



Biography

Starleen Orullian

Star began playing softball in 1966 and played exclusively in the ASA program her entire career. She began in her early years as a pitcher, but within a few years moved to the catching position where she played throughout the remainder of her career.

Star attended the University of Utah as the result of a softball scholarship, and she lettered all four years. Star is a four-time All American at the Women's Major Fast Pitch level and was a member of the USA Softball Team. She also played in the 1983 Pan American Games in Caracas, Venezuela, winning a silver medal. Star was also a member of the team that played in Japan at the Tri-Nation Nichi Cup Championships where the team won a gold medal for the United States.

Star has also coached fast pitch softball. She headed the ASA 18-Under Fast Pitch teams from 1981-1989. Star's teams played in four national championship tournaments during that time. She also did some assistant coaching at the high school level. In 1990, Murray High School's softball team won the 4-A State Championships and were the runners up in 1991. In addition, she has also conducted and taught a number of coaching and players' clinics over the years, specifically teaching catching fundamentals for fast pitch softball.

While still an active player, Star became involved with the administrative side of the Amateur Softball Association. She began as an elected player representative to the Utah ASA and was also elected as the Player Representative for the Rocky Mountain Region, where she served from 1981 through 1989. At the same time she assisted with the State ASA Program and served as the ASA State Secretary from 1983-1989.

In 1989, Star was appointed as the State Commissioner of Utah. She was excited to take on this new challenge. She continues to serve as the State Commissioner and has brought great growth to the sport of softball during her tenure as commissioner. She has done a lot of work at the national level as well. Star has served as the National Representative at many national championships as well as the chair of the fast pitch Rules Committee.

Due to her playing career at the international level, Star served on the National Team Selection Committee as well. She helped to select the players and coaches that won the Olympic Gold Medal in the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, Georgia. She was asked to stay on and help select the next Olympic team that also won a Gold Medal in the 2000 Sydney Olympic Games.

When asked why she has remained involved in one way or another for so many years, Star says, "Because I love the game. I have played at the highest level and caught some of the greatest pitchers of all time. I love being behind the plate and in control of the game. I love the smell of the dirt, the sound of the ball popping in the pocket of my mitt, and the crack of the bat."

On a professional level, Star is the Executive Director in the state's largest teachers' association. She is a teacher at heart and knows how to organize state-wide programs. Star taught school for 20 years before moving into school administration. We are fortunate to have someone who understands and loves the game as much as does our State Commissioner, Starleen Orullian.