



Blood and Sweat

A dying Southern town in the throes of WWII, their men and boys off to fight for their country, is lifted up by the depleted high school football team, hoping for a chance to be champions one more time.

Rayne, Louisiana in 1943 was a town like many all over America. Fathers and sons off to war, some fighting at home to keep their farms and businesses afloat in dire times, some returning broken and shell shocked. It was also the home of a German POW camp, which became part of the wartime fabric of this small farm community.

Teenage boys becoming men before they were ready, both fighting abroad and also taking over the responsibilities left behind by their fathers.

Mothers and daughters providing for their families and holding the fort until the war was over, always fearing they'd get a letter or visit from Uncle Sam with bad news about their loved ones. Tough times.

But there was always football.

Because so many men and boys were away, it was hard to field a full team. So, out of necessity, SIX MAN FOOTBALL was born.

This is the story of how one team, in a small town, overcame adversity to become champions.



FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS without the glamour, money and expectations of greatness. Just boys trying to keep tradition alive in the name of their fathers and brothers, some never coming back. With the heart and soul of films like HOOSIERS and WE ARE MARSHALL.

And like those films and television series, filled with the same problems of teenagers, coaches and the town: love, sex, broken hearts, racism, and of course, the ever present specter of impending loss that pervaded the lives of everyone in 1943.

It's a story about a football team, but it's really about small town life during WWII. It's about courage and honor, and it's about pride. Not the kind that kills, the kind that lifts you up and makes you the best you can be.

It's about the best of America.

SYNOPSIS

The story begins in Guadalcanal, one of the bloodiest battles in our war against Japan. DANNY BROUSSARD and the rest of his Marine unit are surrounded, with little chance of survival. His best friend, KYLER GUIDRY, is next to him in a foxhole. They weren't friends back home in Louisiana. Kyler is black, and that just doesn't happen in Rayne.



They get orders to make a run for the river in a last desperate attempt to stay alive. The unit is overwhelmed, fighting for their lives in bloody hand to hand combat. All dead but Danny and Kyler as they crash through the jungle, wounded and broken. Just as they reach the river, a Japanese soldier stands up ready to kill Danny. Kyler tackles him, allowing his friend to get away.

Danny dives into the river, looks back to see Kyler coming out of the jungle. Then a sword pierces him from behind, killing him instantly.

Kyler gave his life for Danny, who will never be the same.

Upon his return to Rayne a year later, Danny still just 18, goes back to finish school, his PTSD crushing his soul. His old

girlfriend is now dating his best friend, school feels like a waste of time, and the whole town wants him to play football. He was an all-state quarterback before he enlisted. It all feels trivial to him now.

He goes to visit Kyler's mother, to tell how brave he was and that her son saved his life. They cry together. On the way out he sees Kyler's younger brother, ELIJAH, with a football in his hand. They toss it around for a bit. The kid is good.

The Rayne football team is in tatters. Because of the war, they play six man instead of the usual eleven. They can barely field six and most of them are freshmen and sophomores. The older boys are either fighting overseas or working their family farms.

The leader of the team, TOMMY PETTITJEAN, just 14, is the quarterback. Talented but just a boy. Their first game will be against the state champions. The basketball coach, GEORGE JOHNSON, is the only man left at school, so he's now the football coach.

He runs them hard, but it's clearly a losing cause.

Prisoners from the German POW camp on the edge of town build stands for the new field. They also work on the farms and become a big part of the community.



The ragtag football team plays their first game. Their opponent is huge. It's men against boys. But something happens on that field. The Rayne kids have heart and they fight to the last minute, ending with a last minute goal line stand. Tommy gathers his team, tells them, "This play, this moment is the whole season, the most important few seconds of our lives. We stop them right here right now."

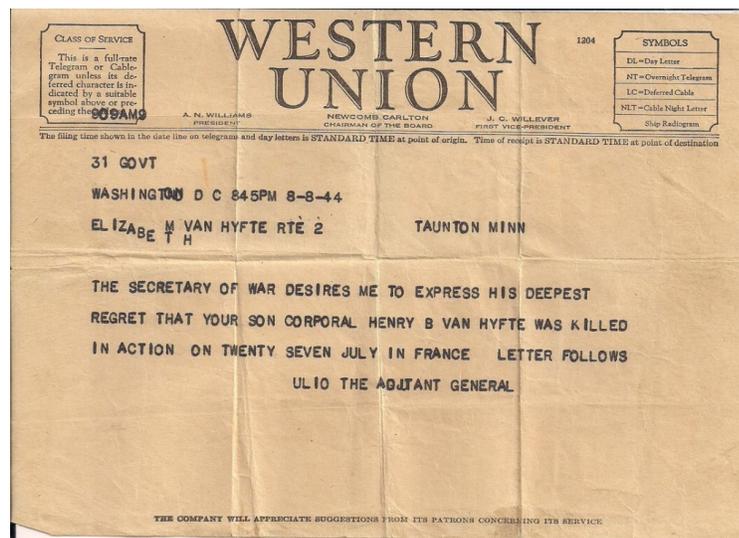
They dig in and stop the big bad state champions. The crowd erupts. They lose 20 - 7, but prove something to themselves and win the respect of the town and their opponents.

