

SWITCHING SIDES

Senior switches from gymnastics to cheer

Starting in the gym as a little kid jumping on mats, balancing on the bar, learning new routines, and competing, senior AUTUMN LOZIER has always had a passion for gymnastics. She had never had any thought of leaving her beloved sport and joining cheer, until some of the girls on the team encouraged her to try out.

"I never really planned on joining cheer, but the girls told me I should," Lozier said. "When I decided I was going to, Started practicing skills."

When Lozier decided she wanted to tryout, she got to work right away. She prepped for tryouts by going over material sent out and practicing cheers and skills that she was not familiar with. Coming from gymnastics, she had good memory skills and picked up the new material quick. Initially, Lozier thought the transition would a lot smoother than she found it to really be.

"Going into cheer I definitely thought it was going to be easier than it is," Lozier said. "I was mistaken since I decided to join the Varsity Competition Team, however since I do have experience in tumbling, that was really helpful in the transition."

Lozier's journey to the sideline has, but her open-mindedness to trying new things was a positive attribute that served her well.

"She has a good ability to try new things," junior KAYLEIGH GRABENSCHROER said. "She is consistently showing up to try her best and is a huge part of our team. She gets along well with everyone and is always uplifting and positive."

Lozier has been able to build onto her prior skills and perfect her performance, but her favorite part of the season has been the new friendships she's gained. She's received a lot of support and encouragement from her teammates right from the start. She's even proved to be a strong leader to many of the other cheerleaders.

"Autumn is such a good addition to our team," senior ABIGAIL SADLER said. "Her work ethic is amazing and she picks up choroography really quick. She is amazing at leading by example and giving 100% each rep."

Despite the challenges the change presented, Lozier's switch her final year has proved to be a perfect fit for her. She was able to step out of her comfort zone, see the beauty in the little things and make the most of her time in high school both as a cheerleader and as a leader.

Story by Addison Harris

ALL UNITED Being on the field for the first time during the homecoming game against Grand Island, senior AUTUMN LOZIER was enthusiastic to cheer. The homecoming game was my favorite to cheer at," Lozier said. "It was super fun to have all of the teams on the sideline together."

Photo courtesy of Lillyann Stoops

BEST MEMORIES



"My favorite memory on the team is during games when we get a touchdown. It is so exciting getting to cheer and celebrate for each touchdown around my favorite people."

BESS MASAT '27



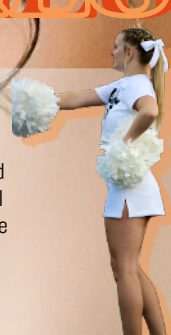
"My favorite memory on the team would definitely be the first game of the season against Millard North. The vibes were so high and it was such a great way to start the season."

ALEXIA LUNA '26



"My favorite memory on the team is when we do our pre-game sideline performance. We started doing this this year and I can't wait to see how the tradition will continue."

MORGAN BEZOUSEK '26



"My favorite memory on the team is cheering at the football games every Friday. Whenever we win a game, it is so much fun and an incredible moment to experience with the team."

MATSEN SIMONS '28

Photos by Addison Harris & Lillyann Stoops

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