

# Cheer and Dance Prep for Next Season

## Open Gym for Poms and Cheer

by Blake Borgardt



*DHS Cheer Team During their previous season. Photo by Cris Rojo.*

This past week the very successful DHS Poms and Cheerleading teams began their seasons with open gym tryouts.

Poms is coming off a very successful season where the team qualified for state, and placed there. Cheer is also entering its new season on a good note after placing well in quite a few competitions.

The highlight of last season for Cheer was when the team placed in the top three at a couple of competitions. Up until last year, the team hadn't placed at a competition for three years. The team placed third in a competition was at the beginning of the season at the Rockford Guilford Invite.

The Poms team also had a great season last year, where they made it to state and placed highly. "My favorite part about Poms is that we get to bond as a team. I love performing with my friends and hanging out with them at practice. They are just a great group of girls to be around" said sophomore Kaitlin Siener. "Our greatest achievement last season was making state and placing top 20" Siener continued.

When asked what she would say to incoming Freshman who are joining the team, Siener said "to a Freshman coming in, I would tell them that Poms is an unforgettable high school experience. You meet a great group of girls that can help you get through high school. Enjoy Poms while you can because during the season it seems like forever, but it's actually over in the blink of an eye."

"I think one of our greatest achievements last season was that for a couple competitions we placed in the top three out of all teams" said sophomore Ryann Swanson. "I like that Cheer is a team sport and we all get to work together" said Swanson. When asked what practices are like, Swanson said "usually at practice we practice and plan out our routines and work on individual skills."

Be sure to go and see Poms and Cheer all next year when they perform at our school's athletic events.