

Information in this report for the spring 1997 convention in Phoenix 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 St. Louis.



■ **President's
Report,
Candace
Perkins Bowen
(MJE)**

■ Since the fall 1996 semi-annual report in Chicago, I have been working on the following things for JEA:

- Hosting, along with executive director Linda Puntney, the Council of Presidents of National Journalism Organizations the two days following our convention in Chicago. One presentation at that meeting covered fund-raising and investments.
- Following that meeting, applying what I gained there to better analyze our investments and to have some recommendations at the Phoenix meeting.
- Attending the April 6 COP meeting in Washington, D.C.
- Investigating our bylaws and determining what some of their sections mean in the election process. This included consulting a parliamentary expert, who answered questions about candidate eligibility but also pointed out discrepancies and inadequacies in our current bylaws. I have been working on suggested revisions for Phoenix.
- Working with the new Write-off co-chairs to develop logical and effective division of labor and to make the transition of work to them smooth and efficient.
- Helping the Publication Study Committee and its chair, Julie Dodd, develop a strategy for surveying members, an instrument to use for this and a timetable to accomplish the investigation by Phoenix.
- Conferring with Headquarters about plans for Phoenix; with the secretary about the minutes and *Newswire*, including writing several articles for that, and with the *C:JET* editor about upcoming issues.
- Compiling officer, commission and committee chair job descriptions, working with the executive director to write hers after collecting similar job descriptions from comparable organizations and putting these together in a booklet.
- Writing JEA Notes column for *Quill and Scroll* magazine and the law column for Dow Jones Newspaper Fund's *Adviser Update*.
- Providing various media with information about JEA's stand on the Communication Decency Act, which went to the Supreme Court March 19, with a decision expected in June.
- Promoting JEA and Scholastic Journalism Week at Southern Interscholastic Press Association in Columbia, SC.
- Sitting on the Board of the Student Press Law Center, which met March 22 in New York City; as such, I have chaired a committee on the SPLC's Web site, which is up, filled with helpful information and drawing lots of hits.

• Writing letters in support of those with censorship problems; most recently, this was a student-run television show in Bethesda, Maryland, and a teacher in Shaker Heights, Ohio.



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**■ Vice
President's
Report
H. L. Hall (MJE)**

■ Thanks to all the regional directors and state directors who have worked hard during the past four years to improve JEA membership and to improve services to members. A special thanks to Judy Knutson and Rik McNeill whose terms on the board ended April 1. Both were valuable regional directors who worked hard to serve the organization. Judy was directly responsible for creating the first convention exit survey, which was handed out in San Francisco and Chicago in 1996. This was JEA's first effort at obtaining feedback about each convention. Another exit survey will be handed out in Phoenix.

■ Eighty-four teachers filled out the exit survey in Chicago. Sixteen of those were attending their first convention. Sixty-two of the respondents said they would recommend the convention to others. Thirty-six of the attendees indicated Boston would be their first choice for a convention. Other cities mentioned often were: Washington, D.C. (35), Atlanta (35), San Antonio (23), and San Francisco (23). The number one concern of those in attendance at Chicago was the lack of meeting space. Twenty-seven individuals named that as the one item they would like to see convention planners work on to better meet their needs. Thirty-three attendees indicated they would like for JEA/NSPA to limit the number of delegates and five more said maybe that would be a solution to the lack of room. Twenty-one of the respondents indicated they would tell others about the excellent speakers at the convention. Sixty-six of the respondents said they had brought students with them.



**■ Northwest
Region Report,
Rob Melton
(MJE), director**

■ My term as Northwest Regional Director is almost over. As I reflect on all the wonderful people who are involved in journalism in the Northwest, I am reminded of how a spirit of cooperation and shared leadership exemplifies the two state organizations I know best. Oregon and Washington both have strong adviser organizations, and I believe we don't have to look further than our own backyard for ways to improve our national organization. We run our own conventions, which attract as many folks as some JEA conventions; we publish our own newsletters; we make available our own membership publications; we hold our own adviser training workshops; we recognize our own by offering mentoring services to new and returning advisers; we select our own teacher of the year; we elect new officers every two years; and because of the vision of shared leadership, many have the opportunity to serve and make their mark on scholastic journalism in their state. In short, there are many people who help make all this happen. It is a shared vision of what we can be and what we can become that makes each of our organizations successful.

■ JEA is also doing more for you than ever before. In the last 10 years, JEA has added the membership directory, the Yearbook Adviser of the Year program, the Multicultural Commission, the summer advisers workshop with scholarships, developed the CJE and MJE certification programs, and established a headquarters

with an executive director and a full-time staff member. One of the more important issues state and regional directors must still address is how to involve more people in JEA. JEA membership continues to be a bargain, thanks largely to the success of the conventions. Membership in similar organizations in education run from \$45 up to \$100 and convention registration fees for other teacher organizations run anywhere from \$75 to \$300. Our membership fee generates less than \$60,000 of our operating budget, and about one-third of that is used to support Student Press Law Center and purchase each member a subscription to the SPLC Review. I look forward to representing you as JEA vice president, as I work with all the regional directors and the state directors toward the goal of the best journalism education for all.

OREGON, NANCY GIULIANI, STATE DIRECTOR

■ From establishing a teacher of the year award to creating a mentorship program, Oregon's JEA has been active this year. Sponsored jointly by OJEA and the University of Oregon School of Journalism, the first Mary Hartman Oregon Journalism Teacher of the Year Award was presented to adviser Jaira Hill, Gervais High School, Gervais, Ore. A plaque was presented to Hill by Duncan McDonald, dean of the School of Journalism and Communication at the University of Oregon. The award, which also carries a \$250 stipend, was presented to Hill at a school assembly May 30, 1996. Hill was subsequently honored at the annual high school fall press day. Hartman, for whom the award is named, is the former director of Oregon Scholastic Press. Hartman was also honored at the annual high school fall press day, Oct. 23. During the adviser luncheon, she was presented with a plaque from NWSP and OJEA describing her as a "mentor, teacher, and friend." Hartman now resides in Boulder, CO.

■ Through the coordinating efforts of retired journalism instructor Carol McDowell, OJEA is now offering a mentor/evaluation program. The program matches participating advisers with mentors, who are journalism teachers with experience advising publications. Experienced individuals are also available using newly-created guidebooks to evaluate publications in depth. McDowell, former Reynolds High School (Troutdale, OR) adviser and 30-year veteran, told NWSP director Carla Harris that she wanted to do something that required her journalism skills.

■ Recently, a grant from the Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association was awarded to Northwest Scholastic Press to update the status of high school teaching of journalism in Oregon. This follows the 1990 study done by OSOP, OJEA and the Oregon Department of Education.

■ The annual advisers workshop held at Southern Oregon State College in Ashland had 46 participants, an increase of 16 over the previous year. Upcoming plans for the event, which runs from July 27-Aug. 1, is the inclusion of an intensive journalistic writing course which will be taught by Carol Lange of Alexandria, Virginia, and Ron Bennett of Rexburg, Idaho. Featured entertainment will be attending plays presented by the world-famous Oregon Shakespeare Festival.

■ The annual Oregon State University journalism workshop for students had 45 enrollees, according to NWSP director Carla Harris.

■ Keynoting the 11th annual Fall Press Day was Bobby Hawthorne, director of the University Interscholastic League of Texas, and the author of *The Radical Write*. All of Hawthorne's sessions were standing room only. This fall, 1,496 students and advisers attended 72 workshops.

■ OJEA offers advisers a chance to get away for a time of renewal and to examine publications-related issues in new ways with other advisers at a spring retreat March 21-22 at Silver Creek Conference Center near Silverton, OR. The site boasts several falls and some of the most spectacular scenery in the state.

■ Jack Kennedy, Iowa City (Iowa) High School newspaper and yearbook adviser, led the event. Advisers were given the option of taking the certification test at the end of the retreat.

■ Other activities included the annual high school journalist of the year contest and the Publication Olympics. Additionally, through concerted efforts, OJEA has boosted its membership to 121 members.

■ Kudos go to Oregon's Rob Melton and Jack Groves, newly-elected JEA vice president and Northwest Regional Director, respectively.

