

## Five Years After ...

The publication of *Three Wire Winter* magazine is an arduous process. There must be a lot of work done by individual students. Responsibility is a key factor in the development of the final product, *Three Wire Winter*. The class was founded five years ago and through the years the quality has improved tremendously. With all the hard work involved, it's tough, but the class is still going strong. *Three Wire Winter* has put out eleven issues all about Northwest Colorado.

It is indeed a challenge and we receive little financial aid from the school. The money is raised by magazine sales and additional fund raising campaigns such as fish sales, carnivals, and barbeques. The money raised goes toward the printing of the next issue. The cost of printing our last issue (10th) was \$2,703.28 and the price is constantly going up. This year, the price of our photographic paper rose from \$18 to \$45 per hundred sheets. Because we are a non-profit organization we can use all the help we can get and gladly accept all donations.

The class holds a value all its own. It's a great opportunity for students to learn things that other courses in the high school don't offer. It's a chance to further English and history. It's all done in a way that appeals to the class and it's fun. Anyone that is not involved can't fully understand the amount of freedom and work needed to complete the project. Each student has a certain amount of freedom and responsibility which is definitely needed in order to accomplish the task.

If you happen to walk into the *Three Wire*

Winter classroom, it would probably appear to be mass confusion. You might even hear someone say, "I have seventeen pages of transcribing, and I'm only half done!" All interviews are recorded on tapes and have to be recorded on paper, word for word. Photography plays an important role in the process also. Students take their own pictures, develop the film and make the prints. Each student's story may be cut and rearranged many times before the final draft is ready to be typeset. Layout can also be a tedious process. This is where the final typeset story is placed on a layout paper in the exact form of which it will be photographed for the magazine.

We (Jan and Jenny) interviewed students in the class and got an overall opinion. Many enjoy the class because of the photography and writing. Here's a few of the class statements.

"It's a great opportunity for pre-college. I like the class because of the journalistic process and photography techniques."

"I think it's very educational. I enjoy the writing and the work. It's a good class."

"It's a learning experience on how to complete a publishable story and how to use the equipment. I enjoy the freedom to go out and do things on my own."

*Three Wire Winter* is working harder each year to improve the magazine. We would like to make it perfect, but even after five years we are still trying. We would love to hear from you, and perhaps, our readers' suggestion could appear in print also. We are proud when we see our story done with our name actually in print.

Thank you,

*Three Wire Winter*.



*Three Wire Winter Staff*