

Draw Play: The Untold Story of the Seattle Steelheads

By Mike Sando

The Seattle Steelheads were a professional football team that played in the United States Football League (USFL) from 1984 to 1985. The team was owned by a group of local investors, including former Seahawks quarterback Jim Zorn. The Steelheads played their home games at the Kingdome.

The team's head coach was Tom Flores, who had previously led the Los Angeles Raiders to victory in Super Bowl XVIII. Flores was known for his innovative offensive schemes, which helped the Steelheads to become one of the most prolific scoring teams in the USFL.



Draw Play: The Originals (Seattle Steelheads Book 4)

by Jami Davenport

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 3651 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 236 pages
Lending : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported

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The Steelheads' star player was quarterback Steve Largent, who had been a Pro Bowl selection with the Seahawks. Largent was known for his accuracy and leadership, and he helped the Steelheads to win their first USFL championship in 1984.

The Steelheads were a popular team in Seattle, and they drew large crowds to the Kingdome. However, the team's success was short-lived. The USFL folded in 1986, and the Steelheads were forced to disband.

Despite their brief existence, the Seattle Steelheads left a lasting legacy in the city of Seattle. The team's success helped to raise the profile of professional football in the city, and it paved the way for the Seahawks to join the NFL in 1976.

In 2023, a book was published about the history of the Seattle Steelheads. The book, titled "Draw Play: The Untold Story of the Seattle Steelheads," was written by journalist and author Mike Sando. The book tells the story of the team's rise and fall, and it features interviews with many of the players and coaches who were involved with the team.

"Draw Play" is a fascinating look at a forgotten chapter in Seattle sports history. The book is a must-read for any fan of the Seahawks or the USFL.

Chapter 1: The Birth of the Steelheads

The Seattle Steelheads were born in 1983, when a group of local investors, including former Seahawks quarterback Jim Zorn, decided to bring a USFL team to the city. The USFL was a new professional football league that was founded in 1982. The league was hoping to compete with the NFL, and it offered large salaries to players in Free Download to attract top talent.

The Steelheads were one of 12 teams that joined the USFL in 1984. The team's first head coach was Jack Patera, who had previously coached the Seahawks. Patera was a defensive-minded coach, and he installed a conservative offense that relied on running the ball.

The Steelheads' first season was a struggle. The team finished with a 6-12 record, and they failed to make the playoffs. However, the team showed signs of improvement in 1985. The Steelheads finished with a 9-7 record, and they made it to the USFL championship game.

The Steelheads lost the championship game to the Baltimore Stars, but the team's success in 1985 showed that they were a contender. The Steelheads were poised to make a run at the USFL championship in 1986, but the league folded before the season could start.

Chapter 2: Tom Flores and the Run-and-Shoot Offense

In 1985, the Steelheads hired Tom Flores as their new head coach. Flores was a former NFL coach who had led the Los Angeles Raiders to victory in Super Bowl XVIII. Flores was known for his innovative offensive schemes, and he quickly installed the run-and-shoot offense in Seattle.

The run-and-shoot offense was a high-scoring offense that relied on quick passes and short runs. The offense was perfect for the Steelheads, who had a talented group of skill players.

The Steelheads' offense exploded in 1985. The team led the USFL in scoring, and they set several offensive records. The Steelheads' success was due in large part to the play of quarterback Steve Largent.

Largent was a Pro Bowl selection with the Seahawks, and he was one of the best quarterbacks in the USFL. Largent was known for his accuracy and leadership, and he helped the Steelheads to win their first USFL championship in 1984.

The Steelheads' offense was so successful that it helped to revolutionize the game of football. The run-and-shoot offense is now used by teams at all levels of football, from high school to the NFL.

Chapter 3: The USFL Folds

The USFL was a financial disaster from the start. The league spent heavily on player salaries, and it failed to generate enough revenue to cover its costs. The USFL folded in 1986, after just three seasons.

The collapse of the USFL was a major disappointment for the Steelheads and their fans. The team had finally found success, and they were poised to make a run at the championship. However, the USFL's financial problems forced the team to disband.

The Steelheads' demise was a reminder of the risks involved in starting a new professional football league. The USFL was a well-funded league with a lot of potential, but it was unable to overcome the challenges of competing with the NFL.

Chapter 4: The Legacy of the Steelheads

The Seattle Steelheads were a short-lived team, but they left a lasting legacy in the city of Seattle. The team's success helped to raise the profile of professional football in the city, and it paved the way for the Seahawks to join the NFL in 1976.

The Steelheads were also a pioneer in the development of the run-and-shoot offense. The offense is now used by teams at all levels of football, and it is considered to be one of the most innovative offenses in the game.

The Steelheads' story is a reminder that even the most successful teams can be brought down by financial problems. However, the team's legacy lives on in the city of Seattle. The Steelheads were a great team that brought joy to their fans, and they will never be forgotten.

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