

# FINDING THE UNDERDOG

A QUEST  
TO BE THE BEST

A SPORTS DOCU-SERIES

By PaintBox Labs  
& NZone Sports Management Agency

HOSTED BY **JEAN-JACQUES TAYLOR**  
Award-Winning Journalist & Storyteller



FINDING THE  
**UNDERDOG** SERIES LOGLINE

**Most of the drama happens off the field**

This docu-series discovers under-represented athletes in unexpected places, up against seemingly insurmountable odds, and follows their unique journey as they grow from underdogs into champions.





FINDING THE  
**UNDERDOG** SERIES SYNOPSIS

These are the stories of of undiscovered stars, high school standouts, college athletes, and coaches from across all sports who dream of reaching the highest level – only a select few underdogs can defy the odds to emerge as legends.

Ultimately, these are universal stories of passion and possibility, overcoming hardship and fueling quests to be the best, whether that's defined by skill, self-actualization, fame, or fortune.

# FINDING THE UNDERDOG TONE

The series is a well-crafted, smartly produced, unvarnished look at all levels of athletics.

Despite the challenges we reveal, these are positive, uplifting stories of introspection, reassessment, and re-invention.

This series will be a source of captivating inspiration for aspiring coaches and athletes of all generations. These positive messages help to humanize people too often judged solely by numbers and stats, as they rise above expectations to find their individual paths in sports (and life) regardless their personal circumstances.



FINDING THE  
**UNDERDOG** THE PILOT

**Meet Qwan'Tez Stiggers** - post production

Raised as one of 13 siblings who, despite the odds, rose to become a multi-position stand out on his high school football team. Unfortunately, his charter school was so small that his efforts went little noticed by media and major colleges. Qwan'Tez accepted a scholarship to Lane College, a small HBCU in Jackson, TN.

In his freshman year, before getting a chance to play a single down he was devastated by the tragic death of his father and withdrew from college. Dashing his NFL dreams.

No one goes to the NFL without college.





FINDING THE  
**UNDERDOG** THE PILOT

**We find Qwan'Tez** as a full-time semi-truck washer recovering from depression and follow him as he goes on a ground-breaking journey from an indoor FCL to the Canadian National Football League. Winning rookie of the year there, coaches sought to change the rules to allow him to play in the East-West Shrine Bowl and his then own NFL scout-attended Pro Day at his high school, another first.

As the NFL Draft takes place in Detroit, we film Qwan'Tez and his family watching from home in Atlanta, waiting to see if the his underdog story becomes a dream: an NFL team calling his name.

Spoiler: Qwan'Tez becomes a New York Jet, and one of just 3 players to be drafted without college experience.

# FINDING THE UNDERDOG

## WHO WILL YOU MEET

### **Kwanna Stiggers** | Supporting

Meet Kwanna Stiggers, Qwan'Tez's unbelievably supportive mother in a blended family of 13 children with 4 sons being her biological children. It was her well-honed mother's intuition and insight that allowed her to imagine better for her uniquely talented but severely depressed son. He'd given up his NFL dreams after the untimely death of his father, Rayves Harrison. She never did.

### **Qwantayvious Stiggers** | Supporting

Meet Qwantayvious Stiggers, the eldest brother of Qwan'Tez and biggest influence in his life outsider of his mom.

### **Cheyenee McClain** | Supporting

Meet Cheyenee McClain, the fiancée of Qwan'Tez and mother of his 2-year old son.

### **Coach Bernard Goodrum** | Supporting

Meet Bernard Goodrum, head football coach at B.E.S.T. Academy, a small charter school in Atlanta that had only 27 players on its football team when Qwan'Tez played for him.

### **Frederick Lyles** | Supporting

Meet Frederick Lyles, a sports agent & owner of NZone Sports Management that represents Qwan'Tez Stiggers. He has represented Pro Bowl and All-Pro corners in the past such as AJ Bouye and Chris Harris. Frederick believes Qwan'Tez is just as good as those guys were, and that speaks to what his abilities are at this stage of the game.



