

◆ JEA ◆

SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

Information in this report for the spring 1995 convention in San Diego comes from JEA board members and state directors. It is not intended to be a complete report of all JEA activities. Another report will be handed out at the fall JEA convention in Kansas City. Reports below are listed in the order received.



◆Scholastic Press Rights Commission Report, John Bowen (MJE), commission chair

In addition to the report made in Dallas, the Commission continues to assist advisers and students around the country with information and advice:

- an adviser wanted to know whether the paper should run a column by a student who identified herself as a lesbian, in which she talked openly about the problems she faced not only at school but in the community.
- students questioned their status after the principal had demanded prior review and restraint in all future issues following the running of two cartoons in the Christmas issue. The prior review demand came after one parent had complained. The paper was in its first year of reissue with a new, uncertified adviser.
- other instances of new prior review and restraint have been reported continuously.

The Commission's larger projects are now involving gathering of materials for work toward:

- an ethics and legal issues curricula
- supplementary materials and exercises on ethics and legal issues
- compilation of materials and editorial policies to assist in curriculum development
- research on developing a code of ethics for publications advisers
- seeking funding for refining and publishing the above materials for national use as soon as possible.

We will be working on this project in San Diego. We have applied to The Freedom Forum for a grant to finalize the project and are seeking other possible funding sources.

Additionally, we are investigating the possibility of initiating an on-line Press Rights Service much like NCTE has on America On-Line. We will be researching JEA's commitment to such a service and its costs. We have discussed the matter with the SPLC and will continue to discuss the matter with regional and state journalism education associations. With so many advisers having access to on-line services, we think this would be a good way to effectively and economically reach more people in more areas of the country.



◆Certification Commission Report, Susan Hathaway Tantillo (MJE), commission chair

At the close of the Dallas Convention in the fall of 1994, we had recognized a total of 280 CJE's and 43 MJE's. At this convention in San Diego, we expect to honor at least 15 new CJE's, at least 3 new MJE's, and at least 6 renewed CJE's from those honored in 1990, the first year of the program. Numbers cannot be firm at the writing of this report since applications are still being accepted until March 1 for this convention.

MJE and CJE qualifying tests will be given as usual from 3:30 to 6 p.m. on Friday at this convention.

Promotion of the Certification Program received a boost from the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) with the help of Robert Mahaffey, NASSP's director of publications and marketing. The February 1995 issue of the *NASSP Bulletin* includes the article "National Journalism Certification: Providing Qualified Teachers and Advisers" written by Susan Hathaway Tantillo, Commission chair. This is the issue of the *Bulletin* which receives wide dissemination at the annual NASSP national convention.

The article will be reprinted in the May/June issue of *High School Magazine*, another NASSP publication which Mahaffey feels reaches a different group of administrators than does the *Bulletin*. *High School Magazine* will also include a 1/6-page ad paid for by JEA to promote the Certification Program. Readers of these NASSP publications who want to request further information about the program or a copy of the Certification Directory have been directed to Linda Puntney at Headquarters. They have also been asked to mention the article/ad so that we can monitor how much activity each generated.

The Summer 1995 issue of *CJET* is devoted to Certification including an overview article, quotes from those qualifying for CJE and MJE in 1993 and 1994, and sample projects. Tantillo coordinated the issue.



**◆South Central
Region Report,
Kathy Craghead
(MJE), director**

Louisiana — State Director, Hope Carroll

■ It's sad news in the resignation of long-time state director Hope Carroll. Hope is moving to Indiana where her husband has accepted a teaching position at the University of Southern Indiana.

Texas — State Director, Gary Harlow, MJE

■ Texas has 191 members, more than any other state, and up seven since the Portland convention last year.

■ Local Dallas convention chairs Randy Vonderheid and Susan Komandosky were ecstatic about the way the fall convention turned out, with more than 3,100 delegates attending. The JEA Bookstore at the convention set a record for sales with more than \$15,000 in items sold.

