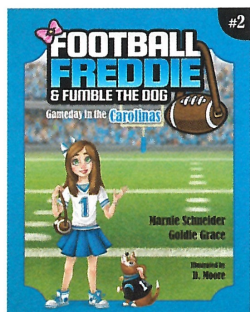


Football Freddie and Fumble the Dog

Marnie Schneider shares sports with children

Marnie Schneider, *Pennsylvania State*, grew up with football. Her grandfather, Leonard Tose, owned the Philadelphia Eagles, and Marnie remembers attending NFL games across the country. “Growing up, I had this incredible opportunity to travel and learn not only about football, but about all these great cities that had professional football teams,” says Marnie.



It was her childhood that inspired Marnie to write a series of children's books teaching children about sports. The series, “Football Freddie and Fumble the Dog,” explores different cities across the country through their football teams. So far, Marnie has published “Football Freddie and Fumble the Dog: Gameday in Philadelphia,” “Gameday in the Carolinas” and, most recently, “Gameday in Atlanta,” which was co-authored with her son, Jonathan Witten.

The books take readers through historic sites, iconic landmarks and — of course — share the excitement of the football game. For Marnie, sports is the universal language because it brings people together.

“Football and sports are a huge part of people coming together,” she says. “These books are a way to share my love for football and traveling, and to encourage families to read together.”

The books are also a way for Marnie to share a cause that is close to her heart: raising money for the Ronald McDonald House. A portion of the proceeds of her books are donated to Ronald McDonald House.

Marnie's connections to this philanthropy are again traced back to her grandfather who helped establish the first Ronald McDonald House in Philadelphia in 1974. She also has a deeply personal connection to supporting parents and children with cancer and other serious illnesses. Marnie's son, Jonathan, was



diagnosed with neuroblastoma cancer before he was even a year old.

Marnie shares, “If you're not diagnosed in the first 13 months, it becomes a much harder disease to cure. Luckily, he got diagnosed early, had surgery immediately to remove the tumor and underwent chemotherapy.”

Unable to walk or talk until he was five years old, Jonathan would go on to play varsity high school football and is now a thriving college freshman.

In addition to supporting Ronald McDonald House, Marnie continues to carry on her family's philanthropic legacy as the founder of the Keep On Playing Foundation. The organization gives underprivileged children the opportunity to learn confidence, leadership and the importance of teamwork through sports.

Marnie has found a wonderful network and support system in her Tri Delta sisters, having joined Alpha Phi Chapter at Pennsylvania State University.

“I already knew how to be a good friend, but Tri Delta showed me how to be a great friend — how to be a good listener, empathetic and supportive of other women.” Marnie says she still maintains those friendships she formed in college, even texting or talking to her big sister in the chapter almost every day. “I'm still in touch with those Tri Delta sisters on a daily basis, and I graduated in 1990.”

She adds, “They've been so supportive of the books I'm writing. We've always been a great network for cheering for one another. And as we've gotten older and have had things go on in our lives, being able to support one another is a nice thing.”