

## **V-I-C-T-O-R-Y: A Story of Perseverance**

“Champions do not become champions when they win the event, but in the hours, weeks, months, and years they spend preparing for it. The victorious performance itself is merely the demonstration of their champion character.” T. Alan Armstrong

Learning to thrive in the unknown is not easy. Beginning a cheer season with no promises of games or in-person competition is not easy. Keeping hope alive in the midst of a global pandemic is not easy...by ourselves. What a wonderful gift of hope God has provided us through His Son, Jesus Christ. With Him, all things are possible and learning to thrive in the unknown is where our faith was exercised.

We competed in the Christian Cheerleaders of America competition system, in the GameTime 1A and Small Varsity All Music Tumbling divisions. These high-energy routines are carefully constructed and feature jumps, a chant, a cheer, band chants (shout-out to Mr. Medlin and the band for providing our band chant music) stunts, pyramid, tumbling and SPIRIT. We competed in the virtual Regional and Classic competitions and were thrilled to receive Nationals bids for both our routines. We are extremely grateful to WCA for allowing us to attend the CCA Nationals competition!

I refer to the members of this squad as “overcomers”. Illness, injury, fatigue (physical and mental), quarantine, face masks...they overcame any challenge that arose. They believed in their fellow team members and encouraged each other to always give their best. I always tell my athletes, “I don’t expect perfection, I expect your best.” Win or lose, if they gave their best, they have done their job. No matter what, they should show up for the Kingdom of God, their teammates and for themselves. The Lord has a purpose for them, their team is counting on them and they have worked so hard to be where they are today. Never give up.

I am BEYOND proud of these young ladies. What a fantastic squad of overcomers, whose perseverance and champion character earned them the title, National Champions. All glory be to God.

I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:14

by Coach Sarah Curry

Meet the overcomers:

Madison Bare

Delaney Colant

Klara Spain

Kayley Barnard

Hayden Driver

Harper Dupree

Gloria Elmore

Kayla Hamilton

Brooke Smith

Emma Alexander

Jenna Van Matre

Abigail Bright

Lilly Stewart

Coaches: Brenna Barger, Emily Eberhart, Melissa Hamilton

Head Coach: Sarah Curry

2020 GameTime 1A Regional Champions

2021 GameTime 1A Classic Grand Champions

Harper Dupree: Tumble Champion

Kayla Hamilton: Jump Champion

2021 GameTime 1A National Champions

2021 Small Varsity All Music Tumbling National Champions