# FINDING THE UNDERDOG

## WHO WILL YOU MEET

### **Coach John Jenkins** | Supporting

Meet John Jenkins, who coached Stiggers in the FCF and who was also a former assistant coach on Toronto Argonauts of the Canadian Football League. He recognized Qwan'Tez's special ability and lobbied for his former team to give a kid with no college experience a shot.

### **Eric Galko** | Supporting

Director of Football Ops, Player Personnel (East-West Shrine Bowl) at Shriners Hospitals for Children

### **Coach Josh Bell** | Supporting

Former Toronto Argonauts defensive back coach and now with the Saskatchewan Roughriders.

### **Kingsley Duah** | Supporting

Fashion Stylist & Owner of Privélege

### **Ken Owens** | Supporting

Hip-Hop Artist & Music Producer

### **Vince Magri** | Supporting

Toronto Argonauts assistant general manager

### **Reggie McKenzie** | Supporting

Miami Dolphins Scout

### **Jarrett Bell** | Supporting

Reporter at USA Today



# FINDING THE UNDERDOG

## EPISODE #1 FORMAT

In each episode viewers will:

1. Be introduced to the featured athlete or coach;
2. Learn the featured person's personal backstory;
3. Tour their respective universities, their locations, reputations, and the specific programs in which each coach/athlete participated;
4. See interviews with coaches, athletes, and key supporting characters in their stories (i.e., parents, former teammates, coaches, press, etc.);
5. See the pivots of the coaches and athletes' lives with day-in-the-life type footage;
6. Learn the seminal events that changed the trajectory of the athletes' career;
7. Be introduced to the community projects and charitable events that the coaches and/or athletes will support.



FINDING THE  
**UNDERDOG**

SHOW CROSS

Last Chance U meets Hard Knocks meets Coach Prime

**N** SERIES

**LAST CHANCE U**

Revealing authentic sports stories in a candid format

**HBO** ORIGINAL

**HARD KNOCKS**

Rookies' adjustments to playing in the NFL

AMAZON ORIGINAL

**COACH PRIME**

An undefeated season filled with historic moments and personal crisis



# FINDING THE UNDERDOG

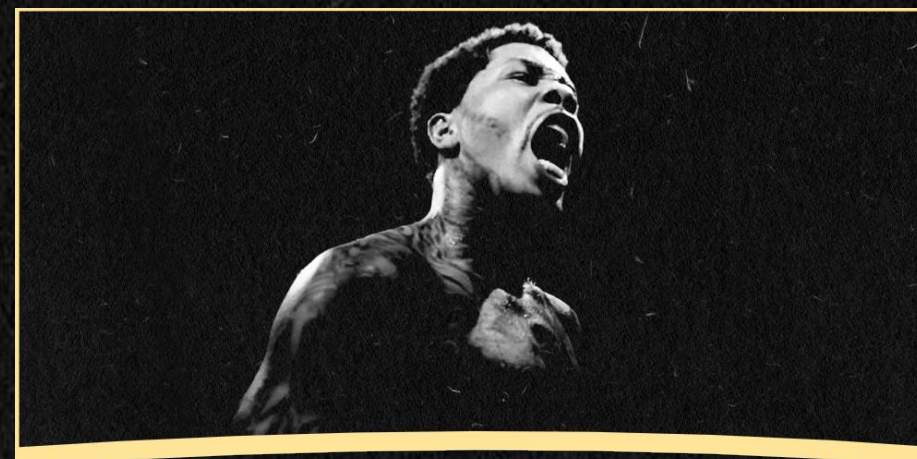
## FUTURE UNDERDOG STORIES



### **Ashley Shaw**

Shaw, 15, is one of the best young golfers in the country. She recently qualified and played in her first LPGA tournament.

At 13, she won the inaugural Curry Cup, a tournament created by NBA's Steph Curry to promote and inspire young golfers of color. Shaw's ranked in the top five in junior golf in the state. She drives the ball 320 yards plus.



