

## WEEKLY CLASS 1

## CATEGORY 1 - BEST EDITORIAL

FIRST PLACE: Henry County Local, Chris Brooke - I liked the way Chris Brooke laid out the issue and provided background material to prove his point. Well done. These opinion pieces show that thought and work went into them.
SECOND PLACE: The Lake News, Loyd Ford - Strong editorials are important for newspapers big and small and provide leadership for a community. These editorials show this newspaper cares!!!!
THIRD PLACE: Olive Hill Times, Staff - This was a good way to handle a sensitive subject.
HONORABLE MENTION: Todd County Standard, Ryan Craig

## CATEGORY 2 - BEST BREAKING NEWS COVERAGE

FIRST PLACE: Herald Ledger, Bobbie Foust, Jody Norwood, Carol Niswonger - This would be huge news for any paper, any size, anywhere. This newspaper threw as much coverage as it could, and played it big and without apologies. Good coverage that walked readers through the news of a plane crash, the process and the human element.
SECOND PLACE: Henry County Local, Melissa Blankenship - You just can't beat a severed hand in a river for bizarre news. But it's not just the breaking, news-of-the-odd that wins here. There's good background and contextualizing, including the fact that body parts have turned up in other bodies of water -- yikes! Well reported and intriguing without resorting to puns or hyperbolic detail.
THIRD PLACE: Todd County Standard, Ryan Craig - It's hard to make a recount sound interesting. Even the lede of the story indicates the recount's monotony. However, this is a well written story that goes deeper into Kentucky's recount law. The sidebar column explaining the process to readers was also very helpful. This is a comprehensive, solid package.

## CATEGORY 3 - BEST GENERAL NEWS STORY

## Right to work may mean working for less



Dalton Kemble spent the last few minutes of his time as a student at Henry County High School talking with friends. Kemble will be the first in his family to attend college and he won a near full-ride scholarship to a private university to enable him to do so.

## Dalton first in bis family to go to college BY MELISSA BLANKENSHIP publisher@hclocal.com

Dalton Kemble spent most of his freshman year sleeping through class Niki Whitaker, a collaborative teacher in one of his classes that year at Henry County High School, remembers laying her head down on the desk next to Dalton's to try to talk to him.
"I said, 'You have a 27 in this class. You are too smart for that. What's going on?'" Whitaker said.


FIRST PLACE: Todd County Standard, Ryan Craig - Solid reporting and writing on a very important, national story. Job well done. SECOND PLACE: Tri-City News, Tiffany Sokolowski - Great story in a crowded field. Close second.
THIRD PLACE: Tri-City News, Faith Clark
HONORABLE MENTION: Henry County Local, Chris Brooke

## CATEGORY 4 - BEST FEATURE STORY

FIRST PLACE: Henry County Local, Melissa Blankenship - Well-told story with lots of details about how the student turned his school career into a success followed by college acceptance.
SECOND PLACE: The Lake News, Kate Russell - Nice story. It went beyond the top layer of people helping out to help explain who those helping were.
THIRD PLACE: The Crittenden Press, Daryl K. Tabor - Nice feature obviously started when the subject was alive, nicely paired with a salute to him in an opinion piece and part of an overall series Nice job.

## CATEGORY 5 - BEST COLUMN

FIRST PLACE: The Jackson-Breathitt Co. Times-Voice, James David Fugate - Beautiful imagery, there is a poetry to the prose. The topic is weighty, but the writing is uplifting. When I saw that this is a religious column, I was prepared to have my eyes glaze over. But good writing draws the reader in, and each lead read like a painting. The message was clear and logical with good support from Biblical passages. SECOND PLACE: Herald Ledger, Jody Norwood - Human and poignant. A comfortable read with subtle humor. Engaging topics.
THIRD PLACE: The Lake News, Loyd Ford - I suppose there were better writers in this category, but none more personable and personal. The column about the Confederate flag, in an area where there is as much Southern pride as anywhere, was a brave endeavor. The stories were compelling and that elevated this entry.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Springfield Sun, Ken Begley - Consistently funny. Could be tightened up a bit.

## CATEGORY 6 - BEST SPORTS COLUMN

FIRST PLACE: The Jackson-Breathitt Co. Times-Voice, James David Fugate, Derek Fugate - Interesting to do the two teams side by side. I'm sure these are popular reads.
SECOND PLACE: Henry County Local, Greg Woods - Some good reporting and thoughtful writing went into these. Much more than mere opinion.
THIRD PLACE: The Springfield Sun, Nick Schrager - You tackled interesting subjects. I particularly appreciated "Unfair" and I'm sure the team did too.

## CATEGORY 8 - BEST SPORTS FEATURE STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Springfield Sun, Staff - Clear cut first place effort with broad community interest. Staff reached out to several sources to portray a legend. From reading this report you'd surmise Coach Newton was a positive role model SECOND PLACE: Henry County Local, Greg Woods - Way more than average sports feature. Teasing lead takes you to that crucial moment then backs away a little too soon. Still, the build up was worth the lengthy two-part read. Nice job. THIRD PLACE: Campbell County Recorder, James Weber - Good profile of a football family that includes solid writing and effective quotes.
HONORABLE MENTION: Todd County Standard, Tonya S. Grace - Cute lead, good story with community interest.

## CATEGORY 9 - BEST ENTERPRISE OR ANALYTICAL STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Crittenden Press, Daryl K. Tabor - Tackles tough but common issue. Nice handling of sensitive topic. SECOND PLACE: The Lake News, Gloria Hollifield - Comprehensive, fact-based. Nice job
THIRD PLACE: Henry County Local, Chris Brooke - Good entry in unusually strong category, and economic growth is of high concern so it must have been very widely read.


## CATEGORY 10 - BEST INVESTIGATIVE STORY OR SERIES

FIRST PLACE: The Jackson-Breathitt Co. Times-Voice, James David Fugate - This series clearly took a lot of research. It reads like a dinner conversation with an expert, which made it fun for the average reader. It went beyond sports talk to an interesting, in-depth and well-planned collection. The family metaphor also made the piece relatable. Excellent work.
SECOND PLACE: Henry County Local, Chris Brooke - Way to take a blotter trend and turn it into an investigative piece. This was a well-rounded article that have readers a good look into a complex issue. This was clearly newspaper-initiated, and the reporter took it a step beyond. I'd love to read a follow-up on whether the public education "answer" is successful.
THIRD PLACE: Todd County Standard, Melony Shemberger - The pressure this reporter put on those involved for answers made me proud to be a journalist. Great work holding their feet to the fire and taking a meeting story a step beyond. As a reader, I'd be anxious to learn the final outcome and how it would affect me as a taxpayer.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Lake News, Gloria Hollifield - This piece made teen driving risk real to me. The information was practical and easy to digest. Great work.

## KSP: Stanford officer speeding in Crab Orchard pedestrian fatality

## CATEGORY 11 - BEST ON-GOING/EXTENDED COVERAGE STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Interior Journal, Abigail Whitehouse - Good use of open records laws to get crash reconstruction report. Good use of a diversity of sources/voices.
SECOND PLACE: The Interior Journal, Ben Kleppinger - Comprehensive coverage and tight writing. Glad you took some enterprise and did not contain your efforts to meeting coverage.
THIRD PLACE: The Interior Journal, Abigail Whitehouse - Good coverage of an interesting topic. Entry would have been stronger if the paper had pursued its own open records request into the destruction and care of the dogs.
HONORABLE MENTION: Breathitt Advocate, Kimberly Thorpe - Good coverage of a topic that attracted attention outside your readership area.

## CATEGORY 12 - BEST BUSINESS/AGRIBUSINESS STORY

FIRST PLACE: Todd County Standard, Tonya S. Grace - Nice job of examining issue surrounding a staple in many people's diets and grocery lists.
SECOND PLACE: The Interior Journal, Abigail Whitehouse - Nice business profile with some depth.
THIRD PLACE: Henry County Local, Melissa Blankenship - Nice lead, good analysis. Very nice front page overall, I might add, although I know that is a different category. This is a good, informative story in a newspaper that seems to serve its readers well.

FIRST PLACE: The Interior Journal, Abigail Whitehouse - Smart idea to crowd-source photos and info, then turn that material into a story for the paid product. Shows a thoughtful approach.
SECOND PLACE: The News-Democrat, Kristin Beck - Great way to get readers engaged and elevate the publication's profile, while also building a play-by-play accounting of the game which helps in later reporting. I chose this entry over their other entry because this one included a web story that follows up on the live-tweeting.
THIRD PLACE: The Springfield Sun, John Overby, Nick Schrager - This entry showed a smart approach of building anticipation for a print or web story by getting people engaged beforehand.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Interior Journal, Abigail Whitehouse - A fun approach to crowd-sourcing material and getting the audience excited about a print or web feature. I would have rated this entry even higher if not for the fact that some of the other entries dealt with more newsworthy topics.

## CATEGORY 14 - CREATIVE USE OF MULTIMEDIA - No entries

## CATEGORY 15 - BEST BREAKING NEWS PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: Todd County Standard, Megan Sisco
SECOND PLACE: Henry County Local, Greg Woods
THIRD PLACE: The Springfield Sun, John Overby

## CATEGORY 16 - BEST GENERAL NEWS PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: Henry County Local, Chris Brook - This was the clear winner in this group. Capturing the light coming through the debris gives life to a photo that otherwise would be just OK. The exposure is good with interesting detail. The cropping is decent.
SECOND PLACE: The Lake News, Gloria Hollifield - Nicely cropped with vibrant colors. Shows movement. Certainly draws the eye in.
THIRD PLACE: The Lake News, Loyd Ford - Not a particularly unique photo but captures the mood of the event.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Lake News, Kate Russell - Capturing all the kids in just the right spot while maintaining their oblivion is a bit like herding cats. This is a nice Americana
 photo with the one kid eating the corn and the other sitting in the tub. The hand lettering on the sign helps tell the story. A better angle would have made this photo rank higher.

## CATEGORY 17 - BEST FEATURE PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: Todd County Standard, Ryan Craig - Wonderfully evocative. Definitely an attention grabber. The smoke and color create a nice sense of depth. Great use of frame within a frame. Like that it's offset to the left a bit.
SECOND PLACE: The Springfield Sun, Nick Schrager - Great expressions. Really get a sense of fun and the kid's exuberance. Would like to have seen a bit tighter crop, with less of the boy's head in the background.
THIRD PLACE: Todd County Standard, Amy Duncan Kearns - Nice lowlight photo of an endearing subject.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Interior Journal, Abigail Whitehouse - Fun, iconic fair image.


