



# HOOKER HAPPENINGS

Hooker High School Newspaper • Senior Edition • May 31, 2026

## Hooker High School's Class of 2026

**Congratulations to the Hooker High School Class of 2026!**

We are proud of all you've accomplished thus far, and can't wait to see what awaits you in your futures!

\*Not pictured: James Curtis



**"If you're tired of starting over, stop giving up."  
- Young Thug**

## End of an Era

by Haven Romero

As our 2025-26 school year comes to an end, so does Mr. Stalder's career as the HHS/HJH Principal. Mr. Stalder has chosen to retire after this school year. He began his career off with teaching for 23 years before becoming principal. He taught math classes all 23 years along with health and wellness. Mr. Stalder has been a principal at HHS for 14 years, was head coach of the girls basketball team for 6, and was athletic director for 5 years. While Mr. Stalder has definitely had many special memories, one of his favorites was working with Jorge and Leo Esquivel on their English skills during their 7th grade year. He says he enjoyed watching them mature and value school, and that is a great example of the reason why people go into education as a career. Another favorite memory of his is getting two academic All-States, which were the first in Hooker High History. We asked him why he chose to become a principal, when in reality he had left high school with the intention of becoming an accountant, but he said God had other plans for him. With getting into education, he was able to be around his kids and be there for all of their achievements more than many parents get to be, which was a big blessing to him and his wife. Lastly, the most important question, will he actually sleep past 6am now? According to Mr. Stalder, Mrs. Stalder has a standing order of breakfast every morning that still requires him to be awake before 6am to prepare. He is not sure what he will do with his time off, but he did say he will not miss answering texts or calls, having to deal with school issues, or waking up in the middle of night wondering if they will find the next teachers for classes. He wants to say thank you to all the students, parents, teachers and staff and the community for putting up with him all these years. The last 14 years has truly been enjoyable! With that being said, our new principal will be Fidel Velazquez, and vice principal will be Heidi Nunley.





# Lady Bulldogs: State Golf

by Mollie Baird

The Hooker Lady Dogs were headed to state in Muskogee, Oklahoma. Day 1-May 4th, Allie 85, Mollie 94, Sammi 108, Haven 114, and Kyleen 130. The girls were sitting in 3rd place after day 1. The second day was a bit more of a struggle with the scores ending up Allie 97, Mollie 99, Sammi 111, Haven 118, and Kyleen a 127. The girls improved throughout the season and ended up with 6th place at state.



Left: Coach Kerr gives a pep-talk to the team.

Right: The Lady Bulldog golf team.



Photos Courtesy of Rhonda Baird

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## Bulldogs fight hard at Regionals

by Michelle Rodriguez

The Hooker Bulldogs competed in a challenging regional tournament on May 7-8, finishing with two impressive victories and showing resilience throughout the competition. The Bulldogs opened tournament play on May 7 against Summit Christian but fell 3-13 in Game 1. Despite the loss, Hooker had several strong offensive performances. Justin Palacios went a perfect 2-for-2 at the plate with two doubles, while Gunnar Martens added a double of his own, finishing 1-for-2. Hooker quickly bounced back in Game 2 with a dominant 15-3 victory over Wewoka. Hunter Ray led the offensive explosion, going 3-for-3 with a double, a triple, and five RBIs. Kip Nunley contributed two singles in a 2-for-3 performance, while Alex Serna and Gunnar Martens each added a single to help fuel the Bulldogs' big win.

On May 8, the Bulldogs faced Summit Christian once again and earned redemption with a thrilling 16-10 victory in Game 3. Alex Serna collected three singles while going 3-for-5 at the plate. Hunter Ray continued his outstanding tournament performance, finishing 2-for-3 with a triple, a single, and two RBIs. Ray also made a major impact on the mound, recording eight strikeouts. Gunnar Martens had one of the biggest performances of the tournament, going a perfect 4-for-4 with four RBIs. Justin Daugherty added a double and two RBIs, while Cy Paden recorded two singles in four at-bats. Konner Yonkers and Kip Nunley also contributed with singles.

