

The Jim Thorpe Legacy

A Sac and Fox Indian raised in a tiny settlement in Indian Territory, Thorpe became a nationally and internationally renowned sports figure. Today, Jim Thorpe, who volunteered to serve his country in the military during World War II, stands as a symbol not only of athletic excellence but also of patriotism, courage, and fair play.

The Jim Thorpe Scholarship at The University of North Carolina at Pembroke serves both as a tribute to Thorpe and as a means to insure that deserving students in need of financial assistance can achieve their dream of a college education.

Join us in our efforts to support the intellectual, cultural, and civic education of our students!



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**UNC Pembroke
Office of Development**

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The Jim Thorpe Scholarship



The Best of the Athletic Boys!

**A scholarship for the students of
The University of North Carolina
at Pembroke**

The Jim Thorpe Scholarship at UNCP



A Comprehensive Institution committed to the advancement, growth, and development of its students.

Jim Thorpe (1887-1953) is the greatest athlete in the history of sport. Born in Oklahoma Indian Territory in the year UNCP first opened its doors to educate Native Americans, Jim Thorpe was catapulted to national fame for his All-American feats in football and track and field. Later, he rose to international acclaim for his victories in the decathlon and the pentathlon in the 1912 Olympiad, the only Olympian ever to claim triumphs in both. Still later, he added to his lustre by playing six seasons of Major League baseball while simultaneously emerging as the nation's first—and greatest—professional football star.

Unfortunately, because he had refused to assume an alias while playing summer baseball in North Carolina, first for Rocky Mount and later for Fayetteville, "Big Jim" was forced to forfeit his cherished Olympic awards within months of his hard-earned success. Efforts to reinstate his medals proved successful, and his recast medals were awarded to his family in 1983.

Support for Students

The Jim Thorpe Scholarship was established in 2000. It exists to reward deserving students and to honor "The Greatest Athlete in the World!" Candidates for this award are full time undergraduate students with a demonstrated financial need. Preference is given to students with a declared major and/or an interest in American Indian Studies. Scholarships are awarded in the fall of the year and are renewable.

Presentations

Dr. R. W. (Bob) Reising, Thorpe's biographer and a UNCP faculty member in American Indian Studies since 1971, is available to provide multimedia presentations to school and community groups of all ages interested in the life and achievements of "The Best of the Athletic Boys." Featured in 2000 both on ESPN Sports Television episodes devoted to Thorpe and at the International Festival for Thorpe, Dr. Reising, a three-year Varsity athlete at Michigan State and a former ACC coach and recruiter, possesses special expertise and visuals related to the athlete's stay in and ties to North Carolina, a previously unresearched topic as fascinating as it is rich and revealing. All honoraria for Dr. Reising's presentations go directly to the Jim Thorpe Scholarship Fund. For details, communicate with Dr. Reising at UNCP (910) 521-6485 or the UNCP Office of Development.

How to Give to the Scholarship Fund

The Jim Thorpe Scholarship at The University of North Carolina at Pembroke is in need of funding in order to offer financial assistance to students in need. If you would like to contribute to this scholarship or any other scholarship at UNCP, please complete the information below and send it with your check

Made out to:
UNC Pembroke

For:
The Jim Thorpe Scholarship fund

_____ Yes, I would like to support the Jim Thorpe Scholarship fund with my tax deductible check enclosed.

_____ No, I cannot support the scholarship fund at this time but please send me information about other scholarship opportunities: (include the name of the scholarship or area of interest.)

Name

Address

Phone



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