



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

07/30/2026

MEDIA ADVISORY: INFORMATION ON 2026 PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME ENSHRINEMENT WEEK

CANTON, OHIO – The following information is being provided to present a broad picture of major events and persons involved with the 2026 Pro Football Hall of Fame Enshrinement Week presented by Novartis from Tuesday, Aug. 4, to Sunday, Aug. 9.

Comprising the Class of 2026 are DREW BREES, ROGER CRAIG, LARRY FITZGERALD, LUKE KUECHLY and ADAM VINATIERI.

MEDIA WEBSITE

Media covering the 2026 Pro Football Hall of Fame Enshrinement Week in Canton are strongly encouraged to reference the Hall's Media Site, which will be updated regularly to include the most recent media schedule and other pertinent information and materials.

ProFootballHOF.com/media (Password: **Excellence**)

2026 PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME MEDIA GUIDE

The 2026 Pro Football Hall of Fame Media Guide is available as a PDF on the Hall's main website. [Click here to download.](#)

Information about the Class of 2026 also can be found here:

[Details here.](#)

MEDIA AVAILABILITY – NEW ENSHRINEES

Location: Umstattd Hall – located in McKinley Senior High School (2331 17th street NW Canton, OH 44708)

Details: The enshrinees will be made available to the media on site inside Umstattd Hall from 1 to 3 p.m. ET, Thursday, Aug. 6. [Details here.](#)

CAMPUS MAP / SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

An in-depth schedule and details for each of the events for the 2026 Enshrinement Week [can be found here](#).

[Click here for the Campus Map.](#)

CREDENTIAL PICK-UP

Unless pickup has been arranged with the Pro Football Hall of Fame in advance, ALL Enshrinement Week credentials must be picked up at the Credential Center located at Early College at Lehman Middle School ([1400 Broad Ave NW, Canton, OH 44708](#)).

Credential Pick-Up Hours

Wednesday, Aug. 5	Noon to 3 p.m.
Thursday, Aug. 6	Noon to 8 p.m.
Friday, Aug. 7	10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Saturday, Aug. 8	8 a.m. to noon

HALL OF FAME MEDIA CENTER

A Media Center staffed by personnel from the Pro Football Hall of Fame will be located inside McKinley High School, which is approximately 400 yards from the Pro Football Hall of Fame. Please enter the Media Center through Door 3 (on south side of the high school). The Media Center will NOT be open every day and will have limited hours this year to correspond with the overall schedule of events.

Please present your Enshrinement Week credential to gain entrance to the Media Center.

Hours: *(Subject to change)*

Thursday, Aug. 6	Noon to 120 minutes post-Game (Game clock at 0:00)
Saturday, Aug. 8	10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

2026 NFL BEST PRACTICE POLICY FOR MEDIA

***ALL media carrying a bag that does not conform to the NFL Security Best Practice Policy for clear bags must have their bag screened via X-ray.

Media with bags/briefcases are required to have their bags screened and tagged at the security tent location directly behind the press box entrance at Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium.

This policy will be in place for the Hall of Fame Game and Enshrinement.

MEDIA PARKING

Most media parking will be at the Stark County Fairgrounds, located away from the Hall of Fame's campus. Please plan on allowing yourself extra time to find parking and shuttle to the Hall of Fame. Parking signage is posted throughout the Hall of Fame's campus.

Wednesday, Aug. 5, and Friday, Aug. 7

No Credential Needed For Parking On Campus. Parking can be accessed via Blake Avenue south from Fulton Road. Set your GPS to 1779 Blake Avenue South, Canton, 44708. Parking is in LOT A. (Unity Lot)

Thursday, Aug. 6, Saturday, Aug. 7, and Sunday, Aug. 8

Free parking for the Enshrinement, Game and Concert for Legends is located off campus at the Stark County Fairgrounds. Shuttles will be provided from the Fairgrounds to a drop-off point located near the stadium. There is no charge for the shuttles.

Shuttles will run at the following times to and from the Stark County Fairgrounds:

- Thursday, Aug. 6 – 8 a.m. to 1:30 a.m. (Aug. 7)
- Saturday, Aug. 8 – 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- Sunday, Aug. 9 – 8 a.m. to midnight

Stark County Fairgrounds location [here](#).

MEDIA ACCESS TO THE PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME

Any media may enter the Pro Football Hall of Fame during normal operating hours by presenting a media credential. There will be a separate media entrance located to the right of the main lobby starting Wednesday, Aug. 5.

