

February 17, 2010

To whom this may concern,

My name is Imani Rice and I would like to nominate Elizabeth Esposito (my coach) from the Crofton Seniors Team. She is an amazing coach that believes in every member of my team. I am new to the Crofton Cheer family and have had an amazing journey up to this point. I joined the cheer family in fall of 2009 and learned that cheer is not a bunch of girls pumping up the crowds, but cheering is a sport. My teams coach is a classic example of a **leader** and a **mentor**.

As the competitive season began, my mom could not financially afford for my sister and I to continue with the team. Coach Beth saw the dedication we have and made it possible for us to continue. I must truly say she has made my life exciting and my sisters too. She has taught us to do our personal best not only on the team, but at everything we do.

I was not sure if I was the only person on the team that felt this way so I asked my team mates. It boils down to the fact that she is GREAT! She is always helpful when our parents are not available to drive us to practice, were never hungry, always making sure we have everything we need even though we are old enough to keep up with our things.

Sometimes I think it must be hard for her daughter Destiny to have to share her mom with so many girls that look up to her and depend on her. I also know that our coach is fair to everyone and does not allow drama to interfere with our practices. I love it!! It is so hard to be a teen in middle school and have a place that is positive and no pressures, just cheer. Coach Beth makes this possible.

With regards to this award, she constantly takes time from her personal life to make sure we have enough practices, uniform pieces, quality fundraising (maybe better than Girl Scout cookies) and contributing her famous words of "It's not about coming in first place, number one is doing your best". At first I did not understand the logic, but after last season we knew exactly what she meant.

Thank you for considering our coach,

Imani Rice, Tiffany Hawkins, Skylar Galery, Chloe Wright, Shelby Manning and our mom's.