



Smoke Signal

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Contest winner announced

By Kishan Amin

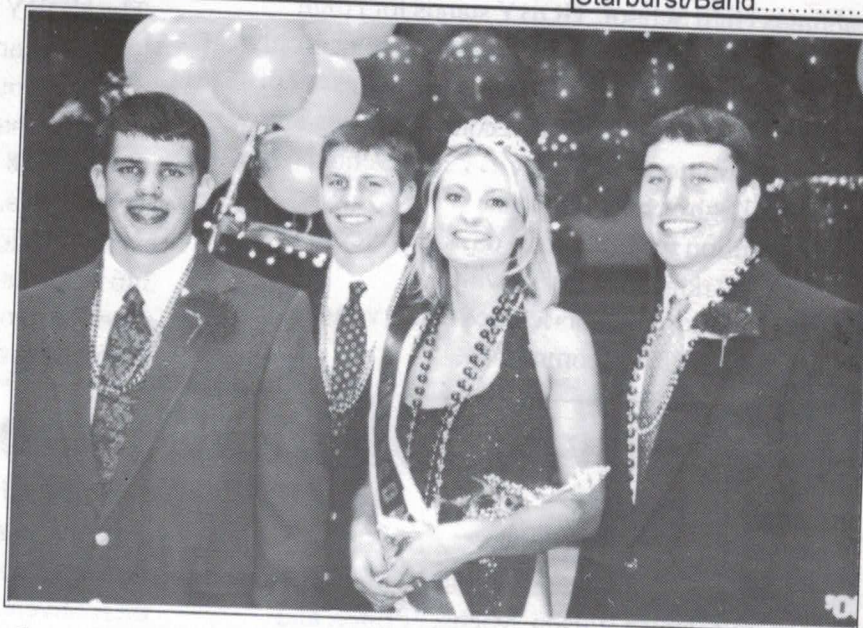
October is quality month for Waterloo Industries. Employees of Waterloo, Mark Clark, Michelle Teel, and Les Garlinghouse, came to Mrs. Crabbe's Advanced and AP English classes to discuss quality month and introduce an essay contest. The essay's topic was "What Effect Does Quality Have on My Life?" The prize was a \$100 gift certificate to Hastings.

Lydia Wingo wrote the winning essay. On October 27 during a pep rally Michelle Teel announced the winner. Ben Johnson and Danny Glassman were named honorable mention.

"I was very happy when I won," Wingo said. She used Internet sources, which led her to use the Quality Trilogy in her three-point theme.

Waterloo employees were looking for certain criteria in the essays. They wanted originality and signs of research. They wanted students to use more than the information that was presented by Waterloo associates in class. They also wanted students to use examples of what is meaningful in their own personal experiences. Waterloo wanted something pleasing to read and comprehend. Not only were students judged with these criteria; they were also to meet Mrs. Crabbe's requirements. Mrs. Crabbe gave a grade for the essay.

Quality month was developed by the African Society for Quality. Waterloo believes in quality as a continuous improvement in what they do. They wanted to encourage the academics with this essay contest.



Queen Brooke Smith with tri-captains Logan Eason (left), Mike Smith (center), and Jay Early (right).

Smith crowned Queen

By Megan Smith

At the 2000-2001 Homecoming Coronation on October 20, senior maid Brooke Smith was crowned Homecoming Queen.

Smith was very pleased to be selected.

"It is an honor to be chosen to represent my peers," she said.

Smith is very active at school. She is a representative in the PHS Student Council and is a member of various other clubs including Leo Club, Key Club, FCCLA, FCA/JAM, Beta Club, and FBLA.

Outside of school, she attends the Church of God and enjoys traveling,

spending time with her friends and family, and playing summer softball for fun.

After graduation she plans to attend Arkansas State University and UAMS to become a dental hygienist.

Smith thinks that PHS is a good school.

"Everyone knows everybody and gets along good. Having a small school helps everyone become better friends," she said.