WYOMING, CHRISTINE REYNOLDS, STATE DIRECTOR

■ On Oct. 13-15, 368 high school students from the state of Wyoming met in Casper for the 49th convention of the Wyoming High School Student Press Association. One highlight of the convention was the appearance of Pete Williams, NBC television correspondent, who was himself a former Wyoming high school graduate from Natrona County High School, Casper, WY. He simply captivated the audience. Also, Roz Schliske, Laramie County Community College instructor, introduced the assembled students to the concept of distributing their publications on-line. We had 37 newspapers and 32 yearbooks, as well as four literary magazines entered in competition. Another highlight of the convention was the utilization of two judges from Texas: Kirk Macon of Midland, TX and Fred Steward from the University of Texas. Our association with JEA has simplified the always arduous task of finding appropriate judges who are willing to attend our convention after having judged our publications. Kay Hinton, journalism instructor from Kemmerer, WY, served as president for the event. Rita Isabel, journalism instructor from Shoshoni, WY, was selected as the recipient of the 1996 Wyoming Journalism Teacher of the Year. Sandy Pederson, journalism instructor from Cheyenne East High School, Cheyenne, WY was elected to serve as the 1997 president of the WHSSPA.

IDAHO, ROBERT STEPHEN BECK, STATE DIRECTOR

■ The current state board of directors of the Idaho Journalism Adviser's Association (IJAA) are: Jeff Oliver (Bonneville High School), president; Carol MacPhee (Lake City High School), president-elect and contest chair; Julie Lewies (North Fremont High School), treasurer; Robert Stephen Beck (Rigby High School), treasurer; and Marian Adams (retired), past president.

■ In IJAA state write-off competitions held as part of the fall conference, top

students in the major categories of writing, graphics, photography and yearbook were awarded \$100 best of show scholarships to help them attend JEA/NSPA spring nationals. These awards were sponsored by IJAA, The Ricks College Scroll and the Post Register.

■ Mary Noble of Idaho Falls High School is the 1966-97 Idaho Journalism Teacher of the Year.

■ Again the 1997 annual IJAA fall conference is planned for Oct. 26-28 in Sun Valley.

WASHINGTON, LUCINDA WINGARD, STATE DIRECTOR

■ The Washington Journalism Education Association publishes a handbook and a membership directory annually. WJEA has 158 members this year, and there are currently 10 mentorship pairs. The state conference was held March 15, and a committee has been formed to work with JEA and NSPA for the national convention in Seattle in 1998.

MONTANA, SISTER ROSEMARY KOLICH, STATE DIRECTOR

■ Our main emphasis has been to gather journalism advisers from across the state. Just two weeks ago, Marilyn Sexton, former JEA State Director for Montana, tried to gather a group of advisers and no one showed. Our state is so vast, and our advisers so competitive, that we are struggling to establish any sense of cohesiveness. I would like to see our membership increase. It currently stands at nine, a decrease from last year. I have done some research, however, and the advisers I have spoken to say JEA has gotten too large and too expensive. I have to agree. This is probably the last year we will participate.

■ Suggestions: Please look into your growing membership and the problems it is causing for small schools. We just can't compete any longer. Plane tickets are very expensive for us, plus the registration fees, hotel expenses, meals, etc. I am sorry to see this happening because my students love coming to the conventions. They are drawing cards for my program at Central (Central Catholic High School, Billings), and we raise funds all year in order to attend. Actually, it was my experience with and the success of the students at JEA conventions in the past that have brought growth and structure to our journalism department.

■ **Southeast
Region Report,
Rik McNeill,
director**

FLORIDA, ALYCE CULPEPPER (CJE), STATE DIRECTOR

■ Nearly 3,000 students attended district workshops in late September and early October with the Florida Scholastic Press Association. Schools needed to attend a district workshop in order to participate in the state convention May 8-10 at the Orlando Hyatt Hotel.

■ At the spring convention, in addition to numerous seminars, on-the-spot contests are held in the area of broadcast, yearbook, newspaper, news magazine and literary magazine. The winners of prejudged contests in each of the above categories are announced at the Friday night banquet while the on-the-spot winners are announced at the Friday night banquet while the on-the-spot winners are announced at the closing ceremony, Saturday morning.

■ For the fifth year, FSPA joined with JEA to honor Florida's outstanding high school journalists. Carrie Sewell from Cape Coral High School from the newspaper category was the overall winner and continued to the national contest. Other finalists were Shelbie Casey (Deerfield Beach High School) for broadcast, and Catherine Seeman (Deland High School) for yearbook. The overall winner received a \$500 scholarship and the other winners received \$100 each. To have a winner, each category needed at least three applicants.

■ Several Florida advisers, who are JEA members, have been recognized for their accomplishments. Dr. Susan Sailor from Keystone Heights Jr./Sr. High School is the Florida Teacher of the Year. The Dow Jones Newspaper Fund named Linda Evanchyk as a Distinguished Adviser and Marge Craig as a Special Recognition Adviser. Alyce Culpepper, the Student Productions teacher from the Instructional Television Center in Fort Lauderdale, received the Pioneer Award from NSPA. Her work is available in print and videotape from the JEA Bookstore.

■ Once again the University of Florida will host the Summer Journalism Institute in Gainesville. At the June 21-26 workshops, sessions will be held for newspaper editors, newspaper staff, photographers, yearbook editors and broadcasters. Two graduate-level courses will be available for advisers: Broadcast Journalism Practices and Journalism Writing and Editing.

■ **Northeast
Region Report,
Betty Morton
(CJE), director**

■ This report is the final one for the old Northeast Region as we have known it for the past decade. (Before the last restructuring, I was Region 5 Director prior to combining that region with Region 7 and Region 9 in the late '80s into the Northeast Region). Because of the passing of part of a proposal presented to the JEA Board at the Chicago Convention by the regional directors after their meeting at Poynter Institute in St. Petersburg, FL, new things began to happen to this region. The Board approved the portion of the proposal suggesting to divide the region in half, thus creating a new Region 6 and Region 7. The proposal was part of a plan for complete realignment of the JEA regions in order to promote a more equitable distribution of membership as well as ensuring that each region have more focus, more energy, and better accessibility to regional functions. Although the entire

proposal was not accepted by the board, it was decided that the 18-member Northeast Region would benefit from the change. As director of the Northeast Region for the past four years, I have had wonderful cooperation, representation, and support from each of the state directors, and it is sad now for me to give up nine of them to form a new region, but I yield to progress and hope the newly formed Region 7 under the direction of Barbara Flanagan will grow in every way possible. I do know she is eager to accept the challenge of new membership growth and retention, and I do wish her and the new region the best in trying to serve JEA better. In the meantime, I expect the remaining nine states which will be called Region 6 and encompasses the Great Lakes/Mid Atlantic areas to continue with their enthusiasm and support as I strive to work with them in every way to promote growth, participation and retention in JEA.

■ The following report demonstrates the efforts of dedicated state directors who have made great strides in their states and have goals set for future endeavors. I would like to thank all the state directors who fulfilled their duties such as taking surveys for the Poynter meeting, attending state directors' and business meeting at the Chicago convention, getting reports in on time, and communicating with me each time we needed to make contact. Their efforts to increase membership and the response to the request to contact members who had not renewed JEA membership was appreciated. I want to wish Phil Buley of Vermont a happy retirement from his many years of teaching, and thank him for his contributions to JEA upon accepting his resignation as state director.

■ The response to entries for High School Journalist of the Year in this region is on the increase, with first-time participants for many states. Also, new CJE memberships are on the increase in the region. Congratulations to those who have recently joined the ranks of CJE recipients.

CONNECTICUT, MARY ELLEN MINCHIELLO, STATE DIRECTOR

■ In November, I attended the Hartford Courant High School Symposium, where I chaired the advisers' round table discussion. At this meeting, I passed out information on JEA as well as on Yankee Pen. I noticed that there were fewer veteran advisers in attendance. Many were new, and they had very little support from their schools; some had no funding at all. All of us exchanged addresses and phone numbers and promised to help each other with problems in the future.

■ I met with Barbara Flanagan at the Yankee Pen conference in March to discuss the possibility of having more regional conferences.

■ I have mailed out to all advisers information on JEA the past two springs. I will do so again this year.

DELAWARE, BETSY DIEMER, STATE DIRECTOR

■ There is still only one JEA member in Delaware. However, we did have an entry for the JEA Journalist of the Year contest. (I took that as a positive sign, even though he is a student of mine. I had not invited him to submit. He got the applica-

tion and entered on his own initiative. You can imagine his surprise when he found out who would get the entry!)