■ After four consecutive state conventions and supporting a national convention, the Texas Association of Journalism Educators will be inviting surrounding states to the state meeting in October 1995. According to Pat Gathright, convention director, "we want to make our event available to other schools and to showcase our host city San Antonio."

■ At the TAJE executive board meeting in February, the top priority in 1995 was chosen to be boosting state membership.

Oklahoma — State Director, Darla Jones Tresner, MJE

■ Oklahoma's JEA (OKJEA) is busy working with the Oklahoma Press Advisers'

Association to pass anti-Hazelwood legislation, according to Darla Jones Tresner, MJE, state director. Because such a drive is time-consuming, this has been the group's primary project so far this year. The major hang-up has been finding someone to present a bill to the Oklahoma legislature, but just recently the group believes it has found a promising lead.

■ Next, the group plans to begin work to convince the Oklahoma Regents to include journalism in its list of college-bound electives. Not being included in this list is hurting the enrollment of many programs across the state. Also, a number of districts are experiencing budget reductions which is jeopardizing electives — especially those that are not college-bound electives.

■ This summer the organization hopes to host an advisers' retreat, an editorial leadership camp and a seminar for new advisers.

■ JEA membership is slowly but surely growing; several Oklahoma advisers attended the fall convention in Dallas, and several Oklahoma students placed in the write-off.

Kansas--State Director, Cheryl Attebury

■ The Kansas Scholastic Press Association held its annual fall conference at K-State in Manhattan in September, attracting more than 1,500 student journalists from across the state.

■ Because of the growing numbers of students competing in the regional on-the-spot contests sponsored by KSPA, a new contest site was added at the Emporia University campus.

■ The third annual Quad-State Seminar this year featured Chris Mundy, senior writer for *Rolling Stone* magazine.

■ KSPA continues to participate in the Journalism Education Association's High School Journalist of the Year Contest. Besides the winning entry submitted to the national contest, second and third place winners are awarded scholarships to study journalism at the university of their choice.

■ KSPA is kicking off its first-ever Hall of Fame by honoring Kansas journalism advisers at a function at the fall JEA convention in Kansas City.



◆North Central Region Report, Judy Knudtson (CJE), director

South Dakota — State Director, Deb Merxbauer

■ A change this year is the addition of a spring workshop. The workshop will take place April 25 on the opposite side of the state at the fall convention. The purpose is to serve schools which cannot travel across the state in the fall and to peak more interest in the high school press in those areas.

■ The South Dakota ballot measure, Initiative One, which would have rolled prop-

erty taxes back to 1 percent of their value, resulting in great losses in education funding and the possible elimination of all extracurricular activities, was defeated in November.

■ Attempts are being made to restructure the week-long summer newspaper, year-book, photography and desktop publishing workshops to meet the changing needs of students and advisers, including more advanced sessions and different formats.

■ Teachers in the state plan to arrange a bus for the fall convention in Kansas City. Few South Dakota journalists attend national conventions so we're trying to get schools to work together so the trip is more affordable. Since Kansas City is one of the closest conventions for South Dakota, We're hoping to start a new trend of more schools attending the national conventions.

■ We have arranged for a team of professional journalists to judge entries in the Journalist of the Year competition. The judges followed a scoring sheet based on the JEA criteria. The winner will receive a certificate, and he/she will be honored in a publication from the high school press association.

Illinois — State Director, Linda Kane, CJE

■ The IJEA newsletter, published in the fall, included a sample letter that could be duplicated or adapted and sent to Illinois senators and representatives, lobbying for the return of student press rights. The Illinois Civil Liberties Union is scheduled to reintroduce legislation in the spring of '95 to overturn the Hazelwood decision.

■ The IJEA spring conference is scheduled for March 4-5, 1995, in Galesburg. Tom Winski and Sheryl Hinman are hosting the conference during which board members will be selecting the Illinois Journalist of the Year and runners-up.

■ State Director Kane has sent information across the state encouraging advisers and journalism teachers to have students submit entries for JOY.

Iowa — State Director, Ann Visser, CJE

■ The whole book yearbook contest continues for the third year. Top-rated year-books will receive the Neubert Award.

