POLEVAULT 04/06/16 T.GAUTHIER

 To the general public, track and field consists of the fastest people around or the athletes who can run for miles. But for junior trackster Riley Claude (KLAWD), track and field is the place for the competition of height. Trenten Gauthier has the story.

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Trenten Gauthier: Riley Claude, a junior pole vaulter at uw-river falls, holds the outdoor record at 3.72 meters, and has says pole vault is a unique event that not many people know about.

Riley Claude: There’s got to be something different about you if you want to grab a pole and run at a little box and try TO jump thirteen feet in the air.

Trenten Gauthier: Pole vault coach Jason Briggs, who has coached claude for three years, says she has improved in more ways than one.

Jason Briggs: Mentally and physically. She’s much more solid technically. And I think she doesn’t let things bother her as much as she used to when things don’t go as perfectly as she wants them to go, because you know she is a perfeCtionist. Every singe vault that you take, and that she’s every taken in her life has been unique and never been the same.

Trenten Gauthier: Claude’s current record is 12 feet and two inches, but she says that her goals are much higher.

Riley Claude: When I came here, and all through high school, my goal was to vault 13 feet. For the longest time, because when i went to state FOR THE first time my senior year in high school, i wathced these girls vault 13 feet. And I told myself that i was going to get 13 feet.

Trenten Gauthier: Claude says that in order to reach her goal, she has to just believe in herself and her training.

Riley Claude: Sometimes I just need to let myself vault, and do what i’ve been doing for the last six years, and just let my body do it.

Trenten Gauthier: For Falcon News Service, I’m Trenten Gauthier.

 Claude (KLAWD) and the Falcons continue their outdoor season Friday at the Ashton May Invitational at UW-La Crosse.

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