

# GOALS & ASSISTS

*The Official Newsletter of the Ed Snider Youth Hockey Foundation*

**OUR MISSION:** "Using the sport of hockey to help educate young people to succeed in the game of life."

## FLYERS GOALTENDER VISITS ESYHF SUMMER CAMP

See Page 4...

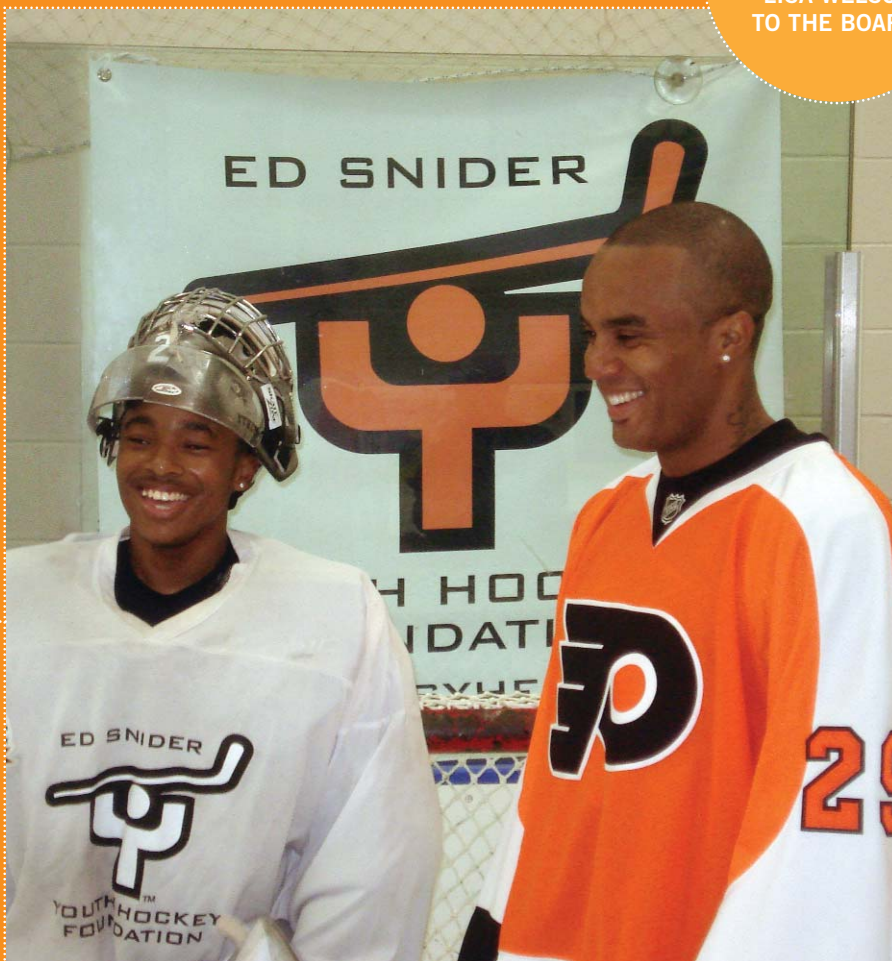
ESYHF WELCOMES  
PEDRO RAMOS AND  
LISA WELSCH  
TO THE BOARD!

WHILE MOST KIDS WERE SPENDING THEIR TIME OFF from school vacationing, sitting on the beach, or going to the pool, many ESYHF players were on the ice improving their hockey skills and staying conditioned. ESYHF offered seven ice hockey camps between the months of June and August at the Polonia Bank Flyers Skate Zone in Northeast Philadelphia and the Virtua Health Flyers Skate Zone in Pennsauken, NJ. Campers between the ages of 6 and 18 made the trip to the Skate Zones from all over the Greater Philadelphia Region.

