

Sports & Entertainment

‘This Field Looks Green to Me’ film to examine integration of baseball team in coal mining Appalachian town in the 1950s

BEREA, Ky. and FRANKFORT, Ky., Aug. 30, 2023 /PRNewswire/ -- The executive team of “This Field Looks Green To Me,” a feature film project currently in production, has com-

This film, set in a 1950s coal-mining town with Jim Crow laws still in effect, will engage people across generations by telling a true Appalachian story about kids, baseball, and the power of grassroots action in small-town America. The film's executive producer, Ron Schmidt, explained that KSU, a Historically Black University (HBCU) and BC, a Kentucky college that has been racially diverse since its inception, are ideal recipients for some of the film's profits.

mitted to sharing the profits of the film with Kentucky State University (KSU) and Berea



“This Field Looks Green to Me” film looks at a small town’s baseball team integration in the 1950s. This vintage photo shows members of that team. (Photo/Courtesy: This Field Looks Green To Me.com)

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smalltown America. The film's executive producer, Ron Schmidt, explained that KSU, a Historically Black University (HBCU) and BC, a Kentucky college that has been racially diverse since its inception, are ideal recipients for some of the film's

profits. “Both schools provide both Black and white students from Kentucky, Appalachia, and beyond, tangible opportunities to live together and learn from each other in an educational context, and this aligns perfectly with our

project,” he said.

Kentucky Exemplars

“Both schools recognize that creating and maintaining a racially diverse student body enhances learning for all students,” Schmidt added. Seventy-five percent of the students at BC come from low-income Kentuckian and Appalachian families.

More than half of the student body at KSU are people of color. As an example of this commitment from KSU and BC, Schmidt pointed to the recent formation of a new initiative, the Association for Teaching Black History, in partnership with the Muhammad Ali Center and the Thomas D. Clark Foundation. Schmidt has proposed that Kentucky Governor Andy Beshear recognize BC and KSU as state “Educational Exemplars” for their efforts to advance the best interests of all students in the

state.

This Field Looks Green To Me

One of the central outcomes of the movie will be to engage community mentors in building positive relationships with disadvantaged kids over the course of time. The film is proceeding rapidly toward filming and production, with filming scheduled to begin in Middlesboro and Paducah, KY in 2024.

In addition to telling this powerful story of how community can affect grass-roots change, This Field Looks Green To Me will highlight the beauty of the Appalachian people and their multi-ethnic culture – its mountains and original music.

For information about the film please visit www.thisfieldlooks-greentome.com. To join the effort to recognize these educational exemplars, please contact Schmidt at ronschmidt81@gmail.com or 216-255-1892.

NFL teams up with Interscope Geffen A&M Records and EA Sports to release ‘Crowd Control’ featuring players performing with artists

Darren Waller, Terron Armstead, Ray-Ray McCloud, DJ Chark, and Melvin Ingram perform alongside artists like Rob49, Jay Rock, That Mexican OT, Lebra Jolie and others on tracks to be featured in Madden NFL 24

NEW YORK, NY and SANTA MONICA, CA (September 5, 2023) – The National Football League (NFL), Interscope Geffen A&M Records, and EA SPORTS, the producer of the iconic video game franchise Madden NFL, announced the extended play (EP), CROWD CONTROL featuring performances of five NFL players. The six-song EP, CROWD CONTROL, is being released today to all digital service providers as well as in Madden NFL 24 via an update to millions of fans around the world. This is the first-time music has been created and performed by NFL players and featured in Madden NFL franchise history.

CROWD CONTROL features Pro Bowler Darren Waller from the NY Giants, whose grandfather was the legendary jazz artist Fats Waller, four-time Pro Bowler Terron Armstead from the Miami Dolphins, Ray-Ray McCloud from the San Francisco 49ers, three-time Pro Bowler and free agent Melvin Ingram and Pro Bowler DJ Chark of the Carolina Panthers. The players perform alongside such hip-hop stars Rob49, Jay Rock, That

Mexican OT, and Lebra Jolie. The album features production from EST Gee and Turbo (Young Thug, Travis Scott, Gunna, Nav, Lil Baby) and GRAMMY Award winner Derrick Milano served as the executive producer.