You do not need to check in with the Hall of Fame's Communications Team. Media are welcome to shoot B-roll and do stand-ups but must be self-contained. Any live shots or other special needs for shooting inside the building need to be coordinated through a member of the Hall of Fame's Communications Team.

Space for remote broadcasts may be arranged by contacting a member of the Hall of Fame's Communications Team.

HOURS FOR THE HALL OF FAME MUSEUM

The Pro Football Hall of Fame Museum is open seven days a week. Hours are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily. From Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day, the museum closes at 7 p.m. Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays. Special hours will be in effect during the 2026 Enshrinement Week (Aug. 5 - 9):

Wednesday, Aug. 5	8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Thursday, Aug. 6	8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Friday, Aug. 7	8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Saturday, Aug. 8	8 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Sunday, Aug. 9	8 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Fans can plan a visit by going to www.profootballhof.com/visit/

ENSHRINEMENT TRANSCRIPTS

Audio and video files of the speeches will be posted on the Hall's media site shortly after the conclusion of each speech. ProFootballHOF.com/media (Password: **Excellence**)

POOL FEEDS FOR ENSHRINEMENT

Media can pull video provided by ESPN via a video press bridge.

The video press bridge output will be HD-SDI with embedded audio. The connections are all BNC (coax).

The Mult-Box to pull the ESPN video feed will be located near the media camera riser platform on the floor of Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium.

PHOTOGRAPHER WORKROOM (Hall of Fame Game and Enshrinement)

A photographer workroom is available for credentialed still photographers and videographers at the Hall of Fame Game and Enshrinement. The entrance to the workroom is located on the field level of Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium at the southwest corner of the end zone (side opposite I-77). Signage will be posted throughout the stadium, directing media to this area. Wi-Fi and power are provided in the room.

ENSHRINEMENT PHOTO WORK AREAS

Photographers and videographers must remain in the outside perimeters of the stadium floor during the Enshrinement. At no time may photographers or videographers enter the seating areas on the floor.

A photo deck for still photographers only will be located at the front of house for the

Enshrinement. The deck will be positioned for a direct angle of the podium on stage. The distance from deck to stage is less than 50 yards.

BACK STAGE PHOTO OP

After each enshrinee finishes his Enshrinement speech, he will be escorted to a stage directly behind the main stage where he will pose with his Hall of Fame Bronze Bust and his presenter. The entire Class of 2026 will pose for one final shot at the conclusion of Enshrinement.

There are **no interview opportunities** in this area, and images will be provided **via pool photographers** from the Hall of Fame, the NFL and the Associated Press.

SEVERE WEATHER PLAN

Media should be aware that the Pro Football Hall of Fame has created a detailed plan for use in the event of inclement weather during Enshrinement.

All efforts will be made to keep Enshrinement on schedule inside Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium. The ceremony would proceed even in the case of rain. If severe weather occurs, Enshrinement would be delayed.

In an extreme case of severe weather, the ceremony would be relocated to Umstattd Performing Arts Hall at McKinley High School. There is very limited space for guests and media.

Should this occur, we ask the media's utmost cooperation in following the instructions that will be relayed at that time. Media members on the floor of the stadium should move to the Media Center, which is located inside McKinley High School.

All media in the press box should remain in that location.

A feed of the Enshrinement would be provided to all these areas.

ENSHRINEMENT WEEK MEDIA EVENT SCHEDULE

Tuesday, Aug. 4

6 p.m. Play Football Skills Camp

Location: ForeverLawn Park

Details: From 6 to 8 p.m. The Play Football Skills Camp, for children ages 10-14, will feature football activities that are designed for all skill levels. Instructors include several members of the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

No credential required.

Wednesday, Aug. 5

10 a.m. Play Football First Play

Location: Opening ceremony - Cleveland Avenue at Second Street SW in downtown Canton | Closing ceremony - Front steps of the Pro Football Hall of Fame

Details: The Pro Football Hall of Fame and several returning enshrinees will celebrate the kickoff of 2026 Enshrinement Week and the NFL's "Play Football" Month from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Featuring a 3-mile-long human chain of area youth stretching from the Frank T. Bow Building in downtown Canton (201 Second Street SW) to the steps of the Hall of Fame.

Photo opportunities are available at the start and finish of this event.

No credential required.

Thursday, Aug. 6

1-3 p.m. Class of 2026 Media Availability

Location: Umstattd Hall – located in McKinley Senior High School (2331 17th street NW Canton, OH 44708) [Details here.](#)

Details: Four members of the Class of 2026 – Drew Brees, Luke Kuechly, Larry Fitzgerald and Adam Vinatieri – will meet the media; exact times in the 1-3 p.m. window for each is still TBD.

