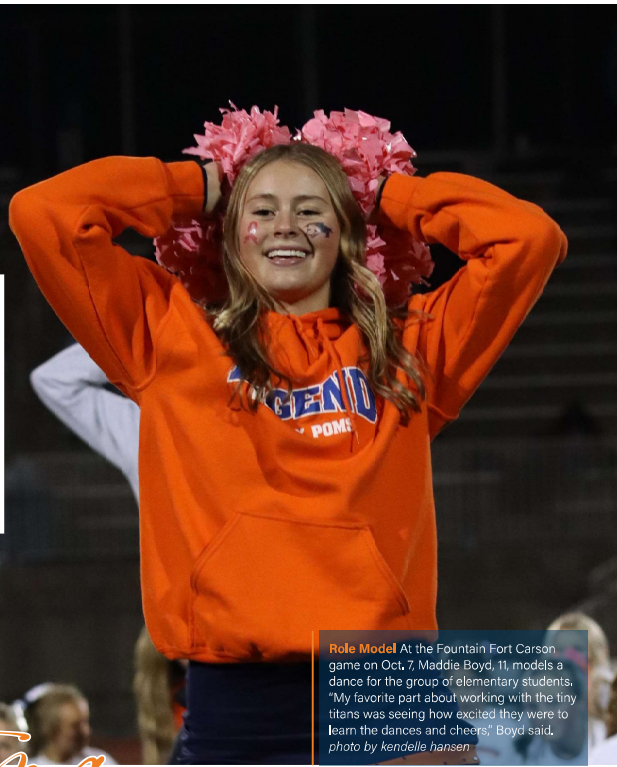


2. Spotlight At the football game against Legacy on Sept. 23, Madison Raley, 12, performs the Poms homecoming routine. "Performing on the field is the most adrenaline rushing feeling. When dancing on the field, I almost feel free because it's my team and I am doing what I love," Raley said, *photo by addie solomon*



Role Model At the Fountain Fort Carson game on Oct. 7, Maddie Boyd, 11, models a dance for the group of elementary students. "My favorite part about working with the tiny titans was seeing how excited they were to learn the dances and cheers," Boyd said, *photo by kendelle hansen*

Adapting to injury

maddie boyd shares her injury story

page by elley fouts-hyatt, harlyn goldstein, shea gaiko, and morgan underwood

In the hallways, Maddie Boyd, 11, can be spotted with crutches and a hip brace. She tore the labrum in her hip. However, this injury has been affecting her since last poms season.

"Last season in October 2021," said Boyd. "I tore my labrum in my hip but decided to keep dancing through nationals in March of 2022."

After Nationals, during the summer off season, Boyd rested, hoping the injury would resolve itself.

"Unfortunately, that didn't happen," said Boyd. "I kept dancing through this season but decided to get surgery

in December of 2022 after state. The decision to get surgery wasn't easy but I knew it was something I had to do if I wanted a chance to compete my senior year. Recovery has been long but it will all be worth it in the end."

The poms team was also affected by her injury.

"Maddie's injury affected the team because we had to re-block dances," said Ellie Alvey, 11, a fellow poms teammate. "Which was hard in the moment, but by everyone putting in the work for nationals and remembering our new parts, the team was able to adapt."

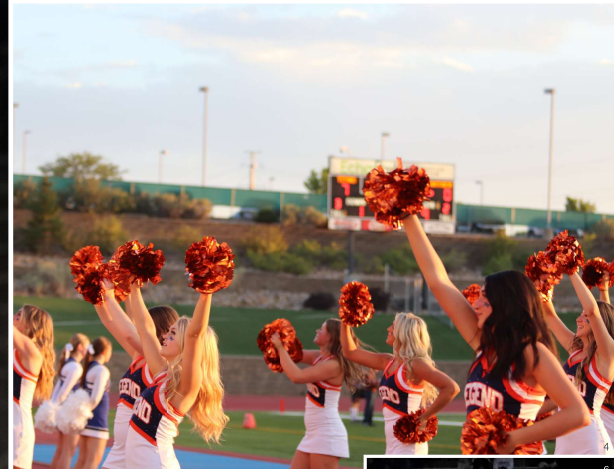
The atmosphere of the team

What is your favorite part of being on the team?

Brooklyn Danton, 9
First Year on Poms
"It feels like a second family because I am with these girls all day everyday and I can always rely on them," *photo by sydney risenmay*

Sabina Stitch, 12
Cheering on the Team
"I love the environment we have and how we come together especially before competitions," *photo by kendal hanson*

Notalie Paulo, 11
Dancing on the Field
"I love being on the team because I like supporting and having spirit for our school," *photo by addie solomon*



7. Jumping for Joy Hands on her hips, Natalie Paulo, 11, performs with the Tiny Titans, a group of elementary feeder school students, at the football game against Fountain Fort Carson on Oct. 7. "I love being a part of the Poms team and dancing with people I work so hard with makes it feel so rewarding when we perform," Paulo said, *photo by addie solomon*

4. Hands in the Air Cheering with her teammates at the football game against Pomona on Sept. 1, Lucy Lemonds, 12, dances on the track. "When I dance with my team I feel so powerful, I feel more confident in myself because I have my team there with me," Lemonds said, *photo by ella pfister*

5. On the Field Dancing with her senior coach, Madison Danton, 12, helps the cheerleading team hype up the crowd at the Fountain Fort Carson football game on Oct. 7, *photo by sydney risenmay*

6. Man Poms At the Homecoming football game against Legacy on Sept. 23, Taylor Houck, 12, and Kyle Range, 12, perform their combined man poms and poms routine. "The feeling of being cheered on by the crowd is exhilarating. It gives me a confidence boost every time and helps me be the best I can be," Houck said. *photo by harlyn goldstein*



"You're not competing individually, or doing it for yourself, you're doing it for your team because all we want to do is work hard for each other. It feels good to be cheered on for something you worked very hard on we put a lot of work into our dances so it feels good."

Olivia Lima, 10

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Because we are athletes poms

"My biggest accomplishment is being committed to DJ lacrosse."

Ryan Menard, 11

"I'm most proud of getting 5th in the nation for poms."

Taylor Schepemaker, 10

"I'm involved in Legend tennis because it's fun."

Kameron Eckhardt, 11

Tiny dancers

Varsity Poms lead Tiny Titans in dancing during halftime



1. Mini's Take the Field Tiny Titans, or students from elementary feeder schools, experience what it's like to dance in front of a crowd, *photos by addie solomon*

2. Leading the Crowd Lucy Lemonds dances with the Tiny Titans at the Fountain Fort Carson game on Oct. 7, *photos by kendelle hanson*



At the Fountain Fort Carson football game on Oct. 7, the poms team helped a select few elementary feeder school students learn and perform a poms routine. "It felt so amazing to be a leader to all the younger dancers," Lucy Lemonds, 12, said. "It reminded me of when I was a little dancer, since they were all so adorable and cute. The Tiny Titans' experience can't compare to much. It was a feeling I thought I would never get to feel or experience."