## Capturing Amber

## Senior branches out from her busy school schedule to pursue her passion of photography

If I had the authority to award any student as the most involved at Hoover, senior Amber Hagler would win by a landslide. Senior board treasurer, cheerleader, tennis athlete, member of the Pep Club, National Honor Society, Movement 515 and staff member on the school newspaper and yearbook, Hagler has kept herself busy during her four years.

Branching out and joining activities led to countless amounts of memories and friendships for Hagler. For the past two years, the experience on the Hoover cheer team highlighted these kinds of moments.

"I couldn't pick just one memory from the last two years I love all of them. Joining the cheerleading team made me feel like I had people that truly loved and supported me that I got to see all the time. I'm going to miss the dancing and laughing on the sidelines with people who became my best friends," Hagler said.

Along with making friends and memories, Hagler has also picked up skills and passions through her activities. As the photography editor, and now the editor in chief on the yearbook staff,

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STORY, GRAPHICS, AND DESIGN BY SAGE JOHNSON, COPY EDITOR IN CHIEF

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## @alhvisuals on Instagram

she has been able to pursue her enthusiasm in photography.

"I joined newspaper and yearbook both my junior year. I originally joined because of my interest in photography, and I thought I could put it to use, but once I joined, I realized I had a passion for design as well," Hagler said.

Not only has her hobby of photography helped her academically, it has turned into a part-time job. This summer, Hagler created a personal photography business that operates mainly on social media.

"I started taking photos seriously over the summer of 2020. I did it as a way to provide affordable photography options so everyone who wants professional photos can have them. It was also a way for me use my skills to a financial benefit and make money doing something I enjoyed," Hagler said.

Her Instagram account, @alhvisuals, with hundreds of followers showcases her incredible talent. After years of practice, Hagler shares some advice for aspiring photographers.

"My biggest advice for people interested in photography is that practice is key. Using your friends and family is a great way to learn skills without the pressure of a client. Another major tip is that expensive gear doesn't make the photographer, the person does. Start off with an affordable camera and learn before you invest a lot of money," Hagler said.

Like many other seniors, Hagler has experienced a lot of growth through her high school career. "My freshman self would be so surprised that I was a cheerleader, chief editor of the yearbook, senior board treasurer, and playing tennis all at the same time. She would also be proud that all the work she put in paid off and she actually got the full ride to college she dreamed for," Hagler said.

PHOTOS BY AMBER HAGLER

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