
JEA President’s Message—Kenson Siver

This month JEA’s contract with Kansas State University for our national headquarters comes up for renewal. You may recall after concluding a two-year headquarters search in 1989, we selected Kansas State for our base of operations. This move was a very big step for JEA.

I believed it was the right decision then and feel even more so now. When one enters Kedzie Hall on the KSU campus, it is immediately apparent that this is a center of journalism in both learning and practice. Tucked among Kedzie’s classrooms, faculty offices, the production rooms for the Kansas State Collegian newspaper, the Royal Purple yearbook and the university press, is the headquarters of the Journalism Education Association.

Facilities and level of support were not the sole considerations in selecting KSU. The decision rested on numerous other factors, not the least of which were the school’s commitment to secondary school journalism and journalism education.

I am pleased to report that over the past three years, we have cemented a very good partnership with the School of Journalism at Kansas State University. The university remains very committed to secondary school journalism and journalism education.

Our association with Kansas State has enabled us to expand in areas of curriculum and curriculum materials, certification and conventions and it has fostered growth for JEA. We have increased membership, have been able to provide more services to our members, have expanded convention opportunities/offers and have been in a position to offer greater leadership in our field. We have also become financially sound and stable.

As one might expect, along with these developments we are experiencing some growing pains. Most noticeable may be in the area of handling convention attendance. Participation in the last several JEA/NSPA conventions has exceeded reasonable expectations and previous experience. Take, for example, the spring 1991 convention in Albuquerque. With a great amount of thought and good reasoning we planned this event for 1,600 people. When airfares skyrocketed and domestic air travel declined due to the Persian Gulf Crisis, we held grave concerns as to whether we would have 1,200 registrants. We were quite amazed that over 2,200 people registered.

Last fall’s experience in Chicago was similar. We raised attendance projections and reasonably planned this convention for 2,600 to 2,700. As I recall, we had 1,600 attendees in Indianapolis in 1990 and 2,300 in Chicago the last time (1986) that we met there. The fall 1991 convention drew more than 3,200 people. (Over 400 attendees registered at the door.)

We believe this record setting attendance is a testament to the quality of JEA/NSPA conventions. It also can be viewed as a good/bad problem. We are doing what we set out to do — provide a stimulating program with a great diversity of activities and offerings. We have also received legitimate complaints of overcrowding and about time spent waiting in lines.

We are taking steps to better cope with our growing pains and larger attendance. More sessions have been added. We have improved and streamlined the registration process. And, we have pressed the host hotel for greater concessions on space and staffing. Further, we continue to push for guest room registration procedures that meet the unique needs of teachers and students.

Our new contract with Kansas State includes, at JEA expense, a modest expansion in headquarters staffing. To be fiscally responsible and certain in our course, we have proceeded slowly and deliberately with our expansion. As we seal a five-year contract with the university, we look forward to continuing a very positive and rewarding relationship with the KSU School of Journalism and the Kansas State student publications program.

I ask your indulgence and continued support as we work to meet the challenges of growth and change.
PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT — DOROTHY McPHILLIPS

In an effort to meet my responsibilities for conventions as delegated in the bylaws, I wrote some convention evaluations and recommendations for future conventions and circulated them to JEA Board members. As long ago as 1984, we anticipated changes needed because of the growth in conventions. Rob Melton headed a committee and collected “pertinent facts upon which a sound decision could be made.” Even then, the need for a national convention director was recognized. Convention responsibilities have been transferred to headquarters and Linda Puntney is working with Tom Rolnicki and Ken Siver in site selection, heading a national committee, and assuming the duties of a convention director. As JEA continues to grow, it is unlikely that she will have time for all that we have asked her to do and more staff for conventions will be needed. While our goal is to provide journalism education through conventions, we also need to make money on conventions to support the national organization and the increased services required from a headquarters staff.

A national committee made up of local JEA members and working with or through their state organization can be the backbone of convention success. Most important though is cooperation and communication with headquarters and a common goal. Conventions, state and/or national organizations are vehicles through which journalism education can be promoted, the First Amendment supported and a free and open society maintained.

A schedule for future conventions will be circulated through Headquarters and found elsewhere in the semi-annual report.

COMMISSION REPORTS

CERTIFICATION — H.L. HALL

Members of the Certification Commission met in Nashville in January to make policy decisions and to write new test questions for both the CJE and MJE exams. Members came to the meeting with test questions already written. They then analyzed each question and decided whether or not to include each one on a new test. They also developed suggested answers for each question. Two new CJE tests and two new MJE tests were developed. Jack Dvorak agreed to format the MJE tests and Mary Arnold agreed to format the CJE tests. Pat Graff is revising the CJE Study Guide and H. L. Hall is revising the MJE Study Guide.

