

Sitting down in front of the artwork "Kind of Blue" by Jenny Holzer in the Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, seniors Hannah Barclay and Brooke Wilson take a photo together.

In the fall, the Art Magnet and AP Art History classes took a field trip to Fort Worth where they visited both the Modern Art Museum and the Kimbell Art Museum.

"Overall the field trip was really good because I've never been to an art museum after taking an art class," Wilson said. "So after understanding some of the core concepts of looking at art, going was a really unique experience."

In AP Art History, students learn about artworks going back to 10,000 years B.C.E. and how form and content affects the meaning of the work, but this was the first time the students had been able to see the art in person.

"It was really cool to actually see some of the artworks that we'd been learning about in person and kind of like get out of the classroom and see

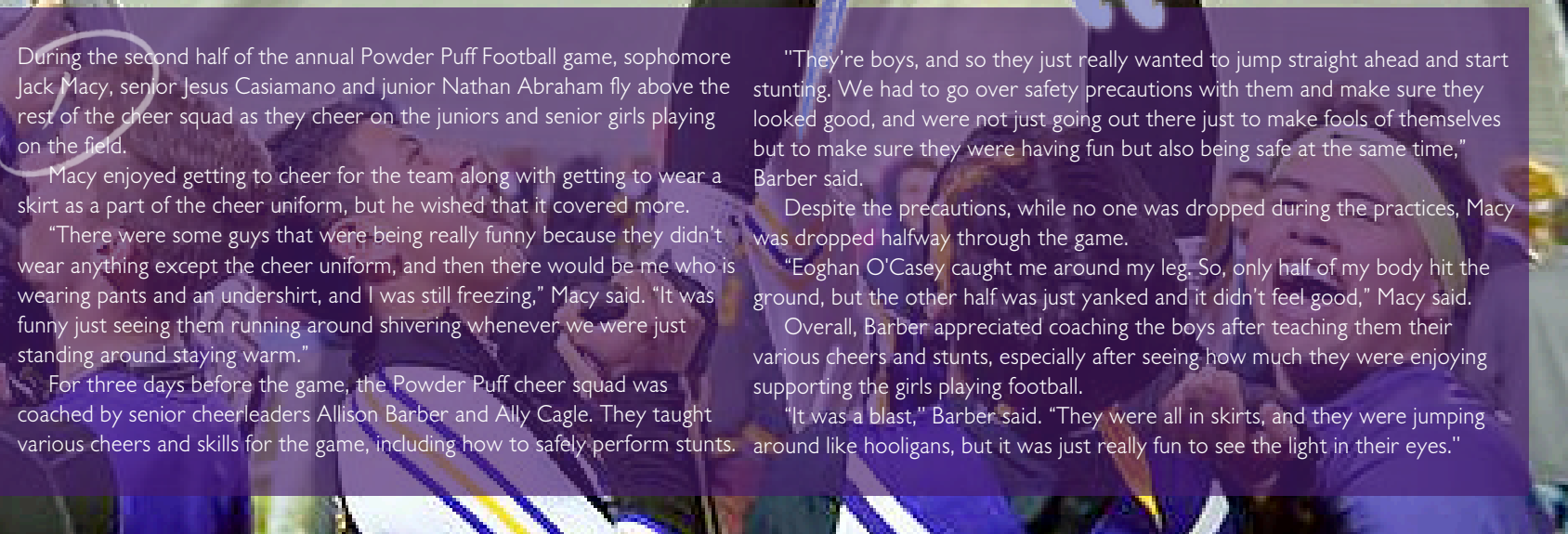
real life things," Barclay said.

The work "Kind of Blue" was an interactive piece where viewers could walk around the work and see the various truisms written by Jenny Holzer, including seeing them reflected onto the water through nearby windows.

"That artwork was lights and colors, and it had a message in a different way, so I thought that was a really cool thing to see in person and get the full effect," Barclay said. "It was definitely very immersive like you were in the artwork basically, that's how it felt."

Wilson appreciated how the work demonstrated that not all artworks are simply paintings and getting to see that some pieces go beyond a canvas.

"The mirrored effect was very interesting because you wouldn't expect that they would use their environment like that," Wilson said. "It was just kind of a shock to see it like that because it's kind of playing with your vision, and playing with how you perceive things."



During the second half of the annual Powder Puff Football game, sophomore Jack Macy, senior Jesus Casiamano and junior Nathan Abraham fly above the rest of the cheer squad as they cheer on the juniors and senior girls playing on the field.

Macy enjoyed getting to cheer for the team along with getting to wear a skirt as a part of the cheer uniform, but he wished that it covered more.

"There were some guys that were being really funny because they didn't wear anything except the cheer uniform, and then there would be me who is wearing pants and an undershirt, and I was still freezing," Macy said. "It was funny just seeing them running around shivering whenever we were just standing around staying warm."

For three days before the game, the Powder Puff cheer squad was coached by senior cheerleaders Allison Barber and Ally Cagle. They taught various cheers and skills for the game, including how to safely perform stunts.

"They're boys, and so they just really wanted to jump straight ahead and start stunting. We had to go over safety precautions with them and make sure they looked good, and were not just going out there just to make fools of themselves but to make sure they were having fun but also being safe at the same time," Barber said.