## CATEGORY 18 - BEST PICTURE ESSAY (BREAKING, GENERAL OR FEATURE)

FIRST PLACE: The Interior Journal, Abigail Whitehouse - Fantastic photos! Great layout, drawing readers to the message. WELL DONE!
SECOND PLACE: The Interior Journal, Nancy Leedy - Love the action shots. They tell the story.
THIRD PLACE: Todd County Standard, Jason Dossett - Excellent photos!
HONORABLE MENTION: Olive Hill Times, Joe Lewis

## CATEGORY 19 - BEST SPORTS PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: The Lake News, Loyd Ford - Hard to catch that exact moment, with all the players lined up to show the player juggling the ball in front of so many opponents.
SECOND PLACE: The Interior Journal, Nancy Leedy - Bodies flying in the air - love it!
THIRD PLACE: The Interior Journal, Nancy Leed - Wow! Very hard to catch the exact moment the ball hits, and the batter reacts. HONORABLE MENTION: The Jackson-Breathitt Co. Times-Voice, James David Fugate - Photographer literally caught the peak of the action.

FIRST PLACE: Henry County Local, Melissa Blankenship - You nailed it! Horsepower and fantastic photos made your enter my top pick. Hope you and your camera didn't get to muddy at the derby.
SECOND PLACE: The Springfield Sun, Nick Schrager - Nick your pictures made me smile. I bet you took 100 pictures to capture those amazing smiles. Killey Jo's tongue wagging smile was the best and now we know why Claire can't connect with the ball. Nice work! Lack of some fun graphics work is my only critique.
THIRD PLACE: The Springfield Sun, John Overby - Fantastic camera work. You captured the intensity of this fast paced momentum changing game.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Jackson-Breathitt Co. Times-Voice, James David Fugate - Very nice article requiring hours of research. I know this was an enjoyable story for your readers. Nice presentation.

## CATEGORY 21 - BEST SPECIAL SECTION

FIRST PLACE: Todd County Standard, Staff SECOND PLACE: Herald Ledger, Jody Norwood THIRD PLACE: The Lake News, Gloria Hollifield HONORABLE MENTION: The Lake News, Gloria Hollifield - Great content. Would've like to see more revenue generated for the section.

## CATEGORY 22 - BEST GRAPHIC

FIRST PLACE: The Lake News, Gloria Hollifield SECOND PLACE: Breathitt Advocate, Bobby Thorpe THIRD PLACE: The News-Democrat, Darrel Taylor

## CATEGORY 23 - BEST SPORTS PAGE/SECTION

FIRST PLACE: The Interior Journal, Nancy Leedy - Great use of dominate art, strong headlines. Easily the top choice. SECOND PLACE: Grayson Journal-Enquirer, Nathan Hall - There's a lot going on with these pages. Borderline too busy, but somehow it all comes together in an energetic package.
THIRD PLACE: Todd County Standard, Ryan Craig - Creative and fun sports/outdoors package.

## CATEGORY 24 - BEST SPORTS SPECIAL SECTION

LIVING ‘GOD-GIVEN TALENT'


OUT OF THE ASHES, A SHOWCASE RISES ...
 into Todd County at the grassroots level. I'd love to spend an afternoon at the community garden or sipping coffee with Ervin and Susana. Nice variety in photos. Quality design. Engaging writing. Great work.
THIRD PLACE: The Lake News, Gloria Hollifield - Quality writing sure to inform families. Nice design on "100 deadliest days" page. Breakout and graphics made the information easy to digest. I struggled with the active shooter page. The headline and photos made me think this was a real shooting at your local school. I think an element, perhaps a subhead, to clarify this was not a real shooting would have been beneficial to readers.
HONORABLE MENTION: Henry County Local, Staff - These pages are sure to end up in scrapbooks. Lots of smiling faces and informative content for families. This is a nice way to highlight submitted content.

## CATEGORY 26 - BEST EDITORIAL PAGE

FIRST PLACE: Todd County Standard, Ryan Craig - Clear editorial voice. Reference to the past provides current perspective. Could benefit from headlines on the letters.
SECOND PLACE: Henry County Local, Staff - Attractive presentation, nice mix of content. Would profit from a true editorial.
THIRD PLACE: Greenup County News-Times, Cathie Shaffer - Attractive, consistent. Could use meatier content and a true editorial.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Jackson-Breathitt Co. Times-Voice, Staff - Cramped display but one true editorial. Try for an editorial every week.

FIRST PLACE: Todd County Standard, Jenni Osborne Craig - Really strong front pages with attention grabbing graphic elements. Clean design that makes me want to read more.
SECOND PLACE: The Springfield Sun, John Overby - Well done front pages that grab attention.
THIRD PLACE: The Interior Journal, Abigail Whitehouse - Strong front pages with great use of photography and graphic elements.

## CATEGORY 28 - BEST HEADLINE

FIRST PLACE: Todd County Standard, Ryan Craig - Loved Mil-Dewey Decimal System. Snow Country headline was clever and fun. Nice entry all around. Keep up the good work!
SECOND PLACE: The Springfield Sun, Nick Schrager - Walker's wheels is a great headline. Other submissions good too. Nice work.
THIRD PLACE: The Interior Journal, Ben Kleppinger - Remarkable history headline was strongest. Clever word play on gourd, clean fun. Nice job.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Jackson-Breathitt Co. Times-Voice, James David Fugate - Shading on Surging Sturgill was spot on. Helped convey message.

## Parting with mineral rights?



## WEEKLY CLASS 2

CATEGORY 1 - BEST EDITORIAL

FIRST PLACE: Citizen Voice and Times, Lisa Bicknell - You can sense the passion from the author!
SECOND PLACE: Berea Citizen, Beth Myers

## CATEGORY 2-BEST BREAKING NEWS COVERAGE

FIRST PLACE: Grant County News, Jamie Baker-Nantz - This is a well written story and the complete photo package that went along with it made it a compelling read. While the students weren't necessarily in danger, it was a solid piece of reporting that illustrated complete reporting well.
SECOND PLACE: Grant County News, Bryan Marshall - This story has a lot of good detail that is done the old fashion way -- by going out and doing the interviews. This gives the community a better understanding of what was clearly a tragedy by talking to the folks who were witnesses.
THIRD PLACE: Adair County Community Voice, Sharon Burton - Sharon Burton should be commended for her coverage of the local fire departments. Lots of good, continuous coverage. This story is interesting because it illustrates a problem of budgets, priorities and how it affects a community. Good background here to help explain the challenges to a reader who may just be coming to this issue fresh.

## CATEGORY 3 - BEST GENERAL NEWS STORY

FIRST PLACE: Grant County News, Jamie Baker-Nantz - Great job on a story that's been covered before. It's hard to make these interesting, but the writer did a good job. Nice use of side bar, photos and subheads to break up text.
SECOND PLACE: Clay City Times, James Cook - Great lead and well written. These stories are far to common, but this one was handled well so the reader felt some con-

## Life hasn't always been easy for Henry



 nection to the participants.
THIRD PLACE: Grant County News, Jamie Baker-Nantz - Nice lead, good story and photo. Gave a good impression of who this judge was and the impact he's had over a long career, while avoiding the typical maudlin approach to the end of a long term of office.
HONORABLE MENTION: Franklin Favorite, Brian Hancock - Wish we could have given more awards. This is a good story with a great lead and good use of quotes.

## CATEGORY 4 - BEST FEATURE STORY

FIRST PLACE: Hancock Clarion, Dave Taylor - Very personable style that really brings Henry to life for the reader. Short, easy-to-read sentences are a big plus.
SECOND PLACE: The Record, Brant Bond - This story grabs the reader from the get go. I really like this writer's style.
THIRD PLACE: The Cynthiana Democrat, Becky Barnes - The whole story is told very effectively in a short space.
HONORABLE MENTION: LaRue County Herald News, Doug Ponder - This is well-written and compelling for the reader ... too bad the jump is missing; I would have liked to have finished this story.

FIRST PLACE: Adair County Community Voice, Sharon Burton - These are great editorials, tackling tough topics in a respectful yet direct way.
SECOND PLACE: Grant County News, Bryan Marshall - Bryan has a terrific writing style that gives puts the reader right there with him as his moves through his column. I always appreciate a humorous look at life, so these were right up my alley.
THIRD PLACE: Citizen Voice and Times, KaLeigh Underwood - I appreciate the nice tight writing in these pieces, especially the "Hometown" one.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Cynthiana Democrat, Kelly McKinney - Kelly has a nice, easy tone that makes her columns approachable and fun. If there were four places instead of three, she'd be in the placings, but...there are not. Still, well written and amusing columns such as these must be appreciated by her readers.

## CATEGORY 6 - BEST SPORTS COLUMN

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT: The Oldham Era, Brad Stephens

## CATEGORY 7 - BEST SPORTS STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Oldham Era, Brad Stephens - Solid reporting. There are some great quotes that give insight into the subject's personality. SECOND PLACE: The Oldham Era, Elliott Pratt - Solid work and stands out from other entries thanks to tighter copy-editing and its easy-to-follow prose.
THIRD PLACE: Grant County News, Bryan Marshall - Losing teams are tough to cover (especially at lower levels of play), but they can make for interesting stories. The lead just got me to the second sentence. This entry had fewer errors than others in its field, although there's a missed possessive early on. There's some interesting material in the final quote, but it could have come in for some trimming--it's enormous.


HONORABLE MENTION: The Oldham Era, Amanda Manning - An engaging story from start to finish. I would have ranked it higher if not for some of the other entries dealing with more weighty topics.

## CATEGORY 8 - BEST SPORTS FEATURE STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Oldham Era, Elliott Pratt
SECOND PLACE: The Oldham Era, Elliott Pratt
THIRD PLACE: Franklin Favorite, Brian Davis

## CATEGORY 9 - BEST ENTERPRISE OR ANALYTICAL STORY

FIRST PLACE: Berea Citizen, Beth Myers, Kim Kobersmith - Great in-depth look at an important and highly controversial issue.
SECOND PLACE: Grant County News, Bryan Marshall - Great job getting public officials on record about a very polarizing issue, especially in light of the Kim Davis debacle.
THIRD PLACE: The Oldham Era, Kenny Colston - This entry does a good job of giving context and balance to an issue that is often presented with misleading euphemisms.

