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# THE HOOKER HAPPENINGS

Hooker High School Newspaper •

16th Edition •

4 September 2025

## Bulldogs Beat Bobcats in Overtime Battle

by Aydan Wooldridge

The Hooker bulldogs are hoping for another successful year after last year's State Runner-Up finish. They host the sunray bobcats at home for the season opener. To kick off their season in a dramatic fashion with a hard fought victory over sunray Texas on Friday, August 29 at Hooker Oklahoma.

After exchanging blows all night the game finished in a very exciting finale. With seconds left senior Keilan Robinson took matters into his own hands, rushing for a 5-yard touchdown and completing a two-point

conversion to tie the game at 42 points forcing the game into overtime.

Hooker's win was a solid team effort, with most players having a dominant night over the Sunray Bobcats. Justin Palacios really hyped the game up with impressive

stats: he rushed for 83 yards and two TDs, and also picked up 38 receiving yards as well as two sacks and a total of 15 tackles (4.0 for loss). Keilan Robinson was another star player, achieving 186 passing yards and a few touchdowns himself, ending the game 42 to 50 in an overtime win.



Photo Courtesy of Aaron Witt Photography

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## Bulldogs Blaze a Trail

by Mollie Baird

The Hooker Dogs and Lady Dogs opened their season on August 14th at home. The boys' high school team finished in 1st place, while the girls secured 2nd. Individually, Callen Duncan placed 3rd, Dariel Hernandez was 4th, and Giovanni Estrada took 6th. For the girls, Ember Stevens finished 4th, Yarel Mesta was 5th, and Finley Duncan claimed 6th. In junior high, both boys and girls placed 2nd. Jacob Ibarra and Joshua Gribble were in 1st and 2nd, followed by Braven Paden 4th, Layton Gilmore 5th, and Conner Harrison 6th. For the JH girls, Roselyn Smith was 2nd, Hartley Stevens 3rd, and Myra Parker 4th.



# Lady Bulldogs Lead the Pack

by Michelle Rodriguez

August 23, our Cross Country boys and girls traveled down to run at Guymon, Ok. The high school girls' team as a whole did really well, winning the meet over 10 teams. In the high school girls' 2-mile, Finley Duncan in 2nd place 13:31.49, Jenna Carter in 3rd place 13:42.97, and Yedelin DeHerrera in 5th place 13:44.00. The Junior High Girls in the 2-mile were 1st out of 7 Junior High girls teams. The times and places were Roselyn Smith, 1st place 14:30.74, Hartley Stevens, 2nd place 15:16.48, and Myra Parker, 5th place 15:36.05. There were 100 finishers in the Junior High Girls division. A total of 145 HS boys finished the race. Our team finished 7th out of 11 teams in the 5k. The time and placements are Callen Duncan, 19th place, Dariel Hernandez, 40th place, and Giovani Estrada, 52nd place. There were 80 total finishers for the JH boys' race. Our boys' team finished 2nd out of 5 teams. The placements and times were Joshua Gribble, 4th place, 12:39.53, Braven Paden, 9th place, 13:02.24, and Jacob Ibarra, 10th place, 13:10.72.

## Olive Warner Memorial Library Calendar

September 2025						
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
1	2	3	4 Storytime 5 pm	5	6 Car Show Book Sale ALL DAY	7
8	9 Hedgehog Craft 5:30 pm	10	11	12	13 FINAL Garden Swap ALL DAY	14
15	16	17	18 Storytime 5 pm	19	20 LEGO Play Day ALL DAY	21
22	23 Pumpkin cookies 5:30 pm	24 HALO Storytime 4 pm	25 Cookbook Club 5:30 pm	26	27	28
29	30					

# Bulldog Softball Recap

by Haven Romero & Victoria Cano



After beating Laverne 6-5 on Friday, Lady Dogs didn't compare in Saturday's game falling 2-1. Lexi Adair with a double and an RBI in the game against Laverne. The loss brings Hooker's record to 5-5, while Laverne is now 4-5. The Bulldogs also took a tough 11-1 loss to Beaver last Tuesday. That being their lowest scoring game of the season. Hooker's offense showed hard work and dedication . Kinley McGaha with a triple, five RBIs, and two stolen bases. Ana DeHererra with a homerun, six RBIs, and scored twice. Hooker racked up 18 total hits, their highest single-game total this season, but couldn't keep up to stay in the game.

Junior high softball has been working hard to beat every team they can this year. They have had two wins and two losses so far this season. They had a loss to Beaver with the score of 9-4. The softball girls did make two wins to both, Boise City and Texhoma. The score against Boise city ended up being 8-7 while the score against Texhoma was 9-7. By far the winning score against Texhoma has been the softball girl's best score. They have had one more game so far against Texhoma and our girls ended up losing, 13-9. The season isn't over yet. Let's hope and send our love to the JH softball girls for their next games.