■ I am looking into affiliating with the only active press association in Delaware, the Delaware Press Women, as they are interested in including journalism educators in their association. They have instituted an ambitious competition for high school journalists this year, and I have begun some dialogue with them on combining our common interests and concerns.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, CATHERINE FITZ, DIRECTOR

■ The state director who accepted the position upon the resignation of long-time director Barbara Hines gave her first and last report via phone. She reported that she had sent mailings to all member schools in the area, but had received no replies. She does not wish to continue as director, but does plan to support the convention in Washington, D.C. in 1998.

INDIANA, NANCY HASTINGS (MJE), STATE DIRECTOR

■ Working to better meet the needs of students and advisers has been the focus for the Indiana scholastic groups. The fall national convention highlighted the year for many students and advisers. With the convention close by in Chicago, more Indiana advisers and students had the chance to join the record-breaking crowds for an experience to remember. Indiana was well-represented--with many first-time -attending advisers.

■ The Indiana High School Press Association has actively pursued many projects. Advisers and spouses traveled to Brown country for an Adviser's Weekend getaway in September to gain insights from a panel of experienced advisers on ways to improve the "adviser" experience. The two-day Fall Convention in October was another huge success as over 600 traveled to Franklin College to listen to award-winning reporter Tom French of the *St. Petersburg Times*, and to attend workshops and awards presentations recognizing individual achievements through the Harvey awards and staff success through the Hoosier Star recognition. Mark Haab of Warren Central High School was recognized as Indiana's outstanding adviser with the Ella Sengenberger award.

■ In conjunction with the Hoosier State Press Association, IHSPA invited students to join professional journalists for a one-day seminar focusing on writing skills. While attendance was light for the December conference with those attending primarily from the Indianapolis area, students and advisers came away with skills they could use on their own publications.

■ One of the IHSPA's most successful projects continues to be its summer internship advisers program. Through this program, advisers moved beyond the classroom to work as writers, copy editors, photographers and designers at Indiana newspapers. Besides enhancing professional skills, the interns also became rejuvenated to eagerly return to their classrooms in the fall.

■ Ball State and Indiana universities continued in their long-standing service to Indiana scholastic student and adviser needs through their High School and Junior High J Days and Media Marathon along with their summer workshops. Special congratulations goes out to Ball State's new College of Communication, Information and Media, which celebrated its inauguration in March.

KENTUCKY, HAROLD WILLOUGHBY, STATE DIRECTOR

■ We have had very little action in the journalism industry in Kentucky this spring. After sending out letters to the 11 JEA members listed by the national office, we received no replies at my home school, and there were no entries from the state of Kentucky in the Journalist of the Year contest.

■ Upon returning from the Chicago NSPA/JEA convention, we had hoped to meet with the chairman of the Department of Journalism at the University of Kentucky; however, to date he has not contacted us.

■ We are still working on updating our directory of all school newspapers, yearbooks, and literary magazines in Kentucky. It is our hope to increase membership in the fall of 1997.

MARYLAND, ROBERT ATWOOD, STATE DIRECTOR

■ Approximately 250 students and their advisers met Nov. 9, 1996 to attend the Maryland Scholastic Press Association's 49th annual convention. Participants heard keynote speaker Leonard Downie, executive editor of the *Washington Post* and took part in three of 47 workshops offered throughout the day-long event. Topics included advising, writing, editing, photography, layout and design, media law, the Internet, broadcast news, feature writing, women and the media, tips on working with printers and poetry critiquing.

■ Geneva Pickens was the winner of the Boyle scholarship which was established by Joe Adams, a graduate of the College of Journalism at the University of Maryland, in the name of Regis Boyle, who was named JEA journalism teacher of the year in 1980. Pickens attended the JEA/NSPA sponsored national convention "Winds of Change" in Chicago in November.

■ Six high school publications, selected from 50 middle and high school entries received Marylander awards, the highest honors bestowed by MSPA. They are The Griffin, Dulaney High School and Silver Chips, Montgomery-Blair High School, tied for first place in the large school newspaper division; Rampage, Rockville High School took first place honors in the medium newspaper division, and Lion's Tale captured first in the small high newspaper division. Colophon of Towson High School garnered first in the magazine division and Winston Churchill's Finest Hours won first place honors in yearbook.

■ More than 100 students attended MSPA's summer workshops last year. About 10 different courses covering the range of journalism topics were offered.

■ At its January board meeting, members discussed evaluations from last summer's workshop and made plans for the upcoming season. Gary Clites, Jr., of Northern High School, Owings, Maryland, was elected president for a two-year term.

MASSACHUSETTS, BARBARA G. FLANAGAN, STATE DIRECTOR

■ I continue to be actively involved with Yankee PEN, the New England JEA affiliate, serving as its secretary, newsletter editor, and contest coordinator. I have been working with Yankee PEN to try to increase membership in both organizations in Massachusetts and throughout New England. Membership in Yankee PEN has increased considerably over the past year, but membership in JEA in Massachusetts has declined by two. Membership will be the top priority for the region over the next year. I sent a notice about the JEA Journalist of the Year contest to all JEA and Yankee PEN members in the state and received no entries.

■ I attended the Chicago national convention in November and brought back to Massachusetts some ideas for the Yankee PEN New England convention in March. I also found it extremely valuable to meet with advisers from other areas to find out what works for them. I hope to be able to apply some of their experiences to Massachusetts and the region.

■ Membership will be the top priority in Massachusetts and the region. I will continue to work with Yankee PEN and the other scholastic press associations in the region to develop a plan to bolster membership in all the organizations.

MICHIGAN, MARILYN McELROY (CJE), STATE DIRECTOR

■ Congratulations to Ebony Reed from Southfield-Lathrop High. She is the winner of the 1996 JEA Student Journalist of the Year Scholarship. She is putting the scholarship to good use attending the University of Missouri and majoring in journalism.

■ The two Michigan Interscholastic Press Association Summer Workshops had great attendance last summer. The adviser workshop had 51 people attending and the student workshop had 415. The dates for the summer of 1997 are July 27-August 1 for the adults and August 3-7 for students. Student costs for the workshop are \$240 for MIPA members and \$260 for non-MIPA members.

■ The fall workshop in October was well attended with 1800 students and advisers spending the day on the campus of Michigan State University.

■ On Oct. 5, MIPA hosted a Computerama Day at Michigan State with 40 people attending the one-day workshop, learning about PageMaker, PhotoShop, Internet and Freehand.

■ The Advisers' Retreat in early February moved to a new hotel, but held their sessions at Michigan State. Featured speaker for the retreat was Sherri Taylor from Syracuse University who spoke on design problems and other publication problems.

■ The annual newspaper judging day took place Mar. 15 at Michigan State. Last year about 1,900 pieces were judged on the judging day. Thanks to all the advisers, professionals and graduate students who helped with this day and to Ann Ferrerio, the newspaper chair who organized it. The spring conference will be April 18, and the keynote speaker will be David Knight of South Carolina.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, DON PROVENCHUR, STATE DIRECTOR

■ Membership in JEA from New Hampshire has increased from seven to eight members. Both Linda Bettcher from Portsmouth on the seacoast and Kimberly Gay from New Hampton in the Lakes Region of the state have recently become Certified Journalism Educators.

■ Yankee PEN, a New England local journalism association, will be sponsoring a spring convention for all journalism advisers and their students from the New England states, including New Hampshire. This convention will be held at the University of Massachusetts at Boston. Michele Hansen, Jeanne Provencher and I from Nashua Senior High School recently had the opportunity to judge the literary magazines submitted for this competition. We spent many hours studying each of the magazines. Results for this competition will be announced at the convention. I am sure that most members of JEA from New Hampshire will be in attendance at this regional convention.

■ Once again, I would like to increase membership in JEA by sending out a statewide mailing in the late summer.

NEW JERSEY, SUSAN EVERETT (CJE), STATE DIRECTOR

■ In October, the Garden State Scholastic Press Association held its annual Fall Press Day, at which I distributed JEA membership and certification materials and bookstore catalogs.

■ I have included JEA information in all mailings to GSSPA members and have sent GSSPA mailings to all New Jersey JEA members.

■ The student journalist of the year has been run in conjunction with the GSSPA Bob Stevens Memorial Scholarship. Every year GSSPA presents a \$500 scholarship in memory of a founding member who passed away. The winner is then entered in the JEA competition.