Commission members also voted to limit the terms of commission members to two four year terms. To prevent possibility of all new members at one time, it was decided to stagger the terms of the members. By a drawing of names, it was decided that the first term of Jack Dvorak, Fern Valentine, Mary Arnold and John Butler would end in 1993, and all four would be eligible for a second term at that time. The first term of Tom Eveslage, Julie Dodd and Sherry Haklik and Pat Graff will end in 1995. They may be reappointed for a second term at that time. If any JEA members are interested in being a Certification Commission member, they should contact H. L. Hall.

The CJE and MJE tests will be administered from 4-6 p.m. on Friday, April 10 at the Denver convention. Following the Chicago convention, there are 133 recipients of the CJE certificate and 22 recipients of the MJE certificate. The directory listing all CJE's and MJE's was printed last month. Commission members decided at the Nashville meeting to mail the directory to all workshop directors throughout the country in hopes that the directors would utilize those listed as workshop speakers.

Commission members also discussed in Nashville the problems of promoting certification and convincing teachers that certification is worthwhile. It was decided that the chairperson would speak to scholastic press association directors at the Denver convention and that states near national convention sites would be targeted prior to each convention to create interest in taking the exams.

STUDENT PRESS RIGHTS COMMISSION—JOHN BOWEN

Commission members have been active on panels on the 200th anniversary of the Bill of Rights and how the First Amendment applies to the high school media. Several of these sessions have been with those administrative types who have opposed full protection for students.
Work has commenced with several legislators to convince them of the necessity for student expression rights. Discussions are slow.

The commission is beginning to investigate the possibility of having a national convention of one or two representatives from each state to brainstorm and formalize approaches to passing legislation on the state level to protect students against the effect of Hazelwood. Initial response seems positive for perhaps a three-day workshop at a major university in the summer, but some questions have been raised about non-profit groups becoming involved in “lobbying” tactics. Further investigation is needed.

The commission will be trying to expand its base to all regions, starting with the Denver convention. I would like to have an active representative from each JEA region to better and more quickly monitor incidents of censorship and to offer assistance more quickly.

Monitoring and letter writing support is ongoing.

CURRICULUM COMMISSION — JACK KENNEDY

One curriculum guide, "Yearbook in Your Curriculum," has been revised and published since Chicago. It is available through the JEA Bookstore. A second curriculum guide, on Electronic Journalism, is currently being written. The committee working on this guide is meeting in Denver to formalize format and scope. Projected publication date for this guide is late summer. The next curriculum guide revision will be on Basic Journalism curriculum.

The members of the Commission are Susan Massy, J.A. Rios and Susan Turner-Jones. We hope to have a Commission meeting during the Denver convention. We have received little input from the membership on curriculum needs, though we welcome any comments. In lieu of specific requests, we will continue to work on projects related to the 1991-93 JEA Goals.

The Development/Curriculum Commission hopes to continue to work closely with the Multi-Cultural Committee in developing materials that will encourage greater diversity in scholastic journalism.

PUBLICATIONS COMMISSION — CONNIE FULKERSON

Sales at conventions continue to increase. The Chicago convention brought in more than $7,000 in bookstore sales.

A second mailing of the bookstore catalog went out to members with the convention materials, and that has helped spring sales. Books are now being reviewed for the fall 1992 catalog, and several have been tested at conventions. The catalog will be mailed in late August.

The Denver convention will be the first time credit cards will be accepted for book purchases. This is bound to increase sales at conventions as well as at headquarters for phone orders for bookstore items and memberships.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

SCHOLASTIC PRESS ASSOCIATION — JULIE DODD

Press association directors and association members from 17 press associations attended SPA sessions at the Chicago convention. The three SPA sessions were: Packaging your association — Bruce Konkle; The ins and outs of summer workshops — Cheryl Pell; SPA Roundtable — Julie Dodd.

Three sessions are scheduled for the Denver convention: What should research find out about scholastic journalism — Jane Peterson; What JEA's certification exams mean to your association's members — H. L. Hall; SPA Roundtable — Julie Dodd.

The major concern facing the SPA is the threat of budget cuts to several scholastic press organizations.
The following are scholastic press associations that are in danger of being eliminated: Journalism Association of Ohio Schools (Ohio State University)-Sarah Ortman; Northwest Scholastic Press (Oregon State University)-Carla Harris; Missouri Scholastic Press Association (University of Missouri)-formerly, Bob Knight; Maryland Scholastic Press Association (University of Maryland)-Lois Kay.

