



THE HOOKER HAPPENINGS

Hooker High School Newspaper • 25th Edition • 12 February 2026

Texas County Stock Show

Many Hooker FFA and Loyal-Doers 4-H members competed in the Texas County Stock Show on February 3rd and 4th. Due to their dedication and hard work, a number of them did exceptionally well with their animals and projects.

Mikel Castaneda

- Breeding Gilt, Class 12, 1st Place
- Breeding Gilt, Class 8, 3rd Place

Gage Dietrick

- Junior Goat Showmanship, Reserve Grand Champion
- Market Goat, Class 2, 4th Place
- Market Goat, Class 1, 1st Place
- Grand AOB
- Market Lamb, Class 14, 1st Place
- Market Lamb, Class 8, 1st Place
- Reserve Grand Southdown
- Market Lamb, Class 2, 1st Place
- Registered Ewe, Class 1, 2nd Place

Sarayi Dozal

- Market Goat, Class 4, 2nd Place
- Market Lamb, Class 5, 3rd Place
- Commercial Ewe, Class 3, 3rd Place

Anthony Esquivel

- Senior Goat Showmanship, Grand Champion
- Market Goat, Class 5, 2nd Place
- Breeding Doe, Class 2, 2nd Place

Jared Flanagan

- Market Steer, Class 1, 2nd Place

Conner Harrison

- Grand Champion Breeding Gilt
- Breeding Gilt, Class 11, 2nd Place
- Champion Light Cross Gilt
- Reserve Champion Light Cross Gilt
- Breeding Gilt, Class 8, 1st Place
- Breeding Gilt, Class 8, 2nd Place



Thane Nunley showing his light cross hog.

Hudson Hayes

- Market Lamb, Class 22, 1st Place
- Market Lamb, Class 13, 1st Place

Roy Herald

- Breeding Gilt, Class 9, 2nd Place

Layton Hill

- Market Hog, Class 12, 2nd Place
- Market Hog, Class 11, 1st Place

Claire Huxman

- Junior Sheep Showmanship, Grand Champion
- Market Lamb, Class 21, 1st Place
- Market Lamb, Class 18, 2nd Place
- Market Lamb, Class 5, 2nd Place
- Registered Ewe, Class 3, 1st Place

Continued on page 2



Texas County Livestock Show, Cont'd

Landen Jacobs

- Market Lamb, Class 24, 1st Place
- Market Lamb, Class 23, 3rd Place
- Market Lamb, Class 11, 2nd Place

Kurt Long

- Market Lamb, Class 16, 1st Place

Lerady Medina

- Intermediate Cattle Showmanship, Grand Champion
- Market Steer, Class 2, 2nd Place

Isabella Mendoza

- Market Goat, Class 2, 5th Place
- Breeding Doe, Class 4, 4th Place

Jakklyn Mendoza

- Market Goat, Class 5, 3rd Place

Kip Nunley

- Reserve Supreme Heifer
- Breeding Heifer, Class 2, 1st Place
- Commercial Pen of Sheep, Grand Champion

Thane Nunley

- Intermediate Hog Showmanship, Reserve Grand Champion
- Grand Light Cross Market Hog
- Market Hog, Class 14, 1st Place
- Breeding Gilt, Class 7, 2nd Place

Baxleigh Rowlan

- Intermediate Sheep Showmanship, Reserve Grand Champion
- Market Lamb, Class 21, 3rd Place
- Commercial Ewe, Class 2, 3rd Place

Jobbye Rowlan

- Market Goat, Class 6, 2nd Place
- Market Lamb, Class 5, 1st Place

Jasmine Salinas

- Intermediate Goat Showmanship, Grand Champion
- Grand Champion Breeding Doe
- Breeding Doe, Class 5, 1st Place
- Breeding Doe, Class 5, 2nd Place
- Breeding Doe, Class 4, 1st Place

