



The Bobcat Broadcaster

A publication of *Hallsville Public Schools*

May 2009

Top Students in the Class of 2009



Valedictorian
Monica Stanton



Salutatorian
Lindsey Meredith

*You Are Invited
to Attend*

Hallsville High School
2009 Graduation
Ceremonies

Friday, June 5, 2009
8 PM

Bobcat Stadium

Hallsville High School UIL Academic District 13-4A Champions*



* See UIL Academic Winners on Page 6.

Andrew Cornish and Tyler Gregston Class 4A State Champions CX Debate



Andrew Cornish

Congratulations to the Hallsville High School Academic Team for winning the District 13-4A UIL Academic District Championship! The Academic Team set an all-time school record with 461.5 points. The Academic Team had 27 Regional Qualifiers, 8 Individual District Champions, and 3 District Champion Teams. The Team also had 6 Individual Academic State Qualifiers which is also a school record.

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Tyler Gregston



Bobcat Pride

From: Superintendent Greg Wright

HELLO BOBCATS,

What an unbelievable school year this has been in 2008-2009! I have been telling people the last few years that the best is yet to come!! I am so PROUD of this **School District!**

Our **Preliminary TAKS Scores** are in and the following are unofficial ratings for every campus:

Hallsville Elementary School – Exemplary

Hallsville Intermediate School – Exemplary

(This is the second year in a row that Hallsville Intermediate School will receive an **Exemplary Rating**).

Hallsville Middle School – Exemplary

(This is the second year in a row that Hallsville Middle School will receive an **Exemplary Rating**).

Hallsville Junior High School – Exemplary

(You will not find many 4A Junior Highs in the State who are **Exemplary**).

Hallsville High School – Recognized

(It is very hard to find a 4A High School that is **Recognized** in the TAKS Testing era. Hallsville High School might be the only 4A High School in East Texas to receive a **Recognized Rating**).

Hallsville ISD – Recognized

(It is very hard to find a 4A School District that is **Recognized** in the TAKS Testing era. Hallsville ISD might be the only 4A School District in East Texas to receive a **Recognized Rating**).

We are very proud of these results. Having 4 Exemplary Campuses → **Hallsville ISD** has the **most Exemplary Campuses** of any School District in East Texas. **This includes Class 1A through Class 5A School Districts!!** These great results are a testimony to the hard work of all our students and staff members of the Hallsville Independent School District.

Student success is our #1 priority at Hallsville ISD!!

Distinguished Schools Recognition

Congratulations to **Hallsville Elementary, Intermediate, and Middle School** for being named **Title 1 Distinguished Performance Schools**. There were 312 campuses recognized in the state of Texas and only 22 in Region VII. **Hallsville is the only Region VII district to have three campuses recognized!** In order to receive recognition, a campus must have been recognized as an Exemplary campus in 2008, an Exemplary or Recognized campus in 2006 and 2007, and met federal AYP standards in 2007 and 2008. Meeting each of these standards for multiple years and having exemplary student achievement is a very significant accomplishment!

UIL Academic Competition

Congratulations to the **Hallsville High School Academic Team** for winning the **District 13-4A UIL Academic District Championship!** The **High School Academic Team** set an all-time school record with **461.5 points**. Congratulations to the High School Team for winning **3 State Medals!** Bjorn Koch won 1st Place (**State Champion**) in Accounting!! Andrew Cornish placed 2nd in Social Studies to win a Silver Medal and Neil McCray placed 6th in Feature Writing!!

Congratulations are also in order to the **6th Grade Academic Team** for being **District Champion Runner-up** and setting a school record with **221 points**.

Class 4A State CX Debate Champions

Congratulations to Andrew Cornish and Tyler Gregston for winning the **Class 4A Debate State Championship!** Andrew and Tyler are both juniors at Hallsville High School and are coached by Racy Grant.

Baseball

Congratulations to the **Bobcat Baseball Team** for making the Playoffs and setting a school record for **wins (26)** and advancing further than any Bobcat Baseball Team in school history (**Regional Semi-Finals**). At the time of this publication of the Broadcaster, the Bobcats were set to play McKinney North in the Regional Semi-Finals. **What a memorable baseball season!!!**

Ladycat Softball

Congratulations to the **Ladycat Softball Team** for making the **Playoffs** for the **third year in a row!**



Ladycat Golf

Congratulations to the **Ladycat Golf Team** for being **District Champion Runner-up** and placing 4th at Regionals! Congratulations to **Meaghan Howell** for winning the **Individual Golf District Championship!**

Bobcat Golf

Congratulations to **Nathan Weant** for winning the **Individual Golf District Championship** for the second year in a row!