"ANYTIME YOU CAN ENCOURAGE KIDS TO DO POSITIVE THINGS, IT'S A GOOD THING"

— RAY EMERY, DURING VISIT TO ESYHF

ESYHF provided bus transportation from select rinks each camp week to make travel easier and safer for the players. Full equipment, ice time, experienced coaching, lunch, and snacks were also provided to the players at no cost. In addition to four hours of ice time each day, the camps featured a variety of off-ice activities, including team building games and life skills lessons. In addition, Chris Pronger and Ray Emery of the Flyers, and Andre Iguodala and World B. Free of the Sixers took time to visit the campers. ESYHF continues to build upon the success of its previous summer camps and is excited to see the players' progress transfer into the winter months.



ESYHF player Thomas Brown (left) introduces Flyers goaltender Ray Emery to group at Foundation summer camp.

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## The Office



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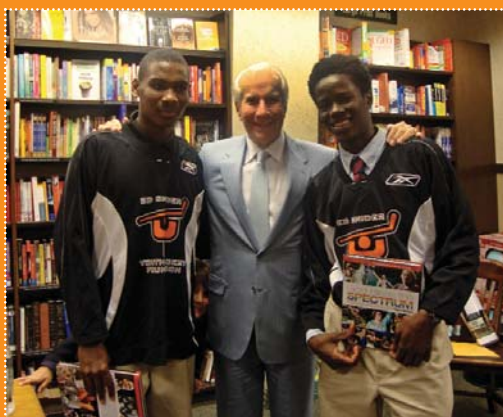
## How to Participate

1. **CONTRIBUTE** by contacting Maria Leonetti at 215.952.4196 or mleonetti@esyhf.org.  
Additionally, donations can be made to the Foundation through United Way, using ID# 45798.
2. **REGISTER** for the program by contacting Chris Newton at 215.952.5271 or cnewton@esyhf.org.
3. **VOLUNTEER** for ESYHF by contacting Joe Muth at 215.952.5271 or jmuth@esyhf.org.

## Information

Ed Snider Youth Hockey Foundation™  
3601 S. Broad Street • Philadelphia, PA 19148  
215.952.4196 • www.esyhf.org

Newsletter Editor • Maria Leonetti  
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ESYHF players Michael Chism (left) and Stephaun Carter attend Ed Snider's book signing of "God Bless the Spectrum."

# scotttharp

a letter from our president  
a commitment to children



Ask most social entrepreneurs whether hockey and literacy could work as the model for a successful nonprofit organization, and the potential might not immediately come to mind.

One might seriously question the chances of a program in which the sport of hockey, life skills, academic support, and literacy projects are packaged together for delivery to young people from tough inner-city neighborhoods, who have demonstrated little interest in school or – for them – the non-traditional sport of ice hockey.

As it turns out, the chances are quite good – thanks to Ed Snider! He has built just such an organization based on the belief that if given the opportunity, young people, regardless of their socio-economic backgrounds, will not only embrace hockey, but develop a passion for the sport that can serve as a monumental force in motivating them toward self-improvement.

At ESYHF, our ice rinks are often transformed into classrooms where our youngsters are urged to think about ways to answer the questions: "Who am I deep down?" "How do others see me?" "How do my surroundings shape me?" and "How can I help shape my surroundings?" On the ice, there are no desks and, therefore, no barriers between our students and our teachers. This helps enable the development of close relationships, prompting our young people to eagerly share answers with each other, support each other, and discover traits, and in some instances, prejudices within themselves that they didn't know existed.

When our youngsters first join ESYHF, they are surprised to learn that we incorporate a literacy component, and they ask, "Why do we have to read?" Our coaches encourage them to rephrase the question to ask, "Why do we *get* to read?" While these two questions are identical but for a single word, they reflect the gap between where our children are when they first join ESYHF and where we'd like to take them.

It's our aim to change the perception of reading and writing as burdensome and boring to being enjoyable and meaningful, and to accomplish this while building real skills. Our children are taught that reading and ice hockey are both privileges that together have the power to change lives.

And – changing lives is what ESYHF is all about.



