

Tyrod Taylor of the Baltimore Ravens Inspires Hometown Youth At Successful Inaugural Free Football Camp in Hampton, VA

April 14, 2012, Hampton VA

Hampton native and Baltimore Ravens' quarterback, Tyrod Taylor, worked with over 200 youth at his first annual free football camp at Darling Stadium on Saturday, April 14th in Hampton. The standout player, along with The Training Ground, brought together a topnotch group of coaches and professional trainers to teach the campers.

Taylor's camp, which filled up in less than week through online registration, emphasized the importance of fundamental techniques to the campers, ages 9-14. He led the campers through drills, agility training and gave position specific information. His goal was to give the campers a solid foundation of the game including offensive and defensive basics.

After a rewarding day of work on the field, attendees enjoyed a box lunch and gathered in the bleachers for the mentoring segment of the camp, aptly entitled "Chalk Talks". Taylor used this time to speak to the campers about the importance of education, hard work and avoiding peer pressure. He also surprised the group with a visit from close friend and fellow Hampton native, Michael Vick. Vick echoed Tyrod's message and encouraged the campers to work hard and stay humble in order to reach any goals in life.

"When my father and I came up with the idea for this camp, our aim was to give back to the community which has always supported me", said Taylor, "I wanted to show my appreciation and do my part to continue the legacy of Hampton youth football. More importantly, I wanted them to know that football is just one path and that if they are willing to work hard, they can achieve any dream."

The local Hampton community made their love for Tyrod evident through the outpouring of support for his camp. Over 25 coaches from his father's athletic prep program, The Training Ground, worked with campers alongside Taylor's local trainers from Tidewater Performance. Former NFL football player and Hampton native, Elton Brown provided the camper's lunch through his foundation. Taylor concluded the camp by giving out hustle awards to campers who displayed sportsmanship during the camp and signing autographs for each camper.

The First Annual Tyrod Taylor Free Football Camp was presented in part by Knight Solutions, LLC and Hampton Parks & Recreation. It was sponsored in part by The Training Ground, Tidewater Performance, The Omni Newport News, AMC Lawn Care, Food Lion, Gatorade, R.G. Barry Corporation, NFL, NFLPA, 1st & G.O.A.L., Kool Smiles, Dow Lohnes Sports & Entertainment and Flagsticks, LLC.

Camp photos can be viewed here: <http://on.fb.me/HL1YtC>