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## UC Davis Faces 'Title 9' Lawsuit

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Steve Large  
Reporting

(CBS13) DAVIS, Calif. UC Davis has been hit with a lawsuit claiming it discriminates against female student athletes. The lawsuit was filed Tuesday in federal court. Three female student athletes say the school doesn't offer them the same opportunities as their male counterparts.

The UC Davis athletic department may boast a big successful football team. But three women who go to the school argue that when it comes to sports, UC Davis isn't giving them the same chance to succeed.

"There are not enough spots for women in the sports that they're interested in," says Laura Ludwig, one of the students suing the school.

Davis is on the receiving end of a lawsuit alleging its breaking a federal anti-discrimination law called Title 9, which states, "A college or university is in compliance if the numbers of men and women participating in intercollegiate athletics are substantially proportionate to their overall enrollment."

Women at UC Davis make up 56% of the student body, but only account for 50% of the Aggie NCAA roster spots.

That means there are about 80 missing roster spots available for women. Lawyer Noreen Farrell is representing the UC Davis plaintiffs.

"I'd like to say that this is an isolated incident but unfortunately it isn't. We see universities throughout the country. The laws been in affect for 35 years and yet universities are still having trouble coming up with the numbers," says Farrell.

Davis administrators say they take Title 9 seriously.

"Consider ourselves actually a leader in the country in title nine compliance and in creating opportunities for women athletes to participate in sports," says Lisa Lapin with UC Davis.

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