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"If a man neglects education, he walks lame to the end of his life." -Plato

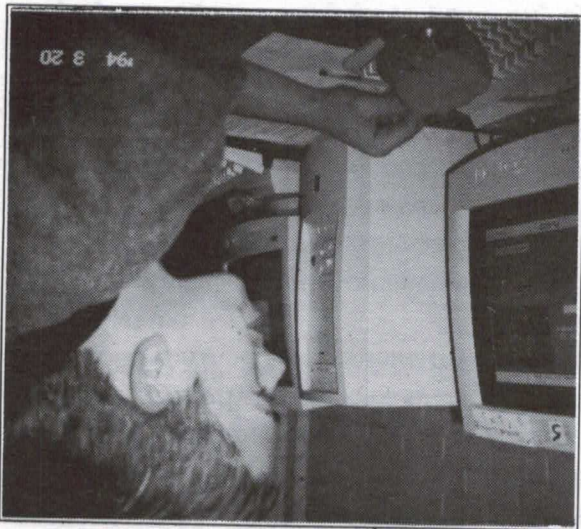
By Leslie Ann Lewallen

Just as the Greek philosopher Plato provided influence on the development of Western thought, our software with the same name provides knowledge for many high school students. Our school is required to have some type of remediation for students who did not score proficient or advanced on literacy, geometry, or Algebra I end-of-course exams. Although it cost \$22 thousand for the high school software alone, PLATO was chosen because the faculty decided it was the best type of remediation for students. The program was purchased with federal funds.

PLATO participants have computer time during their study hall, before school, or during 7th hour. The computers in the study hall provide the software to students. Study hall teacher Charlotte Ennis was very willing to take on the responsibility of supervising PLATO test takers. "Each student has a curriculum designed just for them," media specialist Lin Hatch said. Pupils only have to be remediated in the areas in which they scored low.

In one section of PLATO, students must take a series of mastery tests. They are allowed to take each

Jeremiah Winslow works on a PLATO program during study hall.



mastery exam without first being taught by the tutorial lessons. However, if students don't pass the mastery exam, they are required to start over and take the tutorial. Then they take the mastery test again. If a person is having trouble with any PLATO section, helpers such as Mrs. Hatch or another student can go over the tutorials and explain them. Because seniors have less time until they graduate, they take PLATO before juniors and sophomores. People who missed scoring proficient by only a few points will test first. Also, literacy tests are taken before geometry and Algebra I. Senior Wade London, who has tested out of PLATO, said that it "helps me be more serious about taking the literacy exam and I made a 195."

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Hanging out at Wal-Mart

By Nikki Ward

What is there to do for teenagers in Pocahtonatas? Teenagers go to sports events and school functions, but what about at the end of the season or when school is out? Personally, I go and hang out at Wal-Mart. I have observed that others besides myself hang out at Wal-Mart too.

With no official hangout, teenagers seek alternative entertainment. Riding around or just chillin' with friends is always an option, but Wal-Mart provides a wide variety of activities that students find entertaining. I have fun whenever I step out of my mom's Durango and into the automatic doors of Wal-Mart.

The toy aisle amuses me. Almost all of the toys on display excite me with "try me" buttons. My eyes light up when I see the lights flashing and products moving inside the packages. I grin ear to ear whenever I see the stuffed animals. Grabbing a shopping cart, I load it with stuffed animals. I have no intention of purchasing the toys, I just want to cruise around for a short period of time with my new friends. Of course, I do put them back when the thrill is gone.

Not far from the toy aisle is cosmetics. For girls everywhere this aisle is a savior. For me it's another place

PLATO continued from page 1

Many students feel that the poetry section of the literacy part of PLATO is extremely difficult.

"It shows me that teachers don't cover certain subjects that are more important than others, such as poetry. They don't cover poetry in regular English class," London said.

To finish PLATO and return to their original classes, students must complete all mastery tests. Seniors who test out of their 7th hour PLATO receive early dismissal. All other PLATO graduates are rewarded with a certificate.

Smoke Signal Staff

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to enjoy myself. The make-up gets boring very quickly. So to keep my time occupied, I mosey down to the perfume. By the time I walk away, my body reeks of my five favorite fragrances.

Sometimes I get pretty hungry playing around, so I search for free samples. On the weekends, ladies in black and white offer more samples than on any other day. The worst thing that I have ever tasted from samples was a peanut butter and jelly potpie. The best sample was mozzarella cheese sticks. But sometimes that is not enough. I couldn't survive without Radio Grill.

