

Sports & Entertainment

Whey Jennings releases inspiring remake of Gospel Rocker 'Hallelujah' for the holiday season with a new lyric video

NASHVILLE, Tenn. -November 16, 2023 -- Country singer-songwriter Whey Jennings is set to release a new holiday inspired song, a remake of Leonard Cohen's classic Folk Gospel Rocker, "Hallelujah" this Friday, November 17 by Dirt Rock Empire. Jennings' rich baritone vocals and Southern allure helps solidify his own stamp on Cohen's hit song, which has also been covered by the likes of Jeff Buckley, Willie Nelson and Brandi Carlile. On the track Jennings soulfully projects his own "Hallelujah is a song that saved my life and it continues to save my life everyday," Jennings said. "It has not only brought me closer to God, but it has also allowed me to bring others closer to God. I perform this song night after night at my shows. Hallelujah and Praise the Lord!"



Whey Jennings (left) is shown here with Fox 17's Eric Dahl . (Photo: Jason W. Ashcraft)



personal praise by giving to God for his newfound life of sobriety, while celebrating the upcoming Holiday season and the birth of Jesus Christ.

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Jennings will also roll out his version of the iconic Gospel standard "Amazing Grace" just after the new year, which is due out on January 12 by Dirt Rock Empire. Both songs were recorded and produced in Nashville by Music Producer and composer Gary Carter at GC Music Studio Tennessee.

Remaining 2023 Tour Dates:
 DEC 08 - Sorry Charlies Holiday Bash / New Smyrna Beach, Fla.
 DEC 09 - Blew Bayou Christmas / Fort Pierce, Fla.
 DEC 16 - Mid State Petroleum Christmas Party / Columbus, Mo.

**For Whey's complete tour schedule follow on BandsInTown or visit WheyJennings.com/tour

About Whey Jennings:
 Country singer-songwriter Whey Jennings was born into one of country music's most

iconic family names, as he first emerged in 2012 as another naturally gifted singer from the Jennings tribe. With large boots to fill, the young Dirt Rock Empire recording artist with a booming baritone voice as big as Texas, finds himself with a few expectations to live up to. Seeking to establish his own musical legacy as one of the few remaining torch-bearing country traditionalists out there, Whey can instantly take his fans back to a time and

sound his Grandfather Waylon and Grandmother Jessi gave birth to in the 70's. Whey has two studio recorded EP releases under his belt, 2020's Gypsy Soul and 2022's If It Wasn't for The Sinner, both which revealed musical stories of how Whey was coming to terms with a partying lifestyle, knowing he needed to make a change. On his third EP, *Just Before The Dawn*, released on September 22, 2023, Whey shares more stories about his

struggles with addiction, finding sobriety, and redemption through faith, family and friends. Interjecting his own modern-day approach to songwriting and storytelling, while staying rough around the edges with an unpolished grit and honest demeanor, Whey's musical roots run as deep as his family's name would imply. Whey Jennings has only scratched the surface of what is still yet to come. As they say, what goes around comes around.

NFL Media and Universal Music Enterprises (UME) partner 'Football and Flow' featuring Ludacris, Rakim and Hit Boy

Available Across NFL Network, the NFL App, NFL.com, YouTube & UME's Platforms

INGLEWOOD, Calif. — Nov. 20, 2023 — Fifty years ago, an iconic American art form was born. The emergence of hip-hop forever changed music and culture, leaving its mark on the game of football and captivating generations of fans around the world.

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of hip-hop, NFL Media and UME announce "Football and Flow," a unique crossover content series featuring a trio of hip-hop icons showcasing their love of football and their favorite NFL teams.

This three-episode collaboration showcases hip-hop legends **Rakim, Hit-Boy and Ludacris** recalling their fondest football memories and sharing the roots of their fandom (Rakim with the New York Giants, Hit-Boy with the Los Angeles Rams and Ludacris with the Atlanta Falcons).

The series launches on Friday, Nov. 24 across the NFL App on mobile and connected television, NFL.com, the NFL's YouTube page and the NFL's social handles, as well as UME's platforms. Additionally, each episode will air on various NFL Network programs, with premieres on "Good Morning Football" on the following dates:

Rakim – Friday, Nov. 24
Hit-Boy – Friday, Dec. 1
Ludacris – Friday, Dec. 8
To view the trailer for "Football and Flow," click here.
 Visit the NFL: Football and Flow 'Ultimate Hip-Hop' Apple Music Playlist.

Football and hip-hop have been culturally intertwined for generations, and the 50th anniversary of the genre provides a compelling opportunity to explore the commonalities between generations, regions and personalities whose influence continues to resonate.

"Over the past 50 years, hip-hop has evolved into the leading genre globally and is integrated into every aspect of the football experience," said Walter Brock, director and co-founder of Cross-Ovr Media. "Recording artists, football players and fans share the same competitive spirit, hustle and grit necessary to perform on the world's largest stages and in life."

"Football and Flow" is the latest in a series of NFL activations connected to the larger community of hip-hop and its fans

around the world. In 2022, the Super Bowl LVI Halftime Show became the first hip-hop halftime show and featured an ensemble of legends including Dr. Dre, Snoop Dogg, Eminem, Mary J. Blige, Kendrick Lamar, 50 Cent and Anderson.Paak.

"Hip-hop has served as the soundtrack for generations since its inception," said Shayna Hayes, NFL head of content for entertainment and initiatives. "Football & Flow" is a true celebration of this cross-pollination of music and sports."

Universally referenced as one of the Masters of the Microphone, William Michael Griffin – better known as Rakim – first exploded onto the scene with the release of the iconic "Eric B. is President" in 1986 with longtime collaborator Eric B. The single marked a turning point in the rap world, raising the bar for future emcees and revolutionizing the way rhymes are delivered to this day. His recordings – including classics "Paid in Full," "Follow the Leader" and "The 18th Letter" – have sold multi-millions world-

wide, and publications such as Billboard and Rolling Stone have called "Paid in Full" one of the greatest hip-hop albums of all time. Recently, Rakim was named the No. 1 Lyricist of All Time by The Source magazine, received the coveted BET Lifetime Achievement Award and was nominated to the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame.

Over his more than 13 years in the industry, three-time Grammy-winning producer and artist Hit-Boy has worked with

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UofM to offer Common App Direct Admissions program from sports page 1

The latest iteration of the pilot offered admission to 33,000 students at 14 participating institutions, and over 800 students accepted the offer. Results showed the impacts of the intervention were strongest for Black, Hispanic and first-generation students.

Common App has piloted its Direct Admissions program since 2021, offering admission to students who created a Common App account and provided enough academic information but had not yet completed all their open applications. The latest iteration of the pilot offered admission to 33,000 students at 14 participating institutions, and over 800 students accepted the offer. Results showed the impacts

of the intervention were strongest for Black, Hispanic and first-generation students.

To date, the University of Memphis has extended 3,130 offers to direct admission-eligible applicants. The UofM will release another round of direct-admission offers in the coming weeks.

Nestled in the center of the city, the University of Memphis offers degrees in over 220 areas of study with nearly 50 nationally ranked programs. Students receive the perfect blend of excellence and affordability at an institution that values the student experience. With over 350 student clubs and organizations, Tigers never miss a beat inside or outside the classroom.

For more information about the University of Memphis or the admissions process, visit memphis.edu/admissions.

Watch for The Mid-South Tribune's 29th Annual Black History Month Special Edition coming in Feb. 2024.