# WISSAHICKON SUMMER CAMPS

ESYHF hosted four weekly summer camps at the Wissahickon Skating Club this past August. The camps were designed for younger participants (ages 6-12) from North Philadelphia, who participate in the *After School Excellence Program* at Simons Ice Rink in West Oak Lane. The Foundation provided bus transportation at no cost to the students from Simons Ice Rink to Wissahickon Skating Club. Each day of camp consisted of on-ice and off-ice activities that emphasized citizenship, life skills, and overall player development. In addition, one day per week was dedicated to serving the community by performing an act of service and/or learning more about the history of Philadelphia by taking an educational field trip.

To complement ESYHF's on-ice programming, Chestnut Hill Academy (which is adjacent to the Wissahickon Skating Club) gave ESYHF access to their fields and classroom spaces to host life skills sessions and off-ice training activities.

During the course of the four-week camp, ESYHF participants visited and explored the Fairmount Water Works Interpretive Center, Cliveden of the National Trust, and Historic Rittenhouse Town.



*ESYHF students assist in repairing flood damage to Fairmount Park.*



*Foundation students participate in some off-ice training during Wissahickon summer camps.*

In addition to their educational field trips, campers encountered a unique opportunity to answer their community's request for help. The Valley Green area near Wissahickon Skating Club had experienced a series of violent thunderstorms and floods that had left the park with considerable damage to its trails and streams. Accordingly, ESYHF campers dedicated a day of service to moving rocks and soil, and cutting up tree limbs in order to restore the trail, keeping it safe for hikers and others in the park. "They [ESYHF] were VERY effective and a pleasure to work with!" said Fairmount Park Volunteer Coordinator, David Bower.

The Wissahickon Skating Club summer camps were considered a great success, as participants were allowed the opportunity to build upon the hockey and life skills they had learned during the winter and spring seasons. Their summer was also enriched with new information gathered from their educational field trips and volunteer experiences.

## ESYHF WELCOMES TWO NEW CORPORATE LEADERS TO ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**PEDRO RAMOS,**  
Managing Principal,  
OnePoint Private &  
Public Solutions, LLC

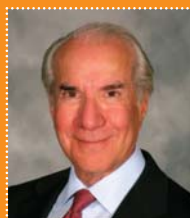
Pedro is the managing principal of OnePoint Public & Private Solutions, LLC and a member of the law firm of Trujillo Rodriguez & Richards, LLC. He is a well-known and respected attorney, advisor, and civic leader. He has held former positions as City Solicitor of Philadelphia, Managing Director of Philadelphia, President of the Board of Education of the School District of Philadelphia, and Vice President & Chief of Staff to the President of the University of Pennsylvania.



**LISA WELSCH,**  
LEED AP, Principal, Spinnaker  
Real Estate Management, LLC

Lisa has had the opportunity to engage in business transactions with multi-national organizations and individuals, bringing global perspective to her company and adding value to the organization's investment portfolio. She formerly served as the Regional Executive Director of Corporate Relations for the American Red Cross of Southeastern Pennsylvania. In addition to ESYHF, she serves on the Board of Directors for the Mural Arts Program and is an avid "hockey mom."

# THE BIG GOAL: ANNUAL CAMPAIGN 2009



## A BIG THANKS FROM ED SNIDER

In a little more than three years, ESYHF enrollment has reached 2,500, and it's growing every day. The support that we are able to draw from our Annual Campaign is very important when it comes to our capacity to grow the Foundation. And - as has been my practice in all ESYHF fundraising programs, I am committed to match every dollar raised from our Annual Fund with two dollars of my own, which will effectively triple our ability to aid these deserving youngsters.

