

# RAVENS IN OUR COMMUNITY

## OVERCOMING ADVERSITY

One of the Baltimore Ravens' goals is to motivate and inspire others through athletics. But during Thursday's (8/21) practice, teammates weren't the only ones providing motivation. Head coach **John Harbaugh** invited special guest Ben Jackson to share his story of overcoming adversity. Jackson, a 21-year-old born with spastic cerebral palsy, continues to exceed expectations, as he competitively wrestled in high school, and now, as a college student, is training for the Paralympics in powerlifting. Harbaugh was impressed by Jackson's exceptional outlook on life and wanted him to meet the team and, more importantly, for the team to meet him. Jackson and his family had lunch with Harbaugh before watching practice. Afterwards, Jackson spoke to the entire team about the importance of hard work and to "take every 24 hours and crush it." Jackson, a Pennsylvania native, hopes to become a motivational speaker post-graduation.



Head Coach John Harbaugh



WR Torrey Smith and QB Joe Flacco

## RAVENS MAKE WISH COME TRUE

The Baltimore Ravens helped make a wish come true for a fan on Friday (8/22). The Ravens teamed up with Make-A-Wish Foundation and Jake, a 15-year-old boy who is battling a life-threatening medical condition and currently undergoing treatment in Baltimore, to fulfill Jake's wish of meeting Ravens players. The Ravens invited Jake and his family to training camp practice to watch the team prepare for its third preseason game against the Washington Redskins. **K Justin Tucker** heard that Jake was a huge fan, so he invited him to hang out with the special teams unit on the field during practice. The Ravens presented Jake with his own personalized jersey to wear during practice on Friday and during Saturday's game as Jake watched the Ravens' pre-game warm-ups from the sidelines of M&T Bank Stadium (8/23).



K Justin Tucker

## SMITH HOLDS BACK-TO-SCHOOL DRIVE



On Sunday (8/17), **WR Torrey Smith** and his foundation teamed up with Walmart to hold a back-to-school drive in Randallstown. The drive helped collect school supplies for five local elementary schools. Shoppers were able to purchase school supply kits to donate to the foundation's cause. "Rather than giving away book bags and gifts to a select group of kids, we're going to give the items donated directly to the schools and then they'll be able to give them to the kids who truly need it," Smith explained to local news stations. In addition, Walmart agreed to match donations of up to \$15,000.