On December 3rd, 2016, The Henry Viscardi School held its 25th annual Sportsmanship Tournament. The HVS Varsity Cougars came out on top and won the championship. It was a very close game, but in the end we defeated Westchester for the win! Go Cougars!

By Destini Murray and Neri Santiago
It is the opening of the 2016-17 Knicks season. The Knicks acquired Derrick Rose Jokiam Noah and Courtney Lee. Hopefully they can improve the Knicks roster which has been an issue for the past couple of years. With the adding of those guys with Kristaps Porzingas and Carmelo Anthony, you should see this team in the playoffs. During the summer, I saw them practicing on YouTube and it looks like they’re working well together as a team. In order to win a championship, you have to work well together as a team. Based on the acquisition of new good players, I assume that ticket prices will rise as they have in the past. I am very anxious for the season to start. I hope you are as well.
The second annual HVS Legacy Ride took place on Saturday October 15th at our school. Many people came like Judge Rob Pipia, Senator Jack Martins and other local representatives. The event was a bike ride around the town escorted by the police. Also, there were many other activities besides the ride like popcorn, cotton candy, and a BBQ. Overall, it was a great second year. I look forward to doing it again next year.

The R.A.M.P students did their holiday shopping at Broadway Mall in Hicksville. While taking a picture in front of the tree, Santa photo bombed! The students had a great time hanging out, eating lunch and shopping for their families.
Team Peri has been racing for the organization Chai Lifeline for the past 7 years. Chai Lifeline is a non-profit organization that helps kids with life threatening illnesses. This year, a new Team Peri member is joining us in Miami for our race. Nelson Figueroa is a former MLB pitcher for the New York Mets. Now, he is a Studio Analyst on SNY (SNY is a sports station that covers the NY Mets). Nelson Figueroa co-hosts the Pre-game, Post Game, and the First Pitch. He pitched for the New York Mets from 2008 -2009. In 2009, Nelson met my family and me at a Mets game in Shea Stadium. It was my first Mets game that I had ever been to and I was so excited to be able to give/Nelson a bracelet that I made by myself, in the Mets colors. Nelson wore the bracelet for the entire game. Last year, my brother Joel (Team Lifeline/Team Peri Runner) contacted Nelson to show him the video of me walking the last quarter mile in the Miami Half Marathon and told him that this year's goal was for me to walk the last mile. So, after a few weeks of back and forth conversations, Team Peri asked him if he would like to do the last mile with me on January 29, 2017. Nevertheless, Team Peri never expected that the Figueroa's would want to do the entire half marathon with Team Peri.

This upcoming January will be Nelson's first half marathon and his wife Alisa’s third. Nelson never believed that he would do a marathon considering that he "never enjoyed running" and he had a hip replacement last year. He would rather ride a bike for exercise than run when he was playing professional baseball. Nelson and Alisa had talked about training for the marathon, and she said that "at some point your mind wanders and thinks of those you are running for, friends and family who physically can not, those who will benefit from the funds raised by having an incredible camp experience and then a pride in yourself for pushing past your own arbitrarily set limits that fade away as you cross the finish line." Nelson's family inspires him everyday, especially his daughter (Renee) and wife (Alisa). His daughter, Renee, is a competitive gymnast, and puts "her all in everything she tries", and "has a smile on her face and her heart just wants to include everyone." As for Nelson's wife, she loves unconditionally and always has a way to make others feel better when they are around her. As he says, "she loves with her entire heart and when I look to her, I know our family and I are going to be better because of her unwavering strength, love and support."

We are honored to race alongside Nelson and Alisa Figueroa. Please make sure to check out our Facebook page under Team Peri.
HAPPY HALLOWEEN!

That's Martin
Two years ago, I got accepted by the Make-a-Wish Foundation due to the fact that I had a lobectomy in my left lung. I spent months thinking about what I wanted for my wish and by July 2015, I chose to meet the owner of 2K for my wish. I met Ronnie2K at the headquarters in San Diego, California. We talked for 2 hours about basketball, life, hobbies and then the party started. I got to check out how 2K Motion Capture works in person. I also got to see early footage of their new games and add input at an important meeting. I had a tour of the whole building from the production stage to editing to the final product. On their games there is a live broadcast that airs every Tuesday, called 2KTV. I was in one of their episodes. It was a great experience. Towards the end of the day they surprised me by taking me to the Warriors game where I met all of the players and became friends with them. That was the highlight of my day. I still keep in touch with some of the players to this day. I will always be friends with Ronnie2K thanks to the Make-a-Wish Foundation. I encourage everyone to apply to Make a Wish and have their dreams come true like mine.
WWE Predictions
By Jovanni Rodriguez

On January 29th, in San Antonio, Texas, the WWE will be holding its annual Royal Rumble at the Alamo Dome for the first time in 20 years. The winner of the Royal Rumble will be given a title shot at Wrestlemania 33. 30 wrestlers will enter but only 1 will win. This year, I predict Sami Zayn will win it and go on to face Kevin Owens at Wrestlemania for the WWE Universal title. Although Goldberg and Brock Lesnar are favored to win, I strongly feel Zayn will pull through and win the Royal Rumble.

Time to make the donuts!

The Dunkin’ Donuts and Baskin-Robbins Community Foundation hosted their 5th annual Long Island Gala on Thursday, September 22, 2016. The event took place at the Hamlet Golf and Country Club located in Commack. The gala raised money for several local charities including Henry Viscardi School, St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital and the Special Olympics. On November 9, 2016, Dunkin Donuts held its First Annual Dunkin Donuts Day at HVS. Students were given the opportunity to decorate their own half dozen donuts to take home.
Cougar Chronicle Announcements

There are currently positions available for the school paper including editor, photography, graphics, and writer positions. If interested see Mr. Chris OT or Mr. Haviken.

Happy Holidays!

School Newspaper Coordinators: Mr. Chris Marotta & Mr. James Haviken
Publishing Editor: Phillip Mayer  Chief Editor: Ms. Marlana Lipnick