The Foundation would like to thank the following individuals and organizations who have contributed to our first Annual Campaign:

### HALL OF FAME: \$5,000 AND UP

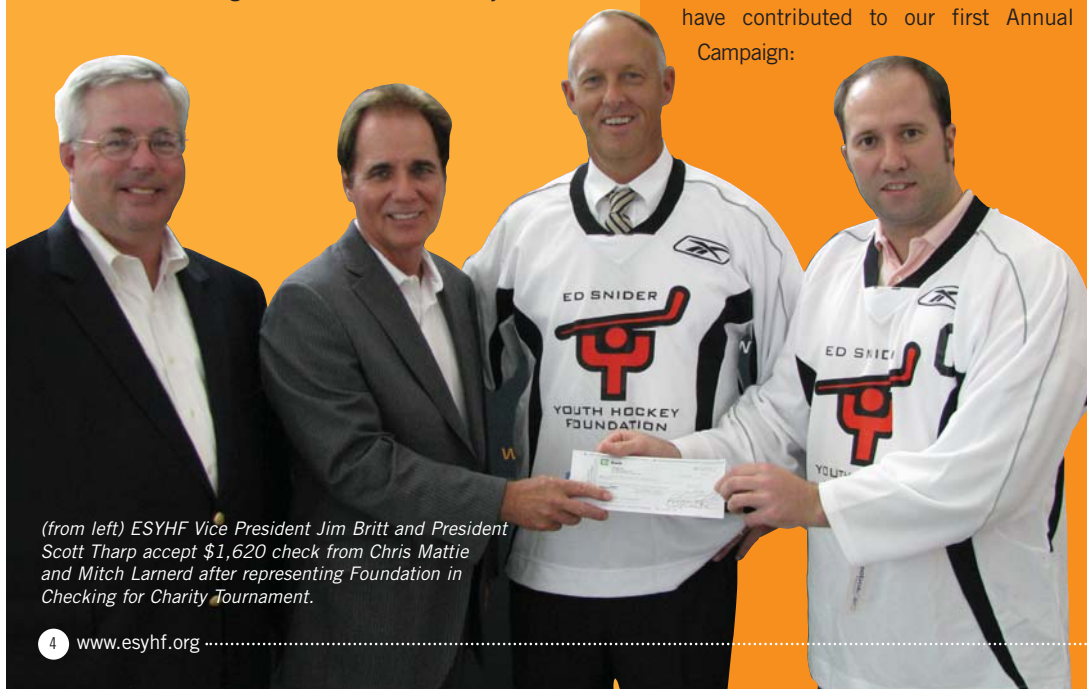
2004 Carita Foundation, Inc.  
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Suzanne F & Ralph J Roberts  
Sandmeyer Steel Company  
Adele & Harold Schaeffer  
Steven & Lisa Asplundh Family Foundation  
Tobin Family Foundation



(from left) ESYHF Vice President Jim Britt and President Scott Tharp accept \$1,620 check from Chris Mattie and Mitch Larned after representing Foundation in Checking for Charity Tournament.



## POWER PLAY: \$500 - \$999

94 Ice Dogs  
Caleb D. Koepfel  
Scottie Upshall  
Howard L. Shecter

## TEAMMATE: \$499 OR LESS

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Krista L. Conklin  
Pat Delaney  
Sharon Lee DiVita  
Christine M. Fenimore  
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Dave & Terry Rogers  
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## TEAMMATE: \$499 OR LESS (cont'd)

Clayton D Sheldon  
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David & Amy Zimbalist

# 2009 GRANT SUPPORT

ESYHF would like to thank the following organizations for their support in 2009:

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania DCED  
NHL Foundation  
Women's Sports Foundation, Inc.  
2004 Carita Foundation, Inc.  
Louis N. Cassett Foundation  
Bank of America Charitable Foundation, Inc.



ESYHF players listen to instructions from coach.

## In the News

### CHESTER CHECKS OUT HOCKEY

ESYHF has recently been to the Drexel Neumann summer camp in Chester, PA, teaching young students the basics of hockey. When ESYHF first arrived, the boys and girls were not sure how to hold a hockey stick properly. The program started slowly but picked up the pace in rapid fashion. Not only do the young players know how to hold a stick, but they learned stick handling, passing, and shooting. In total, 55 students from the fifth, sixth, and seventh grades were molded into new fans of the game and players of the sport. They asked a lot of questions and were truly interested in the game of hockey.



Drexel Neumann summer camp participants are taught basics of hockey by ESYHF.

