



WASHINGTON REDSKINS
*Charitable
Foundation*



HEROES ABOUND IN DUNBAR SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

REDSKINS CHARITABLE FOUNDATION INVITES PAUL VITALE TO INSPIRE STUDENTS

WASHINGTON, D.C.—June 22, 2005—In conjunction with the **Washington Redskins** Charitable Foundation's signature program, *Coaches in the Classroom*, the Foundation recently invited professional speaker and author **Paul Vitale** to present his interactive program, *A Hero Within - Today's Youth, Tomorrow's Leaders*, to 600 students at Dunbar Senior High School. On June 2, 2005, **Vitale** brought his message of encouragement and inspiration to students at the nation's first African American public high school.

Originally the Preparatory High School for Colored Youth, Paul Laurence Dunbar High School was founded in 1870 as the first public high school for any student in the District of Columbia. The school honors Paul Laurence Dunbar (1872-1906), one of the most acclaimed writers at the turn of the 20th century. Dunbar lived in Washington from 1897 until 1902.

Recognizing that the Foundation's highest priority is to make a positive and measurable impact on youth in the greater Washington, D.C. region in the areas of literacy, youth development, education, community service, health and wellness, **Vitale** inspired and challenged the students to make sound choices in their daily lives. "It was truly amazing to have the opportunity to tour Dunbar High School and see all the wonderful programs taking place, as well as the great work that is being done by the academic coach to better prepare the students enrolled. Seeing the eagerness to learn on the faces of each student during my presentation was fantastic," **Vitale** said as he closed his presentation.

Citing examples of modern day heroes such as Redskins Head Coach Joe Gibbs as well as everyday heroes such as teachers, **Vitale** shared the importance of a positive attitude, the power of influence and the significance of character. "Paul did a remarkable job relating to our students," *Coaches in the Classroom* Academic Coach Dave Kiehn said. "We've had many speakers come here and present, but only a few have truly connected like Vitale did."

A Hero Within – Today's Youth, Tomorrow's Leaders is a program that **Vitale** created and began initiating in Arkansas Schools last fall. **Vitale** is currently presenting *A Hero Within – Today's Youth, Tomorrow's Leaders* to young people across America.

At the recent invitation of former Redskins quarterback **Danny Wuerffel**, Paul presented *A Hero Within* to students of Desire Street Academy, located in what was previously the nation's second largest public housing site and ranked the worst by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. **Wuerffel** is the Director of Development for Desire Street. He joined DSM in February 2004 after retiring from an illustrious career of college and professional football. **Wuerffel** attended the University of Florida where he led the Gators to four SEC championships and a National title. He won the 1996 Heisman trophy, the Draddy award (the Nation's top student-athlete), and set 17 NCAA and University of Florida records. Drafted by The New Orleans Saints in 1997, Danny played three years with the team prior to joining the NFL's European league where he won the World Bowl Championship and was selected the league's MVP. Danny returned to the NFL, ultimately finishing his career with the **Washington Redskins**.

Paul Vitale is a native of Russellville, Arkansas. Since founding Vital Communications in 1996 **Vitale** has authored two books and has delivered his message of affirmation to thousands of people throughout America. His emphasis on the importance of a positive attitude, a strong work ethic and other vital concepts, coupled with his energetic and enjoyable presentation style have made him one of America's most sought-out training and motivational speakers.