

NCR Scholarship Personal Letter- Alexis Heinle

Volleyball has impacted my life in ways I didn't think were possible and I am forever grateful to be a part of something bigger than myself. Since starting volleyball in fourth grade, I have grown and matured in a lot of different aspects of my life, and created so many lifelong friendships. Mental toughness is one of the biggest areas I've grown in since being a part of sports, specifically volleyball. Throughout my volleyball career there have been many ups and downs and because of those moments I have grown into a stronger, more mature person, and learned how to handle many situations outside of volleyball.

Volleyball has given me the opportunity to step outside of my comfort zone and become a leader. After being on varsity since sophomore year, my senior year I got the honor of being a team captain and getting to lead my teammates on and off the court. Being a leader was not something I imagined myself ever doing being a nervous sophomore on the varsity court, but when the opportunity arose I took it with great pride and I am so grateful for the opportunity to have been a team captain. This role of leadership that I learned throughout my time as a Century Patriot volleyball player, will carry into future situations like having a job someday and needing to step up and be a leader or even just having to lead in a class project. That leads me to what volleyball has taught me outside of the court and into the classroom. I have learned important skills of perseverance when things get hard or an assignment is really tough. I have had to learn how to be okay with not being perfect as I am a perfectionist and it is still something I work on/ struggle with but I am working through it on the court and academically. Another thing volleyball has taught me is time management. Being a student athlete is definitely not easy but I'm so grateful for it, especially going into college athletics and I am going to have to learn to balance school, volleyball, friends and family time. I know it will not always be easy but I also know that volleyball will provide me with immense support and connect me with lifelong friends.

In the future, I plan to pursue a degree in nursing. I am passionate about helping others and making a positive impact in people's lives, especially during times when they need it most. The skills I have developed through volleyball, teamwork, resilience, leadership, and determination, will directly support me in succeeding in a rigorous nursing program and in an intense, critical healthcare environment.

I believe I am deserving of this scholarship because I have demonstrated dedication both academically and athletically, while continuing to grow as a leader and role model. I have committed myself to balancing the responsibilities of being a student-athlete while maintaining strong academic performance and contributing positively to my team. Receiving this scholarship would help ease the financial burden of college, especially as I continue playing volleyball at the collegiate level, where time for outside work will be limited. This support would allow me to focus more fully on my education and future career goals.

Volleyball has shaped me into the person I am today, and I am confident that the lessons I have learned through the sport will continue to guide me in achieving my goals and making a meaningful impact in the future.

