

1959 syracuse football team

Book Concept: 1959 Syracuse Orangemen: A Season of Triumph and Tragedy

Book Description:

They were underdogs, doubted by the experts, dismissed by the press. But the 1959 Syracuse Orangemen football team, led by the legendary Ernie Davis, possessed a spirit that transcended the gridiron. Their journey to national prominence is a story of grit, determination, and ultimately, heartbreaking loss. Are you a football fan yearning for stories of inspiring underdog triumphs? Do you crave a deep dive into a pivotal moment in college football history? Do you want to understand the legacy of Ernie Davis and the impact he had beyond the field? Then this is the book for you.

This book delves into the tumultuous 1959 season, revealing the untold stories of the players, coaches, and fans who lived and breathed Orange football. It's a captivating blend of historical analysis, personal accounts, and stunning photography that will leave you breathless.

Book Title: 1959 Syracuse Orangemen: A Season for the Ages

Author: [Your Name Here]

Contents:

Introduction: Setting the Stage – Syracuse in 1959 and the team's pre-season expectations.

Chapter 1: The Ernie Davis Story: Exploring the life and career of Ernie Davis, his impact on the team, and the weight of expectation.

Chapter 2: Building the Team: A look at the coaching staff, key players, and the team's training and preparation for the season.

Chapter 3: The Games: Detailed accounts of key games throughout the season, focusing on pivotal moments and strategic decisions.

Chapter 4: The National Spotlight: Analyzing the team's rise to national prominence, the media attention, and the impact of their success.

Chapter 5: Beyond the Game: Exploring the social and cultural context of the era, including the Civil Rights Movement and the challenges faced by Ernie Davis.

Chapter 6: Legacy and Lasting Impact: Examining the lasting legacy of the 1959 team and its impact on Syracuse University and college football.

Conclusion: Reflecting on the triumphs and tragedies of the season, and Ernie Davis' enduring legacy.

Article: 1959 Syracuse Orangemen: A Season for the Ages – A Deep Dive

This article will expand upon the outline above, providing detailed insights into each chapter of the book. All headings below are optimized for SEO.

Introduction: Setting the Stage – Syracuse in 1959 and the Team's Pre-Season Expectations

1959 Syracuse was a city brimming with a complex mix of post-war optimism and simmering social tensions. The nation grappled with the Civil Rights Movement, and Syracuse, while not immune to racial prejudice, also displayed pockets of progress. Against this backdrop, the Syracuse Orangemen football team entered the season with moderate expectations. While they possessed talent, particularly in the form of Ernie Davis, they were not considered a top contender for the national championship. This chapter will delve into the socio-political context of Syracuse in 1959, the team's roster, their coaching staff under Ben Schwartzwalder, and the pre-season predictions that largely underestimated their potential. We'll examine the team's strengths and weaknesses, setting the stage for their remarkable journey.

Chapter 1: The Ernie Davis Story: A Legacy Forged on the Field and Beyond

Ernie Davis's story is central to the narrative of the 1959 Syracuse Orangemen. This chapter will explore his life, from his humble beginnings to his rise as a Heisman Trophy winner. We'll examine his exceptional athletic abilities, his character, and the immense pressure he faced as a young Black athlete navigating a racially charged America. Beyond his on-field prowess, we'll explore his personal life, his relationships with teammates and coaches, and the impact of his race on his experiences. This chapter will also analyze the role of race in the media's portrayal of Davis and the team. We will explore how his incredible talent overshadowed the broader team narrative.

Chapter 2: Building the Team: Chemistry, Coaching, and Preparation for Glory

This chapter will focus on the team dynamics, the coaching strategies employed by Ben Schwartzwalder, and the meticulous preparation that underpinned the Orangemen's success. We'll profile key players beyond Ernie Davis, showcasing their individual contributions and the team chemistry that fueled their victories. The chapter will also examine training regimes, game planning, and the team's overall approach to the season. We'll analyze Schwartzwalder's coaching philosophy and his ability to motivate and unite a

diverse group of players. This chapter will include player interviews (if available) and archival material to give readers an intimate understanding of the team's inner workings.

Chapter 3: The Games: Recounting Pivotal Moments and Strategic Decisions

This chapter provides a game-by-game account of the 1959 season, focusing on key moments that shaped the Orangemen's destiny. Each game will be analyzed in detail, highlighting strategic plays, exceptional performances, and the overall context of the match. We'll explore how the team overcame challenges, adapted to different opponents, and demonstrated remarkable resilience throughout the season. This will not simply be a recap of scores; instead, it will delve into the emotional impact of each game on the players, coaches, and fans. We will also look at how the team's approach evolved as the season progressed.

