

### **Drug/Alcohol Awareness**

The Cripple Creek Police Department has recently started a drug and alcohol abuse awareness program at the Cripple Creek/ Victor School District. One of the key components of this program is a course on the effects of alcohol and drugs and their impact on motor skills and judgment. The students then drive an obstacle course in a go-cart. The go-cart is then modified to mimic the impacts of delayed reactions, slower steering and late braking. They also don "distortion" goggles that imitate drivers who are impaired by alcohol or other drugs. The purpose of the program is to give students a feel for the dangers of operating a vehicle under the influence.

CC&V gave a donation to the Police Department to cover half of the cost of the cart. The Department modified the cart in house, saving funds over purchasing a new cart.

The students gave the cart a test run last May. As they careened around the cones, the CC Police Officers announced "That cone you just hit was a dog" or "You just ran that stop sign." The kids said it was fun, but also a learning experience. Tish Allen tried on the goggles, and announced that she couldn't even walk with them on, let alone drive. Good thing she doesn't drink.