JEA may need to formulate a plan of ways to lobby for continuation of scholastic press associations that are potential victims of the budget cutting ax.

CONTEST COMMITTEE — HILDA WALKER

The contest committee for this convention are Linda Puntney, JEA executive director; Carol Mills and Gidget Kuntz, JEA headquarters; Hilda Walker, JEA contest chair; Kathy Daly, convention co-chair; Sharon Gentry, Albuquerque, NM; and Susan Massy, Shawnee, KS and Steve Wilkes, Dallas, TX.

The committee has offered 25 on-the-spot contests, including literary magazine and the new video broadcast competition. Susan Massy and her committee of Earlene Hollinger, Linda Mook, Ed Galdrickian and Steve Wilkes have organized three contests: feature, news and sports. Contestants will supply their own camcorder, lights, microphones, video tape, etc. The news and sports entrants will travel to local studios where the contests will be held. The feature contest will be at the hotel to cover the convention activities.

This convention, the yearbook/newspaper photography contests are carry-in and will be judged Friday night.

The five computer contests were mail-in and Linda Puntney handled the registration and judging.

With the regular contests, computer and video broadcast, a total of 30 competitions were offered to journalism students at this convention.

The Write-Off Contest Rules Handbook has been revised for 1992 and includes the expanded yearbook copy/caption writing contests as separate categories. After this convention, the electronic media contests will be evaluated and can be approved for the fall convention in Columbus. If approved, the handbook will then be revised for the 1993-94 contests.

The write-off chair for the fall 1992 Columbus convention is Dave Weisenburger of Gahanna Lincoln HS. For the Dallas convention in 1994, Judy Babb of Highland Park HS will organize the on-the-spot contests.

REGIONAL REPORTS
Southwest Region — Vicki Scorsone, director

ARIZONA—According to state director Peggy Gregory, in an attempt to strengthen AIPA and to get more involvement from advisers around the state, the AIPA board and advisers present at the fall convention voted to amend the constitution. The amendment would give the vice-president a new job description from newsletter editor to PR person and membership chair. The treasurer would relinquish membership duties and concentrate solely on the budget concerns while the job of writing and printing the newsletter would fall to a new corresponding secretary. To get more advisers involved and to better help with the needs of member schools, the amendment would also provide more area coordinators with few schools to keep track of. Members will take a vote at the AIPA Spring Convention March 27 at the YWCA Leadership Development Center in Phoenix. At the convention, four times are scheduled for students to participate in newspaper, yearbook and photography sessions presented by teachers and local professionals.

This year’s summer workshop will be at Northern Arizona University Aug. 2-6. Some NAU computers will be available and others brought to the site to produce an on-site publication during the workshop. Theme days will be added as will contests in photography, layout and writing. Emphasis will be placed on more hands-on by students. Workshop director is Michael J. Fox from Santa Rita High School in Tucson.

Fox received the 1991 Forrest Martin State Journalism Teacher of the Year Award from the Arizona Interscholastic Press Association at the 1991 Spring Convention. Fox, who has taught at Santa Rita for 14 years,
was coordinator of the 1986 National Journalism Education Association convention in Tucson. He has also served as the JEA Awards Chairman and State JEA Director and has held several offices on the state AIPA board. He is currently workshop director.

Three minority, college-bound high school students from Arizona have received $750 scholarships from three newspaper associations in a competition established by the American Society of Newspaper Editors. The three winners are Thuy-Vi Nguyen, Greenway High School, Phoenix; Heather Ramirez, Chandler High School, Chandler; and Ricia Weiner, Dobson High School, Mesa.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA—State director Steve O'Donoghue reports Board member and former Journalism Education Association, Northern California (JEANC) president Ed Galdrikian, Washington Union HS, Fresno, was named 1991 Outstanding Journalism Teacher of the Year by the California Newspaper Publishers Association. The long-time JEA member, who has been a journalism adviser for 30 years, was nominated by the Fresno Bee. Galdrikian teaches English as well as classes in beginning and advanced journalism and broadcast journalism. This is the 23rd CNPA award; three current board members, Galdrikian, O'Donoghue and Virginia Sloan have also been recipients, as has JEA stalwart Don Powell.

The JEANC board has voted a $100 donation for a scholarship at Quill and Scroll in the name of Rod Vahl, and a $100 award to be given to a northern California graduating senior from an ethnic minority in the name of Dr. Robert Knight, pioneer in multicultural efforts in scholastic journalism.

The Stockton Record interviewed JEA member Roger Woo for a recent article on how budget cuts are squeezing out journalism classes and publications in many California schools. State budget shortfalls are likely to make this situation worse next academic year.