■ Minnesota and Iowa exchanged to judge each others' Journalist of the Year entries. This is the second year for this exchange.

■ Iowa High School Press will celebrate its 75th anniversary in 1996. Several means of celebrating have been discussed.

■ Iowa had many award winners at the NSPA/JEA convention in Dallas.

■ The Best of IHSPA has been published and sent to all IHSPA members. Students whose work was published also receive a copy of the publication.

■ Almost 1,000 delegates (students and advisers) were in attendance at the IHSPA regional and state conferences held in October 1994.

Minnesota — State Director Kelly Zwagerman

■ Three students entered the Journalist of the Year Contest. Entries were sent to the Iowa High School Press Association to be judged under the direction of Ann Visser. (Iowa sent their entries to Minnesota.) The score sheet developed last year will be used to score/judge the entries. Iowa also had three entries. The Minnesota Journalist of the Year will receive an award of \$300 and an engraved plaque.

■ JEM was involved with several activities at the fall state convention. JEM recognized 46 advisers with 10 or more years of experience. Advisers received certificates of achievement. (Director Zwagerman would like to know how other states find the names of advisers with 10 or more years of experience. Minnesota does not have a League directory updated each year with all schools' advisers.) JEM also was in charge of the Minnesota All-State publications contest: 25 newspapers, 21 year-books, and 12 art/literary magazines received certificates recognizing either Honorable Mention, Bronze, Silver or Gold status.

■ JEM continues to receive calls from advisers (mostly new advisers). Packets of information and the JEA catalog are sent to advisers who request information.

■ Summer activities being considered would include information sessions for advisers at the NSPA summer workshop. JEM members would like to work with advisers and staffs to help plan 1995-96 publications. The format of these sessions/workshops is still being planned.

Nebraska — State Director, Doyle Schwaninger

■ Members of the Nebraska High School Press Association are planning an Advisers' Retreat for March 5-6 at Mahoney State Park.

■ Advisers Kathy Stockman, Valley, and Doris Martin, Beatrice, continue to spearhead efforts to pass a Freedom of Expression Act in Nebraska. A hearing was held and advisers and students spoke in favor of the bill. The Education Committee has taken no action as of Feb. 21.

■ Students are compiling their applications for Student Journalist of the Year competition.

■ The NHSPA will hold its Spring Journalism Championships the last Saturday in April.

■ Preliminary plans are being made for the Summer Workshop.

North Dakota — State Director, R.D. Hendricks

■ We are in the process of preparing the materials for the Journalist of the Year

competition and our spring convention to be held April 30-May 1 at the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks.

■ The Northern Interscholastic Press Association will have yearbook and newspaper critiques/competitions, spring writing contests, and the Journalist-in-Action contest at the spring convention.

■ The association is planning a credit workshop during the fall teachers' convention. This workshop will include work in the areas of desktop publishing, photography, staff manuals, and adviser helps.

■ We are also planning to take one or two coaches to the fall convention in Kansas City.

Wisconsin — State Director, Terry Shircel, MJE

■ The Northeastern Wisconsin Scholastic Press Association (NEWSPA) at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh is planning its annual Spring Journalism Conference for April 26, 1995. In addition, NEWSPA is offering student journalists the chance to submit their work for competition. Divisions include thirteen different categories, four different graphics categories, eight different photography categories and seven different publications categories. Judges will be professional journalists and journalism educators from the area. Deadline for the contests was Feb. 27, 1995. Winners will be awarded certificates and ribbons.

■ The College of Communication, Journalism and Performing Arts at Marquette University and the Wisconsin Associated Press are finalizing their statewide Writing, Photography, and Cartoon Contest for high school journalists. First, second, and third place winners and honorable mention designees at the state level will be awarded certificates in each division. First place winners at the state level will be honored at a luncheon hosted by *The Milwaukee Sentinel* and *The Milwaukee Journal*. Regional winners will be appropriately recognized. Deadline was March 1, 1995.

