

# THE HALL PASS

September 2006

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## Hacky Sack Revolution!

*Terrance Cleghorn*

You turn the corner in the hallway, and “whoosh!”—something goes flying past your head. You look down and see a hackysack. Chances are you throw it back to the circle of people and walk off. Way back when, at least a couple of years ago, no one in their right mind would be seen “hackin” in this school. But nowadays, it is growing in popularity. At least one group of people is playing at any given time.

The co-operative kicking sport has ancient origins from China, Thailand, Native America and nearly every country. Hacky Sack or Footbag, as we know it today, is a modern American sport invented in 1972, by John Stalberger and Mike Marshall of Oregon City, Oregon. Marshall had created a hand-made bean bag, that he was kicking around. Stalberger was recovering from knee surgery and was looking for a fun way to exercise his knees. Together, they called the new game “Hackin’ the Sack.” The two decided to collaborate and market their new game under the trademark of “Hacky Sack®”.

So the next time you see a group of “hackers,” try it and see how enjoyable the sport really is. You too might find yourself hooked on “hackin’ the sack.”

## Making a Comeback: Tiger Football 2006-07

*Tori Brown*

The Meek Tigers have started out strong and the 2006-07 season looks to be more than promising. It seems that the Tigers have recovered from the past two seasons of unfortunate losses, and their 30-7 victory over the Winston County Yellow Jackets at the jamboree proves that. With thirteen seniors leading the way, the rest of the team is overwrought with confidence and enthusiasm.

During the jamboree game, Mikie Burkett, a senior, stepped up to the 34-yard line and kicked a school-record breaking 44-yard field goal that floated effortlessly through the uprights. Burkett also adds that this teamwide upswing is due, in large part, to an improved attitude overall and a better work ethic. According to Dalton Lay and Dane Kilpatrick, juniors, the Tigers have also grown physically in size. “We had intense workouts every evening and speed camps twice every week. There’s no denying we are stronger and better than in years past.”

## Word from the Man

*Danny Stallings*

The new school year is well underway, and I’m very pleased about the smooth beginning we’ve had. Every single one of our extracurricular organizations has greatly improved, and each one is making us so proud. Let me encourage everyone to give your best to both academic and extracurricular pursuits. Remember, at the end of the year, it will be great to look back and see just how much you’ve achieved. Have a phenomenal year!

## 9/11: Then and Now

*Kathy Wilson*

America faced a very tragic attack on the World Trade Center in New York and on the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. on September 11, 2001. There were many people killed in the attacks and it changed everyone’s lives. Since that day of terror, our soldiers have been fighting for our country and its safety. We owe much appreciation to all our troops and everyone else who is involved in protecting our rights and our lives. The memories of 9/11 are still fresh in our minds, so I asked five different teachers and students where they were, how they found out, and how 9/11 affected them:

Mrs. Farmer was living in North Carolina on a military base and was teaching at a school there. When she tried to get home it took three hours to get through because of security. She said there were police and military people everywhere surrounding the whole place. She also said “it was very scary . . . a very sad day.”

Elizabeth Vickery was in Mrs. Ergle’s class when Mrs. Ergle got a call from Coach Stallings telling her the news. They then turned on the T.V. and watched the coverage.

Mrs. Guthrie was in the office when Mrs. Neal called her into her office and they heard it on the radio. She then went into the library and watched it on T.V.

Coach Edwards was in the classroom teaching when Mr. Murrah, who was the counselor at the time, came in and told him. They then turned on the T.V. and saw the second plane hit. He said he had a “feeling of disbelief” and that “once he felt the magnitude of the event he became very angry.”

Alex Murray was in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade at Curry in Mrs. Tally’s class. She checked out of school because she was terrified of the events.

## Ticket Prices Set

The Coaches’ Association has set ticket prices for football games this year. Advance tickets are \$5.00 and gate tickets are \$6.00. These prices will apply to all home games as well as games within the county.

## Announcements

**Parents should not load and unload students in the teachers' parking lot.**

**Shakespeare Festival tickets are now available for this year.** We will be seeing *Crowns* on Thursday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Price is \$35.00. Purchase your ticket from Mrs. Murrah ASAP.

