

Smoke Signal



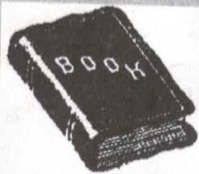
Vol. 26 No. 6

Pocahontas High School

April/May 1999

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for good people...
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Spring court announced

by KYLE JOHNSON

Spring court is a time to recognize the spring athletes and have the annual school Olympics. Brandon Burgess and Clarissa Bettis were crowned Spring Court King and Queen.

Each grade and spring sport selects a male and female representative. The voting was done the week before the coronation. Students voted in their English classes to select the king and queen

The representatives were Senior Class-Matt Walls, Jennifer Penn; Junior Class-Brandon Burgess, Clarissa Bettis; Sophomore Class-Jay Early, Valerie Patterson; Girls Softball-Josh Johnson; Boys Baseball-Amy Loggains; Girls Track-Jeff Thelemier; Boys Track-Andrea Difani; Girls Tennis-Marty Hogan; Boys Tennis-Jillian Baltz; Girls Golf-Shaun Hatch; Boys Golf-Callie Cooper; Girls Basketball-Justin Hagood; Boys Basketball-Bryne Scott. The Queen was crowned by Student Council President Joseph Baltz, and the King was crowned by his girlfriend the Queen.

The Olympics were held the following Monday, and the representatives were the captains of the individual teams. The captains enlisted other students to join their teams. By the end of the week, there were ten teams with fifteen members each. One event was the Diarrhea Run.

This is where one person would start



King Brandon Burgess and Queen Clarissa Bettis

off ten meters away from a chair, running with a roll of toilet paper in hand, sit in the chair, and run back to hand it off to the next player.

Another event was the Over Under game. The whole team would get in line, take a beach ball, and give it to the person behind them by either handing it over their shoulders or between their legs. The last person to get the ball would run up to the front of the line, and the process would start all over.

The teams were named by letters. Team D won the 2nd Annual PHS Spring Court Olympics. The captains of the team D were Philip Jansen and Jennifer Penn. The members of their team were Matt Cox, Craig Clements, Casey Smith, Darren Casey, Shawn Cummins, Crystal Barz, Justin Camp, Nathan Camp, Amy Lane, Brooke Busby, Jessie Simpson, Alyson Prichard, Justin Dorman, Jack Wells, Cindy Rice, Kevin Dunham, Cody Murphy, Kyle Snow, Gary Johnson, and Jeremy Blackwell.

The Pocahontas Thespians awarded with an excellent rating

by TERRY TYLER

The Pocahontas Troupe of Thespians International Thespian Society earned a third-place trophy at the State Conference in Morrilton April 9-10.

The group performed the one-act play "Aria Da Capo." Cast members were seniors Sarah Kiefer, Darren Casey, T.K. Barnett, and Terry Tyler; and junior Lauren Rapert.

During the day on Friday, the group watched one act plays from several other schools. Friday night they attended a dance. After the dance, the Pocahontas troupe headed back to Clinton, where they were lodged. In order to conserve Thespian funds, the troupe stayed in the Crabbe's cabin and the house of Mr. Crabbe's mother, which were about forty-five miles away from the convention site.

On Saturday the Thespians went to several acting workshops, ranging from topics such as "Shaking

Band travels to Orlando for fun, competition, and food

by TERRY TYLER

Worn out and half asleep, the PHS band rolled into Pocahontas by police and ambulance escort at 5:45 Sunday afternoon on March 21.

The band left March 15 for Orlando, Florida, to compete in the All-American Music Festival.

Their performance ranked them first overall and first in class, and they received all superior ratings.

The band went to other places in Florida, as well: Panama City Beach, Wet-N-Wild, Sea World, Medieval Times, the Mercado, Walt Disney World, Planet Hollywood, Hard Rock Cafe, Universal Studios, and Fort Wilderness.

They stayed at a resort called Nikkibird Resort.