Wal-Mart presents it's shoppers with themes. For holidays there is at least one aisle dedicated to everything for that season. During Easter I clown around with it. In bunny masks. Once I even surprised someone with it. In my opinion Halloween is the best theme. There are all sorts of items to play with. My friends and I like to ride up and down the aisle on fake witch brooms. Christmas is always a joy. The theme aisle is especially fun during this time. I love to play with all the items there.

I'm not embarrassed to say that I hang out at Wal-Mart. Don't knock it until you try it.

Kearby prepares for career as pilot

By Leslie Ann Lewallen

Wouldn't it be nice to fly? This is a norm for senior Derek Kearby. He has promising dreams to become a professional pilot.

Kearby became

interested in flying at a

young age, watching

air shows and building

model planes. The first

he flew a plane

was a helicopter tour in

Branson. When he

was 15 years old, he

began flying lessons at

Swink Aviation in

Pocahontas. After a

year at Swink, he

began

practicing at Walnut Ridge Aviation. Currently, he is

taking lessons at Sky Venture in Jonesboro.

At a regular lesson, Kearby begins by covering a

preflight checklist to make sure the aircraft is ready. Then

he must call out all emergency procedures by memory. He

sets radio frequencies and announces his flight intentions.

He is then prepared for takeoff.

Kearby has flown several types of airplanes. He began

his lessons with a Cessna 172L Skyhawk, which proved

too large for him. He also flew a two sector Cessna

150M. He currently uses a four-sect Cessna 172SP

Skyhawk. It is a 2003 model and worth over \$200

usand.

There are numerous requirements for getting a pilot

license, including at least 41 hours of flight. Kearby has

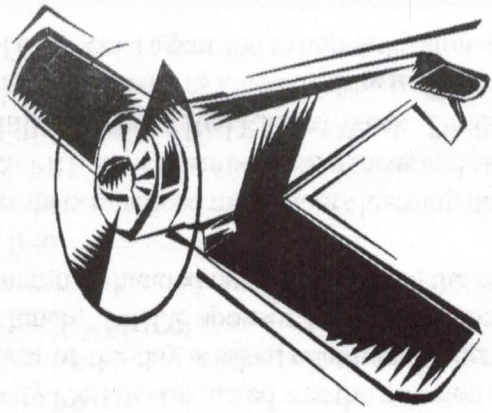
over 90 hours. One must also perform many takeoffs,

landings, and aerial maneuvers, as well as take a four hour



Derek Kearby runs his preflight list to make sure the aircraft is ready.

written exam. Kearby hopes to have his license before graduating high school. "Flying probably has the most rigorous training because of complexity and safety," Kearby said. After receiving his license, he plans to attend BRTC for two years in the airframe and power plant school. There he will become a certified AP mechanic with an associate's degree. He will use this time as a flight instructor. He then plans to attend ant airline training school in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, called the Gulf Stream Academy of Aeronautics. He should earn his doctoral degree as an airline transport pilot there. He hopes to then become an Airline First Officer on an airline. "This is what I do and I want to live this dream," Kearby said.



Spanish Club adopts a family

By Callan Pecoraro

Christmas is a time for giving. The Spanish Club spends their time and money to make sure two needy families have an enjoyable Christmas.

Adopting a family is an annual tradition for the Spanish Club. For the past seven years, members of the club have donated items, such as clothing and toys, for needy families so that they can have a nice Christmas. They also buy food for a holiday meal. Members have fundraisers such as a pump-and-go to raise funds for this and other activities.

The Department of Human Services comprises a list of needy families in the area for the holiday season. They set up a Christmas tree at Wal-Mart and place paper angels on the tree, one per needy family. On the paper angels is a list of items the family needs.

"We are given a list of things the families would like to have or what they need," Spanish Club President Brandt Dean said.

The Spanish Club chooses two of the angels, representing the two families to whom they will buy or donate items. Club sponsor Melanie Inman and the club officers purchase the gifts.

"I always ask them to donate items, since we usually adopt two families, and they always donate more than I anticipate. They truly enjoy giving to those in need," Inman said.

"I think it's a very good foundation for the needy people. It's especially important during the holidays," senior Danielle Bramlett said.

After the gifts are obtained, the members of the club try to wrap all presents, but make sure that at least the children's presents are wrapped. The items are then to be dropped off at the city hall and distributed to the families in time for Christmas.