### TAKING IT TO THE ICE

The Foundation was involved in the eighth annual Taking It to the Streets Festival at the Mount Airy Church of God and Christ on July 18. ESYHF employees were on hand to answer any questions about the sport of hockey and how the Foundation operates. There was a great turnout for the event, and many young aspiring hockey players completed sign-up forms and seemed eager to learn the sport. Philadelphia Mayor Michael Nutter attended and greeted many attendees. He was pleased about the public-private partnership that the City of Philadelphia and ESYHF forged last year and is excited about the opportunities ESYHF creates for its participants.



Mayor Michael Nutter (left) visits with Foundation interns Ryan Johnston (center) and Nicholas Savaiano at Taking It to the Streets Festival.

# ★ ★ ★ stu SUPER SKI



*ESYHF players visit Empire State Building while in New York during Ace Bailey National Skills Competition.*



*ESYHF teaches hockey basics to Drexel Neumann summer camp participants.*



*ESYHF students participate in literacy portion of ESYHF summer camp.*



*Flyers goaltender Ray Emery works with ESYHF goalies at summer camp.*



Students thriving in ESYHF.....

# WATERS



*ESYHF students remain physically active over summer.*



*ESYHF student Michael Chism (left) with Flyers defenseman Chris Pronger (center) and Ed Snider.*



*Ed Snider (back row center) attends ESYHF game against Bryn Athyn at University of Pennsylvania Class of '23 Arena.*

## Volunteer Spotlight



"Hockey is a game that I have enjoyed my entire life, and I am very grateful for the opportunity to give back to the game."

— Mike Roam

### MIKE ROAM

**Q: How did you get involved with ESYHF?**

A: A friend of mine was working with ESYHF. He knew that I had hockey experience and that I was interested in coaching. Accordingly, he asked me for my volunteer assistance.

**Q: How long have you been a volunteer with ESYHF?**

A: I have been a volunteer since December of 2007.

**Q: What do you find rewarding about volunteering?**

A: I love having the opportunity to help our students. Hockey is a game that I have enjoyed my entire life, and I am very grateful for the opportunity to give back to the game.

**Q: At what ESYHF locations have you volunteered?**

A: The Laura Sims Skate House, Simons Ice Rink, University of Pennsylvania Class of '23 Ice Rink, and the Polonia Bank Flyers Skate Zone in Northeast Philadelphia.

**Q: What hockey skill is your favorite to teach?**

A: I enjoy teaching our participants the basics of ice skating. One area where I often see our new players struggle is in regard to stopping. I get a great deal of personal satisfaction in helping those players learn to master that skill.

**Q: How do you hope to support ESYHF in the future?**

A: I hope to support ESYHF in any way that I can. This season, for example, I have been asked to take a more active role in supporting the ESYHF rink teams at the Laura Sims Skate House. I'm looking forward to an exciting winter season!

# STUDENTSPOTLIGHT

HIGH ACHIEVERS REACHING THEIR GOALS

## DERRICK GOODMAN

Derrick Goodman is a 15 year-old high school student who is currently taking 10th grade classes at Swenson High School, where he lists history as his favorite subject. Derrick plays out of Simons Ice Rink in the West Oak Lane section of Philadelphia and first came to ESYHF in 2007. After two seasons of hard work and continued improvement on the ice, Derrick has joined the ESYHF Wolf Pack this season. The Wolf Pack is made up of the Foundation's most skilled high school age players from all over the city, and the team plays a regular schedule of exhibition games against local high school varsity and JV teams. Derrick's most memorable experiences with ESYHF include practicing with the Philadelphia Flyers and traveling to Oshawa, ON, Canada with ESYHF to attend Keith Primeau's summer hockey camp in the summer of 2008. Goodman's favorite hockey players include Flyers defensemen Kimmo Timonen and Braydon Coburn.



Members of Foundation's Champions Program attend Winter Classic press conference in New York with Flyers defenseman Chris Pronger (second from left) and Bruins goaltender Tim Thomas (far right).

