

PRESS RELEASE

HCC Bowling to Sign Freeport Lady Pretz Bowler to 2016-2017 Roster

Highland Cougar Bowling to sign Megan Drake to National Letter of Intent

Freeport, IL April 14, 2016: The Highland Cougar Bowling Program is proud to announce their first Lady Cougar 2016-2017 signing of a student/athletes to a National Letter of Intent. Megan Drake from Freeport High School in Freeport, Illinois has committed to the Highland Community College Bowling Program for 2016-2017.

Drake, a Varsity Bowler for the Lady Pretzels of Freeport High was a member of the FHS team that finished 2nd in the state IHSA State Championship in Rockford, Illinois.

Jeff Johnson, the Director of Bowling for Highland Bowling is excited about the Drake addition and looks forward to her being part of the talented incoming Freshman class.

"Adding Megan to this team is a true asset to what we are building at Highland," said Johnson who feels that Drake will adapt quickly to the collegiate bowling environment. "Megan is a bowling machine, and wants to win. She is very dedicated to her game, and wants to get better. With the returning sophomores, and the talented incoming recruits that we have coming, 2016-2017 is showing a lot of promise talent-wise for the Lady Cougars at Highland."

Highland Lady Cougars Head Coach, Todd Johnson, is excited about the opportunity to bring talented freshman to his team that will make the team better as a whole, while he strives to build a team that will compete for a national championship.

"Megan brings our level of talent on the lanes to a whole new level," says Coach Johnson. "Being left-handed should give us a whole new look on the lane conditions at the collegiate level. I see her filling a role that we have been looking for when we compete at these top tier events. She understands we are building a 'team' where each person will have a roll. I have no doubt she will be a strong team player and

she will be surrounded by others with top-talent that will allow us to focus on bringing home a national championship for Highland."

The Highland Women's Bowling Team, while only in their 3rd year of competition, continue to surprise many with such a young program with their third consecutive berth into the Inter-Collegiate National Championships Sectionals. That berth has heralded their outlook for the future. The HCC Women's Bowling Team was consistently rated in the Top 30 in the nation, amongst all the large universities and bowling powerhouses throughout the United States. The top 64 teams in the nation are seeded into the USBC Intercollegiate Championships with the top 4 teams from sectionals advancing to the National Championships.

The Highland Lady Cougars, for the first time, won the WCBC Conference Title this season while beating much larger universities that include UW-Madison, UW-Milwaukee, UW-Platteville, Iowa, Iowa State, UW-Green Bay, and University of Minnesota – Mankato. The Highland Women's Bowling team also finished 4th in the nation at the NJCAA Nationals in Buffalo, NY, last February.

The 2016-2017 bowling season begins in September 2016.

The National Letter of Intent for Megan Drake will be signed at 4:30pm on Friday, April 15, 2016 in the HCC Board Room – on the 2nd Floor of Building H at Highland Community College. Please feel free to attend the event.

For additional information feel free to call:

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HCC Director of Bowling, Jeff Johnson – 815-238-8707
HCC Women's Head Coach, Todd Johnson – 815-275-5547