

ENDICOTT (WBNG) -Despite it being cold overnight, the Union-Endicott Cheer team was given a warm welcome home by friends and family early Tuesday morning.

The team arrived at Union-Endicott High School a little after midnight, after competing in the UCA (Universal Cheerleading Association) Nationals in Orlando, Florida, but they were all smiles as they got off the bus, proudly holding their trophy to the cheers of friends and family.

"It went really well for us," Molly Boedicker, a junior on the team, said "Prelims was really good, semis we could have done better, but for finals we really gave it our all and did amazing." Sarah Pero, a sophomore on the team, added "Our goal was just to get past prelims to semi-finals and then from there, we just kept exceeding our goals and kept moving further."

Many of the girls mentioned they 'hit' their routine in the finals, meaning they were flawless on the harder stunts they performed. After it was all said and done, U-E ended up placing 5th in the nation for Medium Varsity DII.

"It was just an incredible feeling, like I did not expect that at all," Lizzie Bilotta, a captain on the team, said. "Yeah...so they were calling the names and we didn't hear our names so we were getting kind of disappointed at first," added Elizabeth Haley, another captain, "and then when they called our name it was just incredible to hear that."

The girls told 12 News they were ready for bed not only because it was a long and exciting weekend, but also because they still had to get up for class Tuesday morning.