This year's Homecoming Court also included senior maids Elizabeth Raglin, Brynne Scott, and Ashley Cook; junior maids Susan Harper, Lindsay Baltz, and Jamie Bergman; and sophomore maids Lindsey Bailey and Sarah Hicks.

Pennington participates in HOBY

By Lance Williams

HOBY is a program that has great interest in the eyes of Pocahontas High School. HOBY stands for Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership. It is a program that is only available to sophomores, and it tells them necessity of leaders while teaching them to become better leaders.

Lauren Pennington was the HOBY representative for Pocahontas High School last year.

The convention was held for 3 days in June at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville.

At the convention students learned about volunteering and being a leader in the community.

"HOBY taught me a lot about myself and what I need to do when it comes to be a leader and becoming a leader and it also gave me an opportunity to meet many new people from all over Arkansas," Pennington said.

The HOBY program began in 1958 when an actor, Hugh O'Brian, decided to make a contribution to society and chose youth leadership as the most promising enterprise that he could promote.

From 1958 to 1967, HOBY seminars were held just in Los Angeles. In 1968, HOBY grew into an international event. The leadership seminars started in 1977 with only 346 students participating. Now the program has excelled to over 14,500 sophomores, and extended the welcome to other countries.

FFA convention held in Louisville

By Kishan Amin

James Ashcraft, FFA sponsor, along with Lori Turner, Brad Ashcraft, James Wilson, Michael Prince, and Bradley Vanwinkle, attended the FFA National Convention in Louisville, KY, Oct. 24-28.

They left Tuesday, October 24th. They stayed at Central Park Bed and Breakfast where they received a homecooked breakfast every morning at 6 am. After breakfast they went to the Fair Expo Center for the convention. They went through many career shows and

motivational speeches. Many agriculturally related colleges and businesses were there to discuss career opportunities and scholarships. All 50 states and Puerto Rico attended this convention. About 50,000 attended.

The convention lasted from 9am-3pm everyday. The theme of the convention was "Discover the Power." After the convention students just relaxed and took the day off. Wednesday night they went to see the rodeo.

"Best convention I've ever been too," Brad Ashcraft said. "It was neat, something I'll remember for life," James Wilson said.



Y2K brings many changes

By Elizabeth Crisp

As the year 2000 comes to an end, one can't help but reflect on the year and what it has brought.

Y2K controversy began long before the year itself did. After months of anticipation and talk of computer crashes and black-outs, nothing horrible happened when midnight finally came.

Midnight, January 1, 2000 was a time when countries all over the world celebrated together. It was beautiful.

Visions of fireworks, light shows, and other forms of celebrations were broadcast on televisions from across the globe.

Fireworks ended up being a good symbol for the year to come. It was one full of many surprises and twists.

Even now, as the year is coming to a close we are experiencing something amazing in our

nation's governmental system.

In the long history of our nation, there has never been a time that the country has had to wait more than a couple of hours to find out who the winner of the presidential election was, and even after waiting the result was seldom a surprise.

Waiting as long as it has taken to find out the results of this year's election was considered obscure until now and it may never happen again.

Government has not been the only thing that has been shocking this year though. Many things seem to be evolving with the new millenium.

In the past year the power of the Internet has grown at an astonishing rate. Internet is now a way of life practically.

People can watch movies, watch television shows, watch live shows and concerts, listen to music, and talk their friends and

family all at their computers. What's next? The Internet religion?

There has been a lot of controversy this year over Napster, a web site notorious for providing free downloadable music without the consent of many of the artists featured there.

Also dealing with music, 2000 has been a year of extreme musical diversity. There is not one set type of music that is more popular than others, as there has been in years past, and the lines defining types of music have become almost nonexistent.

Country music singers are now pop. Rap is now hip-hop which is also pop. Some rock artists are now experimenting with rap/hip-hop while others are doing the new brand of popular rock that is like old rock, only not as edgy. Latin music is now pop too.

So what is pop? Pop is everything now. If it can be played on the radio and people will listen to it, then pop stations will play it.

