

NATIONAL NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

2015 BNEC, BNAC & NAE



FIRST PLACE, best feature photo, non-daily division, circulation less than 3,000

By Jeff Zimmerman | The Mountain Enterprise, Frazier Park, CA

DROUGHT AND FIRE—The rumbling of supertankers thundered over the Gorman hills. Firefighters, helicopters and planes battled a wildfire Saturday, Jan. 25.

The blaze erupted shortly after 3 p.m. near Hayride Road. It consumed five acres of tinder-dry grass where yellow and purple wildflowers once dazzled visitors from around the world.

**NNA's 2015
Better Newspaper Editorial Contest,
Better Newspaper Advertising
Contest & Newspapers And
Education Winners**

A supplement to Publishers' Auxiliary

BNEC & BNAC OVERVIEW

Entries came from 36 states.
158 newspapers sent in a total
of 1,696 entries, and 149 news-

papers were selected as win-
ners and received a total of 521
awards.

NAE FUN FACTS

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Entries came from 10 news-
papers; 10 newspapers were
selected as winners and received
a total of 15 awards. Kidsville
News!, a literacy and educational

newspaper, based in Fayetteville,
NC, sponsored the contest.

BNEC FUN FACTS

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1,413 entries were received.

BNAC FUN FACTS

•
282 entries were received.

FIRST PLACE, excellence in typography,
daily & non daily division
The N'West Iowa REVIEW, Sheldon, IA

SECOND PLACE, excellence in typography,
daily & non-daily division
Litchfield Independent Review | Litchfield, MN

TIME WARPING MUSICAL. SEE STEPPING OUT.

Jackson Hole News & Guide

Jackson, Wyoming

Wednesday, April 23, 2014

One dollar

The land-bound Jersey and Sara Budge's home continues to break apart Saturday as the creeping landslide moves down East Gros Ventre Butte. The slide has cut off access to a neighborhood of about 60 people, threatened snow utilities and fascinated spectators.

Life crumbles around family

As engineers try to stop slow-moving slide, Budge family copes with loss.

By Ben Graham

The cracks measured 1 1/2 of an inch wide — about the thickness of a pencil — when Jeremy Budge first noticed them in the wooden floor boards between his kitchen and dining room.

He thought nothing of it at the time. Chalking it up to warped wood or perhaps some water damage, Budge used his thumb to smear wood pebbles the length of the tiny crests. That was Christmas 2011.

The next clue was a door that didn't quite shut correctly.

It took several months for the evidence to add up. Even then, the Budges could not have imagined that the small signs were pointing to the source of devastation of last week when their house, which Budge's father built, was ripped in two by a slow-moving landslide that has been creeping down East Gros Ventre Butte.

The break occurred along the same small cracks Budge tried to seal with putty more than

two years ago.

Sometime between Thursday evening and Friday morning, a rapid drop in the escarp face of the slide cleaved the kitchen and living room from the rest of the house.

Budge, who owns a landscaping company, was home and raised in the neighborhood on the butte, in a house just above the one that was destroyed.

"The truth of the matter is we're lost everything. That was what we had," Budge said. "I think we're still in shock for the most part."

A down public agencies, engineering consultants and contractors have been working for the past two weeks to map the ground movement and to come up with ways to brace it.

Most recently crews began piling dirt and concrete blocks on the "top" of the slide around the base of Budge Drive, beneath the cliff and the wrecked house above.

It is unclear at this point whether the strategy is working, although the slide's movement has slowed to 1 inch a day as of Tuesday morning, Assistant Town Manager Remane Robinson said. That is down from the 3 inches a day reported Monday and as much as 10 feet last week.

See LANDSLIDE on 164

Resort refugees

By Michael Pollmann

Three months after bringing her first child into the world, Heather Gould and her husband Jay were told to leave their home.

Heather Gould's mother had just flown into town to help with the baby, and Jay Gould was a day away from flying to Alaska for a third birthday ski trip. The evacuation order came "out of nowhere."

"My husband ended up not going to Alaska," Gould said.

The Goulds are just three people among about 60 who have been forced from their homes by the slow slide of East Gros Ventre Butte. Despite the hassle — 14 days at evacuees — Gould figures her family has been fortunate.

With two dogs, two cats and a newborn, the new parents "threw everything in our cars

See REFUGEES on 174

INSIDE

3A

Paid delivery
Bicycle safety

3B

Schools get more money
King announcing advances

3C

Teenium board applicants
Pioneer suit

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BEST BREAKING NEWS PHOTO

Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more

1st Place—The Livingston Parish News, Denham Springs, LA. Entry Title: Dog rescue. Credit(s): David Normand. Judges' Comments: "A firefighter rescues a Chihuahua from a burning house and returns the pooch to his owner. What image could be better for any front page?"

2nd Place—Rio Grande Sun, Espanola, NM. Entry Title: Instant Karma Takes Care of Recliner. Credit(s): Wheeler Cowperthwaite. Judges' Comments: "This photo illustrates the peril of throwing a lit cigarette out the window. But why would a man want to throw a stick onto his burning new recliner?"

BEST BREAKING NEWS PHOTO

Non-daily Division, circulation 5,000-9,999

1st Place—The Omak-Okanogan County Chronicle, Omak, WA. Entry Title: God's got us. Credit(s): Roger Harnack. Judges' Comments: "This is a dynamic photo in every sense. It captures the intensity of the wildfire while tying church and cross into the headline of God's Got Us. I loved the framing used in this photo with the cross. I also like the inset photos showing the aftermath damage. Great work

2nd Place—Fountain Hills Times, Fountain Hills, AZ. Entry Title: Oktoberfest flooding. Credit(s): Mike Scharnow. Judges' Comments: "Mike Scharnow focuses attention first on the floating coolers, festive but empty table, bedraggled banners and collapsed tarp, then draws the eye further back to notice that the damage extends beyond one corner of the festival area. The flood continues at a third distance, beyond the festival area, and seems to be halted only by the hills rising in the far background. Even readers who hadn't planned to attend this event can empathize with the sense of a gathering disrupted."

3rd Place—Lamesa Press-Reporter, Lamesa, TX. Entry Title: Intense Blaze. Credit(s): Russel Skiles. Judges' Comments: "Images of fires predominated the submissions in this category, but Skiles' stood out for its surreal war-zone setting. Even though only the bare bones of a structure and a leafless tree remain standing, the firefighters—in a pose somewhat reminiscent of the two Jima Inferno—soldier on, undaunted and determined, attacking the inferno with what seems to be a futile spray of water. The angle of this shot leads the eye up and in, but to what?"



FIRST PLACE,
best feature photo,
non-daily division, circulation 3,000-5,999

By Ronnie Housley
The Standard Banner, Carroll, IA

**C'MON, MOLLY, SHOW THESE KIDS
YOUR SMILE!**—Mackenna Vaughn shows
off the teeth of her Polled Hereford, Molly,
during a visit by Jefferson County High FFA
members to the Boys & Girls Club. The FFA
members provided a petting zoo for club
members—including chickens, a horse, a
cow and four dogs—and talked about each
of the animals.

Honorable Mention(s)—Falmouth Outlook, Falmouth, KY; The Journal, Crosby, ND.

BEST BREAKING NEWS STORY

Daily Division

1st Place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Entry Title: Gabriel Fernandez Grand Jury. Credit(s): Andrew Clark. Judges' Comments: "Powerful piece! The reader ends up weeping for the child. How could the system be so blind? This is one of those stories painfully difficult to put into words, but also a story that needed to be told."

2nd Place—The Manhattan Mercury, Manhattan, KS. Entry Title: Just married. Credit(s): Brady Bauman. Judges' Comments: "Fun piece that paints a colorful picture of the day. Enjoyed the multiple perspectives."

3rd Place—The Union, Grass Valley, CA. Entry Title: Lamphier under criminal investigation. Credit(s): Liz Kellar/Keri Brenner/Pascale Fusshoeller. Judges' Comments: "Yes, this is an example of quality news writing, but even more important, it is a prime example of a quality newspaper doing its job—keeping our elected officials and the choices they make in the eye of the public. I enjoyed reading the reports as they unfolded."

Honorable Mention(s)—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA; Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA; Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA.

BEST BREAKING NEWS STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation 12,000 or more

1st Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY. Entry Title: It's Pure Joy. Credit(s): James Chilton. Judges' Comments: "Vivid coverage of a major legal and cultural event."

2nd Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY. Entry Title:

Execution-style killing. Credit(s): Sarah Zoellick. Judges' Comments: "Timely and thorough breaking news account of a horrific crime."

BEST BREAKING NEWS STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation 3,000-5,999

1st Place—Fort Bragg Advocate-News, Fort Bragg, CA. Entry Title: Del Fiorentino. Credit(s): Staff. Judges' Comments: "What an impressive package of a horrific story that affects the entire community. The staff did an outstanding job capturing the horrible events surrounding the officer's death. An event like this rips at the inner core of society and certainly deserves the play it received in the newspaper. Outstanding work on devoting the entire front page to this story. It was also impressive to see the 'Loving Tribute' page inside. Terrific job by all involved."

2nd Place—The Alamance News, Graham, NC. Entry Title: Final filings in DOJ case vs. sheriff. Credit(s): Tomas Murawski & Tom Boney, Jr. Judges' Comments: "This is a solid piece showcasing an issue that likely generated huge public interest. The writing is crisp and clear. It is impressive to see the amount of space devoted to this story. The only drawback is that such a story is naturally non-visual. But the paper did a great job in putting together sidebar pieces, graphics and timelines to enhance the visual element. Great effort in detailing a huge story."

3rd Place—The North Scott Press, Eldridge, IA. Entry Title: Hunter's Story. Credit(s): Scott Campbell. Judges' Comments: "The writing in this story is superb with excellent storytelling abilities displayed throughout the piece. The writer did a great job of detailing a crime that could have had a tragic ending. Nice job using powerful quotes in the story. It was also nice to see the story focused on who it should have been—the victim—instead of 'officials.'"

Honorable Mention(s)—Hickman County Times, Centerville, TN; Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX.

BEST BREAKING NEWS STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000-11,999

1st Place—Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI. Entry Title: Teens' stunt driving takes heavy toll. Credit(s): Patti Brandt. Judges' Comments: "This is straightforward news written in a concise professional manner. Great job."

2nd Place—The Taos News, Taos, NM. Entry Title: Questa mine closed: 300 lose jobs. Credit(s): Andrew Oxford, J.R. Logan, Elizabeth Cleary. Judges' Comments: "Comprehensive, detailed coverage of an event that will completely change a town. The mine closing was examined from personal and financial perspectives—very nice job."

3rd Place—The News-Register, McMinnville, OR. Entry Title: Parker Moore slaying. Credit(s): Paul Daquilante and Robert Husseman. Judges' Comments: "A well-covered story of a tragedy. Factual and documented with multiple sources. Nice job."

Honorable Mention(s)—The Washington Missourian, Washington, MO.

BEST BREAKING NEWS STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation less than 3,000

1st Place—The Chaffee County Times, Buena Vista, CO. Entry Title: River of risks: Deadliest year on the Arkansas belies safety record. River accidents claim two. Credit(s): Maisie Ramsay. Judges' Comments: "This was a comprehensive piece that covered all the bases. Also worth noting was the deaths sidebar. A great job of complete coverage."

2nd Place—Missouri Lawyers Weekly, St. Louis, MO. Entry Title: Church accord averted jurors' wrath. Credit(s): Allyssa D. Dudley. Judges' Comments: "A very detailed piece on the intricacies of a troublesome lawsuit. Very well researched and presented."

3rd Place—La Vernia News, La Vernia, TX. Entry Title: Deaf Smith Oak succumbs. Credit(s): Nannette Kilbey-Smith. Judges'

Comments: "Seeing such a vital part of a state's history succumb needs solid documenting, and that's what this piece does. Nice job."

Honorable Mention(s)—The Ark, Tiburon, CA; The Oberlin Herald, Oberlin, KS; Tioga Tribune, Tioga, ND.

BEST BUSINESS FEATURE STORY

Daily Division

1st Place—Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA. Entry Title: Economic Operation: Siouxland's 5 employment weak spots. Credit(s): Dave Dreeszen. Judges' Comments: "Excellent package. Extremely creative layout pushed this entry to the top. Very nice work."

2nd Place—Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, Yankton, SD. Entry Title: Santee Sioux Gamble Pays Off. Credit(s): Randy Dockendorf. Judges' Comments: "Clever lead. Good job of collecting facts and presenting the story."

3rd Place—The Union, Grass Valley, CA. Entry Title: What's cookin' at Tess'? Credit(s): Cory Fisher. Judges' Comments: "Reporter does solid job of reporting and telling the story of this business. Good job."

Honorable Mention(s)—The Manhattan Mercury, Manhattan, KS.

BEST BUSINESS FEATURE STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000 or more

1st Place—The Ellsworth American, Ellsworth, ME. Entry Title: Mill Town Blues & Gubernatorial Candidates React. Credit(s): Charles Eihacker. Judges' Comments: "Well written, great interviews, excellent topic."

2nd Place—Community Impact Newspaper—Katy Edition, Pflugerville, TX. Entry Title: International Markets Offer Flavor of Home. Credit(s): Nick Cenegy. Judges' Comments: "Could be a little stronger on the sociological implications."

A box-store comedy

BY BARBIE PORTER,
The Frazee-Vergas Forum,
Frazee, MN

First place, best humorous column
daily & non-daily division, circulation less than 3,000

This was too funny not to share, but first I feel it is important to clearly state the employees were professional and respectful throughout the entire calamity.

So, I walk into Walmart, grab a few items, pay for them by check.

I was asked to show my driver’s license and gladly complied. I sign the screen and the money is instantly withdrawn from my account. But as the cashier stands with my processed check and receipt in hand, she asks for my phone number.

Imagining the telemarketing calls that would follow, I say, “No, I don’t want to give you my phone number.”

She asks why. I ask why she feels she needs it. To which she replies, “It is policy to get a phone number before accepting a check.”

“You already accepted my check though, it’s in Walmart’s change pocket right now,” I say. “You’re just holding my receipt ransom.”

The realization sinks in, along with confusion. She points out the computer tells her that she must have my phone number.

“You want me to make one up?” I ask. “Because I’m not giving it to you, it’s a matter of principal now. I already paid for this stuff. If you won’t let me leave with it, then give me my cash back and I’ll go elsewhere.”

So, the first manager comes ... she tries to tell me my check wasn’t cashed, that it was voided, and shows me the check as if it held proof with the word void written on it. She even asks if I want to pay with something else.

I explain, all checks that I’ve written the past seven years to Walmart come back to me over the counter with the word void on it, and proceed to explain how instant a withdrawal system works ... to the manager:

And so the second manager comes ... and we’re back at the beginning as she asks, “Why don’t you want to give your phone number?”

Now, anyone who really knows me, will testify that I often wait

until my pre-paid phone is shut off before re-upping the service—just a quirk of mine – so, technically I didn’t have a number. If it was called, it would say it’s disconnected, so I tell her, “You won’t give me the phone card I purchased, so I don’t have a phone number, yet. Why do you need my phone number anyway?”

No answer, but a third manager comes. Again, I suggest they just give me my cash back and

I’ll get out of their hair.

But they can’t because once a phone card is purchased it can’t be returned.

Standing in a pool of irony, it was hard not to laugh. I did my best to keep a straight-face and said something like, “So you agree that I’ve already purchased these items and yet, I can’t take them because you first need my phone num-

ber, but no one can explain why that is necessary.”

Mass confusion. The managers huddle in discussion. The lady behind me starts packing her items back into her cart and shifts to the line in back of me. As she moves forward to the checkout, the huddle breaks and the decision comes. One of the managers says, “We’ll give you these items this time, but next time you’ll need a phone number.”

It was a poor choice of words, made it sound like she was doing me a favor, and before I could filter my thoughts my lips replied, “You’re giving this to me? So I’m getting my money back?”

“No, you can have the stuff,” she answered.

“You mean I can leave with the stuff I paid for?” I ask.

She got my point, apologized, reiterated it was store policy and had been since she started working there years ago. I suggest they change the policy. The woman behind me, who repacked her groceries from the conveyor belt, also paid with a check.

As I was leaving, she pushed her cart next to mine and said, “I wasn’t asked for my phone number.”

“I never have been either,” I say poking fun at the silliness of the wasted half-hour. “Maybe they need a training session, so everyone without a phone number is ostracized the same.”

Anyway, Kmart ... I’m back. Stock that Claritin.

3rd Place—Miami Today, Miami, FL. Entry Title: A family’s vision: inland cargo port, waste-energy plant. Credit(s): Scott Blake. Judges’ Comments: “Well written, but still speculative about outcome.”
Honorable Mention(s)—Farm and Dairy, Salem, OH; Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY; The Mokena Messenger, Orland Park, IL.

BEST BUSINESS FEATURE STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation less than 6,000

1st Place—The Journal, Crosby, ND. Entry Title: Farmers Union Elevator Ray—75 years. Credit(s): Cecile Krimm. Judges’ Comments: “Full of depth, this story is a true business feature. There is a solid mix of history that creates an added level to an already interesting story.”

2nd Place—The Times—Bloomington Prairie, Bloomington Prairie, MN. Entry Title: Best Business Feature Story. Credit(s): Rick Bussler. Judges’ Comments: “Interesting story with multiple angles for development. Good flow to effectively communicate to readers.”

3rd Place—The Blackshear Times, Blackshear, GA. Entry Title: He’s nuts about bolts. Credit(s): Wayne Hardy. Judges’ Comments: “Well-developed story provides a solid backdrop for the subject matter. Excellent conversational tone to draw readers.”

BEST BUSINESS STORY

Daily Division

1st Place—The Union, Grass Valley, CA. Entry Title: Better broadband access sought to boost economic development. Credit(s): Keri Brenner; Ivan Natividad. Judges’ Comments: “I liked the additional information added to these articles—know and go for more information. These additions should have been very helpful for the readers. A good series on a subject of interest to many. Lots of quotes. An all-around super series.”

2nd Place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Entry Title: Virgin Galactic to Carry on. Credit(s): Allison Gatlin. Judges’ Comments: “Good article - well written.”

BEST BUSINESS STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000 or more

1st Place—Miami Today, Miami, FL. Entry Title: As development booms, air-right sales soaring skyward. Credit(s): Lidia Dinkova. Judges’ Comments: “Great story. Very informative.”

2nd Place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Entry Title: The Great Recession. Credit(s): Jim Skeen. Judges’ Comments: “Very well-written story. Great use of graphics.”

3rd Place—Community Impact Newspaper—Southwest Austin Edition, Pflugerville, TX. Entry Title: Red tape slows local business development. Credit(s): Kelli Weldon. Judges’ Comments: “Well written and informative.”
Honorable Mention(s)—The Taos News, Taos, NM.

BEST BUSINESS STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation less than 6,000

1st Place—Litchfield Independent Review, Litchfield, MN. Entry Title: Fraud outbreak hits local cardholders. Credit(s): Jenny Berg. Judges’ Comments: “This reporter did a great job gathering up sources and information and distilling it into a piece that has local impact and flavor on a national issue. The reporter was impressive in connecting with people affected by the credit-card scam and what banks did to help these people.”

2nd Place—The Chaffee County Times, Buena Vista, CO. Entry Title: Workforce housing crunch. Credit(s): Kim Marquis. Judges’ Comments: “Well-researched story with excellent anecdote from sources who are affected by the issue.”

3rd Place—The Blackshear Times, Blackshear, GA. Entry Title: Your home insurance bill could eventually feel the heat. Credit(s): Wayne Hardy. Judges’ Comments: “This is an interesting story that clearly outlines the issue that most readers would never have considered, had it not been for the report. It would have benefited from the perspective of an affected homeowner.”

Honorable Mention(s)—Hutchinson Leader, Hutchinson, MN.

BEST EDITORIAL

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more

1st Place—The St. Louis American, Saint Louis, MO. Entry Title: For the sake of Michael Brown. Judges’ Comments: “Very powerful editorial on a subject matter that is spreading across the country.”

2nd Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY. Entry Title: Anti-Common Core bill is misguided. Credit(s): D. Reed Eckhardt. Judges’ Comments: “Well thought-out editorial. Very detailed. Attacks the rumors and states the facts while giving a strong opinion.”

3rd Place—The Union, Grass Valley, CA. Entry Title: County deserves more than silence on investigation of elected official. Credit(s): The Union Editorial Board. Judges’ Comments: “As a voter in this county, I would be upset, not knowing what is going on with the elected official. The newspaper does a good job of explaining to the readers how uncooperative local law enforcement was on this matter and demands answers for the sake of voters in the community.”
Honorable Mention(s)—The Brunswick Beacon, Shallotte, NC.

BEST EDITORIAL

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 3,000-5,999

1st Place—The Alamance News, Graham, NC. Entry Title: Christmas pork. Credit(s): Tom Boney, Jr. Judges’ Comments: “A powerfully stated position in defense of the public treasury. It rightly points out the impact of wasteful spending on the general public. Great tone calling politicians out by name. A great example of local editorial writing.”

2nd Place—McAlester News-Capital, McAlester, OK. Entry Title: Public deserved more information on inmate walkaway. Credit(s): Glenn Puit. Judges’ Comments: “A well-stated case about protecting the public rather than government image. Nice.”

3rd Place—Azle News, Azle, TX. Entry Title: Earthquakes: Facts Versus Fervor. Credit(s): Mark K. Campbell. Judges’ Comments: “Great tone. Wonderful approach. Well done.”

Honorable Mention(s)—Hutchinson Leader, Hutchinson, MN; The North Scott Press, Eldridge, IA; Westmore News, Port Chester, NY.

BEST EDITORIAL

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000-9,999

1st Place—Hood County News, Granbury, TX. Entry Title: He’s just a kid! Credit(s): Kathy Cruz. Judges’ Comments: “An excellent editorial! Hopefully, these teens will have learned a lesson.”

2nd Place—The Taos News, Taos, NM. Entry Title: Governor’s visit to Questa miners: Why the Delay? Credit(s): Joan Livingston. Judges’ Comments: “A good editorial calling out the need for state officials to step up to the plate during a time of crisis.”

3rd Place—Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI. Entry Title: On being partisan, and the need for forums. Credit(s): Alan Campbell. Judges’ Comments: “A good editorial on voting and how the public needs to be informed.”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Suffolk Times, Mattituck, NY.

BEST EDITORIAL

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 3,000

1st Place—The Edgerton Reporter, Edgerton, WI. Entry Title: Editorial.14 for May 7, 2014. Credit(s): Diane Everson. Judges’ Comments: “A great job of outlining the key issues facing a small community with suggestions on what to do. This more than fulfills the roles of the editorial page as a starter of community conversation and providing leadership. Well done.”

2nd Place—Yankton County Observer, Yankton, SD. Entry Title: 10 Commandments for local officials. Credit(s): Brian J. Hunhoff. Judges’ Comments: “Nice job of detailing for public officials how they should act in accordance with transparency. Also serves as a teaching tool for readers so they can better measure the performance of those they put into office.”

3rd Place—Moonshine Ink, Truckee, CA. Entry Title: Keeping the Conversation Going. Credit(s): Moonshine team. Judges’ Comments: “A solid defense and explanation to readers of our role as watchdogs. Hurrah!”