Red Ribbon Week keeps PRIDE busy

By Callan Pecoraro

Red Ribbon Week helps promote drug awareness in schools and in the community. PRIDE (Parents Resources and Information on Drug Education) members planned activities to get students involved with Red Ribbon Week, October 27-31.

One activity PRIDE conducted was the question-of-the-day.

"A question-of-the-day is asked relating to drugs facts. The student who buzzes in first with the correct answer gets a pizza for lunch," PRIDE sponsor Amanda Walker said.

PRIDE members handed out red ribbons to the student body. Each student that received a ribbon signed a pledge to be drug free.

Team members practiced many hours learning dances and skits that showed the effects drugs could have on people. October 28, PRIDE performed these dances and skits for St. Paul Elementary School.

David Dhillon founded Red Ribbon Week. Dhillon started this program as a tribute to Enrique (Kiki) Camarena, a DEA special agent that was killed by drug traffickers. The program is now nationally celebrated to help preserve the memory of the special agent and to hopefully stop others from being negatively effected by drugs.

Player spotlight

By Nikki Ward



Bigger smiles for the camera

about playing. Hart began as a pee-wee football player for the Rams, which has led him to his current position.

Hart's most embarrassing moment is when he was tackled at the feet during a Mountain View game.

To get ready for a big game Hart builds up his energy by sleeping. He is not the person to be around after the seldom loss.

"If we lose a game I get really cranky," Hart said.

Coaches Scott Waymire and Dave Williams are very proud of the team's perfect season. They think that Bigger and Hart are two fine, dedicated young men. Redskins finished the season 10-0 standing. This is the first time since 1994 that the Redskins have finished with such a successful season.

Football is about teamwork, and in a game where every player counts, it's nice to know that there are players that strive for excellence.

Excellence is something that everybody tries to achieve in his or her life. Alex Bigger, and Jim Hart strive for excellence on the football field.

Bigger is motivated to play by his father, Steven Bigger, who also got him interested in playing football.

Bigger has been playing for six years now. He is extremely pleased with how this season has progressed.

"This season has gone great. It is a perfect season," Bigger said.

Although Bigger does not plan on furthering his football career, he does plan to attend University of Arkansas in Fayetteville.

In the long run, Bigger feels that football has helped him with his working skills, withstanding more physical endurance, and doing his job more efficiently.

Hart is the starting sophomore for the team. He is very passionate

Sophomore Jim Hart works hard for the Redskins.



Redskins play perfect season

The Redskin football team finished out their regular season with a perfect 10-0 standing. This is the first time this has happened since the 1994 season when football assistant coach Casey Chester played for the Redskins.

The Redskins went on to play East Poinsett County here at Pocahontas in the first round of the play offs, but lost the game 24-13.

Following are the scores of the perfect season.

28-7	PHS vs. Westside
20-6	PHS vs. Nettleton
29-7	PHS vs. Bald Knob
40-6	PHS vs. Mountain View
12-10	PHS vs. Yellville-Summit
27-0	PHS vs. Corning
34-7	PHS vs. Highland
38-0	PHS vs. Hoxie
43-22	PHS vs. Newport
30-6	PHS vs. Heber Springs

Semester Test Schedule

Wednesday, Dec. 17
1st period 8:00-9:30
2nd period 9:45-11:15
3rd period 1:00-2:30

Thursday, Dec. 18
4th period 8:00-9:30
5th period 9:45-11:15
6th period 1:00-2:30

Friday, Dec. 19
7th period 8:00-9:30

MERRY

Mrs. Crabbe will give a success card to the first person to turn in one of the correctly completed activities.

1. What instrument was Silent Night first played on?
 A. Harp
 B. Pipe organ
 C. Guitar
 D. Kazoo
2. On what date is Christmas in Guatemala?
 A. January 6
 B. December 25
 C. October 31
 D. Never
3. In what year were electric Christmas lights first used?
 A. 1492
 B. 1895
 C. 1944
 D. 1976
4. What was the name of Ebenezer Scrooge's deceased partner in *A Christmas Carol*?
 A. Bob Cratchit
 B. Jerry Cornelius
 C. Bill Skyes
 D. Jacob Marley
5. What do the Dutch use instead of a stocking?
 A. Old hats
 B. Beer mugs
 C. Shoes
 D. Pantyhose
6. The poinsettia originally grew in
 A. Canada
 B. China
 C. Mexico
 D. Spain
7. Which of the following is not one of Santa's reindeer?
 A. Comet
 B. Prancer
 C. Blitzen
 D. Klaxon
8. The real St. Nicholas lived
 A. At the North Pole
 B. On an island of Malta
 C. In Turkey
 D. In Holland
9. When he visits Finland, Santa leaves his sleigh and rides on
 A. Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer
 B. A giant parmagran
 C. A goat named Ukko
 D. A flying carpet
10. In the Nutcracker,
 Tchaikovsky's ballet, the nutcracker's main enemy was
 A. A girl called Clara
 B. The King of the Mice
 C. Dr. Almond
 D. Drosselmeyer the magician