"It was really big," Rachel Rose said. Rachel is a senior. She said that she enjoyed making these "wonderful memo-



Cast members (from left) Lauren Rapert, Sarah Kiefer, Darren Casey, T.K. Barnett, Terry Tyler earned trophies for the performance of "Aria Da Capo."

Shakespeare's Family Tree" and "Physicalizing Your Character" to "Using MIDI-Music in your Play" and "Stage Combat."

At four o'clock the delegates went to the awards ceremony. The Pocahontas Thespians won an excellent rating for the one-act play and a trophy for best technical staff. T.K. Barnett and Sarah Kiefer also received trophies for being selected to the All-State Cast.

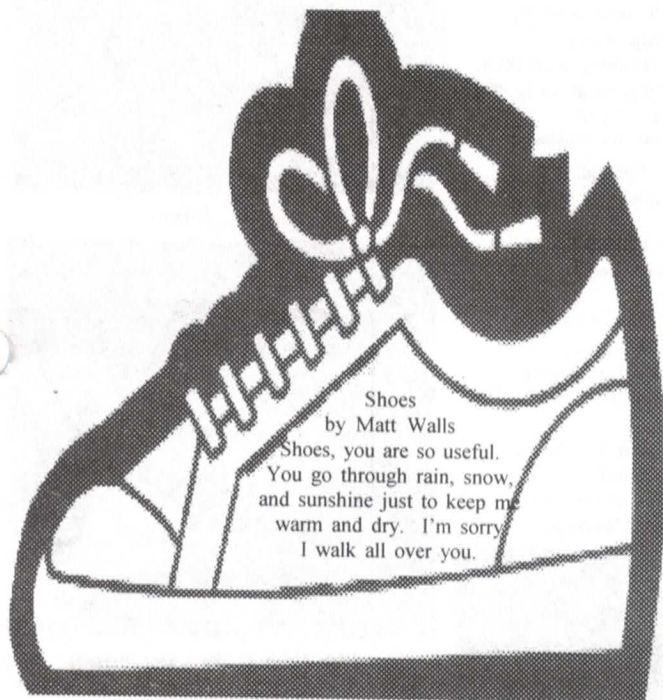
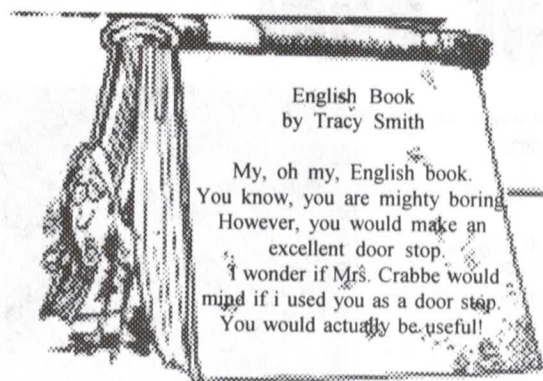
ries" which she will carry with her after she graduates.

Band director Brady Massey said the trip cost a total of thirty thousand dollars (about \$412 per student). Members held bake sales, car washes, and candy sales. They also had a concession booth at Fourth on the Black to pay for the trip.

"You name it; we did it," Massey said.

The generosity of community businesses helped to pay some of the expenses.

The band has been nominated to play on the steps of the White House next year. Several businesses in town have encouraged the band to consider the trip by saying that the band would not have to worry about coming up with the funds.



A good book for good people

by JASON WHITEHORN

Michael Crichton's *Airframe* is, like all his other books, an instant classic.

The book starts with a plane accident and follows the airplane manufacturer through ordeals with the media. Then the book ends with... well I

guess I shouldn't give away the ending.

The main part of the book

involves Norton, the airplane manufacturer, going through great trouble to prevent *Newsline*, a news magazine, from airing a condemning story about Norton's N-22 airplane.



This book follows a series of changing plots and the book

finally ends in a way that none could imagine.

This book is definitely worth the time to read.



May Calendar of Events:

Semester Exams 10th-11th...