Honorable Mention(s)—Cedar County News, Hartington, NE; The Edgerton Reporter, Edgerton, WI.

BEST EDITORIAL PAGE(S)

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000 or more

1st Place—The News-Register, McMinnville, OR. Entry Title: Viewpoints. Credit(s): Ossie Bladine, Steve Bagwell, Marna Porath. Judges’ Comments: “The News-Register provides a really good array of views, both from staff and readers. Plenty of space is offered for opinions without any advertising. This was tops on my scorecard for a contest that offered a lot of strong competition.”

2nd Place—The Ellsworth American, Ellsworth, ME. Entry Title: Editorial Pages. Credit(s): Staff. Judges’ Comments: “The American offers attractive editorial pages loaded with local opinion. Very good job.”

3rd Place—Vilas County News-Review, Eagle River, WI. Entry Title: Editorial-Opinion-Commentary. Credit(s): Staff. Judges’ Comments: “The News-Review comes through with good content and good reader appeal.”
Honorable Mention(s)—Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI.

BEST EDITORIAL PAGE(S)

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 6,000

1st Place—Mount Desert Islander, Bar Harbor, ME. Entry Title: Best Editorial pages. Credit(s): Staff. Judges’ Comments: “Very good pages—letters expanded for election coverage; pro/con columns; local/state/national mix. Layout could be less gray.”

2nd Place—Litchfield Independent Review, Litchfield, MN. Entry Title: Independent Review Best Editorial Page Submission. Credit(s): Andrew Broman. Judges’ Comments: “Nice mix of items and positions. Good-looking, clean layout.”

3rd Place—The Imperial Republican, Imperial, NE. Entry Title: Opinion pages. Judges’ Comments: “Pages are visually interesting with mostly local content and varied local items. Kind of one-note on political stances.”

Honorable Mention(s)—Hutchinson Leader, Hutchinson, MN.

BEST EDUCATION/LITERACY STORY

Daily Division

1st Place—The Union, Grass Valley, CA. Entry Title: Common Core: As California starts first full year with new standards, county educators focus. Credit(s): Ivan Natividad. Judges’ Comments: “This is a well-thought-through series. The series offers both sides of the Common Core debate equal time and equal scrutiny. The series is a great for readers with little or a lot of knowledge about Common Core. Readers would have appreciated the depth, quality of sources, variety of perspectives and analysis.”

2nd Place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Entry Title: Teachers Dig Deep Into Own Wallets. Credit(s): Julie Drake. Judges’ Comments: “This story does a great job of explaining the reasons why teachers use their own money for classroom supplies. It is a compelling piece.”

3rd Place—Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA. Entry Title: Fine arts

part of lessons at Hunt. Credit(s): Greg Forbes. Judges' Comments: "This story does a great job of painting a picture of how schools have built arts into instruction using specific examples and anecdote from teachers."

BEST EDUCATION/LITERACY STORY

- Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000 or more**
- 1st Place**—Community Impact Newspaper—Central Austin Edition, Pflugerville, TX. Entry Title: Enrollment Decrease Not Deterring AGC Long-Term Planners. Credit(s): Joe Lanane. Judges' Comments: "Good balance and thorough."
- 2nd Place**—The St. Louis American, Saint Louis, MO. Entry Title: From jails to GED. Credit(s): By Rebecca Rivas. Judges' Comments: "Good balance, good research and interviews."
- 3rd Place**—Community Impact Newspaper—Northwest Austin Edition, Pflugerville, TX. Entry Title: AISD faces drop in student population. Credit(s): Kelli Weldon. Judges' Comments: "Good. Some discussion of strategy, but no mention children without identifying how many leave?"
- Honorable Mention(s)**—Community Impact Newspaper—Cy-Fair Edition, Pflugerville, TX; The News-Register, McMinnville, OR; The Frankfort Station, Orland Park, IL; Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY.

BEST EDUCATION/LITERACY STORY

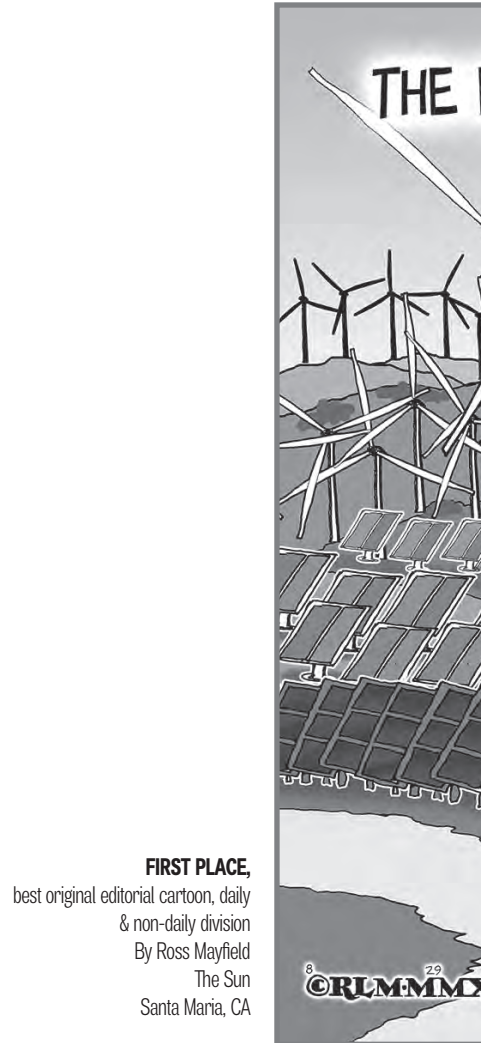
- Non-daily Division, circulation less than 6,000**
- 1st Place**—The Chaffee County Times, Buena Vista, CO. Entry Title: Tests take toll. Credit(s): Maisie Ramsay. Judges' Comments: "This story was well-researched using multiple sources, including teachers and administrators. A student perspective would have been helpful. This story also would have been helped by an estimate or specific number of hours a student spend on testing each year. The 14 percent number was good, but that seemed to tell me how much time the schools spends on testing. I really liked the teacher talking about what curriculum adjustments needed to be made. The quotes from individual teachers in the sidebar helped breathe more life into the story."
- 2nd Place**—Fountain Hills Times, Fountain Hills, AZ. Entry Title: Road to Success: Special education at FHHS aims for life achievements. Credit(s): Ryan Winslett. Judges' Comments: "This is a well-constructed story. The reporter brings the reader into the classroom using visual descriptions and perspectives of the students and teachers in the class. This is an illuminating window opened to a class that is not typically seen by readers."
- 3rd Place**—The Allegan County News, Allegan, MI. Entry Title: Linking the Martin school students benefits both. Credit(s): Virginia Ransbottom. Judges' Comments: "This story is driven by the experience, which is conveyed by linking students, the parents of autistic children and teachers. It is a complete package. Excellent work by the reporter to interview these people and synthesize the information so it is compelling to readers."
- Honorable Mention(s)**—Buffalo Bulletin, Buffalo, WY.

BEST ENVIRONMENTAL STORY

- Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 9,000 or more**
- 1st Place**—The Union, Grass Valley, CA. Entry Title: Water for gold: Standoff heightens on San Juan Ridge. Credit(s): Keri Brenner. Judges' Comments: "Great, great coverage, from the initial protests to the in-depth piece as the mining issue wore on. Skilled, concise writing. Important, timely topic. Won out by doing the hard work and the many interviews to put the issue in context."
- 2nd Place**—Community Impact Newspaper—The Woodlands Edition, Pflugerville, TX. Entry Title: Water reduction plans address long-term overuse. Credit(s): Matt Stephens. Judges' Comments: "Very informative; excellent graphics. Timely, well-written."
- 3rd Place**—Santa Maria Sun, Santa Maria, CA. Entry Title: Not a drop to spare. Credit(s): Camillia Lanham. Judges' Comments: "Great, in-depth use of an individual's experience to speak to the larger issue. Excellent writing; accessible tone. Good research."
- Honorable Mention(s)**—Community Impact Newspaper - Northwest Austin Edition, Pflugerville, TX; The Sun, Santa Maria, CA.

BEST ENVIRONMENTAL STORY

- Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 9,000**
- 1st Place**—Moonshine Ink, Truckee, CA. Entry Title: When the River Stops Flowing. Credit(s): Melissa Siig. Judges' Comments: "Not only is this a timely story with wide reader interest, but it was crafted with research in mind. Very interesting angles presented from start to finish."
- 2nd Place**—Frazee-Vergas Forum, Frazee, MN. Entry Title: Late night tour makes resident ask, Is Town Lake safe for swimmers? Credit(s): Barbie Porter. Judges' Comments: "Impressive research made this story stand out. Very timely topic of obvious interest to members of the community."
- 3rd Place**—The Dalles Chronicle, The Dalles, OR. Entry Title: Water Dispute Boils. Credit(s): RaeLynn Ricarte/Mark B. Gibson. Judges' Comments: "This is one of those stories that local residents would certainly have an opinion about. Good job shedding light on the viewpoints of both sides."
- Honorable Mention(s)**—The Journal, Crosby, ND; The Winnetka Current, Northbrook, IL.



FIRST PLACE,
best original editorial cartoon, daily
& non-daily division
By Ross Mayfield
The Sun
Santa Maria, CA

BEST FAMILY LIFE/ LIVING SECTION/PAGES

- Daily & Non-daily Division**
- 1st Place**—Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI. Entry Title: Diversions, June 26 & July 3. Credit(s): Alan Campbell, Mike Spencer, Amy Hubbell, Patti Brandt & Eric Carlson. Judges' Comments: "What an amazing trove of local content! Great ideas, well-executed. A true gift to the community."
- 2nd Place**—Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA. Entry Title: Siouxland Life magazine, Feb. 2014. Credit(s): Journal staff. Judges' Comments: "Great focus on local people. Profiles are thoughtfully written and photographed. Design is excellent."
- 3rd Place**—The Ellsworth American, Ellsworth, ME. Entry Title: Family Life/Living Section. Credit(s): Staff. Judges' Comments: "Wonderful array of content, briskly presented. Captures a vibrant and diverse community."
- Honorable Mention(s)**—Door County Advocate, Sturgeon Bay, WI; Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY; The Livingston Parish News, Denham Springs, LA; Vilas County News-Review, Eagle River, WI.

BEST FEATURE PHOTO

- Daily Division**
- 1st Place**—Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA. Entry Title: Dunk tank. Credit(s): Jim Lee. Judges' Comments: "I'd love to see this shot in color! It's a very interesting moment after the subject is submerged in a dunk tank, framed in the splashes created by the landing. A really complex and interesting photo and something a little different, which got it just a notch above some other strong entries. All the winners in this category were strong."
- 2nd Place**—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Entry Title: Dog Jumping. Credit(s): Ron Siddle. Judges' Comments: "Excellent shot from a great angle that showed both dog and owner working this stunt, except the dog had to do the diving!"
- 3rd Place**—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY. Entry Title: A high-stakes game of catch. Credit(s): Blaine McCartney. Judges' Comments: "Great moment and expression on the subject. Perfect technically and well played in the paper. Nicely done."
- Honorable Mention(s)**—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY; Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY.

BEST FEATURE PHOTO

- Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more**
- 1st Place**—Park Cities People, Dallas, TX. Entry Title: Splash Brothers: Sibling Swimmers Make Waves. Credit(s): Don Johnson. Judges' Comments: "Excellent portrait of two swimmers in the school pool; well executed in every way."
- 2nd Place**—The Wilmette Beacon, Northbrook, IL. Entry Title: Fourth of July. Credit(s): Joe Coughlin. Judges' Comments: "Nice moment featuring an airborne gymnast while a big crowd watches. Needed a tighter crop and to run in a more vertical format to get it up a notch."

- 3rd Place**—The Wilmette Beacon, Northbrook, IL. Entry Title: Movie Night. Credit(s): Joe Coughlin. Judges' Comments: "Nice moment of a kid in his homemade box car."

BEST FEATURE PHOTO

- Non-daily Division, circulation 3,000-5,999**
- 1st Place**—The Standard Banner, Jefferson City, TN. Entry Title: C'mon, Molly, show these kids your smile! Credit(s): Ronnie Housley. Judges' Comments: "What a great shot! The look in Molly's eye tells the whole story."
- 2nd Place**—(Tie) The Standard Banner, Jefferson City, TN. Entry Title: We're going to the state tournament. Credit(s): Dale Gentry. Judges' Comments: "An excellent shot. You can feel the excitement of the moment."
- 2nd Place**—(Tie) Westmore News, Port Chester, NY. Entry Title: Minnie Mouse face paint. Credit(s): Claire K. Racine. Judges' Comments: "You captured Lily Wolf's moment of glee!"
- 3rd Place**—(Tie) Hutchinson Leader, Hutchinson, MN. Entry Title: Fun in the mud. Credit(s): Doug Hanneman. Judges' Comments: "I just like it. Summer days—what fun. I can imagine how the next shot would have looked like."
- 3rd Place**—(Tie) The Blackshear Times, Blackshear, GA. Entry Title: A 'smashing' good time. Credit(s): Wayne Hardy. Judges' Comments: "That had to hurt his elbow. Great stop-action as the bricks explode."
- Honorable Mention(s)**—Idyllwild Town Crier, Idyllwild, CA.

BEST FEATURE PHOTO

- Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000-9,999**
- 1st Place**—Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI. Entry Title: Boy running with shoe in hand at PTO fundraiser. Credit(s): Mike Spencer. Judges' Comments: "Cute photo. The more you look at it, the more you discover. Child's stance gives it action, and the girls all have various expressions, which bring the moment to life. Dynamic entry."
- 2nd Place**—The Homer Horizon, Orland Park, IL. Entry Title: Fireworks. Credit(s): Jean Lachat. Judges' Comments: "This photograph is more difficult than a novice might think. Beautiful shot enhanced by backlighting. Excellent work."
- 3rd Place**—Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI. Entry Title: Champagne rains. Credit(s): Patti Brandt. Judges' Comments: "Cool photograph and a difficult shot to catch. Solid composition. Kudos to the photographer for an excellent effort."
- Honorable Mention(s)**—Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY; The Taos News, Taos, NM.

BEST FEATURE PHOTO

- Non-daily Division, circulation less than 3,000**
- 1st Place**—The Mountain Enterprise, Frazier Park, CA. Entry Title: Drought and fire in the mountains. Credit(s): Jeff Zimmerman. Judges' Comments: "The type of shot that makes the reader gasp.

Simultaneously ominous and beautiful. Kudos to the photographer. Best entry in a very large field."

- 2nd Place**—Litchfield Independent Review, Litchfield, MN. Entry Title: Samurai sword. Credit(s): Jenny Berg. Judges' Comments: "Unique and eye-catching photograph. Expression on subject's face makes for a wonderful composition overall. Excellent photo. Photographer should be very proud of this entry."

- 3rd Place**—Frazee-Vergas Forum, Frazee, MN. Entry Title: End of a season. Credit(s): Gale Kaas. Judges' Comments: "Beautiful photo. Reader can almost feel the color creeping off of the page and into the room. Good eye and execution."

- Honorable Mention(s)**—Litchfield Independent Review, Litchfield, MN; Petersburg Pilot, Petersburg, AK.

BEST FEATURE SERIES

- Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000 or more**
- 1st Place**—The News-Register, McMinnville, OR. Entry Title: Stopping By. Credit(s): Starla Pointer. Judges' Comments: "This series represents a significant amount of depth and research, clearly providing value to the local community. Good variety of subject matter selected."
- 2nd Place**—Farm and Dairy, Salem, OH. Entry Title: Our Farm Roots. Credit(s): Farm and Dairy Staff. Judges' Comments: "Fantastic topic with many avenues for development. Stories are well written with a clear connection to the community."
- 3rd Place**—The Union, Grass Valley, CA. Entry Title: The Union celebrates 150th anniversary. Credit(s): The Union staff. Judges' Comments: "History plays an important role in a community, which is evident in the content of this series. Well-researched articles provide a wide variety of interesting details to connect the past and present."
- Honorable Mention(s)**—Valencia County News-Bulletin, Belen, NM.

BEST FEATURE SERIES

- Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 6,000**
- 1st Place**—Yankton County Observer, Yankton, SD. Entry Title: Old Time Crimes. Credit(s): Brian J. Hunhoff. Judges' Comments: "Well written. A+. Well researched. Interesting topic. Readers love history of the area pieces, and this series has it in spades. Would have liked some subheads to keep pulling the reader along. Great job."
- 2nd Place**—The Allegan County News, Allegan, MI. Entry Title: Fennville storyteller tells of train robbery. Credit(s): Virginia Ransbottom. Judges' Comments: "Good story re-told from the perspective of an aging member of the community."
- 3rd Place**—Tioga Tribune, Tioga, ND.

BEST FEATURE STORY

Daily Division

- 1st Place**—Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, Yankton, SD. Entry Title: A Teachable Moment. Credit(s): Randy Dockendorf. Judges' Comments: "Randy Dockendorf proved that he's a great story-teller. His feature about a teacher with breast cancer was the favorite of this judge."
- 2nd Place**—Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA. Entry Title: Making it to America: Immigrant to Sioux City shares story of his journey, current battles. Credit(s): Dolly A. Butz. Judges' Comments: "Dolly Butz' tale of a young immigrant is a good one that's well told. The accompanying graphic is a plus to a compelling story."
- 3rd Place**—The Union, Grass Valley, CA. Entry Title: Jadee's Journey. Credit(s): Cory Fisher. Judges' Comments: "Cory Fisher put together a really good account of a student's transgender experience. It's good handling of a controversial topic."
- Honorable Mention(s)**—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA.

BEST FEATURE STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000-14,999

- 1st Place**—The Brunswick Beacon, Shallotte, NC. Entry Title: Nora's Christmas story. Credit(s): Laura Lewis. Judges' Comments: "I absolutely loved this story. Well written and informative. Nora sounds like a very special lady—thank you for writing about her. Even though the story was a little long, I was captivated from the first paragraph all the way to the last paragraph due to your descriptive writing and good use of quotes."
- 2nd Place**—The Livingston Parish News, Denham Springs, LA. Entry Title: Mr. Smith goes to war. Credit(s): Carol Stuart. Judges' Comments: "What a heartwarming story about a special veteran. I loved the headline, 'Mr. Smith goes to war,' which brought me right into the story. Well written, and I feel I know Mr. Smith after reading the article!"
- 3rd Place**—The Livingston Parish News, Denham Springs, LA. Entry Title: Tides high and low. Credit(s): Lisa Dowty. Judges' Comments: "Interesting feature on your cruise, and the first paragraph drew me right in. I liked how you also incorporated other interesting tidbits about cruises. Very informative."

BEST FEATURE STORY

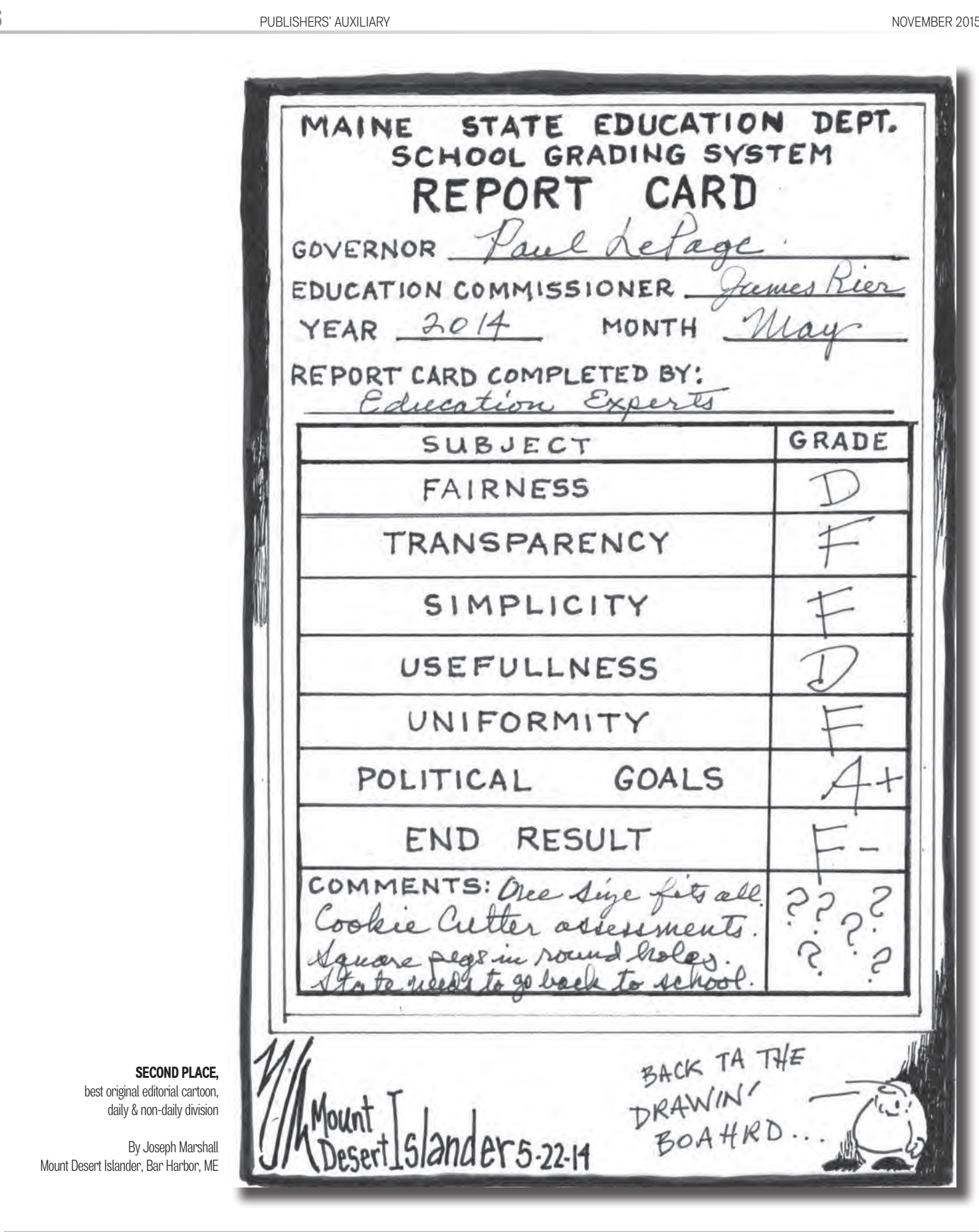
Non-daily Division, circulation 15,000 or more

- 1st Place**—Valencia County News-Bulletin, Belen, NM. Entry Title: Getting the story. Credit(s): Julia M. Dendinger. Judges' Comments: "This insight into a newspaperman's career, varied and deep, is fascinating. The piece is well written, but the stories shared by Boggs put it over the top. It's a rare insight into the history in a field and time that has changed a lot. It's a piece worth reading more than once."
- 2nd Place**—The Orland Park Prairie, Orland Park, IL. Entry Title: Engaging Reads. Credit(s): Bill Jones. Judges' Comments: "Engaging reads grab the reader with the engaging photographs first. The lede to the story is clean and a grabber, as well. Most retirees can identify with this teacher's journey. The article is a great contribution to the community, as is the teacher a great contribution to children cutting their teeth on first books."
- 3rd Place**—Valencia County News-Bulletin, Belen, NM. Entry Title: Fulfilling a dream in Valencia County. Credit(s): Deborah Fox. Judges' Comments: "The story is remarkable and well written, giving the reader a good understanding of dreams, struggle, success and a journey far from 'home.' All those ingredients, along with complimentary photos, make us care about this young man's journey. Bravo."
- Honorable Mention(s)**—Preston Hollow People, Dallas, TX; Santa Maria Sun, Santa Maria, CA; The Northbrook Tower, Northbrook, IL.