## CATEGORY 10 - BEST INVESTIGATIVE STORY OR SERIES

FIRST PLACE: Grant County News, Bryan Marshall - Far and away the best of the bunch. It's not often that rank-and-file cops will talk with the media about shootings, and these stories were well told by the writer, with good pacing that made them true stories, not articles. Especially liked hearing officers talk about how shootings affected them on a personal level. One nit: Be careful about use of the word "suspect." That's cop jargon, and the writer occasionally uses it superfluously. "The suspect shot his pistol" is a good example. Suspects never shoot anything, gunmen do that. If we don't know the identity of a criminal, then we use "robber" or "killer" or "burglar," not "suspect." If a person has been arrested or publicly accused but not charged, that person is a suspect. If someone has been charged with a crime, that person is a defendant, not a suspect. A point to remember when you want to make good stories--and these were good stories--even better.
SECOND PLACE: Adair County Community Voice, Sharon Burton
THIRD PLACE: Berea Citizen, Beth Myers, Kim Kobersmith
HONORABLE MENTION: Falmouth Outlook, Dan Klapheke

## CATEGORY 11 - BEST ON-GOING/EXTENDED COVERAGE STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Oldham Era, Taylor Riley, Kenny Colston - This was a comprehensive series on this particular issue. Well-written and researched, and presented in a way that made the reader want to learn more. Good work! SECOND PLACE: Hancock Clarion, Dave Taylor - Great coverage of a topic that obviously hit really close to home and impacted many lives in the community. The writing is solid and the information is presented well.
THIRD PLACE: The Cynthiana Democrat, Becky Barnes - Strong writing and great coverage of an important topic. Well done.

# Mosley to begin trial on sexting charge 



 ing, the girl received text messages from
Mosley, who sent sug Mosley, who sent sug
gestive messages that
included whether she liked him and what she wanted to do to his
body, including spebody, including spe-
cific sexual references, according to court documents. Mosley allegedly suggested the juvenile needed to gain his
trust or he'd tell her trust or he'd tell he
family about drugs family about drugs
found in the car. He allegedly offered the girl alcohol, asked her
to text pornographic

## CATEGORY 12 - BEST BUSINESS/AGRIBUSINESS STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Oldham Era, Kenny Colston - Well-written story about how one business has the potential to affect and entire town.
SECOND PLACE: Adair County Community Voice, Sharon Burton - Great, well-researched story. Great facts. I really want to follow the story in the future.
THIRD PLACE: Grant County News, Bryan Marshall - Great story about an attraction that will be the biggest timber structure in the world. Good job of showing the details of what's going on and the potential impact it could have on the state.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Cynthiana Democrat, Becky Barnes - Great facts and written well.

## CATEGORY 13 - BEST USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA - No entries

## CATEGORY 14 - CREATIVE USE OF MULTIMEDIA - No entries

## CATEGORY 15 - BEST BREAKING NEWS PICTURE




Stranded mother
rescued from high rising water

## By Bryan Marshall Saff Writer

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cruxk kffa Willimamonn
 ack

FIRST PLACE: Grant County News, Mark Verbeck
SECOND PLACE: Adair County Community Voice, Sharon Burton
THIRD PLACE: Falmouth Outlook, Jackie Vaughn

## CATEGORY 16 - BEST GENERAL NEWS PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: The Cynthiana Democrat, Becky Barnes - Excellent photo that tells a story with the details.
SECOND PLACE: Hancock Clarion, Dave Taylor - Excellent action shot, and the color is great.
THIRD PLACE: Adair County Community Voice, Mindy Yarberry - The subject matter of this photo timely with the recent fascination of selfies, and the photo was set up well.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Spencer Magnet, Lynette Mason - Great story-telling shot.

## CATEGORY 17-BEST FEATURE PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: Hancock Clarion, Dave Taylor - Great snapshot of emotion and happiness in the subject's face. The picture makes me smile and want to read more. His laughter looks as though it could be contagious.
SECOND PLACE: The Cynthiana Democrat, Kelly McKinney - Great action shot! I can feel the water splashing off the little boy by just looking at the picture.
THIRD PLACE: The Cynthiana Democrat, Robin Smiley - The focus on the details of the little boy's concentration were well captured. Good job.

## CATEGORY 18 - BEST PICTURE ESSA (BREAKING, GENERAL OR FEATURE)

FIRST PLACE: Grant County News, Bryan Marshall - Mr. Marshall chronicles the dangerous water rescue of a woman from her SUV. This was the clear winner in this category. Excellent work.
SECOND PLACE: Grant County News, Bryan Marshall - Strong storytelling going on here. Mr. Marshall knows his stuff.
THIRD PLACE: The Cynthiana Democrat, Kelly McKinney - Very nice black and white photos, best photo placed dominant. Ms. McKinney does fine work for her community. HONORABLE MENTION: The Spencer Magnet, Lynette Mason, Jeff Sopland - This paper does a great job featuring MANY local faces, and really spotlights the things that make the community event fun. I like that you gave the event multiple pages. Great work, Ms. Mason and Mr. Sopland.

## CATEGORY 19 - BEST SPORTS PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: The Oldham Era, Brad Stephens - They key to great sports photography is anticipation and being in the right place and time. When you can mix in something unique and different, like these expressions, you have a prize winner.
SECOND PLACE: The Oldham Era, Brad Stephens - These shots are never easy. Focus, composition and being ready at just the right moment to grab the expressions is challenging. Nice work
THIRD PLACE: Adair County Community Voice, Sharon Burton - Great composition, played well on the page. HONORABLE MENTION: The Oldham Era, Elliott Pratt - Nice shot. I wish there had been more faces.

## CATEGORY 20 - BEST SPORTS PICTURE ESSAY

## FIRST PLACE: The Journal-Enterprise, Matt Hughes - Great selection of old photos and historical context.

 SECOND PLACE: Falmouth Outlook, Staff - I'm impressed with how comprehensive this guide is. It looks like it took a lot of work. I chose this as SECOND PLACE: over their other entry because I liked the layout of this entry better.THIRD PLACE: Falmouth Outlook, Staff - Like their other entry, this must have taken an immense amount of work. Great photos and information throughout. I'd suggest some white space to create a margin on the sides, so that the text doesn't touch the edge of the page.

## CATEGORY 22 - BEST GRAPHIC

FIRST PLACE: Berea Citizen, Tanya Stewart - Nice detail in the drawing. It adds a punch to the editorial page and draws the readers' attention in.
SECOND PLACE: The Oldham Era, Glen Jennings - I like the cleanliness of the chart. It makes it easy to read. Some color would have been nice though to make it really stand out.
THIRD PLACE: Berea Citizen, Tanya Stewart

## CATEGORY 23 - BEST SPORTS PAGE/SECTION

FIRST PLACE: The Oldham Era, Elliott Pratt - Strong feature package, headline, and clean design. SECOND PLACE: Franklin Favorite, Brian Hancock
THIRD PLACE: The Cynthiana Democrat, Robin Smiley - Great use of strong photography.

## CATEGORY 24 - BEST SPORTS SPECIAL SECTION



FIRST PLACE: LaRue County Herald News, Doug Ponder, Vanessa Hurst - Very clean design, easy to follow. Great product! SECOND PLACE: The Journal-Enterprise, Charlie Hust

## CATEGORY 25 - BEST LIFESTYLE PAGE



FIRST PLACE: Berea Citizen, Beth Myers - Really nice work being done here. I particularly liked the Word From Berea Streets--that's the kind of thing that takes initiative, and set you apart in this category. Lots of local coverage, and well done.
SECOND PLACE: The Oldham Era, Staff - This entry featured many local citizens and their reminisces. It was nicely done. THIRD PLACE: The Cynthiana Democrat, Kelly McKinney - Clever layout here.
HONORABLE MENTION: Franklin Favorite, Megan Purazrang

## CATEGORY 26 - BEST EDITORIAL PAGE

FIRST PLACE: The Cynthiana Democrat, Kelly McKinney - Careful attention to display with pleasing results. Page could benefit from a true editorial voice; personal columns are not a substitute. The guest editorial was strong.

## CATEGORY 27 - BEST FRONT PAGE

FIRST PLACE: The Cynthiana Democrat, Becky Barnes - Powerful pages! Great photos, nice headlines and excellent design. Very clean, easy to read front pages that feature a nice mix of hard and soft news.
SECOND PLACE: Grant County News, Jamie Baker-Nantz - Very solid front pages. Excellent use of white space, very creative. Wish I could have given two first places.
THIRD PLACE: Berea Citizen, Beth Myers, Tim Pack - Great photos. Nice design. A very good looking newspaper.

## CATEGORY 28 - BEST HEADLINE

FIRST PLACE: The Cynthiana Democrat, Becky Barnes - Amusing but also sums up the story very well.
SECOND PLACE: LaRue County Herald News, Ron Benningfield - It's difficult to come up with interesting headlines, especially for sports. This one plays well off mainstream understanding and likely attracted even non-sports readers (like me) to read further to figure out the link.
THIRD PLACE: LaRue County Herald News, Bobbie Lanham - I like the use of direct quotes, and this is a good one. The only reason I didn't score it higher is because it took a while to figure out the quote wasn't from the convicted man, but from the father of the deceased. If using that quote for a headline, I'd have moved it up in the story so it's clear right away who is speaking. Otherwise, good job!

## WEEKLY CLASS 3

CATEGORY 1 - BEST EDITORIAL

FIRST PLACE: Barren County Progress, Jeff Jobe SECOND PLACE: McCreary County Voice, Staff THIRD PLACE: Barren County Progres, Sam Terry

CATEGORY 2 - BEST BREAKING NEWS COVERAGE

FIRST PLACE: News Journal, Dean Manning - Kudos to keeping the readers updated online before this story to go to press. The final story was well organized, very readable and gave me some insight into who these people were. SECOND PLACE: News Journal, Mark White - The reporter provided a thorough, balanced account of the judge's suspension and provided context about what led to the suspension.
THIRD PLACE: Leader-News, C. Josh Givens - The lede sold me. Placing the letter writer's name at the end of it gave it more emphasis, that extra punch, that it wouldn't have gotten at the beginning. Good job on going beyond a standard police report and asking one of the victims for her thoughts.
HONORABLE MENTION: News Journal, Mark White, Trent Knuckles - I give the reporters props for digging into the story after getting reports from witnesses about possible excessive police force. It was great that they got all of the information they did, but I think it would have been stronger if it was told more concisely.