The impetus for CROWD CONTROL was born out of an NFL Career Tour stop hosted at Interscope Geffen A&M headquarters this past spring. The day-long session featured many of the music industry’s leading executives, interactive listening sessions, and more for some of the league’s players who showed an interest in the business of music. During the visit, several players expressed a desire to record in the company’s state-of-the-art recording studios.

Many of the songs featured on CROWD CONTROL were initially conceived in a songwriting session at IGA Studios in June in which NFL players, producers and artists participated.

“We envisioned NFL Career Tours to create opportunities for players off the field,” said Tracy Perlman, Senior Vice President of Player Operations at the NFL. “The fact that just a few months later, these players have an opportunity to have their music featured in Madden and have an EP on one of the biggest record labels in the world, far exceeded our expectations. It shows what can happen when the NFL aligns with enthusiastic partners who share our vision.”

“The amount of musical creativity and talent coming from these players was truly inspiring,” said David Nieman, Senior Vice President of Sports & Gaming at Interscope Geffen A&M. “We immediately saw the potential to work with these players as artists and our deep relationships with the NFL and with Electronic Arts made CROWD CONTROL, a first-of-its kind EP featuring NFL players, possible. We’re so excited to share this with fans.”

IGA has worked with EA SPORTS in the past to curate their Madden soundtracks, including in 2022 when the two companies teamed up on EA SPORTS Madden NFL 22 soundtrack, which was the first-

ever album release for the game. “I am so excited for the release of “Crowd Control,” Waller said. “I have been in on this project since the beginning, when the NFL invited me to be a part of this special opportunity. I was able to share my creative side with fellow athletes as well as the talented artist and producer Interscope provided for us. I jumped in for a chance to learn the business and came out with a collaboration that will be a game changer.”

“For the past 20-plus years, our Madden NFL soundtracks have been America’s premier destination for new music discovery,” said Steve Schnur, President of EA Music. “By introducing

breakthrough stars, debuting exclusive tracks, and taking superstar artists to the next level, Madden Music has consistently delivered the unexpected. To now have these NFL stars performing in a Madden NFL soundtrack furthers the partnership between sports and culture like never before. It’s a proud moment for EA SPORTS, the NFL, Interscope, EA Music, Hip Hop, and gamers everywhere.”

The EP is available on all DSPs. The music has also been included in an update to Madden NFL 24.

A complete track listing for CROWD CONTROL is below.

CROWD CONTROL

1. “Primetime” – Rob49, Ray-Ray McCloud III, Jay Rock, Melvin Ingram, & J300

2. “Him” – Terron Armstead, That Mexican OT, & Derrick Milano

3. “Cold Now” – Terron Armstead, Ray-Ray McCloud III, & Melvin Ingram

4. “Step” – Ray-Ray McCloud III, Darren Waller, & Terron Armstead

5. “Sweep” – Darren Waller, Terron Armstead, Melvin Ingram, & DJ Chark

6. “No Problems” – Rob49, Lebra Jolie, Melvin Ingram, Darren Waller, Terron Armstead, & Derrick Milano

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Kyle Welcher named Progressive Bassmaster Angler of Year from sports page 3

I am extremely grateful to have my name mentioned with all of the great anglers who have earned this title before me. Gamakatsu hooks were an extremely important element of my success this season,” said Welcher.

Gamakatsu USA Sales Manager Ted Thibault is honored to have Welcher as a member of the team. “Kyle is a very valuable member of our pro team, and we are honored to be a part of his monumental achievement. He is one of the most mentally focused people you will meet and I’m sure he will continue to have tremendous

success in the future.” Ted Thibault, Sales Manager About Gamakatsu USA.

From humble beginnings as Japan’s smallest fishing hook manufacturer in 1955, Gamakatsu Ltd has evolved to become the world’s preeminent hook manufacturer. Over the years, manufacturing upgrades and cutting-edge innovations have fueled Gamakatsu USA’s rise as a top producer of fishing hooks, apparel, and fishing-related items.

For more information, visit WWW.GAMAKATSU.COM

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