

RAIDERETTE OF THE GAME

Audrey ROOKIE

BY JENNA ANGELO

Audrey is entering her first season with Football's Fabulous Females and she couldn't be more excited. Audrey began dancing at four years old and always had dreams to turn dance into a career. It wasn't until her preteen years in competitive dance that she considered the Raiderettes. Two of her instructors were on the squad and Audrey was in awe of their constant, positive energy, "I looked up to them so much," Audrey explained. At the age of 12 she wasn't able to audition for the team, so she did the next best thing - she signed up for Junior Raiderettes. "I would practice every single day, non-stop, so I could perfect the routine and impress the Raiderettes," Audrey recalled. "Performing in front of thousands of fans didn't scare me at all, it brought me so much energy." Audrey remembers coming off the field after her performance and thinking to herself, "This is what I will be one day."

Audrey was born in Montreal, Quebec, Canada, and came to California with her family at the age of four. She still holds citizenship in Canada, as well as the United States, and speaks both English and French fluently. Audrey currently attends Las Positas Community College and is working towards a nursing degree. She hopes to get into a nursing program at a Canadian university after she completes her coursework at the community college. Audrey's parents are both nurses and witnessing the positive impact they have had on the lives of others is what inspired her to enter the field.

When she's not studying or cheering with the Raiderettes, Audrey is a dance instructor at a local studio. She choreographs routines for competitions and annual recitals and gives general lessons and classes to students ages 3-19. Audrey claims the best part of her job is being able to share, not only her knowledge of dance, but her love of dance with her students every day. As her teammates have come to learn, one of Audrey's most defining characteristics is her willingness to share her space, time and energy with those around her. Her caring nature was obvious to her teammates before she even made the team. At auditions in May, Audrey was getting to know a few of the other hopefuls when one candidate mentioned she had to travel to participate and would be staying in a hotel if she made it to finals the following weekend. Without hesitation, Audrey opened her home to a person she had never met, offering her a place to sleep and a buddy to practice the finals routine with. Both Audrey and her new friend made the squad.

While all aspects of her rookie season are sure to be thrilling, Audrey is most excited to bond with her new teammates and experience the unconditional support of which the Raiderette sisterhood is made. When she walked off the field after her Junior Raiderette performance her journey began, and when she takes the field at the first home game she'll know that "one day" has finally come. This is who she is, a Raiderette.