BEST FEATURE STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation 2,000-3,999

- 1st Place**—The Ark, Tiburon, CA. Entry Title: Get the bad guys out. Credit(s): Emily Lavin. Judges' Comments: "Kid- with-leukemia features are common, and they often get entered in contests. This one is exceptional because of the creative, informative lead, which draws the reader into the story. It could stand some editing for length, but the quotations, good writing and story development maintain reader interest. Fine work with a common feature theme. Lead creates tension, narrative evokes horror of the stricken child, resolution provides welcome relief with child's recovery and increasing success in treatment of this dread disease."
- 2nd Place**—The Journal, Crosby, ND. Entry Title: Kiss an angel good morning. Credit(s): John D. Taylor. Judges' Comments: "Excellent lead—critical for a newspaper feature. Very nice, well-paced story about a couple's long marriage. Stories like this usually dissolve quickly into smaltzy drivel. This one holds up well to the end with good quotes and just enough detail to provide a glimpse into the couple's life. Terrific newspaper feature writing."
- 3rd Place**—Tribune-Phonograph, Abbotsford, WI. Entry Title: Chains of command. Credit(s): Kevin O'Brien. Judges' Comments: "A thorough, detailed look at a military rape victim's story. Writing is good; construction tends toward patchwork. Lead needs more punch. The content is certainly compelling. Some of the information provided in the feature could have been presented in brief sidebars, which would have helped break up the mass of the main feature. Military response made an interesting sidebar but could have been edited



down significantly."

Honorable Mention(s)—Uinta County Herald, Evanston, WY.

BEST FEATURE STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation 4,000-5,999

- 1st Place**—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX. Entry Title: So long, Mr. Clark. Credit(s): Kristen Tribe, Joe Duty. Judges' Comments: "Sweet story with a happy/sad outcome. Well-written; strong lead; good quotes used well. We're told about how often the teacher helped the kids and vice versa. An anecdote or two showing those things would have been stronger than simply telling us they occurred. Clever sidebar with lyrics to the teacher's song. We read/hear so many stories about how teachers and mentors abuse their students or their positions, and about students disrupting classrooms, that this feature is a breath of fresh air on a number of levels. Good instinct recognizing the story, and good judgment in how it is played."
- 2nd Place**—Hickman County Times, Centerville, TN. Entry Title: A veteran's story: Rescuing the wounded. Credit(s): Bradley A. Martin. Judges' Comments: "Sobering content; wonderful quotes. This story about a veteran finally coming to terms with his grief is well-paced and gripping. On the other hand, it is a perfect example of a compelling feature story that could have been told better if broken into pieces. It would benefit from a stronger lead. The part about the chance meeting with one of the men he evacuated would have made a dynamite sidebar, or a powerful lead to the main story. Another great sidebar would be the material about the holidays and his thoughts about them. When everything is put into one long story, you lose too many readers intimidated by the length, and they miss all

of the great content in the later portions of the story, things like this man's suggestion about what can be done for today's service people, at the very end of the story."

3rd Place—Cody Enterprise, Cody, WY. Entry Title: Earl Durand. Credit(s): Amber Peabody. Judges' Comments: "The feature about the young friend of the killer—the central figure here—makes the entry. That piece could have had a stronger lead, but the strong quotes are woven nicely into a compelling narrative. A good read, even of the original reporting of the crime spree."

Honorable Mention(s)—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX.

BEST FEATURE STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000-9,999

1st Place—The Taos News, Taos, NM. Entry Title: The Cost of a Life. Credit(s): Andrew Oxford. Judges' Comments: "Well-written account of a tragedy that continues to haunt those involved. Painful to read; quotes add to the agony. Well constructed; good flow. Confused by the inclusion of regulations on trailer parks, which seem irrelevant to the underlying tragedy."

2nd Place—The Ellsworth American, Ellsworth, ME. Entry Title: Sisters at Sea. Credit(s): Jacqueline Weaver. Judges' Comments: "Great topic for a feature story written very well. Excellent quotes from all of the women are used well. Good pace—no clutter to bog down the flow of the story. A good sidebar would have been some detail about a daily lobster trip—what happens when—maybe some of the atmosphere aboard the lobster boat during the day—sounds, smells, sights. Maybe your readers already know all of that. The elderly lady who lobsters during summer, when she's not teaching

at the university, would have made a complete feature alone, but the younger women added a different perspective and dimension. An enjoyable read."

3rd Place—Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY. Entry Title: Yellowstone's hidden golden opportunity. Credit(s): Emma Breysse. Judges' Comments: "Intriguing, well-written story about hunting treasure—adventurous, mysterious, dangerous. Wonderful elements of any treasure hunt story. Nice photos and terrific graphic of hunt regions and clues. Many readers can relate to the region described, having visited Yellowstone. Quite long. Breaking some of the side stories into sidebars with their own headlines would have offered opportunities for more creative presentation."

Honorable Mention(s)—Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI.

BEST FEATURE STORY

Non-daily Division, circulation less than 2,000

1st Place—The Holyoke Enterprise, Holyoke, CO. Entry Title: Pinterest just got more Pinteresting. Credit(s): Darci Tomky. Judges' Comments: "This was a fun read—it made me smile! I loved your perspectives and play on words."

2nd Place—The Commercial Record, Saugatuck, MI. Entry Title: Fowl friends 'goosed' again by Gert/George. Credit(s): Scott Sullivan. Judges' Comments: "Each time I pulled up this story, it made me smile. I loved it!"

3rd Place—Hendersonville Lightning, Hendersonville, NC. Entry Title: Apodaca keeps up the banter while he relishes role in Senate. Credit(s): Bill Moss. Judges' Comments: "This was a treat to read—not your usual political banter!"



SECOND PLACE, best feature photo, non-daily division, circulation 10,000 or more

By Joe Coughlin, The Wilmette Beacon, Northbrook, IL

FOURTH OF JULY—The crowd is awestruck as the Jesse White Tumblers perform at Wilmette’s annual Fourth of July celebration Thursday, July 3, at Gillsen Park.

Take a revealing look at yourself

BY WENDY JOHNSON
The Pine Journal
Cloquet, MN

First place, best humorous column
daily & non-division, circulation 3,000 - 7,999

There’s nothing more humbling than a hospital gown. Not only is it sadly lacking in style points (as well as adequate snaps to protect your you-know-what), but there’s always the little matter of whether to fasten it in the front or the back....

In my earlier visits to the doctor’s office, I never seemed to remember to ask which it was supposed to be, depending, I suppose, on what they were about to do. When the nurse said, “Take off all your clothes and put on the gown — the doctor will be in soon,” I was too preoccupied with getting it done before the knock came at the door so I never thought to ask if I should snap the gown in the front or the back.

You know the drill — as soon as the nurse walks out the door, you rip off your clothes, hide your underwear beneath your shirt and pants on the chair, dive into your gown and settle yourself in with as much dignity as you can muster before the doctor makes his appearance.

In deference to the docs, I have never once had one of them who failed to discreetly knock on the door before entering. But somehow, the thought of being in the midst of peeling off my clothes when that knock comes at the door causes me to rush desperately through the disrobing procedure and spring onto the examining table.

That presents another problem — if you’ve snapped the gown up the back, the snaps always seem to fall just short of covering your posterior.

And if you’re seated with your back to the door, it’s worrisome to think that might be the first sight the doctor has as he walks in....

I can still remember when I gave birth to my first child. As pregnant mothers often tend to be, I was fanciful about my upcoming hospital stay, purchasing an elaborate nightgown and robe to wear so I would look good when all of our friends and family came to visit and see the baby.

It didn’t take me long to realize the error of my ways — and just why hospital gowns are designed the way they are. Needless to say, the fancy peignoir remained in my closet when my second child was born!

A few years ago, when I was in the hospital for a couple of weeks following surgery, I pretty much mastered the art of the hospital gown. I was inspired by the nurses, who somehow managed to change my hospital gown while I was still in bed without ever exposing me to the outside world. They mysteriously managed to do it in one continuous motion that revealed no bare skin that shouldn’t be revealed. I and my dignity appreciated it.

It was quite another thing to take that walk down the hallway they always want you to do before you feel like you can really do it. I had brought along a fleecy pink robe to wear during any “public appearances,” but I failed to an-

ticipate the fact I would be hooked up to an IV for much of the time, making it pretty much impossible to slip the robe over my arm. And so, as my husband I took our obligatory stroll down the hallway, I slid the robe over my free arm and kind of swooped it around the other, reducing (I hoped!) any possible over-exposure.

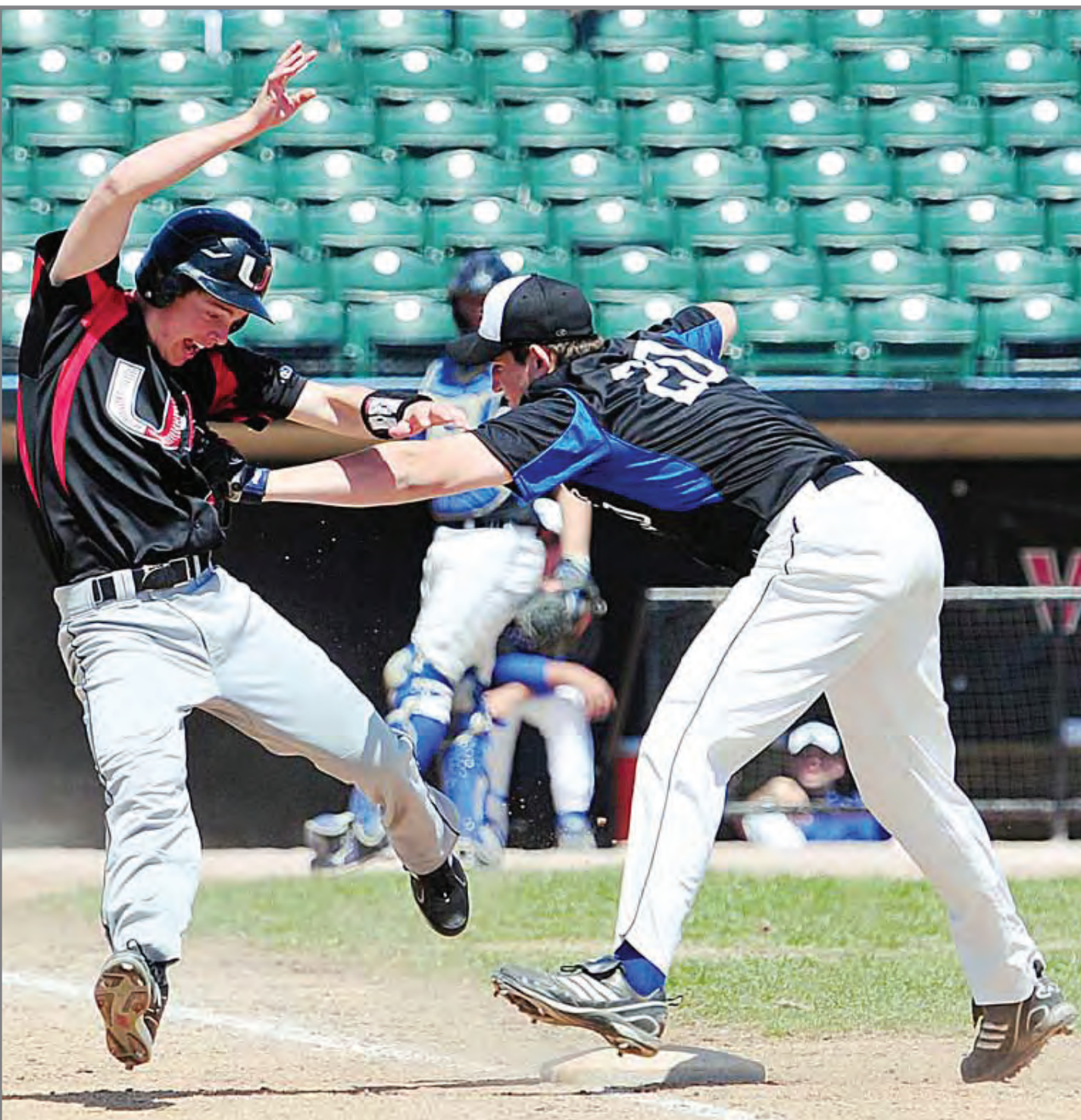
These days, I’m an old pro. Every time I go to visit the doctor for an exam, when the nurse tells me to take off my clothes and put on the gown, I immediately ask, “Do you want it to open in the front or in the back?” I realize that the doctors usually leave you more than enough time to preserve your dignity, so as soon as I’ve taken off my clothes and piled my blouse and pants on the chair over my underwear, I stroll over to the examine table and settle in like a queen on her throne.

My last annual checkup kind of threw me for a loop, however. The young nurse ushered me to the exam room, signed me in and took my blood pressure. Then she said, “Take off all your clothes and the doctor should be in soon.” And then she left.

I obediently began to tug my sweater over my head when suddenly, in a moment of horror, I realized she’d forgotten to set out a gown.



Johnson



FIRST PLACE, best sports photo, non-daily division, circulation 10,000 or more
By Bill Battle | The Washington Missourian, Washington, MO

TAG! YOUR SAFE—Washington first baseman Nick Thiel tags Union runner Blake Pickard Saturday during baseball action at T.R. Hughes Ballpark in O'Fallon. Pickard had already crossed the base. Thiel tried to make the play after being pulled off the bag by a wide throw.

Miami. It took some thought, as well as a well-developed sense of humor, to come up with lines like these: "Next to Brazilian butt lifts and LeBron James, soccer is the only thing Miamians can agree on, or Beckham is the perfect role model for kids in Miami. He has a hot wife, plenty of tattoos and his very own brand!" Miamians may also agree that the writer is humorous, but likely they do not wish to be the object of his humor."

3rd Place—The Pilot, Southern Pines, NC. Entry Title: Frozen Caveman Columnist Gets the Cold Shoulder. Credit(s): Jim Dodson. Judges' Comments: "Angels likely fear to tread in humor where gender differences are real or inferred, but this writer either knows no such fear or is comfortable with both himself and his audience and wades right in. He dares to find humor in women having cold hands and warm hearts in the winter, and he offers his warm hands to warm theirs as he somewhat coolly spars verbally with officemates about their hands being colder than ballpark franks from the fridge. He writes in a light-hearted manner, dropping in several amusing phrases. While his co-workers may have cold hands, they apparently did not give him the cold shoulder—or we wouldn't be reading this amusing account."

Honorable Mention(s)—Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI; Miami Today, Miami, FL.

BEST HUMOROUS COLUMN

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 3,000

1st Place—Frazee-Vergas Forum, Frazee, MN. Entry Title: A box-store comedy. Credit(s): Barbie Porter. Judges' Comments: "I could visualize the conversations! Seriously funny."

2nd Place—Michigan Lawyers Weekly, West Bloomfield, MI. Entry Title: All that and a bag of chips. Credit(s): Paul Fletcher. Judges' Comments: "Funny—your last sentence, 'It was clearly nacho typical business dispute' provided serious moan factor."

3rd Place—The Goodland Star-News, Goodland, KS. Entry Title: Directions to nowhere. Credit(s): TV. Hagenah. Judges' Comments: "Your directions to nowhere was spot on. And true!"

Honorable Mention(s)—Cedar County News, Hartington, NE; The Journal, Crosby, ND.

BEST INVESTIGATIVE OR IN-DEPTH STORY OR SERIES

Daily Division

1st Place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Entry Title: Mental Health. Credit(s): Andrew Clark. Judges' Comments: "Andrew Clark offered a pair of excellent entries in this contest, but his look into a local mental health care crisis takes top honors. Clark put together a very thorough examination of the issue in his three-part series and hits all of the requirements for this contest better than the other strong entries—and there were plenty of them. This was a tough contest to judge."

2nd Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY. Entry Title: Can UW survive? Credit(s): Robert Gagliardi. Judges' Comments: "Robert Gagliardi gave a very thorough examination of the plight of a college football program. He approached the topic from many angles, contacted ample sources and left readers with a good understanding of the topic."

3rd Place—Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA. Entry Title: Health care behind bars. Credit(s): Bret Hayworth and Dolly Butz. Judges' Comments: "Hayworth and Butz' report on prison health care doesn't have the depth of other entries, but it's a really excellent job of reporting."

BEST INVESTIGATIVE OR IN-DEPTH STORY OR SERIES

Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more

1st Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY. Entry Title: Downtown Cheyenne: Ready for renewal? Parts 1-5. Credit(s): Becky Orr. Judges' Comments: "Solid work, well told with images and graphics and quality writing. Bringing in information from places with similar issues was helpful."

2nd Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY. Entry Title: Education standards: Past, present and future, Parts 1-3. Credit(s): Aerin Curtis. Judges' Comments: "Excellent work in providing multiple points of view, plus the lessons at the classroom level, to an issue that is raging across many states."

3rd Place—The Glenview Lantern, Northbrook, IL. Entry Title: Glenview Finances. Credit(s): Alex Mayster. Judges' Comments: "Good work in seeking to explain the business of municipal finance, which is difficult to understand and more difficult to explain to readers. Missing from this was deeper explanation from municipal officials about how things got this way, and graphics that would have better eased readers into the complicated issue."

Honorable Mention(s)—Rio Grande Sun, Espanola, NM.

BEST INVESTIGATIVE OR IN-DEPTH STORY OR SERIES

Non-daily Division, circulation 3,000-9,999

1st Place—Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY. Entry Title: Housing Shortage. Credit(s): Staff. Judges' Comments: "Excellent work, with a combination of statistics and multiple points of view on the human side of the housing equation."

2nd Place—Riverhead News-Review, Mattituck, NY. Entry Title: In-Depth: Tom Cutinella. Credit(s): Michael Lewis, Carrie Miller, Jen

Honorable Mention(s)—The New Era, Parker, SD; The Plainwell & Otsego Union Enterprise, Allegan, MI.

BEST HEADLINE WRITING

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—The N'West Iowa REVIEW, Sheldon, IA. Entry Title: "Best Headline Writing. Credit(s): Staff. Judges' Comments: "Fantastic use of headline tools to grab attention. Good mix of styles that incorporate a penchant for creativity."

2nd Place—The Times—Blooming Prairie, Blooming Prairie, MN. Entry Title: Best Headline. Credit(s): Staff. Judges' Comments: "Nice, well-rounded use of headline-writing techniques throughout publication. Good mix of typeface for variety."

3rd Place—Hutchinson Leader, Hutchinson, MN. Entry Title: Best Headline Writing—Hutchinson Leader. Judges' Comments: "Headline variety is attractive, drawing attention to each story. Overall package is effective."

Honorable Mention(s)—Park Cities People, Dallas, TX; The Tinley Junction, Orland Park, IL.

BEST HEALTH STORY

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000 or more

1st Place—The Ellsworth American, Ellsworth, ME. Entry Title: Beauty Is in the Eye. Credit(s): Steve Fuller. Judges' Comments: "Terrific story with fascinating details that allow the reader a glimpse into the little-known world of facial prosthetics. The photos made this a complete package."

2nd Place—Farm and Dairy, Salem, OH. Entry Title: Winning farmers' hearing loss battle. Credit(s): Brian Lisik. Judges' Comments: "An important exploration of the impact of the agriculture industry on hearing loss and the safety issues that result, even for younger producers. Thorough, detailed, well-organized and easy to

read. A great service to your readers."

3rd Place—Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, Yankton, SD. Entry Title: Peanut Ban Enacted To Protect Student. Credit(s): Randy Dockendorf. Judges' Comments: "This writer did a great job of calling attention to the food allergy problem in a manner that was both matter-of-fact and not overly alarmist. I imagine the parents of the student who is dangerously allergic to peanuts appreciated both his and the school district's level-headed treatment of the problem and the useful information that was provided."

Honorable Mention(s)—Community Impact Newspaper - Spring/Klein Edition, Pflugerville, TX; Rochester Business Journal, Rochester, NY.

BEST HEALTH STORY

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 6,000

1st Place—The North Scott Press, Eldridge, IA. Entry Title: Celebrating a miracle. Credit(s): Scott Campbell. Judges' Comments: "You simply cannot stop reading this story. Great details; great emotion; great storytelling."

2nd Place—The Chaffee County Times, Buena Vista, CO. Entry Title: Pot therapy curbs seizures. Credit(s): Maisie Ramsay. Judges' Comments: "Great details. Very informative. Sidebar a nice touch for those looking for more information on the topic."

3rd Place—Litchfield Independent Review, Litchfield, MN. Entry Title: The gift of 'a beautiful death'. Credit(s): Jenny Berg. Judges' Comments: This story was a great presentation of an obviously difficult topic of discussion. The emotion was strong in the story. Good read."

Honorable Mention(s)—Petersburg Pilot, Petersburg, AK.

BEST HUMOROUS COLUMN

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 3,000-7,999

1st Place—Pine Journal, Cloquet, MN. Entry Title: Take a revealing look at yourself. Credit(s): Wendy Johnson. Judges' Comments: "Clever."

2nd Place—The N'West Iowa REVIEW, Sheldon, IA. Entry Title: Talking like politicians. Credit(s): Ken Fuson. Judges' Comments: "Nicely written"

3rd Place—Azle News, Azle, TX. Entry Title: Pro Tips From the Photographer of the Year. Credit(s): Mark K. Campbell. Judges' Comments: "Well done."

BEST HUMOROUS COLUMN

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 8,000 or more

1st Place—Miami Today, Miami, FL. Entry Title: Top 10 lists and stadium quests. Credit(s): Susan Kahn. Judges' Comments: "My immediate reaction to reading this was, 'Now, that's funny.' Writing sarcasm is an adventure because written comments lack the body language, facial expressions, gestures and tone of voice that make verbal sarcasm more readily understood. But, this writer does well in tossing verbal darts that hit the bull's eye of humor. I actually laughed out loud two or three times reading this. It's short, pithy and easy to read. Each time I reread the entries, I came back to this one. Definitely fits the bill as being humorous."

2nd Place—Miami Today, Miami, FL. Entry Title: Seal deal for soccer at seaport fast, before the waters rise. Credit(s): Isaac Prilleltensky. Judges' Comments: "Planned humor, especially with a lightly sarcastic touch, is difficult to write successfully, but this writer succeeds. Considerable originality is found in this cleverly written but obviously planned humorous look at a topic of concern, soccer legend David Beckham's desire to build a soccer stadium on Port

Mead reminds us of another bigoted governor in 1963

BY D. REED ECKHARDT
The Wyoming Tribune Eagle
Cheyenne, WY

First place, best serious column
daily & non-daily division, circulation 12,000 or more

“As your governor, I shall resist any illegal federal court order, even to the point of standing at the schoolhouse door in person, if necessary.”—Alabama Gov. George Wallace (1963)

For those of another generation—as well as students of the U.S. civil rights movement—the image is clear and ever-present.

There he is, Gov. George Wallace, standing at the door of Foster Auditorium at the University of Alabama. State troopers in hard hats surround him.