Media Information: A mult-box will be available. The Pro Football Hall of Fame will make available video from the event after its conclusion.

Credentials to at least 1 other Enshrinement Week event are required to attend.

3 p.m.

Habitat for Humanity Home Dedication

Location: 1613 Wertz Ave. SW Canton, OH

Details: Several members of the Pro Football Hall of Fame will be joining individuals from partner James Hardie Building Products, Inc., to help at the construction of a Habitat for Humanity home.

No credential required.

8 p.m.

2026 Hall of Fame Game

Location: Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium

Details: Carolina Panthers (visitor) vs. Arizona Cardinals (home) will kick off the National Football League's 107th season.

Field passes for in-game photography are extremely limited. Please contact Rich Desrosiers (Rich.Desrosiers@ProFootballHOF.com; 330-588-3622) for inquiries regarding on-field access during the game.

*Gates open at 6 p.m. ET; media may enter the stadium at **4 p.m.** ET

Credential required.

Hall of Fame Game Integration

Location: Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium

Details: To celebrate girls flag football becoming an officially sanctioned sport in Ohio, local high school girls flag teams will participate in a flag football game. An intrasquad scrimmage will be played on the field during halftime of the Hall of Fame Game.

Game credential required.

Friday, Aug. 7

TIME TBA

Drew Brees' Raising Canes Shift

Location: Raising Canes (5455 Dressler Road NW, North Canton, 44720)

Details: Drew Brees will trade the gridiron for the front counter as he works a "shift" at Raising Cane's. Ahead of the Pro Football Hall of Famer Walk, Brees will be serving meals, meeting fans and celebrating with the community as they gather to honor his Pro Football Hall of Fame induction.

Media are invited to join the celebration **with advance RSVP** and will have the opportunity to attend a news conference with Brees. For more

information or to request a credential for the event, please contact Olivia Berry at oberry4@raisingcanes.com by the end of Thursday, Aug. 6.

10:45 a.m. (approx.) **Pro Football Hall of Famer Walk presented by Smith+Nephew**
Location: Pro Football Hall of Fame, 2121 George Halas Drive NW

Open to media and the public.

Details: A record 117 Hall of Famers plan to attend the 2026 Enshrinement. Hall of Famers on campus Friday will pose for a group photo with the Class of 2026 presented by Visual Edge IT on the front steps of the Pro Football Hall of Fame. The photo will take place sometime between 10:45 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. Open to media and the public.

NOTE: The Hall of Famers, including the Class of 2026, will not be available to the media for interviews during this event.

No special credential is required. Any media identification will allow access to a designated media section for this event.

11 a.m. **Fashion Show**
Location: Canton Memorial Civic Center (1101 Market Ave. N, Canton)

Details: A luncheon and runway show are the featured events.

Credential required.

5 p.m. **Enshrinees' Gold Jacket Dinner**
Location: Canton Memorial Civic Center (1101 Market Ave. N, Canton)

Details: The Enshrinees' Gold Jacket Dinner is highlighted by the presentation of the Hall of Fame Gold Jacket created by Haggard to the Class of 2026.

Media Information: **New class members are not available for interviews.** Space will be very limited. Additional still images will be available via pool photographers. Audio is available via mult box in the Media Workroom. Videos, along with pool photography, will be provided after the event on the Hall of Fame's Media page.

Credential required.

Saturday, Aug. 8

8 a.m.

Grand Parade presented by Certified Angus Beef

Location: Along Cleveland Avenue in downtown Canton

Details: Annual parade featuring the Class of 2026 with returning Hall of Famers, floats, bands and special participants.

Credential required.

Noon

Class of 2026 Enshrinement presented by Novartis

Location: Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium.

*Gates open at 10 a.m. ET

Details: The newest members of the Pro Football Hall of Fame unveil their Bronze Busts, deliver their speeches and formally become members of the sport's most elite fraternity.

Credential required.

3 p.m.
(approx.)

Class of 2026 Bust Placement

Location: Hall of Fame Bust Gallery

Details: The newest members of the Pro Football Hall of Fame place their busts in their forever home. **This event is available only to team media.** Still photos and videos will be provided exclusively via pool coverage.

Sunday, Aug. 9

11 a.m.

