

# Anchoring down



Photos provided

The WCHS cheerleaders were invited last week to participate in the Vanderbilt Spirit program. Members of the team are, front row, from left, Emily Hoch, Alexis Oliver, Gracie Cowan, Kensley Whiteaker, Koley Campbell and Gabby Jones. Back row, Ellie Noblin, Zoye Henry, Kassidy Byars, Megan Davenport, Selena Glenn, Kenzie Walker, Araya Buchanan, Julia West, Kelcie Crouch, Deryn Allen and Heidi-Lin Teeters.

## Cheerleaders star at Vandy

BY JEFFERY SIMMONS  
Sports writer for the Southern Standard  
(McMinnville, Tennessee)

Accolades seem to come easily to the Warren County High School cheerleaders. It's the byproduct of being one of the best squads in the state.

The football cheerleaders continued their tour of the state last week when the squad was asked to take part in the Vanderbilt Spirit program.

It was the second straight year the WCHS cheerleaders have earned the invite.

"We were invited last year to cheer on the sidelines and this year we were asked to not only do that, but to perform at halftime as well," said coach Stacey Elam. "We've been extremely busy since the end

of the football season.

"I feel that these girls represented Warren County well because we received so many compliments, which was awesome."

Warren County took the court at Memorial Gym during halftime of the Vanderbilt-Alabama game Jan. 2, which aired on SEC Network. The event wasn't the only time the local cheerleaders have shined on a big stage.

The Nashville invite came on the heels of the team earning national bids from the UCA after finishing third in the TSSAA state competition last fall. Warren County followed by winning in the Smoky Mountain Christmas Competition last month.

Coach Elam noted her team has also been active in the area with service projects. The cheerlead-

ers have helped with Habitat for Humanity, performed and participated at Relay for Life, assisted the newly founded Sparkle Squad, and prepared and become involved in Soles for Souls shoe donations, Christmas cards for our veterans and for the oncology floor at Vanderbilt and care packages for troops stationed overseas.

Warren County will be vying for its second straight national championship next month. Last season, Warren County cheerleaders won the Cheersport National championship in Atlanta. On Feb. 8, the current football cheerleaders will set their aim on the UCA National championship.

The event will be held at Disney in Orlando. Coach Elam and the team will spend the rest of the month preparing for the event.



Teammates hoist Zoye Henry in the air before last week's Vanderbilt-Alabama game at Memorial Gym.



As part of their participation in the Vanderbilt Spirit program, the Warren County High School cheerleaders got to perform during halftime of Vanderbilt's game against Alabama last week. The WCHS cheerleaders will be competing for a national championship at Disney in February.

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