

Ally Beischler Experienced Beyond Her Age



Photo by Dave Harbour

At just 17 years old and a junior at Service High School, Ally Beischler has proven herself to be a Great Kid! When she was only 13 years old, Ally signed on for a 3-year commitment as commissioner for the Parks and Recreation Commission. Ally has since retired from her duties as commissioner to focus on her studies, but remains involved as time permits.

This year, Ally also became a Change of Heart Trainer giving her the opportunity to reduce prejudices and help build positive relationships between students and adults at school. She uses her role as trainer to

speak to her peers about these issues and has even taught an all day seminar for 20-30 fellow students.

Ally's volunteer work is no small feat when you learn that she deals with the daily challenges brought on by cerebral palsy. She remains active despite the effects that sometimes inhibit her vision and walking. In 2007, Ally was selected as one of 44 student athletes to attend the National Paralympic Academy in Colorado Spring, CO. "Ally is simply a great kid who demonstrates her leadership ability in many settings. I have known her to lead in the classroom, within our community, on the ski slopes, and on a basketball court. Ally is an impressive young girl who has already accomplished more than most people twice her age. Ally is a shining star and all who know her anticipate great success in her future," says Dave Poulin, ASD Adapted Physical Educator & ASD Paralympic Sports Alaska coach.

Despite the disadvantages Ally faces, she maintains a positive attitude and refreshing outlook on life. She challenges herself with difficult course loads, never using her disabilities as a crutch. Ally looks forward to future opportunities to serve others and hopes to continually inspire those around her.

good news
GREAT KIDS

***A salute to the youth of Anchorage from the Office of the Mayor,
the Anchorage Daily News, AT&T, and the University of Alaska***