



JIM HARSHAW JR.

Revealing Failure as the Path to Success

Success Through Failure Podcast

Action Plan Episode #366

Rudy Ruettiger

Against all odds on a gridiron in South Bend, Indiana, Daniel "Rudy" Ruettiger, in 27 seconds, carved his name into history books as perhaps the most famous graduate of the University of Notre Dame.

As fans cheered "RU-DY! RU-DY!" he sacked the quarterback in the last 27 seconds of the only play in the only game of his college football career. He is the only player in the school's history to be carried off the field on his teammates' shoulders.

In 1993, his life story was immortalized in the blockbuster film, "Rudy." Written and produced by Angelo Pizzo and David Anspaugh, the award-winning team behind "Hoosiers."

Today, Rudy entertains international corporate audiences as a sought-after motivational speaker with a unique, passionate, and heartfelt style of communicating. He reaches school children, university students, and professional athletes with the same enthusiasm, portraying the human spirit that comes from his personal experiences of adversity and triumph. His captivating personality and powerful message of "YES I CAN" stays with his audiences forever.

Rudy joins us in this episode of the Success Through Failure to share, not only his journey to the Notre Dame gridiron, but of getting the movie made despite seemingly insurmountable odds. Don't miss it!

Top Quotes From This Episode

"It's interesting when you find out that all your failures were setups for your successes."

"If you look at yourself from the inside out, not from the outside in, life changes."

"Second chances are important even for the underdog type of guy."

"Don't give up within— that's when it goes south. If you give up, you won't know what's going to happen."

"I don't like failure, but you learn from failure. And it's just fun to know that when you worked through this, you help other people."

Show Notes

This episode touches on the following key topics and ideas:

- **Who is Rudy? (0:46):** The story of Daniel "Rudy" Ruettiger.
- **[Share this episode!](#) (2:19):** Share the podcast on social media by tagging me and using the hashtag #STFpod:
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- **Notre Dame football (2:50):** The expectations of being part of the Notre Dame football team.
- **Chasing the dream (4:10):** Who is Rudy before entering Notre Dame?
- **Mindset matters (7:26):** On facing failures with a "what's wrong with me" attitude.
- **Simple but powerful (11:35):** Habits that are essential to achieve success.
- **Don't give up! (14:14):** How Rudy survived the team despite being an unconventional player.
- **The beginning of something great (19:46):** Rudy recalls what it felt like to finally play for the Notre Dame football team.
- **Off to Hollywood (20:58):** How "Rocky" paved the way for "Rudy."
- **What habits set Rudy apart? (29:12):** "Play later and work now" habits.

What's an action item the listener can take in the next 24-48 hours? (26:57)

- *"Get rid of your goofy thinking by getting rid of your goofy friends."*
- **Addendum (30:44):** Wrestling runs deep in the Ruettiger family.

List of Resources Mentioned in the Episode

Watch:

["Rudy"](#)

["Rudy Ruettiger: The Walk On"](#)

["Rocky"](#)

["Hoosiers"](#)

["Field of Dreams"](#)

Watch how ["Rudy" inspired Kobe](#)

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Rudy Ruettiger

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