May 18 (8:00-9:30 1st hour, 9:45-11:15 3rd hour)

May 19 (8:00-9:30 2nd hour, 9:45-11:15 4th hour)

May 20 (8:00-9:30 5th hour, 9:45-11:15 6th hour)

May 21 (8:00-9:30 7th hour)

End of school...

May 25

Commencement...

May 21, 7 p.m.



Smoke Signal Staff

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

Editor-in-Chief: Stephanie DeClerk

Layout Editor: Terry Tyler

Sports Editor: Kyle Johnson

Reporters: Jason Whitehorn
Diane Blackwell
Jason Liebhaber
Cindy Rice

Photographer: Sarah Kiefer

Advisor: Janet Crabbe

Senior Class of 1999



Darren with a D

Most Memorable Moments:

Joseph Baltz: Going to Nashville with the cheerleaders

Shawn Rackley: My hair being yellow

Elizabeth Lucy: Annual Staff! the stress, deadlines, and most of all the underclassmen this year

Shawn Cummins: Breaking the school track record for 2 mile run

Stephanie Caffrey: When the band went to Orlando, FL and won 1st

Terri Steimel: Senior Pep Rally

Lynn Bennet: Shawn Rackley and Mrs.

Crabbe laughing over silly stuff

Tracy Smith: Skipping school

To the Game of Football
by Billy Layne

We have been together for ten seasons and have shared many memories together.

I thought that our relationship had ended as the last game had come to a close.

It would be hard for me to part with something that I have grown to love so much.

Well, luckily I find out that I could go and play college ball, so our relationship may never end because I plan on being a coach.



Run, Billy, Run!



Sara learns a new way to play pingpong.



Jennifer thrives on competition.



"Don't drop me, Casey!"



Jim, Virginia, and Jacquelyn: ready to graduate.

"Always be yourself -- not what everyone else thinks is cool-- and only speak your mind-- not others -- people can tell if you're just repeating something you've heard."

--Al lacampe

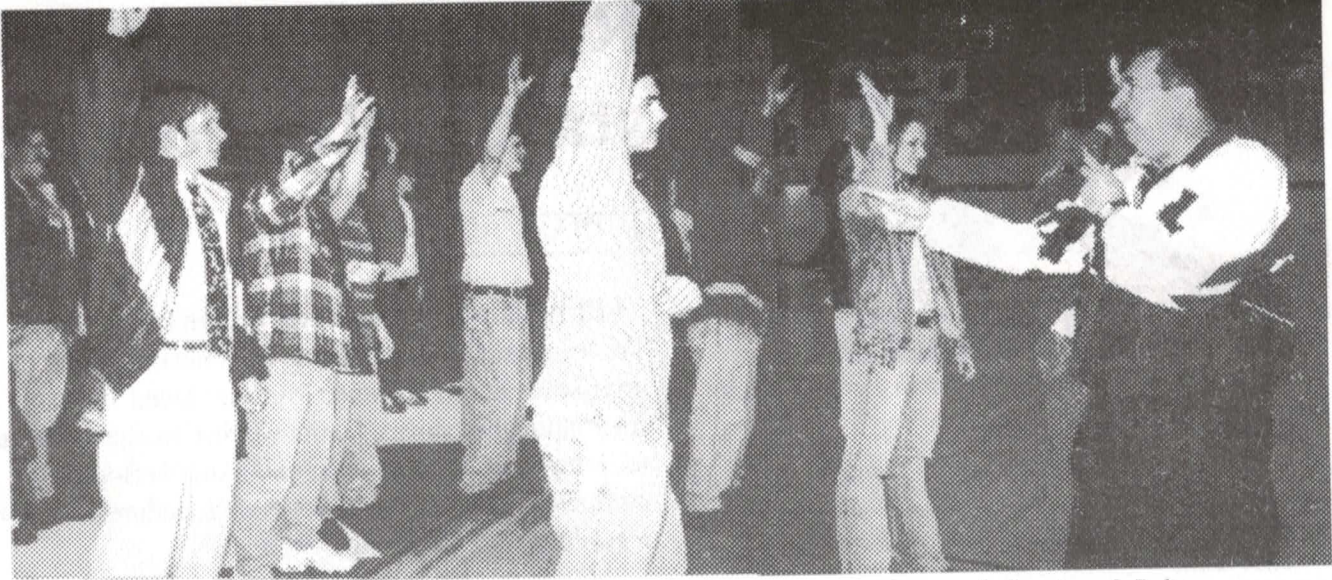
"Do not slack off your senior year because it will hurt you in the long run."