In September of this year the 2000 Olympic Games were held in Sydney, Australia, but more people seemed to watch shows like "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?" than watched the Olympics.

It was definitely a year of changes, which can only make us wonder what other changes are to come in the future.

Smoke Signal Staff

The *Smoke Signal* is a member of the Arkansas Scholastic Press Association.

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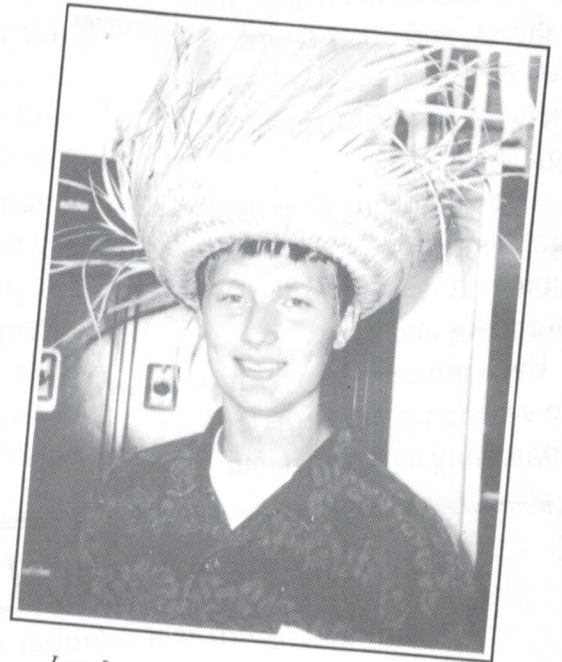
Homecoming 2000



The 2000 Homecoming Court



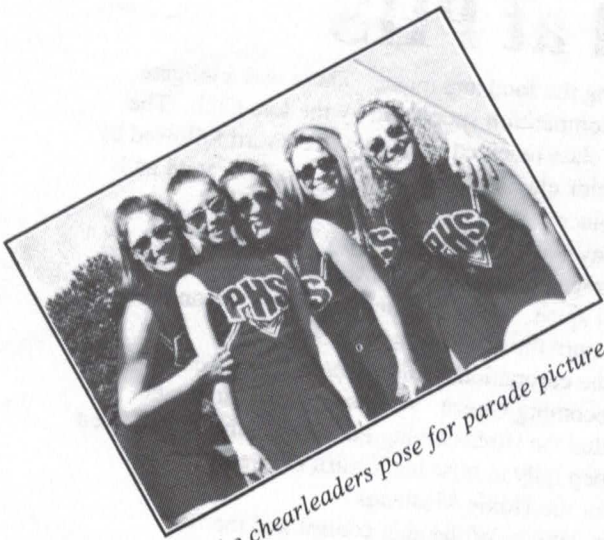
Students celebrate Mardi Gras mask day.



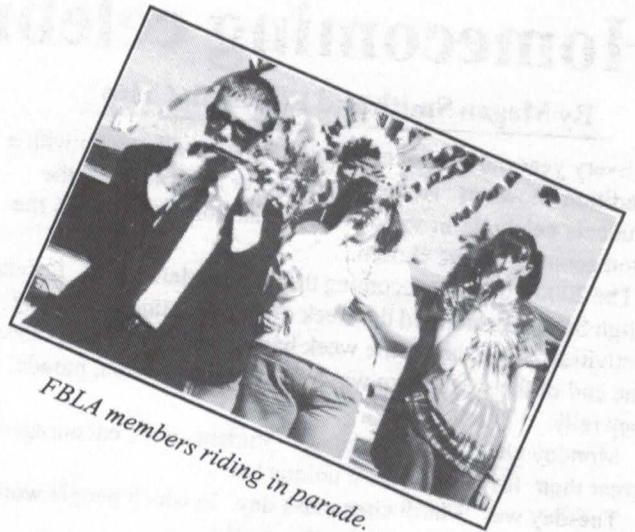
Lee Jacobson celebrates hat day.



