



Honor the Heroes of the Game, Preserve its History, Promote its Values & Celebrate Excellence EVERYWHERE

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## **EXCLUSIVE SCREENING OF MOTION PICTURE "GREATER" TO TAKE PLACE AT HALL ON SATURDAY** INSPIRATIONAL FOOTBALL FILM ABOUT WALK-ON PLAYER TO HIT THEATERS LATER THIS MONTH

*Hall of Famers **John Randle** and **Aeneas Williams** to  
Participate in Interactive Roundtable Following Film Screening*

**CANTON, OHIO** – An exclusive screening of the major motion picture, **Greater** will take place at the Pro Football Hall of Fame on Saturday, Jan. 16 at noon. The film tells the amazing story of **Brandon Burlsworth** who is considered to be the greatest walk-on in the history of college football (Bleacher Report named him #1 in BCS era).

Burlsworth walked on to Arkansas' football team in 1994 and became a three-year starter at guard for the Razorbacks. He eventually earned All-American acclaim in 1998. His efforts were rewarded when Bill Polian, the Hall of Fame general manager, used the Indianapolis Colts' third round draft pick, 63rd overall, to select Burlsworth in the 1999 NFL Draft. Sadly, Burlsworth never realized his dream of playing in the NFL as he was tragically killed in a car accident just 11 days after the draft.

Following the screening, a special roundtable hosted by Hall of Fame President **David Baker** will feature two Hall of Famers **Aeneas Williams**, a college walk-on himself, and **John Randle**, an undrafted free agent. Randle and Williams will also be joined on the panel by **Marty Burlsworth**, the real life brother of Brandon Burlsworth.

The screening and roundtable are offered at no additional cost and included in the price of admission for all Hall of Fame guests on Saturday. A maximum of 250 seats are available for the screening. Popcorn and drinks

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will be available also. Guests may enter the Hall's Event Center for the movie screening starting at 11:15 a.m. A program will begin at noon followed by the showing of *Greater*. Following the screening, the interactive roundtable will take place from 2:25-3:30 pm.

"I think that sometimes, as fans, we think men like John Randle, Aeneas Williams and Brandon Burlsworth fell out of bed great," Baker commented. "But, the fact is that the journeys of these three special men serve as a tribute to what one can achieve with unwavering passion, drive, and perseverance. The story of Brandon is one of great inspiration, and one that John and Aeneas can certainly attest to firsthand."

Today, The Burlsworth Trophy is an awarded annually to the most outstanding college football player who began his career as a walk-on. This year's recipient was Oklahoma quarterback Baker Mayfield.

Burlsworth turned down D-2 and D-3 scholarship offers to join Arkansas as a walk-on. He earned his degree in Marketing Management and had just completed his master's degree in Business Administration at the time of his death.

*Greater* will be released in theaters later this month on January 29. The inspiring film stars Neal McDonough who plays Brandon's brother Marty Burlsworth. McDonough is known for his work in roles including *Minority Report*, *Band of Brothers*, *Justified*, *Suits* and various *Marvel* films.

The Pro Football Hall of Fame has served as the venue for premieres of numerous football themed films and documentaries including "A Football Life" series and ESPN's recent 30 for 30 film titled "The Four Falls of Buffalo."

**Greater Website:** <http://www.greaterthemovie.com/>

### **About the Pro Football Hall of Fame**

Located in Canton, Ohio, the birthplace of the National Football League, the Pro Football Hall of Fame's Mission is to **Honor the Heroes of the Game, Preserve its History, Promote its Values, & Celebrate Excellence EVERYWHERE.**

Hundreds of thousands of fans from across the globe travel to Canton annually to experience the exciting museum that chronicles America's most popular sport. Millions more are reached through the Hall of Fame's 100-plus special events held annually outside Canton and through the multiple nationally broadcast programs focused on the selection of the newest Class of Enshrinees and the Enshrinement Weekend. This year, the NFL's **Road to Super Bowl 50** began in Canton during the 2015 Enshrinement Weekend and will continue through the election of the Hall's new class of enshrinees on the eve of the Super Bowl in San Francisco. Now in its third year of traveling, **Gridiron Glory: The Best of the Pro Football Hall of Fame** is a large-scale traveling exhibition that presents a panoramic view of pro football's story and includes hundreds of artifacts from the Hall's expansive collection. Gridiron Glory will be showcased at the Triton Museum of Art in Santa Clara, Calif., site of Super Bowl 50, from Jan. 18 - April 3, 2016 and is scheduled for three-month stays at various museums and cultural institutions through 2019. Enshrinees from the Class of 2015 along with numerous other Hall of Fame members received the spectacular **Hall of Fame Ring of Excellence** by Kay® Jewelers during ceremonies held in NFL stadiums during 13 of the 17 weeks of the 2015 NFL

regular season. The **Hometown Hall of Famer™** program presented by Ford honors Hall of Fame heroes with a program and permanent plaque to honor the Hall of Famer's hometown support. Now in its 4th year, the US Army-Pro Football Hall of Fame **Award for Excellence** honors 20 high school students nationally for excellence in community service, academics and athletics. Construction on **HOF Village**, a \$476 million development project, is under way in Canton to transform the Hall of Fame's campus.

For more information about the Pro Football Hall of Fame, please visit [ProFootballHOF.com](http://ProFootballHOF.com); @ProFootballHOF on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube.

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