# ESYHFCHAMPION

STEVE OWENS

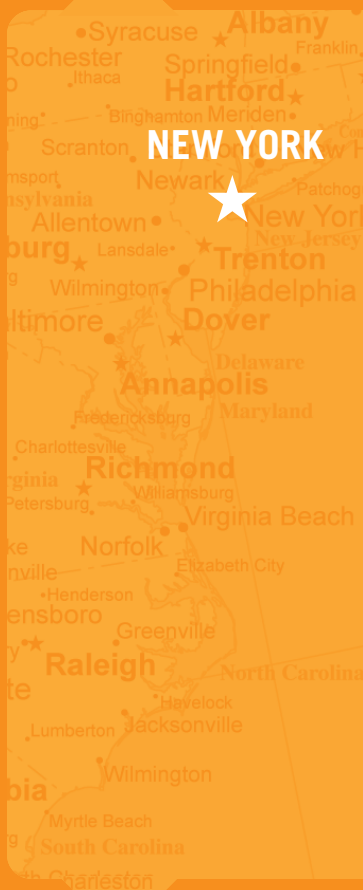
This issue's featured ESYHF Champion is Steve Owens. Steve, or "Steve-O" as he is more commonly referred to, is a 17-year-old from the Port Richmond section of Philadelphia who attends John Carroll High School. He says biology is his favorite subject. Steve's Champions Program Challenge was to increase his endurance and stamina for the winter season. Steve used a combination of running and biking along with a commitment to a new and improved diet to get to the next level. This upcoming season, Steve will be a key contributor on the ESYHF Wolf Pack high school team. Steve skates out of the Scanlon Ice Rink in Kensington and lists going to Canada last summer as his most memorable ESYHF experience.







# 2010 BRIDGESTONE/NHL WINTER CLASSIC PRESS CONFERENCE IN NYC



Seven members of ESYHF's Champions Program were rewarded for their hard work with a trip to New York City to participate in a press conference promoting this season's NHL Winter Classic. Flyers defenseman Chris Pronger and Bruins goaltender Tim Thomas were also in attendance. The fun began even before the players boarded the train when they crossed paths with US Senator Arlen Specter at 30th Street Station. Senator Specter was on his way to Washington, DC, and took a few minutes to wish the players well on their trip. Once in New York City, the students were able to visit some of the sites as they traveled from Penn Station to the NHL Store in Midtown: Madison Square Garden, The Empire State Building, The Chrysler Building, Bryant Park, and Times Square. Crossing 42nd Street, Kashiem Jones spoke for the whole group when he said, "Man, is this place busy!"

The highlight of the trip was the chance to hear Pronger and Thomas discuss the upcoming Winter Classic and ask them questions in front of a crowd of 250 fans and media members.



*ESYHF players cross paths with Senator Arlen Specter at 30th Street Station on their way to press conference in New York.*

ESYHF participant Mike Chism made Flyers fans proud when he asked Thomas, "Other than losing to the Flyers, how do you think your season is going to be?"

Following the event, Pronger and Thomas signed autographs for all the players, and ESPN's E.J. Hradek made it a point to talk to the students about hockey and their participation in the Champions Program.

## Meet the Staff



**MIKE HART,**  
**COORDINATOR OF**  
**HOCKEY OPERATIONS**

ESYHF recently hired Mike Hart as a Coordinator of Hockey Operations. He will be the site coordinator at

the Virtua Health Flyers Skate Zone in Pennsauken, NJ, and will oversee community outreach and special events. Prior to joining ESYHF, Mike was the team mascot and grassroots manager for the Philadelphia Phantoms for six seasons. While with the Phantoms, Mike introduced hockey to thousands of children at local rinks and schools throughout the Greater Philadelphia Region.