Track

Congratulations to the **7th Grade girls**, and **8th Grade boys** for winning the **District Championship** in Girls and Boys Track!!

Band

Congratulations to the **8th Grade, Hallsville High School Wind Ensemble** and **Symphonic Bands** for winning **Sweepstakes** at the UIL Region XXI Competition. The tradition of “**Sweepstakes**” continues **30 of 36** years. Also, for the first time in school history at Hallsville High School, all three bands (Varsity, Non-Varsity, and Sub-Varsity) received a “1” on Stage in Concert Competition. This is a testimony to the **strength** of our **Band Program!**

Choir

Congratulations to our High School **Varsity Mixed** and **Varsity Treble Choirs**, for winning **Sweepstakes** at the Region XXI UIL Choir Concert and Sight-Reading Contest.

Drill Team

Congratulations to the **Bobcat Belles** for winning **National Champion** titles for Military and Modern Categories. Congratulations to the **Bobcat Belle Officers** for winning National Champion titles in Modern, Prop, and Pom Categories.

Hallsville FFA

During Farm City Week, our **FFA Program** was well represented. Out of 122 lots in the sale, **Hallsville FFA** had **59** and total premium sales **exceeded \$117,300 which is a school record!**

Bond Construction Update

We are excited to announce that East Elementary came **under budget** by \$219,000 dollars. We are off to a great start in our bond construction! **We are going to send out a special Bond Construction Communication in June or July that will cover everything you need to know about East Elementary, North Elementary, and the High School.** We will include pictures of our current construction and ground breaking ceremonies. **Be looking for the special edition of the Broadcaster in June or July!!**

Staff Appreciation Week

I would like to **thank all** parent volunteers who helped with the HISD Staff Appreciation activities! **I appreciate our volunteers!**

Graduation Celebration

The best graduation ceremony in the United States can be found in Hallsville, Texas. We will continue our “**TRADITION**” of a **GRADUATION CELEBRATION** to honor the **CLASS OF 2009**. Graduation is scheduled for **Friday, June 5, 8:00 pm**. Our tradition is to honor our great country with a patriotic theme. The sky again will be filled with many bursts of color from fireworks during the ceremony. I demand and want the best for Hallsville students, and this Graduation Ceremony rewards our seniors in a “**first class way.**”

Senior Parents

We are honored to have been a part of the growth and development of your most precious possession, and, our hope for the future. Thank you for sharing your child with us! I appreciate your support of Hallsville Schools throughout your child's educational years. The future is bright for these graduates of Hallsville ISD. I pray each senior will have a successful and happy life. High expectations bring a... **Commitment to Excellence!**

Thank you for your support of Hallsville Schools!

Children First,

Greg Wright

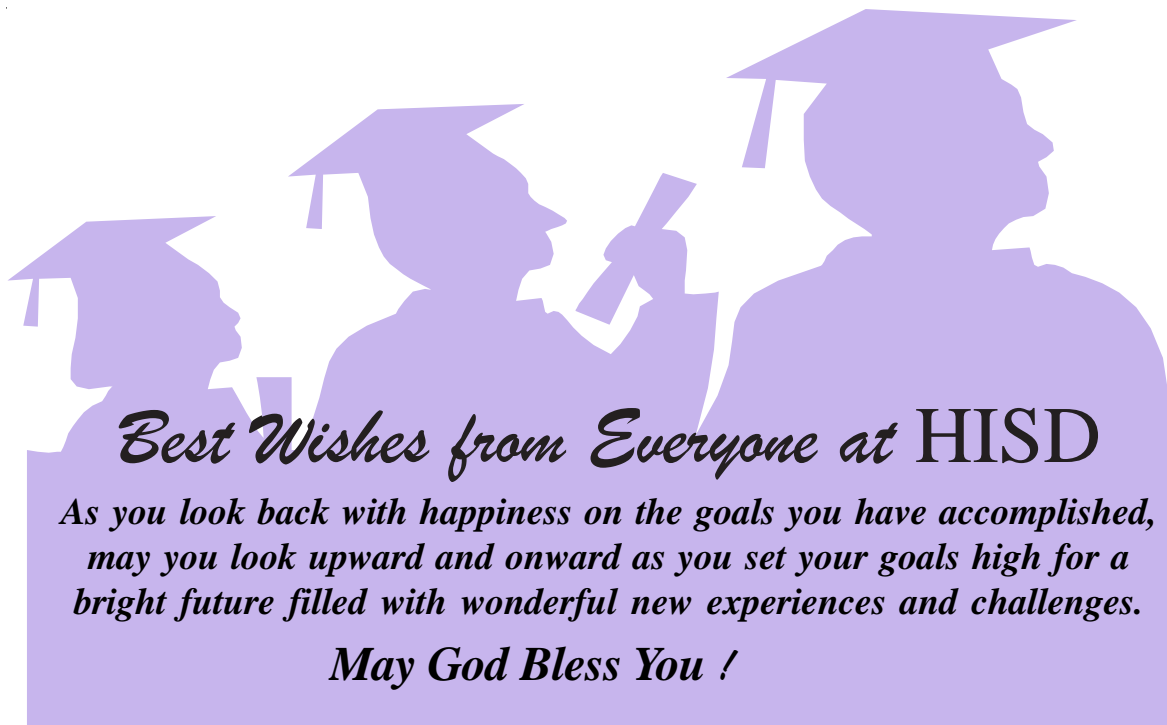
Tradition + Pride + Hard Work = Success!