Cambri Theiner

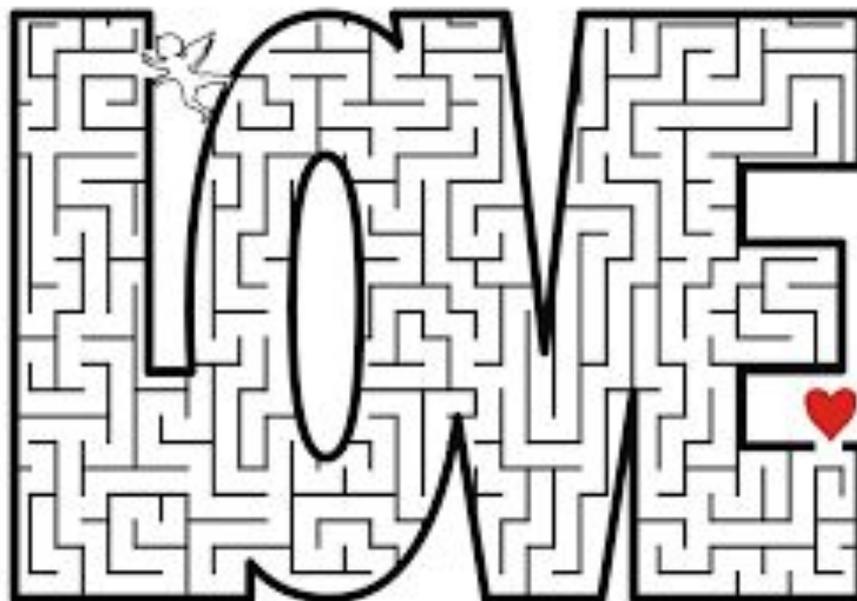
- Intermediate Goat Showmanship, Reserve Grand Champion
- Reserve Champion Market Goat
- Market Goat, Class 4, 1st Place

Damian Vega

- Market Goat, Class 3, 4th Place
- Breeding Doe, Class 2, 3rd Place

Stef Vega

- Market Goat, Class 3, 3rd Place
- Breeding Doe, Class 1, 2nd Place



Enid Festival

by Mollie Baird

The Hooker Lady Bulldogs put together a competitive two-game stretch at the Enid Festival over the weekend. Hooker opened the festival with a 44–25 win over Chisholm. The scorers were Finley Duncan-11pts, Yedi DeHerrera-6 pts, Ana DeHerrera-5 pts, Allie Metcalf-11 pts, Dulce Rios-5 pts, Gisela Gomez-4pts, and Mollie Baird-2pts. In Saturday's matchup, Hooker came up short against Riverside, falling 38–26. The Lady Dogs put together another balanced scoring effort, led by Finley with 10 points. Yedi, Ana, Allie, and Dulce each added 4. On Friday, Jan 30, the Hooker Bulldogs lost their game against Chisholm High School by a score of 50-56. On Saturday, Jan 31, the Hooker Boys team won their game against Riverside Indian High School by a score of 61-47.

Bulldogs Fall to Redskins

by Victoria Cano

During the games against Liberal, Hooker came up short with the score of 50-41. The Lady Dogs getting points from Allie Metcalf - 18 points, Yedi DeHerrera - 8 points, Dulce Rios - 6 pts and 12 rebounds, Ana DeHerrera - 5 pts, and Finley Duncan - 4 pts. The Lady's played their best this games and the community will continue to cheer then on. The basketball boys won with 63-48



Circle the State with Song

by Angela Flanagan

On January 29, students from Hooker Schools 5-8 grades attended OkMEA's CTSWS music festival in Guymon. They worked all afternoon with guest clinician Myles Simpson from Norman, OK and then performed a concert at 6 p.m. There were approximately 235 students from area schools that participated in the day. Students from Hooker who participated were: (back row left-right) Rhianna Serna, Zailynn Villa, Alexa Amador, Maylin Russell, Phoebe Johnson, Maria Mejia, Mia Puentes, Johanna Valles and Mario Perez. (front row left-right) Gracie Diaz, Alicia Roybal, Michael Ruiz, Jobbye Rowlan, LeAnna Adair and Kinslie Valles.





Bulldog Hustle, Bulldog Heart

by Michelle Rodriguez

On Saturday, the Bulldogs and Lady Bulldogs faced the Red Devils and the Lady Red Devils and the crowd was loud. Starting with the girls, who played a very painstaking game with multiple players contributing, including Allie Metcalf, Yedi DeHerrera, and Finley Duncan, all of whom scored 8. Gisela Gomez gained 7 points. Both Dulce Rios and Ana DeHerrera each added 6, and Mollie Baird completed by adding 3 points. Ultimately, their hard work paid off, and they secured a win, 47-42. Next up, the boys who also gave it their all, and with multiple players contributing, they won 68-47.

