Pocahontas High School

Smoke Signal

VOL. 18, NO. 3 SMOKE SIGNAL NOVEMBER 1990

Kerri Wurtz, Martha Ellen King, and Ivy Tyler plan their trip to Washington, D.C.

Century III Leaders Named

This year, Martha Ellen King is the Century III Leader contest winner. She is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim King. Fist runner-up was Kerri Wurtz, and Ivy Tyler was second runner-up.

To enter this contest, the three girls and other applicants filled out an application, wrote a paper on a problem that America will face in its third century, and took a current events test. They were judged on the strengths of these three things, plus their grade point average.

The three girls will enjoy a trip to Washington, D.C. to the Presidential Classroom, where they will be able to visit places like the Smithsonian and will listen to several well-known politicians during the week of February 9-16.

Martha Ellen's paper, entitled "Victims of Cocaine: the Adults of Tomorrow, the Children of Today," will go to the state level to be judged. Ten papers will be chosen and then the ten finalists will be interviewed. Two winners, a boy and a girl, will get to go to Williamsburg with state winners from all over the nation.

After high school, Martha Ellen will attend the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. She plans to major in pre-med.

First runner-up Kerri Wurtz is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Ron Wurtz. Kerri's topic was health and fitness in children.

She was excited and shocked to hear that she had placed and is looking forward to February.

Kerri plans to go to UCA at Conway next year and major in accounting.

Ivy Tyler, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Tyler, was the 1990 Century III second runner-up.

Ivy can hardy wait to attend the Presidential Classroom. The topic of her paper was poverty.

Ivy is not sure where she will go to college, but she will major in English or international studies.

The three girls cite the program as a good experience and are thrilled to have won.

Lady Redskins Open Season

By Melanie Ennis

The Pocahontas Senior High Girls Basketball team is gearing up for the start of a new season. Coach Alan Bennett and the girls have high hopes this year. Their goals are to win the district and state championships.

There are three returning starters this year, which is an advantage for the Lady Redskins. The team is made up of six seniors, six juniors, and ten sophomores. Coach Bennett says one disadvantage of the team this year is height. "We don't have a tall team, so the girls are going to have to be aggressive," he said. Coach also states the competition is going to be tough this year; Highland, Hoxie, and Cave City are in our conference and are good teams. However, our young ladies are ready and eager for the season to begin.

Coach Bennett would like for everyone to come out and support the team. Good luck, Lady Redskins!!!!!!

Short Story Contest

This month, the Smoke Signal is sponsoring a short story contest. Students who wish to enter may submit a story no longer than 5 pages in Ms. Harris' room. The story must have a title and must be signed. A prize will be given to the winner.

Get those pens started and let's see some talent!

Our Last Look...

As we look down these halls for the last few times
There are so many memories that fill our minds.
All the times of the years gone by —
The laughter and the smiles,
And even the tears that some cried.
It's hard to believe it's almost the end —
Time to say good-bye to everyone; enemy and friend.
It's time to remember the good times we've had,
And smile when we think of all the bad.
Even the worst of times helped us grow.
We've finally made it — Now it's time to let go.
Before we all part
We'll reminisce about the past.
We'll wish we could go back
Because we now realize the time went too fast.
As we take one last look,
And as we say our last good-bye,
We realize a part of everyone of us
Will always remain at Pocahontas High.

— Kathy Liebhaber
Class of 1991

David Stalvey receives $10 in art supplies for his winning picture.

Desert Shield Families' Opinions Differ

By Rodney Harris

It is hard to believe that here at PHS students are affected by events halfway across the world.

Several people in Pocahontas have relatives in Saudi Arabia where the danger signs of war continue. Feelings about the military action are mixed.

Parents who have children in Saudi Arabia share a sense of pride. They are old enough to realize that the good life at home is sometimes dependent on the willingness of fighting men to go overseas.

Teenagers have different feelings about the whole problem. Some teenage boys want a war so they can go to fight. Others wish that it would just end. Young girls fear a war because it could take their fathers, brothers, and boyfriends away from them.

Adults have vastly different opinions about what should be done to settle the crisis in the Middle East. Mothers feel that no principle or piece of land is worth fighting for when their sons' lives may be in danger. They wish that the whole thing would end soon so their children will not have to go to war.

