

West Jordan Teens Paving the way for Future Football Players

The future of football may be changing, and that may be, in part, due to an all-girls tackle football league in Utah. This league is the only girls tackle-football league in the entire country and soon they could be a household name.



The NFL invited 22 of the more than 600 players to play during halftime at the 2020 Pro Bowl game in Orlando, Florida. Two of those players, Laura Goetz and McKell Collotzi, are West Jordan teens who shared their unforgettable experience with City Council leaders last week.

“You are in the presence of greatness tonight,” said West Jordan Council Member Melissa Worthen, who invited the team to the meeting.

“These ladies are making a big difference across the country.”

The team did have some time to prepare for their big debut, they practiced several times a week at the Real Salt Lake Training Academy and indoor facility. When the day came to pack up and fly to Florida, the girls said they were nervous but ready.

“We also got the opportunity to watch the Pro Bowl practice with all the NFL players,” said 16-year-old Goetz. “Some of our idols were out there and it was super cool to talk to some of them.”

The players said they don’t really remember playing during half-time but could feel the energy from the crowd.

“We had about eight minutes to perform our best plays,” said 17-year-old Collotzi. “After the game everyone was coming up and congratulating us.”

Those eight minutes were something that some of these young women have been dreaming about for years. Goetz and Collotzi want to make it their mission to let everyone know, that football isn’t just a boy’s sport anymore.

“Not only can girls play, they can play up to the levels that boys can,” Goetz said. “The girls league isn’t a dumbed-down, easier version of football. It’s a sport for everyone.”

These girls are paving the way for generations of new players who want to play football, and West Jordan City Council members wanted to recognize them for that.

“I know the reaction that you can get sometimes being a girl who plays football,” said Council Member Worthen. “I want to thank you for representing girls everywhere and being an inspiration to them.”

To learn more about Utah Girls Tackle Football visit: utahgirlstacklefootball.com.