Bobcat Pride Begins With You!

Teamwork Makes The Dream Work!



Bobcat Pride Begins With You!



Best Wishes from Everyone at HISD

*As you look back with happiness on the goals you have accomplished,
may you look upward and onward as you set your goals high for a
bright future filled with wonderful new experiences and challenges.*

May God Bless You !



HONOR GRADUATES

Monica Stanton
Lindsey Meredith
Thomas Scroggins
Whitney Hale
SamVan Sandt
Mallory Scrimshire
Haley Bayne
Jamie Green
Eric Kroyer
Chelsea Jones
Tori Hamill
Paul Johnston
Amber Phipps
Macie Grimm
Kami Upton
Jennifer Reel
Kayla Fry
Harris Arnhart
Kija McCain
Jennifer Gilley
Meaghan Howell
Jason Waite
Dayton Cargill
Lauren Lassen
Hollyann Nelson
Kayla Fuller
Michael Grubbs
Tabatha Fuentes
Casey Lightle
Humza Khan
Brian Siela
Macy Buchanan
Shelby Gideon
Bisma Khan
Jillian Brumett
Jessica McCreary
Brittni Littlejohn
Annie White
Rachel Timberlake
Bailey Pentecost
Paige Hall
Garrett Bradshaw
Nicole West
Jonah Huckaby
Jordan Vowell
Maria Rojas
Kelsey Townsend
Nick Carter
Diana Pipak
Denise Davenport
Jennifer Cook
Dalton Buchanan
Brittany Taylor
Austin Reich
Abigail Laszik





HALLSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL UIL ACADEMICS



Individual District Champions

Andrew Cornish: Informative Speaking & Social Studies
Andrew Cornish and Tyler Gregston: CX Debate
Erin Dulaney: Persuasive Speaking
Kayla Fuller: Computer Applications
Bjorn Koch: Accounting
Lindsey Meredith: Literary Criticism
Alyssa Rummel: Prose Interpretation
Conner Skinner: Poetry Interpretation

2nd place finishers

Travis Cormier: Informative Speaking & LD Debate
Tyler Gregston: Persuasive Speaking
Chelsea Hough: Headline Writing
Chelsea Jones: Literary Criticism
Bisma Khan: Current Events
Nicole West and Taylor Wilhite: CX Debate
Taylor Wilhite: Social Studies

3rd place finishers

Kristyana Birmingham: Social Studies
Rustin Bridges: LD Debate
Macy Buchanan: Prose Interpretation
Erin Dulaney and Daryk Wiess: CX Debate
Casey Harper: News Writing
Neil McCray: Feature Writing

Accounting Team: 2nd place

Deanna Fitzgerald
Kallie Kennedy
Bjorn Koch
Trent Parker

Current Events Team: 2nd place

Spencer Horn
Bisma Khan
Brad Kroyer
Justin McDowell

One Act Play:

Faith Norris: Honor Crew
Andrew Lockard: Honorable Mention All-Star Cast
Conner Skinner: All-Star Cast

2009 Results

District Champion Teams

Literary Criticism

Chelsea Jones
Katherine Landgrave
Lindsey Meredith
Amber Phipps

Social Studies

Kristyana Birmingham
Andrew Cornish
Chase Reeder
Taylor Wilhite

Top Speech Team

Cross-Examination Debate
Extemporaneous Speaking
Lincoln-Douglas Debate
Poetry and Prose