--Ricky Mooks

"If Mr. Taylor says AP or KLEP, run, because he'll say it fifty times after that."

--Terry Tyler

"Save the best for last."



"Always act like you're doing something so no one else gives you anything to do." --Joseph Baltz



"Don't take college English your senior year. You will learn some things in Mrs. Crabbe's class that are very helpful." --Jennifer Penn

To Some Ducks
by Brock Thielemier

Quack! Quack!
Hello, ducks.
How are you today?
Would you like to come down and talk to me?
Look, your family is down here;
I know you can hear them.
The water is nice.
Come down and take a load...
BOOM!!
Good-bye, ducks.
Thanks for stopping by.

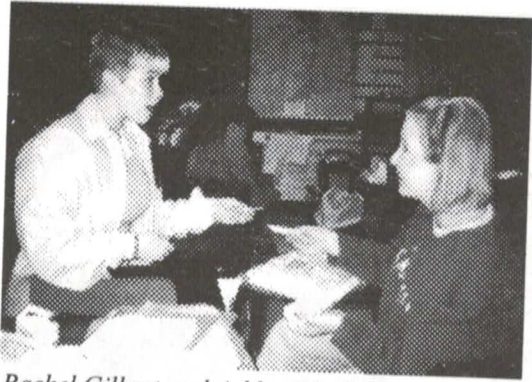
What will Seniors miss least about PHS?

- Sarah Miller- "mean people, snobbery, and closed campus"
- Brock Theilmier- "football practice"
- Terri Steimel- "gossip, bad attitudes"
- Jim Morgan- "homework, tests, deadlines"
- Lynn Bennett- "all of the research papers and homework"
- Tina Dunham- "the yelling and screaming and toilet paper throwing at the pep rallies"
- Diane Blackwell- "rumors, girls' bathroom, people that think they're better than me"
- Ashley Mitchell- "the petty arguments that we get ourselves into"



"What? NO, my refrigerator is not running!!!"

*Get by with a Little
Help from My Friends"*



Rachel Gilbert and Ashley Mitchell exchange name cards.

PHS Seniors will miss most...

"the football program and the coaches here at PHS." --Billy Layne

"band memories and friends and being a Redskin." --Rachel Rose

"the fun memories with friends, the laughs we have with each other." --Christy Cooper

"chicken nugget day." --Leigh Ann Wells

"the smell of the halls after summer break." --Wendy Ward

"smiles, laughter, and being a teacher's aide." --Raven Hausman



Leroy Poore and Diane Blackwell dance the night away

Romine places 5th in state FBLA contest

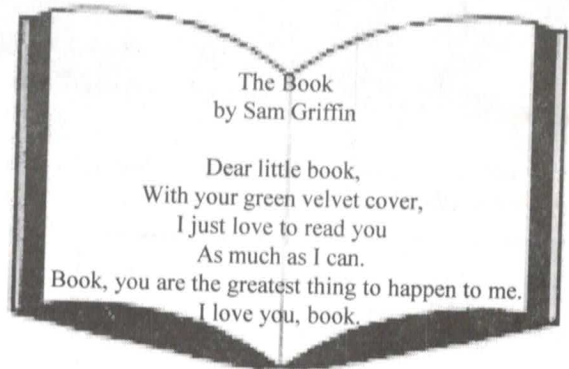
by DIANE BLACKWELL

FBLA State Conference was held in Little Rock, Friday, April 9. Four students went but only three competed. Senior Miranda Romine placed 5th in International Business. Senior Kevin Cloinger competed in Computer Concepts, and junior Ammie Boggs competed in FBLA Principles and Procedures. Senior Rose Johnson went along for the fun.