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# Bulldog Beat

by Haven, Mollie, Michelle, & Abigail

## Keilan Robinson

What motivates Keilan to continue improving is being the best he can for his team. His most memorable game was at Minco where he had a scoop and score to take the lead. He is most proud of the 3-peat state championship in track. Keilan has played football for 9 years. This season he would like to accomplish proving everyone wrong.



## James Curtis

James is a senior at Hooker High and competes in football. Making it to the state championship back to back, and playing at the University of Central Oklahoma is his most significant memory of football. He has been playing football for 10 years, starting in flag football, and has developed a strong passion for the game. He hopes to accomplish a state championship this season and leave a lasting legacy.



## Allie Metcalf

Senior Allie Metcalf is the starting pitcher for the Hooker Ladydogs softball team. Motivated by each win and supported by her teammates, her most memorable game was a 2022 matchup against Texhoma in the Texhoma tournament. Proud of last year's first regional appearance, Allie has played since t-ball and aims to go even further this season, hoping for a strong senior year.



## Kinley McGaha

What motivates Kinley to continue improving is her family. She says they are her biggest supporters and they push her to improve. Her most memorable play is making a dive catch in Watonga. Going to Nationals was her proudest athletic accomplishment. She has been playing softball for 14 years. This season she would like to accomplish beating Guymon and Hennessy.



## Callen Duncan

Callen Duncan is a sophomore at Hooker High, he does many sports including Cross Country. He says his favorite part about running is feeling the wind on his face. The main thing that motivates and drives him to improve is winning. Callen's favorite memory in cross country was one meet where he was sure he was going to place last but he ended up placing first in our team.



## Finley Duncan

Finley Duncan is a sophomore here at Hooker and she participates in cross country. Her main motivation are her teammates and her coaches. Finley has run in cross country since she was in sixth grade. Her most memorable game would be when she ran state. Her athletic accomplishments she is most proud of is when she won state in cross country last year. This season she is hoping to accomplish getting faster every race.



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# 2025-2026 Class Officers

## Seniors

- President: Allie Metcalf
- Vice President: Kinley McGaha
- Secretary: Mollie Baird
- Treasurer: Gannon Hill
- StuCo Rep: Dariel Medina
- Class Colors: Blue & Gold
- Class Flower: Candy Cane Carnation
- Class Moto: "If you're tired of starting over, stop giving up." - Young Thug
- Class Song: Vienna by Billy Joel

## Juniors

- President: Gunnar Martens
- Vice President: Jenna Carter
- Secretary: Burke Lambley
- Treasurer: Summer Fischer
- StuCo Rep: Ulises Casas

## Sophomores

- President: Marisa Borunda
- Vice President: Callen Duncan
- Secretary: Roy Herald
- Treasurer: Ryker Hill
- StuCo Rep: Kimberly Moreno

## Freshmen

- President: Dariel Hernandez
- Vice President: Joan Valdez
- Secretary: Selah Fischer
- Treasurer: Schuyler Fernandez
- StuCo Rep: Joan Valdez

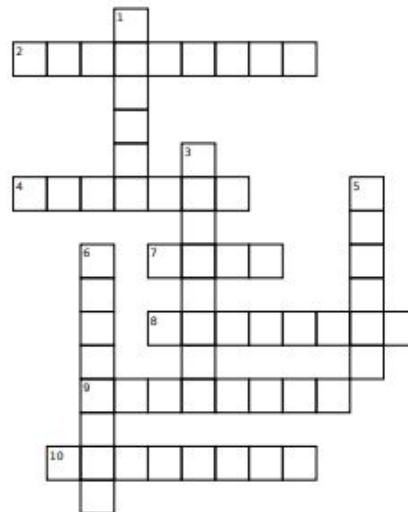
## 8th Grade

- President: Vaughn Lambley
- Vice President: Eason Oakes
- Secretary: Sianna Velasquez
- Treasurer: Phoebe Johnson
- StuCo Rep: Oved Avalos

## 7th Grade

- President: Layton Gilmore
- Vice President: Emely Jiminez
- Secretary: Brenyed Coronado
- Treasurer: Mimi Garcia
- StuCo Rep: Bella Vega

## Back to School Crossword Puzzle



### Down:

1. a tool used for writing; either wooden or mechanical
3. where you write your notes
5. a folder with 3 metal rings
6. a heavy book you get from a teacher

### Across:

2. a room where food is served
4. our school mascot
7. where you sit in a classroom
8. in Mrs. Hill's room there are a lot of \_\_\_\_
9. where you carry your school supplies
10. work you do at home



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# Senior Spotlights

by Abigail, Alyssa, and Haven



**Gladys Mejia-Medina** describes herself as humble, shy, and kind. Her dream job is working at a flower shop or even owning her own shop one day. Her favorite high school memory was in her junior year art class. She was painting with oils and ended up spilling brush cleaner with her friend, Laken. Everyone thought that there was a gas leak and they almost called out school. Her theme song would be Outskirts by Sam Hunt. When asked what advice she would give her younger self, she said “to push yourself to the limit, work hard, and don’t procrastinate.”