## CATEGORY 3 - BEST GENERAL NEWS STORY

FIRST PLACE: News Journal, Trent Knuckle - Choose 1st was tough, but Trent Knuckles won points with his lede and good quotes, which were part of a well-organized, welltold story meaty with information. Good job!
SECOND PLACE: McCreary County Voice, Greg Bird - Solid story on an important community issue. Thorough reporting.
THIRD PLACE: Leader-News, C. Josh Givens - Solid story, but I would like to know if the reporter attempted to contact the person being sued.

## The influence of a single life

For more than a week residents of south saddened by the death of Molly Harlin of saddened by the death of Molly Harlin of
Monroe County on June 4. Many of us didn't know Molly personally but thousands of area residents have read her name on the pages of the Monroe County Citizen and the other papers in the Jobe Publishing family. We've published her name and her photo as a star basketball player for the
Lady Falcons, a homecoming queen, a graduate, as a beautiful and accomplished young woman with a promising life before
When a devastating blow comes to any of our communities, we ponder what to do, how to react, how to make sense of it the answers we want. I won't even suggest that I have an explanation of why bad things happen to good people - or why bad things happen at all.
When a young life abruptly comes to a halt we reflect on what a life such as Mol-
ly's brought to our world, our commu-


JOBE FOR KENTUCKY
with Jeff Jobe
in the book of Isaiah keeps coming to mind: "and a little child shall lead them." Of course, the biblical writer used those still words different context, but they are for reflection.

## for reflection. While she

While she was 19 years old and certainly not considered a "little child," Molly's life was an example that we all can learn from. Molly indeed was a leader - it showed in

See Life
continued on page 8

## CATEGORY 4 - BEST FEATURE STORY



Theresa Hartley, 23, stands in the shallow waters of Prather Creek in Loretto, the same creek that flooded in 2003, ripping her home off
its foundation and nearly drowning her and her mother. The traumatic event made national news, and forever changed Hartley's life.

## HONORABLE MENTION: McCreary County Voice, Greg Bird

FIRST PLACE: The Lebanon Enterprise, Stevie Lowery - Well written story captures the drama of what happened during the flood.
SECOND PLACE: The Jessamine Journal, Jonathan Kleppinger - Nicely written story about a high school team that deserves as much ink as any on a ball field.
THIRD PLACE: News Journal, Trent Knuckles - Strong subject for a profile with a good story arc
HONORABLE MENTION: The Jessamine Journal, Ben Kleppinge - Well done with the story, but also worth noting the images and layout help make this entry stand out.

## CATEGORY 5 - BEST COLUMN

FIRST PLACE: News Journal, Trent Knuckles - These columns are hard-hitting and well-written. Mr. Knuckles comes across as someone who doesn't pull any punches and isn't scared to ruffle a few feathers. We need more journalists like him in this world. Great work!
SECOND PLACE: Woodford Sun, John McGary - I wish I could give two first-place awards because I absolutely loved Mr. McGary's columns. The Veterans Card piece made me laugh out loud. The readers of Versailles are lucky to have him as a regular columnist.
THIRD PLACE: The Lebanon Enterprise, Stevie Lowery - Very solid work. Loved the piece on your father. He sounds like a great man and a wonderful journalist.
HONORABLE MENTION: Leader-News, C. Josh Givens - Excellent work.

## CATEGORY 6 - BEST SPORTS COLUMN

FIRST PLACE: The Anderson News, John Herndon - A lot of work went into the piece on the old coach who died. I particularly liked the tribute to the Marching Bearcats. Even though they lost, your tribute made some of the hard work pay off.
SECOND PLACE: The Anderson News, John Herndon - Good work on the former Bearcat giving back. The old sports photo of the trooper who died helped readers to get to know him.
THIRD PLACE: News Journal, Trevor Sherman - I particularly liked the piece about hunting with your father, even though you didn't kill anything.

FIRST PLACE: The Anderson News, John Herndon - This one stood out as the best story in a field crowded with good entries. The story explains the local impact of a national policy in a compelling manner. The writing is clear and addresses an issue that's clearly affecting the high school athletes in the area. There's a diversity of voices present in the story; it's obvious that serious work went into this article. Nice collaboration on the art work, too. SECOND PLACE: The Anderson News, John Herndon - The lead works, but this article really takes off from the second graf on. It feels like the writer's really having fun with the article. This story boasted the liveliest prose of any entry: it's conversational, there's a cadence to it--short, punchy sentences--and as a result the prose moves the reader through the story. It's not all style, though; good reporting created several strong scenes produced telling quotes and by the end the reader has some sense of who these two subjects are.
THIRD PLACE: The Jessamine Journal, Matt Overing - Good lead. Fantastic quotes. Really liked the underdog story here. Good job explaining to the readers how this upset came about. Sound insight regarding the change in play styles (bootlegs, counters) and nice detail (those plays were added days before the big game). Nicely done.

## CATEGORY 8 - BEST SPORTS FEATURE STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Jessamine Journal, Matt Overing - I am really disappointed in the number of onesource stories entered in this category. A good story can become great by adding other perspectives and information. This winner was well sourced, well organized and an interesting tale about an issue we don't normally see reported about.
SECOND PLACE: The Anderson News, John Herndon - Too often sports writers can get caught up in the routine of game coverage and not notice obvious stories happening around them. Mr. Herndon found the story behind the flag, told it well and I'm sure his readers and community enjoyed it.
THIRD PLACE: News Journal, Trevor Sherman - Interesting story with good background. Missing was what parents, teammates and opponents think. HONORABLE MENTION: The Manchester Enterprise, Mark Hoskins - While this story also would have benefited from more sources, writer did a great job of making the reader feel like they were with her at the time.

## CATEGORY 9 - BEST ENTERPRISE OR ANALYTICAL STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Anderson News, John Herndon - Great work! Lots of stories, paired with columns, about an important issue out for athletics. This was leaps and bounds the winner in this category.
SECOND PLACE: Salyersville Independent, Heather Oney
THIRD PLACE: The Jessamine Journal, Rosalind Essig

High school athletes dealing with their own HUNGER GAMES
 es on Twitter.
According to

value of school lunches as manvalue of school lunches as man-
dated by the federal regulations
The program is being criticized as The program id being criticized as a one-size-fits-all approach that leaves
athletes hungry. athletes hungry.
Throughout the Throughout the nation, high
school students have taken their cases to social media, posting photos of the small portions in their lunchAccording to McGregor, "The are fine for the sud are small. They are fine for the students who go home after school or have a break
before they go to work so they can before they go to work so they can
get a snack. Otherwise, for athletes
who have to go into a 25 -hour prac-
tice right after school, the meals are tice right after school, the meals are As an example, McGregor said a hamburger meal consists of a small hamburger and potatoes, plus the
choice of a salad or chicken wrap. choice of a salad or chicken wrap.
Meals are served with milk or water. "Personally, the milk tastes more like water than it should," McGregor
said.
Local school administrators say
they are not oblivious to the food they are not oblivious to the food
issue, but contend their hands ar nd their hands a See Hunger, Page Az


County Farm Leads the Way with New Crop


IS AMOCREARY COUNTY WOMAN IS AMONG THE FIRST IN KENTUCKY TO BE APPROVED TO GROW IWDUSTRIAL HEMP AS PART OF THE
KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF HEMP PILOT RESEARCH PROGRAM.


## CATEGORY 10 - BEST INVESTIGATIVE STORY OR SERIES

FIRST PLACE: News Journal, Mark White - This thorough investigation and the thoughtfully-written pieces that accompany it are amazing. The stories have a "just-the-facts-ma'am" feel, and are detailed without being over the top. Brilliant. This is journalism at its finest.
SECOND PLACE: Meade County Messenger, Annie Hamilton - Well-written story. Good work.
THIRD PLACE: The Jessamine Journal, Rosalind Essig - Good coverage of a surprising discovery.
HONORABLE MENTION: Hart County News-Herald, Darca Jobe

## CATEGORY 11 - BEST ON-GOING/EXTENDED COVERAGE STORY

FIRST PLACE: News Journal, Mark White
SECOND PLACE: News Journal, Mark White, Trent Knuckles
THIRD PLACE: The Jessamine Journal, Rosalind Essig
HONORABLE MENTION: Mountain Advocate, Bobbie Poynter

## CATEGORY 12 - BEST BUSINESS/AGRIBUSINESS STORY

FIRST PLACE: McCreary County Voice, Eugenia Jones - Upbeat story with great photos made for a wonderful presentation. Photos really told the story, too. A good story was told about a local farmer who was selected as one of only 100 in the whole state. The pride came through in the reporting.

SECOND PLACE: News Journal, Trent Knuckles - Great, descriptive article about their dreams becoming reality in a small town. Made me want to stop in for a quick one! THIRD PLACE: Mountain Advocate, Bobbie Poynte - The indomitable human spirit. A sad story told in a sensitive manner. It was a bit different than the others. Ended as a feel-good story in spite of the personal tragedy. Well done.
HONORABLE MENTION: News Journal, Mark White - A sad testimony to many small towns across America. Mark picked up on that. Told the story about how changing trends in several different areas of commerce resulted in another closed business. Well done.

FIRST PLACE: Salyersville Independent, Heather Oney, Erin Conley, Jo Harvey, Vanessa Castle - Good way to get people talking and connect back to the paper.
SECOND PLACE: Meade County Messenger, Annie Hamilton - Good to see you trying new social media platforms. I would hope you're also using Facebook, Twitter? Entry would have been stronger with evidence of engagement or multiple efforts.
THIRD PLACE: McCreary County Voice, Staff - Consider posing questions as a way to try to more fully engage readers. You're posting a lot, but don't seem to get much response.

## CATEGORY 14 - CREATIVE USE OF MULTIMEDIA

FIRST PLACE: Mountain Advocate, Bobbie Poynter - Nice piece to honor the firefighter. Also good use combining a video along with the print article.
SECOND PLACE: McCreary County Voice, Greg Bird - Nice to use the video version to bring this topic to the residents in the town.

## CATEGORY 15 - BEST BREAKING NEWS PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: News Journal, Mark White - Probably a hard-won photo, considering the suspect was running from authorities. But you were in the right place at the right time, Focused, nice touch with the cyclone fence framing the action. Easily the number one photo!
SECOND PLACE: The Jessamine Journal, Matt Overing - A good fire action shot. The evening light helped create a more intense shot of a building with historical significance. Nice effect.
THIRD PLACE: McCreary County Voice, Greg Bird - Good crop job, focusing on the suspect with his injury, and the officers hanging on. Good action shot.