What a Bull Fight!

by Haven Romero

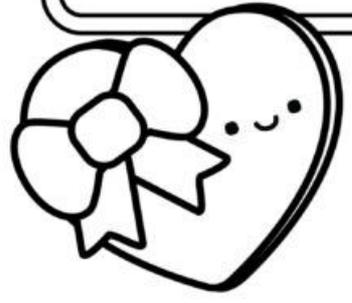
The Hooker JH basketball team played the Balko Forgan Bulls last Monday with the girls earning a 21-19 win and the boys taking the loss, 35-26. For the girls, Jacklynne Ramos scored 2 points, helping in key moments. Hartley Stevens finished with 7 points and played a steady defense. Sianna Velasquez led the team with 9 points, making several important shots that kept Hooker in the lead. Brightyn McArney added 3 points to round out the scoring.

VALENTINE'S DAY WORD SEARCH



H	G	E	I	H	N	D	N	Y	K
U	M	D	G	F	U	L	S	C	C
G	D	C	S	Z	T	M	A	U	D
J	E	L	W	F	P	H	J	P	O
D	X	L	E	F	Z	E	B	I	K
R	O	S	E	R	C	A	N	D	Y
P	L	A	T	I	C	R	C	G	L
C	A	R	D	E	U	T	X	I	O
J	U	N	T	N	P	D	T	Q	V
Y	H	Y	V	D	G	I	F	T	E

CANDY
CARD
CUPID
FRIEND
GIFT
HEART
HUG
LOVE
ROSE
SWEET



Clawing the Tigers!

by Haven Romero

The Hooker JH Lady Dogs took on the Guymon Tigers Monday evening and came away with a solid 28-22 win. The game stayed close, but Hooker stayed composed and worked together to keep control throughout. Hartley Stevens led the Lady Dogs with 12 points, while Sianna Velasquez followed with 7 points, making several key shots that helped maintain the lead. Brightyn McArney contributed with 5 points, while Jacklynne Ramos chipped in 4 points to round out the scoring.



Powerlifting at Laverne

by Aydan Wooldridge

The Hooker powerlifting team did extremely well with multiple kids placing. Impressively, two members of hooker's team placed 2nd earning their spot to the next meet: Sarayi Dozal in the hundred and thirteen weight class and Christian Ugarte in the hundred and eighty one class. Cy Paden placed fourth in the hundred and fifty seven pound weight class in boys. Kamryn Hill placed fourth in the heavyweight for girls. Justin Daugherty placed fifth in the hundred and ninety eight pound weight class. They have all secured their spots in the next meet.

Coach Johnson and the powerlifting team would like to thank Mill's Ideal Food and First National Bank of Hooker for helping them buy t-shirts. Thank you for your continuous support of our students!

Basketball Senior Night

Tuesday, February 10th was a night to celebrate our seniors. Senior Night included girls' basketball, boys' basketball, and cheer. After a celebration of our senior's many accomplishments, both the Lady Bulldogs and Bulldogs went on to win their games against the Turpin Cardinals. The Lady Dogs won with an impressive score of 54-39 after an energetic game full of phenomenal teamwork. The Dogs followed it up with a 49-36 win, continuing their win streak against the Cardinals.



Bulldog Beat

by Haven, Perla, and Aby

Ana DeHerrera is a junior on the Lady Dogs basketball team this year. Ana says she hates losing, and that losing motivates her to continue to keep improving because she knows she can do better. One of her most memorable game was in Watonga against OBA. She said the energy, mindset, and the team bond was amazing and getting the win was a cherry on top. During Ana's freshman year, she was top 15 at the State XC meet, that is an athletic accomplishment she is most proud of. Ana has been playing basketball for 7 years. One accomplishment she wants to make this season is to make it to the state tournament with the girls.