■ I will be distributing JEA material again at the GSSPA spring advisers' workshop, May 12.

NEW YORK, SHERRI TAYLOR, STATE DIRECTOR

■ Syracuse University's School Press Institute hosted 50 students from across the state for a week-long residential workshop in newspaper, yearbook, photography, desktop publishing and electronic design last summer. The newspaper classes

were structured upon the foundations of the writing/editing/design model where they worked on integrated projects in conjunction with photographers. The electronic design class, offered for the first time, enabled participants to learn the fundamentals of HTML in order to create web sites for their scholastic publications. Several scholastic newspapers have created web sites for their publications and have gone on-line this year.

■ Other summer workshops were held by publishing companies and educational institutions throughout the state.

■ Last October, Syracuse University hosted the annual Empire State School Press Association fall conference at the S.I. Newhouse School of Public Communications. More than 300 students from across the state, as far away as Long Island, attended the day-long events which included on-site writing, photography and yearbook design contests. Students could also sign up for intensive training programs in computer design, publication design and photography. These sessions were offered for three hours and served to answer needs of the publications in identifying weaknesses or developing skills. Following the on-site contests students attended hour-long instructional sessions taught by advisers and special speakers Linda Kennedy of Hinsdale, IL, and Gary Lundgren of Fayetteville, AR. Several professors in the Newhouse School, as well as local journalists also presented sessions. At the conclusion of the day, students received plaques and certificates in more than 50 categories of competition for work entered from their 1995-96 publications. The competitions recognized winners in a gold, silver, bronze rating system weighted by total number of entries received. This system was used successfully for the second time for both individual, as well as overall publication awards. A book of winning entries will be published this spring.

■ Many New York schools attended the fall Columbia Scholastic Press Association conference and the spring CSPA conference in New York City. Empire State Scholastic Press Association (ESSPA) held a special session during the CSPA conference for New York schools.

■ ESSPA applied for grant money to fund regional one-day workshops in either the fall or spring. ESSPA will continue to study the prospect of full written critiques for publications entered in the annual competitions.

OHIO, SARAH L. ORTMAN (CJE), STATE DIRECTOR

■ Ohio JEA High School Journalist of the Year Competition: For the second year in a row, Ohio's JEA High School Journalist of the Year portfolio competition has been supported with \$3,000 in scholarships from the Matrix Foundation of the Columbus Ohio Chapter of Women in Communications, as well as \$500 in cash awards from the Ohio's three scholastic journalism organizations: Great Lakes Interscholastic Press Association at Bowling Green State University; Journalism Association of Ohio Schools at Ohio State University and the Northeastern Ohio Scholastic Press Association at Kent State University. The first place winner, Jennifer Burgel from Wilmington High School (JEA member Georgia Dunn, adviser), will receive a total of \$1,500 in cash and scholarship money. Second and third place winners, Andria Shively from Westerville South High School and

Elizabeth Kormanik from Upper Arlington High School, will receive a total of \$1,100 and \$900 in cash and scholarships, respectively. Judges for the portfolio contest were Women in Communications representatives Karen Roller and Sandra Latimer, and JAOS Executive Director Tracie Mauriello. Burgel's portfolio will be forwarded to Phoenix for the national competition.

■ Last year's Ohio Student Journalist of the Year, Charlie Zimkus, a 1996 graduate of Lebanon High School, placed second in the 1996 JEA National High School Journalist of the Year competition. Ohio is very proud of both Zimkus and his adviser Wayne Dunn.

■ Each of Ohio's scholastic press associations has or will sponsor high school journalism workshops during this school year. GLIPA sponsored its annual press day, Sept. 25, at Bowling Green State University under the direction of coordinator Linda Glomski. New JAOS director Tracie Mauriello sponsored the JAOS workshop, Dec. 16 at Ohio State University and NOSPA director Candace Perkins-Bowen will conduct the annual NOSPA student press day at Kent State University in April.

■ Many Ohio advisers plan to attend the JEA 1997 Spring Convention in Phoenix in April. In June, Perkins-Bowen, JEA Scholastic Press Rights Chair John Bowen, JAOS Board member David Weisenburger and Ortman will team teach an annual three-day Ohio University high school journalism workshop at the OU campus in Athens. In July, JAOS and NOSPA will sponsor the second Ohio Journalism Summit for advisers, state high school press association coordinators and state university journalism program directors at Deer Creek State Park Lodge.

PENNSYLVANIA, GEORGE TAYLOR, STATE DIRECTOR

■ The Pennsylvania School Press Association hosted 950 students and advisers from 65 schools at its annual fall convention in Harrisburg in late November. Speakers included H. L. Hall, Jack Kennedy, Tim Harrower and Carol Lange.

■ A special PSPA committee met in February to discuss current problems and begin a long-range planning project. PSPA would like to appoint an executive director and have that director housed in an educational institution in the state. An 11-page report has been issued to PSPA executive board members to act on at its April board meeting.

■ Heather A. Dinich of Pottsville Area High School was named the Pennsylvania Student Journalist of the Year. She was one of five students in the competition. Her portfolio has been sent on to JEA for the national competition.

RHODE ISLAND, RICHARD T. MARTIN, STATE DIRECTOR

■ Martin is the 1996 recipient of the National Education Association of Rhode Island's Media Award for outstanding coverage of educational news in the state as a regular columnist and feature writer for *The Call*, an area daily.

■ We are still trying to make some headway in adding more members to the JEA rolls, including trying to establish Internet connections with other schools in the state. Our biggest problems to date have been linked to the fact that other schools are not on-line yet, although some are scheduled to finally go on-line this spring. Meanwhile, we have made contacts with other schools through a variety of student council efforts which have enabled us to begin opening some doors.

■ Two more schools have been added to the JEA rolls in the last year. We're also finding that there are more schools than we thought which simply don't have school newspapers, mostly because of a lack of funding.

VERMONT, PHILIP F. BULEY, STATE DIRECTOR

■ During this year, Vermont has maintained its current membership status, while instituting a limited outreach for expansion. An effort has been made to increase participation in JEA activities in member schools. Secondary scholastic journalism appears to be, at a minimum, holding its own and plans are for a statewide Journalism Conference to be held at St. Michaels College in the fall of 1997.

■ This will be my last report as state director as I will be retiring from teaching at the end of the current school year. It has been a pleasure to serve. Best wishes to you all.

WEST VIRGINIA, RUBY DYER, STATE DIRECTOR

■ The Marshall University School of Journalism and Mass Communications once again hosted United High School Media, a two-day convention dedicated to helping student journalists improve their publications or broadcast programs. The first convention (formerly known as United High School Press) was Feb. 25, 1927. This year's convention was March 21-22 and featured Steve Feiman, national president of the Society of Professional Journalists, as the keynote speaker. The convention also offered critiques, workshops and an awards luncheon. Each year the state JEA High School Journalist of the Year is also recognized and presented with a plaque.

■ The annual West Virginia University Journalism Competition is slated for April 10-11 in Morgantown. Students submit examples of their work in various categories and the top 10 students in each category in two divisions of schools are invited to the competition. The top three winners in each category are recognized at an awards luncheon at the conclusion of the competition.

■ Several West Virginia high school journalists and their advisers have attended workshops throughout the country, including those at Ball State, Gettysburg, Ohio University, Chicago, and Columbia University.

■ Alice Rowe, yearbook adviser at Bridgeport High School, was named 1996 West Virginia Journalism Teacher of the Year at the WVU Journalism Competition last year.

VIRGINIA, ALAN WEINTRAUT, STATE DIRECTOR

■ The Virginia Association for Journalism Teachers (VAJTA) initiated new committees. Sandra Ferguson chairs the Networking Committee, Dr. Patrick McCarthy chairs the Communications Committee and Kris Leedom chairs the Mentoring Committee. The Networking and Mentoring Committees help link new advisers with experienced advisers around the state to provide professional support. The Communications Committee oversees the production of the *VA Byline*, the state's quarterly newsletter on scholastic journalism.

n In March JEA and VAJTA awarded three High School Journalist of the Year Awards to aspiring students entering the field of journalism. First place went to Kelly Marra of Annandale High School, advised by Alan Weintraut. Second place was awarded to Kate Gehringer and third to Lauren Shepherd, both of West Springfield High School, advised by Brooke Nelson. Honorable mention was awarded to Keri Johnson of Loudoun Valley High School, advised by Martha Akers. The winners received plaques, savings bonds and certificates.