Another deleterious trend reported to JEANC by board member Dorothy Davis is a new tactic by school districts to hire professional journalists part-time to teach journalism classes or advise publications, usually as an after-school activity. In this manner, districts avoid having to hire a credentialed teacher or support a regular journalism program.

Six members of the JEANC board are going to road test an E-Mail network for the board. They will use America Online to send out agenda, exchange letters, and keep committee members better in touch with each other. If the trial works out, the entire board will be signed up and consideration given to opening up a bulletin board for northern California advisers.

Former JEANC board member and adviser of All-American newspapers and yearbooks at Golden West High School in Visalia, Lee Terkelsen, just returned to teaching after spending seven months on his feet—literally, walking from Mexico to Canada on the Pacific Crest Trail, a path that winds though the High Sierras in California and the Cascade Mountains in Oregon and Washington. A true journalist, Terkelsen not only took still pictures of the adventure, but lugged a $50,000 video camera lent by Sony in his pack and filmed the trip. He is currently editing his material which local television stations are interested in airing.

Marjorie Brooks, who spent her first years of retirement guiding JEANC as president, has stepped down from the position as her term ended and has been replaced by Jim Shuman, Modesto High School. Shuman designed and compiled the materials for this year’s JEA celebration of Scholastic Journalism Week, Feb. 23-29.

Peggi Rankin, a long-time JEANC board member and Oakland journalism adviser, passed away in December.

COLORADO--Kathy Daly reported many Colorado members are busy in the final preparations for the convention. Daly and Lori Eastman lined up an incredible variety of tours through Rocky Mountain Tour Co.

Jim Bock gathered an impressive array of local professionals for the Breakfast with a Pro/Professional Speakers. In all, 22 professionals will be speaking at the convention. Dianne Gum from Littleton HS volunteered to coordinate the video strand and help with Write-Offs. Gum plans to organize students not involved in the Write-Offs by providing a viewing area where students can see video yearbooks from other schools.

Don Ridgeway and Marta Hedde lined up several local media tours. The only drawback was the lack of commercial TV stations available for the tours. Channel 4, the only station close enough, was already booked. However, Hedde was still working on a change in the booking in early March.

Bruce Knuth coordinated various signs with JEA Headquarters. Terry Anderson directed the stuffing of the
adviser’s bags. He obtained various goodies, from a free Denver promotional magazine to free pencils.

Daly lined up judges for the Write-Offs. Eastman coordinated the judges’ hospitality gifts. Daly also provided a computer and laser printer for the certificates, etc. Daly and Eastman provided student helpers and trained volunteers to help during and after the Write-Offs.

NEVADA—Reports state director V. LaVerne Forest, the effort to get the board of trustees to adopt Freedom of Expression guidelines has either fallen on deaf ears, or has, because of other divisive issues, not been addressed at all.

“We are never permitted to forget that Nevada, the gambling state, is also a conservative political state. These groups have managed to water down sex education in the schools, launch censorship campaigns against books and other instructional materials and inject right-to-life rhetoric into every public issue. The most vocal critics of our freedom of expression bill comes from these special interest groups,” she writes.

Advisers will try again this legislative session to reintroduce their bill. They plan to have northern Nevada’s Senator Diana Glomb introduce it. High schools will inundate the legislature with students, teachers, friendly board members and other adults in the community testifying on behalf of the bill. Forest emphasized this is the state whose courts upheld the right of school officials in Clark County to refuse Planned Parenthood advertising in their high school publications. Reno High School is the only high school in the state to run Planned Parenthood ads in the newspaper and the yearbook. “These ads have been accepted by our publications since 1976. We have been challenged only once. At that time we had the backing of our principal and the board of trustees. I doubt, given the climate of the board today, that we could be sure of their support,” she says.

NEW MEXICO—Several schools are planning to attend the convention in Denver this April, even taking busloads of students from some cities as it is fairly close. “We are also planning our spring write-off contests in Los Cruces, where we expect close to 300 students from around the state. Our spring mail-in contests for newspapers is also under way,” reports state director Sharon Gentry.

Several New Mexico advisers are now working on national committees, and JEA membership is up from recent years. They are looking at several different projects for the future, including the possibility of a special scholarship for journalism students.

Many teachers are planning to take the CJE test at the spring meeting in April, and several have already qualified. Two have already earned their MJE. Things keep happening in New Mexico.

Northwest Region—Linda Ballew, director

MONTANA—Many new advisers have brought energy and creative ideas to Montana high school journalism this year. Several of these advisers will attend the national JEA convention in Denver for the first time.