The Bulldogs advanced to the Regional Championship game against Tonkawa but came up short in a 14-2 loss. Gunnar Martens provided both of Hooker's RBIs, going 2-for-2 with a single and a home run in the final game of the season.



# Bulldogs Take on State Track

800 M: Finley Duncan - 3rd

3200 M: Yarel Mesta - 7th

Girls' 4x400 M Relay - 6th

Girls' 4x800 M Relay: Finley Duncan, Jenna Carter, Ember Stevens, and Yarel Mesta - 2nd

Lady Bulldogs: 9th Overall, 2A State Track



200 M: Keilan Robinson - 3rd

Boys' 4x100 M Relay: Justin Palacios, Keilan Robinson, Alex Garcia, James Curtis - 7th

Boys' 4x200 M Relay: Justin Palacios, Alex Garcia, James Curtis, Keilan Robinson - 4th

Boys' 4x400 M Relay: Keilan Robinson, Ryker Hill, Dariel Hernandez, James Curtis - 7th

Boys' 4x800 M Relay: Ryker Hill, Dariel Hernandez, Giovanni Estrada, Callen Duncan - 7th

High Jump: Shase Redmond, 11th

Bulldogs: 10th Overall, 2A State Track

# The Beginning of a New Chapter

by Laken Carnagey

At the Hooker High School 2026 Baccalaureate, the upcoming graduates were able to catch a glimpse of their new fast paced lives. They heard from several individuals who preached about good faith and taking the next step forward. The HHS Choir sang their senior song, *A Million Dreams*, and watched the senior slideshow thereafter. Overall, the students reflected on the previous years, after realizing how fast time can move.

# State FFA Convention

Hooker's FFA attended the State Convention in early May this year. They were involved in this year's Courtesy Corp, which is a volunteer team that assists in the management of the annual state convention. Their involvement helped ensure that the convention's events ran smoothly. Members were also on the floor as voting delegates for Hooker's FFA chapter. This involves voting for State FFA officers, approving constitutional changes, and voting on other matters that come before the convention.





# Class Awards

by Victoria Cano

## Junior High Awards

### Math:

- 7th Grade Top Math Students: Rhett Brown and Dylan Ugarte
- 8th Grade Top Math Students: Wyatt Arnold and Austin McBee
- Most Inquisitive Math Minds: Grant Jahraus and Rhett Brown
- Maintained A-averages in math for both semesters: 7th Grade–Rhett Brown, Erik Fernandez, Brenyed Coronado, Nohemy Garcia, Dylan Ugarte; 8th Grade–Wyatt Arnold

### Science:

- 7th Grade Scientific Excellence Award: Dylan Ugarte and Michael Ruiz
- 8th Grade Scientific Excellence Award: Phoebe Johnson and Sianna Velasquez
- Most Academic Growth in JH Science for 2025-26: Josiah Rodriguez

### English:

- 7th Grade English Outstanding Students: Rhett Brown and Brenyed Coronado
- 8th Grade English Outstanding Students: Sianna Velasquez and Phoebe Johnson
- Junior High Quiz Bowl, Outstanding Player: Ullysses Viscarra

### Geography:

- Coach Elliot's 7th Grade Top Eastern Hemisphere Geography Student: Graham Huxman
- 7th Grade Most Improved Geography Student: Cooper Barnes
- Coach McBee's 7th Grade Top Eastern Hemisphere Geography Student: Rhett Brown

### Choir:

- Outstanding Member - Maylin Russell

### Computers:

- 8th Grade Top Computer Students:
- 1st Hour: Fastest Typist - Suhay Ramirez at 57 words per minute
- Typing Tournament Winner - Suhay Ramirez
- 7th Grade Top Keyboarding Students:
- 2nd Hour: Fastest Typist - Michael Ruiz at 49 words per minute
- Typing Tournament Winner - Erik Fernandez
- 5th Hour: Fastest Typist - TIE - Brenyed Coronado and Brightyn McAnarney at 56 words per minute
- Typing Tournament Winner - Cody Martinez
- 6th Hour: Fastest Typist - Layton Gilmore at 54 words per minute
- Typing Tournament Winner - Nohemy Garcia