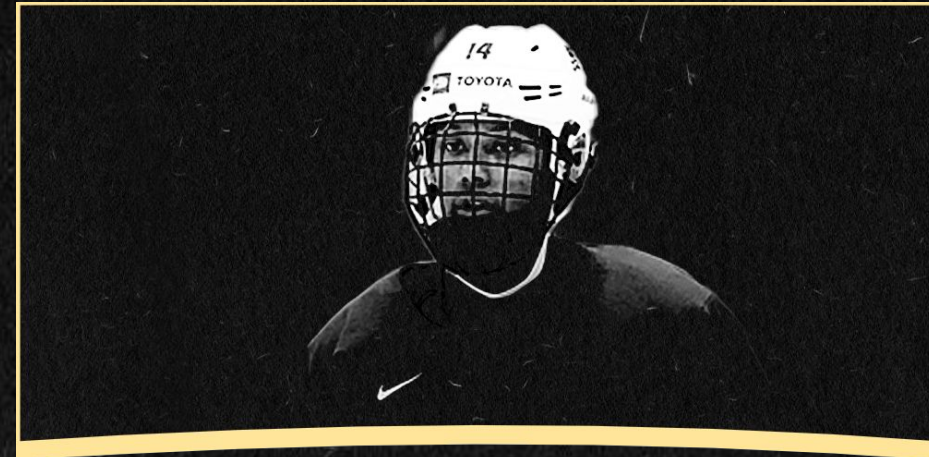
### **Gervonta "Tank" Davis**

He's a champion now, but it wasn't always so. Davis rose from humble beginnings as a child in foster care among the poverty and violence in Baltimore to become the best pound-for-pound boxer in the world.

Currently Tank's record is 29-0, with 27 of those wins coming by knockout.



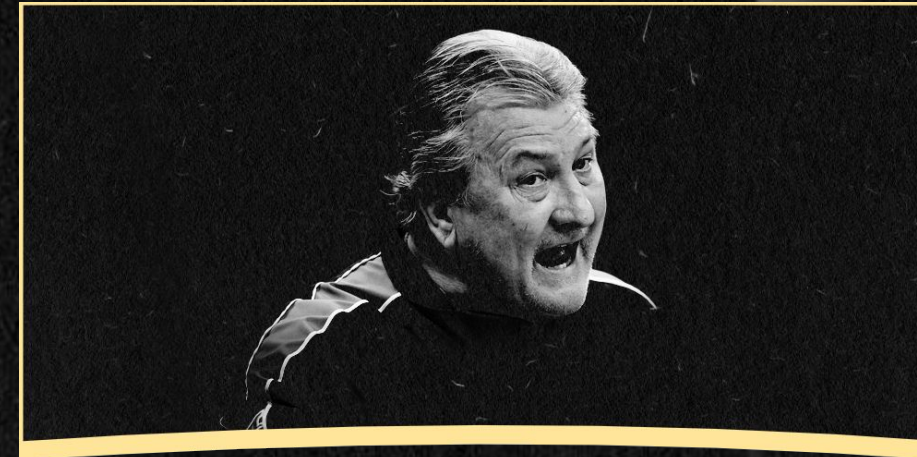
## FUTURE UNDERDOG STORIES



### **Laila Edwards**

Edwards made history last fall when she became the first Black woman to play for Team USA hockey, which will earn her a sport on the USA Olympic team.

Edwards led Wisconsin last year to an NCAA women's hockey title.



### **Bob Huggins**

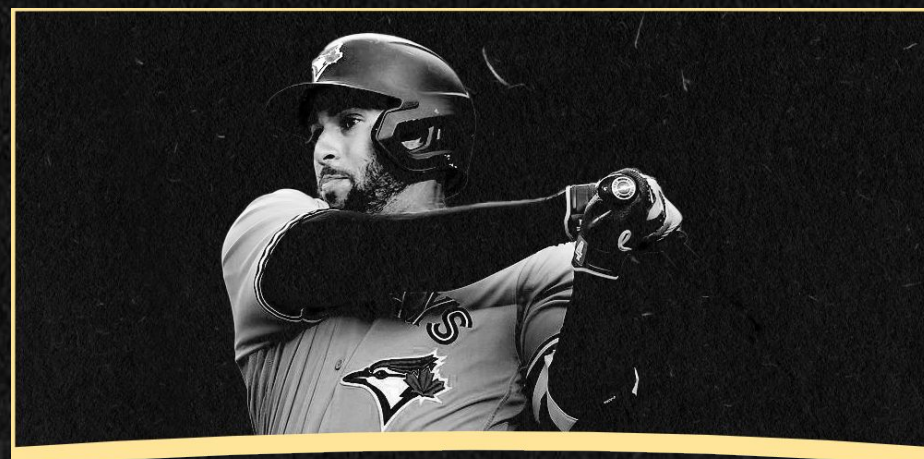
Huggins is No. 3 in all-time wins by Div. 1 men's college basketball coaches.

