The game began as a defensive battle with neither team being able to score. The Wild Ones were finally able to mount a successful drive, with Laura Harris throwing a pass to Brian Semler, who ran it in for a touchdown. Semler also caught the extra point. The score at the end of the first half was 7-0. During halftime, Vito Sinisi crowned Ellyn Merriam of Lehman and Pete Shernoff of Hughes as that year's Hinman queen and king. Entertainment was provided by Matt James and the Flames, singing a number of old favorites and even performing a tribute to Bob Giomi. The halftime entertainment ended with the introduction of a new sport that confused many but would later go on to become popular not only in Hinman but also on college and university campuses around the country. That sport was Ultimate Frisbee.^{xii}

The final half started off with Carol Streim of Adults Only throwing a touchdown pass to one of her teammates. They scored again with a Bob Buckley interception. Unfazed, The Wild

Ones drove the ball back down the field and scored on a surprise Harris to Patty Marcus TD pass. Streim then hurled the ball downfield and it was caught by Buckley who scored another touchdown for Adults Only. The game went into sudden death (Penetration was not used for the championship game) and Adults Only came out on top when Streim hit Mike Jaeger to score the final touchdown. The final score was 26-20.^{xiii}

Following the game it was announced by Co-Rec Commissioner Bob Giomi that the MVP award would go again to last year's winner Carol Streim, and Patty Marus and Bob Buckley would receive the defensive and offensive award respectively. "Sportscasting [sic] was done by Cliff Gardner and Bobby Posner. Ellen Murray also provided commentary."^{xiv} Bob Giomi, Gabe Yankowitz, Jeff Haber, Donna Fox, and Charlotte Fellows were commended for their excellent job officiating. Another exciting Co-Rec season had ended.^{xv}

Hinman Co-Rec may have been over, but Adults Only was not finished just yet. Newing College's championship Co-Rec team, Harness, challenged Adults Only to play a game to see who was the better team. The Newing team, living up to their dirty and trash-talking reputation, claimed that Hinman Co-Rec was far inferior to Newing Co-Rec and that the Newing team would easily defeat the Hinman team. Never one to turn down a challenge, Adults Only agreed to play their Newing rivals.^{xvi}

The next week saw the game between the two residential college archrivals. Everyone eagerly awaited to see who would come out on top. Everyone agreed that Newing was better at the throwing passes while the Hinman team was better at the running plays. Scoring began when Harness's Ethan Falk intercepted a pass and ran it back for a touchdown. Mike Fuchs also scored for Harness. Bob Buckley and Arite Rosenberg scored for Adults Only. The game was close until Carol Streim threw a long bomb to Mike Jaeger, who ran for a touchdown. Jaeger

would go on to score three more touchdowns that game. The final score was 32-13, making Hinman College, the birthplace of Co-Rec football, the victor in the first intercollegiate Co-Rec game.^{xvii}

ⁱ “Scoring On The Quad—Co-Rec Football Time Again,” *Hinman Halitosis* Vol. VI, No. 1, September 2, 1975.

ⁱⁱ “Another Openin’ Another Throw—Co-Rec Begins—Halitosis Picks Beta Institute,” *Hinman Halitosis* Vol. VI, No. 2, September 10, 1975.

ⁱⁱⁱ *Ibid.*

^{iv} “And The Games Go On...” *Hinman Halitosis*, Vol. VI, No. 3, September 18, 1975.

^v “Co-Rec Report,” *Hinman Halitosis* Vol. VI, No. 4, September 25, 1975.

^{vi} “Co-Rec Report-Sudden Death Moves Up,” *Hinman Halitosis* Vol. VI, No. 5, October 1, 1975.

^{vii} “ACE Menu Wins Protest—Possession Clarified,” *Hinman Halitosis* Vol. VI, No. 6, October 9, 1975.

^{viii} “This football is ‘co,’ not pro,” *The Press and Sun Bulletin*, October 9? 1975.

^{ix} “Wild Ones Move Up—Adults Only Upset By Blome,” *Hinman Halitosis* Vol. VI, No. 6, October 9, 1975.

^x “Co-Rec Playoffs Begin—Rankings Upset,” *Hinman Halitosis* Vol. VI, No. 7, October 16, 1975.

^{xi} “Happy Halloween,” *Hinman Halitosis* Vol. VI, No. 9, October 30, 1975.

^{xii} *Ibid.*

^{xiii} *Ibid.*

^{xiv} *Ibid.*

^{xv} *Ibid.*

^{xvi} “Adults Only To Sink Newing Navy,” *Hinman Halitosis* Vol. VI, No. 10, November 6, 1975.

^{xvii} “Hinman’s Adults Only Takes Newing in Co-Rec,” *Hinman Halitosis*, Vol. VI, No. 11, November 13, 1975.