### Art:

- 8th Grade Top Art Students: Vaughn Lambley and Sianna Velasquez
- 8th Grade Honorable Mention Art Students: Jared Kearns and Phoebe Johnson
- 8th Grade Most Improved in Art: Wiley Haines

### Perfect attendance:

Anaylynn Casas, Joshua Gribble, Braven Paden, Yosgar Ramos, Michael Ruiz, Sherlyn Salinas, Rhianna Serna, Sianna Velasquez

### Drop Everything and Read (DEAR):

- 8th Grade– Sianna Velasquez–3430 pages
- 7th Grade–Ethan Estrada–2063 pages

## High School

### Geography:

- World Geography Student: Ary Fernandez
- World Geography Most Improved Student: Angela Olivares

### Quiz Bowl:

- Nathun Urias- MVP
- Ulises Casas- Most Improved Player
- Azumi Garcia- Academic Bowl Achievement Award
- Gabe Casas- Newcomer of the Year
- Joan Valdez- Time/Scorekeeper Award

### Math:

- Algebra II Top Students: Azumi Garcia and Summer Fischer
- Algebra II Honorable Mention: Valentina Rodriguez, Carmen Russell, Josie Davis, Ulisses Casas, Alyssa Powell, and Jenna Carter
- College Algebra Top Student: Dariel Medina
- Trigonometry Top Student: Yarel Mesta
- Outstanding Programming Student: Jenna Carter
- Honorable Mention Programming Student: Burke Lambley

### Choir

- Outstanding Choir Member - Jonathan Lu
- Outstanding Senior Member - Jonathan Lu

### Computers:

- Computer Application 1 Top Student: Samantha Butler
- Computer Application 2 Top Student: Samira Alvarado
- Web Design Top Students: Hadley Harris and Harper Harris



# Class Awards, Cont'd

## English:

- Pre-AP English 1 Top Student: Dariel Hernandez
- Pre-AP English 2 Top Student: Kimberly Moreno
- English II Top Students: 6th Period–Yadira Amador, 7th Period–Brissa Medina
- English 4 Top Students: 1) Gannon Hill, 2) Allie Metcalf, 3) Wendy Ramirez and Keilan Robinson
- English 4 Most Improved: Sidney Villegas
- English 4 Best Writer: Aydan Wooldridge
- English 3 Top Students: Josie Davis and Yessica Flores
- English 3 Most Improved: Sophia Byrd
- AP English 3 Top Students: 1) Jenna Carter, 2) Summer Fischer

## Government and History:

- American Government Top Students: 1) Azumi Garcia, 2) Kimberly Moreno
- US History Top Students: 1) Jenna Carter, 2) Ulises Casas
- Oklahoma History Top Student–Cristian Ugarte

## Science:

- Physical Science Top Students: Dariel Hernandez and Cristian Ugarte
- Chemistry Top Students: Summer Fischer and Jonathan Lu
- Biology 1 Top Student–1st Hour: Hailey Mitchell
- Biology 1 Top Student–3rd Hour: Kimberly Moreno
- Biology 1 Top Student–5th Hour: Levi Wisner
- Biology 1 Top Student–Overall: Hailey Mitchell

## Accounting and Career Exploration:

- Accounting Top Student: Wendy Ramirez
- Career Exploration Top Student: Hailey Mitchell

## Art:

- HS Top Art Students: Jonathan Lu and Gladys Mejia Medina
- HS Honorable Mention Art Students: Miguel Mendoza, Laken Carnagey, Jenna Carter
- HS Most Improved in Art: Kaschen Morrell
- HS Most Consistent and Most Art Pieces Created: Harper Harris
- HS Most Awards Won at Art Contests: Jenna Carter

