



—PRESS RELEASE—

The Newark Municipal Council Office of Councilman Luis Quintanna

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Quintana Hails Seton Basketball for Coming to Newark Councilman says games at Prudential Center a sign of city's future

NEWARK—When it opens in October, the Prudential Center will be the home of the National Hockey League's New Jersey Devils, who are also shouldering part of the cost for the soon-to-be completed arena in downtown Newark. On Wednesday, May 23, Seton Hall University President, Monsignor Robert Sheeran announced that "The Rock" as the arena has already come to be known, will also be the home of the Seton Hall University men's basketball team.

One Seton Hall University alumnus couldn't be happier. Long before he was an at-Large councilman for New Jersey's largest city, Luis Quintana was a Seton Hall Pirate. "This is a situation that just makes sense," the 1983 Hall graduate said. "With all due respect to the arena in Rutherford, it was just too difficult for many of the students to get there. The Prudential Center is four miles from campus and virtually across the street from Seton Hall Law School. It's in the middle of a thriving business district and the most diverse college community in the state with NJIT, Rutgers and Essex County College all within blocks of one another," Quintana explained.

More than easing the logistical problems for its student body, Quintana said that the move shows a prescient level of faith from the Jesuit University. "They see where Newark is going. The future looks good for all of us. There is unprecedented development in the wards, businesses are opening up throughout the city. It's my job to see that the prosperity ripples through the neighborhoods," Quintana said.

The Councilman said he is confident that the new site will boost attendance for the Pirates, who play in the Big East basketball conference. With the newly energized support, Quintana hopes to see his alma mater return to national prominence as a force with which to be reckoned. He was quick to point out that it was an appropriate metaphor for his city, as well.

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