

# Isabella Haber

Trying out for anything can be nerve racking. Me, a sophomore trying to make varsity cheer, was a challenge. I hadn't done cheer for that long, I did cheer one season in 7th grade, and quit right after that. I had to push myself to get there.

When I decided to tryout for cheerleading my freshman year, I wasn't expecting to make any other team but freshmen. I ended up making JV cheerleading for both sideline and comp season.

"I'm really glad I didn't make varsity my first year, I definitely wasn't ready for that commitment" I said.

Coming back from not making varsity my competition season and trying out again for my second sideline season of high school, I was so indecisive. Even though I had worked so hard during the school year, I wasn't ready to get in the groove of being in cheer again. After I talked it through with my friends, we all decided to just tryout and see what team we make.

When we made it up the stairs and waited outside the cheer room, Isabella said,

"What if we all make varsity?"

That's when it hit me. That I really want to do this, make varsity cheer. It was my goal the whole entire school year. We went in and did our tryout.

That afternoon I was with my parents, eating dinner, at Sagebrush. I checked my phone for the 5th time in 15 minutes. I actually got the notification this time. The email read, Grand Blanc Cheer.

I was so nervous to see what team I made. My hands were shaking, my mom was smiling as she was taking a video of my reaction, and my dad was eating chips and salsa. I



open the email up.

"Congrats! You've made Varsity Cheer!"

From Coach Swansey. I couldn't contain my joy, I wanted to run around the busy restaurant and scream. My friends I tried out with also made varsity. We were so excited to begin practice with the rest of the team. Going through that experience has taught me so much patience. From waiting by my phone to find out what team I made, to being patient with my teammates at times. Being on the team has taught me to manage my time, live in the moment and just being a better person. As a cheerleader, I am a role model to little girls and it's important to always look like I'm having fun and being a good person. Cheerleading has truly changed my life for the better, my closest friends are on the team which makes practices and games so much fun.

