

## **Cameo Rector signs with publishing company at 15**

Written by Wauneta Breeze

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**Linda L. Young, left, MaxQ's publisher, looks on as Cameo Rector, right, a freshman at Wauneta-Palisade Schools, signs a contract to have her first manuscript published with MaxQ Enterprises based in Grant. (Courtesy Photo)**

**By Sheri Hink-Wagner**

**The Wauneta Breeze**

When looking over the credentials young Cameo Rector is adding to her list of accomplishments one may assume she will soon join the ranks of the college-bound.

But no, it will be a few more years before she takes that step. Rector, 15, is a freshman at Wauneta-Palisade Schools. Her parents are Luann and Rod Rector of Wauneta.

Rector signed a contract to have her first manuscript published with MaxQ Enterprises in mid January.

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What does 15-year-old Rector say about the experience? “I think it’s awesome. I’m excited but nervous because of what critics might say.”

Linda L. Young, MaxQ’s publisher, said Rector’s first book will be a series of short stories and will include sketches done by Rector. The book is scheduled for release in the spring of 2014.

MaxQ Enterprises, based in Grant, publishes books by several local authors as well as authors in Denver, New York, Connecticut and California.

MaxQ works mostly with first-time authors. “We bring authors on board who have long-term potential to make it as an author in a very tough industry. There’s a lot more involved in publishing a book than putting words on paper and printing it,” Young explained.

Young went on to explain why MaxQ signed Rector, “Cameo has that type of potential and drive. We at MaxQ look forward to working with Cameo to develop her talent to make her a successful author.”

Rector and Young have worked together before. “I know Cameo from when I lived in Wauneta, several years ago. It wasn’t difficult to see she had artistic potential then and it’s even more evident now,” said Young.

According to Rector, she has roughly 30 poems and a handful of short stories and illustrations ready for her manuscript. Her goal is to complete more short stories and illustrations for the book.

“I write in a way that other people can relate to what I’m writing about,” says Rector.

“When I read in the paper that she was writing, I sought her out, then chatted with her about

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putting together a book my company could publish, and now, we're taking the first steps to make that happen."

Rector finds time for her writing and drawing in between school work, one act, speech, volleyball, basketball, FFA, and participating in the school musical. Rector said she may also go out for track this spring.

In addition to school responsibilities, Rector works as an on-call dietary aide at the local nursing home.

So, with all that she has going on, how does Rector find time to write? Simple, she writes her stories and poems on the iPod she got for Christmas.

Right now, Rector's focus will be on finishing works for her book and coming up with a name for the book.

MaxQ's other local authors include Dr. Paul Bottom, BJ Wolfe, Naomi Schmitt, Shirley Gager, and Linda Lee.

Rector's work as an author was last mentioned in the Breeze in September 2012 when her poem, "Make-up," was published in a national contest.