■ In May VAJTA met with the Scholastic Publications Advisory Committee of the Virginia High School League to discuss plans for the Fall Publications Workshop held in October. Several people were recognized for contributions to scholastic journalism: Ken Tilley for the Jim Pascal Award presented at CSPA; Carol Lange for the CSPA Gold Key; and Naomi Dixon and Sunny Reed who received the CJE certification from JEA.

■ VAJTA held its first ever write-off contest at the VHSL workshop in October. Students participated in several categories ranging from advertising to editorial writing. A two-hour lay-out and design write-off was held on desktop in the computer labs provided by the Virginia Commonwealth University. Modeled after the JEA write-offs, superior, excellent and honorable mention awards were presented at the conclusion of the workshop. JEA Secretary Carol Lange and VAJTA Secretary Sunny Reed led the write-off effort and coordinated the judging. The workshop attracted approximately 900 students who attended over 50 available sessions taught by distinguished advisers and professionals. VAJTA also recognized several advisers with awards at the workshop. The Thomas Jefferson Award, which recognizes lifetime achievement in journalism education went to Anne Webster, Woodbridge Sr. High School, Sue Kulesher, Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, Martha Akers, Loudoun Valley High School, and Michael J. Hoover, George Mason High School.

■ In November, JEA recognized Richard Fitz with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the fall convention in Chicago. He began the high school journalism program in Halifax County in 1951 and continued to teach and advise both the newspaper and the yearbook throughout his career until his retirement in 1988. His newspaper (*The Star*) and yearbook (*The Haliscope*) were national trendsetters over the years, winning accolades in several books and scholastic press association publications. Richard shared his expertise by teaching at workshops throughout his career and by attending the CSPA convention for over 35 consecutive years. He was a founding member of the VHSL's journalism board, and he has presented at numerous workshops across the country and authored a number of articles on yearbooking and writing.

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

■ All six states in the South Central region have JEA members who continue the daily battle for student press rights, technology updates, funding for publications and for the continuing acceptance of journalism as a college-bound class.

ARKANSAS, BETH SHULL (CJE), STATE DIRECTOR

■ More than 400 publications students and advisers attended one of two Journalism Days sponsored by the Arkansas High School Press Association 1st fall. The one-day workshops took place in Fayetteville (norther part of the state) and Arkadelphia (southern part of the state). Students attended four classes in areas of yearbook, newspaper or photography. The Journalism Days gave staffs a motivational boost to start the year.

■ Gary Lundgren, publications adviser at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, became the new director for ASHPA when Dr. William D. Downs, Jr. resigned the position last summer. Lundgren brought Nancy Hastings of Chicago, IL, to Little Rock for the annual Advisers Retreat in October. The two day in-service included sessions of deadline planning, staff morale, grading techniques, and other topics requested by advisers attending.

■ During February, staffs prepared and submitted contest material for AHSPA judging. Critiques will be returned and awards presented at the annual convention in April, which will also include workshop sessions and on-site contests.

■ JEA member advisers are planning trips to St. Louis for the 1997 fall convention. Because of the close location, many schools will be able to attend.

KANSAS, CHERYL ATTEBURY, STATE DIRECTOR

■ State director Cheryl Attebury did not submit a report, but Kansas Interscholastic Press Association Director John Hudnall said 1,615 students attended the state's fall conference, held in four locations in Kansas. At the junior high conference, held on the campus of the University of Kansas, a record number of students attended--190 young journalists.

■ The regional competitions in the state have expanded to include 18 contests. Seven are carry-in contests, and the rest are on-the-spot competitions. These competitions are held at seven sites statewide. For the first time, KSPA offered a Broadcast News contest as an on-site competition.

■ KSPA also increased the scholarship for the state's High School Journalist of the Year from \$500 to \$1,000.

LOUISIANA, JUDY DOMINGUE, STATE DIRECTOR

■ No report.

MISSOURI, BILL HANKINS, STATE DIRECTOR

■ Advisers and students from around the state joined in a Rally for Freedom of Expression this year to raise awareness of the continued fight for a Missouri Freedom of Expression Law. Groups from Kansas City, Independence, Platte City, Columbia, Springfield, St. Louis and other areas around the state met at county courthouses and other locales to draw professional media and public attention to the need for a state law protecting student expression. Once again, Rep. Joan Bray is sponsoring the bill (House Bill #83) which is being heard in the House Judiciary and Ethics committee. One unique area of support this year was a signed letter from the majority of faculty from UMC School of Journalism supporting HB #83.

■ During a very busy year for Missouri journalism teachers, advisers revamped their state organization combining MJE and the Missouri Interscholastic Press Association under the MIPA logo. The University of Missouri, Columbia School of Journalism, home to MIPA for 75 years, is still home to the refurbished advisers' group. Robin Stover, adviser at Rock Bridge High School in Columbia, continues through this transitional time as MIPA president. Other officers include: 1st VP—Bruce Schneider, Parkway South; 2nd VP — Diane Boyle, Parkway Central; Treasurer — Karen Ray, Glendale.

■ Along with organization changes, Missouri advisers wanted to see a make-over of the State Awards Day with a new title--Journalism Day--and improved awards for student and different categories for student work. April 22 will see the culmination of all the changes so far in MIPA. UP to 400 students are expected to attend.

■ Advisers from the St. Louis area met early this year to begin work on next year's St. Louis convention. The convention will be held at the Adam's Mark Hotel from Nov. 13-16, 1997. Ed Donnelly, Lindbergh High School, is the local convention chair.

■ Anna Romero, now in her second year as MIPA executive director, continues to provide support to Missouri advisers during some major changes in Missouri Scholastic Journalism.

■ Summer Media Workshop, directed by Ron Clemons of Truman H.S. in Independence, will be held at the University of Missouri, Columbia, July 27-31, 1997.

■ Congratulations to H. L. Hall, Kathy Craghead and Jan Hensel who have been elected to the JEA board as president, regional director, and curriculum commission chair, respectively.

OKLAHOMA, DARLA JONES TRESNER (MJE), STATE DIRECTOR

■ Oklahoma journalism instructors attend spring conferences April 14 at the University of Oklahoma and April 15 at Northeastern State University, as well as the national convention in Phoenix. Interest in JEA seems to be up, and a record number of portfolios for Oklahoma Student Journalist of the Year were received.

■ Advisers continue battling diminishing budgets and program cuts, as the state's educational system continues to be impacted by the declining economy of the state overall. Another dilemma is that the state regents for higher education do not include journalism as a college-bound elective. Therefore, fewer students are enrolling in journalism at many schools and many of those who are, are not academically motivated youngsters.

TEXAS, GARY HARLOW (MJE), STATE DIRECTOR

■ The joint convention of the Texas Association of Journalism Educators and the Association of Texas Photography Instructors was a resounding success as 967 students and teachers descended into San Antonio for three days of workshops, competitions, and fun in the Texas sun.

■ Students were able to compete in twenty on-site contests and attend nearly 100 instructional sessions. According to Randy Vonderheid, "this convention had something for everyone from digital imaging to staff motivation." Convention director, Pat Gathright was elated with the turnout and participation. Special guests of TAJE were JEA's executive director Linda Puntney and JEA's Award Chair Marilyn McElroy. The highlight for Marilyn was attending the San Antonio Spurs versus New York Knicks basketball game in the Alamodome. The Knicks were headquartered in the convention hotel which made it fun for autograph seekers.

■ At JEA/NSPA Texans dominated the awards luncheon with Susan Komandosky and Bradley Wilson receiving JEA's Medal of Merit and Ellen Kaplon of the San Antonio Express-News receiving JEA's Media Citation. This was the first time that a Texas newspaper has received this award.

■ TAJE is electing officers for two-year terms this spring. Because of increased interest there are three running for each office.

■ Plans are already underway for the 1997 state convention, Oct. 25-27 at the Camberly Gunter Hotel in San Antonio.



