# Messages from the Comet family

## Julia Ellis:

Oh boy where to start. I wore #20, I picked the number because of Chelsea. I looked up to the player and teammate she was. I grew up watching her, and Mariah play. I looked up to both of them. Mariah was a family friend that use to babysit us and she was the best babysitter by far so of course I wanted to play for the same team. I looked up to Chelsea of course cuz she was my sister. I had the goal to be the best teammate I could be because of her. I saw how she cared and tried to be the best co-captain she could and all her little traditions like Swedish fish for every away game. I saw how much she cared about the little things. I remember my father saying that no matter your talent hockey is a team sport and the little things to get



the team to get along matters more than your own success. I took that to heart and did all the little things I could whether someone noticed or not. To me wearing the comet jersey was a goal achieved was me fitting in somewhere I didn't think I'd ever fit it. Wearing the comet jersey you become no matter how long you wear it, part of a family. I didn't get much game time but I still cheered on my teammates and helped where I could. Every little thing counts. I just ask for future comets to put aside your "beef" with other teammates and get to know each other and take in account that the team mate you have "beef" with may actually be one of the few people that could help you. Listen to your teammates and help each other, you're more than teammates, you're family. Think about you spend most of your time with each other, there's a bonding forming, embrace it don't resist

# **Hailey Savage**

Believe is a word that has a lot of different meanings to a lot of different people. While playing for the Comets, "believe" was a word that pushed me to have extreme faith in every single one of my teammates day in and day out. The team bond while I was on the team meant the most to me. These are relationships that will never be replicated again in life. Everytime I said "believe" I was letting my teammates know that I believed in them and what we were working towards.

I wore number 17. I grew up going into the Comet locker room all the time due to being best friends with the coach's daughter (Chloe Rouleau). These players were my first role models, and it was my goal to be exactly like them when I grew up. When I was a kid the Comet hockey players were the coolest people on Earth. The Comet jerseys have been the same for years, and by the time I was in highschool I got to put on the same jersey that my childhood role models wore. The jersey shows the relationships and tradition that the Comet program has in our community.

I am **Carolyn Perry** (class of 2020), and I played Comet Hockey all four years of high-school. I 100% believe Comet Hockey changed my life and attitude completely. When I made the team my freshman year it was definitely one of the best days of my life. I'm sure other people who weren't trying out thought it was just another team, but it wasn't; if you are on that team you know it's not. It's not like any other sport. You are spending almost every single day for 4 months with a group of girls pushing your limits farther than you thought they could be pushed. Almost everyday you are all battling against each other to be the best, but on those other days you have to battle together to prove you are the better team.

Every time we came together as a team we always said "believe". After practice, before a game, in the middle of a game, losing a game 5-0, we were always saying believe. Even if we didn't really believe at the time that we could win, or block another shot. But hearing 15 other girls yell that in your ear, you kind of had no choice but to believe. Comet hockey taught me that if you have faith or if you believe you will be able to achieve that goal. It may not be that day, or even that year. But if you try hard enough and believe hard enough, anything is possible.

During my four years of comet hockey I wore number 9 and 11. Number 9 has always been my number and when I couldn't be number 9 my freshman year I settled for 11... my second favorite number. At the time there was no particular reason why number 9 was my favorite. But now anytime I think of why number 9 is my favorite, I will know it's because that's the number I wore when I was a Comet Hockey player.

I'm **Missy Garceau** and I played with the Comets from 2013 to 2016. I wore jersey number 12. To me, this jersey wasn't just about representing green and gold, it was more than that. It was having the privilege to wear the jersey following so many valuable, strong woman that I've always looked up to and for being apart of a family that carries so much heart. Having had the opportunity to wear the Comet jersey is and always will be one of my most cherished memories.

Believing, to me is having the confidence in the your own capabilities as well as others around you. It's about having faith in your teammates, coaches and most importantly yourself. You can achieve anything you want if you put your mind to it, trust the process and just believe.