> BARBOURVILLE SAYS GOODBYE TO VETERAN FIREFIGHTER

## BY EmLI BAKER

Reporter
"Dad was a family man," said Samantha Messer, of the late Dennis Dozier, a 33-year veteran firefighter with the Barbourville Fire Departmen was built cane first, tha's what he was built on, she said. "He was always take us on vacations."
Firefighting runs in the Dozier family Dennis Dozier served alongside his Dennis Dozier served alongside his
older brother, Doug, the current Fire Chief of Barbourville Fire Department, several nephews, a brother-in-law and two great nephews.
"Sometimes I would go with daddy to a fire," recalls Messer. "I would have to sit in the truck, but he would let me go. It was exciting. Firefighting was a big part of my childhood."
Fellow firefighter Alva Patterson served with Dozier for 28 years. He says Dozier was a "sports enthusiast." Dozier played softball for many years, coached little league and refereed basketball.
"I remember we went to 13 NASCAR races in one summer," Patterson said,

"We always went to Daytona, Bristol and Talladega at least."
Patterson says it was Dozier's concern for others that drove him to be a firefighter.
Denny Dozier received full department honors including his "Last Call" from Dispatch as he was laid to rest Saturday, July 18, at the Barbourville Cemetery.

## CATEGORY 16 - BEST GENERAL NEWS PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: Leader-News, C. Josh Givens - Maybe it's my age, but I could relate to that photo! Everybody having fun, great depth of field, lots of smiles, nicely framed. A good combination.
SECOND PLACE: The Jessamine Journal, Ben Kleppinger - You really captured the look of wonder on the little girl's face. Not always easy to catch a butterfly sitting! Maybe the othe photos featured influenced me, too, but it was a great shot.
THIRD PLACE: The Jessamine Journal, Rosalind Essig - A beautiful black and white. Nicely framed, superb focus on the main subjects. A very touching photo. Grandpa Hugh would like it.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Jessamine Journal, Amelia Orwick - Worth mentioning, because it is a different kind of Veteran's Day photo. Not solemn, a bit playful, but still honorable with the flag and flag tie!


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US AIR FORCE
KOREA VIETNAM
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## CATEGORY 17 - BEST FEATURE PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: The Lebanon Enterprise, Stevie Lowery - This photo stands out because of its beautiful composition, and the fact that the photographer used every element of the photo -- the boy, the flags, the tombstone inscription -- to convey information and emotion. Nice job!
SECOND PLACE: Mountain Advocate, Bobbie Poynter - This photo was well-timed, well-composed and carried the twin messages of the incendiary nature of the firing mechanism of the old rifle, and the care and help being provided by the volunteer next to the shooter. Nicely done -- but I really dislike the inset web promotions. Those could be accomplished without disfiguring the photo.
THIRD PLACE: News Journal, Trevor Sherman - This photo is a lovely moment captured -- great job -- the very real emotion, the little bouquet, and the hug are all really storytelling. I understand the photo editing decision -- but it's too bad this photo wasn't given more prominence and display.
HONORABLE MENTION: News Journal, Mark White - These shots are a lot harder to execute than they look, and this one was carefully composed and beautifully done. Excellent work.

## CATEGORY 18 - BEST PICTURE ESSA (BREAKING, GENERAL OR FEATURE)

FIRST PLACE: McCreary County Voice, Eugenia Jones
SECOND PLACE: The Jessamine Journal, Jonathan Kleppinger
THIRD PLACE: News Journal, Mark White
HONORABLE MENTION: The Jessamine Journal, Ben Kleppinger


FIRST PLACE: The Manchester Enterprise, Staff - Perfect timing by photographer to capture great facial expression. Truly caught the play at its peak. Good angle and lighting. Crop could have been better.
SECOND PLACE: News Journal, Mark White - The reaction of the band members makes another football action shot a winner. Good timing and lighting. If player's feet was in the photo, should have shown them. Still, great shot.
THIRD PLACE: The Manchester Enterprise, Mark Hoskins - Good stop action photo. Met the challenge of getting a speeding ball in the frame.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Jessamine Journal, Matt Overing

## CATEGORY 20 - BEST SPORTS PICTURE ESSAY

FIRST PLACE: The Jessamine Journal, Matt Overing - Matt, I felt like I was at both of those games (boys \& girls). Fans, coaches and play action. And nice graphic work. Congrats you got my top pick.
SECOND PLACE: News Journal, Trevor Sherman - Amazing work Trevor. I can feel the emotion of the game from your photos.
THIRD PLACE: The Manchester Enterprise, Donna Gray - Donna, fantastic home plate photo! I was feeling the emotion of the game from your pictures.
HONORABLE MENTION: News Journal, Staff - Trevor, Carrie and Brett: Excellent photo work!

## CATEGORY 21 - BEST SPECIAL SECTION

FIRST PLACE: The Lebanon Enterprise, Staff - Very nice piece. It will have a long shelf life. Good mix of editorial and advertising. The calendar and map is a great added feature. Very creative use of space with ads.
SECOND PLACE: The Lebanon Enterprise, Staff
THIRD PLACE: McCreary County Voice, Greg Bird, Susanna Martinez, Emily Stephens

## CATEGORY 22 - BEST GRAPHIC

FIRST PLACE: The Jessamine Journal, Ben Kleppinger - Very informative graphic that aids the story. Readers can gain the pertinent information by reading the graphic. Great job on the details and coloring.
SECOND PLACE: The Jessamine Journal, Jonathan Kleppinger - The cutout makes the page pop to the reader. Having the different font sizes of the statistics looks very modern and inviting to readers....especially younger readers.
THIRD PLACE: McCreary County Voice, Greg Bird, Susanna Martinez, Emily Stephens - I really like the cutouts included on the cover. Perfect location to use the baseball instead of the zero. Good job.

## CATEGORY 23 - BEST SPORTS PAGE/SECTION

FIRST PLACE: The Jessamine Journal, Matt Overing - Beautiful use of photos and headlines. Not overpowering, but dominant on the page. The modular design makes the sections look great. The stories were well written also. I would definitely pick up one of these sections to read.
SECOND PLACE: The Jessamine Journal, Matt Overing - Great use of modular design, dominant photos and headlines. I can follow each story through. I didn't like the headline in the "Ballin'" story or how it was used in the by line.
THIRD PLACE: McCreary County Voice, Greg Bird, Susanna Martinez, Emily Stephens - The stories and photos are good, but I think the sections would greatly benefit from one dominant image on a page, a simpler masthead at the top and less cutouts, especially those on top of other pictures.

## CATEGORY 24 - BEST SPORTS SPECIAL SECTION

FIRST PLACE: The Jessamine Journal, Matt Overing, Ben Kleppinger - Wow! Inspiration effort on this product. Great job! SECOND PLACE: News Journal, Trevor Sherman, Trent Knuckles
THIRD PLACE: News Journal, Trevor Sherman

## CATEGORY 25 - BEST LIFESTYLE PAGE

FIRST PLACE: The Jessamine Journal, Ben Kleppinger - The strength of the Frederick Douglass page was what set this at the top of a VERY STRONG series of entries.
SECOND PLACE: The Jessamine Journal, Jonathan Kleppinger - Particularly strong photos here, and a GREAT layout for the East vs. West game. This is impressive work.


THIRD PLACE: The Jessamine Journal, Ben Kleppinger - The superintendent story was particularly strong. Good layouts all around. HONORABLE MENTION: McCreary County Voice, Eugenia Jones, Susanna Martinez, Emily Stephens - Ms. Jones' stories made these pages sing. Good work.

FIRST PLACE: News Journal, Staff - Two cartoons is an extra treat. Page would benefit from a true editorial voice, although the current publisher's column is strong. Avoid creating wrap-arounds in your design.
SECOND PLACE: The Jessamine Journal, Rosalind Essig - Attractive display. Page could use meatier commentary.
THIRD PLACE: McCreary County Voice, Staff - Obvious effort to connect with readers. Open up your display to include more air. The Ten Commandments graphic is not explained. (I couldn't tell what it was about.) The word "it's" is incorrectly used in your page header.


## CATEGORY 27 - BEST FRONT PAGE

FIRST PLACE: The Lebanon Enterprise, Stevie Lowery SECOND PLACE: The Jessamine Journal, Jonathan Kleppinger THIRD PLACE: The Jessamine Journal, Ben Kleppinger HONORABLE MENTION: McCreary County Voice, Staff

## CATEGORY 28 - BEST HEADLINE

FIRST PLACE: The Jessamine Journal, Jonathan Kleppinger SECOND PLACE: News Journal, Trent Knuckles THIRD PLACE: McCreary County Voice, Greg Bird

## MULTI-WEEKLY

CATEGORY 1 - BEST EDITORIAL

FIRST PLACE: Central Kentucky News-Journal, Jeff Moreland SECOND PLACE: Georgetown News-Graphic, Mike Scogin THIRD PLACE: Sentinel-News, Todd Martin

## CATEGORY 2 - BEST BREAKING NEWS COVERAGE

FIRST PLACE: The Morehead News, Larry DeHart SECOND PLACE: Georgetown News-Graphic, Dan Adkins THIRD PLACE: Georgetown News-Graphic, Jerry Boggs HONORABLE MENTION: The Sentinel-Echo, Nita Johnson


## CATEGORY 3 - BEST GENERAL NEWS STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Kentucky Standard, Forrest Berkshire - Extremely well told story of unchecked bullying and the tragedy that can follow. Far and away, the best entry in this category. Compelling, heartbreaking.
SECOND PLACE: The Kentucky Standard, Forrest Berkshire - A story of our time, when social media is an unveiling and the trouble that follows, especially when dealing with public officials.
THIRD PLACE: Appalachian News-Express, Chris Anderson - The story was a heartwarming surprise as well. Sensitive story of the sacrifice of those who serve and their families. A little boy who wants his daddy home and offers not to need anything that costs money to accomplish this. Man, that's brutal.
HONORABLE MENTION: Sentinel-News, Ashley Wilkins - Nicely told story of rescuing the nation's symbol, injured and in a pond yet. Good job.