## Perfect Attendance:

- Hadley Harris, Dariel Hernandez, Preston Jacobs, Jonathan Lu, Brissa Medina, Mia Zarate

## Drop Everything and Read (DEAR) Awards:

- Seniors–Ailin Cervantes–2124 pages, Lexi Adair–2308 pages, Kinley McGaha–3432 pages, Laken Carnagey–6905 pages
- Juniors–Valentina Rodriguez–2649 pages, Michelle Rodriguez–2976 pages, Anjilikue Ugarte–3879 pages, Alyssa Powell–4287 pages, Abigail Sarabia–4700 pages, Sarai Sarabia–5530 pages
- Sophomores–Brissa Medina–1555 pages
- Freshmen–Maydelyn Perez 2863 pages, Sarayi Dozal–3947 pages
- Highest Overall for 2025-26 is Laken Carnagey with 6905 pages. Laken also has an incredible 27,737 pages over her four years of high school!!

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# Kindergarten Graduation

by Abigail Sarabia

The kindergarten graduation at Hooker Elementary School is a small-town milestone that captures the heart of the Hooker, Oklahoma community. In miniature caps and gowns, the Little Bulldogs gathered in the high school auditorium to celebrate the completion of their first formal year of education. The ceremony is a blend of adorable performances and proud presentations, where teachers and families watch as the students transition from the basics of the alphabet to the threshold of the first grade. There was an unmistakable sense of bulldog pride as these young learners took their very first walk across the stage.



# Graduation

Hooker's Class of 2026 celebrated the moment they've worked toward for 14 years: Graduation. The ceremony was held May 16 in the New Gym, where graduates were honored for reaching this major academic milestone. Congratulations to the Hooker High School Class of 2026!



Seniors Dariel Medina and Aislyn Padilla during the Rose Ceremony.

Hadley and Harper Harris with their special "Parent Trap" handshake as they walk to their seats at the beginning of the graduation ceremony.



Brand-new graduates: Rubi Hernandez and Matthew Deatherage.



Seniors Samira Alvarado and Madelyn Alvarez preparing for the Rose Ceremony.



Graduate Chelsy Salinas celebrates with family post-graduation ceremony.

Senior Dariel Medina receiving his scholarship packet during the graduation ceremony.



Senior Abriel Peralta celebrating those most special to him during the Rose Ceremony.





# Hooker High School

## Class of 2026



**LEXI ADAIR**

Lexi plans to attend SWOSU to acquire her Physical Therapy Assistant Degree. Her most memorable senior moment would be her last softball trip with her teammates.



**SAMIRA ALVARADO**

Samira plans to attend OU to obtain her Bachelor's of Nursing degree. Miss Geneva has had the biggest impact on her throughout high school and has encouraged Samira to reflect positively on her life.



**MADELYNN ALVAREZ**

Madelynn plans to attend UCO to major in Criminal Justice, followed by law school. Her mom has been the most influential person in her life by always being supportive and encouraging of her plans.



**LESLY BACA**

Lesly plans to join the military. She credits Mrs. Nunley for helping her find her future plans and believing she can reach them.



**MOLLIE BAIRD**

Mollie plans to attend OCU to study nursing. Her most memorable senior moments are going on trips to colleges/college fairs and having senior meals with her classmates.



**LAKEN CARNAGEY**

Laken plans to attend OPSU to major in English in order to become an author or editor. She will also be teaching at the Guymon Dance Company. Mrs. Harrison was most influential, teaching Laken about new opportunities and leading her to choose an English major.



# Hooker High School

## Class of 2026



**JULIO CASAS**

Julio plans to join the United States Air Force after high school. Mrs. Harrison has been the most influential teacher during his high school career.



**KYLEEN CASTLEBURY**

Kyleen plans to attend OSU and major in agribusiness for accounting. Her most memorable moment from this year was the Powderpuff Football game. Mrs. Flanagan has been the most influential teacher during high school for Kyleen.



