

RAVENS IN OUR COMMUNITY

RAY LEWIS SUPPLIES BACKPACKS TO KIDS IN NEED



LB Ray Lewis is well known for motivating his teammates to become better players. Whether it is in the locker room or in our community, Lewis always inspires people to change the way they think about themselves in hopes of becoming stronger people.

At his annual backpack distribution last Tuesday (9/6), Lewis spoke to 200 children from Baltimore about the importance of education, unity and assisting others in our community. Parents and adults in attendance listened as the veteran line-backer imparted valuable life lessons to the children.



Alongside teammates LB Jameel McClain (top right), RB Ray Rice and WR Torrey Smith, Lewis (left) distributed backpacks filled with school supplies to youth in need at Chuck E. Cheese's (Baltimore). Children who received the backpacks were from multiple organizations, including Baltimore City and County Public Schools, Leaders of Tomorrow Youth Center, Woodlawn Community and Ray Lewis' Kids of Character Program.

RAVENS KICK OFF PURPLE FRIDAYS



Students from Margaret Brent Elementary show off their Purple Friday gear.



As Ravens players and coaches prepared for the season opener against the Pittsburgh Steelers, the youngest Ravens fans eagerly awaited the Purple Friday Caravan to help paint the town purple. On Friday (9/9), more than 200 students filed into the gymnasium at Margaret Brent Elementary (Baltimore), the first stop of the tour, to celebrate the start of football. Decked out in Ravens team colors from head to toe, the students and faculty were fired up to be one of the two schools selected to host a Purple Friday Kickoff Assembly.

The second stop of the day for the Purple Friday Caravan was Riderwood Elementary (Towson). As members of the caravan stepped off the bus, they were greeted by the loud roar of 500 students chanting, 'Let's Go Ravens!'

The special assemblies included appearances by the Ravens' official mascot, Poe, and live Ravens, Rise and Conquer. After a performance of the Ravens' fight song by Baltimore's Marching Ravens, the 2011 Ravens Cheerleaders helped kick the celebration into full gear by leading the group in several Ravens cheers. At the end of the assemblies, each school received Ravens memorabilia to help children show their team spirit throughout the season.



Students from Riderwood Elementary watch as Baltimore's Marching Ravens perform.