*Foundation participants in Champions Program visit NHL Store in New York when they attend Winter Classic press conference.*

## Rinks

### PARTICIPATING RINKS

ESYHF students come from over 100 schools and participate in programming at the following ice rinks:

Polonia Bank Flyers Skate Zone  
at Northeast Philadelphia  
Northeast Philadelphia, PA

Wissahickon Skating Club  
Chestnut Hill, PA

University of Pennsylvania Class of '23 Ice Rink  
University City, PA\*

Virtua Health Flyers Skate Zone at Pennsauken, NJ  
Pennsauken, NJ\*

Ice Works in Aston  
Aston, PA

Laura Sims Skate House  
Cobbs Creek / West Philadelphia, PA\*

Rizzo Ice Rink  
South Philadelphia, PA\*

Scanlon Ice Rink  
Kensington, PA\*

Simons Ice Rink  
West Oak Lane, PA\*

Tarken Ice Rink  
Oxford Circle, PA\*

\*These rinks offer After School Excellence Programs.

# LOOK WHO VISITED ESYHF



World B. Free, Ambassador of Sixers Basketball, spoke to ESYHF participants about growing up, the challenges he faced, and how he overcame obstacles to make it in the NBA. Following a lesson about working hard and never giving up on your dreams, the players were able to ask questions and speak about the challenges they have faced.

## DREXEL NEUMANN ACADEMY

July 27, 2009

Jim Britt  
Ed Snider Youth Hockey Foundation  
3601 South Broad Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19148

Dear Jim,

I can't begin to thank you enough for the goodness you showed our students these past three weeks during the summer session!

What began as a conversation initiated by Doctor Rosalie Miranda, flourished into an experience which our children will forever carry with them! Every day for three weeks, at least three young men, led by Coach Mike, would come to our school for two hours and teach our students everything from the skills needed to play hockey to what it means to be a teammate. The children looked forward to this experience every day and we hope to follow up on the skills taught by your team during the school year, using all the wonderful equipment you left for us!

I will never be able to express to you what this experience meant to our children. They were exposed to a sport they knew little or nothing about and felt special with the attention shown to them by your team. Coach Mike was an exceptional role model and a beautiful reflection of your organization. We will forever be grateful for your faithfulness and kindness to us!

May God bless you and all those involved with this wonderful program tenfold for the impact you are making on the lives of children. Please express my gratitude to Mr. Snider.

Peace and all good,

*Maggie*

Sister Maggie Gannon, esf  
President

cc: Dr. Rosalie Miranda

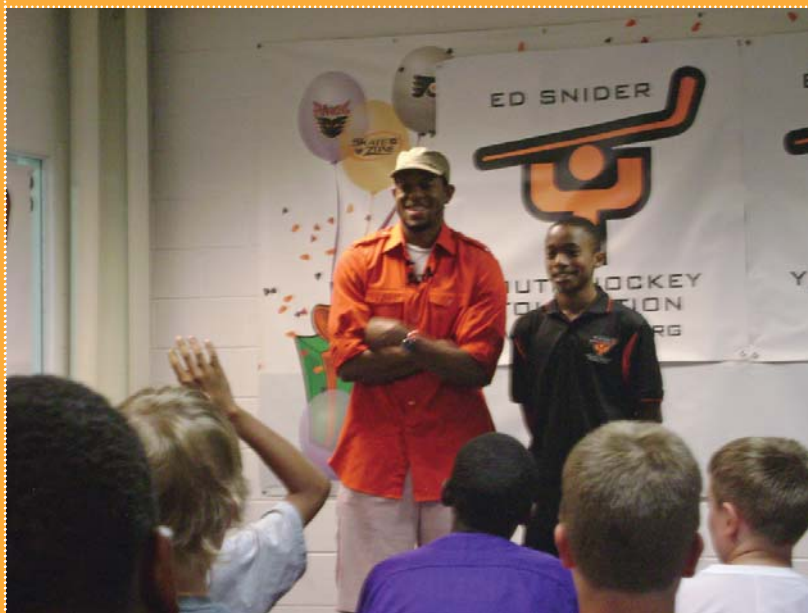
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<http://teacherweb.com/PA/DrexelNeumannAcademy/SchoolHomePage/SDHPJ.stm>