**AILIN CERVANTES**

Ailin plans to attend SCCC. Her most memorable moment from senior year is having the chance to explore different career paths with her classmates.



**BRAIDEIN COLLINS**

Braidein plans to get a job and work toward becoming a game developer someday. He looks forward to making a career out of his favorite hobby.



**JAMES CURTIS**

James plans to attend OSU to obtain a construction engineering degree. His most memorable moment from his senior year is standing on the podium at the state track meet.



**MATTHEW DEATHERAGE**

Matthew plans to work after graduation. He feels many people have been influential in getting him to this point. His favorite memory from senior year is when Jonathan was chased by a dog.



# Hooker High School

## Class of 2026



**YEDELIN DEHERRERA**

Yedelin plans to play softball at OPSU and major in biology. The teacher who has been most influential is Mrs. Harrison because she “believed in every single student and sees potential through every wall.”



**FLOR GARCIA**

Flor plans to become a 911 Dispatcher or an Operating Manager for Loves. Her mother has been the most influential person in her life because she’s always pushed Flor to be the best version of herself.



**GISELA GOMEZ**

Gisela plans to attend SWOSU and major in Allied Health Sciences in order to become a radiologic technologist. Her most memorable moment from senior year is going to the bench between bells to talk with her friends.



**JIMENA GUTIERREZ**

Jimena plans to attend college. Her parents have been the most influential people in her life.



**HADLEY HARRIS**

Hadley plans to attend NWOSU to major in nursing. Her most memorable moment of senior year was when Jonathan got chased by a dog and everything thought it was a girl screaming.



**HARPER HARRIS**

Harper plans to attend NWOSU to major in nursing. Mrs. Kennedy, Mrs. Nunley, Mrs. Burkhart, and Mrs. Sappington have been the most influential teachers for her throughout high school.



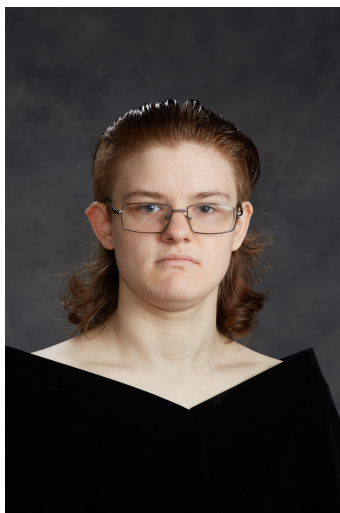
# Hooker High School

## Class of 2026



**RUBI HERNANDEZ**

Rubi is joining the Oklahoma National Guard. Mr. Stalder has been the most influential person for her during high school because he wants what's best for everyone and is always there to talk and give good advice.



**SAM HIGGANBOTHAM**

Sam plans to attend college, though may take a gap year prior to starting classes. Sam is happy to be done with high school.



**GANNON HILL**

Gannon plans to attend OSU. His most memorable senior year moment is winning Homecoming King during basketball season.



**SYDNEY HILL**

Sydney plans to attend either NWOSU or Lamar Community College. Her most memorable moment from senior year is B's wreck in the parking lot toward the end of the year.



**LUIS IBARRA**

Luis plans to join the workforce. The most influential teacher during his high school career has been Coach K.



**JONATHAN LU**

Jonathan plans to attend OU in order to study music and marketing. His grandma is the most influential person in his life; she's taught him about faith and the principles he needs to follow in life.



# Hooker High School

## Class of 2026



**KINLEY MCGAHA**

Kinley plans to attend Hesston college to play softball and get her business degree, followed by cosmetology school. Her most memorable moment from senior year was her last softball game.



**DARIEL MEDINA**

Dariel plans to attend OSU and pursue a master's degree in accounting. His proudest moment of senior year was being awarded the full-ride Thoma Scholarship at OSU.



**GLADYS MEDJIA-MEDINA**

Gladys plans to attend OPSU to major in history and become a teacher. Mrs. Harrison and Mrs. Johnson have been her most influential teachers throughout high school, as they've taught her to think for herself and work toward her goals.