**Students and parents:** check our teachers' homework pages for assignments and homework. Visit our website at [www.winstonk12.org/meekhigh/meekhigh.htm](http://www.winstonk12.org/meekhigh/meekhigh.htm) and click on "Classrooms."

**Homecoming week is September 11-15<sup>th</sup>. Dress-up days are as follows:**

Monday—Pajama Day

Tuesday—"Dress for Success" Day (this is also picture day!)

Wednesday—Movie Star Day (dress as your favorite movie star)

Thursday—Wacky Tacky/Twin/Hat Day

Friday—Spirit/Sign-a-Shirt Day

**Pep Rallies for the month of September are as follows:**

9/1—Cold Springs

9/15—Marion County—Homecoming

9/29—Addison

## Student Recognition and Awards

Congratulations to **Chase Stephenson**, a junior, for placing 2<sup>nd</sup> in the state PALS essay contest. He will attend a banquet hosted by the governor in November.

Congratulations to **Jason Trussell**, a senior, for participating in the Hawaii Classic, an all-star basketball competition sponsored by TourneySport USA. He was the only athlete from Alabama participating in the competition. Teams were composed of seven to nine players from all across the country, according to positions played, statistics, and physical requirements such as height, etc. Trussell's team placed fourth overall in the tournament. Individually, he placed third in the dunk competition and his team placed third overall in the 3-on-3 event. Players were responsible for their own expenses to attend the national tournament, and Trussell would like to express his thanks to all of his sponsors for their monetary contributions which allowed him to attend.

Congratulations to **Luke Bryant**, a senior, for being selected to attend the 2006 National Rural Electric Cooperative Association Youth Tour in Washington, D.C. Luke made the trip during the past summer.

Congratulations to **Ben Hamaker**, Class of 2006, for placing 1<sup>st</sup> in the district level of the Alabama Penman Creative Writing Contest (Poetry Division).

### Varsity Football Schedule

9/1 Cold Springs—7:00

9/8 \*@Berry—7:00

9/15 \*Marion County—7:00—HC

9/22 \*@Hubbertville—7:00

9/29 Addison—7:00

\*Region Game

### Junior High Football Schedule

9/5 @WCHS—6:30

9/12 Addison—6:30

9/18 @Parrish—6:30

9/26 Lynn—6:30

10/2 @Berry—6:30

### Volleyball Schedule

9/5 @ Speake (Danville)—4:30 (V)

9/7 WCHS—4:00 (V/JH)

9/9 Carbon Hill Jr. Tourn.—TBA (JH)

9/12 Phillips (Parrish)—4:30 (V/JH)

9/19 Addison—4:00 (V/JH)

9/21 Lynn—4:30 (V/JH)

10/2 @ Phillips?—4:30 (V/JH)

### Congratulations Homecoming Representatives!

7<sup>th</sup> grade—Sara Farley

8<sup>th</sup> grade—Katie Bryant

9<sup>th</sup> grade—Alisha Barrett

10<sup>th</sup> grade—Miranda Eddy

11<sup>th</sup> grade—Kendal Fisher

12<sup>th</sup> grade—Alex Murray

Ashley Rice

Elizabeth Vickery

Kathy Wilson

## This Month's Events

**Tuesday, September 12<sup>th</sup>**

**School Day/Class Favorite and Officer/Volleyball Pictures**

Students in grades K-12 will be involved in pictures. Packages for volleyball and all sports/activities are now \$25.00. Remember your money and uniform.

**September 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Homecoming—6:30 P.M.**

**Meek vs. Marion County**

Come out and support the Tigers!

**September 18-22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Alabama High School Graduation Examination**

Monday—Science (all 10<sup>th</sup> grade and seniors who have not passed)

Tuesday—Math (all 10A and seniors who have not passed)

Wednesday—Reading (seniors who have not passed)

Thursday—Language (seniors who have not passed)

Friday—Social Studies (seniors who have not passed)

**September 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**ASVAB**

The ASVAB test will be held in the library and is for all juniors.

**September 25<sup>th</sup>**

**Parent/Teacher Conferences**

**3:00-7:00 P.M.**

Students will not attend school on this day. Teachers will work from 12:00-7:00 P.M.

