



## The 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Wheelchair Basketball Tournament

By Jasan Stuart and Jared Connolly



On December 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015, the Henry Viscardi School Wheelchair Basketball Program hosted the 24<sup>th</sup> annual sportsmanship tournament. The Cubbies, JV and Varsity teams played against UCP Westchester, Alumni and Westchester School for Special Children. Six games were played, and HVS won most of the games.

“The tournament was very competitive and very fun and went on all throughout the day. There were bake sales and many HVS basketball windbreaker jackets were sold. All proceeds went to the program.” –JC “I was impressed, the players played in unison, not looking to make one player outshine the others. The integrity is in the team, not in any one individual.” –JS “My mom and grandma came to see me play. Everyone had fun.” –JC “We got to meet all the alumni that came to the school before us and it was really great for everybody!” –JS See more pictures on page 4.

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## Student ID Day by Mariah Sepulveda

Across New York the majority of high schools have identification cards for their students. As president of the high school student council one of my biggest goals for this year is to help our high school student body obtain student identification cards. For those who don't know a lot about the benefits of having a Student ID card, here are some examples.

- Valid photo identification
- Discounts at local stores
- Discounts at recreational facilities (such as: pools, theme parks, museums, movie theatres etc.)

Student ID's are extremely important and beneficial to you. They are not only helpful but an easy way to help save money.

So what better way to get our high school students identification cards than to hold a Student ID Day. This day will consist of high school classes being part of something similar to a "picture day". Your photo will be taken to create your very own student ID.



So stay tuned and listen to daily announcements to find out what day Student ID Day will be held.



## ArtWorks By Dylan Cuevas

*This just in...*

Soul Incribed came back to HVS.



These 3 beat-boxers let the students create their own songs and make graffiti. Baba, Yako, and Duv allowed all of the students to have a ball! They even rapped with some of the students. Thanks to Ms. Irene, Ms. Carnevalli and the HVS staff. We were all excited that Soul Incribed came back.



The Center Street Elementary School weathered the storm to come to put on a show for our students on February 8<sup>th</sup>. The students did a great job with their production “I Need a Vacation”. They finished just in time for an early dismissal due to the impending snow.

## My Trip to Albany

by Chris Alvarez

Albany is the state capital of New York where lobbyists go and advocate for their needs in the state Senate and state Assembly. On February 29 to March 2, 2106 Keanu Resnick, Mariah Sepulveda, and I were called to speak for the needs of the students at the Henry Viscardi School and 4201 schools. We asked for equal funding as compared to public schools. We are not different from typical public school children. We play sports, socialize with friends, take regents classes and work for our academic goals.

We also met many senators who were surprised by our school’s achievements and individual student stories. Personally, I spoke about my disability and how the school has helped me. I asked for future funding to keep our school in existence. Aside from speaking to important people, we had a blast at the hotel. One night we ordered spicy chicken wings that almost killed us. So much for hot sauce! Overall, I thought the



trip was successful because all of the senators said that they understood our situation and would do their best to help the Henry Viscardi School and other 4201 schools. They even told us that they would help us with college recommendation letters, which I thought was awesome.





## K.C. Undercover

*by Thanasi Papa  
& Mohamed Asaad Shaw*

KC Undercover is back for another season on Disney channel. Zendaya stars as K.C. Cooper, a teenage spy. K.C.'s parents are trying to teach her to be part of "The Organization", a secret government agency. She needs to balance being a teenager and saving the world, all while keeping it a secret from her friend. K.C.'s friend Marisa is played by Veronica Dunne. Zendaya recently won "Favorite Female TV Star, at the Nickelodeon Kid's Choice Awards for her role in the show.



Follow us @hv3ball on Instagram

## Hawk Visits HVS by Tyrese “FlyTy” Alleyne-Davis



On January 7, 2016, Hawk from the Harlem Globetrotters paid a visit to all the wonderful students of HVS. Hawk displayed some of the world famous tricks that the Trotters are known for. In a competitive game of B- ball, Hawk got a taste of HVS medicine. Playing alongside members of the team!!! Hawk explained that the Globetrotters have been entertaining crowds for nine decades traveling to many countries and continents They were even involved in “Basketball Diplomacy,” an effort to ease tensions between the US and North Korea, because North Korea’s leader Kim Jong- Un is a really big fan of basketball. Hawk dazzled everyone with a couple of dunks, capping it off with a dunk where he sat on top of the rim and threw the ball through for two. Finally, Hawk chatted with the students, snapped a few photos, and gave HVS our very own Harlem Globetrotters basketball autographed by none other than himself. It is displayed in our front lobby.



# SAFARI



The Westbury Middle School Student Safari 2<sup>nd</sup> annual visit to HVS was another success. Students rotated in small groups through stations and learned about critters' habitats, nutrition and adaptations. They had the opportunity to feed and touch iguanas, rabbits, turtles, tortoises and even Madagascar Hissing Cockroaches. Thank you to Mrs. Haller's Life Science classes for coming to share their knowledge and spend the day with us.



# Mike Piazza: Hall of Famer

by Tyrese "FlyTy" Alleyne-Davis

Recently, the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY announced that former Mets Catcher Mike Piazza has been selected to be inducted this year. Some may argue that he does not deserve to be in the Hall of Fame because of accusations of steroid use. Although never proven, he has been accused of using steroids to inflate his homerun total.

Mike Piazza started with the Dodgers as a low ranked draft pick before getting traded to the Mets in the late 90's. Mets fans were very excited because the Piazza trade helped turn the team around. Piazza made the All-Star team almost every year he played for the Mets and helped lead them to a World Series in 2000. After 9/11, he hit a memorable homerun in the first game played in NYC after the tragic events. Piazza carried the entire city on his back with that homerun. Congrats for making the Hall of Fame. New York fans will always remember you. Number 31 Forever!



## Movie Review

### The Peanuts Movie

By Keanu Resnick

From comic strip to the big screen, Charlie Brown and the gang are back this year in the new Peanuts Movie. Your favorite cast is back with new adventures, including Snoopy's dog fight against the Red Baron. In this movie, a red head girl moves in to the neighborhood and Charlie Brown falls in love. He tries to show off but he fails. It's a funny movie. I recommend you see it.

## An Act of Kindness

The RAMP students had a fun filled day despite the rain (It was pouring) this past December when they took a trip to NYC to see Elf: The Musical. “ The show was amazing”. –KA After the show, they went to Jonathan’s Restaurant for dinner. To their surprise, on the way out, the bill was already paid. It turned out that the owner from Dominick’s Landscaping picked up the tab for the food. To top it off, Johnathan's covered the desserts. Thank you to all those who made the day even better than it already was.



## Abilities Expo

Come join us at the New York Metro Abilities Expo this spring, April 29<sup>th</sup> – May 1<sup>st</sup>, at the New Jersey Convention & Expo Center. We will have a booth near the Permobil exhibit. The HVS Basketball program plans to host a demonstration on Sunday May 1<sup>st</sup> at 11:00 a.m.

Hope to see you there.



## The Cougar Chronicle Staff

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



School Newspaper Coordinators: Mr. Chris Marotta & Mr. James Haviken

Editor: Ms. Marlana Lipnick