Despite the precautions, while no one was dropped during the practices, Macy was dropped halfway through the game.

"Eoghan O'Casey caught me around my leg. So, only half of my body hit the ground, but the other half was just yanked and it didn't feel good," Macy said.

Overall, Barber appreciated coaching the boys after teaching them their various cheers and stunts, especially after seeing how much they were enjoying supporting the girls playing football.

"It was a blast," Barber said. "They were all in skirts, and they were jumping around like hooligans, but it was just really fun to see the light in their eyes."

Raising their arms in the air, seniors Grayson Sentell, Sara Rodriguez, Anna Moorman, and Ashton Bryson finish off the final pep rally of the year where each of the senior Eagle Guard members checked off an item on their high school bucket list.

On Sentell's bucket list was performing a Step Team dance.

"This year it was exciting because we had really great pep rallies, but we were sad that it was over," Sentell said. "So, I guess I just felt sad, but happy, it was bittersweet. I was a little bit nervous for my dance, and I was worried I wasn't going to dab at the right time, but it worked out, so I was happy about that."

Looking back, Sentell appreciated the first pep rally the most because it was the first chance for the new team to show off for the entire school.

"I think my favorite skit from the year was the dating game because that was like the first one as a group with our new people and everything," Sentell said.

After creating skits for four pep rallies, Eagle Guard ran into issues at first

when planning the final one.

"So, our ideas were kind of bled dry, so it was basically like three days of absolutely no progress, and then we finally came up with something," Moorman said. "So, this one was kind of a last-minute pep rally because we had no more ideas, but it came together well, and it was just a difficult one to plan."

Moorman also enjoyed spending the year becoming a tight-knit family with the new members after letting go of last year's seniors.

"Once we all decided to give the new kids a chance, we all came together really well," Moorman said. "It's a really good place to make friends that have your back because they're a part of your team."

Before every skit, the team would huddle up for a group hug to get pumped for the pep rally.

"I'll miss [the group hug] the most," Rodriguez said. "As excited as I am to move on to the next chapter of my life, being done with RHS pep rallies will leave a big gaping hole in my heart."

Arm in arm at the end of the Mesquite High football game, seniors Caroline Anderson, Andrea Grimaldo, Marina Grady, Emilee McAdams and Jenna Keeling scream "Seniors 2016." At the game the Eaglettes performed a kick routine, which was one of the final halftime routines of the year.

The senior yell at the end of each football game has been a tradition for many years, and the seniors from band and cheer will join in to celebrate their last year on the field.

"That's just something really cool that we get to do at the end of every game before we back up and leave, and it's like 'we made it,' McAdams said. "That was really fun because everybody was doing it, and you kind of realize that it's your last year."

For Anderson, the yell on Senior Night was particularly after serving three years on the team and two years as a captain.

"Football season is my favorite part of drill team, so that was the last time I'd

ever dance on the fifty," she said. "I liked getting to dance with a new set of girls this year and watching them progress throughout the year."

Throughout the year, the Eaglettes work together on all dances regardless of grade level, so the senior yell is one of the only reminders that the girls have anything separating them.

"You kind of realize that working next to them on the team, there isn't much division between seniors and sophomores, like everybody is a teammate, but then that's the first time they define the ages and why people are different," McAdams said.

Grady has been attending games since fourth grade because her older brother was in band and has watched the yell every year since.

"Seeing them do that since then – that's been kind of crazy and then being able to do it myself," Grady said. "So, it just feels kind of special being able to do something that they've done for so long."

Leaning forward as they dance to the tuba call during the magnet pep rally, sophomore Sydney Ogaga, junior Emma Kilgore and seniors Joseline Hernandez and Ambar Sanchez smile at each other.

The band performs the tuba call to end every pep rally.

"We just kind of dance and go crazy," Kilgore said. "It's definitely the most fun song of band because we don't have to play, we just get to dance, and when we're in the stands we stand up on the bleachers, and it's really fun."

Band performs the tuba call at the end of football games too, usually halfway through the fourth quarter.

"At one of our football games where we were linking up about to run across the bleachers I guess this kid didn't see where his foot was going so he fell, and then he caused this other kid in front of him to fall so it was just kind of like this ripple effect of everybody falling," Ogaga said. "But the best part about it was they got up and everybody was laughing and all smiles about it."

During pep rallies, the band will stand on the gym floor giving them a nice view of everything that's going on. Sanchez appreciated this and the view the

school had of them.

"You're only one within the whole band, but your part matter matters just as much as everyone else's in playing the song, and the entire school is listening," Sanchez said.

Ogaga liked all of the energy that came with the last pep rally, but realized it was bittersweet since the seniors she knew would be graduating in June.

"I kind of like a lot of seniors in band since their good mentors and really nice to a lot of the lower classmen, and they kind of like make everything a lot easier and just kind of make us all one big family and help us gel together," Ogaga said.

This tuba call was special for Sanchez as it represented the culmination of her four years in band.

"It's just like the last time I'm going to do this with these people who have been my second family for the past three years," Sanchez said. "So, it's kind of like, it felt nice. Just the whole emotion from the pep rally itself and just knowing it's graduation year made it more special."