**YAREL MESTA**

Yarel plans to attend Texas Tech in the fall. Mr. Davis has been the most influential teacher during her high school career, pushing her to learn and grow in math.



**ALLIE METCALF**

Allie plans to attend OSU to major in Nutrition. The most influential teacher her senior year has been Mr. Davis, as he makes learning fun and understandable.



**ANTHONY  
PACHECO-CERVANTES**

Anthony plans to become a famous musician in an alternative rock band. His most memorable moment from senior year was the tour at TCEC.



# Hooker High School

## Class of 2026



**AISLYN PADILLA**

Aislyn plans to attend SCCC. She credits Mrs. Harrison as the most influential teacher she's had throughout high school.



**ABRIEL PERALTA**

Abriel plans to attend OSU to obtain a business degree. Mrs. Hill has been the most influential teacher to him throughout his high school career.



**WENDY RAMIREZ**

Wendy plans to attend OPSU in order to become an accountant. Mrs. Nunley has been a huge help and has inspired her to reach for her goals.



**HUNTER RAY**

Hunter plans to continue his baseball career and get his business degree. The most influential teacher during his high school career has been Mrs. Hill.



**KEILAN ROBINSON**

Keilan plans to attend SCCC to play basketball. His most memorable moment from his senior year was dunking on someone during his last home game, for the last point he scored on his home court.



**CHELSEY SALINAS**

Chelsy plans to attend SCCC. Mr. Brad James has been the most influential person to her throughout high school.



# Hooker High School Class of 2026



**RYLEE STEGMAN**

Rylee plans to attend Iowa State. His favorite memory from senior year is watching Keilan dunk on someone in "live action."



**SIDNEY VILLEGAS**

Sidney plans to become a flight attendant. Her mom and grandma have been the most influential people in her life.



**BRYNLEE WILLIAMS**

Brynlee plans to attend West Texas A&M University. Her mom has been the most influential person in her life.



**AYDAN WOOLDRIDGE**

Aydan plan to go to work. He appreciates his mom always pushing him to be the best he can be. His most memorable moment from senior year is watching Gunnar get slimed, then in a wreck in the parking lot.



**KONNER YONKERS**

Konner plans to attend trade school to become a welder. His dad has been the most influential person in his life by always pushing him to be a better person.





**The Senior Class of 2026 would like to say THANK YOU to all who came together to provide their Senior Meals. They appreciate all of the time, effort, resources, and love each of you have poured into each of them throughout the years.**

## Class Dismissed

by Alyssa Powell

Walking through the familiar doors one last time before summer, it's clear that we leave much more than textbooks and tests behind. As our 2025-26 school year comes to an end, we will recap most of the events we had. At the beginning of the year, we had our annual car show where everyone gets together to show off their fancy cars. In the beginning of November, we had Dogfest in which all the students get together to compete and play a bunch a games. As we get to our second semester, we had a big prom to plan. The juniors decorated and held the 2026 prom with the theme of "Old Hollywood Diner." It was a big hit with the burgers that were served, and everyone dancing on the dance floor. Once prom was over, it got serious with the seniors. The Class of 2026 had several lunches, meetings, and pictures taken to end their year. Overall, the school year of 2025-26 was a very memorable year for the newly enrolled students and the ones who have been here their whole lives. We've put in the work, made the memories, and now it's time to celebrate a year well spent.

## Bulldog Summer Thus Far



Mollie Baird - K101 Golf



Hunter Ray - WOBCA All-Star Game



Hunter Ray - K101 Baseball



Lexi Adair, Kinley McGaha, & Yedi DeHerrera - K101 Softball



Softball and Baseball Camps



The Hooker Happenings Staff

**Thank you so much to the school and community for supporting *The Hooker Happenings!* Bringing you the news has been an honor. There will be no papers throughout the summer, but we will start publishing again once we return to school in the fall. See you then!**