Some of the boys who couldn't play, are inspired to re-join the team. All but one...Danny Broussard.

He has his own battle to fight.

They go on a tear, winning game after game. They lift their dying town. Then disaster strikes.

Tommy's family is notified that his father has been killed in battle.



He misses two games, they lose one of them. Then three players are injured. They don't have enough players to play their next game.

The Coach and the players, the town, even his own mother, ask Danny to suit up and play. He says no.

At practice the next day, Danny shows up and tells them he'll play on one condition. He wants Kyler Guidry's brother, Elijah, to play too. Blacks don't play football with whites. And Elijah doesn't even go to the same school.

“Take it or leave it.”

The town erupts, people taking sides. They have a town hall meeting. The same old bullshit arguments. In the end, they vote the idea down.

Then, Tommy, fresh from his dad’s funeral, walks in with what’s left of the team.

“We play with Danny and Elijah, or we all quit.”

It’s not easy or pretty, but the town gives in. But just because the teams wins the argument, doesn’t mean they win the town.

Next game, almost no one shows up to watch. The Coach doesn’t play Elijah. The team loses.

They have to win the next game to make the playoffs. Tough game, toe to toe to the end. Rayne loses a player to injury. The coach has to play Elijah. Danny hits him with pass after pass, leading them down the field. An opposing player punches Elijah. The whole Rayne team charges to his defense.

With seconds ticking down, Elijah scores the winning touchdown. Rayne makes the playoffs. The town is back

They make it to the championship game. Against that same monster team that beat them in the beginning.

They square up, ready to rumble.



Based on the book, *Barefoot, Bloodied and Bruised*, by Coach Barrett Murphy, BLOOD AND SWEAT is a three season television series targeting network, cable, premium channels and streaming services like Netflix, Hulu and Amazon Prime.

It will attract both teenage and young adult audiences with its tales of coming of age teenage angst and all the soap opera elements that brings. It will also attract older audiences with a nostalgic glimpse of how America used to be and its tales of life during wartime.

CHARACTERS

Danny Broussard - 18, and just back from the war, the only survivor of a Japanese ambush at Guadalcanal. Prior to enlisting in the Marines he was the star quarterback for the Rayne high school football team. Suffering from severe PTSD, he's not interested in football, teenage girls, and other childish things. He can't get over the death of his friend, but wants to make his life mean something.

Kyler Guidry - 18, black Marine who grew up on the other side of the tracks from Danny. Became best friends under fire. Dies saving Danny's life.

Tommy Pettitjean - 14, all American boy, quarterback of what's left of the football team. Natural leader. His father is fighting in Europe. His mother is principal of the high school. He wants to put Rayne football on his back and carry the team to greatness.

Rita Sonnier - 16, most popular girl at Rayne High. In love with Danny, but angry that he doesn't want her anymore. Now dating his best former best friend, JB. She wants Danny back, but is scared of who he's become.

Elijah Guidry - 16, black, super talented and avid reader. Angry about losing his brother, blames Danny. Dreams of moving to a big city and being a lawyer.

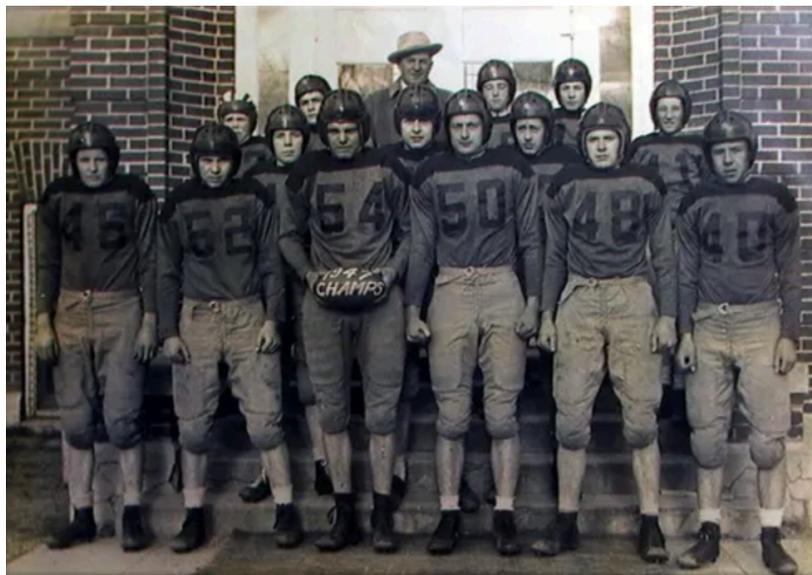
Lee Mayeaux - 50, former football star at LSU, richest man in town. Good man at heart, backs Danny, doesn't know he's racist. Guilty about not going to fight. Wants to save the town before he dies of lung cancer.

JB Shepherd - 17, tall and handsome, Danny's best friend before he enlisted. In love with Rita. Will do anything to keep her.

Paula Stamm - 15, cheerleader. Dating Tommy, but has a secret crush on Elijah.

Irene Pettitjean - 37, Tommy's mom. First woman principal in Louisiana. Got the job because there were no men left to do it.

Coach Johnson - 64, kind old basketball coach forced to coach football. Only man left in the school.



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