**Gannon Hill’s** favorite high school memory is making the state championship in football for the first time in school history. He said “Happy” from Despicable Me would be his theme song because he is always happy. His advice to his younger self is stay true to what you say and actually pursue what you say you are going to do. His 3 adjectives describing himself are funny, athletic, and hard worker. His dream job is a software engineer.



**Jonathan Lu** is a senior this year. His favorite memory in high school is when he went to state for singing. He says some advice he would give to his younger self is, to sleep more, and you don’t need seconds at the cafeteria. Jonathan says the best music theme for him is “Down” by MICO. He says that the three adjectives to describe himself is loud, ambitious, empathetic. His dream job is to be president. Jonathan says in ten years he sees himself already graduated from college and has a stable job.

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# Hooker Welcomes New Staff

by Abigail, Victoria, & Alyssa

**Nine new staff members** were welcomed for the 2025-2026 school year at Hooker. Over the course of the next few papers, they will each be highlighted!

This year there are many new staff members, among them is **Mrs. Ashley Burkhalter**. She has lived in Perryton, TX for 21 years, she is originally from Spearman, TX. She and her husband, Jesse, are the proud parents of their daughter, Addison (20), and their son, Jett (13), and their two dogs, Autumn and Axel. She enjoys spending time in her pool, on their golf course, and watching Texas Longhorn football. Ms. Ashley is the JH/HS secretary. Previously she was a PIEMS coordinator at Darrouzett ISD. This year will be her fifth year working at a school. She enjoys being in Hooker, meeting many new people and wonderful people.

**Miss Yovana Mendoza** is one of the many new workers here in Hooker High School. This is her first time working for Hooker High Schools and so far she has enjoyed it. She states that she came from Guymon to be closer to home. She chose her position because it seemed nice to do. As this is her first year, everyone in Hooker High Schools should make her feel welcome and at home. Welcome to the bulldog house, Ms. Mendoza.

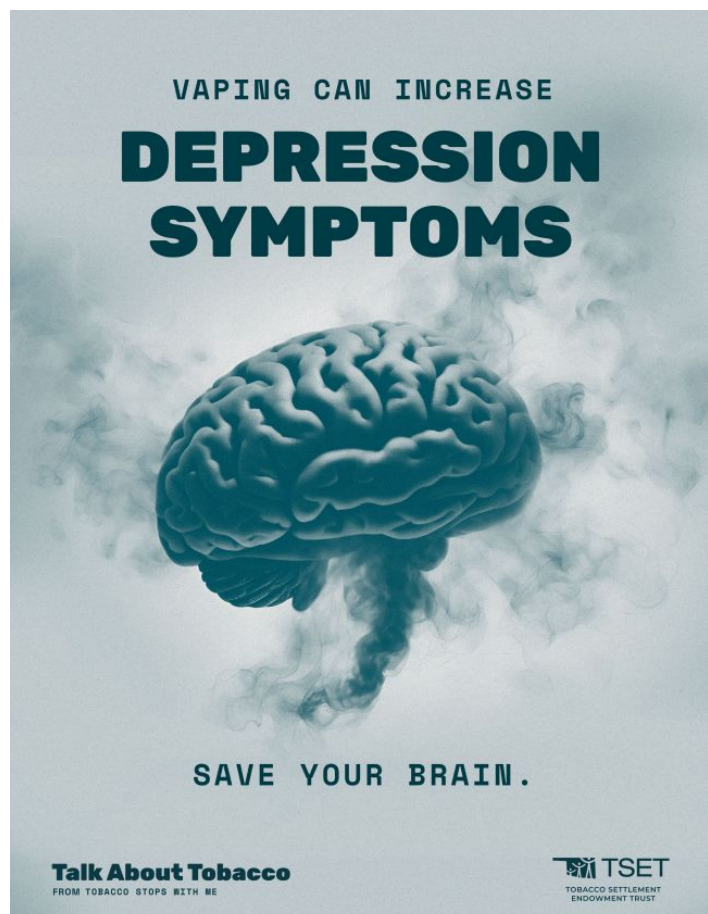
**Mrs. Kaden Sappington** teaches Junior High and High School art. This is her first year teaching, though she has previously been a phenomenal substitute for the district. She wanted to be a teacher because she'd have the opportunity to teach art in her hometown, and in the same school she started doing art in. Her favorite part of teaching is being able to teach kids in the same classroom and school that gave her so many opportunities in life. Mrs. Sappington chose Hooker due to the fact that it is the hometown she grew up in and her love for the people and town.