It is June of 1963, just months after Mr. Wallace pledged at his inauguration to stand for “segregation now, segregation tomorrow, segregation forever.”

He is seeking to block access to two black students who simply are trying to exercise their constitutional right of equal access to a public university.

It’s an unhappy symbol of those who sought at that time to steal the rights of their fellow Americans.

Now comes Wyoming Gov. Matt Mead, more than a half-century later, donning the worn-out mantle of bigotry formerly donned by Mr. Wallace.

Only Mr. Mead’s issue is not one of race. Rather, he is seeking to block the rightful access to Wyoming’s county courthouses by gay and lesbian couples

who hope to exercise their constitutional right to be married.

Just this past Monday, the narrow-minded edifice erected against their fellow homosexual Americans by social conservatives—as well as those who have pandered to them (please add Mr. Mead to that list)—came crashing down.

The U.S. Supreme Court declined to hear the appeals of five states that wanted to keep their gay marriage bans, making such unions legal there immediately. The ruling covers six other states because they are located in the same U.S. Court of Appeals districts as the other five.

Wyoming is one of them.



Eckhardt

All Mr. Mead had to do on Monday was to graciously accept the decision and throw wide open the county courthouse doors.

Even if he truly believes that marriage should be limited to a man and a woman, he still could have stepped aside without comment. Fellow conservative governors like Chris Christie in New Jersey and Scott Walker in Wisconsin did just that.

But no, Mr. Mead is taking the route of Mr. Wallace. He has chosen to stand at the courthouse door and figuratively shout, “You shall not pass!” He

has done that by ordering Wyoming’s attorney general to push forward with the state’s defense of its law that bans gay marriage.

The governor, who as a former federal law officer (U.S. attorney) should know better, argues technicalities: The state’s lawsuit involves a statute, while the Supreme Court ruled against bans that were in state constitutions.

That, friends, is a narrow fig leaf that sooner or later is going to be stripped off by the courts, leaving Mr. Mead’s naked political act bare for all to see.

Unfortunately, this is not just about the governor and the U.S. Supreme Court. Rather,

it reflects negatively on the entire state of Wyoming. And it further enforces national images of cowboy backwardness and of a young gay man, dead, strapped to a buck fence outside of Laramie.

Wyoming, the Equality State, is so much more, so much better than that. But the governor’s stance leaves its greatness obscured by the foul pollution and stench of bigotry.

Among the biggest harms to the state will be to its efforts to attract high-tech firms. These companies would bring with them the young, bright minds this state so badly craves.

But ask the young people who grow up in Wyoming how they feel about its rabid anti-gay culture; its dark-red political postures never expressed in the politeness that its people so richly treasure; its purposeful ignorance about such global-altering issues as climate change.

No, don’t ask, just look. They run away from here as soon as they can, taking their youthful vigor and creativity with them.

Or stand at the new visitors center on Interstate 25 south of Cheyenne in the early evening and count the cars headed south to Fort Collins or similar Colorado environs. These are the bright young people, some of them Wyoming natives, who work in high-tech firms here. They refuse to deal with, among other things, the toxic culture and politics now so openly displayed by Mr. Mead.

The damage the governor is doing to Wyoming will take years to repair, if it even can be.

Say what you will—you might even support Mr. Mead’s position. But the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that gay and lesbian Americans have the same rights as you and I. The civil rights issue of this generation has been decided.

In case you have forgotten, Alabama’s Gov. Wallace relented in the face of the federal forces that eventually turned the South away from its ignorance and bigotry.

The same fate awaits Mr. Mead and much of Wyoming. It is only a matter of when, not if.

Nuzzo, Grant Parpan, Paul Squire, Joe Werkmeister and Bob Liepa.

Judges’ Comments: “Excellent, tasteful, well-written coverage—with both big-picture information and storytelling that helped readers feel the loss. And done in a hurry.”

3rd Place—Rochester Business Journal, Rochester, NY. Entry Title: Excellus payout grows. Credit(s): Will Astor. Judges’ Comments: “Good work in trying to follow the money involving seven-figure payouts for this and other leaders of this non-profit healthcare organization.”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Alamance News, Graham, NC; The North Scott Press, Eldridge, IA.

BEST INVESTIGATIVE OR IN-DEPTH STORY OR SERIES

Non-daily Division, circulation less than 3,000

1st Place—Moonshine Ink, Truckee, CA. Entry Title: Tahoe Forest Hospital: New Revelations & Transformation. Credit(s): David Bunker. Judges’ Comments: “Solid work that clearly led to Bob Schapper’s departure, whether hospital officials will acknowledge it or not. It will be fun to see whether this leads to charges. Excellent work at looking through the documents and seeking to piece together a puzzle, despite little help from the principles involved.”

2nd Place—Missouri Lawyers Weekly, St. Louis, MO. Entry Title: Supremetrics. Credit(s): Scott Lauck. Judges’ Comments: “Excellent use of data work to provide information that makes the news organization the expert on a topic, which sometimes makes it hard to find ‘experts’ to provide the quotes needed. This is impressive work—even with a court where 80 percent of cases are unanimous.”

3rd Place—The Mountain Enterprise, Frazier Park, CA. Entry Title: Is sludge being dumped in Lebec? Credit(s): Patric Hedlund and Gary Meyer. Judges’ Comments: “Excellent sleuthing work when something was stinky in town.”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Bandera Bulletin, Bandera, TX.

BEST LOCAL NEWS COVERAGE

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 3,000-5,999

1st Place—Buffalo Bulletin, Buffalo, WY. Entry Title: Buffalo Bulletin. Credit(s): Buffalo Bulletin staff. Judges’ Comments: “From start to finish, this publication practically screams ‘local flavor.’ Fantastic variety of topics explored with a solid mix for readers of all backgrounds.”

2nd Place—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX. Entry Title: March 8, 2014, and Sept. 13, 2015. Credit(s): Messenger Staff. Judges’ Comments: “Thorough job in packing a variety of community coverage within the pages of the newspaper.”

3rd Place—Mount Desert Islander, Bar Harbor, ME. Entry Title: Local News Coverage. Credit(s): Staff. Judges’ Comments: “Publication clearly provides local coverage for its readers. Good mix of stories. Overall impact/quality causes publication to stand out in competition.”

Honorable Mention(s)—Hutchinson Leader, Hutchinson, MN.

BEST LOCAL NEWS COVERAGE

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000 or more

1st Place—The Suffolk Times, Mattituck, NY. Entry Title: Local News: The Suffolk Times. Credit(s): The Suffolk Times. Judges’ Comments: “Thorough attention paid to the local community and news of interest. Fabulous coverage.”

2nd Place—The Union, Grass Valley, CA. Entry Title: The Union (Grass Valley, CA). Credit(s): Staff. Judges’ Comments: “Good attention to detail in local news coverage with a wide variety of stories. Good, well-rounded publication.”

3rd Place—Hyattsville Life & Times, Hyattsville, MD. Entry Title: March and September Issues. Credit(s): Caroline Selle, Rebecca Bennett, Susie Currie, Rosanna Landis Weaver. Judges’ Comments: “Thorough coverage of a niche community with special attention to

details. Excellent local news opportunities.”

Honorable Mention(s)—Miami Today, Miami, FL; The Ellsworth American, Ellsworth, ME.

BEST LOCAL NEWS COVERAGE

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 3,000

1st Place—The Ark, Tiburon, CA. Entry Title: The Ark—Best Local News Coverage. Credit(s): Staff. Judges’ Comments: “This newspaper had many entry points, a good mix of news and community information, and graphics to draw readers into the story more. I especially enjoyed the calendar of events. Also had many fun tidbits of information and good coverage of several different topics.”

2nd Place—Petersburg Pilot, Petersburg, AK. Entry Title: March 27 and Sept. 25, 2014, issues. Credit(s): Staff. Judges’ Comments: “I thought this paper had very interesting news stories that were very informative and also interesting to read. A very good community focus and nice photography.”

3rd Place—Litchfield Independent Review, Litchfield, MN. Entry Title: Independent Review Best Local Coverage. Credit(s): Independent Review Staff. Judges’ Comments: “Very in-depth news coverage; interesting and well-researched articles. This newspaper is filled with a wealth of information that would please any reader, as well as the issues they should know about.”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Ozona Stockman, Ozona, TX.

BEST LOCALIZED NATIONAL STORY

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—The Santa Maria Sun, Santa Maria, CA. Entry Title: Selfie incrimination. Credit(s): Joe Payne. Judges’ Comments: “Very interesting; very real with great local sources. Quite the cautionary tale with a ‘killer’ ending!”

2nd Place—Litchfield Independent Review, Litchfield, MN. Entry

Title: Law enforcement embraces body cameras. Credit(s): Andrew Broman. Judges’ Comments: “This was a great idea for a story, and it was generally well executed. I did have some trouble with awkward wording in a few places. One example: No taser is required, as the man finally stops and drops to his knees. On the suspect, Massingham discovers a DVD, suspenders and various other items believed to be shoplifted from Wal-Mart. I would re-write that to be more direct. The man finally stops and drops to his knees without Massingham needing to deploy his taser. The officer discovers a DVD, suspenders and other items believed to have been shoplifted.” No need to advertise Wal-Mart; ‘various’ is extraneous. We might speak that way, but it doesn’t work well in print.”

3rd Place—The Glenview Lantern, Northbrook, IL. Entry Title: Seeing Eye to Eye. Credit(s): Alex Mayster. Judges’ Comments: “What a great program. The story is well written, and the photos draw the reader into the story very well.”

BEST NEWSPAPER WEBSITE

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY. Entry Title: Best Website - www.jhnewsandguide.com. Credit(s): Staff. Judges’ Comments: “Great website filled with tons of local news! It was easy to navigate! Make me want to come visit the town!”

2nd Place—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX. Entry Title: WCMessenger.com. Credit(s): Todd A. Griffith, Messenger staff. Judges’ Comments: “Great website! Very easy to navigate; very easy to log in. Daily briefs and breaking news a great touch!”

3rd Place—The News-Register, McMinnville, OR. Entry Title: NewsRegister.com. Credit(s): Staff. Judges’ Comments: “Nice website. The masthead is a little large. Clean layout and lots of local news!”

Honorable Mention(s)—Vilas County News-Review, Eagle River, WI.

Top 10 lists and stadium quests

BY SUSAN KAHN
Miami Today
Miami, FL

First place, best humorous column
daily & non-daily division, circulation 8,000 or more

You probably heard recently that David Letterman is on his way out—and retiring with him will undoubtedly be his top ten lists. I am really going to miss those top 10 lists. Maybe we can get him to swing through Miami on his way to some Caribbean beach and draw up a few for us.

We could certainly use some top-10 advice. For example, I am looking for just one reason to build a soccer stadium at the cruise ship terminal, much less 10. Even if I stretch it, I think I can maybe come up with three:

No. 3 David Beckham is good looking.
No. 2 David Beckham is really good looking.
No. 1 David Beckham is really, really good looking.

In Miami three reasons like that is probably

enough, though.

Dolphins owner Steve Ross might well look at some of the reasons he hasn't been as successful in his own stadium endeavors as David Beckham appears to be. I'm sure a Letterman top 10 list would be better, but maybe just for starters:

No. 10 Song lyric "We're talkin' Superbowl!" needs updating.

No. 9 "Mean Girls" was filmed in the locker room.

No. 8 Marlins Stadium.

No. 7 Legislators were made an offer they could refuse.

No. 6 Florida rain beats a Meadowlands roof.

No. 5 "Playoffs" do not involve Dolphins.

No. 4 "Fool me once, shame on me; fool me twice, shame on.... oh, you know what I mean.

No. 3 "Stimulus" money not forthcoming.

No. 2 No "Taxpayer Day at the Dolphins" yet.

No. 1 David Beckham is better looking.

It does appear that Beckham is making progress in his quest to get his soccer stadium built next to our cruise ships, and he'll soon even have a readymade



Kahn

tunnel to get people there. I am assuming there will be a fork at the end, i.e., "Cruise ships left, soccer stadium right." It would be a real mess if people got that mixed up. You would not want retirees in straw hats and Hawaiian shirts wandering around a soccer stadium, and you certainly wouldn't want drunken soccer fans storming the gang-planks—although Carnival might not know the difference.

No, it's going to take a real PR campaign to get it all straight:

- Bon Voyage to the LEFT/ Na Na Na Na Go.. oo..od -bye ... to the RIGHT.
- To get your kicks on a cruise, go LEFT/All others, go RIGHT.
- Or, maybe just CHAMPAGNE – LEFT/BEER – RIGHT.

Of course, the Marlins are the only ones to actually get their stadium built, at least as of today. Owner Jeffrey Loria really lucked out, and it had nothing to do with what he looks like. As far as I know, nobody's ever seen him—at least in Miami.

BEST OBITUARY

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—The News-Register, McMinnville, OR. Entry Title: The final flight. Credit(s): Starla Pointer. Judges' Comments: "Well-written and researched tribute to a man's life with both his accomplishments and failures. By the end, I wished I'd had the opportunity to know him."

2nd Place—Missouri Lawyers Weekly, St. Louis, MO. Entry Title: Merle Silverstein brought gentlemanly nature to historic cases. Credit(s): Heather Cole. Judges' Comments: "Interesting, well-written and giving real insight into the kind of man he was, professionally and personally."

3rd Place—The Orland Park Prairie, Orland Park, IL. Entry Title: Jane Caliendo. Credit(s): Heather Warthen. Judges' Comments: "Even though this was a bit too long, I was struck by the impact this woman had on her students and community. The ad at the end with the students standing and paying tribute as the funeral procession passed was a visual testament to the love the community shared for this teacher."

Honorable Mention(s)—The Galena Gazette, Galena, IL.

BEST ORIGINAL EDITORIAL CARTOON

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—The Santa Maria Sun, Santa Maria, CA. Entry Title: The beauty of Santa Barbara County without oil. Credit(s): Ross Mayfield. Judges' Comments: "The visual was crystal clear—congratulations."

2nd Place—Mount Desert Islander, Bar Harbor, ME. Entry Title: Education Policy Report Card. Credit(s): Joseph Marshall. Judges' Comments: "I have to ask the question: How many readers looked at your report card and laughed because they believed the grades were spot on? Great job of putting into the cartoon format the message of the editorial."

3rd Place—Cedar County News, Hartington, NE. Entry Title: Hartington Entrepreneurs. Credit(s): Wayne Stroot. Judges' Comments: "I liked the cartoon, especially when paired with the editorial directed at the high school graduate and the communities' ECAP program."

Honorable Mention(s)—The Union, Grass Valley, CA.

BEST PERFORMING ARTS STORY

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—Hutchinson Leader, Hutchinson, MN. Entry Title: How do you spell fun? BINGO! Credit(s): Kay Johnson. Judges' Comments: "This is an excellent article. The writer tells the story of the production in an interesting way with lots of quotes. She made me want to see this play."

2nd Place—The Ellsworth American, Ellsworth, ME. Entry Title: Spamalot. Credit(s): Steve Fuller. Judges' Comments: "Interesting article, excellent writing. Writer took the time and space to explain what the production is about. He also added a number of quotes from several participants."

3rd Place—The Santa Maria Sun, Santa Maria, CA. Entry Title: The power of one. Credit(s): Joe Payne. Judges' Comments: "It is a strong article on a hard subject to write about. It was, however, hard to decide if he was writing about the fate of the prisoners or Arts in Corrections. Might have been better if it were written in two different stories, one as a sidebar."

BEST PHOTO ESSAY

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 12,000 or more

1st Place—The St. Louis American, Saint Louis, MO. Entry Title: Chaos Erupts in Ferguson. Credit(s): Wiley Price & Lawrence Bryant. Judges' Comments: "Very, very powerful. Excellent work."

2nd Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY. Entry Title: Our Faces: Portraits of Laramie County. Credit(s): Michael Smith. Judges' Comments: "These photos draw me in and make me want to know more about the people profiled."

3rd Place—The Livingston Parish News, Denham Springs, LA. Entry Title: Recreating history. Credit(s): Lisa Dowty. Judges' Comments: "Good work—interesting subject and angle."

BEST PHOTO ESSAY

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 3,000-5,999

1st Place—The N'West Iowa REVIEW, Sheldon, IA. Entry Title: Flood 2014. Credit(s): John Williams and Rylan Howe. Judges' Comments: "Captured emotion, destruction and prevention, all with a keen eye—excellent job."

2nd Place—Lakota Country Times, Martin, SD. Entry Title: Best Photo Essay, July 24, 2014. Credit(s): Jerry Matthews. Judges' Comments: "Beautiful photography ... caught lots of action."

3rd Place—(Tie) Douglas Budget, Douglas, WY. Entry Title: Angels on Parade. Credit(s): Kasey M. Orr. Judges' Comments: "Sweet."

3rd Place—(Tie) The Standard Banner, Jefferson City, TN. Entry Title: Time to burn. Credit(s): Dale Gentry. Judges' Comments: "Great images"

BEST PHOTO ESSAY

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000-12,000

1st Place—The Taos News, Taos, NM. Entry Title: Balloon. Credit(s): Katharine Egli. Judges' Comments: "Clear winner: Vibrant colors and wide-angle shots truly capture the size and majesty of the hot air balloons. There's creativity in the framing and timing. Great layout; all strong shots. A delight to peruse."

2nd Place—The Taos News, Taos, NM. Entry Title: Glamtrash. Credit(s): Katharine Egli. Judges' Comments: "Despite being packed in, these pictures are full of character (and characters). Great choices with eye-catching framing. No picture seems like filler. Fun to look at and pick out details. Strong second."

3rd Place—Rio Grande Sun, Espanola, NM. Entry Title: Embudo Library Has New Digs. Credit(s): Robert Eckert. Judges' Comments: "Great work capturing the spirit of what could have looked somewhat mundane. Pictures are laid out for great impact. Little grainy here and there. Page 3 lacked dominant picture, but I'm sure it looked pretty good overall in the two-page spread. Fun, full of life, great expressions and great emotion."

Honorable Mention(s)—The Ellsworth American, Ellsworth, ME.

BEST PHOTO ESSAY

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 3,000

1st Place—The Plainwell & Otsego Union Enterprise, Allegan, MI. Entry Title: Veterans remembered in Otsego and Plainwell. Credit(s): Walter Kaechele, Daniel Pepper. Judges' Comments: "The solemn and meaning of this salute is captured nicely in the photo essay presentation."

2nd Place—The Community News, Aledo, TX. Entry Title: The circus comes to town. Credit(s): Kathy Chruscielski. Judges' Comments: "The headline complements the photos that confirm it was a 'fun' time for all. The designer did a great job with fonts and layout, as well."

3rd Place—Tioga Tribune, Tioga, ND. Entry Title: White Earth Valley Rodeo. Credit(s): Madelyn Beck. Judges' Comments: "Hats off to the photographer and the layout designer. The story combined with the action makes us all want to head to a rodeo."

Honorable Mention(s)—The Commercial Record, Saugatuck, MI; The Journal, Crosby, ND; The Times - Blooming Prairie, Blooming Prairie, MN.

BEST PUBLIC NOTICE JOURNALISM

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—The Ark, Tiburon, CA. Entry Title: Councils eye \$300k school bus subsidy. Credit(s): Deirdre McCrohan. Judges' Comments: "Deirdre McCrohan's persistence got in the way of government officials hoping to ram a measure through without public input. The issue was never made public with a notice; it was up to The Ark staff to help the public know."

2nd Place—Tioga Tribune, Tioga, ND. Entry Title: Special waste landfill. Credit(s): Kevin Killough. Judges' Comments: "Kevin Killough did an excellent job of covering the issue that was first mentioned in a public notice. Very thorough reporting."

BEST REVIEW

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA. Entry Title: Once shocking, 'Hair' loses some of its steam through the years. Credit(s): Bruce Miller. Judges' Comments: "Snarky, bold comments raised this review above all the rest. It's a close look at a classic play—one that maybe doesn't hold up today, the writer says, who then backs up his argument. Very nicely done!"

2nd Place—The Tinley Junction, Orland Park, IL. Entry Title: Aerosmith. Credit(s): Bill Jones. Judges' Comments: "It's hard to make a concert review different, but that happens here. The writer captures the feel of the event—how a concert is just as much a corporate experience as a musical one. Nice."

3rd Place—McAlester News-Capital, McAlester, OK. Entry Title: Dylan Digs Deep. Credit(s): James Beaty. Judges' Comments: "There's a lot of info here, and the piece is a little long. But it's jam-packed with details that Dylan fans will revel in and newcomers might be interested to learn."

Honorable Mention(s)—Hood County News, Granbury, TX; La Vernia News, La Vernia, TX.

BEST SERIOUS COLUMN

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 12,000 or more

1st Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY. Entry Title: Mead reminds us of another bigoted governor in 1963. Credit(s): D. Reed Eckhardt. Judges' Comments: "The narrow-minded edifice erected against their fellow homosexual Americans by social conservatives—as well as those who have pandered to them." What's

not to love about straight-shooting writing like this? Thanks for this eloquent verbal tug on the narrow fig leaf."

2nd Place—The Pilot, Southern Pines, NC. Entry Title: Finding Peace Along a Freshly Mown Path. Credit(s): Jim Dodson. Judges' Comments: "Oh, I love-this-column. I could smell the cut grass, feel the sun's heat, sense the clarity and quiet, all while fighting that pit-in-the-stomach feeling that just beyond that patch of earth, the world was reeling out of control. Love this column."

3rd Place—The Livingston Parish News, Denham Springs, LA. Entry Title: Ways & Means/Jeff David. Credit(s): Jeff M. David. Judges' Comments: "Apparently, Mr. David was not the only one who saw through the legendary Edwin Edwards. You called a spade a spade and a fool a fool in this well-written column, which saved its most effective punch for the last graph. KO."

Honorable Mention(s)—Farm and Dairy, Salem, OH.

BEST SERIOUS COLUMN

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 3,000-5,999

1st Place—Azle News, Azle, TX. Entry Title: Here's Why We Didn't Go Home the Other Day. Credit(s): Mark K. Campbell. Judges' Comments: "Spare, descriptive and moving. A fine piece of writing."

2nd Place—McAlester News-Capital, McAlester, OK. Entry Title: Remembering Heroes. Credit(s): James Beaty. Judges' Comments: "Fine, personal piece. Emotional without being maudlin."

3rd Place—Idyllwild Town Crier, Idyllwild, CA. Entry Title: Off the Leash. Credit(s): Conor O'Farrell. Judges' Comments: "Vivid, entertaining column brings a fresh voice to a somber topic."

Honorable Mention(s)—Buffalo Bulletin, Buffalo, WY; Dodge County Pioneer, Mayville, WI; The Eldon Advertiser, Eldon, MO; The North Scott Press, Eldridge, IA.

BEST SERIOUS COLUMN

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000-11,999

1st Place—Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI. Entry Title: Intolerant newsman recalls how he got that way. Credit(s): Eric Carlson. Judges' Comments: "I knew I'd like this column as soon as I read the headline. I more than liked it, and found myself wanting to stand and salute after reading the final graph. Well said. Deal with it. P.S.: Where the heck is Leelanau, because if I'm ever in the neighborhood, I'm buying Mr. Carlson lunch."