The students had a very interesting day. It started with competitions and FBLA workshops. Then they went to the zoo before returning to hear a motivational speaker at the general session.

"The most interesting thing was when our bus broke down and we hitched a ride with Bradford," said Vicki Berry, FBLA advisor.

"I liked the talent show the best," Rose Johnson said.



Jessica Mondy and Steven Lowtharp making a pose!



(left to right) Tammy DeShaw, Lindsey Golden, Heather Brewer, Sara Seagraves, and Miranda Romine

Spring Sports Participants



Track

Seniors: Kendall Williford, Jeff Thielemier, Justin Hagood, Shawn Cummins, Billy Layne. Juniors: Kevin Dunham, Vernon Simkins, Josh Rice, Steven Lowtharp, Sergio Barron. Sophmores: Cody Murphy, Clinton Baltz, Nathan Camp, Justin Camp, Johnny McDonald, Chris Stone, Logan Eason.

Girls Track: Seniors: Andrea Difani. Juniors: Maria Sorg, Brittany Hibbard, Lisa Jones, Andrea Dean.

Sophmores: Brynne Scott, Tara Wilbanks, Jesse So,

Boys Track: Seniors: Kendall Williford, Jeff Thielemier, Justin Hagood, Shawn Cummins, Billy Layne.

Juniors: Kevin Dunham, Vernon Simkins, Josh Rice, Steven Lowtharp, Sergio Barron. Sophmores: Cody Murphy, Clinton Baltz, Nathan Camp, Justin Camp, Johnny McDonald, Chris Stone, Logan Eason.

Girls Track: Seniors: Andrea Difani. Juniors: Maria Sorg, Brittany Hibbard, Lisa Jones, Andrea Dean. Sophmores: Brynne Scott, Tara Wilbanks, Jesse Simpson.



Golf

Juniors: Jonathan Fuller, Kyle Johnson. Sophmores: Shaun Hatch, Jeremy Thielemier, Luke Lewallen, Joey Baltz.

Softball

Seniors: Regina Wallis, Jennifer Penn, Sara Seagraves, Amy Loggains, Becky Hackworth. Juniors: Ashley Flagg, Jessica Holt, Amy Lane, Brooke Busby, Crystal Barz, Bridgette Kazzee. Sophmores: Allison Carter, Valerie Patterson, Erika Snow.

Tennis

Seniors: Marty Hogan, Bobby Barz. Juniors: Micheal Hallmark, Andrew Baltz, Jillian Baltz, Lauren Rapert. Sophmores: Brooke Smith, Corey Ruffin, Heather Trentenburg, Elizabeth Raglin, Ruth Miller.

Baseball

Juniors: Josh Johnson. Juniors: Chad Williams, Blaine Tanner, Ryan Scott, Blake Ring, Kevin Brown, Ryan Rodgers, Chris Lee, Cody Cook. Sophmores: Brad Hall, Marshall Robertson, Daniel Clark, Jason Clark, Todd Mathews, Brandon Reed.

The Bench Perspective

by KYLE JOHNSON



Well, this is the last Bench Perspective for the year. Being on the bench is not fun; in fact, it stinks, but what makes it all worth while is when the team wins. I mean you stand there cheering your heart out, then the team wins the biggest game of the year. You also have to look at the benefits of it. You have better seats than anybody else, and you get to hear what the coaches say to the players and you know what play they are going to do. Bench players might not be the best players, but as long as they keep on keepin' on, they might just one time get in there to show what they can do. And that is the last Bench Perspective for the school year of 98-99.

Faculty honors students for achievement

Two hundred Pocahontas High School students flashed certificates and waved prizes as they left for spring break March 12. They had just attended an awards assembly where Foster Lager from radio station Z100 heightened their interest as he bellowed jokes and gags along with names of students being honored.

