CAMP FOR FUTURE CHEERLEADERS CLOSES WITH A ROUSING FINALE



By Ron Barry

"It's like herding cats!"

CCHS graduate Mary Reece Wilson – getting ready to begin college at UT-Martin – had the perfect description for what the past three days have been like as she helped out with the Crockett Cheer Camp for ages three through rising fifth-graders.

Her mother, Brandi Wilson, is a coach for the CCHS varsity cheerleaders and the coordinator of the Little Cavs program that works to cycle young girls through elementary school and middle school in the hopes that they'll one day be on the sidelines in a varsity uniform cheering on a Cavalier team.

"The elementary schools in Crockett County don't always have cheerleading programs for the younger girls to develop their skills," Mary Reece said, "so the Little Cavs group was formed in order to help prepare them for middle and high school. We hope that each prior age group feeds girls into the next level, until finally they're performanceready for high school." This week's three-day camp ended Thursday with a "Showcase" performance for the families and friends of the participants, who were divided into three different age groups and demonstrated what they'd learned from their instruction by the current CCHS squad members.

Mary Reece was stepping up in the absence of Ellary Brewster, the other Lady Cav coach, who is currently pregnant with twins due in October. Ellary was ill Thursday for the final day, but has vowed to the squad that she'll be ready to be with the team when the major competitions begin that same month.

"She said she'll be there no matter what," Mary Reece laughed, "and I don't doubt her a bit!"

Following is an assortment of scenes from Thursday's final day of the camp, featuring both participants and the "coaching" staff...



























































