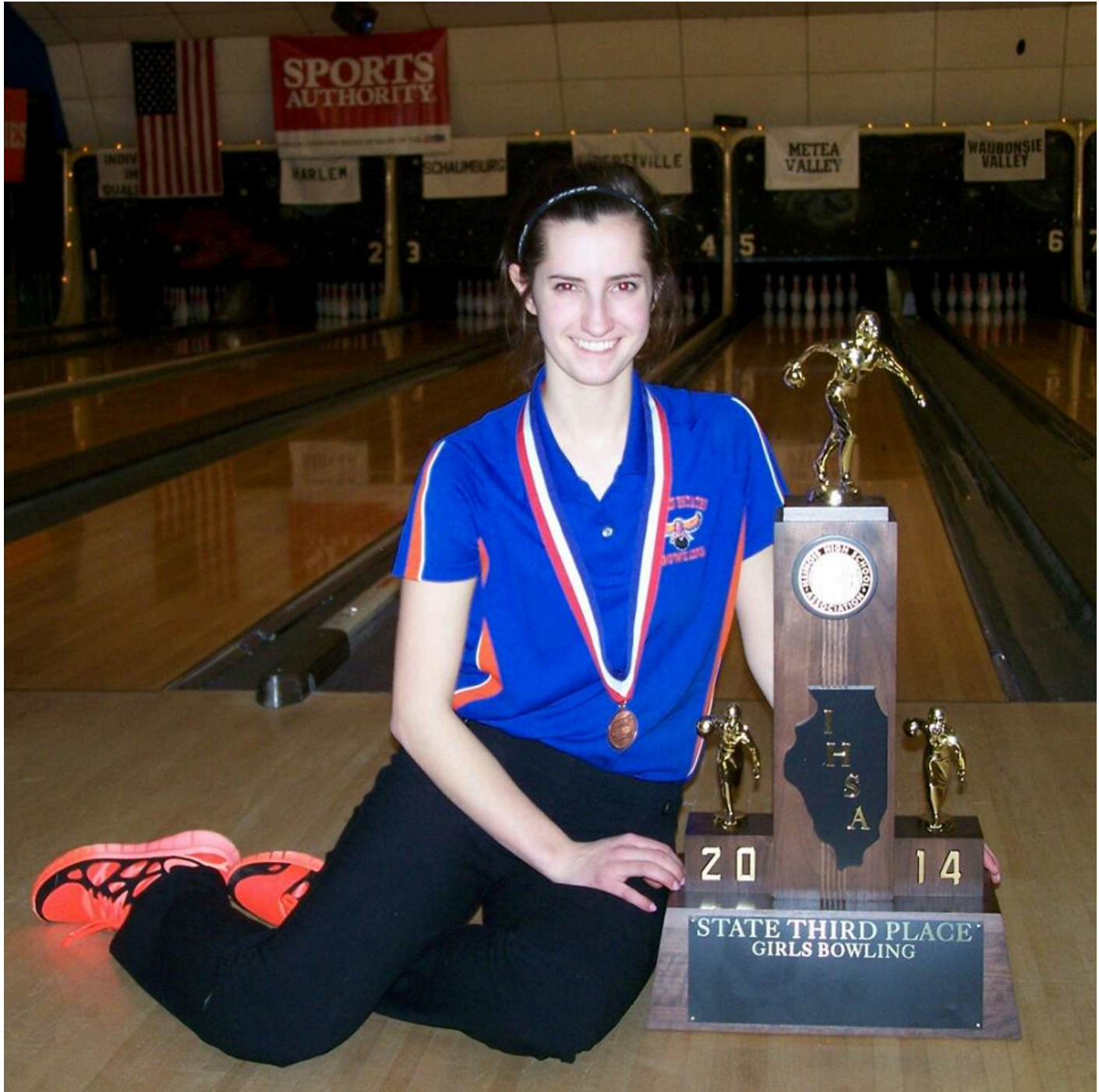


D211 POST: HOFFMAN ESTATES ALUMNAE SELECTED FOR TEAM USA BOWLING



When Sarah Wille, a 2014 graduate of Hoffman Estates High School was a small child, her grandmother gave her a bowling ball. That gift set her on a path which has included multiple competitions, try-outs, state playoffs, championships, even a visit to the White House. Now Willie can add Team USA member to the list.

Wille was named to the Team USA Women's bowling team following tryouts earlier this year. She said when she heard her name called she was shocked.

"I thought about all of the people I was trying out against," she said. "I didn't think I was going to make it this time. When they called me, I cried because I was so happy."

Wille was a four-year varsity letter recipient during her time with the Hawks, including a senior season which saw the team place third in state. Coach Dan Pfligler said Wille was a player with a “team first,” mentality.

“She was a pleasure to coach as she never complained about anything,” Pfligler said. “She’s a bowler that a coach wishes you had a whole team of.”



After graduating from Wille went on to play at McKendree College under coach Shannon O’Keefe. Earlier this year McKendree won the NCAA National Bowling Championship.

O’Keefe said when Wille graduates, the team will miss her.

“Sarah brings a never quite attitude and a silliness that can lighten any mood,” O’Keefe said. “The team is going to miss her when she graduates.”

O’Keefe, also a member of Team USA said she is looking forward to working with Wille as a teammate.

“Sarah is a phenomenal player, with a work ethic like I’ve never seen,” O’Keefe said. “She is a true leader in our collegiate team, and I’m so proud that I also get to now call her a teammate on Team USA!”



Wille said with the transition to Team USA she is looking forward to the new experiences.

“I am looking forward to bowling with the greatest in the world,” Wille said. “All these women are a real inspiration.”

With this announcement, Wille will attend a training camp in Texas later this year.