2nd Place—Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI. Entry Title: Meth house. Credit(s): Amy Hubbell. Judges' Comments: "My favorite thing about this column, besides the enticing first sentence, was the point midway through in which the writer described the former homeowner's charity work, to the abrupt transition in the next graph, in which she describes the neon orange sign posted on the front door, through which men in haz-mat suits enter to find a meth lab. Could there be any more stark picture of the contrast between a life well-spent and one (or more likely many) so tragically wasted? Pat Fleis is rolling still. Excellent column."

3rd Place—Hood County News, Granbury, TX. Entry Title: A mother's message about suicide. Credit(s): Kathy Cruz. Judges' Comments: "Wow. The real faces of suicide. You handled this perfectly. Hope it was read, saved and read again."

Honorable Mention(s)—Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI.

BEST SERIOUS COLUMN

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 3,000

- 1st Place**—Litchfield Independent Review, Litchfield, MN.
Entry Title: Anti-bullying bill acts like a bully. Credit(s): Andrew Broman. Judges' Comments: "Excellent column combining personal experience with research and thought."
- 2nd Place**—The Community News, Aledo, TX. Entry Title: Erasing History. Credit(s): Randy Keck. Judges' Comments: "Brief but well-done column on local issue being debated nationwide."
- 3rd Place**—West Point News, West Point, NE. Entry Title: Victory was sweet, but post-game celebration was for teammate. Credit(s): Willis Mahannah. Judges' Comments: "Very nice column that has an important message inside."
- Honorable Mention(s)**—The Commercial Record, Saugatuck, MI.

BEST SPECIAL NEWS, SPORTS OR FEATURE SECTION OR EDITION

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more

- 1st Place**—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY. Entry Title: UW football preview 2014. Credit(s): Staff. Judges' Comments: "A terrific section covering the University of Wyoming upcoming football section with emphasis on the new coach. A solid balance of news-editorial, advertising, photos, graphics, etc. Great photographs throughout; good graphics and special features (Q&As, analyses of other teams, Heisman coverage, etc.). Good job by everyone involved. What football sections should be. Clear winner overall."
- 2nd Place**—Washington Missourian, Washington, MO. Entry Title: 175th Anniversary Special Edition of The Missourian. Credit(s): Staff. Judges' Comments: "A very nice job of celebrating a milestone in the community. Wish there had been a more memorable cover, though. But otherwise solid from front to back—news-editorial, advertising, graphics, use of color, etc. Lots of great, historical photos and copy. A nice souvenir and contribution to area history. A deep bow for all the hard work resulting in a memorable keepsake."
- 3rd Place**—The Union, Grass Valley, CA. Entry Title: The Union celebrates 150th anniversary. Credit(s): The Union staff. Judges' Comments: "A very nice commemorative section fitting for the occasion. A solid balance of news-editorial, advertisements, photographs, color, etc. Congratulations to everyone who contributed to this great effort."
- Honorable Mention(s)**—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA.

BEST SPECIAL NEWS, SPORTS OR FEATURE SECTION OR EDITION

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 3,000-9,999

- 1st Place**—The Taos News, Taos, NM. Entry Title: 2014 Tradiciones. Credit(s): Various. Judges' Comments: "A magnificent product in every aspect—news-editorial, advertisements, photography, graphics and color. This surely is a labor of love showing best efforts of all involved. It is not only a good read and viewing, but it is a major contribution to local, area and state literature and history. Just one in the terrific special sections by the staff of the Taos News."
- 2nd Place**—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX. Entry Title: Welcome to Wise. Credit(s): Messenger Staff. Judges' Comments: "A major gift to the community is this 'Welcome to Wise' special section. While the advertisements often seem to overshadow the news-editorial, there is enough valuable information throughout to keep readers turning the pages. I like having a theme, this time featuring artists in the area. Overall, a job well done with the editorial, ads, photos and graphics."
- 3rd Place**—Vilas County News-Review, Eagle River, WI. Entry Title: Salute to Emergency Personnel. Credit(s): Staff. Judges' Comments: "A magnificent job of gathering all those photos, names and all that information to pay tribute to the unsung heroes of your communities—the emergency responders. Just to tackle the job was a big enough decision, but to pull it off is a really big deal. Not only have you provided a valuable service to the entire area, but you made some history, as well. Congrats to all who participated in this project."
- Honorable Mention(s)**—Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY; Rochester Business Journal, Rochester, NY; The North Scott Press, Eldridge, IA.

BEST SPECIAL NEWS, SPORTS OR FEATURE SECTION OR EDITION

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 3,000

- 1st Place**—The Ark, Tiburon, CA. Entry Title: Tiburon's 50th Anniversary. Credit(s): Staff. Judges' Comments: "Nice looking and well, designed section. A surefire keeper for the community for years to come."
- 2nd Place**—The Akron Hometowneer, Akron, IA. Entry Title: Akron, IA. Credit(s): staff. Judges' Comments: "A really great-looking section. You showed the community what you could produce and gained the respect of city leaders and advertisers—not to mention your readers. Well done!"
- 3rd Place**—The Community News, Aledo, TX. Entry Title: Your Parker County. Credit(s): Staff. Judges' Comments: "A really well-done community guide."
- Honorable Mention(s)**—The Ozona Stockman, Ozona, TX.



FIRST PLACE, best breaking news photo, non-daily division, circulation 5,000 - 9,999
By Roger Harnack | The Omak-Okanogan County Chronicle, Omak, WA

GOD’S GOT US—Fire races across county, Carlton Complex wildfires largest in state history. For more than a week, hot, dry windy conditions sent flames racing across Okanogan County, destroying homes and sending hundreds of residents fleeing.



FIRST PLACE, best breaking news photo,
non-daily division, circulation less than 5,000
By Karen Elshout | Missouri Lawyers Weekly, St. Louis, MO

SHOCK, ANGER IN FERGUSON—Lesley McSpadden, mother of Michael Brown, weeps after the announcement that a grand jury declined to indict Ferguson police officer Darren Wilson in the shooting death of her son.



SECOND PLACE, best feature photo,
non-daily division, circulation less than
3,000
By Jenny Berg | Litchfield Independent
Review, Litchfield, MN

SWORD—Color guard member Addie Lokken holds a samurai sword during Litchfield High School marching band's Pie in the Park performance on Sibley Avenue.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit www.nnaweb.org/contests-awards
or call 573-777-4980



FIRST PLACE, best feature photo, non-daily division, circulation 6,000 - 9,999

By Mike Spencer | Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI

SHOE TIME—GAVIN CADIEUX, a Young 5's student at Suttons Bay, takes off with his right shoe in hand trying to finish up a lap as time expires in Friday's Spirit Run. Suttons Bay honor students, from left, Beedokah Stonefish, Sethe Zachman and Delaney Kaufman urge him on. More than 200 students participated in the annual fundraiser for the school's Parent Teacher Organization.



FIRST PLACE, best sports photo, non-daily division, circulation less than 3,000

By John King | The Chaffee County Times, Buena Vista, CO

BULL RIDER—It's not the hanging on part in wild steer riding that hurts



FIRST PLACE, best sports photo, daily division
By Michael Smith | Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY

BITTERSWEET END FOR EAST—Cheyenne East's Sarah Erickson walks off the court as the Natrona County girls basketball team celebrates after the Lady Thunderbirds' 33-28 loss in the Class 4A state title game Saturday at the Casper Events Center.

BEST SPORTS COLUMN

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000 or more

1st Place—Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY. Entry Title: Snow Survey. Credit(s): Molly Absolon. Judges' Comments: "This column was a great and well-written way to reflect on a national controversy with a compelling personal perspective."
2nd Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY. Entry Title: Rudolph shows true grit. Credit(s): Dave Shelles. Judges' Comments: "This column was very well-written and treated its subject commendably."
3rd Place—The Manhattan Mercury, Manhattan, KS. Entry Title: Romero's case makes K-State look like a bully. Credit(s): Joshua Kinder. Judges' Comments: "This column adds some useful discussion to a story that is not only shaking the local community, but also has wider implications as criticism grows regarding mistreatment of college athletes nationwide."
Honorable Mention(s)—Rochester Business Journal, Rochester, NY.

BEST SPORTS COLUMN

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 6,000

1st Place—The North Scott Press, Eldridge, IA. Entry Title: True winners don't always cross the finish line first. Credit(s): Scott Campbell. Judges' Comments: "Moving tribute to a winning high school athlete."
2nd Place—Lahontan Valley News, Fallon, NV. Entry Title: FVB thrives due to Ellis, Paulson. Credit(s): Thomas Ranson. Judges' Comments: "Nicely written piece about major figures in local youth sports."
3rd Place—The N'West Iowa REVIEW, Sheldon, IA. Entry Title: Bos gets respect for being truthful. Credit(s): Scott Byers. Judges' Comments: "Good piece about a high schooler's integrity."
Honorable Mention(s)—Colby Free Press, Colby, KS; Lahontan Valley News, Fallon, NV.

BEST SPORTS FEATURE STORY OR SERIES

Daily Division

1st Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY. Entry Title: Rodeo Tuf. Credit(s): Jeremiah Johnke. Judges' Comments: "Very good. Interesting. Well-written."
2nd Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY. Entry Title: Eye of the beholder. Credit(s): Dave Shelles. Judges' Comments: "The writer caught my attention with the first sentence and held it until the end of the story. Well-written."
3rd Place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Entry Title: Knight Family Legacy. Credit(s): Merisa Jensen. Judges' Comments: "Good story. Well written."

BEST SPORTS FEATURE STORY OR SERIES

Non-daily Division

1st Place—Hood County News, Granbury, TX. Entry Title: Back in the game. Credit(s): Rick Mauch. Judges' Comments: "This story sucked me in right from the first sentence. Great writing on determination and resiliency of an athlete who loves the game of softball and fought back to play again after getting injured. I like your use of short paragraphs, which make reading the story easy. Good use of quotes. All-around excellent job."
2nd Place—Door County Advocate, Sturgeon Bay, WI. Entry Title: Winning is his game. Credit(s): Korey Mallien. Judges' Comments: "I really liked this story. Excellent storytelling on someone who is very competitive. I felt his competitiveness just by reading your story! I liked the way you brought in his background to the story without a lot of boring facts but good use of quotes and sentence structure. I can understand through your words how his players would respect him and do anything for him. Great job!"
3rd Place—Echoes-Sentinel, Bernardsville, NJ. Entry Title: Heart and Soul. Credit(s): Kelly Fenton. Judges' Comments: "What a heartwarming story. I fell in love with James Soranno just by reading your story! Very well done. I liked your use of bold subheads in the story, which made it more eye-appealing and easier to read. Keep up

the good work!"

Honorable Mention(s)—Preston Hollow People, Dallas, TX; Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX.

BEST SPORTS PHOTO

Daily Division

1st Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY. Entry Title: Bittersweet end for East. Credit(s): Michael Smith. Judges' Comments: "Captures the utter heartbreak of the moment. Extraordinary timing, framing on display and using shallow focus to blur out the celebrating opposing team. A crisp, indelible shot. A great, great sports picture."
2nd Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY. Entry Title: Cheyenne Frontier Days—Tom Hansen. Credit(s): Michael Smith. Judges' Comments: "Something about the grit being chewed up and tossed into the air that makes this picture fascinating to look at. You can feel this one in your teeth. All perfectly frozen, well composed and expert focus. Close second."
3rd Place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Entry Title: Mustang Power. Credit(s): Christina Ramos. Judges' Comments: "What a moment. Crisp shot, great emotion, great composition/crop and eye-catching."
Honorable Mention(s)—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY.

BEST SPORTS PHOTO

Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more

1st Place—Washington Missourian, Washington, MO. Entry Title: Tag! You're Safe. Credit(s): Bill Battle. Judges' Comments: "Great stop-action! You can feel and see the play!"
2nd Place—Washington Missourian, Washington, MO. Entry Title: Focusing on the Shot. Credit(s): Bill Battle. Judges' Comments: "What a great shot!"
3rd Place—Washington Missourian, Washington, MO. Entry Title: Fumble! Credit(s): Bill Battle. Judges' Comments: "Very nice action shot."

BEST SPORTS PHOTO

Non-daily Division, circulation 3,000-4,999

1st Place—Douglas Budget, Douglas, WY. Entry Title: Bearcats dive into soccer season. Credit(s): Kasey M. Orr. Judges' Comments: "Clearly the standout in a good group. The mid-air moment for both goalie and soccer ball give a strong sense of immediacy to the photo. Perfect timing. Good to see that it got such great play and the headline completes the package. Congratulations!"
2nd Place—Douglas Budget, Douglas, WY. Entry Title: And the steer wins. Credit(s): Beth Wood. Judges' Comments: "A great moment, and the lines of force here are dynamic. You can 'feel' the cowboy's stretch. Good cropping and excellent play makes for a fine photo. Good work."
3rd Place—Buffalo Bulletin, Buffalo, WY. Entry Title: Ride 'em, Cowboy! Credit(s): Alex Shoemaker. Judges' Comments: "Lots of action in this shot, but it's all focused on the bull and rider. Looks like that rider is about to make strong contact with the earth. Good cropping. Good play. Fine photo."
Honorable Mention(s)—The Allegan County News, Allegan, MI; The Times Leader, Princeton, KY.

BEST SPORTS PHOTO

Non-daily Division, circulation 5,000-9,999

1st Place—The Fayette County Record, La Grange, TX. Entry Title: Golden Girls. Credit(s): Jeff Wick. Judges' Comments: "This state title victory shot—close-up of a crowd—draws the eye into the exuberant faces, two of which look directly at the reader, then follows the raised arms up to the trophy, the angle of which leads the viewer sky-high and quite possibly to the proverbial cloud nine. Bright sunlight, ball caps and crowds of people often combine to thwart photographers, but Jeff Wick clearly captures each face. The close-up view invites the reader to step in with congratulatory hugs and high-fives."
2nd Place—Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY. Entry Title: Muddercycle. Credit(s): Price Chambers. Judges' Comments: "So tightly has Price Chambers framed this image that even viewers who

Intolerant newsman recalls how he got that way

BY ERIC CARLSON
Leelanau Enterprise
Lake Leelanau, MI

First place, best serious column
daily and non-daily division, circulation 6,000 - 11,999

Crusty old newspaper reporter that I am, I lost patience long ago for any public officials or employees telling me how to do my job. An ugly incident that occurred last week here in Leelanau County has prompted me to look back on how I came to feel the way I do about this. I have quite a bit of experience with journalists who bend the rules. For example, during the Persian Gulf War in the early 1990s, I served as chief media spokesman of the Marines’ principal ground combat unit, the 1st Marine Division. If you’re old enough, you may recall hearing about an incident involving CBS news correspondent Bob Simon who was captured by the Iraqis after he slipped past several checkpoints in my division’s area of operations by impersonating a U.S. military officer. It fell on me and my small detachment of Marine combat correspondents to probe the front lines in hopes of finding Simon. We only found Simon after the ground campaign ended and Iraqis surrendering to us released him. Based on my recommendation, my commanding general opted to take no action against Simon.

A couple of years later, you might also recall watching TV crews with camera lights blazing, chasing Marines up and down the beach near Mogadishu, Somalia during a predawn amphibious landing. I’m the guy the Marines sent over to Somalia to rein-in the civilian press. Through the process of setting up a media information bureau and organizing daily press briefings in Somalia, I got to know quite a few civilian war correspondents quite well. One of them was a 22-year-old British photojournalist named Dan Eldon who was freelancing for the Reuters news service. On several occasions, I hooked Eldon up with Marine infantry platoons heading out on patrol. Eldon was a good kid, and I liked him. We referred to him as Lance Corporal Reuters because he was about the same age and temperament as some of our junior enlisted Marines.

On July 12, 1993, while covering a political rally in Mogadishu organized by Somali warlord Moham-

med Farah Aidid, Eldon was stoned to death by a mob that had been whipped into a frenzy by Aidid’s supporters.

Eldon’s murder hit me hard, as if he were one of my own troops. In my previous career I spent a great deal of time hanging out with the kinds of journalists who wear helmets and flak jackets to work. Sometimes I stood toe-to-toe with them, arguing over life and death issues involving military and national security. Sometimes, I stood shoulder-to-shoulder with them, arguing with higher-ups in my chain of command to let the journalists do their jobs.

So, it naturally meant a little more to me personally than it might have meant to your typical small-town community newspaper reporter here in the U.S. when I learned that Islamic jihadists in Iraq were beheading American war correspondents. I did not know those reporters personally, but feel like I could have.

Of course, none of us are subject to Islamic Sharia law here in the U.S. We operate under the U.S. Constitution, which guarantees freedom of the press including, for example, the right of journalists—or anyone, really—to take photographs of anything they want to photograph that is occurring in a public place.

That is why I was shocked last week when a public school coach on the sidelines at a soccer game here in Leelanau County began yelling at me that I must not take any photographs of him because he deserved his “privacy.”

In fact, I’d been specifically assigned to get a few pictures of coaches on the sidelines as well as athletes on the field, and I let him know that I was going to do so.

But he wanted to keep arguing with me about it. Even sadder was the fact that the public school athletic director on the scene did not back me up and then decided that he needed to “counsel” me on how to do my job as well.

For the record, ladies and gentlemen, I, like the rest of the staff here at the Leelanau Enterprise, do not take direction from coaches, athletic directors or any other public officials. Even if it’s an armed, uniformed Leelanau County Deputy Sheriff issuing an unlawful order such as “Stop taking pictures!” I will not obey.

If my attitude about this is a little too militant for you. I simply to not care.

are not fans of endurocross racing might take an involuntary step back to avoid being spattered by the mud being slung from the tires of this dirt bike. At the same time, the sharply-focused foreground freezes the frame, pulls the eye in to examine the detailed patterns in the sprays of muddy water and unlocks the imagination to project oneself into the moment. Time has stopped, and so must the viewer.”

3rd Place—Door County Advocate, Sturgeon Bay, WI. Entry Title: Best sports photo. Credit(s): Korey Mallien. Judges’ Comments: “What goes up must come down, and Korey Mallien’s shot leaves the viewer with both the certainty that the airborne player will descend and with the uncertainty of how that descent will play out. At this point, the viewer might cringe at the implied belly flop, not softened in the least by the player directly underneath, who has just hit the ground. But the airborne player is high enough that he could still right himself. Either way, the important thing is that he has the ball in hand.”
Honorable Mention(s)—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX.

BEST SPORTS PHOTO

Non-daily Division, circulation less than 3,000

1st Place—The Chaffee County Times, Buena Vista, CO. Entry Title: Bull rider. Credit(s): John King. Judges’ Comments: “Photo is colorful and shows lots of action. It’s an attention-getter!”
2nd Place—Eden Valley-Watkins Voice, Eden Valley, MN. Entry Title: Greg Lux matching catch. Credit(s): Laurie Schultz. Judges’ Comments: “This is a super action photo.”
3rd Place—The Bandera Bulletin, Bandera, TX. Entry Title: Focused and Determined. Credit(s): Jessica Hawley-Jerome. Judges’ Comments: “Cute photo of kids ... these always grab a reader’s attention.”

BEST SPORTS SECTION/PAGE

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY. Entry Title: Wyoming Tribune Eagle - Feb. 2 and Oct. 26. Credit(s): Staff. Judges’ Comments: “Locked & Loaded. This staff has assembled a great sports package, mixing in pro sports with collegiate and scholastic athletics. Great photos complement strong writing. Good balancing act of the three sports levels, providing enough of each to make every sports fan in the house happy. Good sidebar stories and easy-on-the-eyes layout complete the package. Really well done.”
2nd Place—Valencia County News-Bulletin, Belen, NM. Entry Title: Best Sports Section. Credit(s): Kenn Rodriguez. Judges’ Comments: “Great action photography complement strong sports writing. Full coverage of three area scholastic programs. Strong design and layout organization make for a very reader-friendly sports section. C’mon, give Kenn Rodriguez his due as sports editor and drop the ‘staff writer’ job title. This is one hard-working guy.”
3rd Place—Washington Missourian, Washington, MO. Entry Title: Best Sports Section, WA Missourian. Credit(s): Bill Battle, Craig Vonder Haar, Jason Peake, Jeremy Housewright. Judges’ Comments: “Vast coverage of area and regional sports, but the paper appropriately gives its bread-and-butter scholastic sports teams priority over the distant pro teams. Great side graphics and solid photography throughout. Nice little boxes of standings, schedules and other information round out stories.”
Honorable Mention(s)—The Standard Banner, Jefferson City, TN; The Suffolk Times, Mattituck, NY.

BEST SPORTS STORY

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 9,000 or more

1st Place—The Manhattan Mercury, Manhattan, KS. Entry Title: Leticia Romero transfer series. Credit(s): Joshua Kinder. Judges’ Comments: “This is a long series, but it is well-written and holds the reader’s attention. Congratulations on a job well done.”
2nd Place—The Livingston Parish News, Denham Springs, LA. Entry Title: Doyle rallies in thriller. Credit(s): John Dupont. Judges’ Comments: “This writer knows how to catch readers’ attention and hold it throughout the article.”
3rd Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY. Entry Title: Raising the bar. Credit(s): Dave Shelles. Judges’ Comments: “Excellent article. Interesting reading. He made me feel like I was there watching the girls jump!”

BEST SPORTS STORY

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 9,000

1st Place—Riverhead News-Review, Mattituck, NY. Entry Title: Sports Story: Tom Cufinella. Credit(s): Michael Lewis, Carrie Miller, Jen Nuzzo, Grant Parpan, Paul Squire and Joe Werkmeister. Judges’ Comments: “A must-read at all levels: writing, organization, research, presentation, human interest and reader appeal. Well-written, compelling story. The quality and construction of the story are enhanced by the research done to provide context and background, as well as a variety of sources and quotes. Obviously, a tragedy of this nature is of reader interest, but it is one to be handled with respect and good taste. The writers achieved this so that the account is done with dignity sans sensationalism, yet provides a full account for readers. Placing story in a national context helped it. Story held my attention each time I read it.”
2nd Place—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX. Entry Title: Defying Gravity. Credit(s): Richard Greene, Joe Duty. Judges’ Comments: “Well written and organized. True human interest and reader appeal. Excellent presentation of story. Top notch. The story

has a flow to it that keeps the reader’s attention and keeps the person reading. It provides a personal insight into Desiree and what motivates her. In addition to the stats and figures a sports junkie reader wants, the story includes a touch of humor. Enjoyed the story and hope by now to have heard whether Desiree achieved her goal at the state meet.”

3rd Place—Litchfield Independent Review, Litchfield, MN. Entry Title: Stuck in the rough. Credit(s): Louie Opatz. Judges’ Comments: “While this is not a story of a dramatic comeback on the back nine to win a tournament, it is a sports story—a sports business story. It is well written and has strong research and documentation. Although state championships or dramatic victories are naturals for exciting sports stories, it is refreshing to see the energy and diligence required for a quality story devoted to presenting a story of significance to the community beyond the warm, fuzzy feeling of a championship. Some good research done for this story resulted in data and information most readers likely did not know.”
Honorable Mention(s)—Hood County News, Granbury, TX; Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI; The Allegan County News, Allegan, MI; Yankton Daily Press & Dakotan, Yankton, SD.