One of these new advisers, Doug Hegeman from Dodson, MT, has expressed an interest in organizing a statewide journalism association. A tentative meeting has been scheduled during the Montana Education Association convention in Helena this fall. He and Linda Ballew and the new state director will meet to plan activities, such as the press rights legislation for the 1993 legislative session, for the upcoming school year.

Because of an unusually high turnover in high school publication advisers this year, the state director’s position needs to be assigned. Several candidates will be asked before the Denver convention.

As an internship project, Todd Mitchell from Eastern Montana College in Billings has organized an advisers’ and journalism students’ workshop May 13. He has asked professional speakers from the Denver Post and the managing editor of the Great Falls Tribune, Bob Gilluly, along with several high school and university educators, to conduct workshops. For further information, Mitchell can be contacted at (W) (406) 657-2194 or (H) (406) 652 2918.

OREGON—Oregon advisers are conducting the 10th annual Publications Olympic. Modeled after a Colorado program, schools may enter 16 categories: single issue, artwork, student advertising, news, feature, sports, opinion,
photography, layout and design. Individual schools may submit up to five entries in one category at the cost of $3 per entry. The Olympic was sponsored by the Oregon State University Department of Journalism.

The annual OJEannual OJE-sponsored workshop will again be held on the Southern Oregon State College campus in Ashland, OR (the home of the Shakespearean Festival) July 27-31. For more information, interested advisers should contact Bill Fletchener (503) 652-2082.

IDAHO—The Idaho legislature is considering a student press rights bill. The bill went to committee, and it looks favorable at this point. Students and advisers testified; however, it was an unusual experience.

The Idaho Journalism Advisers Association installed new officers: Bonnie Warne, president; Joe Gratton, president elect; Julie Simmons, treasurer; Elaine Wolfe, secretary; and Steve Beck, contest chair.

The Board met and began planning the fall conference. The organization will continue to give scholarships in Best of Show in writing, graphics and photography for individual winners. Additionally, the association will offer proficiency certificates to those students who participate in a sample contest. The goal is to give every student an opportunity to compete in a contest.

Three Idaho advisers will speak at the Denver convention, and many schools are planning to attend.

WYOMING—According to state director Gary Vickrey, the Wyoming Journalism Association met in February to discuss preliminary plans for its fall convention in Casper. The group selected Tricia Haynes from Laramie High School as Wyoming’s journalism student of the year; her portfolio will be submitted for competition in the national JEA student of the year contest.

If advisers and students demonstrate sufficient interest, a computer camp will be held in June in Laramie. For information, interested advisers can contact Vickrey at (W) (307) 721-4420 or (H) (307) 742-7718.

Vickrey has recommended Chris Reynolds, the yearbook and newspaper adviser from Rock River, as the new Wyoming state director. She will attend the state director’s meeting in Denver.

WASHINGTON—Washington state’s journalism teachers took a long look at their proposed legislation on free expression and decided to put the campaign on hold until a more favorable political climate exists.

In an effort to find a compromise before the bill reached the voting stages, WJEA sought the support of state teachers’ union officials, the state superintendent of public instruction and the school directors’ association. Although WEA and the state superintendent’s office were supportive, the school directors came armed with their own set of amendments that would have contradicted the freedoms the teachers sought.

The bill may not be needed at all in Washington, some say. At an October conference in Yakima on the topic of “free expression” in Washington Schools, Acting Chief Justice of the Supreme Court James Andersen told the group that Washington’s constitution is one of the strongest in its support of free speech. Andersen suggested the bill was likely unnecessary in view of the strong wording in the state’s constitution. WJEA will continue to watch the political scene and is ready to act quickly if conditions become more favorable.

In other WJEA news, the organization remains strong with more than 160 members. A series of events throughout the year provides training and support for journalism programs. Among them is the summer workshop held in Ellensburg in August. Last summer more than 300 teachers and students attended the sessions. Another event is the Newspaper and Yearbook Day on the University of Washington campus in September. The event is co-sponsored by the Seattle Times. In March the state contest and conference was held at Everett High School.

WJEA continues its support of excellence in journalism by sponsoring its Adviser, Administrator and Journalist of the Year programs. It also pays the expenses for two advisers—an experienced and a new adviser—to attend the summer workshop of their choice. Finally, elections will be held in the spring to elect a new slate of officers for a two-year term.

North Central Region—Susan Hathaway Tantillo, director

ILLINOIS—Linda Kane, state director of Naperville Central HS, reports IJEAs’s major activities include hosting
the JEA/NSPA national convention last November. In conjunction with the convention, JIEA sponsored a hospitality room on Friday and Saturday of the convention. These expenses were generously underwritten by the Chicago Tribune with a $500 donation.