He was forced out by West Virginia last season. He hopes to comeback to chase the top spot in all time wins.



# FINDING THE UNDERDOG

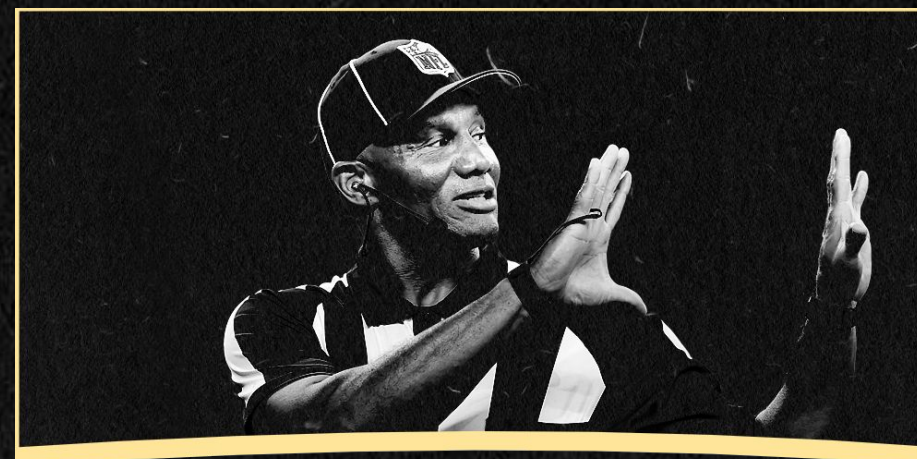
## FUTURE UNDERDOG STORIES



### **George Springer**

Springer, outfielder for the Toronto Blue Jays, enters this season coming off one of his worst seasons in a decade. He'll be 35 this year, but as the lead off hitter, he'll be the key to the Blue Jays success this season.

Springer, a former World Series champion and MVP, grew up with a stutter and he's a big advocate in helping children overcome stuttering.



### **Terry Killens**

Killens became the first man to play and referee in the Super Bowl.

He became a referee despite the sudden death of his wife, which meant he had to raise five children as a single parent.



# FINDING THE UNDERDOG

## FUTURE UNDERDOG STORIES



### **Morelle McCane**

McCane, 29, is the oldest boxer on the Team USA boxing Olympic team.

McCane didn't begin boxing until she was a senior in high school but she briefly left the sport after the death of her brother.



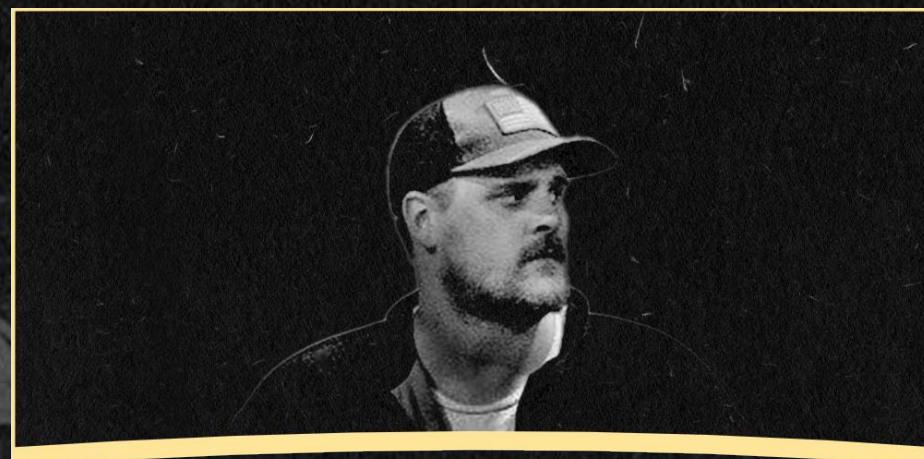
### **Xaivian Lee**

Lee is a sophomore point guard for Princeton. Lee, a Toronto native, attends an Ivy League school, but has drawn the attention of the NBA.