The awards assembly was a project of the High Expectations Committee of the Creating Opportunities for Excellence (COE) plan. Committee members are Judy McClain, Lin Hatch, Carol Grider, Jerry Malone, Lonnie Gilbreth, Carl Shelley, Nancy Moody.

Awards were given in three categories. Honor of Achievement certificates went to 147 students who raised their grade point average over the previous semester.

Honor of Effort awards went to 120 students who earned recognition of their "tribal leaders" (teachers). This could be to recognize an improved attitude, continuous hard work, or good citizenship.

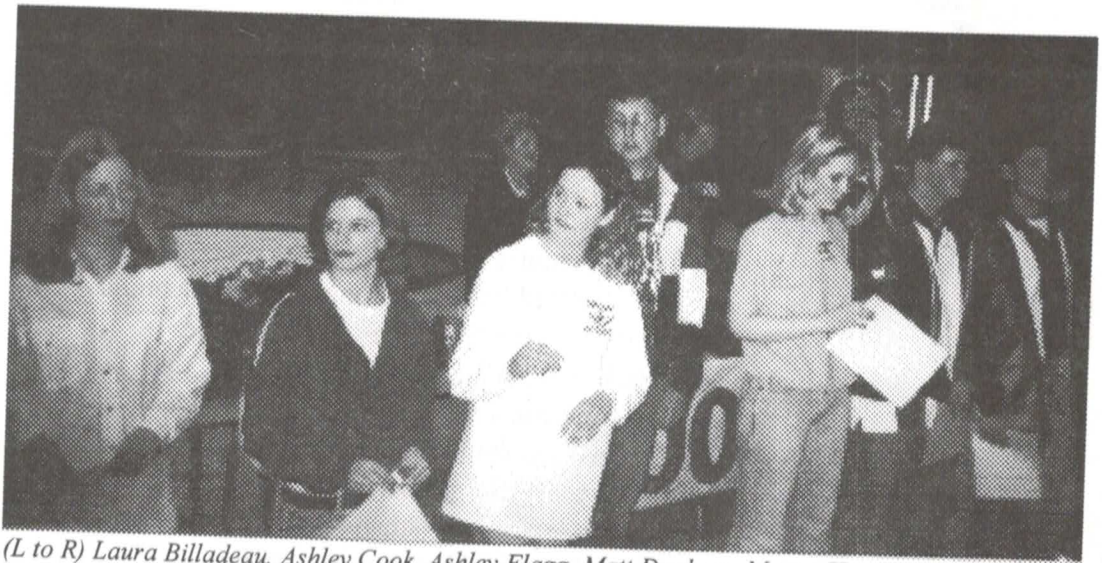
Finally, the 104 students on the PHS first-semester honor roll received a certificate for achievement of excellence or above average academic success.

Biology teacher Betty Busby was positive about the awards.

"It is nice to see students of all academic abilities receive awards," Busby said.

Lager called names of students to receive certificates, and principal Jerry Malone and superintendent Marc Van Camp presented them.

Area merchants donated over 200 gifts for students. Everyone who received a certificate was eligible for a drawing. Favorite prizes were the money and the "Tiggers."



(L to R) Laura Billadeau, Ashley Cook, Ashley Flagg, Matt Dunham, Megan Hausman, Justin Dates, and Brad Hall accept achievement awards from media specialist Lin Hatch and MC Foster Lager.

Senior Tracy Smith earned a certificate for raising her GPA and an Honor of Effort certificate for raising her grade in class. She enjoyed the assembly.

"I thought it was good, because they gave away a lot of free stuff, and it was very encouraging," Smith said. She won \$5 in gas at the Fina station.

**"...students of all
academic abilities
receive awards"**

- biology teacher Betty Busby

T.J. Johnson, received an award for raising his GPA. "I know exactly where my certificate is, because I had Foster Lager to autograph it!" Johnson said.

