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PRESS RELEASE *JANUARY 15, 2008*

Gridiron Star Joe Martinek Returns to Durban Avenue School

During this past holiday season, Mrs. Joan McCormack, the Durban Avenue School media specialist in Hopatcong, had some of her students write Christmas cards to former Durban Avenue student and present Rutgers University football standout Joe Martinek. Mrs. McCormack has followed her former student's success from the Hopatcong Warriors, to The Hopatcong High School Chiefs, and on to the Scarlet Knights of Rutgers University. On Monday, January 12, Joe returned the favor by coming to the school to spend time with Mrs. McCormack and the students that sent him the cards.

Joe spoke to those students about what it took to reach the level of achievement both on the football field and in the classroom. The students asked Joe questions and requested autographs. He then went from room to room to make sure he met all of the students. Joe was accompanied by his father, Joe Martinek Sr., who very much played the part of proud parent. He also gave the students a message about priorities. The first question Joe was asked when Rutgers coaches sat down with him; "How are your grades?" It was a great day for all those involved.

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