## CATEGORY 4 - BEST FEATURE STORY

FIRST PLACE: Georgetown News-Graphic, Jerry Boggs - Exceptional account of a well-loved dish and its historical significance. The writing is excellent. Boggs answered all of my questions about chitterlings with his research and details.
SECOND PLACE: Georgetown News-Graphic, Jerry Boggs - Well-written story about what goes into caring for retired race horses. The details of the farm and those who work on it help me to feel like I'm there.
THIRD PLACE: The Kentucky Standard, Randy Patrick - Great story about the Voting Rights Act and how the times affected the lives of Black residents of Kentucky. HONORABLE MENTION: Georgetown News-Graphic, Dan Adkins - Great behind the scenes look at a woman who coordinates school bus pickups. Good out-of-the-box topic and well written.

FIRST PLACE: The Kentucky Standard, Forrest Berkshire - Good story telling. Each column a personal perspective that held my attention.
SECOND PLACE: The Kentucky Standard, Susan Turner - Good stuff. The pregnancy column was especially entertaining (for us, not the writer). The cop column was strong too, comparing proper respect for legal authority with parenting.
THIRD PLACE: Appalachian News-Express, Roger Ford - All three columns are about holding public officials accountable. That's the most important work we do.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Morehead News, Keith Kappes - Strong, short columns. I bet readers look forward to this column.


On The Rebound
Mitch Howard • Sports Writer

## Giving praise where praise is due

## CATEGORY 6 - BEST SPORTS COLUMN

FIRST PLACE: The Sentinel-Echo, Mitch Howard - Nice conversational tone. One nit: One column is about a photograph that would have been nice to see, but it wasn't published. While a picture can be worth a thousand words, a thousand words (or fewer) about a picture without seeing the picture leaves the reader wanting to see it.
SECOND PLACE: The Kentucky Standard, Peter W. Zubaty
THIRD PLACE: The Kentucky Standard, Peter W. Zubaty
HONORABLE MENTION: The Sentinel-Echo, Denis House

## CATEGORY 7 - BEST SPORTS STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Morehead News, Larry DeHart - A sports history story offers a change of pace. The photos helped to make the story. Good to know that baseball offered hope in hard times. And that it was no big deal, just part of life.
SECOND PLACE: The Sentinel-Echo, Mitch Howard - He sounds like a fine athlete and a good humble kid. The piece made me feel that I knew him.
THIRD PLACE: Sentinel-News, Mickey Patterson - Hard to make golf interesting, but your description of the play by play made it almost exciting. I'm glad she won, with all that means for a small school.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Sentinel-Echo, Denis House - Pretty close race, which made it more exciting. Also good to learn he kicked in after a slow start.

The first thing North Laurel coach Chris Larkey said after his team beat Whitley
County last week for the school's first playoff win was "I want to thank God and all praise goes to him." He followed that up by telling me to make sure I put that in the story. I intended to do just that.
It was a late night.
Everyone wanted to hug or

## CATEGORY 8 - BEST SPORTS FEATURE STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Kentucky Standard, Peter W. Zubaty - The lead needs some tightening; it feels like the writer is getting warmed up on the page. I like the reporting and story overall, though. It feels like the reporter knows his subject. I imagine there was a great deal more the writer could have included; the article reads as though it's been well-curated, though. Nice. That the writer looked beyond athletes/coaches and delivered an interesting story relevant in general and to the community cemented its spot in first place.
SECOND PLACE: Sentinel-News, Mickey Patterson - The lead is generic, states the obvious. It's unneeded; there's a perfectly good lead in the second sentence that should start the piece. Leads were soft across the field, though, and the rest of the article is solid, if quote-heavy. Giving the benefit of the doubt, but I'm curious about the lack of contractions ('I am' appears six times in quick succession) in the quotes. Sounds oddly formal to my ear and not like typical speech patterns. I hope that's not a stylistic choice/adherence. Sounds stilted.
THIRD PLACE: Appalachian News-Express, Cory Vance - There are issues here with errors of grammar, style and editing mounting and creating distraction. That said, this piece kept me reading. The writer stepped away from traditional sports and did a good job breaking down what might have been a complicated subject matter. Not delving into what League of Legends is immediately after the lead was a good choice. Solidly structured, but that UPike is offering scholarships for its team is fascinating and I'd have liked to have read that and more about its E-sports athletes sooner in the article.

## CATEGORY 9 - BEST ENTERPRISE OR ANALYTICAL STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Kentucky Standard, Forrest Berkshire - This story was great at examining and issue and explaining what it meant and the effects on the local economy. Great use of data mixed in with human stories to tell the story.
SECOND PLACE: Sentinel-News, Lisa King - Great use of data to show trends and using officials to help interpret that data. THIRD PLACE: The Kentucky Standard, Kacie Goode - Great use of people across the spectrum to highlight the differences and range of issues facing people with autism. Made the facts seem so much more relatable.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Kentucky Standard, Kacie Goode - Important issue to consider and great to notice the trend and start the conversation.

FIRST PLACE: Appalachian News-Express, Chris Anderson - A great example of watchdog journalism and the power of journalism to hold local officials accountable! Good work! Keep filing those record requests and examining the data.
SECOND PLACE: Sentinel-News, Lisa King - Good use of data to analyze crime trends in the community. Lacking in this series is any voice from victims of crime or the folks using drugs or driving drunk to put a true "face" on the issue and pull the reader into the story rather than relying on police, etc.
THIRD PLACE: The Kentucky Standard, Jennifer Grote - This is a great topic to dive into and explore as an investigative reporter. There are lots of "official" sources in these articles, but the articles lack any voice from those who are struggling to kick their addiction. Speaking with those folks would have greatly improved this series.
HONORABLE MENTION: Appalachian News-Express, Julia Roberts - The reporter did a good job explaining what went wrong with this bridge project and holding local officials accountable.

## CATEGORY 11 - BEST ON-GOING/EXTENDED COVERAGE STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Kentucky Standard, Forrest Berkshire, Randy Patrick, Kacie Goode - There were a lot of good entries,but this clearly was the winner. The stories not only reported what happened in a touching and sensitive way, but dug deep into the problem. I'm sure it made school and community officials a bit uncomfortable, but it performed a tremendous public service. It was great enterprise reporting.
SECOND PLACE: The Morehead News, Shayla Menville - It's great to see the local paper keep up with the well-staffed big media in covering a big story while continuing to cover other news in the community, Shayla kept on top of this story throughout the long process. Great job.
THIRD PLACE: Georgetown News-Graphic, Dan Adkins - Great reporting on a crime story with many twists and interesting turns.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Sentinel-Echo, Staff - Great stories that told not just of the death but the public reactions. These stories showed great enterprise from the reporters, not just rote coverage of the story. Good reporting and good enterprise work.

Bus sales raise big questions


## CATEGORY 12 - BEST BUSINESS/AGRIBUSINESS STORY

FIRST PLACE: Sentinel-News, Lisa King - Good combination article - business from the standpoint of selling and marketing the trees - and ag, as they grow them, too. Nice job of telling their story, how they met, got started, and personal story about family tradition was a nice touch. I enjoyed it most over all the others submitted in the category. SECOND PLACE: Georgetown News-Graphic, Kayla Pickrell - Wow! I didn't know anyone still made corsets! Good story. kept my interest, even though I have no need for a corset! Well-researched, a fun story.
THIRD PLACE: Sentinel-News, Lisa King - I liked the clever intro - "grass is greener" analogy. A different type of ag article, too. Covered the process, the history and the legislative angle for a comprehensive, well done presentation.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Sentinel-Echo, Nita Johnson - I enjoyed judging this category, as there were many fine articles submitted. This one attracted my attention because it featured a local business that got some national attention. I had about 6 listed as potential HM.

## CATEGORY 13 - BEST USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

FIRST PLACE: The Sentinel-Echo, Staff - Facebook is a powerful platform to break news and engage the community in conversation. Topics such as jails always provoke conversation. This was a good engagement piece that kept going for several days. I like how you referred people back to the print edition for a follow up.
SECOND PLACE: The Sentinel-Echo, Staff - This was a great local event that really captured the local spirit of the event. A picture tells the story, especially the one of the young girl waiting in anticipation of the drop. Local events always engage people and are more likely to be shared and passed along.

CATEGORY 14 - CREATIVE USE OF MULTIMEDIA


FIRST PLACE: The Sentinel-Echo, Staff - Good story telling in pictures. The event effected all the readers in some way being weather related. Weather always seems to be something people like to read about and see pictures of.
SECOND PLACE: The Sentinel-Echo, Staff
CATEGORY 15 - BEST BREAKING NEWS PICTURE
FIRST PLACE: The Morehead News, Nathan Hall - This photo works for a few reasons. First, it juxtaposes two wildly different views of an important social issue. Second, the composition gives depth and a sense of motion to what would otherwise be just a scene of people standing around. Finally, placing the pastor in the foreground conjures thoughts of him as a dominant, imposing figure who is likely brimming with hell fire and damnation. Meanwhile, the woman in the back appears small, in keeping with her apparently quieter form of protest. SECOND PLACE: Georgetown News-Graphic, Jerry Boggs - Great composition. Way to make difficult lighting work for you.
THIRD PLACE: Appalachian News-Express, Chris Anderson - Making interesting photos is often about capturing a scene or perspective that people don't often see. This photo definitely does that with the plane on its nose. It makes me wonder what happens when the plane slams down on its belly.
HONORABLE MENTION: Appalachian News-Express, Chris Anderson - I like the juxtaposition of a dangerous situation with the rescuers' happy faces. The snow adds a nice depth to the image.

FIRST PLACE: The Sentinel-Echo, Rob McDaniel - A lot of great, newsworthy photos in this category. I broke them down to my favorite 12 out of 30 of the photos that for one reason or another, caught my eye. Came up with 6 judged for technical clarity: focused, good color, interesting angle. I chose Rob's photo because it is not very often one finds a photo of a tuba player as a contest winner! But it was the clarity of the band reflected in the tuba that caught my attention. Cool photo!
SECOND PLACE: The Kentucky Standard, Kacie Goode - Kacie's photo was a great example of being in the right place at the right time. The photo caught some great expressions, but the focused, colorful butterfly caught my attention. These last 3 award placements were tough. Well done!
THIRD PLACE: The Kentucky Standard, Luke Franke - I am from rural Illinois and have seen lots of crop damage, but Luke's photo caught the look of frustration on the farmer's face, as well as the crop devastation. The thin stalks were so clear, depth of field made for a unique photo. Great angle. I almost elected this in the Ag article category.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Sentinel-Echo, Rob McDaniel - There were 2 other photos that made this honorable mention selection tough. They all showed great expressions on the subjects, and caught the feelings in the moment. But the snake shot by Rob was awesome!

