

Great Jack Yates Synopsis

Although numbers have declined in recent years, High School football in the State of Texas remains as the #1 participation high school sport in the largest state in the country. High School football in Texas has been in the national sports discussion for more than 50 years, from the best-selling book and television series, "Friday Night Lights" highlighting Texas football powerhouse, Odessa Permian High School, to the feature film and ESPN 30 for 30 feature on Dallas Carter High School.

Every Friday night during the Fall in Texas, millions of Texans travel to football stadiums across the state, near and far, to watch Texas High School Football. During the State Playoffs, crowds reach as many as 52,000 for Texas High School games.

Every weekend, Texas High School Football games are broadcast live nationally on ESPNU and Fox Sports Southwest, and statewide on numerous local television stations across the state. Texas High School teams are consistently among the top-ranked high school football teams in the country, and more than 600 high school football players from Texas have eventually played in the NFL.

It is against this backdrop that we have produced the documentary "The Great Yates: Thursday Night Lights and the Magical Season."

"The Great Yates" is a documentary highlighting the 1985 high school football season of Jack Yates High School in Houston, Texas. Yates, a perennial Texas High School football power, and one of the few remaining Historically Black High Schools in Texas history, had challenged for State Championship honors for years but had failed to win it all. In 1985, they launched a team that steamrolled the State 5A Division in historic fashion. In order to achieve their historic season, they would have to beat the reigning kings of Texas Football, the Odessa Permian Panthers of "Friday Night Lights" fame.

Jack Yates' 1985 season has been hailed as the greatest single season in the history of Texas high school football in the 5A Division. Yates' 1985 team finished #2 in the Nation and is ranked in the top 10 High School Teams All-Time.

Jack Yates High School was voted Texas High School Football "Team of the Decade for the 1980s" by the Houston Chronicle and Dave Campbell's Texas Football, the bible of high school football in the State of Texas.

Having seen the tremendous media successes of both "Friday Night Lights" and "The Dallas Carter Story," we truly believe that "The Great Yates: Thursday Night Lights & The Magical Season" has a tremendous national appeal and marketing potential, especially given the fact that Yates was voted "Team of the Decade of the 1980s" in the State of Texas in the SAME decade in which the Odessa Permian team of "Friday Night Lights" and the famous Dallas Carter team of 1989 played.