Wish List

- Hummer-Eric Dunham
- Coach purse-Courtney Johnson
- Yellow hummer H2-Bryan Tyner
- 1968 Shelby GT Mustang-Butch Smith
- Ph.D. and a mansion in Florida-Alex Bigger
- Record deal-David Wessell
- Jeep-Crystal Robertson
- Labrador puppy-Andrew Bell
- 2003 Mustang convertible-Kayla Glaze
- Extended cab Chevy-Troy Kendall
- Million Dollars-Blake Clements
- THE yellow hat-Cora Jones
- A coat-Josh Tippett
- Scarf set-Natasha Throesch
- For my little brother to come home-Nicole Rose
- Fuzzy man thong-Eric Williams

CHRISTMAS

Carol Quiz

The following are paraphrases for titles of Christmas carols. Decipher each phrase.

1. Approach Everyone Who is Steadfast
2. Ecstasy Toward the Orb
3. Listen, the Foretelling Spirits Harmonize
4. Hey, Miniscule Urban Area Southwest of Jerusalem
5. Divine Nocturnal Period
6. Embellish the Corridors
7. I'm Fantasizing Concerning a Blanched Yuletide
8. My Singular Desire for the Impending Yuletide Season is Receipt of a Pair of Central Incisors
9. During the Time Ovine Caretakers Supervised Their Charges Past Twilight
10. What Offspring Abides Thus?
11. Removed in a Bovine Feeding Trough
12. Seraphim We Aurally Detect in the Stratosphere
13. Father Christmas Approaches the Metropolis
14. The Slight Percussionist Lad
15. The Antlered Quadruped with the Cerse Proboscis
16. The Event Occurred at One Minute after 2359 Hours-Visibility Unlimited
17. The Approach of the Holiday Commemorating the Birth of Christ Is Becoming Evident
18. A Trio of Non Occidental Potatoes Is Our Identity
19. The Yuletide's Diurnal Dozen
20. Please Permit Pristine Precipitation
21. "Rimey," Mannequin of Crystalline H₂O
22. Our Desire Is Your Yuletide Cheer
23. Aged Matriarch Plowed Under by Precipitous Darlings
24. Are You Experiencing Parallel Auditory Input with Me?
25. Endeavor To Personally Experience Singular, Minuscule Yule!

Christmas Movies

- All I Want for Christmas
 Babes in Toyland
 Best Christmas Pageant Ever
 A Charlie Brown Christmas
 A Christmas Carol
 A Christmas Story
 How the Grinch Stole Christmas
 Frosty the Snowman
 Holiday Inn
 Home Alone
 Homecoming: A Christmas Story
 It's a Wonderful Life
 Miracle on 34th Street
 National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation
 The Santa Clause
 Scrooged
 White Christmas



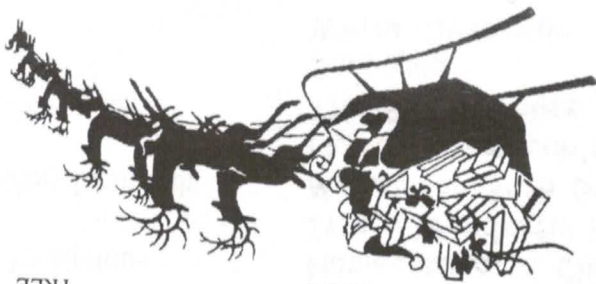
Christmas Word Find

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

- ANGEL
- CHESTNUTS
- DRESSING
- FROSTY
- JOY
- ORNAMENTS
- RUDOLPH
- SNOW
- SUGARPLUMS
- TURKEY

- BETHLEHEM
- CHIMNEY
- EGGNOG
- GARLAND
- LIGHTS
- PRESENTS
- SANTA
- STAR
- TINSEL

- CAROLS
- CRANBERRY
- ELVES
- GINGERBREAD
- MESSIAH
- REINDEER
- SLEIGH
- STOCKINGS
- TREE



Seasons Greetings