Fathers see things a little differently. Fathers feel that since the United States has committed itself in the defense of Kuwait, we must follow through with stopping the dictator. The father of a local soldier says, "Had I been in charge, we would not have waited this long for military action."

Families are troubled to see that the President and Congress have to play politics while the young men are waiting to fight.

1990-91 SMOKE SIGNAL STAFF

Sponsor ..... Janet Harris
Editor ..... Jennifer Howard
Assistant Editors ..... Shannon Martin
Karen Newberry
Feature Editor ..... Lisa Turner
Sports Editor ..... Chris Griffin
Exchange Editor ..... Kristi Thompson
Photographers ..... Denny Bubrig
Lisa Turner
Staff ..... Tara Wren
Todd Burnside
Karen Powers
Rodney Harris
Melanie Ennis
Ryan Cooper
Brady Morris

Mrs. Hatch previews Channel One.

Channel One Is Success

By Jennifer Howard

What is the most visible addition here at PHS? It flickers into our classrooms for 12 minutes a day and informs us about world news and events. It is Channel One.

Channel One is a program produced by Whittle Communications, a media giant out of Tennessee. Whittle Communications is not totally new to PHS; it also sponsors the Connections posters which have been in our halls the past two years.

For PHS to receive Channel One, Whittle donated approximately $50,000 of equipment including 23 televisions, a satellite dish, and a central control unit. In return for this service, Whittle Communications broadcasts 2 minutes of commercials during each 12-minute newscast.

The new equipment has been a great benefit to the school and has greatly improved its capabilities. The costly hardware has made it possible for the school to have closed circuit T.V. announcements, like that of Homecoming, makes available more money for VCR's, and saves the library from having to take televisions to classrooms.

School librarians Lin Hatch, who had gone before the school board to speak on behalf of getting Channel One, is thrilled with the decision to accept it. She is excited about the new opportunities available and speculates about the future possibilities of using the equipment to televise school announcements or maybe standardized test instructions.

The main point of debate about getting Channel One had been the fact that commercials are thrown in with the news programs. Many people were concerned about the commercialization of our schools, but Mrs. Hatch feels that the benefits outweighed the problems. She stated, "Some of the students here are old enough to vote. They had better be able to make their own decisions about advertising."

After three months of viewing it, students have their own opinions of Channel One. Some say that it benefits them, like Jeff Overstreet who says, "I like it because I wouldn't watch the news any other time." Most generally like it; Shawn Van Camp calls it "interesting," and Clinton Bennett brands it "pretty good." The students generally disdain the concerns about commercialism. They think the worries are pointless; they see the commercials at home anyway and can make their own decisions about buying products.

Overall, Channel One has definitely made an impact at PHS. It is a change for the better.

THANKSGIVING PUZZLER

FOOD
TURKEY
CRANBERRY SAUCE
DRESSING
PUMPKIN PIE
TOGETHER
ROLLS
STUFFING
GOBBLE
INDIANS
PILGRIM
FOOTBALL
FALL
FEAST
THANKSGIVING
LEAVES

E	C	U	A	S	Y	R	R	E	B	A	R	C	C	C
C	M	L	E	A	V	E	S	T	U	F	I	N	G	A
H	E	T	O	G	E	T	H	E	R	O	C	M	L	L
R	L	L	H	L	L	T	I	M	F	O	T	B	A	L
I	I	O	B	A	A	A	B	D	A	T	Y	O	E	S
S	O	I	F	C	N	C	D	D	L	B	D	M	I	T
F	O	O	T	U	R	K	E	Y	L	A	D	D	P	E
Q	O	Z	Z	H	I	L	S	T	K	L	I	R	N	R
R	Q	O	P	X	L	S	S	G	I	L	N	E	I	H
S	F	N	D	A	J	E	N	S	I	E	D	S	K	E
L	M	M	T	S	H	E	I	L	A	L	I	S	P	N
L	F	O	N	G	O	B	B	L	E	I	A	I	U	H
L	P	I	L	G	R	I	M	O	Q	E	N	N	M	O
F	E	A	S	T	P	H	S	R	A	Z	S	G	P	I

Chester Is Chosen

By Ryan Cooper

Chad Chester, a senior at Pocahontas High School, is the recipient of the Oaklawn Jockey Club Scholarship. This scholarship of $425 is awarded to only five Future Farmers of America students statewide. It is based on past livestock records and is presented at the Arkansas State Fair at Little Rock.

