

# February Athlete of the Month: Abby Aslesen

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

Abby Aslesen, a senior at Howard High School, comes from a family of avid basketball fans. Both of Abby's parents played college basketball so naturally she started at an early age and became passionate about the sport. Abby has played basketball for 12 years and competes as a forward on her high school team. She is grateful for the relationships and opportunities she has gained through her athletic experience. Over the years, Abby has learned that the time and effort she puts into training and practice directly leads to success. She has spent many late nights in her high school gym practicing free throws, ball-handling, and post moves. Usually, she will stay in the gym until a teacher or one of her parents kicks her out. Abby shared, "I hope that as I continue to prioritize these principal values in my life, I will continue to find success on and off the court." Abby has earned numerous awards including Midco Player of the Week, Varsity Offensive MVP, Breakout Player of the Year, Hansen Anderson magazine cover athlete, in addition to being named to the All-Conference First Team and Second Team. Head Coach Travis Aslesen describes Abby as a "determined, no-nonsense leader" whose drive for excellence and success brings out the best in her teammates. Abby is "the glue that keeps the team together . . . and [she is] determined to help others find their fire for competition and success." With a high regard for team unity, and maintaining a positive attitude, Abby uplifts all those around her. In addition to her success on the basketball court, Abby is also a talented volleyball player who recently finished her 10th and final varsity season as a middle hitter. She was named MVP and Second Team All-Conference while serving as team captain for the last two years.



In the classroom, Abby is recognized as a scholar in her class having earned high marks by focusing on her studies with the same dedication, effort, and diligence as she demonstrates on the court. She is a member of the student council, National Honors Society, choir, and quiz bowl. Next fall, Abby will attend Valley City State University in North Dakota where she has earned a basketball scholarship. Abby is looking forward to competing at the collegiate level and pursuing a degree in Communications with a concentration in Digital Media Management.

To obtain an application for the Athlete of the Month Scholarship program email [bfast@vfplanning.com](mailto:bfast@vfplanning.com), visit Vantage Financial Partners website at [www.vfplanning.com](http://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 Abby:

**FAVORITE QUOTE:** For truly, I say to you, if you have faith like a grain of mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move, and nothing will be impossible for you. - Matthew 17:20

**FAVORITE FOOD:** Nachos

**FAVORITE LATE-NIGHT SNACK:** Oreos with milk

**HIGHLIGHT OF YOUR SPORT CAREER:** Winning the SoDak 16 game to make it to the State Tournament during my junior year. I think that was the best basketball game my team had played all season. Everyone contributed to the win, and it was just such a great memory that I will always have.

**FAVORITE HS CLASS:** Trigonometry. My teacher Mr. Wiese instilled so much confidence in myself and my academic abilities. We engaged in many interactive activities, which you don't normally get to do in a regular math class.

**FAVORITE FAMILY GAME:** Mario Kart on the Wii. My family can get a little too competitive with it, but we always have so much fun!

**FUN FACT:** If I ever drop a penny and it lands heads up, I always leave it for someone else so that they can have good luck!



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