■ North Central Region Report, Judy Knutson (CJE), director

IOWA, ANN VISSER, STATE DIRECTOR

■ Prior to being named the National High School Journalism Teacher of the Year in November, Pleasant Valley's Merle Dieleman was named the 1996 Iowa High School Journalism Teacher of the Year. Dieleman was also one of the 10 inducted into the first class of the Iowa High School Press Association's Hall of Fame. The Hall of Fame was implemented as part of the celebration of IHSPA's 75th anniversary celebration. In addition to Dieleman, nine others were honored at a banquet prior to IHSPA's fall conference in October. They were: Mary Arnold, John Butler, George Christian, Dick Johns, Jack Kennedy, Dave Stedwell, and, in memoriam, Rod Vahl and Lester Benz.

■ H. L. Hall was the keynote speaker for the October conference which was followed by a day of sessions presented by Iowa high school journalism teachers and others associated with the profession.

■ Several Iowa schools were represented in Chicago. Ann Visser of Pella received her Master Journalism Award there while Tim Pilcher of Des Moines Lincoln received his Certified Journalism Educator Award.

■ In judging just recently completed, Washington's Megan Manfull (her mother is JEA member Donna Manfull) was named Iowa High School Journalist of the Year.

NORTH DAKOTA, R.D. HENDRICKS (CJE), STATE DIRECTOR

■ A one-credit workshop for journalism teachers was held during the North Dakota Education Association's Fall Teachers' Conference. The workshop was offered to help new advisers avoid some of the pitfalls of beginning advisers. Topics such as working with administrators, publication's law, computer technology, bidding publications and photography were a few of the topics covered during the two-day workshop.

■ The University of North Dakota School of Communications judge the journalist of the year contest, and the winner's portfolio submitted to the national office.

■ I organized a bus trip to the JEA/NSPA fall convention in Chicago in November. We had 41 participants including chaperones. We have made preliminary plans for the bus trip to St. Louis in November.

MINNESOTA, KELLY ZWAGERMAN, STATE DIRECTOR

■ The MHSPA convention was held Sept. 24 at the University of Minnesota. Governor Arne Carlson and news anchor Don Shelby were keynote speakers. At the awards ceremony, the winners of the JEM sponsored All-State Contest were announced by President Kelly Zwagerman. All-State honors went to 13 publications

■ Four students entered the Minnesota Journalist of the Year Contest. Winning first place and a check for \$300 was Siri Knudtson from Albert Lea High School. Special recognition students were Sarah Anderson, Albert Lea High School, Natalie Else, Faribault High, and Sarah McKenzie, Robbinsdale Armstrong High. Bob Hendricks, CJE from North Dakota judged the contest.

■ Josten's offered workshops for advisers this year at the company's headquarters. Currently, JEM is trying to develop a workshop format that would involve Josten's yearbook camp. JEM is looking into inviting newspaper students and advisers to its yearbook camp. Students and advisers would be able to re-design a publication in an intense, week-long workshop.



■ Thanks to State Director Patti Sullivan, membership is up in Hawaii and JEA has become an affiliate of the state organization.

■ Phoenix is the site of the spring convention and the Arizona Interscholastic Press Association has been working to provide the best experience for all delegates. State Director Carmen Wendt is the local convention chair and, along with her committee,

■ **Southwest
Region Report
Tony Gomez
(MJE), director**

ing up various committees, all aspects of making the convention a success have been addressed. To be sure, these committees will meet Friday morning to go over last-minute details. With a taste of southwestern hospitality, the conference will surely be one to be remembered.

■ Speaking of conventions, New Mexico is already planning for the 1999 Spring convention in Albuquerque. State Director Sharon Gentry is also the JEA Write-off Contest coordinator. She will definitely have her hands full. If you can help by judging or moderating, please contact her.

■ Thanks to all state directors for their continued support of JEA and working so hard to promote scholastic journalism.

NEW MEXICO, SHARON GENTRY, STATE DIRECTOR

■ Advisers in New Mexico have been busy planning a state workshop held in the fall and state contests held in the spring. More than 200 students attended the state contests in Santa Fe March 15. Thirteen student names were added to the New Mexico Journalism Hall of Fame which was started three years ago. To be give this honor, students present an inclusive portfolio of their work, and must have been in journalism at least two years. In addition, students entered more than 20 on-the-spot contests and mail-in awards were given.

■ Advisers are starting to plan for the national JEA/NSPA convention here in the spring of 1999. They are also working on plans to pursue grant money to fund several workshops around the state.

HAWAII, PATTI SULLIVAN, STATE DIRECTOR

■ Three exciting things have happend for Hawaii JEA. (1) We affiliated with the state organization, Hawaii Schools Publication Association, and are currently running a membership campaign. (2) We submitted our first entry for High School Journalists of the Year contest and (3) Blanche Sugimoto, Kauai High School, and Cathy Ikeda, Hilo High School were selected as Outreach Scholarship recipients for the Phoenix convention.

■ We look forward to more participation in JEA activities through the strength of our comined organization/affiliation.

UTAH, WALT SNOVER, STATE DIRECTOR

■ This has been a frustrating year in regards to making any progress with JEA membership in Utah. We have a total of seven other members in addition to me and I have not received any updates to indicate that this number has changed since that time.

■ I have had two mailings to the group. One went out last fall and was essentially an information gathering letter asking what the state would like to do to build JEA membership. Unfortunately, I received only three replies and they were conversations with three Herff Jones customers in the state. I will try to make one more contact with Utah members prior to Phoenix to see if we can

get together at the convention. At this point, I can only look to improve the numbers again next fall. I would like to set up an October get together and discuss what can be done to help improve the situation in the state. In September I will send out one mailing to all high schools in the state to try and receive input regarding the future of JEA in the state.

■ We did receive one entry in the Journalist of the Year competition which I forwarded in March.

ARIZONA, CARMEN WENDT (CJE), STATE DIRECTOR

■ The AIPA fall convention was in October at Arizona State University. The theme of the conference was "Youth Has Its Day" and many of the sessions were taught by students. From the teaching and learning, students felt they had gained good information and experience from the sessions which prompted several to apply to teach at the national JEA/NSPA convention this April in Phoenix. The keynoter was Laura Plachecki, editor of the Arizona Republic's Alt Page, a page devoted to youth news written by teens. She spoke on the changing face of journalism and the new opportunities in the field. The conference was attended by 761 students from 49 schools around the state. AIPA, as of the fall convention, had 117 member publications.

■ AIPA is the host organization for the April JEA/NSPA Convention in Phoenix. About 30 advisers are working on the local committee. Planning has included pre-convention tours, on-site critiques, break with a pro, door prizes, Write-off contests, minority scholarships, hosts for the adviser and student hospitality areas, visitor's booklet, curriculum exchange, swap shops, issue seminars, airport greeters, and give aways. Working under the expertise of the national committee, the local committee feels we are in for a successful spring convention. Even the weather looks to be a hit.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA, DWIGHT BUSTROM, STATE DIRECTOR

■ Cerritos College will host the Southern California Journalism Education Association Write-off Contest May 10. Cerritos is one of the most ethnically diverse community colleges in the nation.

■ San Diego County President Andi Henderson will receive the JEA Medal of Merit for her substantial contributions to scholastic journalism. She has been adviser to the *Falconer* at Torrey Pines High School in Encinitas for 20 years and advised the yearbook for three years early in her career. Her students consistently claim state and national awards. She was the local committee chairperson for the 1995 JEA/NSPA San Diego convention.

■ Ruth Bartz, adviser to the *Forge* at Santa Barbara High School since 1985, was named Special Recognition Adviser by the Dow Jones Newspaper Fund. She put awards together for the Makin' Waves competition last November at the Anaheim Marriott and was a key planner during board meetings.

■ **Multicultural
Commission,
Willie Wooten
(CJE), chairman**

■ **Scholastic
Press Rights
Commission
Report. John
Bowen (MJE),
chair**

■ About 1,300 delegates attended the Makin' Waves state convention in Anaheim. The feedback was positive for using a keynoter who was a former student who had attended SCJEA events. Michele Mitchell gave insights into how to get where you want to go in the media world.



■ Four advisers have been named as Outreach participants for the Phoenix convention. Those who will be attending Phoenix are Carolyn Jones Howard, Duke Ellington High School, Washington, D.C.; Sherrie Marshall, Boyd Anderson High School, Lauderhill, Fla.; Cathy Ikeda, Hilo High School, Hilo, Hawaii; and Blanche Sugimoto, Kauai High School, Kapaa, Hawaii.

Mentors for the group are Diane Honda, Norma Kneese, Earlene Hollinger and Julie Dodd.

