



RAIDERS GAMEDAY

RAIDERETTE OF THE GAME

Julie

2ND YEAR

BY JENNA ANGELO

Julie has settled in during her second season with the Raiderettes. Her strong dance background and leadership abilities earned her the honor of being named Line 4's Co-Captain. In addition to her role as a Raiderette, Julie is an elementary school teacher and manages a class of fourth graders on a daily basis, which is, no doubt, how she advanced her leadership skills. Julie graduated with honors from Loyola Marymount University and earned her master's in education from St. Mary's College. Julie has wanted to be a teacher as long as she can remember. "I even have a picture of myself from kindergarten graduation with the quote 'when Julie grows up she wants to be a teacher' underneath it. Now, here I am, eighteen years later working my dream job," Julie said, "I love what I do and I couldn't imagine doing anything else." Julie is passionate about finding new and creative ways to help children learn and connect. She has modeled her entire classroom structure after her favorite book series, Harry Potter, and even awards the students "house points" for good behavior.

While teaching and dancing are her passions, Julie claims the thing she is most committed to in her life is her family. Julie comes from a big, Swedish family, "Holidays at my house are never quiet," Julie said. One of her most cherished family traditions is Christmas Eve. "We start the night by going to see the newest movie out in theaters," Julie said. "Afterward we drive around looking at decorated houses and voting on which ones have the best lights- swearing the whole time that next year we'll step up our game. We finish the night with a big spaghetti dinner and tons of laughs." Christmas is her favorite time of year, not only because of the cheer and traditions, but because the season brings snow and winter sports. In addition to snowmobiling and sledding, Julie is an avid snowboarder and heads to the mountains any chance she gets.

When she's not on the sidelines, in the snow, or helping students grow, Julie can be found relaxing with her dog Maya, a Malamute, Husky, German Shepherd mix. Animals are another growing passion of Julie's and she recently connected with her Raiderette teammate Anabelle in a successful campaign to raise funds for the East Bay SPCA. In the future she hopes to get more involved with non-profit dog shelters, but for now she's taking things one day at a time ... she did just get settled in after all.

