

Playing for Keeps: The Unforgettable Journey of the UofJ Football Team

A Legacy of Excellence

Nestled in the heart of the Great Plains, the University of Jamestown (UofJ) has built an enduring legacy in the world of college football. From its humble beginnings as a small-town institution, UofJ has emerged as a national powerhouse, capturing the attention and admiration of fans across the country.



Playing For Keeps: #UofJ Book 3 (U of J) by Alley Ciz

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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The story of UofJ football is a tale of dedication, perseverance, and unbreakable bonds forged on and off the field. It is a story that has inspired countless individuals and left an indelible mark on the university and the surrounding community.

From Humble Roots

The origins of UofJ football can be traced back to the early 1900s, when the university was known as Jamestown College. In those early days, football was a nascent sport, played by a handful of students on a makeshift field.

Despite the lack of resources and facilities, the Jamestown College football team displayed an unwavering determination to succeed. They played with heart and passion, quickly gaining a reputation as a formidable opponent.

The Golden Era

The 1960s and 1970s marked a golden era for UofJ football. Under the leadership of legendary coach Jack Hagerty, the Jimmies became a dominant force in the NAIA, winning multiple national championships.

Hagerty's teams were known for their innovative offensive schemes and relentless defense. He instilled in his players a belief in themselves and their ability to achieve anything they set their minds to.



FOOTBALL TEAM—Front Row—J. Lamb, T. Courtney, R. Wiltinski, J. Destefano, J. Köllik, A. Parsoghlian and P. Pletiz; Co-Captains: G. Elson, A. Bryant, J. McGary, P. McMahon, T. Devine; Second Row—Coach MacLean, J. Venuti, Manager: V. Surabian, P. Sweeney, D. Keltcher, W. Cronin, W. Burton, C. Harris, C. Coughlan, G. Todaro, N. Hurruslan, J. Galun, P. Cahill, G. Boyle, F. Johnson, Coach Frisk; Rear Row: D. Chisaffi, S. Yemino, R. Loofanti, L. Grennall, A. Ley, T. Sarkisian, S. McBride, R. Chrusz, H. Emerson, J. Wood, D. Weatherbee, G. Chiotaro

National Glory

In 1963, UofJ captured its first NAIA national championship, defeating Texas A&M-Kingsville in a thrilling overtime game. This victory marked the beginning of a dynasty that would span decades.

The Jimmies went on to win four more national championships in 1970, 1971, 1972, and 1974. During this period, they held the longest winning streak in college football history, going 52 games undefeated.

Beyond the Gridiron

While UofJ football has achieved remarkable success on the field, the program's impact extends far beyond the gridiron. The university has been recognized for its commitment to academic excellence and the development of well-rounded student-athletes.

Many former UofJ football players have gone on to successful careers in various fields, including business, law, and education. They credit their time at UofJ with instilling in them valuable life lessons and preparing them for a life of success and fulfillment.

Unbreakable Bonds

One of the most remarkable aspects of UofJ football is the unbreakable bonds that are forged between players, coaches, and the entire university community. These bonds are evident in the way that former players stay connected with the program, often returning to campus to mentor current student-athletes and support the team.

The UofJ football family is a close-knit group that extends beyond the boundaries of the university. Fans from across the country come together to cheer on the Jimmies, creating an electric atmosphere at every game.

The Future of the Jimmies

The future of UofJ football looks incredibly bright. The university has recently invested in new facilities and resources, ensuring that the Jimmies will continue to have the tools they need to succeed at the highest level.

With a talented roster and a dedicated coaching staff, UofJ is poised to add to its already impressive legacy in the years to come. The Jimmies are a team on the rise, and they are determined to continue making history on and off the field.

A Legacy to be Proud of

The story of UofJ football is a testament to the power of hard work, determination, and teamwork. From its humble beginnings to its

unprecedented success, the program has inspired countless individuals and left an indelible mark on the university and the community.

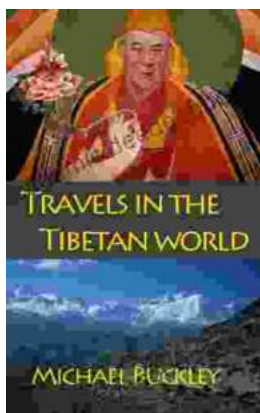
The Jimmies are more than just a football team; they are a symbol of excellence and pride. They represent the values of perseverance, sportsmanship, and community that are so important to the University of Jamestown.



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