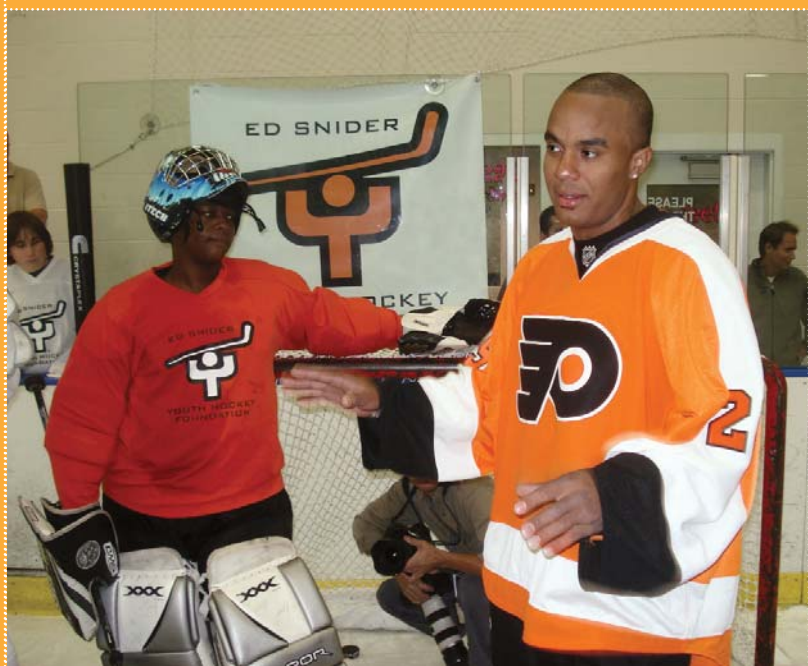


Flyers defenseman Chris Pronger spoke at an ESYHF summer camp about his prior accomplishments and his anticipation for the upcoming hockey season with the Flyers. Pronger even took to the time to chat one on one with a few of the students.





When Andre Iguodala of the Philadelphia 76ers visited ESYHF summer camp, Foundation player Thomas Brown formally introduced him to the other students with an informative, biographical speech. Iguodala then spoke about the importance of being a well-rounded individual, maintaining a strong work ethic in both athletics and academics, and taking nothing for granted.



Flyers goaltender Ray Emery also visited ESYHF summer camp. Emery took some time to pull all the goalies aside and work with them a bit on technique and control. He even borrowed a coach's stick and gloves and tested his shot against the young goalies.

## Charter Members



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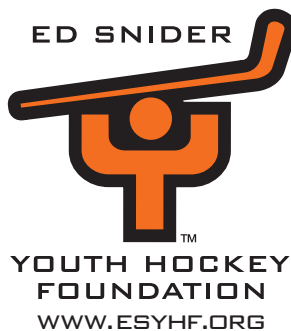
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**\$1,000 – \$4,999**

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## ESYHF PARTICIPANTS TRAVEL TO NEW YORK FOR NATIONAL COMPETITION



*Foundation participants Jacob Hoffman (left) and Alex Podagrosi visit Empire State Building while competing in Ace Bailey National Skills Competition in New York.*

Five students received the chance of a lifetime when they were selected to compete in the 2009 Ace Bailey Got Skills National Championships (June 26-28). The "Got Skills Competition" is a nationwide showcase of youth hockey talent held in New York City at the Aviator Sports Complex with over 100 competitors from 12 states and Canada. Two ESYHF players advanced to the finals in their respective events.

Even more thrilling than the chance to compete in a national skills competition was the day the group spent in Manhattan. For most of the players, it was their first time seeing the "Big Apple" in person. The players crossed the Brooklyn Bridge, toured the Empire State Building, and had lunch in the ESPN Zone. In the afternoon, ESYHF became the first youth hockey team to get a behind-the-scenes tour of the RBK NHL Store in Manhattan. The group was able to go into the XM Radio Studio which is used for the NHL Show. They were also shown how an authentic Flyers jersey is made. This was a once in a lifetime trip that these students will never forget!