

Jumping and Cheering for the Best

By: Kristin Grueninger

Go Figure

2

captains on each squad

6

pushups done when a touchdown is scored

8

hours spent at camp

Being first-year cheerleaders at the high school was a new level of cheering. Practicing a couple of days per week to learn all the new chants and the fight song can be pretty stressful.

Moving to the high school is also a new opportunity to meet people.

"Moving from Atlanta was very difficult for me; and cheerleading proved to be a great way to meet people. I've established some great relationships and experienced some memorable times," said **Katie Van Heidrich, 9**.

All of these girls have had their ups and downs. In the end of the season many friendships evolved.

"We've had some difficult times but we've also seen great times as well. Through learning to accept our differences and motivate each other, we've managed to pull off a successful season," said **Tia Waire, 9**.

It's not only the girls that bond but they include the coach and came very close together.

"Our coach, **Natalie Barger**, has been a great help with developing us into a unified squad," said **Heidrich**.

All in all, the freshman cheerleaders learned that practice makes perfect!

The junior varsity cheerleading squad played a major role in pumping our school team spirit up. Since the JV games were held on Saturday

mornings there weren't as many fans as the Friday night turnouts.

"We bonded together by supporting each other and pumping everyone up at games even if we only had a couple of fans at the early morning games," said **Misha Arnold, 10**.

These girls had a hard summer just like any other sport. Two days full of cheering for eight long hours.

"Our coaches really wanted us to look awesome so our practices were harder. People noticed our improvement which motivated us even more," said **Misha Arnold**.

There were a few changes the girls saw at the beginning of the season and one was the change in the coaching staff.

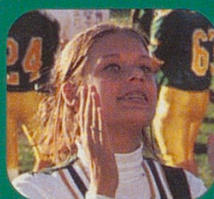
"We had a fun challenging season with the many new girls that all bonded together to make many memorable moments," said **Coach Britney Ogden**.

Monday and Wednesday practices were spent going to tumbling and practicing together with all squads. Varsity, JV, and the freshman squads all bonded and helped each other during the practices. Motivation is what kept everyone going.

"The difference between last year and this year was that last year we wanted to look good, but this year it seems like varsity pushed us to be the best, and not just good," said **Lisa Murphy, 10**.



Row 1: Katie Van Heidrich, Rachel Reardon, and Angela McGibney. Row 2: Tia Waire, Maria Borisvich, Jessica Pelfrey, and Lauren Taylor.



Jessica Pelfrey, 9, smiles after she finished a cheer. She was excited about the teams' play. She shared her happiness with everyone around her.



"Cheerleading was so much fun...I can't wait to cheer on JV next year!" Rachel Reardon, 9



Maria Borisvich, 9, cheered hard for the team. Moving around on the cold days helped her keep warm. The fans loved cheering with them.