

## **Carly P Thomas**

### **Youth Star of Tomorrow**



Carly P Thomas, 15, is the daughter of Carl and Kathy Thomas of Frederick and the granddaughter of Buddy and Ruth Weddle of Yellow Springs, and Carl Thomas, Sr. of Frederick. Carly fell in love with bowling at a very early age when she joined a summer bowling camp at the age of four. She has bowled in a sanctioned youth league ever since and is currently a league bowler in the youth Strikes and Spares League at Thunderhead Bowl in Taneytown, Maryland.

Carly is a sophomore at Gov. Thomas Johnson High School in Frederick, Maryland and has been an honor roll student throughout middle and high school and is currently taking all honors and Advance Placement classes. Carly also takes several dance classes a week in jazz, tap, ballet, lyrical, hip-hop and Irish Dancing. Carly has been a dance student at Bettie Jane's Center of Dance Art since preschool and is beginning her 12th year of study this month.

Carly, who is left-handed, has bowled in numerous local, regional and state tournaments including the High Average Tournaments and the 600 Tournaments. For many years she has qualified for the Pepsi Tournament. Carly is the 2010 Maryland All-Events Champion in the girls scratch division and placed 3rd in All-Events at the 2010 Central Maryland Tournament in the girl's scratch division. At the 2009 High Average Tournament, Carly finished in 6<sup>th</sup> place and in 2010 finished 3rd at the same tournament. She has carried the top female scratch average in her league for two years.

In 2007, Carly traveled to Holland to bowl as a member of 'People To People'. The opportunity to travel abroad and promote a sport she loves was an invaluable experience. She was fortunate enough to meet other youth bowlers from many different places around the world and the United States; and made several friends that she keeps in touch with still today.

Carly has participated in the Youth Open Championships since their inception in 2007. In 2010, Carly qualified for her first Junior Gold tournament. Going into the tournament she set a goal to finish in the top half so she was thrilled when she finished 187 out of 521 girls. Carly has already won a spot at the 2011 Junior Gold Tournament in Las Vegas, Nevada. Carly attended several seminars while in Indianapolis and had the opportunity to speak to representatives of many colleges.

Carly is now beginning her 4th year as a member of the PJBT (Pennsylvania Junior Bowler's Tour) and has just switched to the scratch division from the handicap division in 2010. She has

won many trophies and awards from these tournaments as well as numerous scholarships. Through PJBT she has had the opportunity to bowl with some of the best youth bowlers in the country including several Team USA members.

Carly has participated in various fundraising activities to raise money for cancer research, the American Heart Association and her local animal shelter. She has also been a youth volunteer for many men's and women's bowling tournaments at the association and state level. Carly also volunteers as a student teacher of Irish Dance at the Beaton School of Irish Dance in Frederick.

Carly has attended bowling camp at Wichita State University for the past two years. The feedback and suggestions she gets from coaches Gordon Vadakin and Mark Lewis help to improve her game and she enjoys spending time on a college campus with other bowlers who have similar goals and aspirations. Carly is coached by Tom Barna, Sr., a Bronze level coach from Westminster, Maryland. She credits him with much of her success on the bowling lanes and for being such a positive influence on her life.

