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PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL PLAYERS MOTHERS ASSOCIATION HOST SYMPOSIUM TO PREPARE HIGH SCHOOL PLAYERS & FAMILIES FOR THE NEXT LEVEL UP

“Beginning with The End in Mind”, Gives Players and Parents First-Hand Insight into Collegiate Level Football from NFL Players, Parents, Coaches & NCAA

Columbus, OH – April 21, 2021 We are a few days away from the Next Level Up Symposium “Beginning With The End in Mind,” and the excitement to hear from our panelist and speakers is building. High School football players who have committed to play college ball and their parents will be provided invaluable up-close, first-hand insight and information to help them successfully navigate the path from high school through college and beyond at the Next Level Up: Beginning with the End in Mind,” virtual symposium, held on **Saturday, April 24 2021 from 1:00 P.M. TO 4:00PM Eastern**, the Midwest Region of the Professional Football Players Mothers Association (PFPMA) announced today. Registration is free of charge and is now open to the public.

The goal of Next Level Up is to provide the information necessary to help high school football players make a successful transition to collegiate level football and achieve the best possible outcomes during their college career. Parents and guardians will also benefit from the program as the information will enhance their understanding of the business of collegiate athletics, particularly football. Workshop panelists will consist of NFL active and retired players, coaches, NCAA reps, parents of pro athletes and other professionals who know and understand the college football experience.

The Professional Football Players Mothers Association (PFPMA) was founded in 1997. PFPMA is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization that serves as a support network for mothers of active and retired professional football players, with a mission to impact and strengthen communities around the nation through education initiatives, volunteerism and charitable giving.

“As mothers of current and former NFL players, we remember our sons’ football journey from high school to college and we know first-hand the stress and anxiety they are experiencing planning for college, collegiate athletics and life as an adult in general,” said Gwendolyn V. Jenkins, PFPMA President. “Our goal is to empower families and young athletes aspiring to play at the next level, with information and resources that are important in helping them build a strong foundation for success, in college and beyond,” she added.

Panelists will discuss various topics including, image and reputation; academic support; social media; mental health; NCAA compliance matters; legal matters; branding and marketing.

Panelist and Speakers Include:

Keynote Speakers:

- Nate Salley, Jr, retired Carolina Panther
- Malcolm Jenkins, New Orleans Saints

Professional Football Players:

- Denzel Ward, Cleveland Browns
- DeVier Posey, Retired NFL/CFL
- Myles Garrett, Cleveland Browns
- Maurice Clarett, former NFL,

Current and Former Coaches:

- Coach Jim Bollman, former Michigan State University and Ohio State University

Other panelists:

- Dr. James Borchers, Ohio State Football Team Physician
- Dr. Candice Williams, LPC, The Ohio State University
- Bob Sweeney, Vice President , U.S. Council for Athletes Health
- Trea Heeter, NCAA Assistant Director, Eligibility Center
- Amari McMahon, Former Ohio State Football Player
- Jasmine Ellis, Compliance Officer, Central State University
- Jacquie Jordan, Mother of Michael Jordan, Cincinnati Bengals
- Mary Fisher Nassib, Mother of Carl Nassib, Las Vegas Raiders and Ryan Nassib, Retired NFL
- Rev. Vernon Shazier, Father of Ryan Shazier, Retired NFL
- Rev. Ronald Jones, Father of Daryl Jones, Retired NFL
- Kristen L. Pope, Head of Social Media , Harvard University Division of Continuing Education
- Aaron and Andre Eanes, A&A Marketing
- Chery Foster, Mom of DeShaun Foster
- Nelvon Besses, Student-athlete, Central State University
- Valeria Williams, Football Operations-Policy Compliance & Rules Administration, NFL
- Tre Sullivan, The Sullivan Law Firm, Former Defensive 9, LSU Tigers

Moderators:

- Jay Richardson, Journalist & Sports Analyst, Retired NFL
- Gwendolyn V. Jenkins, PFPMA President and Mother of NFL Safety, Malcolm Jenkins, New Orleans Saints
- Deborah Johnson, PFPMA Midwest Regional Co-Coordinator, Mother of Jay Richardson
- Nicole Ward, PFPMA Midwest Regional Coordinator, Mother of Denzel Ward
- Audrey Garrett, Mother of Myles Garrett, Cleveland Browns
- Kenya Smith, Associate Professor, Southern University Law Center

The event, hosted by PFPMA's Midwest Regional Coordinator Nicole Ward mother of Denzel Ward and Co-Coordinator Deborah Johnson, mother of Jay Richardson, and powered by the Southern University Law Center's virtual platform, will be kicked off with music by DJ Relly Rell, Darrell Newsome and will include prizes and giveaways.

To register for the event visit <https://pfpma.org/next-level-up-symposium-beginning-with-the-end-in-mind/>.

Our social media platforms:

Facebook: @PFPMA

Twitter: @PFPMAMoms

Instagram: @pfpmapr

Website: www.pfpma.org