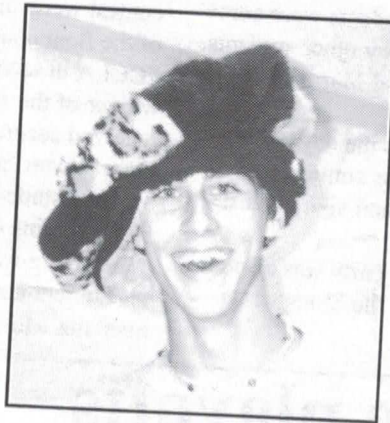
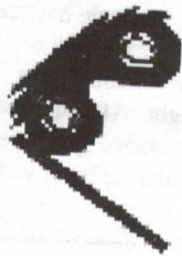
Mardi Gras



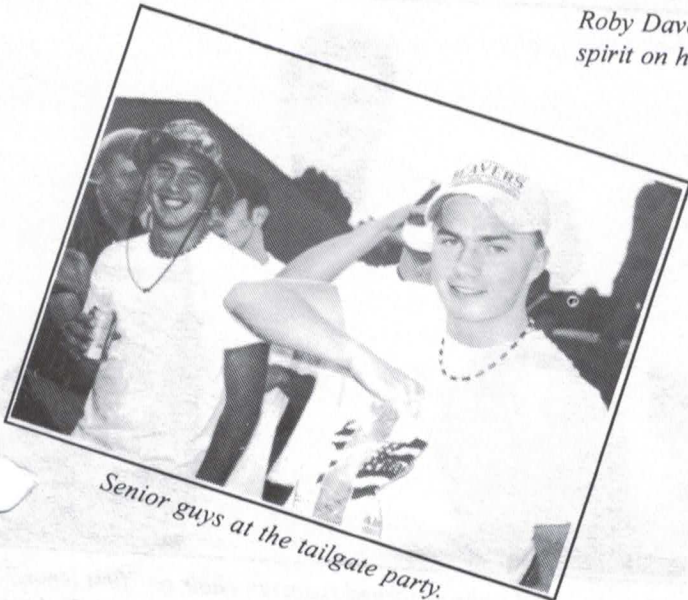
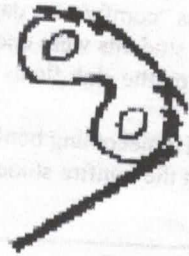
The cheerleaders pose for parade picture.



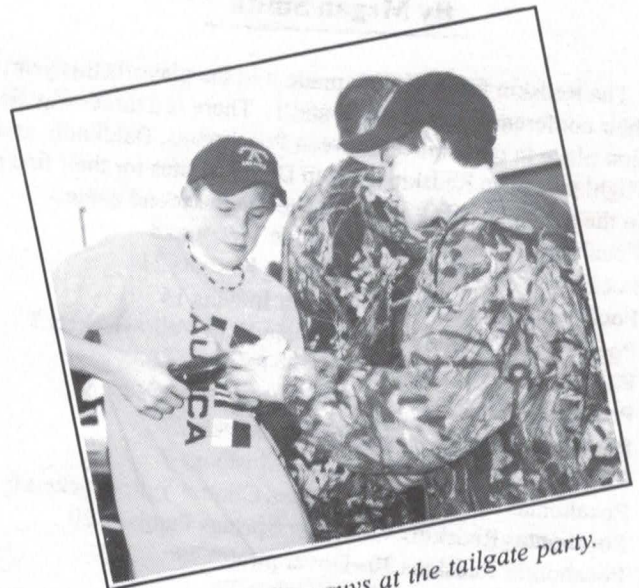
FBLA members riding in parade.



Roby Davenport shows school spirit on hat day.



Senior guys at the tailgate party.



Sophomore guys at the tailgate party.

Homecoming celebrated at PHS

By Megan Smith and Elizabeth Crisp

Every year our school celebrates the football season with a tradition known as "Homecoming." For a whole week the students celebrate in various ways that correspond with the Homecoming theme chosen.

