By Carla Rabon
HoofPrints Sponsor

The journey of life is never predictable. As we age, we gather more information to help us on our future path. When we are young, we are guided and taugaht by adults who deeply care about our future.

Young people are a tremendous force of passion, hope and intellect to ensure that our world is headed in the right direction. Not all adults share that view of today's youth. That is usually because they only see the media's image of teens, or they do not have close relationships with positive kids. I consider my job one of the best, because I have the opportunity to work with positive, creative and intelligent teenagers every day.

This year, I was given the responsibility of teaching two journalism classes for the purpose of publishing a high school based newspaper. I was informed that this newspaper would be published weekly in the Hugo Daily News. We were asked to write stories about the other Hugo campuses and also sometimes community events. Stan Stamper and the Hugo Daily Staff met with myself and Principal Debbie Golden to brainstorm and discuss possibilities. It was a very positive and productive meeting that laid the groundwork for HoofPrints.

When the school year started, the enrolled journalism students and I were excited that we would be the first class at Hugo High School to ever have a weekly newspaper published in the Hugo Daily News. We set out the ground rules and immediately got busy gathering information and ideas for our first edition. The staff at Hugo Daily has helped us get the needed equipment and learn how to lay out our page. This process is intricate and required two staff members of Hugo Daily to spend many hours of class time with the journalism students. They taught us skills that will look impressive on a resume and also could lead to future employment with any newspaper. We would like to thank Stan, Amber and Brian for all their efforts and time devoted on our behalf.

I hope the readers of our page are impressed by the subject matter, the optimism and the research the students do weekly. I would love for the readers to e-mail us and give the students critiques and responses for some of your favorite stories throughout the year. We are making a scrapbook for the classes and would love to include these along with laminated versions of all our issues. Thank you for reading and supporting us during our introductory year. I hope this is a tradition that will last for many years to come.