

Eagles cheer, continued from Page 16

to cheer with him at high school.

“When he joined, I thought: Yay! A tumbling buddy.”

The girls unanimously concluded that the extra muscle Dowell brought to the team was the biggest difference as did Varsity Cheer Coach Soundrea McCarty.

“The strength has been nice behind it,” McCarty said. “The physical side of cheerleading but also what he brings with his personality. I think he’s very mature. Because with girls there can sometimes be drama, but Lane is the calm center. It’s nice to have that influence.”

McCarty also agreed with Boese in saying Dowell has to change up routines.

“I think the hardest thing is incorporating him into dances,” McCarty said. “Before it’s easy to do girly things, but when Lane is there you have to figure out what he is going to do. It’s a little bit different, figuring out how to incorporate him so he’s not shaking his hips like the girls do.”

McCarty is also excited to have Adams on the team.

“He’s wonderful,” McCarty said. “I’m excited to see what Wyatt will bring to the team this year. I think the girls do really well with both of them. A little bit of adjustment at first because they change on the bus after the games and since Lane and Wyatt are there they can’t do that. But I think both of

Battle of The River, continued from Page 12

- 1927: San Saba 13, Goldthwaite 0
- 1928: San Saba 26, Goldthwaite 0
- 1929: San Saba 37, Goldthwaite 0
- 1929: Goldthwaite 18, San Saba 13
- 1930: San Saba 28, Goldthwaite 0
- 1930: San Saba 26, Goldthwaite 6
- 1931: San Saba 18, Goldthwaite 0
- 1932: San Saba 14, Goldthwaite 7
- 1933: San Saba 12, Goldthwaite 6
- 1933: San Saba 51, Goldthwaite 0
- 1934: Goldthwaite 13, San Saba 0
- 1935: San Saba 33, Goldthwaite 0
- 1936: Goldthwaite 13, San Saba 0
- 1937: San Saba 30, Goldthwaite 0
- 1938: San Saba 42, Goldthwaite 0
- 1939: San Saba 28, Goldthwaite 0
- 1939: Goldthwaite 13, San Saba 7
- 1940: Goldthwaite 0, San Saba 0 (tie)
- 1941: San Saba 38, Goldthwaite 0
- 1942: San Saba 12, Goldthwaite 0
- 1943: San Saba 28, Goldthwaite 0
- 1944: Goldthwaite 21, San Saba 6
- 1945: Goldthwaite 6, San Saba 0
- 1946: Goldthwaite 12, San Saba 0
- 1948: San Saba 12, Goldthwaite 7
- 1949: San Saba 38, Goldthwaite 6
- 1950: San Saba 32, Goldthwaite 6
- 1951: San Saba 55, Goldthwaite 6
- 1953: San Saba 24, Goldthwaite 13
- 1954: San Saba 0, Goldthwaite 0 (tie)
- 1955: Goldthwaite 28, San Saba 13
- 1956: Goldthwaite 14, San Saba 0
- 1957: San Saba 12, Goldthwaite 7
- 1958: San Saba 24, Goldthwaite 0
- 1959: San Saba 8, Goldthwaite 6
- 1960: San Saba 42, Goldthwaite 0
- 1961: San Saba 24, Goldthwaite 6
- 1962: San Saba 8, Goldthwaite 2
- 1963: Goldthwaite 26, San Saba 20
- 1964: San Saba 14, Goldthwaite 0
- 1965: Goldthwaite 33, San Saba 15
- 1966: San Saba 23, Goldthwaite 6
- 1967: San Saba 32, Goldthwaite 13
- 1968: San Saba 23, Goldthwaite 0
- 1969: San Saba 31, Goldthwaite 14

- 1970: San Saba 7, Goldthwaite 0
- 1971: Goldthwaite 23, San Saba 12
- 1972: San Saba 21, Goldthwaite 6
- 1973: San Saba 41, Goldthwaite 0
- 1974: Goldthwaite 7, San Saba 0
- 1975: San Saba 34, Goldthwaite 15
- 1976: Goldthwaite 21, San Saba 14
- 1977: San Saba 30, Goldthwaite 14
- 1978: San Saba 44, Goldthwaite 8
- 1979: San Saba 42, Goldthwaite 20
- 1980: San Saba 46, Goldthwaite 6
- 1981: San Saba 15, Goldthwaite 0
- 1982: San Saba 41, Goldthwaite 12
- 1983: San Saba 11, Goldthwaite 10
- 1984: Goldthwaite 19, San Saba 7
- 1985: Goldthwaite 21, San Saba 6
- 1986: Goldthwaite 30, San Saba 8
- 1987: San Saba 21, Goldthwaite 14
- 1988: San Saba 7, Goldthwaite 0
- 1989: San Saba 27, Goldthwaite 10
- 1990: Goldthwaite 14, San Saba 14 (tie)
- 1991: San Saba 20, Goldthwaite 17
- 1992: Goldthwaite 28, San Saba 0
- 1993: San Saba 13, Goldthwaite 6
- 1994: Goldthwaite 40, San Saba 15
- 1995: Goldthwaite 48, San Saba 0
- 1996: San Saba 28, Goldthwaite 14
- 1997: Goldthwaite 49, San Saba 14
- 1998: Goldthwaite 20, San Saba 0
- 1999: Goldthwaite 35, San Saba 14
- 2000: Goldthwaite 19, San Saba 13
- 2001: Goldthwaite 38, San Saba 17
- 2002: San Saba 41, Goldthwaite 14
- 2003: San Saba 20, Goldthwaite 14
- 2004: Goldthwaite 21, San Saba 0
- 2005: Goldthwaite 21, San Saba 14
- 2006: Goldthwaite 41, San Saba 7
- 2007: Goldthwaite 30, San Saba 7
- 2008: Goldthwaite 35, San Saba 0
- 2009: Goldthwaite 27, San Saba 7
- 2010: Goldthwaite 20, San Saba 14 (OT)
- 2011: San Saba 35, Goldthwaite 29
- 2012: Goldthwaite 28, San Saba 14
- 2013: Goldthwaite 28, San Saba 14
- 2014: Goldthwaite 49, San Saba 6
- 2015: Goldthwaite 46, San Saba 6
- 2016: Goldthwaite 29, San Saba 0