■ The Kettle Moraine Scholastic Press Association (KEMPA) at the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater is currently finalizing its summer yearbook, newspaper, and photography workshops for high school students. The one week hands-on workshops are designed for students without any journalism experience and students with prior experience. Students are grouped according to their writing/layout/photography ability.

■ No student submitted an entry to the JOY contest.

■ The Milwaukee Bucks sponsored a statewide high school print journalism program on Feb. 24, 1995. Advisers and two student journalists (one writer or editor and one photographer) were invited to a Bucks game and a pre-game/post-game press conference and courtside photo sessions. As of this writing, some 54 state schools were signed up to take advantage of this program. Every year the Bucks organization sponsors the event, alternating between high school print and broadcast students.

◆ **Northeast
Region Report,
Betty Morton (CJE),
Director**

◆ **President's
Report, Candace
Perkins (MJE),
President**



West Virginia — State Director, Ruby Dyer

■ Several journalists and their advisers traveled to the CSPA convention in New York as part of the Herff Jones delegation. The trip was arranged by Ron and Marsha Boram and Joy King, Herff Jones representatives.

■ On March 17 and 18 journalists from Ohio, Kentucky and West Virginia met at the 65th annual United High School Press convention at Marshall University in Huntington, West Virginia. The two-day event featured critiques, tours, workshops and an awards luncheon. The Most Promising Student Journalist and the West Virginia JEA High School Journalist of the Year were announced.

■ West Virginia University hosted its annual West Virginia High School Journalism Competition April 6-7. Students pre-submitted their work to qualify as finalists. Finalists then competed on campus in various writing, design and photography categories with winners being announced at the April 7 awards luncheon. The first \$2,500 Paul A. Atkins Scholarship will be awarded there in the spring of 1997.

■ Several schools in West Virginia are going to block scheduling and this has had an impact on journalism. Those advisers who are affected by these changes would like additional information from schools who have switched to block scheduling.



This President's Report, like so many other documents and memos lately, was sent by e-mail. Whether it was a quick message to Executive Director Linda Puntney, checking on the cost of software she needs, or a request to Bart Asato to fill a committee position, the information super highway is finding JEA's president and a lot more advisers and students chugging along. One real advantage is to get specific information down in writing for future reference, as I can do with Linda's budget proposal. Or I can send messages even very late at night or to people, like Asato, many time zones away. And these messages don't have to be as polished as something I'd put on JEA letterhead; the job is to communicate, and this has become a vital, often more casual, way to do just that.

In light of this increased traffic on the Internet and on-line services like CompuServe and America Online, JEA has begun investigating such things as bulletin board listings and information on the World Wide Web. Right now, we are listed on AOL under NCTE as one of its affiliates in the Education Forum section. In this is the address and phone number of JEA.

Besides this push for telecommunications technology, I have worked with commission and committee chairs to accomplish this year's goals. We have pushed for greater visibility with our certification program, including ads and articles in National Association of Secondary School Principals' publications this spring. The Multicultural Commission now has a new chair, elect after his time as an ad hoc

◆ **Publications
Committee,
Connie Fulkerson,
chair**

Board member expired. Another ad hoc member was elected a regional director, a third is a committee chair, and three former Outreach guests are ad hoc members now. Development and Curriculum commission has made initial contacts in pursuing its goal to have someone promote and fund a high school yearbook adviser of the year. Finally, the Scholastic Press Rights Commission has drafted a proposal for a session to explore and develop materials to teach law and ethics in today's schools, again currently seeking a funding agent for this.

Of course, these are all things commission and committee chairs have spearheaded. Although I have at least discussed these projects and at most have helped write materials with these people, it's certainly not I who have done all the work. In fact, when writing this report, I remembered a student's comment to me many years ago. As he filled out the school newspaper's contest registration form, he hesitated at one point and looked at me strangely. "What's the matter?" I asked. "Well, this wants to know what percentage of the work our adviser does, and I have to keep writing 0% — because you don't write or edit or take photos. It seems like you don't do ANYTHING, but I know you're doing necessary things all the time!" he added with a smile. The president's job is about like that of a good adviser — being there to prod, remind, brainstorm, act as a sounding board, and look for new areas that need exploring.