Chad is an active member of FFA; in his junior year, he held the office of vice-president and this year holds the position of president. Chad has been a Star Greenhand and Star Chapter Farmer in the Pocahontas FFA chapter. He is also a member of the FFA livestock judging team.

Although Chad is undecided on the college he wants to attend, he plans to major in animal science. In addition to FFA, he is active in football and is a member of the Key Club.

From the Editor

There has been some recent concern in the community about school spirit at P.H.S. Much of it was unfounded, such as the worry about the addition of black to the football team's and cheerleaders' uniforms breaking our tradition of red and white. Also, some think that students don't have enough sense of school pride because of the fact that students often can't be heard singing the Alma Mater at football games. This is in general a wrong impression; P.H.S. students at large have a strong sense of school identity. However, the talk has struck a nerve.

It may be too late for football season, but basketball is just beginning, so come on and show a little spirit!

Skins End Season

By Karen Newberry

The Pocahontas Redskins finished as district 2AA champions of the 1990 football season. The last game of the regular season ended with mixed emotions as the 'Skins lost their first conference game since 1987 to the Highland Rebels. The Highland win made them the co-champions with Pocahontas in the 2AA district. Although the Redskins lost the state play-off qualifying game, they secured a wildcard spot which left the 'Skins to face the McGeehee Owls.

This is the third year in a row that Pocahontas has been the district champions, but this is the first year that they have shared the title. The 'Skins ended the regular season with an 8-2 overall record. They were led in to play by 13 senior team members. Having such a strong group of senior players as the foundation of the team played a major part in the successful season.

November 9th, the Redskins gave it their all in the state play-off game against the Owls, but they were defeated by the McGeehee team 41-0.

As the season ends, the students here express a feeling of regret at the close of the Redskins' successful year.

PRIDE Goes to State

The Pocahontas PRIDE team recently performed in Little Rock with six other teams from across the state for the 1990 State Counselor's Meeting at the Camelot Hotel.

James Fewins, a senior, is the winner of the Smoke Signal poetry contest, with a poem entitled "Love."

Love

What is love?
Love is something that comes
from the heart.
Some people say
They feel real love.
But indeed they feel passion
and want, because of the way
the person might look.
I think love should
come from the heart,
and not from the pants.
If people would quit saying,
"I love you,"
Which they don't mean
— They are just trying to make the
other person feel like
they are wanted —
Then nobody would get
depressed after a relationship
is over.
And do stupid things.

— James Fewins

DUE SOUTH Tours From Arkansas Rep

On December 11, students from PHS will host Arkansas Repertory Theatre's educational touring production, DUE SOUTH, a 50-minute collage of scenes and material from southern literature. The tour, called The Collage Tour 1990-91, is underwritten by the Arkansas Arts Council, an agency of the department of Arkansas Heritage, the National Endowment for the Arts, and Metropolitan Life Foundation. Locally, the tour is sponsored by PHS Speech Club. Admission for the 8:30 a.m. performance is $1 per student.

According to Brad Mooy, the creator of DUE SOUTH: "Capturing the whole South is impossible, but I think I have molded a piece which explains just why this area is unique and allows the audience the opportunity to experience multiple emotions while still being entertained."

DUE SOUTH highlights a shared southern experience through its focus on southern comedy, drama, music and poetry. Scenes and material are taken from the small-town comedy GREATER TUNA, by Jaston Williams, Joe Sears and Ed Howard; Huckleberry Finn, by Mark Twain; Zora Neal Hurston's Their Eyes Were Watching God; To Kill A Mockingbird, the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by Harper Lee; Tennessee Williams' A STREETCAR NAMED DESIRE; and the Arkansas native Maya Angelou's I Know Why The Caged Bird Sings.

Rose and Thielemier Attend AEGIS

By Kristi L. Thompson

July 8-21, P.H.S. students Kelly Rose and Haley Thielemier attended Futuristics - The Year 2010. The program, part of the A.E.G.I.S. series, was held at the University of Central Arkansas. The program involved three main parts: global studies, problem solving, and futurology.

The global studies portion involved a look at social conflicts, social issues, conflict resolutions, and environmental issues. Through the problem-solving part of the program, students learned to think things through. Another aspect of the program, futurology, taught the students to "see things in a different light," according to John Antonetti, director of the program.

