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March 31, 2015

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Mid Winter Special Olympics Tournament

**Council Bluffs-** VODEC Viking Cheerleaders and Basketball athletes competed in the Special Olympics Mid-Winter Tournament held in Iowa City on Saturday March 14th. The Viking Cheerleaders took home the gold for the senior large division and Jessica Moore took home the bronze in basketball skills.

The cheerleaders, coached by former Dallas Cowboy Cheerleader Tammy Barber and VODEC staff members, have been competing in the Special Olympics since 2008. The team started with eight cheerleaders and has grown to a team of twenty-one athletes.

"I don't think anyone realizes how hard they work for just three minutes on the floor", said Barber. The cheerleaders practice every week for two months to prepare for the Special Olympics. "The dedication just blows my mind", said Barber.

For additional information about VODEC services please contact Daryn Richardson or Clarissa Conolley at 712-328-2638 or via email at daryn@vodec.org or cconolley@vodec.org.

The mission of VODEC is to provide services to persons with disabilities in order that those persons may live, work, and participate in the community in the least restrictive environment to reach their full potential.

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