A reception is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 16 in SUite 326 for board members to meet and greet the Outreach participants.

Brochures with the Outreach application will be available at the Phoenix convention and will be stuffed in adviser bags. Brochures will also be mailed to all state directors.

■ The Multicultural Commission would like the board to fund the outreach chair to conventions.

■ Following the Phoenix convention four new ad hoc members will assume responsibility with the board. Jean Ordenez, Niles North High School, Skokie, Ill.; Louisa Caucia, Columbus Middle School, Canoga Park, Calif.; Coy Henderson, McClain High School, Lexington, Miss.; Joe Nations, Fort Gibson High School, Fort Gibson, Okla.

■ The Multicultural Commission Booth will be set up with support materials from Jostens Printing and Publishing. With this inclusion, all yearbook companies have helped support the commission.



■ Members of this commission are Ruth Bartz, Merle Dieleman, Tom Eveslage, Tony Gomez, Janet McKinney, Sarah Ortman, John Tagliareni and Fern Valentine.

■ Since the completion of the commission's *C:JET* issue, members have been exploring other projects as well as answering questions and providing assistance to those seeking it.

■ Advisers and students who have seen JEA's adviser Code of Ethics at several workshops reacted positively. In at least one case, an adviser changed her stance on administration involvement and responsibility after discussions on the code.

■ The commission responded to a censorship situation in Maryland by writing a letter urging the board there not to institute prior review and restraint in a broadcast program. No outcome of the efforts has been reported.

■ Commission members have worked with numerous students around the country answering questions about censorship. One instance involved a student who wanted to report a story about pornography on the internet by students at his school. Police had arrested several teens and confiscated a computer in part of what they called a national network of teen pornography. The student reporter was looking for the best way to cover the story and interview the police.

■ The commission will be looking to expand membership after the Phoenix convention in order to carry out more projects. Ideas under consideration are:

- Moving the commission's web page to a new location so it can be updated on a regular basis by commission chair and members.
- Providing and developing new materials, including lesson plans and exercises, to better serve advisers and students.
- Exploring implications, including legal and ethical issues of the new media and its use by students and advisers.
- Investigating school internet use policies to help ensure that schools do not block out legitimate sites in their rush to be politically correct about teen web usage.
- Working toward internet linkage of scholastic journalism programs in the sharing of ideas, sources and research, as well as legal and ethical support.
- Investigating the possibilities of encouraging state journalism groups, including JEA state directors, to pursue the implementation of model SPLC state legislation in each of the 44 states not having state legislation protecting student free expression. We are gathering samples of existing and proposed state laws to see if any one model is more workable or effective than others. We will also be looking at the strengths and weaknesses of codes already ratified by states.
- Urging all state directors and all those who are members of scholastic journalism groups to financially support the Student Press Law Center. As that organization approaches its 25th anniversary, the need for its work is not diminishing, but increasing. The SPLC serves students and advisers across the nation and deserves our financial support.

We welcome other proposals. Those proposals should be forwarded to any commission member.

■ John Tagliareni reports he will be speaking at his county newspaper, *The Record* in May. The program will include advisers and students, and John will work the news editor who is the student press liaison. He will identify school newspapers t "on the bubble" for various reasons or lack support due to censorship. John says he may enlist the NJ Press Women for help.

■ Tony Gomez reports that Eddie Rios, an Arizona state representative, is pushing a bill to eliminate censorship and prior review. Gomez has contacted other representatives to gain their support for the bill.

■ **Scholarship
Committee Re-
port, Diane
Honda (CJE),
chair**

■ **Publicatons
Committee Re-
port, Connie
Fulkerson, chair**

■ All three scholarship award winners fulfilled the requirements and were paid their money by Sister Rita Jeanne. Between national headquarters and myself, we have filled approximately 80 requests for scholarship information. Apparently we are on some sort of national scholarship list, as I get the same form letter from a number of students. I will be working in Phoenix with state directors by discussing uniform deadline dates for state contests. I will also be asking them to let me know who runs their state contest so that I can compile an accurate list for JEA headquarters.



■ Since the last convention, the publications chair has been busy with a number of publication-related activities--assisting with copy preparation, copy editing and production for two C:JETs, two NewsWires, JEA Membership Directory, election materials, and the Phoenix convention registration and program booklets.

■ A major project for the directory was updating the scholastic and professional press associations/resource lists to include current information and adding e-mail addresses and home page URLs. It's a work in progress, but there are many resources now available on the JEA home page. Jan Hensel and Mary Lu Foreman have been instrumental in helping update the JEA home page.

■ As a member of the Publications Review Committee, Fulkerson contributed to the JEA Headquarters activity calendar, which lists the duties of each Headquarters staff member and where C:JET and NewsWire production should fall in order to meet distribution schedules and not conflict with convention preparation or other major projects. She also offered comments and suggestions on the survey Julie Dodd and Judy Robinson mailed from Florida.

■ The Chicago convention bookstore did well, bringing in \$16,337.28 in two days.

■ For the first time, the convention bookstore will be open Thursday during registration hours, 3-9 p.m. Staff and student interns from JEA Headquarters will help set up and staff the bookstore while Fulkerson attends the board meeting.

■ Several items have been added to the bookstore this spring and will be available in Phoenix. JEA became the exclusive distributor for the multicultural curriculum guide, "The Full Palette Diversity Guide for High School Journalism," edited by Mary Arnold. "History Worth Repeating: A Chronology of School Yearbooks," edited by John Cutsinger and Mark Herron and written by Mary Saracino, was added as a new yearbook item.

■ Spring and summer will e spent gathering new items for the bookstore, deciding which items should be pulled and which should be revised. The catalog will be revised for print and recreated for the JEA Web Site so there is an easier way to find and order books. Contacts also will be made to get the JEA Bookstore linked to other journalism sites.

■ **CJET Report,**
Molly Clemons,
editor

■ **Write-Off Com-**
mittee Report,
Judy Babb,
Sharon Deibel,
and Sharon Gen-
try, co-chairs

■ The four issues of Communication: Journalism Education Today published during the 1996-97 school year have focused on scholastic press rights, photography, scholastic journalism research and JEA certification. Contributing editors were John Bowen and Jim Harmon in Ohio, Jane Peterson in Iowa and Susan Hathaway Tantillo in Illinois. The spring issue of research marked the fourth time the Association for Education in Journalism and Mass Communications collaborated with JEA in presenting a juried issue of current scholastic journalism studies. This issue has been published every two years.



■ The contest committee for Phoenix consists of: Linda Puntney, JEA executive director, hotel room arrangements; Linda Duncan, JEA headquarters, registration; Judy Babb, Sharon Deibel, and Sharon Gentry, national co-chairs; and Cathie Parks, Tucson, local write-off chair. A total of 34 contests will be offered in Phoenix.

■ Many changes are being made to the contest procedure. Judy Babb has redesigned the contest rule booklet and contest materials to give it an updated look. Sharon Deibel and her husband have created a computer program that will make the data control much easier and faster, generating all needed reports, tickets, and certificates. Sharon Gentry has been working with the moderators and updating the moderator and judge instructions. In Phoenix, the committee will present the pilot photography contests and video contests for discussion at the board meeting. Two laptop computers were purchased for use in Chicago by the contest committee. It was also decided in Chicago to do away with the printed program for the awards ceremony as not being cost or time effective.

■ Judy Babb and Susan Harvey, journalism teacher at Highland Park Middle School, spent several months on the new and improved write-off booklet and contests for Phoenix. The write-off booklet was rewritten and redesigned to save both paper and numbers of pages that will have to be sent to those entering the contest. We found much of the information repetitive and were able to hone it down to about one-third its previous size.

■ All the contests for Phoenix were edited and re-written as necessary and redesigned to have a similar appearance. None of the contests allow students to make up information for the story or captions or quotes. We plan to continue work on contests for future conventions this summer.

■ Susan Harvey is receiving graduate credit for her work with JEA and will also be working the write-offs at the Phoenix convention.

■ **Secretary/
NewsWire Editor
Report, Carol
Lange, CJE**

■ During the two years I have been secretary, I have provided minutes from the board and business meetings at the fall and spring conventions.