The 40 ninth through eleventh grade students were involved in a variety of activities. Among these were a trip to the Ferndale 4-H Center. At the center, the students engaged in the "Excel" Program Leadership Training. There was also a talent competition in which both Rose and Thielemier participated.

According to Kelly and Haley, Futuristics was a lot of fun and gave them some of the best weeks of their lives.

What Thanksgiving Means

By Todd Burnside

It's November again. It's that time when we all get dressed in our best clothes, sit down, and start gorging ourselves. At least that is how some people think of this holiday known as Thanksgiving.

What do people here on the PHS campus think of Thanksgiving? Most people, such as Bridget Crisp, Sheila James, and Susan Towell, think that the day is set aside to be with your family and remember the things that God has given us.

On the other side of the coin are such people as Melinda Major, Sheila Golden, and Jason Murphy. They think of one thing: FOOD. In the words of Principal Jerry Malone, "I visit relatives and EAT." Lawana Neece fits into this category too. When asked what she thinks of when she hears Thanksgiving, Lawana's reply was, "Sinful salad!"

Others have differing opinions about the holiday. Julie Belles usually works that day, and Scott Sparks goes hunting. Ty Howard's family puts up a Christmas tree.

In elementary school we were taught that Thanksgiving is a day to give thanks for our blessings, but by the time we reach high school we know that it really is a time to give thanks for a two-day vacation from school.

Student Talent Spotlight

By Lisa M. Turner

A familiar face in the halls of PHS is that of Amy Ogden, the talented daughter of Jerry and Billie Ogden. Known to fans as Amy O., she has been signing professionally since the age of 13.

Amy's first encounter with a stage and microphone came at the age of 11. Since then, the PHS junior has worked hard, and her long hours are beginning to pay off.

In 1988, Amy recorded a 45 rpm record of two original songs, with the country group Sawyer Brown as her musicians and producers. The record was distributed to country radio stations across the area. The record received good response and limited airplay from the stations.

She has won several talent contests around the area and can occasionally be found singing in local benefit shows, concerts, fairs, and other gatherings.

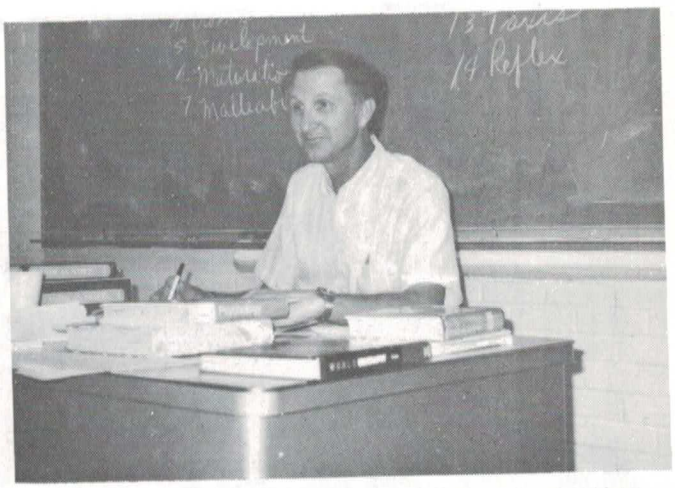
About a year ago, Amy traveled to Kentucky for a recording session, where she recorded more songs. This time with the rock-turned-country band Exile.

Record companies aren't as quick to give record deals to young country artists, unlike rock music, where the record companies are full of entertainers in their teens.

With a lot of support from family and friends, there is no doubt that the young vocalist is headed for the top.

This is the first in a series of feature spotlights on talented PHS students.

PHS celebrity Amy Ogden.



Mr. Fears is the new face in R 12.

New Face In Room 12

There's a new face in Room 12. After teaching 14 years at Maynard, Mr. Gerald Fears is teaching at PHS. He is a graduate of Arkansas State University and has been a minister on-and-off for the past 7 years.

Mr. Feats teaches world geography, American history, and psychology. His favorite subject is psychology.

Mr. Fears and his wife have three children: Jon, 20; Karen, 17; and Gerry, 13. Karen and Gerry are students in the Pocahontas School System.

When he was only in the 9th grade, Mr. Fears decided he wanted to go into the teaching profession. He did not teach last year, but he came back to the profession because he mssed being around young people. Mr. Fears thinks Pocahontas has a good school system.