4th place finishers

Matt Brooks: Informative Speaking
Tiffani Erickson: Computer Applications
Nicholas Fuller: Science
Trent Parker: Accounting
Jennifer Reel: Editorial Writing
Conner Skinner: Persuasive Speaking
Brady Steed: Computer Science
Sara Wray: Poetry Interpretation

5th place finishers

Chas Harper: Editorial Writing
Brad Kroyer: Current Events
Hollyann Nelson: Feature Writing
MaLisa Nelson: Poetry Interpretation
Amber Phipps: Literary Criticism
Christian Price: Number Sense

6th place finishers

Matt Brooks: Calculator Applications
Rachel Harless: Spelling and Vocabulary
Kory Lee: Science
Faith Norris: Headline Writing

Calculator Applications Team:

2nd place

Matt Brooks
Jamie Green
Tyler Green
Kami Upton

Journalism Team: 2nd place

Alexa Alvidrez
Casey Harper
Chas Harper
Chelsea Hough
Neil McCray
Hollyann Nelson
Faith Norris
Jennifer Reel

Science Team: 2nd place

Dee Deaver
Nicholas Fuller
Jenny Gilley
Kory Lee
Jason Mars
Sam Van Sandt

School Total Points

Hallsville:	461.5
Pine Tree:	357.5
Sulphur Springs:	268
Texas High:	164
Mount Pleasant:	78.5
Longview:	75
Marshall:	27



Top Two Graduates of 2009

Monica Grace Stanton has been named Valedictorian of the HHS class of 2009. She is a National Merit Commended Scholar and has been selected as Elks Lodge Student of the Month. In UIL, she excelled in Ready Writing and Spelling. Activities at HHS include: Z-Club, Art Club, the Bobcat Belles, Yearbook Staff, National Honor Society, Band, and French Club. She enjoys English, science, journalism, and math and may select one of these subjects to major in at Trinity University following high school. Her hobbies include reading, photography, dancing, fishing, and drawing. Monica also enjoys babysitting at a local ESL class. "I feel like during my high school years I have become a better learner by taking an interest in many subjects," she said. The oldest of five children, Monica is the daughter of Alex and Joan Stanton.

Lindsey Kay Meredith has been named Salutatorian of the HHS class of 2009. In UIL, she has excelled in Literary Criticism for the past three years. She placed second in state as a junior, and will be competing at state again this year. She also received first place in the "Laws of Life Essay" Contest as a junior. Activities at HHS include: band, French Club, Z Club, Flag Line, UIL Literary Criticism, National Honor Society-Ambassador, and President of the Hallsville High School Student Council. She enjoys English in school and her hobbies include: working jigsaw puzzles, making jewelry, watching movies, and eating out. She plans to study medicine at Abilene Christian University to become a doctor. Meredith said she realizes the importance of service to others, which she has done through her school and community involvement. Meredith said she is most proud of her winning essay in the *Laws of Life* Essay Contest. She is the daughter of Laura Meredith and the late Keith Meredith.

HISD Teachers of the Year Named



Ava Porter has been named Elementary Teacher of the Year. She has taught 6th grade math for 20 years at Hallsville Middle School.

Mrs. Porter graduated from Hallsville High School in 1969, attended Kilgore College, and Stephen F. Austin State University. She has served on the Campus and District Strategic Planning Committee, Textbook Committee, Curriculum Alignment, DEIC, and SVIT. She has been a Mentor Teacher and Supervisor for student teachers. She is a member of ATPE, TCEA and has served on the Technology Star Team.

Ava and her husband, Alan, have two grown children. They are Karen Jones and Mark Porter and his wife Amy. They have four grandchildren. Ava says she spends most of her extra time loving and caring for her grandchildren. She says that she believes that it is her role as a teacher to motivate students to want to learn. "I like to spark enthusiasm for learning to help provide a strong foundation for lifelong learning. I feel that all students can learn, but they learn using different methods and different time frames. I try to teach the way the a student can learn."

Her co-workers say, "She goes above and beyond what is expected of her and treats every child as if they were her own. Principal Brandon Jones said, "Mrs. Porter is an exemplary educator. Her expertise and experience is invaluable in our Math Department. Her work ethic and patience with students of all ability levels are her greatest strengths. We are extremely proud to have such a superior educator represent our District as the *Elementary Teacher of the Year*," Brandon said.



