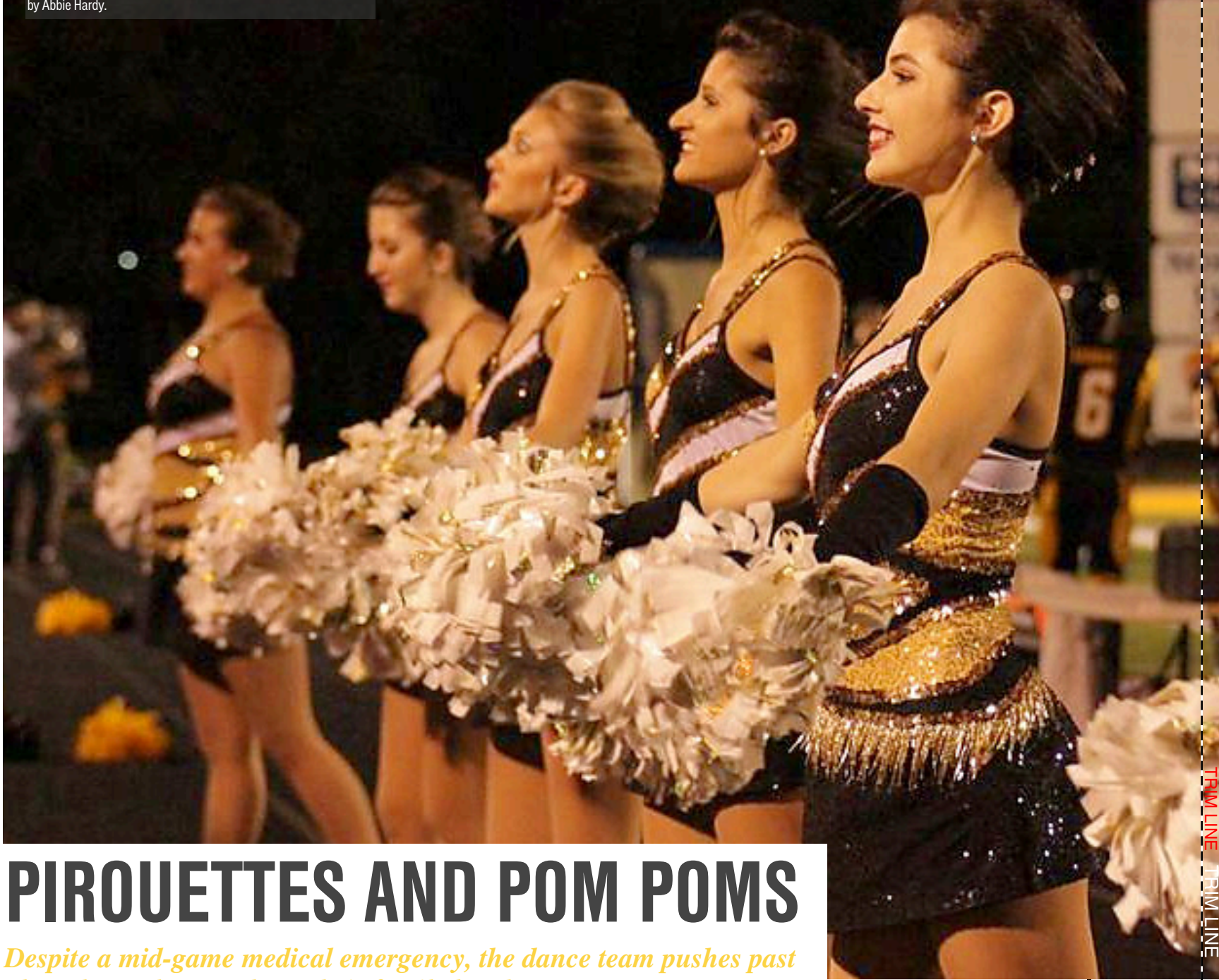


ALL SMILES // Kelsey Norton (10), Hanna Wills (12), Bailie Roberts (10), and Terra Buley (10) look up at the fans in the stadium. Photo by Abbie Hardy.

DANCE TEAM // 183



TRIM LINE

TRIM LINE

PIROUETTES AND POM POMS

Despite a mid-game medical emergency, the dance team pushes past obstacles and strengthens their family bond.

The Darlings stood on the sidelines during a Friday night football game, and everything seemed routine until suddenly Kelsey Norton (10) began to feel faint. She was rushed to the hospital and was tested for various ailments. It was revealed that she had two pulmonary embolisms in her lungs.

Kelsey said, "I started crying and immediately thought about if I would be able to dance again. I was really worried."

She visited children in the hospital, and they inspired her to push past obstacles and overcome them. Kelsey credited her family and friends for her recovery and valued her team's support and love.

She said "The dance team is just a big family, and they helped me to lift my spirits."

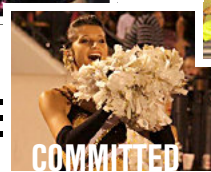
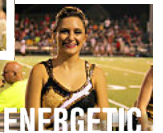
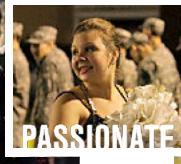
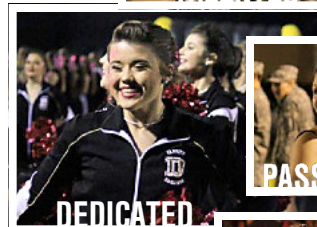
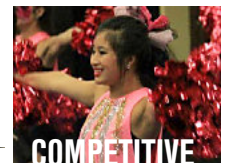
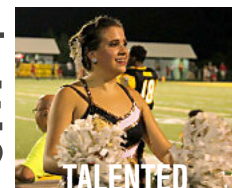
Despite Kelsey's emergency, the team continued to support the band and football team by performing several new dances on the track that evening, which only motivated Kelsey to heal faster. She only sat out for one game the entire season.

"KELSEY IS THE EPITOME OF THE TYPE OF ATHLETE EVERY COACH WANTS ON THEIR TEAM. EVEN THOUGH SHE FACED A DIFFICULT MEDICAL CONDITION THIS YEAR, SHE WAS ALWAYS THERE FOR HER TEAMMATES."

-JENNIFER SEYMOUR // Head Coach

Kelsey plans to keep dancing and hopes for a quick recovery. She said that she will stay dedicated no matter what and is thankful to have such a caring coach and teammates. //Abbie Hardy

WHAT ARE WE?



Clockwise: Lexi McHarg (9), Lillian Pham (9), Ashley Mitchell (9), Makayla Prestenbach (11), Hanna Wills (12), Skylar Ladnier (9).