Mollie Baird is a senior at HHS and she shows how much she values her teammates and the experiences she has gained through sports. She shares that her motivation to continue improving comes from the people around her, especially her teammates who support and inspire her. One of her most memorable moments was anytime her team performed a play called "Texas," showing how meaningful those shared game moments are. Mollie is most proud of her accomplishment of playing varsity, which reflects her hard work over the years. She has been involved in her sport for about ten years, showing strong commitment and passion. This season, her goal is to make more memories and have fun.



Callen Duncan is a sophomore on the Hooker Bulldogs Basketball team this year. One thing that motivates Callen to continue to keep improving is getting better to help his team. One of his most memorable games was against Balko-Forgan at home when scoring 11 points. As a freshman, Callen made it to the basketball state game, he says that is one of his proudest athletic accomplishments. He has been playing basketball for 7 years. An accomplishment Callen wants to acquire this season is making it to state.



Ryker Hill is a sophomore at HHS he reflects his strong motivation and love for sports. He explains that what motivates him to keep improving is the desire to be better and continue growing as an athlete. One of his most memorable moments in the sport was playing against Rejoice Christian in a game that felt amazing and exciting. Ryker is most proud of his athletic accomplishment of grabbing the rim, which shows his hard work and progress. He has played his sport for about six years. This season, his goal is to get as far as him and his teammates to make it in the playoffs.



Cambri Theiner is a member of the HHS powerlifting team this year. Her motivation to continue improving is the good feeling when you get a new max. A memorable game she has played at is Laverne because she has many friends there. An accomplishment she is most proud of is getting new max's at her first meet. This is Cambri's first year in powerlifting. This season she would like to accomplish earning a medal.





Senior Spotlights

by Perla, Aby, and Laken



Gisela Gomez is a senior at Hooker High School. Her favorite memory in high school is when, her freshman year, the basketball team won the Area game to go to state and all of her coaches (Stalder, Stump, and Robinson) all walked in wearing wigs and hitting the griddy while her and her teammates sprayed them with water bottles. For theme songs she would choose “Nevada” by NBA Youngboy. Gisela would give her younger self advice to always stay strong, work hard, and never give up, even when things get difficult. She describes her personality with adjectives such as bubbly, funny, and caring, showing that she brings joy to others. Her dream job is to become a radiologist.



Braidein Collins is a senior at HHS this year. His favorite high school memory is when he drew one of his characters for art. If he had to give his younger self advice it would be to live in a good way, a way where you, your loved ones, and your future self are happy. A song that would make the best theme for him is “Epoch” by The Living Tombstone. Three adjectives that can be used to describe Braidein are goofy, caring, and creative. Braidein’s dream job is to be a Game Designer. In 10 years from now he sees himself trying to be his best self, living in a world where in the end no one is no one but every life has value.



Sidney Villegas is a senior at Hooker High School. Although Sidney has only been at HHS for two years, she would say her favorite memory is when she went to her first game. She loves football and thought it was great to see everyone so excited about it. That experience made her want to go to more games. If she had to give her younger self advice, it would be to not worry about what already happened because you cannot change what you already did. Sidney chose “Shivers” by Ed Sheeran as her theme song, because it describes her life. Three adjectives she would use to describe herself are kind, happy, and quiet, but only to those she doesn’t know. Her dream job is to be a criminologist because she adores investigating.

Bulldog Eats

by Victoria Cano

Chapalas is a Mexican restaurant on Highway 54 once you enter Hooker from Liberal, Kansas. It serves homemade and authentic Mexican food, freshly made that day. They have 4.3 stars on Google reviews and they are very positive about the cleanliness and hospitality of the waiters. It is a great place to eat as there aren't many sit-in restaurants around the town. Chapala is a family friendly restaurant and they're are many food items on the menu.



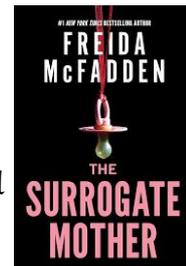
Ruff Ruff Reads

Alyssa's Recommendation:

The Surrogate Mother

by **Freida McFadden**

This book is a wonderful psychological thriller about a woman named Abby. She hires her personal assistant, Monica, to be her surrogate. Things take a turn for the worst when Abby discovers how fake Monica is. She gets framed for a murder, fired from her own job, and almost killed herself. It's a roller coaster of emotions, and a book full of shocking turns.

