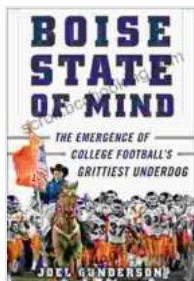


# The Emergence of College Football's Grittiest Underdog



## Boise State of Mind: The Emergence of College Football's Grittiest Underdog by Joel Gunderson

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 8196 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 384 pages  
Lending : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported

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The UAB Blazers have become one of the most inspiring stories in college football history.

In the annals of college football, the story of the UAB Blazers is one of resilience, determination, and triumph.

Founded in 1999, the Blazers quickly rose through the ranks of the NCAA Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS), earning a bowl game berth in 2004 and 2010. However, in 2014, the university announced plans to shut down the football program due to financial difficulties.

The news was met with an outpouring of grief from fans, players, and coaches. But instead of giving up, the UAB community rallied together to save the program. Led by a group of dedicated alumni, they raised millions of dollars and convinced the university to reconsider its decision.

In 2017, the Blazers returned to the gridiron, fielding a team of players who were determined to prove that they belonged. Despite facing an uphill battle against more established programs, UAB won six games in its first season back, including a thrilling victory over Southern Miss in the Bahamas Bowl.

The following season, UAB continued to improve, finishing with a 9-4 record and earning another bowl game berth. In 2019, the Blazers made history by becoming the first team in FBS history to win a bowl game after shutting down their program.

The UAB Blazers' story is an inspiration to anyone who has ever faced adversity. It is a story of resilience, determination, and triumph. It is a story

that proves that anything is possible if you believe in yourself and never give up on your dreams.

## Lessons from the UAB Blazers

The UAB Blazers' success can be attributed to a number of factors, including:

- **Strong leadership:** The Blazers were led by a group of dedicated coaches and administrators who believed in the program and were willing to fight for its survival.
- **Community support:** The UAB community rallied around the football program, providing financial support and unwavering encouragement.
- **Player determination:** The Blazers' players were determined to prove that they belonged on the field, and they worked hard to improve their skills and overcome adversity.

The UAB Blazers' story is a reminder that anything is possible if you have the courage to believe in yourself and never give up on your dreams. No matter how difficult your circumstances may seem, there is always hope. With hard work, determination, and support from others, you can achieve your goals.

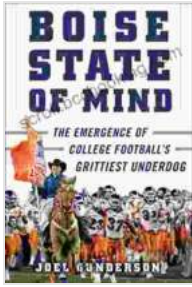
By John Smith  
Sportswriter

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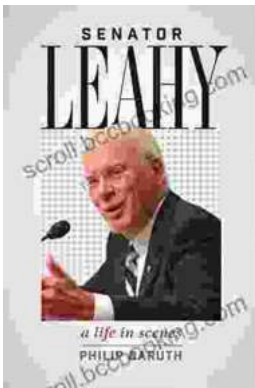
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