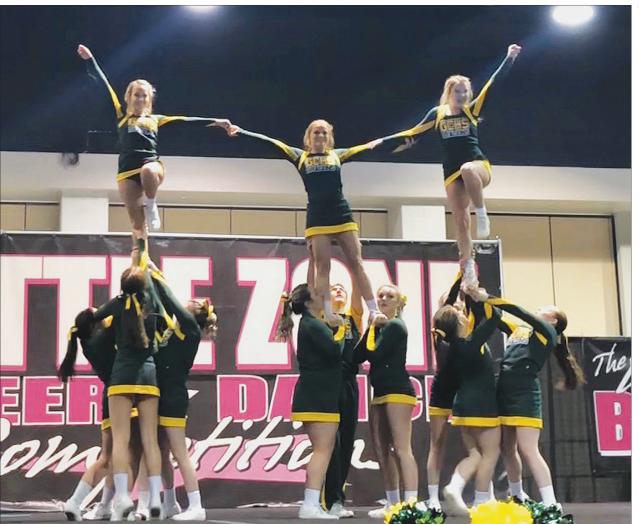


Photos submitted

Green County High School Cheerleaders won first place honors in The Battle Zone Cheer and Dance Competition over the weekend.



Cheerleaders competed against 15 teams in their session Saturday. Their 2.5 minute routine incorporated a one-minute cheer, stunts, tumbling, jumps and a choreographed dance.

## Sports Cheerleaders win first in Battle Zone competition

### By Crystal Cecil R-H Staff

Green County High School Cheerleaders brought home first place honors from The Battle Zone Cheer and Dance Competition held at Heritage Hall in Lexington over the weekend.

GCHS Cheerleaders competed against 15 teams in their session Saturday morning. Their 2.5 minute routine incorporated a one-minute cheer, stunts, tumbling, jumps and a choreographed dance.

The 13-member competition squad, under the direction of Coach Kesha Bagby and Assistant Coach Susan Squires, has worked on their routine since July, practicing twice weekly. They revamped the routine in November when they added male cheerleader and stuntman Taybren Manners.

"It always feels great to bring back a winning trophy and it feels amazing to say you won, especially as a senior!" Cheer Captain Kirsten Whitlow said.

Coach Kesha Bagby says the group has overcome their share of obstacles this season when one cheerleader moved to another school shortly after school began and another member quit the squad just before Regional Competition in November. There have also been multiple minor injuries and sickness to plague the squad, she said.

"I'm very proud of this group of cheerleaders this season," Assistant Coach Susan Squires said. "They have had many obstacles to overcome; however, they never once gave up. They continued to stay focused and worked so hard due to their determination to bring home the win. This group has been amazing to work with."

This was the last competition for the school year, as their season ends March 1. The new season will begin July 15.

"We are ready to keep climbing the ladder, looking forward to the incoming freshmen and incorporating harder stunts and tumbling skills," she said, "We expect to get better each year!"

Tryouts for next season will be held in April.

As with all things in Green County, student success would not be possible without a strong community supporting them.

"We want to thank our boosters because without them, none of this would be possible," Bagby said. "Thank you to all our sponsors and GCHS and Ben Davenport for supporting us in all we do!"

"These kids have been a blessing to Susan and I. We are so thankful God has given us this opportunity.

### Lady Dragon bowlers compete in All-Star Tournament

#### By Angelina Alcott R-H Sports

The Region 2 Bowling All-Star team traveled to Erlanger, Ky. Saturday, Feb. 16 as Green County bowlers Haley Johnson and Makayla Vaughn were selected to compete on the team for being top bowlers in the Region. The team fell just short of winning the Championship.

The team included 11 bowlers total from various schools within Region 2. The Lady Dragon bowlers earned their all-star positions by carrying the highest averages in Region 2 throughout the regular season.

The team posted high scores throughout the day and finished with 2nd place honors. In addition to the dominant team performance, Cherith Brockman from Taylor County High finished first individually in the girls division. Vaughn's individual scores included: 167, 152, 175 and Johnson's posted individual scores of: 197, 120, 139. Team scores for Baker Games included 3 games with scores over 200, a high game of 221. Region 2 All-Star Team fell short by only 49 pins for 1st place.

Vaughn's accomplishments for 2018-2019 season included: Team Captain, Highest Average, and she also made the Region All Star Team.

Vaughn enjoyed the experience she was given to end her high school bowling career.

"Being selected for the all star tournament was an honor for me, and was a large opportunity," said Vaughn. "I was able to compete in front of a coach who currently coaches at a school that I have been interested in for quite some time. I am blessed to now have the opportunity



Photo submitted

The Region 2 All-Star Team pictured are, front: Makayla Vaughn, Sarah Bright, Meg Slatton, Nicole Reed, Haley Johnson; back: Coach Todd Sullivan, Tatum Hamilton, Cherith Brockman, Rachel Lang-ford, Kassidy Richter, Skylar Weakley, Coach Ben Hamilton.

to pursue my athletic collegiate career."

Vaughn plans to attend Thomas Moore University where she will study Forensic Chemistry.

Johnson's accomplishments for the 2018-2019 season included receiving the 2nd highest average, and she, too, made the Region All Star Team. Johnson will return next season for one final high school season. "This is my second

"This is my second year participating in the All Star Tournament and it truly is a blessing," said Johnson. "It was so much fun bowling one last

time this season with some of my favorites in the region. I am honored to be part of the runner up All Star Team." Johnson's future plans are to attend Lindsey Wilson College where she will bowl and study Criminal Justice.



# **Upward Program is Saturday**

The Upward basketball and cheerleading program takes place Saturday, February 23 at 4:00 p.m. at Green County Middle School.

Omega Force StrengthTeam, agroup of athletes who have performed all over the country and even appeared on the television show, America's Got Talent, is providing the entertainment. They are known for their legendary feats of strength while providing the life changing message about Jesus Christ.

The public is invited to attend this free show and all Upward athletes and their families are especially encouraged to attend. Every athlete will receive an end of the year award as we celebrate this year's Upward season.

For more information, please call Greensburg United Methodist Church at 270-932-4462.