

I would like to nominate River Falls High School senior goaltender and Captain Carlie Christensen to be selected as the 2014 Miss Hockey award recipient. Carlie is very passionate and dedicated to not just hockey and her other athletics, but is equally as dedicated to her academics and community service as well. She is as well-rounded as they come.

Carlie has always challenged herself in school by taking very rigorous courses throughout all four years of high school including almost every honors and Advanced Placement class there is to offer at her school. Despite taking these difficult courses, Carlie was able to maintain a 3.97 GPA earning herself academic letter awards every year and the Big Rivers All-Conference award her junior year for being both an outstanding athlete and student. Carlie is also a very talented artist. Her teacher has selected a number of her pieces to enter in various galleries in which she has been awarded first place prizes in many of them.

Carlie is very involved in her school and community and has made a lasting impact by actively participating in clubs throughout her high school career including Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Pep Club, Future Business Leaders of America, and Connecting All Together Socially which is a group that helps and interacts with the cognitively disabled students in her school. She also is very active in the community through volunteering countless hours at the local youth hockey associations. She is always at the rink either helping with tournaments, or helping with younger teams by coaching goalies at their practices at several levels ranging from squirts to U14. On top of that she also serves as one of the most qualified referees at both Baldwin and River Falls Youth Hockey Associations every weekend.

Carlie works extremely hard when it comes to athletics as well. She has been a member of the Fusion for all four years including being a member of the State Championship team her freshman year. She was named a Big Rivers All-Conference Honorable Mention her junior year while also finishing in the top 10 in the state for goaltenders almost every year. She played volleyball her freshman year in addition to being the starting catcher on the Varsity softball team for all four years as well. She was awarded her team's Defensive Player of the Year her junior year for her outstanding performance on the field.

With everything Carlie does, she takes a huge leadership role in all of it. She is very well-liked and looked up to by her peers. Although her class size is 270, she was voted onto homecoming court this year by her classmates, was voted to be the Head of Public Relations for FBLA, and serves as a team Captain of her softball team for junior and senior year and as a Captain on our hockey team for senior year. Despite all of the success she has earned up to this point and as astonishing as it is, Carlie is even more outstanding because she has been able to accomplish all of that while being younger than everyone she competes against in her grade. Due to her skipping second grade, she started high school when she was just 13 years old and competes now in everything as a 16 year old senior. Not only is Carlie one of the best goalies in our league she is one of the greatest kids that I have ever coached.

Matt Cranston (Fusion)