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## Paw Patrol

by Abigail Sarabia

**Scott Hedrick** is a police officer in the town of Hooker. Scott has been a police officer for 33 years. Scott was born in Woodward, OK. He then moved to Kansas soon after. He moved to Texhoma while he was in fourth grade, he also graduated there. Scott was in the military from 1986-1999. Scott became a police officer because he wanted to help others. His favorite part of the job is being at the school delivering joy to the children.





# PTO Welcomes Back Elementary Students

Hooker Elementary PTO helped welcome elementary students back to school by throwing their annual Back to School & Teacher Reveal Pool Party. Students were treated to an evening full of fun with their friends, a special snack, and had a blast learning who their teachers would be for this school year.



## Ruff Ruff Reads

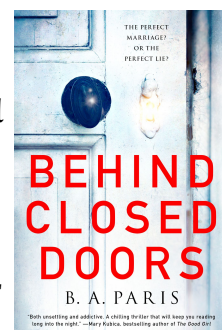
Need a reading recommendation? These come straight from our students! They're great options for DEAR time for students, or community members who just enjoy reading.

Michelle's Recommendation:

### ***Behind Closed Doors***

by B.A. Paris

B.A. Paris's *Behind Closed Doors* is a compelling psychological thriller that follows a couple, Jack and Grace, as they go about their newlywed life. Esther, a new friend who has just moved to town, can't help but like them. Jack is a dedicated domestic abuse attorney, and Grace is a skilled homemaker and chef. Esther wants to get to know them more, but she notices that Grace is very skinny, she never leaves the house with anything, and she can never meet up for coffee without Jack being present. It makes one wonder what really happens when the dinner party is over and the doors close.

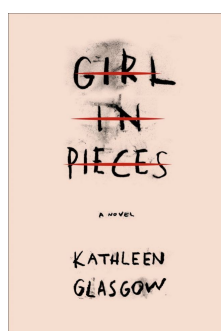


Alyssa's Recommendation:

### ***Girl in Pieces***

by Kathleen Glasgow

Charlotte "Charlie" Davis has been through more than a girl should have to go through. The trauma of her experiences has led her to a mental hospital for a while. Once she gets out her rollercoaster of emotions starts right back at the top. She finds a new beginning but it quickly becomes a disaster meaning she has to restart...again. Who knew a seventeen-year-old girl would have to go through so much pain to finally get a happy ending?







## Comic

by Victoria Cano



# Meet the Pack: Staff Bios

<p><b>Journalist</b></p>  <p><b>Abigail</b> Junior</p> <p>My name is Abigail Sarabia. This year I am in 11th grade. I am 16. This is my second year doing newspaper. My favorite holiday is Halloween. I have a twin. I love Dr. Pepper.</p>	<p><b>Journalist</b></p>  <p><b>Alyssa</b> Junior</p> <p>Hello! I'm Alyssa and I'm a Junior at HHS. I love to read, draw, and spend time with my family. My favorite movies are The Conjuring's, Car's, and all the Toy Story's. My favorite holiday is Thanksgiving because all of my family gets together. My best friend is my sister, Gabbie. I am glad to be back at school, and I hope it's going to be a great year.</p>	<p><b>Journalist</b></p>  <p><b>Aydan</b> Senior</p> <p>My name is Aydan Wooldridge. I'm a senior and ready to graduate. I play Xbox, watch football, and enjoy spending time with friends and family. My favorite holiday is the Fourth of July because I love roman candle wars with homies. I'm a big back; my favorite restaurant is Ninja in Liberal.</p>	<p><b>Journalist</b></p>  <p><b>Haven</b> Junior</p> <p>Hi! My name is Haven Romero, and I am a Junior at Hooker High. My hobbies are playing softball, cheering, late night drives, and spending time with family. My favorite movie is <i>The Map That Leads to You</i>. My favorite holiday is the 4th of July.</p>
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A special thank you to Aaron Witt Photography, Mills, First National Bank, Hooker Medical Clinic, Physical Therapy on the Move, Pizza on Broadway, Equipales, Mr. Burger, and so many community members for your assistance in our effort to serve the community of Hooker!



The Hooker Happenings Staff

## Calendar

9/5 - HS Football @ Guymon  
 9/6 - Cross Country @ Perryton  
 9/8 - Elem & JH Football vs. Texhoma  
       JH Softball vs. Guymon  
 9/9 - HS Softball vs. Sayre  
 9/11 - JH & JV Football @ Spearman  
 9/11 - 9/13 - HS Softball @ Shattuck Tournament  
 9/12 - HS Football vs. Spearman (Homecoming)  
 9/13 - Cross Country @ North Rock Creek  
 9/15 - HS & JH Softball @ Texhoma  
 9/18 - HS Softball @ Hobart  
 9/19 - Virtual Day