



THE LINDALE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

EDUCATING EVERY CHILD EVERY DAY

COURTNEY SANGUINETTI
DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS
Phone: (903) 881-4008 ext. 1015
Fax: (903) 881-4004
sanguinetticd@lisdeagles.net
www.lindaleeagles.org

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FORMER LINDALE ISD STUDENT PRODUCES NEW FILM SET TO HIT THEATERS

A former Lindale ISD student, Houston Hill, has produced another film called “*12 Mighty Orphans*.” Sony Pictures Classics will open “*12 Mighty Orphans*” on June 11 in Texas and nationwide on June 18. Hill, who graduated from Lindale High School in 1998, produced the film under his Santa Rita Film Co. production company banner.

“*12 Mighty Orphans*” tells the true story of the Mighty Mites, the football team of a Fort Worth orphanage who during the Great Depression, went from playing without shoes—or even a football—to playing for the Texas State Championships. Over the course of their winning season, the underdogs and their resilient spirit became an inspiration to their city, state, and an entire nation in need of a rebound, even catching the attention of President Franklin D. Roosevelt. The architect of their success was Rusty Russell (Luke Wilson), a legendary high school coach who shocked his colleagues by giving up a privileged position so he could teach and coach at an orphanage. Few knew Rusty’s secret: That he himself was an orphan. Recognizing that his scrawny players couldn’t beat the other teams with brawn, Rusty developed innovative strategies that would come to define modern football.

Martin Sheen, Vinessa Shaw, Wayne Knight, Jake Austin Walker, Treat Williams, Ron White, Scott Haze, and Robert Duvall also star in the film. Pic, written by Roberts, Lane Garrison and Kevin Meyer was adapted from Jim Dent’s bestselling book of the same name.

In 2018, Hill also produced a film called “The Iron Orchard.” The film takes place in the 1950s and is centered around the oil industry. Hill currently lives with his wife and son in Hideaway, Texas.

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