

Confidence Through Her Passion

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"When I was four years old, my parents took me to a Saint Patrick's day parade in Fort Collins. I saw a bunch of baton twirlers in the parade, so I told my parents that that was what I wanted to do,"said sophomore Alyssa Brewer.

Brewer began baton twirling at just five years old, and she's been hooked ever since.

Brewer currently twirls both in and outside of Grandview on a team called Colorado Twirls. She competes with her team every month and has received first place at nationals in 2021 and 2022. She practices twice a week for Grandview, and outside of school, she practices everyday.

"I used to go to Liberty Middle School, and I wore a baton shirt to school one year," Brewer said. "The band teacher at Liberty saw the shirt, and she contacted the band teacher here. I started off just twirling in parades with the marching band, and then I reached out to Mrs. Beaird and Mr. Smock, which got me into basketball games, football games, volleyball games, and

Although it's the same sport, baton twirling

by herself and on a team differs drastically.

Twirling by myself at school is definitely a lot scarier because I'm by myself and the whole school is watching," Brewer said. "Trying not to drop my batons in front of the whole school is a lot of pressure.'

With her team, some of this pressure was alleviated.

"With my team, I feel a little less pressure just because not all eyes are on me. At the same time, I also feel a lot more pressure to do good for my team. I'm not doing it for myself," Brewer said. "I'm doing it for everyone else.

Despite her nerves, baton twirling gives Brewer confidence.

"I'm very shy, so it just allows me to open up, perform for school, and have fun," Brewer said. "When I'm about to perform for the school, I'm always super excited, but I still get nervous."

Even though she's only a sophomore, Brewer is already looking forward into the future.

"I hope to twirl in college, perform, and do just as much in college as I do for Grandview."

Velenalis Day Photo Shoot









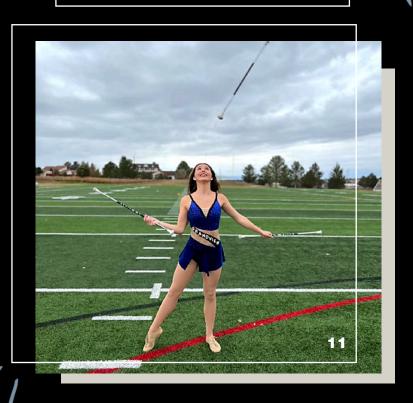
- 1. Photo courtesy of Keith Farmer 2. Photo taken by Yvette Brewer
- 3. Photo taken by Yvette Brewer
- 4. Photo taken by Yvette Brewer
- 5. Photo taken by Yvette Brewer

120 Feature Story



Ine out of

2,780 students



- 6. Photo taken by Katie Fisher7. Photo taken by Katie Fisher

- 9. Photo taken by Katie Fisher 10. Photo taken by Christine Shin

Marching Band Family Parade

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