

March Athlete of the Month: Isabelle Ellwein

BY MATT NIEDERBAUMER, CFP® Vantage Financial, Partner, Senior Wealth Advisor

Isabelle Ellwein is a senior athlete at Huron High School participating in volleyball, basketball, and dance. Her athletic journey started in kindergarten when her mom encouraged her to join dance at Core Kinetics, and by third grade, Isabelle had joined the basketball team her mom coached. Her love of sports continued to grow and today she is a four-year member of the Varsity basketball team (guard) and Varsity volleyball team (middle/right side hitter). Additionally, Isabelle continues to perform in a variety of dance styles and has a solo this year.

Through hard work and dedication, Isabelle made a name for herself on the court by earning the Most Improved Player award her junior basketball season and helping her team win the ESD championship in volleyball. This season Isabelle serves as lead captain; her impressive performance and efforts do not go unnoticed by her coaches and teammates. Varsity basketball coach and teacher, Tim Buddenhagen, shared, “[Isabelle] sets high standards for herself, and through the power of perseverance and determination she often achieves her goals.” Isabelle’s success has not come without obstacles; in her junior year, Isabelle sustained a knee injury that required surgery and physical therapy to recover. She shared of her experience, “I knew rehabbing would be tough and I had to work very hard to get back on track to where I was to be the successful athlete I wanted to be.” Her determination, discipline, and support from friends helped her return to competition. “After I was back, there was nothing in my way. I was grateful to be back and with no limitations.”

Isabelle’s goals for her senior basketball season include qualifying for the state tournament and ending the season with a record over 500. In addition to her many athletic accomplishments, Isabelle maintains an excellent GPA and participates in FBLA (secretary), pep club, and church services as an altar server. After graduation, Isabelle looks forward to attending Mount Marty University in Yankton to pursue a degree in human services and continue her basketball career at the collegiate level.

To obtain an application for the Athlete of the Month Scholarship program email bfast@vfplanning.com, visit Vantage Financial Partners website at www.vfplanning.com, or ask your high school guidance counselor. If you are a high school senior who plays sports, attends a SD high school, you are eligible to apply for a \$1,500 scholarship.



Getting to know Isabelle:

FAVORITE QUOTE:

“Don’t wish for it, work for it.”

FAVORITE FOOD:

Pasta

HIGHLIGHT OF YOUR SPORT CAREER:

Beating O’Gorman my junior year at home on senior night.

NICKNAME:

My friends call me “Is” because it’s easier than Isabelle.

FAVORITE CLASS:

Biomedical science because of the fun labs and the experiments with solving fake cases.

A FAVORITE FAMILY TRADITION:

Playing card games and board games during the holidays with my family.

FUN FACT:

I am the oldest of five kids, which has helped me become a good multitasker and organizer.



BOTH PHOTOS TAKEN BY LANDSTROM’S PHOTO LOFT, BOB LANDSTROM



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