The Dallas convention was a record-breaking success for the JEA Bookstore. More than \$15,000 worth of books and supplies were sold. Part of the success came from the introduction of two new books — *Law of the Student Press*, 2nd edition, and *The Radical Write*. Mark Goodman of the Student Press Law Center and Bobby Hawthorne, author of *The Radical Write* and director of Interscholastic League Press Conference, were on hand to sign copies of their books and to discuss them with convention-goers. Cartoonists Marian Henley and Dan Piraro signed samples of their work after the Thursday keynote address. Talmage Boston, a Dallas lawyer and baseball expert was at the JEA Bookstore Saturday to autograph his best-selling baseball book, *1939: Baseball's Pivotal Year*. Jerry Hughes, author of *The World's Simplest Photo Book*, also signed. This publication will be added to the bookstore catalog in the fall.

Book signings have been an interesting addition to the convention bookstore, and San Diego is no exception. Mark Goodman will be available to sign *Law of the Student Press*; Bob Esler will autograph his newest edition of *Organizing for Desktop*; and Marianne Love, a journalism teacher/columnist will be on hand to sign her first book, *Pocket Girdles and Other Confessions of a Northwest Farmgirl*. It is hoped the JEA of Northern California publication, *Framework for Journalism*, will also be available. Jim Shuman is spearheading that effort.

Several other books will be tested at San Diego, including the *Academy Times Staff Manual* by Steve Matson, who was one of the 1994 Professional Contribution Prize winners, and *Type It Right! The little black book for your computer*, by Anita Stumbo. *Newswriting in the 1990s*, the newswriting curriculum developed by the Multicultural Committee, will also be available in San Diego.

I'll be searching for new books and working on the 1995-96 catalog this summer.

Because of the increasing need to communicate quickly and more effectively with our constituents, we have worked to become an active part of the internet and the World Wide Web. Our first home page was posted on the Web the last week in March. The home page will allow us to post interactive information about the organization all over the world. The home page carries information of membership, certification, conventions and workshops, a calendar of related event and workshops and a tips column for advisers. A special thanks is due Kelly Campbell, a KSU student who has helped put the home page together.

In January, Headquarters published and mailed the new certification directory and the membership directory. The Journalist of the Year, Professional Contribution Prize and the Advisers Institute brochure as well as the materials designed by Jim Shuman for Scholastic Journalism Week have been produced and distributed this spring. The organizations publications C:JET and NewsWire have also been produced and mailed in a timely manner.

There appears to be more interest at an early date for the Advisers Institute to be held at K-State, July 6-9, July 9-14 and July 16-21. Nick Ferentinos, Dow Jones Newspaper Fund Teacher of the Year; Bob Esler, author of *Organizing for Desktop*; and Mark Goodman, executive director of the Student Press Law Center, head the list of speakers for the Institute.

Additionally, the executive director has met with the local committee for the Kansas City Convention in November. That committee is working well ahead of schedule and incorporating a number of activities to make the convention an excellent one.

The executive director, along with Candace Perkins and Ken Siver represented JEA at the winter meeting of the Secondary School Division of AEJMC in Phoenix. Presentations and promotions for JEA were also done by the executive director in Boston, at the mid-winter meeting of the Associated Collegiate Press, and at both the high school and college CSPA conventions in New York.

Carol Mills, office manager accepted a position in the comptroller's office and a hiring search is currently underway to fill her position. Interviews are scheduled to begin the last week of April.

Brooke Graber, a K-State senior majoring in public relations, is working as a student intern in the JEA office this semester. Brooke was responsible for the production of the Advisers Institute brochure and has helped coordinate the write offs in Carol Mills' absence. Brooke is attending the San Diego convention to help with the bookstore and to get feel for convention planning. She will also help maintain the JEA home page for the rest of the semester and will compile a list of colleges and university which offer accredited journalism programs.