## CATEGORY 17 - BEST FEATURE PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: Central Kentucky News-Journal, Kaitlin Keane - Lots of great photography elements elevate this entry. The tight crop, the low angle, the subject is oblivious to the photographer. I don't feel like I'm looking at a photo; I feel like I'm there. The rule of thirds is observed; the curved lines help frame the image and draw the eye to the child whose concentration is obvious. Adorable photo.
SECOND PLACE: The Kentucky Standard, Kacie Goode - Nice emotion. The dark edges, the girl on the right, the expressions, all help set the tone.
THIRD PLACE: The Morehead News, Nathan Hall - The determined look on his face, the bend in the Bible thrust forward and the woman with head tilted in background combine to tell the story.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Kentucky Standard, Forrest Berkshire - The barn in the background with the siding partially removed helps tell the story. The slightly cocked image and grey clouds help set the mood.


## CATEGORY 18 - BEST PICTURE ESSA (BREAKING, GENERAL OR FEATURE)

FIRST PLACE: The Kentucky Standard, Staff - Great variety and quality photography. Excellent use of white space in the design. Dominant photo draws the eye with fun and funky secondary shots. Love the bull riding photo, but another angle may have been better to avoid showing grandma's panties.
SECOND PLACE: Georgetown News-Graphic, Kayla Pickrell - Another great showing of varied and detailed shots. The dominant photo alone tells the story that this is a training, rather than a real fire call. The photos are crisp and eye-catching. The design really makes it feel like a photo package. The only recommendation would be a shot of a face, perhaps taking off the gear, so readers could see the human element and how much work fighting fire takes -- i.e. expressions
THIRD PLACE: The Sentinel-Echo, Rob McDaniel - Package clearly tells the story of a massive snow storm. Good use of varied photo sizes and the addition of a detail shot. The only thing missing is a human element that exemplifies the impact 11 inches of snow had on humans. These snow plowers look happy to be out there, but the story stresses treacherous driving conditions. The messages seem to conflict.
HONORABLE MENTION: Central Kentucky News-Journal, Jeff Moreland - Cute expressions and lots of faces make this a quality feature photo page. Good variety in photo sizes. A single dominant photo and a wide shot of the fair overall would have make this feel more like a package.

## CATEGORY 19 - BEST SPORTS PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: Times Leader, Todd Griffin - The crop might be a little close on the right, but everything else is on point. I can hear this play happening, I love the expressiveness of the dunking player's face and it feels like the photog was almost on the court. This photo makes me want to pick up a paper.
SECOND PLACE: Appalachian News-Express, Cory Vance - Excellent. I love that the photographer wasn't afraid of the open space in the frame. A lesser eye might have cropped the image in, but that would reduce the effect. This photo tells an entire story (it barely needs a cutline or headline) and the empty space, the out-of-focus background and the sharp foreground figures really direct my vision to where it should be.
THIRD PLACE: The Kentucky Standard, Peter W. Zubaty - The angle's great, there's good balance in the frame, nice contrast and sharp focus. Why isn't this photo bigger, though? I'd be able to see even more of the details that I like in this photo (the grass flying through the air, the ballcarrier's face...Nicely done.

FIRST PLACE: The Kentucky Standard, Peter W. Zubaty - Top-notch photo work that captured the emotions of the matches. Your best work with basketball action a very close second.
SECOND PLACE: The Kentucky Standard, Peter W. Zubaty - You know your camera! Excellent work as a photojournalist.
THIRD PLACE: Appalachian News-Express, Cory Vance - Amazing! Great angles on the players. I'm going to copy your work this season.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Sentinel-Echo, Mitch Howard - Nice flash work and great capture of Hannah's nice move.

## CATEGORY 21 - BEST SPECIAL SECTION

FIRST PLACE: Appalachian News-Express, Tracie Vanderbeck, Staff - Stunning Cover Design. Articles are relevant and interesting. Nice typography treatment. Timely for seasonal section with good tie in for advertising / theme. Beautiful photography. SECOND PLACE: Georgetown News-Graphic, Staff - Reader friendly. Excellent use of community engagement and interaction. Good tie in with pink toning match to headline and buttons on jacket on front cover. Clean, interesting design elements.
THIRD PLACE: The Morehead News, Nathan Hall - Good mix of short breakouts and feature writing. Nice layout.
HONORABLE MENTION: Appalachian News-Express, Tracie Vanderbeck, Staff - Excellent use of photos, illustrations and solid editorial content.

## CATEGORY 22 - BEST GRAPHIC

FIRST PLACE: Appalachian News-Express, Cory Vance - Overall Excellent Usage of Graphic
SECOND PLACE: The Sentinel-Echo, Mike Moore - The Headline and Graphic dominated the page letting the reader know what was the main focus.
THIRD PLACE: Appalachian News-Express, Cory Vance - Great display of graphic. Like the way the graphic dominates the page.


## CATEGORY 23 - BEST SPORTS PAGE/SECTION

FIRST PLACE: Appalachian News-Express, Cory Vance SECOND PLACE: The Sentinel-Echo, Denis House THIRD PLACE: Appalachian News-Express, Randy White


## CATEGORY 24 - BEST SPORTS SPECIAL SECTION

FIRST PLACE: Appalachian News-Express, Randy White, Cory Vance - The sheer size is impressive. Share the prize with the ad department. Readers will enjoy the team profiles.
SECOND PLACE: The Kentucky Standard, Peter W. Zubaty - Cover photo for Harvesting Wins is clever. I was hoping you would carry the theme through the book. Thorough coverage and a clean-looking special section. THIRD PLACE: Sentinel-News, Mickey Patterson, Todd Martin - Covering multiple sports at two schools must present an organizational challenge, but it was handled successfully. Thorough coverage and a good-looking presentation.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Sentinel-Echo, Denis House, Mitch Howard, James Marcum Jr.

## CATEGORY 25 - BEST LIFESTYLE PAGE

FIRST PLACE: The Kentucky Standard, Kacie Goode - Strong entry. Easily the best. Creative type and use of art.
SECOND PLACE: Sentinel-News, Todd Martin
THIRD PLACE: The Kentucky Standard, Susan Turner

## CATEGORY 26 - BEST EDITORIAL PAGE

FIRST PLACE: Sentinel-News, Todd Martin - Good job. Local editorials and columns make for compelling pages. SECOND PLACE: Appalachian News-Express, Russ Cassady - Local content good. Well laid out. Very close to firstplace entry.
THIRD PLACE: Times Leader, Chip Hutcheson, Stacey Menser - The entries in this class were all very close. I wish I could have awarded three FIRST PLACE: recipients. Congratulations
HONORABLE MENTION: The Kentucky Standard, Susan Turner

FIRST PLACE: Georgetown News-Graphic, Jerry Boggs - Great use of photo, clean page, excellent layout. SECOND PLACE: The Sentinel-Echo, Mike Moore
THIRD PLACE: The Morehead News, Nathan Hall - Great use of photo. Clean page - Design person needs to be careful with the usage of so many different fonts. Overall I believe it deserves a considerable placement in contest.

## CATEGORY 28 - BEST HEADLINE

FIRST PLACE: The Sentinel-Echo, Mike Moore - Solid headline writing. Subheads were well done too. Clever plays on words. Nice work.
SECOND PLACE: Georgetown News-Graphic, Jerry Boggs - Good job marrying words with images. Nice word play.
THIRD PLACE: The Sentinel-Echo, Mitch Howard - Clever word play with names. HONORABLE MENTION: The Kentucky Standard, Kacie Goode - Nice word choice. Subhead Rising food prices eating
into household budgets

## DAILY CLASS 1

## CATEGORY 1 - BEST EDITORIAL

FIRST PLACE: Glasgow Daily Times, James Brown - Good historical perspectives on the city's recent history of disfunction in government and conflict with the tourism commission. These two editorials, in particular, have a nice mix of how we got here, and where we could/should go. That mix is important to make a complete point for the reader.

## CATEGORY 2 - BEST BREAKING NEWS COVERAGE

FIRST PLACE: The Times-Tribune, Jeff Noble - Excellent job conveying to readers the importance of these buildings and their meaning to this community. Great use of sources, especially those affected by the fire.
SECOND PLACE: The Times-Tribune, Kristina Smith - Impressed with the number of witnesses reporter was able to speak with for this story. Straightforward reporting that also sets the scene of what happened here and what it means to the residents affected by the explosion.
THIRD PLACE: Middlesboro Daily News, Reina P. Cunningham - Solid, straightforward reporting on an event no one could predict.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Messenger, Laura Buchanan - Solid, strong reporting

## CATEGORY 3 - BEST GENERAL NEWS STORY

FIRST PLACE: Glasgow Daily Times, Melinda Overstreet - This was a complicated court case, but the reporter kept a tight narrative throughout. I read every word and never stumbled over an awkward phrase or a "Wait, who is this talking now?" Good job.
SECOND PLACE: Glasgow Daily Times, Bobbie Hayse
THIRD PLACE: The Messenger, Jessica Dockrey - Sensitive to gender pronouns as well as conservative community standards.
HONORABLE MENTION: Glasgow Daily Times, Bobbie Hayse - Timely story well-told, but I was left with questions about the subject's injuries, how she handled her recovery and how she was able to marry and have children.