After the assembly, the High Expectations Committee met to discuss the program. Judy McClain reported that next year the committee plans to schedule the program earlier in the year and to work on the distribution of prizes. This is in response to a student survey.

Journalism students rack up awards

by KYLE JOHNSON

ASPA is a word that most people are not familiar with, but the Smoke Signal and *Chieftain* staff. It stands for the Arkansas Scholastic Press Association, and it held its Annual convention April 23-24. Nearly 700 students attended this annual convention. Awards are given to the best writers, editors, designers in over twenty categories. The categories were placed by superior for first, excellent for second, and honorable mention for third. Jason Whitehorn a reporter for the *Smoke Signal* staff earned the only Superior division award for his story on the AR program.

"I feel good because I know that I wrote something that was better than everyone else's!" Whitehorn said.

The awards that the rest of the *Smoke Signal* received are as follow: Excellent: Kyle Johnson, Sports Feature; Terry Tyler, Front Page Design; Jason Whitehorn, Newspaper Opinion Page Design.

Honorable Mention: Kyle Johnson, Sports Photo, Sports News Story, and Sports Column; Terry Tyler,

Newspaper Feature Photo, and Newspaper Feature Story.

Terry Tyler, Kyle Johnson, Leroy Poore, and Jason Whitehorn earned Honorable Mention for Newspaper Photo Essay.

Elise Throgmorton, a member of the *Chieftain* staff, won third place for the On-site Contest in Student Life Copy Writing.

"I was the most surprised of anyone. I went to have fun, I didn't mean to actually win anything," Elise said.

The Aspa convention also held 20 workshops for help in the field of reporting, interviewing, and putting together a yearbook. Smoke Signal Sports Editor attended the ASPA conference and said, "It was a learning experience for a first time sports editor, and the workshops helped future reporters."

In March the newspaper advisor submits entries for the evaluation, and professional, journalists from several states evaluate them. All entries are returned to students with critiques. At the annual Pocahontas High School Honors Program the awards the staff received are given to them.

One run ends baseball, softball seasons

by KYLE JOHNSON

The spring has brought success for the Lady Redskins softball team and for the boys baseball team. Both the softball team and the baseball team got to the AAA state playoffs. The softball team was unstoppable through the regular season, losing only one game Westside Warriors. The girls swept the conference and regional titles. Senior pitcher Regina Wallis helped lead the girls to their success.

"I have been fortunate to go to state the four years I have played. I expected nothing less, but it is always fun playing in a state tournament. We had a chance to win this year, but things happen," Wallis said.

They got handed only their second loss of the whole season from Huntsville in the quarter finals of the state playoffs. Brooke Busby, a junior, plays left center.

"We have a good chance to go to the State Tournament next year. Also to win District and Regional

because we work hard so we can achieve our goals," Busby said.

The Lady Redskins finished with a 19-2 record.

