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### **Queen of Peace Sophomore Competes at National Cheerleading Competition**

Queen of Peace High School sophomore Amanda Vitrano (St. Symphorosa, Chicago – 60638) recently helped lead St. Rita High School’s varsity cheerleading team to a national championship. St. Rita’s team competed in the Large Varsity Non-Spring Division at the CHEERSPORT Cheerleading and Dance Championships, which were held Feb. 18-20 in Atlanta.

St. Rita High School is the first varsity team from Illinois to win a CHEERSPORT national title.

“On day two, we could barely contain ourselves,” said Vitrano, who is in her second year competing for St. Rita. “The energy was amazing, and just walking off the mat, we knew that we did our best. The national champion title was a bonus.”

More than 900 teams from all over the United States competed at CHEERSPORT nationals.

“My favorite part about cheerleading is definitely the friendships made throughout the season,” said Vitrano, who is interested in competing in cheerleading during college and would eventually like to become a cheerleading coach. “We all work off of each other to make one another better. Everyone has a specific role in our routine and we could not have won this title without every team member.”

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