Chapter 4: The National Spotlight: Fame, Pressure, and the Weight of Expectations

As the Orangemen climbed the national rankings, they faced increasing media scrutiny and public expectation. This chapter will explore the team's rise to national prominence, the media coverage, and the pressure that came with it. We'll analyze how the team handled the heightened attention, the impact on individual players, and the challenges of balancing athletic success with the demands of public life. We'll also explore how the media portrayed Ernie Davis and the team, and whether this portrayal accurately reflected the reality.

Chapter 5: Beyond the Game: Social Context and the Civil Rights Movement

This chapter will examine the social and cultural context of 1959, including the Civil Rights Movement and its impact on the team and Ernie Davis. We'll explore the racial climate of the time, the challenges faced by Black athletes, and the role of sports in fostering social change. We will analyze how Ernie Davis's experiences intersected with the broader struggle for civil rights and the ways in which his success transcended the field of play. This chapter will provide historical context and explore the complexities of race relations in the United States during this pivotal period.

Chapter 6: Legacy and Lasting Impact: An Enduring Inspiration

The 1959 Syracuse Orangemen left an enduring legacy that extends far beyond the football field. This concluding chapter will explore the long-term impact

of the team's success, the lasting influence of Ernie Davis, and the continuing significance of their story. We'll explore the team's contributions to Syracuse University, the inspiration they provided to future generations of athletes, and their place in college football history. This chapter will also discuss the ongoing efforts to preserve and celebrate the legacy of Ernie Davis and the 1959 team.

Conclusion: Triumph and Tragedy, A Season Remembered

This section will synthesize the themes of the book, reflecting on the remarkable triumphs and heartbreaking losses experienced by the 1959 Syracuse Orangemen. It will reiterate the enduring legacy of Ernie Davis and the team, emphasizing the enduring power of their story and its continuing relevance.

FAQs:

1. What makes the 1959 Syracuse team so significant? Their undefeated regular season, Ernie Davis's Heisman Trophy win, and their inspiring underdog story.
2. What role did Ernie Davis play in the team's success? He was the star running back, a leader on and off the field, and a symbol of hope and inspiration.
3. What were the major challenges faced by the team? High expectations, media pressure, and the social climate of the time.
4. How did the team handle the national spotlight? With grace, determination, and a commitment to their values.
5. What happened to Ernie Davis after the 1959 season? He was diagnosed with leukemia and passed away tragically.
6. What is the lasting legacy of the 1959 team? Inspiration, a powerful story of perseverance, and a significant moment in college football history.
7. What sources were used to write this book? Extensive research including interviews, archival materials, game records, and newspaper articles.
8. How does this book differ from other accounts of the 1959 season? A deeper dive into the social context, personal stories, and the lasting legacy.
9. Who is this book for? Football fans, history buffs, those interested in the Civil Rights Movement, and anyone who enjoys inspiring underdog

stories.

Related Articles:

1. Ernie Davis: The Heisman Trophy Winner's Life and Legacy: A biography focusing on Ernie Davis's life, both on and off the field.
2. Ben Schwartzwalder: The Coach Who Shaped a Legend: A profile of the Syracuse coach and his impact on the 1959 team.
3. The 1959 Syracuse Orangemen: Game-by-Game Analysis: Detailed breakdowns of each game, highlighting key plays and strategic decisions.
4. Syracuse Football in the 1950s: A Historical Overview: A broader look at Syracuse football during the decade.
5. The Impact of the Civil Rights Movement on College Sports: An exploration of the social and political climate surrounding college sports in the 1950s and 60s.
6. The Media's Portrayal of Ernie Davis: Race, Fame, and Legacy: A critical analysis of media representations of Ernie Davis.
7. The Syracuse Orangemen's Undefeated Season: A Statistical Deep Dive: A detailed statistical analysis of the team's performance in 1959.
8. The Lasting Impact of Ernie Davis on Syracuse University: How Davis's legacy continues to shape the university.
9. Remembering the 1959 Syracuse Orangemen: Oral Histories and Fan Memories: First-hand accounts from players, coaches, and fans who witnessed the season.

Additional Resources

What Happened In 1959 - Historical Events 1959 - EventsHistory

What happened in the year 1959 in history? Famous historical events that shook and changed the world. Discover events in 1959.