Linea Ray has been named Secondary Teacher of the Year. She has taught Computer Keyboarding at the Jr. High School for 19

years and has 31 years in education. She graduated from Hallsville High School, attended Kilgore Jr. College, and SFASU. Previously she taught at Whitney and Longview. Committees she has served on include: DEIC, SVIT, CATE, Professional Learning Committee, Community Task Force Leader, Interview Team, Textbook Committee, National Honor Society Sponsor, Mentor Teacher, and Supervisor for student teachers. She is a member ATPE and the Texas Computer Education Association.

She and her husband Johnny, have two daughters, a grandson, and a new granddaughter. Her interests are gardening, summer trips to Colorado, and antique shopping. Linea said, "It is important to be prepared for your responsibilities in the classroom, to enjoy what you are teaching, and to have high expectations for students in both academic and personal behavior. Treating both students and co-workers with kindness and respect is essential in your daily routine. It is also important for the classroom to be a safe and comfortable environment where there are lots of smiles and happy faces. When students leave my classroom, it is my hope that they will be able to practice what they learned."

Her co-workers say Mrs. Ray cares about her students and that they learn, and enjoy her class. She is knowledgeable in her subject and stays in touch with the ever changing technology curriculum. Her Principal, Dr. Daub said, "Linea is 100% on 100% of the time. She gives complete attention to every detail and to every child that she teaches. I have been inspired this year by not only her heart but by her level of dedication to Hallsville Junior High."



Congratulations to the 2009 High School Baseball Team for advancing further than any Baseball Team in School History!!!



Andrew Cornish and **Tyler Gregston** won the Class 4A State Championship this year when The Texas University Interscholastic League (UIL) hosted their annual Cross-examination Debate State Meet. Teams qualify by placing first or second in their district contest after debating 5 rounds, each an hour and a half in length. Hallsville teams have qualified for state every year for the past 9 years and had State Medalists (octofinalists) every year for the past 5 years.

The three Hallsville teams that competed in their district tournament took the top 3 spots from among the 17 teams competing. The two teams going on to State, Erin Dulaney and Taylor Wilhite; and Andrew Cornish and Tyler Gregston, competed at the State Tournament, which consisted of the top 56 teams from around the state. After the 4 preliminary rounds, Erin Dulaney and partner Taylor Wilhite were announced as finalists and moved on to octofinals. The team lost on a 2-1 decision in octofinals but still finished as state medalists.

Andrew Cornish and Tyler Gregston, who finished as state medalists last year as Sophomores after advancing to octofinals, were also announced as advancing to finals after the four preliminary rounds. Cornish and Gregston not only finished preliminary rounds with a perfect 4-0 record, but also were named the **Gold and Silver Gavel** winners for the tournament meaning that based on judges rankings of their speaking abilities at the state meet, they were the top 2 speakers in UIL 4A Cross-examination Debate in the state of Texas.

The team then moved on to the Octofinals round where they beat Montgomery in a 3-0 decision advancing them to quarterfinals. In quarterfinals, the duo defeated Royce City in a 3-0 decision. Meeting Lindale in Semifinals, the team again won with a 3-0 decision advancing them to finals. In finals, Cornish and Gregston completed their streak by beating Joshua in another 3-0 decision making them the undefeated State Champions in UIL 4A Cross-examination Debate. The team competed in 8 rounds over the 2 days with 16 judges critiquing them. The team won not only all 8 rounds, but also all 16 ballots. Not a single judge voted against them throughout the entire state tournament, an almost unheard of event. In equally rare form, the team took the first seed coming out of preliminary rounds, won both the Gold and Silver Gavel and won 1st, making them not only State Champions, but champions in everything that they could have been a champion in at the UIL State Meet. **Coach Racy Grant** will be taking the team, who has also advanced to Nationals through the National Forensics League (NFL), to Birmingham this June to compete in the Nationals tournament to which they qualified in February by competing in 8 rounds where they also went undefeated and without a single judge voting against them. Cornish and Gregston have had unheard of success for their age. As Juniors, the team has won the following awards in cross-examination debate alone: in 2008 UIL district Champions, UIL district Best Speaker, UIL State Octofinal medalists, NTDA State Championship, NTDA State Best Speaker, and NFL national qualifiers. In 2009, UIL District Champions, UIL district Best Speaker, UIL State Gold and Silver Gavel top speakers, UIL State Champions, NFL national qualifiers, NTDA State Champions, and NTDA Best Speaker.

The Bobcat Broadcaster is published by the Hallsville Public Schools in an effort to keep its patrons and employees informed. Questions, comments and concerns involving the school may be addressed to Bobcat Broadcaster P.O. Box 810 Hallsville, Texas 75650 email, cgreer@hisd.com or call 903-668-5990 Ex.5012. Thank you for your support.

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