Your last game as a Comet will come fast and you will look back wishing you could play another shift with your teammates, have another team dinner or just wear the jersey one more time so make every moment count!

Enjoy and good luck ladies!

### **Kristine Dodd**

Whenever I'm asked or reminisce about Comet hockey a lot of things pop into my head, but



most importantly I think about the family we've all become, friends I made that last a lifetime, the coaches that made differences in so many young lives, those same coaches who personally changed my life for the better in so many ways on and off the ice and taught me how to see life in different perspectives.

We are all out there to play the game we've grown to love and while the years fly by we learn about hard work, positivity, trust, working together as a team, becoming role models and better individuals thanks to Coach Cioffi & Coach Rouleau.

I was proudly able to wear #16 for two seasons, as we'd just started the varsity team my junior year. To say that was a privilege is an understatement, I'll never forget what it felt like to put that brand new jersey on for the first time, we wanted to show everyone what we could do and that we belonged there. It was an honor to wear the Green and Gold and

always will be. We're a special group, we have a family that started in 2001 and is still going strong in 2022! I'll always be proud to be a part of this Comet family!

Believing is giving it your all for your teammates, coaches, family and BFA. Believing is pushing yourself that extra 60 second shift, knowing that it could change the outcome of the game. Believing is being down by a goal in the state championship game and tying it up with 43 seconds left. Believing is pushing yourself as hard as possible in OT to score that game winning goal to become State Champions.

Believing is Comet Hockey!

Best of luck to you ladies! I'll be cheering you on from North Carolina!

I'll start by introducing myself, my name is **Marriah Metz**. I wore number 14 in my time as a Comet. I graduated from BFA in 2015 and had the honor of being a part of the 2013 championship team. I also went on to play some club hockey at Northeastern University. I am currently studying veterinary medicine in London and no longer get the chance to play, except for the occasional Christmas eve alumni game.

Being a Comet is still something I pride myself on. Coach Cioffi and Rouleau instilled accountability, hard work and community service into me in my time as a Comet and I am reminded of it any time I am home, have a memory on Facebook, or see an update on the current Comets on social media. I look back and am so thankful that I was taught to not cut corners and to go the extra distance because once you leave BFA you will quickly realize that this is not the standard, and it will benefit you if you bring it into your education and work life. The community service you complete by helping to coach younger girls helps to inspire the future comets and provide good role models for their future. I loved getting to coach and seeing some of the kids I knew when they were young progress through youth hockey and up to comet hockey. The community service as elves for operation happiness was also another one of my

favorites as a Comet. Getting to help make Christmas a little brighter for others in the community always made the giving season feel a little more special.

Being a Comet is also a tradition, my older cousin was a Comet my sister was a Comet and so many sisters and cousins were on the team while I was a Comet. It is a family, a family that might sometimes get on your nerves like any family does but at the end of the day they are there for you and will always support you. Being a Comet is about being a genuine and kind person, showing compassion and empathy towards others in your community. In all honesty my time as a Comet taught me a bit about hockey, but it mostly shaped me into a caring person and for that I am extremely grateful!

I still have my Comet Hockey sweatshirt with me here in England. I still remember the times in the locker room with music blaring, the mile skates, the bus rides and team games, the mental and physical warm-ups the coaches would run before games, all the team meals, and of course the feeling of hitting the ice for state championship games. The details of the games you play will fade but the big moments and time spent with your team will stick with you as cherished memories. Remember to live in the moment and enjoy every game, but most importantly remember to treat each other with kindness and respect like the coaches have taught you, after all you're a part of the Comet family. Cherish this time and work hard knowing you have a long line of Comets rooting for you in your corner!

#### Makenna Larrow

There is no single more powerful force in this world than believing in yourself. More than any other factor, believing in yourself is the thing that will help you to achieve the things that you want to achieve. It's literally ridiculous how true that is. Plainly put, if you believe that you can do something, THEN YOU CAN. Belief changes reality. Believe it.

~ Bud Keene