Shawn VanCamp Named Diabetic of the Year

By Brady Morris

Shawn VanCamp, a junior at PHS, was recently named "Diabetic of the Year" by the NEA Diabetes Chapter. This award is sponsored by St. Bernard's Regional Medical Center and is given to an outstanding diabetic from Northeast Arkansas.

Shawn was nominated by his doctor, Warren Skaug, who has a lot of faith in Shawn and thinks that he is in good control of his diabetes.

As Diabetic of the Year, Shawn attended a seminar in Wyatt's Cafeteria on October 28 and talked to people with questions and interests in diabetes. He also addressed the public on the subject of diabetes on KASU radio on October 24. He shares the honor with Jamie Slaton of Jonesboro.

When asked how he felt about winning the title, Shawn replied, "It was a real honor. I never expected to get such an honor."

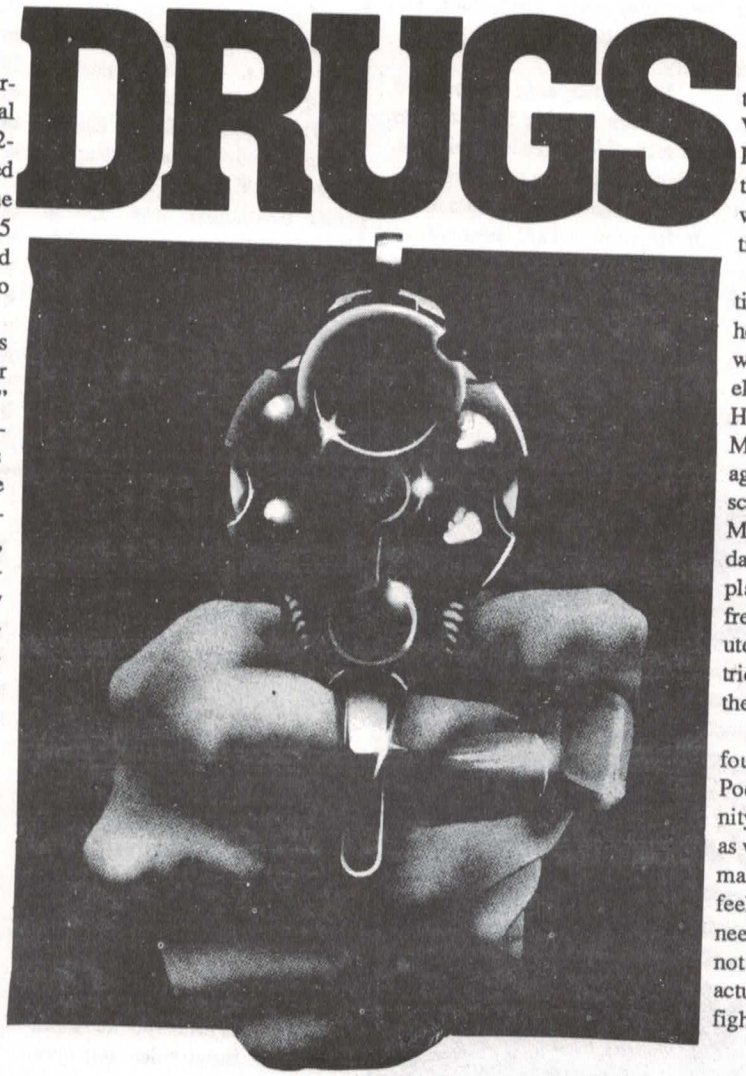
National Red Ribbon Week

By Tara Wren

Pocahontas High School participated in the annual National Red Ribbon Week October 22-28. Red Ribbon Week originated when Federal Agent Enrique Camarena was murdered in 1985 by drug traffickers. The Red Ribbon then became a symbol to cease the demand for drugs.

The campaign theme for this year was "Line up to sign up for America's Drug Free Decade" and was sponsored by the National Federation of Parents (NPA). It is the belief of the campaigners that with the involvement of the whole nation, the campaign will make a difference. Members of the community from local businesses, the transportation industry, law enforcement, education, churches, the media, government, and families are asked to take an active participation in this effort.

Pocahontas got involved with Red Ribbon Week through the Governor's Youth Conference, an annual event that is sponsored by Arkansas for Drug Free Youth, in which students and their advisors are trained in drug prevention activities and in setting up drug free programs in their community and schools. With this in mind, the Pocahontas High School participants decided that their community action plan would be to get involved in National Red Ribbon Week.