Out of high school, he was stereotyped because he's Asian and because of his slim frame at 6-foot-3.

# FINDING THE UNDERDOG

## FUTURE UNDERDOG STORIES



### Joseph Dean Patrick

Joseph Dean Patrick was a standout high school lacrosse player who attended the University of Louisville and played lacrosse for 2 years. Following college life and extensive travels overseas, Joe returned home to St. Louis to take over the family's welding business. He also stepped back into his love for auto racing, which he inherited from his father Doug who introduced the sport to him at the young age of 6.

With the support from his father, watch Joe compete on clay and asphalt tracks in his pursuit to race in NASCAR.

### Racing Schedule

*Subject to change based on weather and other commitments*

- 6/14/24 - Tri-city Speedway
- 6/15/24 - Federated Auto Parts I-55 Raceway
- 6/16/24 - Lincoln Speedway
- 6/21/24 - Brownstown Bullring
- 6/22/24 - Federated Auto Parts I-55 Raceway
- 7/3/24 - Benton Speedway
- 7/5/24 - Brownstown Bullring
- 7/6/24 - Federated Auto Parts I-55 Raceway
- 7/11/24 - Brownstown Bullring
- 7/12/24 - Tri-City Speedway
- 7/13/24 - Federated Auto Parts I-55 Raceway
- 7/20/24 - Federated Auto Parts I-55 Raceway
- 7/27/24 - Federated Auto Parts I-55 Raceway
- 8/2/24 - Brownstown Bullring
- 8/3/24 - Federated Auto Parts I-55 Raceway
- 8/10/24 - Federated Auto Parts I-55 Raceway
- 8/16/24 - Brownstown Bullring
- 8/17/24 - Federated Auto Parts I-55 Raceway
- 8/23/24 - Tri-City Speedway
- 8/24/24 - Federated Auto Parts I-55 Raceway
- 9/6/24 - Brownstown Bullring
- 9/7/24 - Federated Auto Parts I-55 Raceway
- 9/13/24 - Brownstown Bullring
- 9/14/24 - Federated Auto Parts I-55 Raceway
- 9/26/24 - 9/28/24 - **B-Mod Nationals at Brownstown Bullring**
- 10/17/24 - 10/19/24 - B-Mod Bash at Tri-City Speedway

# FINDING THE UNDERDOG

## THE GIVE BACK

Finding The Underdog: will support **Project54Tour**, a non-profit community aid program that leverages the arts, entertainment and sports to help at-risk youth and young adults. Finding The Underdog will introduce three (3) community initiatives as part of the series:

- 1) **"The GEAR Project"** (Giving Every Athlete the Resources) is a giveback program to help accelerate the growth of sport by supplying young athletes and schools with equipment and training.
- 2) **"Back at Zero"** is a national financial literacy tour campaign that focuses on enriching, mentoring, and helping educate individuals in STEM, music arts, and financial literacy through entrepreneurship.
- 3) **"FTU Golf Clinics"** will be conducted by Ashley Shaw in partnership with youth-focused community organizations, as she travels the country on the golf tournament circuit. Clinics will introduce underrepresented youth to the sport.

PROJECT 54TOUR™

THE  
GEAR  
PROJECT



BACK AT ZERO



# FINDING THE UNDERDOG INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Finding the Underdog will help support student athletes who participate in its hands-on incentive program by preparing and providing means for them to receive compensation for NIL deals for product endorsements, participation in charitable events and through sales of custom-branded merchandise and dynamic digital collectibles.



FINDING THE  
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**THANK YOU**

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