Other recent and ongoing activities include sponsoring the Illinois High School Journalist of the Year contest, sponsoring a photography contest for high school photographers in conjunction with the annual JIEA wall calendar which is distributed to all Illinois journalism teachers, and publishing a newsletter four times a year. The newsletter contains a new feature, the "Instant Handout" for journalism teachers. Each fall, the first issue of the newsletter is sent to all journalism teachers in the state as a membership recruiting tool. The following three issues are sent to JIEA members only.

JIEA’s fourth annual adviser retreat was Feb. 29 at Monmouth College. Speakers included a representative of the Advertising Council who presented information about public service campaign ads available from the Council for use in high school newspapers. These include professionally designed ads related to social concerns such as AIDS, the environment, drunk driving, crime prevention, alcohol abuse, runaway hotline and more. Advisers in Illinois or anywhere in the country interested in obtaining these ads to run in their newspapers may call (800) 933-7727 to place their order. More information may be obtained from Ali Ruttenberg at The Advertising Council, Inc., 740 Rush St., Chicago 60611; (312) 751-8056.

IOWA—State Director Pam Rodewald of Ft. Dodge HS reports that scholastic journalism in the state of Iowa is mourning the recent deaths of two dedicated, well-known scholastic journalists—Rod Vahl, 65, of Davenport and Mick Neubert, 48, of Grinnell. Mick was a journalism teacher and publications adviser for over 24 years and served as an instructor at summer journalism workshops for many years. In 1975 he was honored as one of the nation’s outstanding journalism educators by the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund and was recognized by IHSPA in 1989 with the Stratton award. Vahl taught journalism and language arts classes as well as advised publications for 32 years. He is a nationally known speaker, judge, author and summer journalism workshop instructor. Vahl received the National High School Journalism Teacher of the Year award from the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund and the Lifetime Achievement Award in 1990 from JEA. Iowa High School Press Association is considering worthwhile permanent memorials for each highly respected professional.

Among the accomplishments this past winter in Iowa is the symposium “Breakthrough: A Multicultural Guide for High School Journalism” which was held at the University of Iowa, Oct. 31-Nov. 3. Mary Arnold, director of the Iowa High School Press Association, organized the symposium and reported that everything went well. A publication will come out this spring.

The annual Best of IHSPA publication came out mid February. The publication features winning entries of the IHSPA annual writing/photography/layout contests.

IHSPA again contributed $800 to the Student Press Law Center in support for its work and service.

The Iowa Newspaper Association again gave 35 scholarships for high school students across the state to attend the fall IHSPA State Conference in Iowa City and the Regional IHSPA Conference in Des Moines. INA has approved $500 to help fund the 1992 fall conferences.

IHSPA Yearbook contest entries increased even though the state has fewer school districts due to consolidations.

IHSPA is making a special effort to form a new publications adviser mentor program across the state. Included in discussion are a possible publication and curriculum handouts.

Dr. Jane Peterson, Iowa State University, is gathering research pieces for a future edition of C:JET, like the spring 1991 edition. Peterson is looking for research topics of interest to secondary school teachers. Those with information or suggestions should contact her at ISU, 123-C Hamilton Hall, Ames, IA 50011.

Summer journalism workshops are again planned for the University of Iowa and Iowa State University. Iowa State University will offer Broadcast Journalism, July 5-11, and The Thinking Writer’s Workshop, both for students, July 21-27. Two desktop sessions will be held for adults: Introduction to Desktop Publishing, June 15-19, and Intermediate Desktop Publishing, June 22-26. University of Iowa will offer Yearbook, July 5-10; Newspaper/Newsmagazine, July 12-17; Desktop Publishing, July 5-10; Beginning Photography, July 5-10; and Advanced
Photography, July 12-17, for students. Limited scholarship funding is available for qualified African-American, Asian-American, Hispanic-American and Native-American high school students. For information contact Summer Journalism Workshops, School of Journalism and Mass Communication, The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242.

Workshops for teachers/advisers include the following: Macintosh Beginning Desktop Publishing, June 21-24; Photojournalism I, June 22-26; Newspaper Advising, June 22-26; Publication Design, June 22-26; Macintosh Advanced Desktop Publishing, June 25-27; IBM-PC Desktop Publishing, June 29-July 3; Yearbook Advising, July 6-10; High School Press Law, July 9-11; Teaching of Journalistic Writing, Reporting and Editing, July 13-17; and Reaching Out to Minority Students, July 13-16.

