

PRESS RELEASE

HCC Bowling to Harlem High School Bowling Standout

Highland Cougar Bowling in Freeport, IL to sign Skylar Russo-Perry to National Letter of Intent

Freeport, IL May 3, 2016: The Highland Cougar Bowling Program is proud to announce their 2016-2017 signing of a top student/athletes to a National Letter of Intent. Skylar Russo-Perry, a senior from Harlem High School in Machesney Park, IL and a NIC-10 All-Conference bowler has committed to the Highland Community College Bowling Program for 2016-2017.

Jeff Johnson, the Director of Bowling for Highland Bowling has focused on particular talent for the incoming Freshman and is excited about adding Harlem's Russo-Perry to the program.

"Skylar is exactly the talent that we needed to add to make this Lady Cougar team a favorite to win the NJCAA National Championship in the 2016-2017 season," says Jeff Johnson who not only likes her abilities on the lanes, but also likes her potential to adapt to the collegiate bowling environment. "Skylar is that type of bowler that with her game, she has the ability to dominate the collegiate conditions that we will bowl on. Skylar has competed at the highest levels in high school bowling and with a great program at Harlem High. We couldn't have hand-picked a better talent to add to our Lady Cougar Team."

Russo-Perry bowled for the Huskies of Harlem High who were the 2015-2016 NIC-10 Conference Champions. She also earned NIC-10 All-Conference Honors as one of the top average bowlers in the conference. She shot 1325 in IHSA Round Lake Sectional competition to be the high individual bowler at sectionals.

Highland Lady Cougar Head Coach, Todd Johnson, is equally excited about the opportunity to bring a 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.

"This is the bowler we have been patiently waiting to get signed," says Coach Todd Johnson. "You are always looking for your "ace" on the lanes, and with Skylar's talent and bowling resume' I am confident she

will adapt quickly with what we are doing at a high-level on the lanes. In addition, she will make the team better as a whole as it will allow us to utilize everyone's talent in the best way possible. We couldn't be more excited to add Skylar to our lineup."

The Highland Lady Cougars are the current WCBC Conference (soon to be the Great Lakes Conference) Champions which includes the teams of UW-Madison, UW-Milwaukee, UW-Platteville, University of Minnesota-Maketo, University of Iowa, Iowa State University, and UW-Green Bay. While Highland is by-far the smallest school in the conference, their talent on the lanes is evident as they won 2 of their 4 conference tournaments and consistently outscored the field as they won the Conference title for the first time in school history this past season.

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. That berth has heralded their outlook for the future. The HCC Women's Bowling Team was consistently rated in the Top 35 teams 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 HCC Women have advanced to sectionals the past three years.

The Highland Women's Bowling team also finished 4th in the nation at the NJCAA Nationals in Buffalo, NY, last February. They were the NJCAA National Runner-Up in 2014.

The 2016-2017 bowling season begins in September 2016.

The National Letter of Intent for Skylar Russo-Perry will be signed at 4:00pm on Wednesday, May 4, 2016 in the Commons at Harlem High School in Machesney Park, IL. Please feel free to attend the event.

For additional information feel free to call:

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