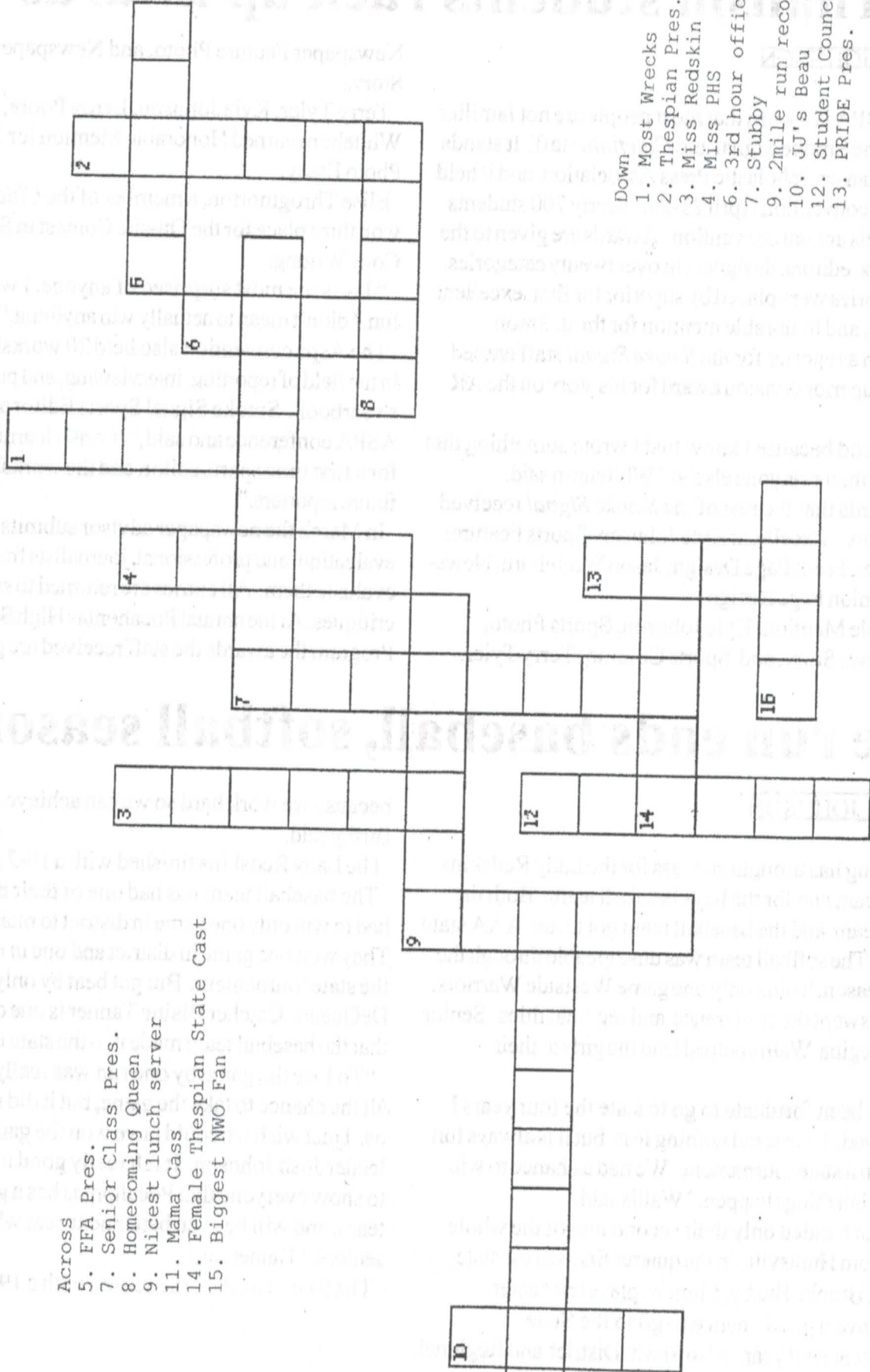
The baseball team has had one of their best years. They had to win only one game in district to make regional. They won one game in district and one in regional to reach the state tournament. But got beat by only one run by DeQueen. Catcher Blaine Tanner is one of the reasons that the baseball team made it to the state tournament.

"To lose the game by one run was really hard. We had all the chance to take the game, but it did not happen for us. I just wish we could have won the game for our senior leader Josh Johnson. It felt really good to go to state and to show everyone that Pocahontas has a good baseball team, and will be even better next year when we are all seniors," Tanner said.

The Skins finished the season with a 19-10 record.

Puzzled Seniors

- Across
5. FFA Pres.
 7. Senior Class Pres.
 8. Homecoming Queen
 9. Nicest lunch server
 11. Mama Cass
 14. Female Thespian State Cast
 15. Biggest NWO Fan



Down

1. Most Wrecks
2. Thespian Pres.
3. Miss Redskin
4. Miss PHS
6. 3rd hour office aide
7. Stubby
9. 2mile run record
10. JJ's Beau
12. Student Council Pres.
13. PRIDE Pres.