The 2000-2001 Homecoming theme was Mardi Gras. Pocahontas High School celebrated the week of homecoming with many activities. Each day of the week had its own theme and closer to the end of the week there was a bonfire, coronation, parade, and pep rally.

Monday Oct. 16 was "hat day." Students were encouraged to wear their favorite or most unique hat.

Tuesday was "Mardi Gras mask day" in which people wore the traditional Mardi Gras celebration masks.

Wednesday was "graffiti celebration day." Students wore some type of shirt or sweatshirt that could be signed by other students. They were also encouraged to wear the traditional Mardi Gras beads on this day.

Thursday was "comfy/crew day." Since it was the day before Homecoming, students were encouraged to dress comfortably in order to work on the club floats for the parade and sign contest on Friday.

The annual Homecoming bonfire and tailgate party was also on Thursday. At the bonfire students cheered for the Skins while

enjoying the food and music. There was a tailgate party competition sponsored by the Leo Club. The senior class received the first place award followed by the junior class and sophomore class in second and third place respectively.

Friday was "red and white day." Students were encouraged to wear red and white in show of their school spirit. Students continued working on the club floats until the coronation at 12:30.

At the coronation, senior Brooke Smith was crowned Homecoming Queen. After coronation students attended the Homecoming Parade, which was followed by a pep rally to raise team spirit before the game against the Hoxie Mustangs.

The winners of the sign contest and the float contest were announced at the pep rally. The winner of the float contest was the FBLA followed by the FCCLA in second and the FFA in third place. The winner of the sign contest was the FFA. FCA/JAM received second place and there was a tie between the Dance Team and FBLA for third.

Many students returned to the school for the Homecoming Game later that night. After the football game, there was a Homecoming Dance sponsored by the student council to celebrate the Redskin victory over the Mustangs.

Redskins make playoffs

By Megan Smith

The Redskin football team made it to the playoffs this year; their conference record was 6 and 1. There is a three-way tie for first place in conference between Pocahontas, Baldknob, and Highland. The Redskins played Dover Pirates for their first game in the state playoffs and McGehee in the second game.

- Pocahontas Redskins 24--Westside Warriors 8
- Pocahontas Redskins 6--Harrisburg Hornets 21
- Pocahontas Redskins 21--Kennett Indians 14
- Pocahontas Redskins 31--Mountain View Yellowjackets 7
- Pocahontas Redskins 42--Yellville Panthers 20
- Pocahontas Redskins 34--Baldknob Bulldogs 28
- Pocahontas Redskins 6--Highland Rebels 27
- Pocahontas Redskins 23--Hoxie Mustangs 7
- Pocahontas Redskins 42--defeated Clinton Yellowjackets 0
- Pocahontas Redskins 42--Heber Springs Panthers 20
- Pocahontas Redskins 30--Dover pirates 29
- Pocahontas Redskins 17--McGehee 27



L to R: Lee Jacobson earned sixteenth chair on "first tenor," Randy Anis placed fourth on "low bass," and Linsey Bailey was selected as an alto in girl's chorus.

Blood drive will be held next semester

By Angela Phillips

Arkansas hospitals need 450 units a day to supply the need for blood. Only 3 percent of the United States population donate blood and about 95 percent of people need blood during their life.

Next semester a blood drive will be held sponsored by the Leo club and Smoke Signal Staff.

Last year 5.8 percent of the blood donated in this region is from high school students. A blood donor must be 17 years old, weigh a minimum of 110 pounds, and have desire to save a life. Next semester the Leo club and Smoke Signal Staff will sponsor a blood drive at PHS.

A person may donate blood every 56 days. Registration, a health check, giving blood, and time for refreshments takes about one hour. The time spent giving blood is only

about eight minutes.