them are like little brothers to the girls.”

**What A Family Really Is**

Even with all the change, the girls love having Lane on the squad.

“We’re always saying their our cheer sisters, but now we have a cheer brother,” Boese said. “We love him.”

The girls also enjoy having Adams on the squad and are excited to see what he will bring to the team.

“Because he’s a guy, I feel like he has different ideas on skits,” Co-Captain and senior Mallory Sutherland said. “If you’ll watch girl mascots, they tend to lean towards the same skits. But with Wyatt I think they are going to be a lot different.”

Junior Katie Whitted said she loves having Adams on the team.

“Wyatt is so energetic,” Whitted said. “There’s never a dull moment at practice.”

This is Dowell’s second year on the squad and Adams’ first. All the girls are excited to make new memories with Adams.

“At the start of the year everyone is just friends, at the end they are all family,” sophomore Emmary Petersen said. “Having a boy mascot gives us an opportunity to get to know him better and make him a part of our family.”

Although there is lots of love on the team, they’ve also faced some challenges with Dowell and Adams on the squad.

**Fighting the Negativity**

“It’s highly annoying when people say negative things about Lane cheering or Wyatt being the mascot,” Sutherland said. “They think it’s very feminine. Watch Lane when he cheers, he’s got muscles. Watch Wyatt, too.”

“They think that cheerleading is strictly a girl sport,” Boese said. “I think Goldthwaite itself is scared of change. Lane being here brought about a major change, and I don’t think people accepted it very well. I think they underestimated him. They thought he was just a cheerleader but everyone was surprised when he started tumbling at the first pep rally. We got better as the year went and people noticed his strength. His jumps are better than half of ours.”

Dowell said he was afraid of how people would react when he tried out.

“I mean I would just try to brush their comments off,” Dowell said. “No one has said anything to me specifically, but I hear from other people what they say.”

Adams has also faced opposition.

“A couple of people have said negative things, but I just ignore them,” Adams said.

Emmmary has heard the negativity, but she sees the challenges in a different light.

“From what I’ve learned last year, my first year in high school, is how to stand up for myself and for my family,” Emmmary said. “With Lane being the only guy that year, sometimes people get witchy and pick at you. That gives you an opportunity to stand up for yourself and the people you care about.”

For two of the newest members on the squad, having a guy on the cheer squad is nothing new. Whitney Dennis, senior, and Hannah Dennis, sophomore, recently moved to Goldthwaite from Hobbs, New Mexico.

“Being a boy cheerleader wasn’t a bad thing in Hobbs because it was such a big school,” Hannah said. “At every football game in Hobbs, there was a huge student section, and one of the guy cheerleaders could do 20-something toe touches in a row. Every football game he would try to build it up. The whole student section was into it.”

Whitney agreed with her younger sister.

“The boy cheerleaders in Hobbs were some of the better ones on the team,” Whitney said.

Whether good times or bad, all the cheerleaders are excited to make new memories with each other, as well as relive old ones.

“Lane is so full of snarky little side comments,” Boese said. “One time, I’ll never forget this, we were talking about how to do our hair for competition. ‘We can curl it. We can straighten it.’ And he goes, ‘Guys, I just need to know what time I need to get up so I can get ready. This is serious stuff.’”

**Doing What You Love and Loving What You Do**

Both boys said they enjoy being on the squad.

“It’s been good, but there’s also been lots of change,” Adams said. “There are different ways you have to do stuff and the different things you have to get used to. There’s moving your schedule around and more work.”

Dowell agreed, saying it can be tough.

“It’s a lot more work and more tiring at practices,” Dowell said. “Some stunts have been hard.”

Dowell is also excited to have Adams on the team now.

“I was outnumbered last year,” Dowell said. “It’s nice to have another guy around.”

Adams has also been enjoying Dowell’s company.

“It’s been good having Lane because that means there is another guy on the team,” he said. “I’ve been having fun and I’m excited for high school.”

Dowell said his advice for others chasing their dreams and facing challenges is to be brave.

“Don’t be afraid to go for it,” he said. “It was worth it.”

As you travel to watch the Goldthwaite Eagles play, don’t forget to cheer on the squad that relentlessly supports our athletic teams in all of their endeavors, and be on the lookout for Lane Dowell and Wyatt Adams as they continue to make their mark on Goldthwaite.

“I feel like they aren’t ‘the guys that joined the squad,’” Sutherland said. “He’s just Lane. He’s just Wyatt. We love them both and we look forward to this year with both of our new cheer brothers.”