

16 IN '16: 2016 SIUE MEN'S SOCCER COUGARS DOCUMENTARY
Jackson Wilson
12/6/16 [RUNS 5:06]

INTRODUCTION

MX: BUILD-UP MUSIC [:00-:33]

NARRATOR: Every year in college sports there is always a team that is destined to write a Cinderella story for the ages.
[:01-:09]

SFX: CROWD CHEERS [:10-:33]

NARRATOR: This year's team was the SIUE Men's Soccer Cougars. They overcame the adversity, defied numerous odds, shocked the experts, and captured the hearts of many. I'm Jackson Wilson, and today we relive the soccer season that changed SIUE forever. This is "Sixteen In Sixteen". [:11-:33]

MX: FADE [:33]

SFX: FADE [:33]

THE JOURNEY TO THE TOURNEY

MX: UPBEAT JAZZ MUSIC [:35-1:10]

NARRATOR: Entering just their sixth season as a Division one team, SIUE Men's Soccer had already set high expectations for themselves. After coming up short in the MVC Championship last season, second-year coach Mario Sanchez looked to take the next step in two-thousand sixteen. [:35-:54]

MARIO SANCHEZ: This year I had a more broad understanding of how we could play together as a team. So, our goal was to strengthen our team chemistry even more while making the new guys fit in with us, as well as improving the fundamentals necessary in order to win even more consistently. [:55-1:10]

MX: FADE [1:10]

MX: SIUE FIGHT SONG INSTRUMENTAL [1:10-1:51]

NARRATOR: The Cougars had another strong regular season, finishing second in the MVC despite having the toughest schedule in the entire conference. They would soon return to the MVC

championship. This time, they flipped the script. Thanks to a late goal from Devyn Jambga (jam-gah), SIUE was on their way to the NCAA Tournament with a win over top-seeded Missouri State. [1:10-1:34]

MVC NETWORK: "For the first time in school history, SIUE has won the MVC Men's Soccer Championship!" [1:34-1:41]

MARIO SANCHEZ: I've been around soccer for a long time, and over the years I have discovered that momentum is the key ingredient in making a playoff run. That is exactly what we had. [1:41-1:51]

MX: FADE [1:51]

ROUND 1 VS. MICHIGAN STATE

MX: INTENSIFIED MUSIC [1:53-3:11]

NARRATOR: And so the Cougars were off to face a Michigan State team that was riding a streak of fifteen straight NCAA Tournament appearances. [1:54-2:03]

MARIO SANCHEZ: We had never been here before, and they had many different ways to beat us. However, that's what we prepared for all year so our guys were ready for this opportunity. [2:03-2:12]

NARRATOR: Michigan State grabbed an early one to nothing lead early in the first half, but the Cougars fought back. All of sudden, with just ten minutes to go, magic happened. [2:12-2:23]

MVC NETWORK: "Oh my goodness! Off the goal post and in! Austin Ledbetter! We have a tie game!" [2:23-2:30]

AUSTIN LEDBETTER: When that shot left my foot, I could feel that I had put sort of a funky spin on it. I thought it was going to go off the post and out, but then by some miracle it just takes this lucky bounce in, like a bank shot in basketball. [2:30-2:43]

NARRATOR: But Ledbetter wasn't done yet. After the Cougars defense forced the match into overtime, he was given the opportunity of his life. A penalty kick for the upset. [2:44-2:55]

AUSTIN LEDBETTER: People have asked me how I felt in that type of situation and I just told them that it was nothing really. I was in a total focus zone and the only thought I had was, "With the luck I'm having today, the soccer gods are hearing us right now and I'm going to make this kick." [2:55-3:11]

MX: FADE [3:11]

MVC NETWORK: "He scores! The Cougars are Indy bound! We've got an upset in East Lansing!" [3:11-3:17]

SFX: CROWD CHEERS [3:11-3:30]

AUSTIN LEDBETTER: It was an experience that I only thought would be a dream. People were crying, people were laughing, hugging me to death. It was the best night of my life, and the best part was we were going to get to do it all over again. [3:17-3:30]

SFX: FADE [3:30]

ROUND 2 VS. BUTLER

MX: FOCUS MUSIC [3:31-4:40]

NARRATOR: With a ten game winning streak under their belt, the Cougars were headed down to Indianapolis for a highly anticipated second round with Butler. [3:32-3:41]

MARIO SANCHEZ: We had already seen Butler very early in the season. We lost to them, but we knew we had improved a lot since that time and we couldn't wait for this game. [3:42-3:50]

MVC NETWORK: "A Sweet Sixteen berth is on the line today!" [3:51-3:55]

NARRATOR: This was going to be another test for the Cougar defense, especially their goalkeeper, Kyle Del Santo (san-toe). [3:56-4:02]

KYLE DEL SANTO: They had me on my toes the entire game. They do a great job in getting the ball inside and they usually have a lot of shots on goal. It was a tough task, but that first match in September gave me a lot of confidence to overcome it. [4:03-4:16]

NARRATOR: The game would be held scoreless, and the Cougars were once again faced with a penalty kick showdown to win the game. This time, it was up to Del Santo to seal the victory. [4:17-4:28]

KYLE DEL SANTO: As I got into my set position, my vision went all blurry for a moment. I decided to take a huge risk and go all out to the right, knowing that I would leave the left side wide open. [4:29-4:40]

MX: CUT [4:40]

KYLE DEL SANTO: All of a sudden, I'm lying on my back with the ball in my hands, getting mobbed. [4:40-4:44]

MX: CELEBRATION MUSIC [4:45-5:06]

MVC NETWORK: "Unbelievable! The Cougars are Sweet Sixteen Bound!" [4:46-4:50]

MARIO SANCHEZ: Just seeing the whole team jumping around and celebrating on the sideline with all our fans, was a thing of beauty. At that moment, tons of people that didn't know about us now did, and that was a testimony to all of the guys. They were the perfect example of what a team of champions is all about. [4:50-5:08]

SFX: CROWD CHEERS [5:02-5:08]

MX: FADE

SFX: FADE [5:08]