BEST USE OF COLOR

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—Community Impact Newspaper—The Woodlands Edition, Pflugerville, TX. Entry Title: Community Impact Newspaper; The Woodlands Edition. Credit(s): Brian Walzel, editor, Jackie Brunk, designer. Judges’ Comments: “Very sophisticated use of color to create multiple attention-points for the reader. Professional look and feel throughout.”
2nd Place—Fountain Hills Times, Fountain Hills, AZ. Entry Title: Best use of color, 2 issues. Credit(s): Staff. Judges’ Comments: “Color provides effective mechanism to draw reader attention. Good consistency quality throughout publication.”
3rd Place—Tioga Tribune, Tioga, ND. Entry Title: Tioga Tribune. Credit(s): Tioga Tribune staff. Judges’ Comments: “Color used on the rodeo page was especially well done. Good variety of color throughout publication to draw the reader.”

BEST USE OF PHOTOGRAPHS

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—West Point News, West Point, NE. Entry Title: Best use of photographs. Judges’ Comments: “Awesome front page photos.”
3rd Place—The Edgerton Reporter, Edgerton, WI. Entry Title: Chilimania photos that fill front page, Sept. 3. Judges’ Comments: “Would have preferred some form of captions or something, but overall very good.”
3rd Place—The Times - Blooming Prairie, Blooming Prairie, MN. Entry Title: Best use of photos. Credit(s): Staff.

BEST WEEKEND EDITION

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA. Entry Title: Weekend edition. Credit(s): Journal staff. Judges’ Comments: “Easily a first-place winner. Excellent photography, layout, graphics and well-written stories!”
2nd Place—The Union, Grass Valley, CA. Entry Title: The Union—Weekender. Credit(s): The Union staff. Judges’ Comments: “Loses a little on layout, but not a lot. If I could give two firsts, this one would be one, too!”
3rd Place—Hutchinson Leader, Hutchinson, MN. Entry Title: Hutchinson Leader.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st Place—The Omak-Okanogan County Chronicle, Omak, WA. Entry Title: Carlton Complex. Judges’ Comments: “Congratulations to the staff of The Omak-Okanogan County Chronicle for stepping up as leaders, historians and community members during the Carlton Complex wildfire. The respect for and love of your community came through by your coverage of the event and your participation in the after events when it came time to initiate putting the community back together. I wish there were an award that went beyond first place, because if there were, you would be deserving.”
2nd Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY. Entry Title: Our Faces: Portraits of Laramie County. Credit(s): Michael Smith. Judges’ Comments: “Wow—what a great, painstakingly-labor intensive idea! The pages and portraits were beautiful. Your community, you said, thanked you for recording this snippet in time through the faces of the day-to-day history-makers.”
3rd Place—The Journal, Crosby, ND. Entry Title: One Million Barrels—One Million Thanks. Credit(s): Journal Publishing Staff. Judges’ Comments: “Once I started to read your entry—putting it down wasn’t going to happen—it was such a great read full of information and historical perspective. It’s a great educational piece; congratulations.”
Honorable Mention(s)—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA; Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Daily & Non-daily Division

Honorable Mention(s)—The Edgerton Reporter, Edgerton, WI; The Galena Gazette, Galena, IL; The Jack County Herald, Jacksboro, TX; The North Scott Press, Eldridge, IA; Vilas County News-Review, Eagle River, WI.

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

Daily & Non-daily Division
1st Place—Yankton County Observer, Yankton, SD. Entry Title: Closed government in South Dakota. Credit(s): Brian J. Hunhoff and Bernie Hunhoff. Judges' Comments: "A powerful set of editorials aimed at informing the public and its officials about the importance of transparency. This is something only a newspaper can do, and this paper does it well."
2nd Place—The Omak-Okanogan County Chronicle, Omak, WA. Entry Title: Three Rivers. Credit(s): Jennifer Marshall, Dee Camp, Roger Harnack. Judges' Comments: "A classic case of dogged investigative reporting revealing officials who see themselves as bigger than those who pay their salaries. Well done."
3rd Place—The Glenview Lantern, Northbrook, IL. Entry Title: Glenview Finances. Credit(s): Alex Mayster. Judges' Comments: "Digging deeply into budget numbers is an often-unrewarded chore. This paper looked inside and found a mess. Good for them."

GENERAL EXCELLENCE

Daily Division
1st Place—Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA. Judges' Comments: "This is a solid paper with a clean layout that makes it easy for readers to find what they are interested in. I especially like the section headers as a design element. Love the big photos and photos played above the flag on the front page. Plenty of useful graphics. Sports pages have a lot of pizzazz."
2nd Place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Judges' Comments: "There is a lot to admire here. However, the front page is extremely busy and could benefit from a less cluttered design. It really takes away from the rest of the package. The special sections were beautifully executed with very interesting content. The contrast between the two was very noticeable. The special section appears to be more of a standalone magazine that just happens to be made and distributed by the same newspaper. There doesn't seem to be much style-wise that connects the two as a single product. Why not have a newspaper that takes a few design cues from the magazine to tie the two together? Just a thought."
3rd Place—Wyoming Tribune Eagle, Cheyenne, WY. Judges' Comments: "While this paper is graphically pleasing overall, the abundance of color headlines, frequently with two different colors on the same page, is distracting from the content. Clearly, you have a talented layout person on staff. I love the use of graphics on the Nov. 4 issue and for "boring" election results, the cover of the Nov. 15 issue was a nice way of doing that. I had to wonder whether you print all of this in color or if this is the version you use for your online edition only. I found the amount of color in subheads and main headlines to be distracting—too many bells and whistles going off. I also questioned the use of some of the AP and out-of-area news copy. Perhaps you have a particular market segment or interest you feel these particular stories speak to, but from the outside looking in, it comes off more as "filler" and questionable filler in some cases."

GENERAL EXCELLENCE

Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more
1st Place—The Pilot, Southern Pines, NC. Judges' Comments: "Of all the entries, this one said "community" loudest to us. Human interest stories and local issue coverage abound. Just as important, The Pilot's Opinion pages contain insightful, vigorous debate. This is a well-packaged paper with solid photography. The people of Southern Pines, NC, are fortunate to have this strong news source."
2nd Place—The St. Louis American, Saint Louis, MO. Judges' Comments: "Of all the entries, this was the most lively. Strong coverage of issues and a great forum for opinions. This paper contains lots of names and faces, which should be staples in all community papers."
3rd Place—The Union, Grass Valley, CA. Judges' Comments: "The Union covers the waterfront with solid news coverage, especially cops and courts, economic development and sports. Great sesquicentennial coverage."
Honorable Mention(s)—The Livingston Parish News, Denham Springs, LA. Judges' Comments: "The Livingston Parish News' post-election reporting was among the best we've seen. Great calendar and school coverage, too."

GENERAL EXCELLENCE

Non-daily Division, circulation 6,000-9,999
1st Place—Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY. Judges' Comments: "Sensational writing, terrific editing, clean layouts, good photography and lots of local news make this a winner."
2nd Place—The Suffolk Times, Mattituck, NY. Judges' Comments: "Outstanding headlines that quickly tell the reader what the story is about. Well written. Beautiful, clean organization and strong layout. Good treatment of photos."
3rd Place—Door County Advocate, Sturgeon Bay, WI. Judges' Comments: "Good strong writing"

GENERAL EXCELLENCE

Non-daily Division, circulation 3,000-5,999
1st Place—The N'West Iowa REVIEW, Sheldon, IA. Judges' Comments: "This is an outstanding publication packaging an enormous amount of community news each week. The photography is exceptional, as is the overall writing. The layout and design makes this an easy paper to read. The staff is to be commended for a tremendous flooding special section. The flooding photos really grabbed my attention and drew me into the situation facing the victims. I have never seen a sports section like this one for a weekly newspaper. The communities serviced by this newspaper should feel extremely fortunate to have such a first-rate newspaper at their disposal each week. This truly is one of the finest papers in America!"
2nd Place—Mount Desert Islander, Bar Harbor, ME. Judges' Comments: "Good, crisp writing and sharp photos make this a great publication. The feature sections offer great stories and photos. I especially like some of the cut-outs used for photos in the living section. The staff should be commended for a terrific Veteran's Day section, though it would have been nice to have it in color. Overall, nice job of utilizing color throughout the entire publication. I loved the superheroes lawn story! These are the types of stories people come to expect in community newspapers."
3rd Place—Fountain Hills Times, Fountain Hills, AZ. Judges' Comments: "This is another impressive community newspaper that offers its readers much. The use of color throughout the pages makes this paper pop out. There are great stories and photos strategically placed throughout the newspaper to draw in the readers. Nice job detailing the breast cancer survivor. It was also nice to see how the newspaper attempts to establish itself in the community (40th anniversary). I'm glad to see that the newspaper seized the opportunity to promote itself in the community it serves."
Honorable Mention(s)—Buffalo Bulletin, Buffalo, WY. Judges' Comments: "This is also a solid publication from beginning to end. The graphic design work on the ads was impressive. There were also some exceptional photos. Good photography throughout the entire paper. I especially liked the airplane crash and rodeo shots."

GENERAL EXCELLENCE

Non-daily Division, circulation less than 3,000
1st Place—West Point News, West Point, NE. Judges' Comments: "Engaging, creative headlines. Great use of photos. Nice opinion page content. All around clean design, easy to read and easy to navigate."
2nd Place—Litchfield Independent Review, Litchfield, MN. Judges' Comments: "Fantastic headlines. Nice, clean design. Great use of typography and a nice collection of photos to bring in readers."
3rd Place—The Ark, Tiburon, CA. Judges' Comments: "A great-looking paper. Really a great service for readers. Ads are high-quality and engaging."
Honorable Mention(s)—Missouri Lawyers Weekly, St. Louis, MO. Judges' Comments: "This really is a great niche publication. I loved the clean design and use of color. Also, great content."

GENERAL EXCELLENCE

College Division, Daily & Non-daily Division
1st Place—Southwestern College Sun, Chula Vista, CA. Judges' Comments: "It's an excellent college newspaper that's well written and illustrated, and it covers all bases thoroughly. Good reporting on local events, interesting features an excellent job."

Here's why we didn't go home the other day

BY MARK K. CAMPBELL
Azle News
Azle, TX

First place, best serious column
daily & non-daily division, circulation 3,000 - 5,999

Don't go home, she said. The Bride and I were standing with a friend at the elevators on the 19th floor in one of the buildings of MD Anderson's massive cancer care complex.

We stopped by the Houston high-rise to visit a couple who both are fighting cancer. This time it was the husband in a cruel contest with pancreatic cancer and, now, liver. His just-completed procedure had left him unable to eat and he was depressed.

We tried to cheer him up and stayed an hour, swapping stories about the Texas coast. Born nearby, he talked about places he loved to eat at—something that he might not be able to do with much enjoyment anymore.

Afterward, his wife walked us to the elevators. The Bride and I were trying to decide whether to make the long drive back home to the usual responsibilities that are always there or to cruise on down to nearby Galveston.

Our friend smiled with bright but clearly weary eyes, what little hair she had managed to keep from her most recent treatment wrapped in a black do-rag. "Don't go home."

So we didn't. I booked a Seawall hotel at the last minute that ended up costing almost as much as my first car.

I didn't care; after our visit, money didn't seem that big a deal just then.

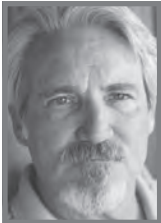
In Galveston, we hopped a shuttle and ventured to a packed restaurant on the bay. I ordered exactly what I wanted instead of buying down to something more reasonable. I got a giant slab of red snapper that was perfect.

I was sure the man we had just left hooked up to multiple IV bags would've loved it.

The next morning, I got up and prepared to jog. It had just rained and it was phenomenally humid.

I spoke to a passing woman with her hair plastered down from perspiration who had just finished her run; I asked if it was a "tad humid"—she said this kind of weather needed a new word for humid.

The temperature was 80 degrees with 93 percent humidity and the sun was firing up. The outdoor exercise rule of thumb is to add the tempera-



Campbell

ture and humidity and if the total is above 150, you should reduce your effort by 15 percent.

The number that morning was a whopping 173—in 24,000 miles of running, I'd never exercised with a figure that high.

I took off, padding along the seawall.

The ocean was a bit riled by the storm that had eventually come ashore and early-morning surfers were delighted to have bigger-than-normal waves to mount.

I got tired fast. At the turnaround, I dropped down to the beach and ran on the packed sand, an occasional wave from the incoming tide reaching my shoes.

Soon I was exhausted. I stopped and walked a while, looked at the waves, the surfers, the kids playing in the sand amid the seaweed, the resort town awakening.

There was no way I was not going to finish this run—not after what I had seen the day before. It's corny to "run for somebody," but that's what I did that moist morning.

I made it back to my starting point, a wooden arch marking the one-time site of the Balenese Room, a sparse remnant of good days now long, long gone. When I'd finished running, completely sweat drenched, I waded into the ocean, the endless waves soothing my weary legs, then out to the breakers to just stand for a while.

Afterward, the Bride and I lounged down at the elaborate pool, the water perfectly cool, surrounded by healthy, well-to-do folks booked into this "luxe" hotel.

Good for them, I thought. And our hospitalized friends would say that, too.

We could never run with that ritzy hotel crowd, but that wasn't the point.

Life's about living, well. Today, that was at this snazzy resort.

Thomas Wolfe wrote that you can't go home again.

And sometimes you shouldn't.



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Franklin Marriott Cool Springs, Franklin, TN



SECOND PLACE, best breaking news photo, non-daily division, circulation 5,000 - 9,999

By Sofia Jaramillo | Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY

MOTORCYCLE CRASH—A riding companion of Joseph Bale, of Whittier, California, kneels next to Bale's wrecked motorcycle Sunday on Highway 89 south of Jackson. Bale was killed when he struck a stopped car from behind as it waited for another vehicle in front of it to make a left-hand turn.

Anti-bullying bill acts like a bully

BY ANDREW BROMAN

Litchfield Independent Review,
Litchfield, MN

First place, best serious column
non-daily division, circulation less than 3,000

Perhaps hoping that nobody will notice (or care), a group of Minnesota legislators has launched a stealth campaign against free speech in the guise of an anti-bullying bill, which the Senate is expected to consider during the upcoming legislative session.

Sen. Scott Dibble, DFL-Minneapolis, is spearheading the bill, harmlessly labeled as the “Safe and Supportive Minnesota Schools Act.” As a proponent of Minnesota’s newly enacted bill to allow gay marriage, Dibble approaches the problem of bullying with good intentions.

Unfortunately, the gravest threats to the First Amendment often arise from good intentions, sometimes out of a desire to seek justice for a minority group.

Many minority groups do have legitimate grievances, but, in their zeal to obtain justice, they risk taking their causes too far. Free speech becomes a casualty when groups blame it for contributing to, or causing, discrimination against them.

Too often, self-proclaimed victims of oppression consider the First Amendment expendable in their bid to silence “offensive” expression.

Today, this campaign against “offen-

sive” speech is known as political correctness, and it is a cultural cancer that has spread to every corner of society, from churches to workplaces to classrooms. Masquerading as a tool of justice, the proposed anti-bullying bill is a Trojan horse designed to institutionalize political correctness in public education; it threatens to compromise intellectual integrity in the interest of protecting minority groups, namely those listed in the proposed anti-bullying legislation.

I’ve seen what political correctness can do to an institution, and it’s ugly. In 1999, I was fortunate (or unfortunate) enough to be a student at the University of Wisconsin-Madison during an intense, bitter debate over whether to scrap the campus’ infamous speech code, which was designed to protect minorities in the classroom from “offensive” speech. At the risk of being labeled racist or bigoted, a group of professors fought the code, arguing it had a “chilling effect” on classroom curriculum and discouraged professors and students from exploring controversial ideas at the risk of offending their minority counterparts.

At the time, I was the opinion editor at a campus newspaper, The Daily Cardinal, and fought vigorously through editorials to abolish the code, despite coming up against vehement attacks from multiple self-proclaimed victims of oppression. In the end, campus faculty

voted to abolish the code, and, ironically, it was a student’s argument in favor of keeping the code that turned the tide against it.

A junior student, named Amelia Rideau, explained to a panel investigating the speech code that the code was needed because she had been a victim of a professor’s repeated use of the word, “niggardly,” as referenced in Chaucer’s work, “Canterbury Tales.” While similar phonemically to the racial slur, “niggardly” means stingy and has nothing to do with the slur. This young woman unwittingly demonstrated why restricting speech is such a poor idea, especially in education.

Speech codes make anybody into a potential violator for simply expressing the wrong idea or, in this case, the wrong word.

While Minnesota’s proposed anti-bullying legislation is not explicitly a speech code, it smacks of one. Problems arise, in particular, with how the bill defines bullying.

Some versions of the proposed legislation, including a version awaiting consideration in the Senate (SF783), contain extremely vague language. It states: “‘Bullying’ means use of one or a series of words, images, or actions, directly or indirectly between individuals or through technology, that a reasonable person knows or should know, under the circumstances, will have the effect of

materially interfering with the ability of an individual, including a student who observes the conduct, to participate in a safe and supportive learning environment.”

The entire clause is a red flag. What does it mean to have a “safe and supportive learning environment”? What sort of speech could be construed as “not supportive”? Take, for example, a 10th grade civics class in which one student argues for stricter controls on immigration. Could this student be found in violation of the law if another student, perhaps one whose parents are undocumented immigrants, complains such comments harm the “learning environment”?

The anti-bullying bill’s proponents claim to care about protecting free speech rights and point to a clause stating the bill cannot “interfere with a person’s rights of free speech and expression under the First Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.” But these words provide little comfort, as no respectable law needs to include a reminder of the First Amendment’s existence.

The truth is, this anti-bullying bill isn’t about bullying. It is about punishing students who express “offensive” ideas—ultimately to instill fear among students and condition them to think in politically correct terms. The bill itself engages in bullying by seeking to create “safe and supportive” schools through intellectual coercion.

2015 Better Newspaper Advertising Contest

BEST ADVERTISING IDEA

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more

- 1st place**—Brentwood Press, Brentwood, CA. Entry Title: Delta Scrap & Salvage. Judges' Comments: "This was very creative. I liked how you thought 'outside the box' to develop a successful campaign for your customer."
- 2nd place**—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Entry Title: Black Friday Deals. Judges' Comments: "I like the way you generated excitement in anticipation of the upcoming edition."
- 3rd place**—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Entry Title: Advertising Works. Judges' Comments: "Great self promotion. We so often forget to promote ourselves."

BEST ADVERTISING IDEA

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 10,000

- 1st place**—The Blackshear Times, Blackshear, GA. Entry Title: South Georgia Endoscopy. Judges' Comments: "Eye-catching layouts and great content highlighting Colorectal Cancer Month. Effective series of ads using area residents to tell their personal success stories. Especially effective was the ad featuring a father who [was tested] 'for my boys.' I know I'm getting tested."
- 2nd place**—The Ellsworth American, Ellsworth, ME. Entry Title: Draw Your Mom. Credit(s): Erin Hardison. Judges' Comments: "What a great advertising promotion to encourage subscriber engagement, increased circulation and a bump in advertising inches. Cute and adorable promotion, but also effective and, most significantly, profitable."
- 3rd place**—The Galena Gazette, Galena, IL. Entry Title: Give Us a Shot. Credit(s): Jay Dickerson. Judges' Comments: "Creative design and headline elevates this ad above honorable mention."
- Honorable Mention(s)**—The Holyoke Enterprise, Holyoke, CO. Entry Title: Holiday Gift Guide. Credit(s): Darci Tomky.

BEST CLASSIFIED SECTION

Daily & Non-daily Division

- 1st place**—The Taos News, Taos, NM. Entry Title: El Mercado 2014. Credit(s): various. Judges' Comments: "Colorful and well organized. These covers are efficient and clean. I would have liked to have seen the rest of the section."
- 2nd place**—The N'West Iowa REVIEW, Sheldon, IA. Entry Title: The N'West Iowa REVIEW Classifieds. Judges' Comments: "These pages are jam-packed with display ads. I was impressed by some of the ads that clearly took the perspective of the buyer: 'Frustrated in your job?' or 'You can be a winner with us.' Too many ads in most newspapers take the advertiser's perspective, not the users."

BEST MULTIPLE ADVERTISER SECTION

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more

- 1st place**—Palatka Daily News, Palatka, FL. Entry Title: Salute—Honoring Those Who Serve. Judges' Comments: "Outstanding! Incorporating the features on veterans in the section really gave the piece a personal feel. The ads are all clean and clear with a distinct message. Love this."
- 2nd place**—The St. Louis American, Saint Louis, MO. Entry Title: Diversity: A Business Imperative. Judges' Comments: "Excellent concept with effective execution. Very well done."
- 3rd place**—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Entry Title: BLVD Association. Judges' Comments: "Very nice, eye-catching piece."
- Honorable Mention(s)**—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Entry Title: Spa Page (Indulge, Escape & Relax). Judges' Comments: "Nice! It has a spa-like look to it with nice use of colors."

BEST MULTIPLE ADVERTISER SECTION

Non-daily Division, circulation 5,000-9,999

- 1st place**—The Ellsworth American, Ellsworth, ME. Entry Title: The Big Freeze. Credit(s): Staff. Judges' Comments: "Absolutely beautiful photography and good, supportive advertising."
- 2nd place**—The North Scott Press, Eldridge, IA. Entry Title: Remembering the North Scott Honor Flight. Credit(s): Staff.

- Judges' Comments: "Impressive theme carried out nicely throughout entire issue."
- 3rd place**—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX. Entry Title: Twice as Nice. Credit(s): Messenger staff. Judges' Comments: "Very nice."
- Honorable Mention(s)**—The Galena Gazette, Galena, IL. Entry Title: Galena Gazette Veteran Section. Credit(s): Staff. Judges' Comments: "Obviously a lot a effort put into this nice product."

BEST MULTIPLE ADVERTISER SECTION

Non-daily Division, circulation less than 5,000

- 1st place**—The Waushara Argus, Wautoma, WI. Entry Title: Kids Design an Ad. Credit(s): Marge Williams, Mary Kunasch. Judges' Comments: "This is AMAZING. Seriously. I love it. I want to hire whoever came up with this idea! A plus for the businesses because their kid-created ads will be well seen (and could be used for future advertising), plus an educational experience for the kids. Brilliant!!"
- 2nd place**—Mount Desert Islander, Bar Harbor, ME. Entry Title: Delish. Credit(s): Staff. Judges' Comments: "Love this section. Great use of color, very creative and eye-catching ads. Now I'm hungry!!"
- 3rd place**—The Pagosa Springs SUN, Pagosa Springs, CO. Entry Title: Pagosa Springs Official Visitors Guide—Summer. Credit(s): Pagosa Springs SUN staff. Judges' Comments: "Beautiful!"
- Honorable Mention(s)**—The Edgerton Reporter, Edgerton, WI. Entry Title: Lakes Edition. Credit(s): Diane Everson and staff; The Edgerton Reporter, Edgerton, WI. Entry Title: Book and Film Festival promotional piece and program. Credit(s): Diane Everson and staff; The Journal, Crosby, ND. Entry Title: Journal Christmas greetings tab. Credit(s): Journal Publishing Staff.