Once blood is donated it goes through a series of at least nine tests in seven categories. Testing is done on a unit of blood to detect any diseases that may cause harm to the recipient's body. During testing, the blood is grouped in one of four blood types: A, B, O, or AB, and is labeled either positive or negative. After donating blood for the first time, a person will receive a blood card in the mail and it will say what type of blood that person has.

Blood can be used in four ways. Whole blood is used for patients who have massive bleeding. Plasma is the liquid pale part of blood that stops the bleeding in blood clots and in hemophiliacs whose blood does not clot properly. Platelets help patients with cancer. Platelets are fragile blood cells used to raise platelet levels. White blood cells are used to fight severe infections in patients and

newborn babies. Red blood cells are used for patients who require surgery. It helps treat anemia or kidney diseases, and it helps those who lose blood in an accident.

"Your blood can help save the lives of up to four people. The gift of blood is the gift of life and a way of truly giving of yourself," Angela Parker, the Red Cross communication specialist, said.

First time donors may be nervous about donating blood. Blood can only be kept for 42 days. Every minute someone in the United States needs blood. The Red Cross must collect 450 units of blood supply the hospitals in this area.

"Students need to come out and give blood to help in the blood shortage and to help save a life in the long run. It doesn't hurt you body to donate. Your body will replenish the blood," Leo Club sponsor Scott Morgan said.

IF YOUR BLOOD IS...		
Type	You can give blood to	You can receive blood from
A+	A+ AB+	A+ A- O+ O-
O+	O+ A+ B+ AB+	O+ O-
B+	B+ AB+	B+ B- O+ O-
AB+	AB+	EVERYONE
A-	A+ A- AB AB-	A- O-
O-	EVERYONE	O-
B-	B+ B- AB+ AB-	B- O-
AB-	AB+ AB-	AB- A- B- O-

Cheerleaders sponsor Starburst

By Elizabeth Crisp

While most students will be relaxing and enjoying time off from school during the Christmas break, the PHS cheerleaders will be competing against squads from all over the world at the World Cheerleading Association (WCA) competition in Nashville, Tennessee.

To raise money for their trip the cheerleaders sponsored

Starburst, an annual variety/talent show on November 17, 18, and 21.

The announcers for the performances were Kay McFall, the junior high SPECTRUM teacher, and Brady Massey, the high school band director.

Starburst began with the cheerleaders' competition routine that they will be using in Nashville.

After the cheerleaders, there were 32 other acts ranging from lip syncing, to ballet dancing, to a

Titanic parody.

In order to be in the show acts first had to tryout and make the cut.

"It was a lot of fun, I really enjoy performing and this gave me a chance to show my talents," junior Evan Waggoner said. He performed in three of the acts.

The cheerleaders are very grateful for all of the help and support provided in the production of this year's Starburst.

Marching Redskins bring home awards

By Elizabeth Crisp

In the past few years the PHS marching Redskins have upheld an outstanding reputation. This year has been no exception.

This year's halftime show theme was "Ghost Stories." It featured a ghost train, ghosts, goblins, and other spooky effects.

The band competed in three competitions and received 12 awards in all.

The first competition they attended was the Southeast Missouri Band Championships in Charleston, Missouri.

There they won awards for Overall Champion, Best in Class, Outstanding Drum Major, Outstanding Colorguard, Outstanding Drumline, Outstanding Music, and received Superior Ratings in all captions.

The next competition attended was the ASBOA Regional Festival in Newport, Arkansas. They received a Superior Rating which qualified them for the ASBOA Sweepstakes Award in March if they receive a Superior Rating at the concert festival to be held this spring.

The final competition that they competed in was the Forrest City Invitational in Forrest City, Arkansas. The band was named Best

in Class, Second Overall, and received Superior Ratings in all captions.

Since marching season has come to an end, the band is now focusing on their music for the Christmas concert to be held on December 19.

After the Christmas concert they will begin working on their music for concert season, which will be performed at the festival mentioned earlier that is to determine their Sweepstakes status.

In addition to all of these things, individual band members are also currently working on music for the All-Region Band tryouts.