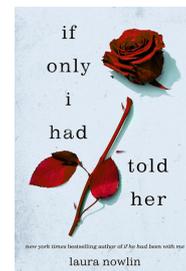


Michelle's Recommendation:

If Only I Had Told Her

by **Laura Nowlin**

If Only I Had Told Her by Laura Nowlin is the final book in the *If He Had Been With Me* series. The story is told through the perspectives of Finny, Jack, and Autumn, offering insight into grief, guilt, and love after loss. This story follows a group of teenagers as they realize that maybe they underestimated each other. The novel emphasizes the impact of communication and the lasting effects of relationships.



Paws & Play

Movie & Game Reviews

by Laken & Michelle

Sleepover(2004)

The summer before starting high school Julie and her best friends Hannah, Yancy, and Farrah, have a sleepover. It is at this slumber party that they decide they need to shed their nerdy reputation before their freshman year. They embark on a scavenger hunt against a group of popular girls. To win, Julie and her friends have to steal a car and a boy's underpants and sneak into a nightclub, all without Julie's mom finding out, and if they win they would get to sit at the very sought-after popular lunch



Tenzi is a fast-paced rolling game with dice that will keep the whole family smiling and laughing from ear to ear. The objective is to roll all ten of your dice on the same number. The catch is, you have to be as quick as possible. The first person to land all ten dice on the same number will yell TENZI, and they will be the winner. After everyone gets the hang of it, you can play with different action cards that make the game even more hysterical. Some cards vary from barking like a dog after each roll, using your left hand to roll, or balancing a dice on your head. In this version, there are 77 ways to play Tenzi. This game will have you fighting to the death against your family and friends. Remember, speed is key!

What ifs

by Aydan Wooldridge

- 1.What if animals think humans are just really loud pets?
- 2.What if naps actually add years to your life?
- 3.What if your life has background music you just can't hear?
- 4.What if the thing you're avoiding is actually the thing that frees you?
- 5.What if you're not behind—just early for a different path?
- 6.What if the people who hurt you were also doing their best?
- 7.What if every choice you *didn't* make is happening somewhere else?
- 8.What if time isn't linear, we just experience it that way?
- 9.if dreams are memories from another version of you?
- 10.What if déjà vu is your brain remembering a deleted timeline?

Jokes

Alyssa Powell

1. I'm on a seafood diet. I see food and I eat it.
2. Why did the frog walk to work? His car got toad.
3. Why are horses so sleepy? They're always hitting the hay.
4. What do you call it when two boats fall in love? A row-mance.
5. I was told I need to stop acting like a flamingo, so I put my foot down.
6. A book fell on my head. I only have my-shelf to blame.
7. I tried to buy some camouflage pants, but i couldn't find any.
8. What kind of cow wears a crown? A dairy queen.



Meet the Pack: Staff Bios

by Perla, Laken, & Alyssa



Coach Harrison Funderburk teaches Algebra 1 and Geometry, helping students build important math skills. This is his first full year teaching, making it an exciting and meaningful beginning to his career. Harrison explains that he wants to be a teacher because of the coaches and teachers whose classes and life lessons he enjoyed, showing how past mentors influenced him. He chose Hooker because of the strong community, culture, and supportive staff, especially as a teacher. His favorite part of teaching is the daily interactions with students and learning from their perspectives, showing how much he values connection.



Mrs. Kaylea Burkhardt is a social studies teacher for the 8th and 12th grade. This year is her first at Hooker High School, but she has been teaching seven years all together. She says that the best part of her job is teaching students how to think for themselves instead of others. Her favorite memory from teaching was when an underdog student made a major shift in their life and worked long and hard to graduate. Mrs. Burkhardt chose her profession because she was asked to teach with her favorite teacher back in school. If she had to choose one song to describe her life, it would be "Birthplace" by Novo Amor.



Ms. Jamie Hill choose HHS because she wanted to teach where her boys were attending school. She loves working in Hooker because of the students and their families. It's been the best place to live, work, and raise her boys. She loves being able to watch the younger elementary kids walk by her classroom windows and then see them a few years later in her classroom. Ms. Hill has been teaching for a very long time, and her favorite motto is "Never stop learning how to learn!" Lastly, she hopes students learn how to find accurate information on their own. She wants to teach them how to be successful after high school.



The Hooker Happenings Staff