BEST NEWSPAPER PROMOTION

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000-15,999

- 1st place**—The Livingston Parish News, Denham Springs, LA. Entry Title: School News 1, School News 2. Credit(s): Paul Hatton. Judges' Comments: "Nice promotion using the school as

- community news. Nice headlines with crisp clear fonts in the ads along with an appropriate photo. Good job."
- 2nd place**—The Livingston Parish News, Denham Springs, LA. Entry Title: Anywhere. Credit(s): Paul Hatton. Judges' Comments: "Nice ad showing all the places this newspaper is available to read such as on your phone, tablet, etc. Nice use of photos to show each place. I especially liked how the newspaper was incorporated on each device. All around, a nice ad for the promotion of the newspaper."

BEST NEWSPAPER PROMOTION

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 16,000 or more

- 1st place**—Miami Today, Miami, FL. Entry Title: If you need to know first, you need Miami Today. Credit(s): Miami Today Staff. Judges' Comments: "Thorough job promoting value of newspaper to subscribers."
- 2nd place**—Community Impact Newspaper - Central Austin Edition, Pflugerville, TX. Entry Title: Community Impact Newspaper. Credit(s): Derek Sullivan. Judges' Comments: "Good use of design elements to draw attention to website offerings."

BEST NEWSPAPER PROMOTION

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 10,000

- 1st place**—The Taos News, Taos, NM. Entry Title: Success Stories 2014. Credit(s): various. Judges' Comments: "Nice! Love the use of the quotes and the historic photos."
- 2nd place**—The Taos News, Taos, NM. Entry Title: Best of Taos Promotion 2014. Credit(s): various. Judges' Comments: "Well done! Beautiful graphics and effective conversational tone. These ads make me want to visit."
- 3rd place**—The Taos News, Taos, NM. Entry Title: Visitor Guide Promotion 2014. Credit(s): various. Judges' Comments: "Spectacular choice of photos for this piece!"
- Honorable Mention(s)**—Buffalo Bulletin, Buffalo, WY. Entry Title: Buffalo Bulletin newspaper promotion. Credit(s): Buffalo Bulletin Staff; Palatka Daily News, Palatka, FL. Entry Title: Partnerships That Work!: Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX. Entry Title: Subscribe—Comic Book/Pop Art Series. Credit(s): Todd A. Griffith; Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX. Entry Title:

FIRST PLACE, best sports photo, non-daily division, circulation 3,000 - 4,999
By Kasey M. Orr
The Douglas Budget
Douglas, WY

BEARCATS—Senior Micah Thompson gives an all-out diving effort to try to stop a shot during last Tuesday's game against Torrington. The Bearcats lost their season opener 5-1 to the Blazers, but came back to defeat Newcastle 4-1.



Getting the story

BY JULIA M. DENDINGER
The Valencia County News-Bulletin
Belen, NM

First place, best feature story
daily & non-daily division, circulation 15,000 or more

Journalist Neil Boggs recalls his career as a newspaperman, TV broadcaster

He is the man who interviewed kings and presidents, the man who took notes while a few feet away John Kennedy announced he would run for president, the man who witnessed the world change in a nuclear explosion in the remote New Mexico desert.

Now Neil Boggs, 85, lives in a modest townhouse in Rio Communities. Best known as one of two alternating hosts of “Meet the Press,” the longest running program on network television, Boggs has been a part of the media world since he was 14 years old.

He started out covering sports for the local newspaper as a teenager, mostly because he was looking for something to do. Well that and he was nosey.

“I wanted to find out the things people didn’t want me to find out about and put it in the paper,” Boggs says with a mischievous smile.

Growing up in isolated rural West Virginia, Boggs knew college wasn’t in his future. His father was a school teacher in a coal town that doesn’t exist anymore. Together, the two would walk two miles, along the railroad tracks, to the school.

If the timing worked out, they caught the school bus—a steam locomotive hauling coal from a nearby mine out to the main rail line.

“The train would slow down and my dad would boost me up to the fireman then jump on himself,” he said. “That was my school bus.”

In high school, Boggs decided he needed to do something after school, so he began working for the local paper, the Clay County Free Press, covering sports. At the same time, he worked as a stringer for the paper in the capital, The Charleston Gazette.

“I knew I wasn’t going to college. There were no grants, scholarships. Well some just for jocks and even then they weren’t the big full ones like today,” he said.

So with some newspaper experience under his belt, when Boggs graduated in 1947, he brazenly took himself in to see the editor of the Gazette and asked for a job.

“He hired me two weeks shy of my 18th birthday,” he said. “I think it was because I worked cheap.”

Boggs pulled down the princely sum of \$20 a week, enough for food, a place to stay and bus tokens a few times a week. The rest of the time, he walked to work.

Boggs said the editor at the Gazette, Harry Hoffmann, nurtured and mentored him as a young reporter.

“It wasn’t like it is not where everyone is looking over their shoulder, worried about competition,” he said.

He stayed with the Gazette for two years, then took a job with the International News Service in Atlanta, which subsequently merged with United Press International. Working for the wire service didn’t suit Boggs. He wanted to be in a community. The Gazette offered him a good job again, so he went back.

His return to the Charleston paper was short lived but not by his choice. Boggs was drafted in 1951 and sent off to work in an Army press office during the Korean War. He calls that time the best two years of his life. He wasn’t called to the front lines, instead serving his time in the press office.

They did basic training in rural Pennsylvania and spent months at a time, bivouacked in the woods sharing a two-man pup tent, “learning to be a professional killer,” Boggs said. He said everyone should be required to do civil service.

“It was an obligation that you didn’t shirk,” he said. “It’s the price you paid for being a citizen.”

After a two-year hitch in the service, Boggs returned home, and to the Gazette.

While the newspaper was home, Boggs eventually hit the end of his run. He had gone as far as he could with the publication, so without too much planning, he decided to give the new medium of television a try. For about a decade, Boggs reported for stations throughout the Midwest, even working in Los Angeles for a time.

By 1965, Boggs had made his way to Washington, D.C., to anchor the 11 p.m. news on the NBC flag ship station as well as work as a network general assignment reporter.

One evening after he finished his broadcast, Boggs stepped behind the cameras to find the producer holding up the phone receiver, the signal there was a call for Boggs from the White House.

It was President Johnson, who always called personally, Boggs said, not an assistant. When he got on the phone, Boggs said the leader of the free world told him he had watched the broadcast and heard what he said.

“He said, ‘I heard what you said and



COURTESY OF NEIL BOGGS
DURING HIS TIME with the International News Service in Atlanta, reporter Neil Boggs always made it a habit to check the local newspapers

if you ever say that again, I’ll have your ass,” Boggs recalled.

Unsure of what the president heard, Boggs searched the script from that night’s broadcast.

“The only thing I could think was that he had missed the attribution and didn’t realize that it wasn’t Neil Boggs saying Johnson’s policy was foolish,” he said.

A few days later, his wife received flowers from the White House and Boggs was invited to attend a state dinner.

“That was the thing about Johnson; he’d blow his top then make it up to you. Kennedy and Eisenhower—they’d try to get you fired,” he said.

It was also during the 1960s that Boggs began working as one of two moderators for “Meet the Press.” The program’s usual moderator, Ned Brooks, became ill so the network was looking for a replacement. Executives tried out a number of NBC correspondents and narrowed it down to two—Edwin Newman and Boggs.

“They couldn’t decide between the two of us, so without ever announcing it, they used us as alternate moderators,” he said.

Boggs spent every other Sunday moderating the show until the spring of 1972.

Boggs eventually came to a time where he wanted to retire in New Mexico so he could be in close proximity to the country of Mexico, a subject of fascination and constant study for him, but he was offered a job. The University of New Mexico wanted him to teach journalism and speech.

He told the university he didn’t have a college degree; his experience in the industry was what UNM wanted. So for

12 years, Boggs molded several generations of reporters.

And like in the newsroom, he didn’t pull his punches in the classroom. He frequently argued that schools have too much money and actively encouraged to vote against bond issues.

“I don’t think they liked that very much,” he said. “But the money doesn’t go to the students; it goes to the staff and administration, not the school.”

Not only is Boggs critical of the education system, but the media as well. Television has become mostly “junk” interested in entertaining viewers instead of educating them about important issues, and newspapers aren’t much better.

“Crime, crime they cover every crime. It’s meaningless except to the few who were actually effected,” he said. “Crime doesn’t need to be reported on unless it shows a pattern, and it usually doesn’t.”

But as disillusioned as he may seem with print media, if he was hale and hearty again, Boggs said without hesitation, he would go back to working for a newspaper.

“You can give it what it’s worth; you have time to reflect,” he said. “TV, radio, it’s right now. That’s why there’s so much junk now. We have the ability to put anything on camera. Stations sent people to Ferguson, they spent money, so they have to put something on the air to justify the expense.”

Like most old news hounds, eventually people want to know who the most significant person was Boggs met during his long career. He will give you an unusual answer—the atomic bomb.

When the U.S. Army set the New Mexico desert on fire in 1945, Boggs was there as a liaison between the civilian press and the military. From seven miles away, he witnessed the final terrible culmination of the Manhattan Project.

“We went down to the site the next day. Everyone else was dead within two years,” he said. “I should be dead.”

The experience left an indelible mark on him. After the detonation, Boggs experienced the same nightmare over and over. It’s a nightmare that still comes to him in the small hours of the morning and raises goose bumps along his arms as he tells it in the light of day.

In the dream, he comes awake, blackness filling his doorway. When he goes to look, seeking the source of what disturbed his sleep, all is an impenetrable darkness, 180 degrees of black.

Then he sees it. Not the violent multi-colored mushroom cloud of our cultural memory, but something worse. It’s the wall of dust, pushed outward by the blast, marching across the desert, coming for him, lit from the inside by flashes of blinding light.

Then he wakes up for real, and sleep is done for the night.

Meet the Mess. Credit(s): Todd A. Griffith.

BEST PUBLIC NOTICE SECTION

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st place—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX. Entry Title: Sex Offenders. Credit(s): Messenger Staff. Judges’ Comments: “Horrifying, but very effective.”

2nd place—The Ellsworth American, Ellsworth, ME. Entry Title: Public Notice Section. Credit(s): Staff. Judges’ Comments: “Easy to find and read. Neat, uncluttered.”

BEST SALES PROMOTION SECTION OR EDITION

Daily Division

1st place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Entry Title: AV Scrapbook. Judges’ Comments: “This was a fabulous section, full of useful information and wonderful photographs. I’m sure it will be a keepsake and kept around the household for years to come.”

2nd place—Palatka Daily News, Palatka, FL. Entry Title: Very Merry Gift Guide. Judges’ Comments: “A very well-done section with color placed strategically and effectively.”

3rd place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Entry Title: Dining and Entertainment. Judges’ Comments: “Beautiful section that showcased each dining establishment with vivid color. It made me want to try each and every one.”

Honorable Mention(s)—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Entry Title: Mother’s Day.

BEST SALES PROMOTION SECTION OR EDITION

Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more

1st place—Brentwood Press, Brentwood, CA. Entry Title: All About Pets Holiday Guide. Judges’ Comments: “I loved this special section devoted to pets. Loved the cover, great layout, loved every ad. Overall, a great product. Nice job!”

2nd place—The Livingston Parish News, Denham Springs, LA. Entry Title: Graduation. Credit(s): Staff. Judges’ Comments: “Very tasteful section for graduation—especially since you have a lot of graduates! Good job on all the ads. I especially liked the one devoted to a specific senior. The ads worked well as a majority

of them were the same size and really added to the look of the section. I imagine this section will be a nice keepsake for the graduates.”

BEST SALES PROMOTION SECTION OR EDITION

Non-daily Division, circulation less than 10,000

1st place—The Journal, Crosby, ND. Entry Title: Journal Publishing Honor Roll of Business. Credit(s): Journal Publishing Staff. Judges’ Comments: “Great section! Loved the way businesses were highlighted through salutes.”

2nd place—Wise County Messenger, Decatur, TX. Entry Title: Holiday Gift Guide. Credit(s): Messenger Staff. Judges’ Comments: “Great holiday gift guide.”

3rd place—Leelanau Enterprise, Lake Leelanau, MI. Entry Title: Color Tour Guide. Judges’ Comments: “Very good section.”

Honorable Mention(s)—South Pasadena Review, South Pasadena, CA. Entry Title: Design an Ad. Credit(s): Various Middle School students.

BEST SERIES AD IDEA, BLACK & WHITE

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st place—The Blackshear Times, Blackshear, GA. Entry Title: Bennett, Bennett & Johnson Insurance Agency. Judges’ Comments: “Great campaign! Captures the reader’s attention and draws him in.”

2nd place—The Blackshear Times, Blackshear, GA. Entry Title: South Georgia Endoscopy. Judges’ Comments: “Very good campaign with an important message. You made me want to make an appointment to get screened.”

3rd place—The Blackshear Times, Blackshear, GA. Entry Title: Satilla Foot & Ankle.

BEST SERIES AD IDEA, COLOR

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more

1st place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Entry Title: Beverly Hills Institute of Plastic Surgery. Judges’ Comments: “What can I say? These jumped off the page and grabbed the reader’s attention.”

2nd place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Entry Title: Lancaster Performing Arts Center (LPAC). Judges’ Comments:

“Great graphic work! Very impressive.”

3rd place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Entry Title: AV Veterinary Center. Judges’ Comments: “Very eye catching.”

Honorable Mention(s)—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Entry Title: High Desert Medical Group Senior Expo. Judges’ Comments: “Loved the theme!”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Livingston Parish News, Denham Springs, LA. Entry Title: Antons 1, Antons 2, Antons 3. Credit(s): Paul Hatton.

BEST SERIES AD IDEA, COLOR

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 10,000

1st place—Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY. Entry Title: Altamira Art Shows. Credit(s): Staff. Judges’ Comments: “I love these ads.”

2nd place—Buffalo Bulletin, Buffalo, WY. Entry Title: Bank of Buffalo. We can Help. Credit(s): Stacy Bronson and Robb Hicks. Judges’ Comments: “Very clean ads.”

3rd place—Mount Desert Islander, Bar Harbor, ME. Entry Title: Stanley Subaru. Credit(s): David Fickett. Judges’ Comments: “This is a very clever idea; worked well.”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Taos News, Taos, NM. Entry Title: Pro Tax & Accounting Services, Series 2014. Credit(s): various.

BEST SINGLE AD IDEA, BLACK & WHITE

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more

1st place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Entry Title: Tapia’s Pumpkin Patch. Judges’ Comments: “This ad makes me feel like the pumpkin patch is fun. Sticking to one font and creating three sections helped make what would have been way too much stuff work well in a small space. Strong structure and simplified font choices helped this ad stand out from the rest.”

2nd place—The Livingston Parish News, Denham Springs, LA. Entry Title: Yale. Credit(s): Paul Hatton. Judges’ Comments: “Strong image and horizontal format helped this ad stand out. Leading with the logo of the dentist is a big no-no, but it was still a clear winner.”

3rd place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Entry Title: Extensions Dance. Judges’ Comments: “A strong visual and dramatic black background was somewhat compromised with too much type and too many fonts. If this were a little more simplified, it could have been the top ad.”

BEST SINGLE AD IDEA, BLACK & WHITE

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 10,000

1st place—Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY. Entry Title: WRJ Home Design Studio. Credit(s): Andy Edwards, Sarah Gregg, Lydia Redzich. Judges’ Comments: “Clean, dynamic ad. Proof that “Less is More!” Upon seeing this ad, the consumer would have to be intrigued enough to call for a quote. That’s the newspaper’s job: get the reader interested.”

2nd place—The Blackshear Times, Blackshear, GA. Entry Title: Management South Agency Inc. Judges’ Comments: “Great headline supported by a strong, challenging message to the graduating class of 2014. It is an eye-catching, well-designed ad all around. Superb typography choices.”

3rd place—Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY. Entry Title: Teton Eye Clinic. Credit(s): Andy Edwards, Sarah Gregg, Lydia Redzich. Judges’ Comments: “Cute, clever graphic. I chuckled out loud. Simple and to the point.”

Honorable Mention(s)—Hood County News, Granbury, TX. Entry Title: Quail Park.

BEST SINGLE AD IDEA, COLOR

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000-15,999

1st place—The Livingston Parish News, Denham Springs, LA. Entry Title: James Drugs. Credit(s): Paul Hatton. Judges’ Comments: “Love the concept and unique design. Striking ad that clearly shows the business off.”

2nd place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Entry Title: Lancaster Performing Arts Center (LPAC). Judges’ Comments: “Stunning ad. Great use of photos and attention to detail; the reflection of the bottom row of photos was a nice touch. Well done.”

3rd place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Entry Title: Helm Vision. Judges’ Comments: “Beautiful design, simple and clean layout - very eye catching!”

Honorable Mention(s)—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale,

CA. Entry Title: Katz N Jammers.

BEST SINGLE AD IDEA, COLOR

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 16,000 or more

1st place—Community Impact Newspaper, Cy-Fair Edition, Pflugerville, TX. Entry Title: Cypress YoungLife. Credit(s): Jackie Brunk. Judges’ Comments: “Clean, fresh design makes this a top contender in the category. Unique background and use of red color set the design apart. Well done!”

2nd place—Community Impact Newspaper—Georgetown Edition, Pflugerville, TX. Entry Title: Georgetown Farmers Market. Credit(s): Cathy Chedrawi. Judges’ Comments: “Great ad—I love the colorful background photo and the choice of fonts. Clearly a top ad in the category!”

3rd place—Community Impact Newspaper—Round Rock/ Pflugerville/Hutto Edition, Pflugerville, TX. Entry Title: City of Georgetown. Credit(s): Ethan Hill. Judges’ Comments: “The background photo is perfect for this ad. Great design for a lot of information, well organized and easy to read, as well as fun to look at!”

Honorable Mention(s)—Community Impact Newspaper - Cy-Fair Edition, Pflugerville, TX. Entry Title: Copperfield Bowl. Credit(s): Shawn Epps.

BEST SINGLE AD IDEA, COLOR

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 10,000

1st place—Palatka Daily News, Palatka, FL. Entry Title: Beck Chrysler Dodge Jeep—Family Legacy. Judges’ Comments: “Gorgeous ad. Great use of photography and wording.”

2nd place—The Taos News, Taos, NM. Entry Title: Taos Farmers Market. Judges’ Comments: “Fantastic photo? really gets the idea of a farmers market across. Love this!”

3rd place—The Taos News, Taos, NM. Entry Title: Gorge Bar & Grill. Judges’ Comments: “Fantastic!Makes me want to go sit at that bar!”

Honorable Mention(s)—The Northern Light Region, Baudette, Minnesota. Entry Title: “No L” Baudette Municipal Liquors. Credit(s): Mike Hovde; The Taos News, Taos, NM. Entry Title: Taos Pueblo Souvenirs; The Taos News, Taos, NM. Entry Title: Taos Pueblo Honors; The Taos News, Taos, NM. Entry Title: Clarke & Co.; The Taos News, Taos, NM. Entry Title: Lambert’s of Taos.

BEST SMALL-PAGE AD

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 10,000 or more

1st place—The Livingston Parish News, Denham Springs, LA. Entry Title: Easter Egg Hunt. Credit(s): Paul Hatton. Judges’ Comments: “Can’t help chuckling at this bold bunny’s invitation to join the fun, with date and time clearly stated. Then the eye travels down to the softly shaded egg on which the rabbit rests and which highlights more information about the event, and then to the grass in which the egg nestles and on which the location and contact information are listed in reversed type. Hatton’s ad demonstrates a number of contrasting elements flowing together smoothly to create an effective whole.”

2nd place—Community Impact Newspaper—Grapevine/ Colleyville/Southlake Edition, Pflugerville, TX. Entry Title: Smoothie Factory. Credit(s): Jean Henric. Judges’ Comments: “Splashes of color flow to the images of ingredients and products, suggesting splashes of flavor will be yours at the Smoothie Factory. The similarly colored center strip, with its rational reason to indulge stated in knockout text, imposes order on the fruity free-for-all. Location information is just above the BOGO offer, and the name of the business and slogan appear at the top, all easily read. Jean Henric’s ad is an effective example of an ad that can be read not just top-to-bottom but also bottom-to-top or center-out.”

3rd place—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Entry Title: Monticello Salon. Judges’ Comments: “This little-black-dress of an ad focuses attention on the salon and on the sale item through the use of elegant but contrasting fonts, subtle shading, and a half-face image that entices even as it recedes into the background.”

BEST SMALL-PAGE AD

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 10,000

1st place—Buffalo Bulletin, Buffalo, WY. Entry Title: Bozeman Trail, Meadowlark. Credit(s): Stacy Bronson. Judges’ Comments: “Great, dominant visual immediately signals to the reader what

The National Newspaper Association wishes to thank the following individuals for their time and talent in judging the 2015 Better Newspaper Editorial Contest, Better Newspaper Advertising Contest & Newspaper And Education Contest

Jenny Erwin
Dennis Schick
Jeri Seely
Bob Mudge
Keith Rathbun
Anne Anderson
Dodie Hook
Sharon DiMauro
Larry See
Bill Ostendorf
D. Reed Eckhardt
Rick Bussler
Rusty Carter
Amy Wilson
Kelli Bultena
Jennifer Chciuk
Jeanne Straus
Nancy Dinar
Julie Engler
Laurie Ezzell Brown
JP Crumrine
Melissa Perner

Ashleigh David
Barbara Walter
Chris Roberts
Cecile Krimm
David Green
Mark Campbell
Deb McCaslin
Ryan Lewis
Rich Hanner
Harry Hix
Tania French
Joni Berg
Jay Strasner
William Jacobs
Doug Hanneman
Tad Johnson
John Hewitt
Ed Henninger
Kent Ford
Matthew Erwin
Doug Crews

**FIRST PLACE,**

best breaking news photo, daily division

By Christina Ramos | Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA

DOWN, NOT OUT—April Ray, owner of Daisy's

Costumes, which was gutted in a fire Thursday morning, looks through burnt and wet costumes Monday morning to be taken to the dry cleaners. Dozens of volunteers helped Ray sort through clothes and provided the transportation to get the costumes cleaned.

the ad is about. Advertiser and account rep were disciplined about only selling ONE thing in the ad instead of trying to sell multiple things the restaurant had to offer. Ad pops."

2nd place—Hood County News, Granbury, TX. Entry Title: Vision City. Judges' Comments: "Good use of graphic and strong headline to show reader benefit. Nice job!"

3rd place—The Ozona Stockman, Ozona, TX. Entry Title: Vote for Ryan Bean. Credit(s): Susan Calloway. Judges' Comments: "Eye catching, informative political election ad."

BEST USE OF AD COLOR

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 16,000 or more

1st place—Community Impact Newspaper—Round Rock/Pflugerville/Hutto Edition, Pflugerville, TX. Entry Title: Mays Street Boutique. Credit(s): Erin Behncke. Judges' Comments: "Gorgeous ad, very well put together."

2nd place—Community Impact Newspaper—Plano Edition, Pflugerville, TX. Entry Title: Renters Warehouse. Credit(s): Virginia Otto-Hayes. Judges' Comments: "The pink and the blue work well together."

3rd place—Brentwood Press, Brentwood, CA. Entry Title: Big B Lumber. Judges' Comments: "Clean ad."

BEST USE OF AD COLOR

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation 8,000-15,999

1st place—Hood County News, Granbury, TX. Entry Title: Cactus Flower - Transition into Spring. Judges' Comments: "Beautiful ad! Loved the textures at top and bottom, and the white behind products really made them pop. Well done."