MINNESOTA—Judy Knudson, state director, of Albert Lea HS, reports that MHSPA has a student advisory group with year which has developed a student freedom of expression bill and has sponsors in both houses. Knudson says, “Jim Bernard is charging ahead with great success.” She was scheduled to appear with three speakers for 15 minutes before a house sub-committee in early March. Two of Knudtson’s students are on the advisory board and have had a chance to be published in both the Minneapolis Tribune and the state newsletter, as have other board members.

Reporting on the Winter Workshop in Minneapolis, Knudson says it was an excellent program, with participation from all three Minnesota yearbook companies, even though only about 30 advisers attended. A professor from Winona State University donated three of his own Media of Mass Communications texts for door prizes as did yearbook companies.

A new workshop program, one Knudtson says she would like to see expanded, was presented by Prof. Laura Jasper from University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire on Gender-Free Usage. She spent time beforehand looking over the state’s school papers and came with an analysis of numbers of male vs. female photos, bylines, and so on. She asked why students are always identified by year in school, especially because of “freshman.”

Entries for state writing and photography contests in newspaper are due right after the Denver convention. Knudson says entries expand yearly.

She also reports, “Our summer workshop by NSPA sounds like another good program, as always.”

NEBRASKA—State Director Doyle Schwaninger of Fremont HS reports hosting of their first-ever adviser retreat March 6-7 in Lincoln. He has made a statewide appeal for Journalist of the Year applications, and those were due at the retreat. He continues to promote JEA whenever possible.

NORTH DAKOTA—Robert Hendricks, state director, of Fargo South HS, continues to be the JEA hotline for his state, answering questions from advisers himself or directing them to another resource for answers. He says up to two dozen advisers use the service annually.

SOUTH DAKOTA—State Director Deb Merxbauer reports two areas they are working on in South Dakota: 1) adding diversity sessions to the summer workshops for high school teachers and students and 2) rewriting state contest guidelines through the state high school activities association that will include some evaluation of the ways in which publications represent and reach out to minority students.

For the second year in a row, South Dakota had no applications for the High School Journalist of the Year competition, so advisers are addressing means to spark new interest in the program. With the increased number of credits required for graduation in South Dakota high schools, advisers are saying many of their best journalists do not qualify because they have only been on staff for one rather than the required two years.

WISCONSIN—The Kettle Moraine Press Association newsletter for January, from the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, reports Wisconsin state representative Peter Bock has introduced Assembly Bill 567 which would guarantee the press rights of students in public schools in Wisconsin.

The bill provides that public school students have freedom of expression in official school publications. The bill also provides for restrictions in publishing material that depicts nudity, sexually explicit conduct, sadomasochistic
abuse, physical torture or brutality and that is harmful to children, and material which is libelous or would cause significant disruption within the school.

The bill is more narrowly drafted than A.B. 699, which died on the senate floor last year. The bill also grants immunity from both civil and criminal liability to school boards and to all school officials, employees, and agents for any expression made by a student in the exercise of his or her freedom of expression.

KEMP A president Nancy Becker was among those who testified Dec. 4 before the Education Committee in support of A.B. 567. On Jan. 9 the Education Committee recommended the bill for passage. Its next stop is the Assembly Rules Committee. If the Rules Committee recommends it for passage, it could be scheduled for floor debate in the current legislative session which began Jan. 28.

KEMP A's summer workshops for newspaper, yearbook and photojournalism will be July 26-31. For information, contact KEMP A, Continuing Education Services, Roseman 2005, UW-Whitewater, Whitewater, WI 53190. KEMP A also sponsored its annual Winter Retreat Feb. 7-8 in Middleton. The annual Fall Conference will be Oct. 16 at UW-Whitewater.

South Central Region—Jack Harkrider, director

ARKANSAS—The Arkansas High School Press Association will conduct its annual Spring Convention and Competitions, April 19-20, at the Excelsior Hotel in Little Rock. The event will feature on-site competitions and publication excellence awards in yearbook, newspaper and literary magazine, according to Dixie Martin, state director.

KANSAS—State director Cheryl Attebury says membership apparently remains about the same as the previous year. JEA is represented at the Kansas Scholastic Press Association Fall Conference at Kansas State University in Manhattan. This year, approximately 1000 high school students attended the one-day conference.

Other activities JEA members participated in were an advisers’ retreat in January in Wichita and selection of an Administrator of the Year and Student Journalist of the Year. In the SJY contest this year, members of the professional press and university journalism professors judged 12 entries.

One of the biggest triumphs for student press in Kansas was the recent passage of Senate Bill 62, a freedom of expression bill that allows students to publish stories on controversial issues without prior review or censorship from administrators. In cases of libel, students are responsible for the content of the publications. This bill passed the Kansas Senate last year, and, in February, passed the House and was signed by the governor.