All Pocahontas schools participated in the effort. The Pocahontas Link/Pride team began the week with performances at the elementary school and also at Highland and Walnut Ridge Middle Schools to speak out against drugs. The elementary school held activities to celebrate McGruff, the crime dog's birthday, and the middle school displayed a sign pledging to be drug free. Red ribbons were distributed throughout the school district. This event was paid for by the GTE company.

Mrs. Sally Malone, the founder of Red Ribbon Week at Pocahontas, said, "The community involvement was not as high as we expected; that is one of our main goals for the future." She feels the people in the community need to volunteer and take action, not only to show support, but to actually make a physical effort in fighting the battle against drugs.

ARE JUST AS DEADLY

AS A LOADED GUN!

Don't Take Chances with Your Life!

Club Corner

FHA Attends Star Events

By Shannon Martin

Members of the Pocahontas FHA recently participated in the Star Events contest. Participants from different schools competed in such areas as Job Interviews and Illustrative Talks. The Illustrative Talk competition is an event in which the contestant stands and gives a speech that he or she has written. The participants are graded on the quality of the speech and the way it is given. The Job Interview competition consists of the participant dressing and acting as if he were going through a real job interview. Contestants are graded on the way they carry themselves, an swer questions, and their personality.

The participants are awarded with stars ranging from one to three in which three is the highest. Tracy Anderson, a ninth grader at P.H.S., received three stars in the Jr. Illustrative Talk competition. Leah Ubank received three stars in the Jr. division of the Job Interview. Shelly Davis, a junior, was awarded two stars on her Sr. Illustrative Talk on Sugar and Your Health. Also awarded two stars was Julie Grissom in the Sr. Job Interview.

Left to right - Leah Eubank, Julie Grissom, Tracey Anderson, and Shelly Davis.

The following officers have been elected for the 1990-91 school year:

Speech Club

President: Sierra Steele
Vice-President: Brock Bigger
Secretary: Shannon Smith
Treasurer: Kerri Wurtz
Reporter: Ty Howard

Senior Chorus

President: Lawana Neece
Vice-President: Misty Caldwell
Secretary/Reporter: Tina Akins

Band Wins At Contest

By Kristi Thompson

The P.H.S. Band has been very active this year. Besides marching in parades and at football games, they have participated in two contests.

The band attended the Ridgecrest Invitational and the Region Marching Contest. The Ridgecrest Invitational was held in Paragould on October 13. Schools from Mississippi, Tennessee, and Arkansas participated. The Pride received an excellent, or division II, rating at this contest. On October 22, the band traveled to Batesville for the Region Marching Contest. This contest included bands from throughout the region 8. Here, the overall band received a division III, the drum major received a division II, and the Rockin' Redskins dance team received a superior rating of 1.

For contest the band performed "Corrado" as an opening number. They followed this with the percussion feature, "Tequila." The Rockin' Redskins were featured in "42nd Street," and "Wind Beneath My Wings" was chosen as the closing song. Soloists this year were trumpets Kelly Rose and Marty Powers.

Library Regional Meeting

By Tara Wren

The high school Library Club attended the Regional Meeting of the Arkansas Library Association (ASLA) at the Hoxie Services Center on November 19. Pocahontas co-hosted the event with Hoxie. A portion of the meeting included a library quiz bowl, which is held annually at the event. Each school attending was allowed a five member team. These teams followed the Arkansas Quiz Bowl rules and competed in the three categories of entertainment, literature, and miscellaneous. Those representing Pocahontas in the quiz bowl were Brent Holt, Lance Olvey, Ryan Smith, Jenni Videll, and Mike Videll. Mrs. Hatch, the high school librarian, said, "Pocahontas is proud to have been instrumental in developing this program at the regional level. There are plans to expand the program to the state level at the state meeting in March."

Physics Club

The Physics Club donated a Thanksgiving dinner with all the fixings to four needy families in the area. This was a community service project for the club.

Fire Marshals

The Fire Marshals at Pocahontas High School attended a seminar at the Fire Training Center in Walnut Ridge on November 14th. They listened to speakers and watched a demonstration by the Walnut Ridge Fire Department.

Annual Staff

The Annual Staff is presently accepting orders, along with payments, for the 1991 Chieftain yearbook. Orders may be placed in Mrs. Durham's room.

Speech Club

The Speech Club participated in the Toastmasters Speech Contest on November 19.