Unscripted & Tailgate presented by Employers Health (previously the Enshrinees' Roundtable)

Location: Canton Memorial Civic Center (1101 Market Ave. N, Canton)

Details: Center stage, roundtable presentation featuring members of the Class of 2026.

Credential required.

7:30 p.m.

Raising Cane's Concert for Legends featuring Lainey Wilson with opening act Braxton Keith

Location: Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium

Details: Media will have limited access to the concert as determined by the performers' PR teams.

*Gates open at 6 p.m. ET

Credential required.

ENSHRINEMENT HEADQUARTERS

A full guide to the 2026 Pro Football Hall of Fame Enshrinement Week can be found on the Hall's website. Enshrinement Headquarters is a great resource for fans and the media to access information about all the week's events, schedules, festivities and details quickly. [Click here to view the full guide.](#)

SUGARDALE FAN FEST '26 FOOTBALL, FOOD, MUSIC & FUN

Sugardale Fan Fest '26 is taking over the Pro Football Hall of Fame campus with live music, football fun, food, drinks and surprises at every turn. This event will offer fans a one-of-a-kind opportunity to enjoy foods inspired by all 32 NFL teams, bringing the flavors and traditions of their respective home markets together in a nationwide tailgate celebration. The event is located in the Stadium Park parking lot on the Hall of Fame campus. Witness an incredible fireworks show presented by Rice's Landscapes Redefined on Saturday night.

Admission to Sugardale Fan Fest '26 is free. For more information, [click here](#).

2026 HALL OF FAME GAME: CAROLINA PANTHERS VS. ARIZONA CARDINALS

The Carolina Panthers and Arizona Cardinals will kick off the National Football League's season – in the city where the league was born – in the 2026 Hall of Fame Game on Thursday, Aug. 6, at 8 p.m. ET in Tom Benson Hall of Fame Stadium, adjacent to the Pro Football Hall of Fame.

This will be the sixth trip to Canton for the Cardinals and the second for the Panthers. The Panthers' (1-0) lone appearance came in their inaugural season in 1995, when they faced their fellow expansion franchise, the Jacksonville Jaguars. The Cardinals (1-3-1) first appeared in 1962, a 21-21 tie against the New York Giants, and most recently appeared in 2017, a 20-18 loss to the Dallas Cowboys.

Carolina Panthers (1-0)

1995 – vs. Jacksonville Jaguars (W, 20-14)

St. Louis/Phoenix/Arizona Cardinals (1-3-1)

1962 – vs. New York Giants (T, 21-21)

1974 – vs. Buffalo Bills (W, 21-13)

1986 – vs. New England Patriots (L, 16-21)

2012 – vs. New Orleans Saints (L, 10-17)

2017 – vs. Dallas Cowboys (L, 18-20)

2026 Hall of Fame Game Pregame

The Class of 2026 will be introduced shortly before kickoff. **NOTE: Media who have not been issued an armband may take photos of the gauntlet walk with a special wristband. Contact the Hall of Fame's Communications Team for information.**

CLASS OF 2026 FEATURED EXHIBIT

The Class of 2026 Locker Exhibit, featuring artifacts from the enshrinees' lives and careers, opened earlier this year. Among the artifacts on display are a football highlighting **Drew Brees'** lineage; a signed photograph featuring **Roger Craig**, Bill Walsh and Ronnie Lott; **Larry Fitzgerald's** custom breast cancer awareness cleats; a notebook **Luke Kuechly** used to prepare for opponents and a hammer **Adam Vinatieri** used to "Strike the Anvil" before an Indianapolis Colts game.

RING OF EXCELLENCE CEREMONIES

Throughout the 2026 NFL season, members of the Class of 2026 will receive their Hall of Fame Ring of Excellence created by Kay Jewelers during a halftime ceremony at their former team's games. The schedule of those ceremonies will be announced soon.

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ABOUT THE PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME

Located in Canton, Ohio, the birthplace of the National Football League, the Pro Football Hall of Fame is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit institution with the Mission to Honor the Greatest of the Game, Preserve its History, Promote its Values, & Celebrate Excellence Together. The Pro Football Hall of Fame is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums. AAM accreditation is national recognition for the museum's commitment to excellence and the highest professional standards of museum operation and public service.

Hundreds of thousands of fans from across the globe travel to Canton annually to experience an inspirational, interactive museum that chronicles America's most popular sport. Fans can also enjoy the Hall of Fame Store at the Hall, and online at shop.profootballhof.com, for merchandise from all 32 NFL clubs plus the Hall of Fame. Proceeds from the Store support the Hall's Mission.