John Hudnall has been the KSPA executive director for almost two years and has taken over the organization’s publication, The Courier. It is much improved and publishes stories occasionally that include information about JEA activities.

LOUISIANA—Louisiana scholastic press activities are in a state of transition, due to the absence of a journalism department chairperson at Louisiana State University. The state organization, Louisiana Scholastic Press Association, is under the tutelage of the LSU Journalism Department, and members are awaiting the naming of a new director before determining what activities to plan, writes state director Hope Carroll.

TEXAS—The annual Texas Association of Journalism Educators convention and competitions were conducted in San Antonio in November, with more than 770 students and advisers attending. The event featured a multitude of sessions in yearbook, newspaper, photography, literary magazine, careers and advising. Also, 17 Write-off contests were conducted — 11 on-site and six carry-in events. Several yearbook publishing companies, photography studios and San Antonio newspapers donated approximately $8000 to $10,000 in services, awards and prizes.

As part of the TAJE convention, the San Antonio Express-News announced the funding of the Charles Kilpatrick Journalism Scholarship. Each year, a deserving student journalist will receive a $1000 scholarship in honor of the former publisher of the Express News. The first scholarship will be awarded by Kilpatrick at the annual Interscholastic League Press Conference Spring Workshop in Austin, April 12.
National Textbook Company has agreed to fund the printing of a brochure promoting scholastic journalism in the high school curriculum. The brochure, written and designed by TAJE members, will be distributed to administrators, counselors, PTAs, state legislators, and school board members throughout the state, as well as to state school board and Texas Education Agency members.

TAJE members are currently working on a presentation for the TEA Task Force on High School Education to include journalism as a “specified elective” on advance degree plans in the state. The Task Force is looking at the possibility of establishing degree guidelines for students seeking careers in the humanities, sciences, or general education areas.

The TAJE Curriculum Committee is currently producing a resource guide for journalism teachers/publications advisers which will list curriculum material sources in all media. Also underway is transcribing an “Adviser’s Survival Kit” on floppy disks for inclusion in membership packets for new members.

A panel of judges received 14 entries for Texas High School Journalist of the Year, with Brandon Blasingame of Duncanville High School; being named the winner. Blasingame will receive a U.S. Savings Bond and a plaque at the ILPC Spring Workshop in Austin, according to state director Jack Harkrider.

Northeast Region — Sherry Haklik, director

MARYLAND — State director Bob Atwood reports Maryland Scholastic Press Association is expecting a busy spring and summer. March is the time when students from around the state send in over 600 entries for the annual competition which will name the top pieces of student work in writing, photo, art, and design categories.

As soon as school is out in June, MSPA will be offering a summer workshop program which has been expanding substantially over the part three years. Ranging in length from two to five days, MSPA will offer courses in writing for the newspaper, desktop publishing for beginners and for more advanced students, editorial management, editing, broadcast journalism, a workshop for advisers, and, for the first time, two courses focusing on the literary magazine.

Any experienced judge who might be interested in judging newspapers, yearbooks, or literary magazines for the state of Maryland over the summer may contact MSPA’s executive director Lois Kay, College of Journalism, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742.

NEW JERSEY — The state’s student freedom of expression bill 557A “went down to defeat in the mad rush at the end of the state senate’s session, reports director Robert Thomas. They plan to reintroduce the bill later. Garden State Scholastic Press Association sponsors a spring advisers’ conference in May with a Bob Stevens scholarship to choose state Journalist of the Year. Fortunately, there were no entrants this year. The Journalism Resources Institute of Rutgers sponsored a conference on AIDS in December. SPJ presented their Northeast Regional Conference in New Brunswick in March. Rutgers-Newark sponsored their 14th annual conference in April. NJ Press Women sponsored a conference and contest in November. The Spring Yearbook Conference at RBRHS is planned for April with a design clinic to follow in May as is a similar set-up at Westfield HS.

Southeast Region — Margaret Johnston, director

NORTH CAROLINA — Kay Phillips, state director, reports the North Carolina Scholastic Press Association celebrated its 50th anniversary in the summer of 1991. It is now updating its mailing list and providing greater communication with the high school journalism programs in the state. Phillips participated on the program at the AEJMC meeting. She earned her Ph.D. in curriculum at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1991 and has returned to teach at Northern Vance High, Henderson, N.C. She also still teaches a course at UNC two or three evenings each term. In addition to promoting JEA through N.C. and NCSPA, she promotes it through the Southern Interscholastic Press Association (SIPA) at the University of South Carolina, which she serves as an officer.

(SEE FALL SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT FOR OTHER STATE REPORTS WHICH COVERED INFORMATION FOR THE WHOLE YEAR.)