

By Traci Chapman
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Mustang's Special Olympians received a big boost Saturday, after some friends of theirs took the plunge for them.

Mustang Police Chief Chuck Foley and the Mustang Public Schools Brrr-oncos took part in this year's Polar Plunge, an annual event where teams and individuals raise funds by



1Mustang Public High School's Polar Plunge team hits the water at this year's event, held Feb. 20. (Staff photo by Traci Chapman)

plunging in icy pools, lakes and ponds across the country. In central Oklahoma, the plunge takes place at White Water Bay. And, while unseasonably warm temperatures made the waiting pleasant, that didn't mean the water was any warmer, Foley said.

"They're not kidding around about it being polar," the chief said with a laugh. "It really does take your breath away."

The five Brrr-oncos members – Cherie Miller, Brooklyn Sparkman, Allie

Davis, Halle Andrews and Tara McFarland – raised \$810 and had a blast taking part in the fundraising effort, Miller said.

"We just had a great time, met a lot of really wonderful people and loved hanging out with the chief," she said. "We love our Special Olympians and it was a great honor to be able to do this for them and for others like them."

In his fourth plunge outing, Foley was honored as the oldest plunger in the crowd. He said the event was one of the highlights of his year and, according to his plunge donation page, he raised \$1,154 as of Monday – far in excess of his \$500 goal.

"This is such a great cause and it's a lot of fun too," the chief said. "I am very happy to be a part of it."

Ten percent of plunge proceeds raised go directly to area athletes, Miller and Foley said. That helps fund activities throughout the year, as well as the group's annual trip to the Oklahoma Special Olympics Summer Games, held each May in Stillwater.

"We have about 50 special athletes who participate in activities and this really helps support them in their upcoming efforts," Miller said. "This is a great activity – it's a lot of fun, a great chance for everyone to spend time with each other and to raise funds that help keep our kids involved and active."