■ Ten years ago, *NewsWire* was never more than eight pages, many of which were filled with application forms and listings of Write-off contest winners. Forms and the ever-expanding lists of write-off winners continues to fill six to nine pages of each issue, but the issues now range from 12 to 32 pages. Every issue has had a Headquarters Report from Linda Puntney, Bookstore update from Connie Fulkerson and calendar of dates to remember. Since January 1996, a president's message from Candace Perkins Bowen kept you in touch with board action and direction. The back page was saved for commentary from individuals who might give us perspective on journalism education. Steve Youngblood (Kansas City, KS) eagerly began a broadcast column, Chip Beck (Arlington, VA) provided a three-part series on photography. Rob Melton (Portland, OR) could be counted on to supply a regional report and an abundance of information on desktop publishing tips. When I was determined that the JEA-award winners would get more than a paragraph or modified press release, individual winners and their nominees stepped forward to provide copy with content. In particular, Cheryl Pell (East Lansing, MI) did extensive work on the article for Carl Towley Award-winner Kenson Siver. When we were to honor a deceased member, Ron Clemons wrote a heart-felt memorial to Virginia Woodring. Always there has been at headquarters the support of Connie Fulkerson whose editing skill and willingness to research the dates and names are much to be admired. To these who are named and to those whose bylines have appeared in the last eight issues of *NewsWire*, I say thank you for adding another deadline to your busy schedules and for helping me to meet my goal that *NewsWire* would provide JEA members the information they needed immediately, the possibilities for professional growth and a perspective on the discipline they have chosen for their career from others who have shared its dilemmas and delights.



■ **Certification
Commission re-
port, Susan
Hathaway
Tantillo (MJE),
chair**

■ As of the close of the Chicago Convention last fall, we had recognized a total of 440 CJE and 71 MJE from 41 states, the District of Columbia, and two other nations--Germany and Bangladesh. In Phoenix, we will continue to honor new CJE and MJE at Saturday's luncheon along with CJE and MJE renewals.

■ Both CJE and MJE tests will be given as usual from 3:30 to 6 p.m. on Friday at this convention. In addition, the Commission sponsors two sessions at this convention: An informational session about Certification which has been popular at recent conventions, scheduled for noon, Friday in Borein B at the Hyatt, and its usual Commission meeting on Saturday morning at 7:30 a.m. in the Board Room at the Hyatt. In addition, Commission members and Regional Directors will promote Certification at Regional, State Director, and Business meetings.

■ The Commission conducted an extremely productive 1-1/2 day workshop revising old test questions and writing new ones in Indianapolis in January. Although time was too short for the new test-generation system to be used for this convention, it will debut in St. Louis. Test questions will be entered into a bank from which different tests can be generated for each convention. Previously we

■ **Development/
Curriculum
Commission
report, Jack
Kennedy (MJE),
chair**

■ **Scholastic
Press Associa-
tions, Julie Dodd
(MJE),
liaison**

had a fixed number of test versions to choose among. The new system allows for an infinite number of different versions of both CJE and MJE tests.

■ The Summer 1997 issue of *C:JET*, coordinated by the Certification chair, will be devoted to Certification and will include responses to a survey of CJE and MJE along with sample projects.

■ The Commission welcomes two new members at this convention: Linda Puntney, Kansas, and Bart Asato, Hawaii. They replace Jack Dvorak, Indiana, and Fern Valentine, Washington, whose terms on the Commission expire with this convention. Other Commission members are Julie Dodd, Florida; Pat Graff, New Mexico; H. L. Hall, Missouri; Carla Harris, Oregon; Gloria Olman, Michigan; Kay Phillips, North Carolina. All Certification Commission members must be MJE. All Commission members may be called upon to administer Certification tests at times other than national conventions. For more information, contact JEA Headquarters or the Commission chair.



■ After two years of the national High School Yearbook Adviser of the Year program, and two terrific winners, the commission has turned over all program operations to JEA headquarters. A tiny bit of tinkering with the program continues, but by and large it is running well and fulfilling its twin goals of recognizing our finest advisers and bringing deserved attention to yearbook journalism.

■ The chair continues to appreciate City High students volunteering to do research for the Issue Seminar background packets. The Phoenix convention will mark the introduction of the first compilation of coverage that grows out of seminar participation. Eventually, an awards program might even be funded by JEA.

■ The board gave permission in Chicago to make Curriculum Guides available through the JEA web site to anyone with web access. The hope is that as each guide is updated, it can be posted electronically. The likely format is Adobe PDF, which is much easier to produce with the newest version of PageMaker. Adobe encourages individuals to download Acrobat Reader free of charge. Making these guides available will cost JEA little in income, and can bring much good will (not to mention the added benefit of making the latest journalism curriculum available in the world).



■ The scholastic press association directors group met for a two-hour roundtable at the Chicago convention, bringing together press association directors and advisers who serve on association boards. We welcomed three new directors: Gary Lundgren, Arkansas High School Press Association (University of Arkansas); Deborah Hinrich, Georgia Scholastic Press Association (University of Chicago); and Tracie Mauriello, Journalism Association of Ohio Schools (Ohio State University).

■ **Headquarters
Report, Linda
Puntney
(MJE),
Executive
Director**

■ The state press association organization is being reestablished after dissolving in the early 1980s when the University of Kentucky discontinued sponsorship. The home office of KHSPA is with the Kentucky Press Association in Frankfort. Lisa Carnahan, the news bureau director is KHSPA director. Carnahan is working with advisers, KPA members, representatives from state universities, and representatives from the Kentucky Department of Education to develop bylaws and a program for the organization. KHSPA activities will begin this summer with a two-day adviser workshop at the University of Kentucky. Plans for next year include four regional workshops and a state convention.

■ The Northwest Scholastic Press Association is looking at proposals from state universities to provide a headquarters and/or to provide more services from journalism advisers in the state. NWSP lost its headquarters in 1992 when the Oregon legislature eliminated Oregon State's journalism department which sponsored NWSP. Carla Harris, NWSP director, is working on a survey of state advisers to collect information about block scheduling, course offerings in journalism, publication funding, textbooks, technology use, and the advisers' background in journalism. The survey is funded in part by Oregon Newspaper Publishers Association, with additional support from OJEA and NWSP. Results from this study will be compared to a similar study conducted in 1990. OJEA recently published the third edition on its stylebook, including Internet usage. The book is available in the JEA Bookstore.

■ The board of the Pennsylvania Scholastic Press Association held a two-day meeting in February to discuss PSPA concerns. A major concern is finding a headquarters for the association and an executive director. PSPA holds activities on university campuses but has no home base.



■ It has been an especially busy and sometimes frustrating time since November. We seem to be running behind on a number of projects including *C:JET*, *NewsWire*, Scholastic Journalism Week and the *Directory*. Because deadlines for these projects have been missed on virtually all levels, we simply were not able to complete the tasks before we entered the convention preparation period. I have included a copy of the headquarters calendar we prepared for use by the Publications Committee to illustrate how we fell behind. When one deadline is missed, by headquarters staff or by anyone providing material to us, it seems to have a snowball effect on us. The calendar is a partial list of activities and responsibilities.

■ The executive director worked with Jan Hensel and Mary Lu Foreman in January to update the web page. Jan now has access to the page and can update from her school which has improved the page significantly. The design and content is more user friendly and more efficient.

■ The executive director was a member of the search committee for the new director of the A.Q. Miller School of Journalism and Mass Communications. The

School has hired Todd Simon from Michigan State University. Simon is a strong supporter of scholastic journalism and an expert in communications law. He is anxious to work with JEA and to meet the board this summer in Manhattan and at the St. Louis convention.

■ In addition to the normal activities of the organization which Headquarters handles, the staff prepared the election materials and oversaw the election of new officers, helped revise the Write-off contests provided by the Write-off committee, and replaced the office manager's computer to accommodate the new Write-off programs and increased financial and membership records.

■ Membership again shows an increase over last spring. Please refer to the membership map which is included.

■ Since November the executive director attended the College Media Advisers national convention in Orlando and in New York where she represented JEA as the liaison to the group. She also attended the winter meeting of AEJMC Secondary Division in Indianapolis and met with the JEA Certification Commission, she serves on a task force for Association of Administrators of Journalism and Mass Communications and has co-authored a grant to study ways college and high school journalism programs can work together. She has traveled to Seattle with Tom Rolnicki, Tom Keekley and Ken Siver to work with the local committee on the 1998 Spring Convention, to Phoenix to work with the local committee, to San Diego for site inspections for future conventions.