Hansen wins Metro Spotlight award

Maddie Hansen of Cedar Rapids Jefferson has been named the first winner of the Metro Spotlight award for high school girls, as presented by the Metro Sports Report.

Hansen, a power-hitting catcher, helped the J-Hawks finish fifth in the Class 5A state tournament this year and compile a 33-12 record.

Hansen hit .500 with seven home runs and 69 RBIs as a sophomore. She led the Mississippi Valley Conference and Class 5A in RBIs and finished second overall in the state. She's also an accomplished catcher and committed only one error for a fielding percentage of .997.

Hansen was named the Valley Division Athlete of the Year in the MVC this season. She also has been named to the Class 5A East All-District Team and was selected for the All-Tournament team at the state tournament.

Here is our Question-and-Answer session with Maddie Hansen:

MSR: What is your favorite sports moment as an individual?

HANSEN: My favorite sports moment as an individual was this year when I received the honor of being on the all-tournament team at state.

MSR: What is your favorite sports moment as a team?

HANSEN: My favorite sports moment as a team was at the state tournament this year when we battled back to take fifth place and never gave up.

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MSR: Who has had the biggest influence on your sports career?

HANSEN: Both of my parents have had the biggest influence on my sports career because they are the ones who have allowed me to get where I am today. They both have pushed me to be the best that I can and they have never not been there for me when I needed them.

MSR: What are your future goals in sports?

HANSEN: My future goals in sports are returning to the state tournament the next two years and then playing softball for a Division I college.

MSR: What are your favorite subjects in school?

HANSEN: My favorite subjects in school include science, math and performance PE.

MSR: What has been your favorite community service project?

HANSEN: My favorite community service project is serving meals to people or just doing anything I can that helps people out!