2nd place—Jackson Hole News&Guide, Jackson, WY. Entry Title: The Jackson Bootlegger. Credit(s): Andy Edwards, Sarah Gregg, Lydia Redzich. Judges' Comments: "Simple ad with a big impact showcases the product beautifully."

3rd place—The Livingston Parish News, Denham Springs, LA. Entry Title: James Drugs. Credit(s): Paul Hatton. Judges' Comments: "Such a unique ad design really stands out among the entries."

Honorable Mention(s)—Antelope Valley Press, Palmdale, CA. Entry Title: Nico's Dining.

BEST USE OF AD COLOR

Daily & Non-daily Division, circulation less than 8,000

1st place—The N'West Iowa REVIEW, Sheldon, IA. Entry Title: Building Project. Credit(s): Krystal Poppema. Judges' Comments: "Well thought out, clean ad."

2nd place—Buffalo Bulletin, Buffalo, WY. Entry Title: Lodges of the Bighorns. Credit(s): Stacy Bronson. Judges' Comments: "Gorgeous pictures, catches the eye, very clean"

3rd place—The Waushara Argus, Wautoma, WI. Entry Title: O'Malley and Floss Greenhouse. Credit(s): Marge Williams. Judges' Comments: "Cute and creative idea; the colors work well together."

BEST USE OF LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHY IN ADS

Daily & Non-daily Division

1st place—Vilas County News-Review, Eagle River, WI. Entry Title: Derby thank you ad. Credit(s): Kurt Krueger, Gary Ridderbusch. Judges' Comments: "The compilation of photos gave a very personal look at the event and the enthusiasm around it. The colors were brilliant and the composition was spot-on."

2nd place—Buffalo Bulletin, Buffalo, WY. Entry Title: It's a Kick. Credit(s): Stacy Bronson, Tom Milstead and Robb Hicks. Judges' Comments: "This was so simple but caught the reader's eye. It tied in with the theme very well."

3rd place—The Ark, Tiburon, CA. Entry Title: The Caprice. Credit(s): Staff. Judges' Comments: "The use of photography in this ad made me want to stop by for dinner and enjoy the beautiful view. Simple and well-composed."

Honorable Mention(s)—The N'West Iowa REVIEW, Sheldon, IA. Entry Title: Congratulations, West Lyon. Credit(s): Amanda Vande Griend.

FIRST PLACE, best classified section

daily & non-daily division,
The Taos News, Taos NM

Congratulations

**to all the winners
of NNA's
Better Newspaper
Contest,
Better Newspaper
Advertising Contest
and
Newspaper and
Education Contest
from the board
and staff of the**

**National
Newspaper
Association**

OPINION: AG AND EXPO CENTER PROJECT OFFERS GREAT PROMISE. OPINION AID

WITHIN REACH SAVE 67% on Sioux City's top golf courses. **SPEND \$10** and get a free gift.

Sioux City Journal

CELEBRATING OUR 100TH YEAR, 1884-2014

City officials confident levee will hold

Record crest of Big Sioux River expected Friday

SHOULDLAND FLOODING

DUNES DEJA VU

Despite threat, officials have faith in levees

Evacuation plans ready, just in case

Community on edge as it waits to see what Big Sioux will do

Twins: Twin tornadoes unlike any he's ever seen

Towns Ready to Roll Out Their Holiday Celebrations

Church Looking To Donate Organ To 'Good Home'

Center to staff surgical practice

DEQ favors pit air permit

The man behind the Park Service brochures dies

MONSTER JOB WEEK June 22 - 28, 2014

THE PILOT

Wednesday, November 19, 2014

Greetings From Wichita

1,200 Miles Later, Balloon Turns Up in Aberdeen

Popular Eatery Closes

Russell's Seafood A 50-Year Institution

CHRISTMAS WRAPPING

Towns Ready to Roll Out Their Holiday Celebrations

Church Looking To Donate Organ To 'Good Home'

Center to staff surgical practice

DEQ favors pit air permit

The man behind the Park Service brochures dies

Jackson Hole News & Guide

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

Center to staff surgical practice

DEQ favors pit air permit

The man behind the Park Service brochures dies

INSIDE

WEATHER FORECAST

MONSTER JOB WEEK

FIRST PLACE, general excellence, daily division
Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA

FIRST PLACE, general excellence, non-daily division, circulation 10,000 or more
The Pilot, Southern Pines, NC

FIRST PLACE, general excellence, non-daily division, circulation 6,000 - 9,999
Jackson Hole News & Guide, Jackson, WY

BETTER NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING CONTEST WINNERS

Visit www.nnaweb.org
or call 573-777-4980

March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

'It's just not worth the RISK.'

Kelly Thornton

Colorectal cancer is almost totally preventable.

SOUTH GEORGIA ENDOSCOPY CENTER, INC.

Digestive Disease Consultants, P.C.

Dr. S.A. Choudhry
Dr. Craig M. Kibick, D.O.

1501 31st Street • Waycross • 225-3377

FIRST PLACE, best advertising idea, daily & non-division, circulation less than 10,000
The Blackshear Times, Blackshear, GA

Lunch and Learn bridges gap

by Heather Brewer Correspondent

Summer learning is everywhere; it's happening in cities and towns all across the country. In Oakley, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service and the Oakley Union Elementary School District have teamed up to support summer learning with an expansion of their free summer meal program called Lunch and Learn.

The Summer Food Service Program has long been providing free lunches during the summer for children in each local school district. The intent of the all-inclusive outreach program is to ensure healthy, nutritious meals are readily accessible for children from preschool to high school not only during the school year, but through the summer months as well.

This year, in efforts to broaden community interaction, the program has been increased to five locations in Oakley and Bethel Island, and a new aspect has been added to the nourishing luncheon routine, according to Traci Tovani, a coordinator for the program.

"We've had a 45-minute lunch where children could get together to see their friends and get out of the house for a bit in a structured setting, but now we're offering an additional 45 minutes after lunch for themed activities," said Tovani. "We have different themes each week like 'Wild West,' or 'Get Your Game On' and the children can come for lunch, or for the activities, or both. The program includes art projects, science experiments, sports, water play, math exploration and guest speakers like local artists, student athletes and naturalists."

In the past two weeks, the program has provided lunch for 3,500 children, with more than 70 in-kind donations for community service.

More than just a place for food and games, the program also helps high school seniors perform and receive credits for community service.

"With this program, we also do a little bit more than provide lunch and activities for some students," Tovani said. "Any incoming high school seniors can volunteer here, helping to set up or clean or helping to run our indoor and outdoor activities."

Parents may find participation in summer learning programs keep their children from experiencing the "summer slide," a summer learning loss that happens when children do not engage in educational activities during the summer months, according to the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.

A study published on the association's website notes that elementary students' performance falls by about a month during the summer break. These periods of differential learning rates contribute substantially to the achievement gap as children age.

Fortunately, the Lunch and Learn program seeks to help parents and children avoid these potential hardships.

"This program bridges the learning gap between the school years and keeps children's minds active and engaged," said Susan Chadd, who has been a coordinator with the Lunch and Learn program since its inception in May.

"We try to cultivate a continuous love of learning and maintain the sense of community families and teachers establish during the school year."

Given the overwhelming success of the program so far, there are high hopes for its continuation in the years to come.

"There has been tremendous team effort and community support for this initiative," said Tovani. "Due to the incredible turnout we've seen in such a short time, we are already making plans to have the program available next summer."

The newly expanded initiative began June 11 and will continue Monday through Friday until July 17 at Vintage Parkway Elementary School, Oakley Elementary School, Gehring Elementary School, Iron House Elementary School, and Bethel Island Scout Hall. There are no enrollment, paperwork or income qualifications required to participate, but children not yet in kindergarten should be accompanied by an adult.

For more information about attending or volunteering for the Lunch and Learn program, call Oakley Union Elementary School District Nutrition Services at 925-625-6852.

To comment, visit www.thepress.net.

RECYCLE LOCALLY

Delta Scrap & Salvage

CERTIFIED CALIFORNIA REDEMPTION CENTER

It PAYS to recycle locally!

Bring your recycling to us and get entered into a monthly drawing for a chance to win \$250!

Delta Scrap & Salvage

925-754-1474

1371 Main Street | Oakley | CA | 94561

1/2 mile East of Bridgehead/south side of Hwy 4

YOUR TRUSTED RECYCLING CENTER SINCE 1975

FIRST PLACE, best advertising idea, daily and non-daily division, circulation 10,000 or more
The Brentwood Press, Brentwood, CA

A NATIONAL PACEMAKER AWARD JOURNALISM

THE SUN

SOUTHWESTERN COLLEGE

thesun.com

Volume 58, Issue 4

January 21 • February 13, 2015

College will restore staff pay cut in 2012-13

SWC governing board returns the five percent lost during fiscal crisis

By **Prasade Deyanagi**
Staff writer

College board members agreed on a budgeting toward in January by fully restoring their pay cut by mid-June and returning to employees during a financial downturn in 2012-13.

Board President Norma Hernandez announced the current decision at a special meeting on January 15.

"During the difficult times budget cuts were necessary, but we're looking forward to restoring the pay cut before the start of the original fiscal year," Hernandez said.

Hernandez said all employees agree to the reduction. Hernandez said new sources of income allowed the college to pay the employees.

Faculty members in Natural City and San Antonio affiliated at California universities, during the college's \$2 million loss. Preparation 10,000 provided additional funding and allowed the board to restore 1.5 percent of the total pay given that the new salary structure.

Faculty members have been made a presentation to the board. The staff will not accept the new salary structure as a condition to return to work.

Faculty members have been given a notice and warned they may face pay cuts and that the college may not be able to pay them.

SWC was awarded a contract for a 1.5 percent salary increase from the state of California. Two percent was restored in December. CSJA and the state of California and the pay cut impacted him substantially.

more on [thesun.com](#) at A2

Mexico's Missing 43

Artists and human rights advocates protest the kidnapping of college students in Iguala, Guerrero. Pg. A6

more on [thesun.com](#) at A6

Holding the re-keys to success

Advicts to march for office hours

By **Alan Lane**
Staff writer

Advicts, the college's drug, alcohol, and tobacco use prevention program, will be held in the college's main building, the College of Arts and Sciences, on Monday, January 21, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The program is a free service for students who are struggling with drug, alcohol, and tobacco use. The program is a free service for students who are struggling with drug, alcohol, and tobacco use.

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SWCPD crime logs not accurate

Investigation finds reports hard to access, inconsistent

By **Lisa Chisholm**
Staff writer

Police logs at Southwestern College have been found to be inconsistent with state and federal law enforcement agencies.

The logs were found to be inconsistent with state and federal law enforcement agencies. The logs were found to be inconsistent with state and federal law enforcement agencies.

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BY THE HEART AND CUSHION: Linda Hines. When students come to the college, they are the production and development of their own. In the end, the college is a good teacher. Every student is a good teacher. Every student is a good teacher. Every student is a good teacher.

more on [thesun.com](#) at A6

more on [thesun.com](#) at A6

FIRST PLACE, general excellence,
college division, daily & non-daily
The Southwestern College Sun, Chula Vista, CA

A large, stylized graphic featuring a waving American flag. The word "Salute" is written in a large, white, cursive script across the upper half of the flag. Below it, in a smaller, white, sans-serif font, is the text "Honoring those who proudly served the United States". In the background, behind the flag, are silhouettes of military aircraft flying. In the bottom right corner, the text "Special Publication of" is above "KALAMAZOO DAILY NEWS" in a bold, sans-serif font.

FIRST PLACE, best multiple advertiser section,
daily & non-daily division, circulation 10,000 or more
Palatka Daily News, Palatka, FL

Newspaper And Education Contest

DIVISION A - TRADITIONAL NIE STORIES AND CURRICULUM

Educational Support - Daily Newspapers 10,000 circulation or more

2nd place—The Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA

Entry Title: Siouxland NIE: One Community ... One Goal ...

One Child at a Time. Credit(s): Nicole Schweitzerberger. Judges' Comments: "Excellent NIE features. Strong layout and design."

Educational Support - Non-daily newspapers 5,000 circulation or more

1st place—The St. Louis American, St. Louis, MO

Entry Title: Supporting Our St. Louis Inner-City Teachers.

Credit(s): Cathy Sewell. Judges' Comments: "Excellent how-to tutorial of this well-organized program. Teachers should love this easy-to-follow explanation and calendar of NIE offerings."

1st place—Wilson County News, Floresville, TX

Entry Title: Wilson's Life-Long Learning! Credit(s): Tiffany

Polasek. Judges' Comments: "Good content for readers of all ages!"

Marketing - Daily newspaper 10,000 circulation or more

Honorable Mention(s)—The Sioux City Journal, Sioux City, IA

Entry Title: NIE Siouxland—One Community. Credit(s): Nicole Schweitzerberger.

Partnerships - Daily Newspapers 10,000 circulation or more

1st place—Tampa Bay Times, St. Petersburg, FL

Entry Title: Alternate Times. Credit(s): Sue Bedry. Judges'

Comments: "Science fiction. A writing contest. Fantastic activities, colorful and imaginative layout and design. Great work!"

3rd place—Tampa Bay Times, St. Petersburg, FL

Entry Title: Lights On Tampa 2015: Explore, engage, enjoy.

Credit(s): Sue Bedry. Judges' Comments: "Beautiful, impressive, colorful and looks like excellent support of area businesses and advertisers."

3rd place—The Seattle Times, Seattle, WA

Entry Title: The Seattle Times Newspapers In Education

Recycling 101. Credit(s): Katie Johnson. Judges' Comments: "Excellent entry in a competitive category."

Partnerships - Non-daily newspapers 5,000 circulation or more

1st place—The St. Louis American, St. Louis, MO

Entry Title: Partnering with the St. Louis Corporate

Community. Credit(s): Cathy Sewell. Judges' Comments:

"Outstanding, inviting content. Graphically, the best of this category. Excellent and impressive partnerships with local business sponsors."

2nd place—The Echo Press, Alexandria, MN

Entry Title: NIE Student Generated Newspaper. Credit(s): Tara

Bitzan. Judges' Comments: "Partnership with local school and businesses appears strong and is good for everyone! Student-produced newspaper gets everyone involved in the classroom and on the newspaper staff. Well-organized. Excellent outcome with a newsy special issue and healthy ad count."

3rd place—Philadelphia Gay News, Philadelphia, PA

Entry Title: LGBTQ Youth Supplement. Credit(s): Jennifer

Colletta. Judges' Comments: "Strong entry editorially; layout and design could be better."

DIVISION B - NEWSPAPERS SUPPORTING EDUCATION & CIVIC LITERACY

Civic Literacy - Non-daily newspapers less than 5,000 circulation

1st place—The Eldon Advertiser, Eldon, MO

First Place, Newspapers Supporting Education & Civic

Literacy—Civic Literacy—Non-daily newspapers less than 5,000 circulation. Entry Title: Democracy Day and student newspapers.

Credit(s): Tammy Witherspoon. Judges' Comments: "Democracy Day is such a wonderful outreach program for the Eldon

newspaper. The program benefits the students, the speakers, the newspaper and the community. Win-win-win-win! The students,

especially, are winners as they soak in civics education and come to realize the importance of government (and newspapers) in

their lives."

Other - Daily newspapers 10,000 circulation or more

1st place—Tampa Bay Times, St. Petersburg, FL

Entry Title: Plugged In 2015. Credit(s): Sue Bedry. Judges'

Comments: "Excellent features and information about binge drinking with emphasis on measures to fight this deadly phenomenon. Strong graphics ensure readership by target audience."

2nd place—Tampa Bay Times, St. Petersburg, FL

Entry Title: Smile: Your teeth and you. Credit(s): Sue Bedry.

Judges' Comments: "Clever artwork and easy-to-follow text drives home the importance of healthy teeth. Excellent!"

Other - Non-daily newspapers less than 5,000 circulation

1st place—Yankton County Observer, Yankton, SD

Entry Title: Yankton County Observer goes 'Back to School'

(13-part series). Credit(s): Staff. Judges' Comments: "What a great idea to go 'back to school' and share your experience with newspaper readers! I can only imagine this was a popular series of articles. Falls into the 'public service' category of newspapering, too."

2nd place—The Gazette-Democrat, Anna, IL

Entry Title: Union County Top Achievers 2015. Credit(s):

Lindsey Vaughn. Judges' Comments: "Clean, complete special graduation issue. Well done."

ST. LOUIS AMERICAN • JUNE 5-11, 2014

Two area teachers win Golden Apple awards

Each excelled at teaching with *The St. Louis American's* NIE program

American staff

The *St. Louis American's* Newspaper In Education (NIE) staff recently surprised two local teachers with Golden Apple recognition plaques and gift cards. The Golden Apple is presented each year to two elementary school NIE teachers who excel at integrating the newspaper content into their classroom lessons.

The *St. Louis American's* NIE program, supported by local corporate leaders, provides weekly newspaper delivery, at no cost, to more than 6,500 students in select classrooms in the St. Louis area. These newspapers contain specific student-friendly educational health and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) content for teachers to incorporate into their lesson plans. Participating teachers have found that their students respond positively to using the newspaper in class, and many integrate portions of the entire newspaper in their curriculum.

This year's Golden Apple recipients are both from the Hawthorn School District: Tracy Cotton, 5th grade teacher from Townsend Elementary, uses the newspaper in her class each week to teach science and communication arts. "Our staff at the week dictates how we use the newspaper in our classroom," Cotton said. "The newspaper content brought about conversations that encouraged critical thinking and reflection, as well as providing real world math lessons using the ads, inserts and coupons."

In addition, the newspaper provides countless examples of positive role models for her students. "Being able to read articles about African Americans in a positive light, being successful in school, lawyers, engineers, educators, etc., encouraged the students to share their dreams and rethink their future," Cotton said.

Paris Bouchard, 5th grade teacher at Barrington Elementary, was the other Golden Apple recipient. He said using *The St. Louis American* in his class not only impacted his classroom lessons, but, surprisingly, also parent conversations and participation at home with parents and extended family members. "Most of my students went home and worked on the science projects with their family. They would come back the next day and talk about how their whole family participated and how they were even going to the library to find out more about the science topic in the lesson," Bouchard said.

"In addition, after taking their MAP tests this year, many students spoke about how they were positively impacted by using the newspaper each week."

Bouchard's students enjoyed using the newspaper so much that they actually suggested writing a letter to the fourth grade class (next year's incoming fifth graders) about how much they learned by using *The St. Louis American*. "As a science teacher, it was so amazing to see the little

light bulbs go off in each student's head as they would grasp and understand the science concepts that were being taught. The *St. Louis American* helped turn on that light," he said.

The *St. Louis American's* Newspaper In Education program was started in the 2012-13 academic year, and is its first year received the National Newspaper Association's first place award for Best Newspaper In Education program in the 2013-14 academic year. The *St. Louis American* will expand its program to provide 7,000 newspapers each week, at no charge, to elementary school children in select classrooms in seven area school districts as well as several charter schools, BNC Health Care, Centene, Emerson, Mercy, Monmouth and World Wide Technology.

along with community partners Missouri Botanical Garden, Saint Louis Science Center and the Saint Louis Zoo.

The program is led currently by Cathy Sewell, an award-winning 21-year veteran of Newspapers in Education, who previously worked at the *Pittsburgh Courier* and *Belleville News-Democrat*. Beginning in the 2013-14 academic year, the *St. Louis American* will expand its program to provide 7,000 newspapers each week, at no charge, to elementary school children in select classrooms in seven area school districts as well as several charter schools, BNC Health Care, Centene, Emerson, Mercy, Monmouth and World Wide Technology.

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What data can do for us

A remarkable report entitled "For the Sake of All" was issued last week at a community conference. Scholars from Washington University and Saint Louis University conducted the research, and a host of collaborators, advisors and community stakeholders helped to shape the year-end report.

As I sat through the conference and reviewed the "For the Sake of All" publication, I could not help but wonder about how we use data as a society.

For the Sake of All is a well-researched report on the health and well-being of African Americans in the St. Louis region. This is nothing new, you might say. What's different about this project is that it connects the consequences to the entire region. It put forth compelling reasons why the health status of black folks matters to the entire region. Perhaps this has been the missing piece to getting a more comprehensive and adequately funded health plan in place.

The other important aspect to the report is that it gives policy responses to problems. It offers some possible solutions that we as a broader community can start discussing and implementing.

There are many known facts in the report. But in some cases, even the ugly facts that we have become comfortable with were cast into a new or different light. The sophisticated graphics also helped to crystallize the facts in sobering, insightful ways.

For example, there exists an 18-year differential in the life expectancy of St. Louis residents who live in certain adjoining wards.

Or the fact that the number of deaths due to poverty combined with those due to the lack of health insurance could fill about 7 Metrolink cars per year. This is at a cost of \$2.3 billion annually.

How do we use data based upon the lived experiences of people to chart a more humane course for the well-being of all?

Unfortunately, policy and law makers tend to use a lens based upon race and class, which leads to a judgment about who's worth the investment.

We know the 4th grade reading scores of children are being used as predictors for planning future prison beds. We could just as easily and cheaply use the data to implement a more targeted and rigorous reading program in the first, second and third grades of these children.

We choose not to do this. That's why the U.S. has the highest incarcerated population of an industrialized country and still has low levels of reading scores for poor children.

"For the Sake of All" gives us a lot of food for thought, especially about where the information put into our collective hands.

We can't continue using a lens that looks at people in black and white, at who lives in the city or the suburbs, or at who is educated and who's not. If the report does nothing else, it makes it crystal clear that our lives are inextricably linked and that health care is a basic human right.

To view the report, go to forthesakeofall.org.

NEWSPAPER AND EDUCATION—Examples of winning Newspaper In Education programs and ideas that won awards in the National Newspaper Association's Newspaper And Education contest. **Above:** From the St. Louis American.

TEACHER WORKSHOP

for teachers of grades 6-12

Using informational text to tackle **prescription drug abuse prevention** in the classroom

Presented by the Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education program in cooperation with All Children's Hospital

Thursday, May 15, 2014
5 - 8 p.m.

All Children's Hospital Education & Conference Center
701 4th Street South, St. Petersburg

Workshop highlights:

- Presentations by education experts, pediatric physicians and law enforcement personnel
- Complimentary curriculum supplements, handouts and activities
- Ideas for close reading and text-dependent questions
- Strategies to read informational text
- Reading and writing activity ideas
- Focus on document-based questions
- Complimentary refreshments

Wicked Garden
Prescription drug abuse: a deadly epidemic

Using informational text to tackle prescription drug abuse prevention in the classroom

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Tampa Bay Times NIE
Newspaper in Education
tampabay.com/nie

In cooperation with
all children's hospital
JOHNS HOPKINS MEDICINE

NEWSPAPER AND EDUCATION WINNERS—Examples of winning Newspaper In Education programs and ideas that won awards in the National Newspaper Association's Newspaper And Education contest. **Above:** From the Tampa Bay Times, Tampa, FL.



SECOND PLACE, best feature photo, non-daily division, circulation 6,000 - 9,999

By Jean Lachat | The Homer Horizon, Orland Park, IL

TAKING IT ALL IN—Two people watch the Community Fest fireworks on the evening of Thursday, June 26, in Homer Glen.