HOFFMAN ESTATES HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETES HONORED WITH 'GREAT CITIZENS AWARD' FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE



Hoffman Estates High School wrestlers and cheerleaders visit residents at the Alden Poplar Creek Rehabilitation and Health Center on Valentine's Day.

The Village of Hoffman Estates honored Hoffman Estates High School athletes for volunteering efforts that made an impact in their community.

The varsity wrestling and cheerleading squads from Hoffman Estates High School were presented with "Great Citizens Award" from the village on April 15. These studentathletes were nominated for this honor recognizing the time they volunteered this past Valentine's Day with residents at the Alden Poplar Creek Rehabilitation and Health Center in Hoffman Estates.

Student wrestlers and cheerleaders spent the afternoon with residents passing out hand-crafted valentines created by local elementary students. The cheerleaders performed cheers while wrestlers serenaded residents after they crowned a king and queen at the Valentines party.

"It's our obligation as coaches and role models to mold students into not only great athletes, but also outstanding citizens, as well," said Tony Ganas, HEHS head wrestling coach who credits his own high school coach as influential in his instilled morals and values. "It is extremely fulfilling to see these individuals rewarded for their selfless acts."

Both Ganas and Head Cheerleading Coach Brittany London were presented with a "Great Citizens Award" plaque. London, who is a newcomer to the athletic staff at Hoffman Estates High School, said they will remember this event for a long time.

"With new coaches on staff and a new group of student-athletes, this will be the year forever remembered as changing the face of Hoffman cheerleading," London said.

With a state qualification under the teams' belts, this award continues to exemplify their student-athletes' dedication to exceed high expectations placed upon them. These varsity athletes were honored to receive such a prestigious award and are excited for new community service opportunities in the future.

Watch the video below created by the Village of Hoffman Estates covering the students' visit to the rehabilitation center.