1959 Fun Facts, Trivia and History - Pop Culture Madness

A 1959 earthquake in Montana caused an 80 million ton landslide that created

Quake Lake by blocking the Madison River in the Gallatin National Forest. 28 people were killed.

1959 Archives | HISTORY

Discover what happened in this year with HISTORY's summaries of major events, anniversaries, famous births and notable deaths. On January 1, 1959, facing a popular revolution spearheaded ...

1959: The Year That Changed Everything - CBS News

Jan 3, 2010 · Now, consider the year 1959. Could that really be a year that changed everything? The last year of the fifties, a decade whose image is all but etched in stone: men in grey flannel ...

The Hangman (1959) - IMDb

Robert Taylor come across as a real dick to Tina Louise and is way too old for her. But she won't identify ex-boyfriend Johnny who's run a straight and productive life since being an unknowing ...

The 1959 HITS ARCHIVE - Alphabetically by Song Title (MusicProf)

Arranged in song-title order, this is one of the45prof's three* differently-structured playlists of 1959 popular music, as reflected in record sales, jukebox...

25 greatest films of 1959 - IMDb

List your movie, TV & celebrity picks. 1. The 400 Blows. A young boy, left without attention, delves into a life of petty crime. 2. Some Like It Hot. 3. North by Northwest.

1959: what happened that year? | TakeMeBack.to

Discover what 1959 was famous for, Key World Leaders of 1959, 1959 Time's Person of the Year, the #1 song, movie and book in 1959, how old is someone born in 1959 and what Chinese zodiac ...

World History Timeline, 1959

Jan 13, 2025 · Jan 3 Alaska becomes the 49th US state. Jan 8 Fidel Castro flows into Havana greeted by jubilant crowds. The Eisenhower administration recognizes Castro's new government. ...

1959 United States elections - Wikipedia

Hawaii statehood referendum, held as part of the Hawaii Admission Act of 1959 for Hawaii on June 27, 1959 which was approved by voters. Later on August 21, 1959 President Eisenhower signed a ...

What Happened In 1959 - Historical Events 1959 - EventsHistory

What happened in the year 1959 in history? Famous historical events that shook and changed the world. Discover events in 1959.

1959 Fun Facts, Trivia and History - Pop Culture Madness

A 1959 earthquake in Montana caused an 80 million ton landslide that created Quake Lake by blocking the Madison River in the Gallatin National Forest. 28 people were killed.

1959 Archives | HISTORY

Discover what happened in this year with HISTORY's summaries of major events, anniversaries, famous births and notable deaths. On January 1, 1959, facing a popular revolution ...

1959: The Year That Changed Everything - CBS News

Jan 3, 2010 · Now, consider the year 1959. Could that really be a year that changed everything? The last year of the fifties, a decade whose image is all but etched in stone: men in grey ...

The Hangman (1959) - IMDb

Robert Taylor come across as a real dick to Tina Louise and is way too old for her. But she won't identify ex-boyfriend Johnny who's run a straight and productive life since being an unknowing ...

The 1959 HITS ARCHIVE - Alphabetically by Song Title (MusicProf)

Arranged in song-title order, this is one of the45prof's three* differently-structured playlists of 1959 popular music, as reflected in record sales, jukebox...

25 greatest films of 1959 - IMDb

List your movie, TV & celebrity picks. 1. The 400 Blows. A young boy, left without attention, delves into a life of petty crime. 2. Some Like It Hot. 3. North by Northwest.

1959: what happened that year? | TakeMeBack.to

Discover what 1959 was famous for, Key World Leaders of 1959, 1959 Time's Person of the Year, the #1 song, movie and book in 1959, how old is someone born in 1959 and what Chinese ...

World History Timeline, 1959

Jan 13, 2025 · Jan 3 Alaska becomes the 49th US state. Jan 8 Fidel Castro flows into Havana greeted by jubilant crowds. The Eisenhower administration recognizes Castro's new ...

1959 United States elections - Wikipedia

Hawaii statehood referendum, held as part of the Hawaii Admission Act of 1959 for Hawaii on June 27, 1959 which was approved by voters. Later on August 21, 1959 President Eisenhower ...

1959 Syracuse Football Team

1959 Syracuse Football Team

Related Articles

- [1965 market street san francisco](#)
- [1963 los angeles dodgers](#)
- [1st appearance of rocket raccoon](#)

[Back to Home](#)