## T.J. SAMSON COMMUNITY HOSPITAL

# Jury awards mom \$18.3M 

Hospital must pay in medical negligence case, OB-GYN cleared of responsibility by melinda I. OVERSTREET Glascow Dally Times
Britany Hamilton periodically abbed tears from her eyes Tuesal day of a civil trial that ended that evening in a jury's decision to award the young mother and her son nearly $\$ 18.3$ million after the
child suffered a brain injury dur-
ing his birth at TJ. Samson Com-
munity Hospita in 2007 . The jury deliberated for less than 90 minutes before the announcement of its judgment.
which went solely against the hoswhich went solely against the hos-
pital. In 2011, the boy, Tristan pital. In 2011, the boy, Tristan
Hamiton, by and through his
mother, sued the hospital and Kel-
ly Dirig, the obsterician-gyne
ogist who delivered him. ogist who delivered him.
Dirig was chan ion of medical negligence. In tion of medical negligence. In
fact, during closing arguments, the Hamiltons' attormey. Tyler Thompson, told the jury he had grown to respect Dirig and her honesty dur-
ing the legal process. He asked the jury to not find against Dirig, outjury to not find against Ditig, out-
lining reasons the hospital should be held entirely responsible. SEE JUKY, PaGE R2


## CATEGORY 4 - BEST FEATURE STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Times-Tribune, Becky Killian - A good feature story is full of emotion, and Killian delivers it in the lead as she deftly writes about the tearful joy James shared when reunited with his dog, Bubba. That emotion carries throughout the story, which also has an interesting story about how the man and his dog were reunited. Nice job!
SECOND PLACE: The Messenger, Jessica Dockrey - Mr. Amar has quite the stories to tell about his time spent fighting with the resistance against Japanese invaders in the Philippines during WWII. The writer does a good job of letting Amar tell those stories, and effectively provides graphic details without alienating the reader.
THIRD PLACE: The Messenger, Jessica Dockrey - Good quotes carry this story of a Colorado woman's yearslong effort to find the home for an 1800s gravestone. The story goes into great detail to explain the steps taken during the search. That helps the reader understand the relief, and sadness, the subject had in the eventual parting with the gravestone.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Richmond Register, Jonathan Greene

FIRST PLACE: The Winchester Sun, Steve Foley - Foley finds humor in the mundane - public restrooms, when it's time for a man to keep his shirt on in public, and fantasy football. But his topics resonate with readers, and his punchy style keeps you interested, and laughing.
SECOND PLACE: The Times-Tribune, Christina Bentley - Bentley admits she doesn't often write about controversial topics. But the topics here - Trump-like hair on cats, signage at Target, and a girls weekend away at a cabin - are written about in a light, humorous style that will have her readers talking about them.
THIRD PLACE: The Times-Tribune, Brad Hall - Interesting takes on issues that those with a religious viewpoint, and those without, will find to be conversation starters. HONORABLE MENTION: The Winchester Sun, Whitney Leggett - Love the column concept. Well executed by the writer.

## CATEGORY 6 - BEST SPORTS COLUMN

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT: The Times-Tribune, Shane Tarvin

## CATEGORY 7 - BEST SPORTS STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Messenger, John Millikan - Great job capturing the human drama that took place within the context of a basketball game. The outcome was secondary, but the story still told, with a powerful lead and quotes.
SECOND PLACE: The Messenger, John Millikan - Really liked the writer's technique. Good job telling the story of a pivotal play in the game from the losing team's perspective. An excellent sider.
THIRD PLACE: The Richmond Register, Nathan Hutchinson - That doesn't happen every day. Interesting outside-the-lines story that moved inside them. Good job by the writer to get some details on the mechanics of how this little-used player had his moment in his final season.

## CATEGORY 8 - BEST SPORTS FEATURE STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Messenger, John Millikan - Very nicely done. This was a perfect way to reflect upon a tragedy and make a positive change through it. I enjoyed the read.
SECOND PLACE: The Richmond Register, Nathan Hutchinson - I love the narrative style of this one. It's easy to follow, rad through and makes me take interest in the story's subject.
THIRD PLACE: Harlan Daily Enterprise, John Henson - I really liked the idea of the story. It's not often to get a perspective like that. There were also plenty of facts with it.
HONORABLE MENTION: Harlan Daily Enterprise, John Henson - This is a great story, but I think that it would be an easier read if it were slightly more condensed and had a stronger main focus.

PREP BASKETBALL


Storm return to the court with heavy hearts


## CATEGORY 9 - BEST ENTERPRISE OR ANALYTICAL STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Times-Tribune, Kristina Smith - I like that this story tackles a real issue in the schools by covering a solution and who's involved and how it's working, with quotes, anecdotes and statistics to back it up.
SECOND PLACE: The Messenger, Jessica Dockrey - Great story addressing the issue with input from all the players.
THIRD PLACE: The Times-Tribune, John L. Ross - Good look at the data on senior health, with some good interpretation from sources.


The breed will become big player at new Corbin track


## CATEGORY 10 - BEST INVESTIGATIVE STORY OR SERIES

FIRST PLACE: The Times-Tribune, John L. Ross, Kristina Smith, Jeff Noble - This a great example of an investigative work. It's exhaustive in its look at the Quarter Horse Racing and the the impact the new facility will have on the sport and the community. It's a great example of what small papers can do if they develop a plan and devote some resources to a project.
SECOND PLACE: The Richmond Register, Jonathan Greene - A lot of work went into the story. It would have been even better with more statewide context and deeper sources.
THIRD PLACE: The Messenger, Luke Short

## CATEGORY 11 - BEST ON-GOING/EXTENDED COVERAGE STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Times-Tribune, Staff - Great example of not only reporting, but also informing. Good use of headlines and background articles.
SECOND PLACE: The Winchester Sun, Whitney Leggett - Good storytelling and quotes throughout. Clearly the papers coverage made sure the process moved along as it should have.
THIRD PLACE: The Times-Tribune, Kristina Smith, John L. Ross - The layout of this piece in the editorial obit style was very impactful and drew me in.
HONORABLE MENTION: Glasgow Daily Times, Gina Kinslow - Great photography really held interest of reader.

FIRST PLACE: The Richmond Register, Machaela Ballard - Another tough category. A lot of good work is being done here and, again, the toughest job was sorting out a final four. This story got the nod because it was obviously something done in covering weather -- which many reporters hate, but readers love. The reporter could have done a simple 12-inch story, been done with it and completed the assignment. However, the reporting that was done here revealed a vivid picture of what farmers have to deal with in the snow and cold. Excellent work. A deserving winner.
SECOND PLACE: Glasgow Daily Times, Gina Kinslow - Good story on a topic that is gaining interest among all kinds of readers. Enjoyed the word pictures that were painted by the writer; very descriptive. SECOND PLACE: is nothing to be unhappy about in this category. This was an excellent story, but not quite as excellent as the winner.
THIRD PLACE: The Messenger, Jessica Dockrey - Another good effort, with the reporter telling a story that she had to go out and find. Good reporting with good details add up to an effort that was clearly one of the best in the category.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Winchester Sun, Whitney Leggett - This story just fell a little short of being in the top three. A lot of good information with some history tossed in. I think some of the history, particularly in the middle sections about Western expansion, could have been eliminated and the story wouldn't have suffered. I think that bogged down the flow a little. Cutting part of that would have made it shorter and smoother. Still, it was a solid effort worthy of being in the top four in the category.

## CATEGORY 13 - BEST USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

FIRST PLACE: The Messenger, Staff - I like that your Facebook page has interactive elements, such as the question of the day. However, I would have liked to have seen more specific examples of how you use the site for engagement. Did you have a post that led to a news tip or source? A particularly engaging photo that led to more followers? More specifics would make for a stronger entry.


> Snow triples farmers' workload


## CATEGORY 14 - CREATIVE USE OF MULTIMEDIA

FIRST PLACE: The Times-Tribune, Timothy Wyatt - This piece includes footage of the event, one-on-one interviews, unusual camera angles to hold interest and informative narration to give a reader/viewer a complete understanding of the day's news. The journalist used this to both enhance the newspaper's presentation of the day's news and provide a complete picture of the news for those who prefer viewing over reading.
SECOND PLACE: The Times-Tribune, Kristina Smith - The journalist allowed the subjects to share their views without any interpretation. The way she alternated the excerpts from each side, gave viewers a balanced view. I also liked the way she used footage of the rally with people speaking over it. That gives you a better sense of what it was like at the actual event.
THIRD PLACE: The Times-Tribune, Kristina Smith - This video was necessary to fully understand the story, which was about a man who was nominated for a music award. The journalist was smart to include long excerpts of the subject playing his instrument so the reader can understand what he does. The production of the video was a bit distracting because there was a lot of background noise. I did like the use of the flute music in the background, though.


## CATEGORY 15 - BEST BREAKING NEWS PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: The Times-Tribune, Willie Sawyers - I like the whole package of this entry. I like loud, screaming headlines, a nice overall shot with nice secondary art of the person hugging. I don't have to live in Kentucky to know this was a big deal.
SECOND PLACE: The Winchester Sun, Kendall Fletcher - Nice job framing the helicopter as it lands. I think this photo captures the drama of the moment. Wow, that car is pretty messed up.
THIRD PLACE: The Times-Tribune, John L. Ross - Nice photos for a very tragic story. The flames shooting through the roof is very moving and sad. I would have liked to have seen something of this family, but maybe that was in the cards that night.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Messenger, Jessica Dockrey - I like the mood and lighting on this photo. It's not really an action shot, but something of catching a mood or setting a scene.

## CATEGORY 16 - BEST GENERAL NEWS PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: The Messenger, Jessica Dockrey - I love the behind the scenes viewpoint. It makes the reader get to know the subject better.
SECOND PLACE: The Messenger, Jessica Dockrey - Great moment, reaction.
THIRD PLACE: The Richmond Register, Machaela Ballard - I love the moment of this photo - It also shows the photographer had great access and trust from their subjects.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Winchester Sun, Whitney Leggett - This is a great photo of something that probably happens every year, but maybe a new viewpoint

FIRST PLACE: The Messenger, Luke Short - Great composition. The photo is really unique and touches on the senses.
SECOND PLACE: The Messenger, Luke Short - The light in the photo is amazing. It is a great photo for an inside color page. But would have also made a great stand alone feature for a soft front page.
THIRD PLACE: Glasgow Daily Times, James Brown - Captured the stage light beautifully. HONORABLE MENTION: Glasgow Daily Times, Gina Kinslow - Fun photo.

## CATEGORY 18 - BEST PICTURE ESSA (BREAKING, GENERAL OR FEATURE)

FIRST PLACE: The Times-Tribune, Staff - All strong images, good variety, excellent layout considering space you had to work with. You chose a dominant for each page, which other multi-page entries often didn't do. Good job of "circling the scene" to get different angles/subjects.


SECOND PLACE: The Times-Tribune, John L. Ross, Kristina Smith - Very good job of representing both sides in the debate, both with content of images and with editing/layout. Photos weigh a little toward anti-marriage stance, but I'm guessing the situation probably did; you did well to seek fairness, not necessarily balance. Good variety of crops/shapes that both make packages more interesting but also highlight content of the images. First/Second Place was very difficult choice.
THIRD PLACE: The Winchester Sun, Whitney Leggett - Normally I would throw a fit over mortised/inset photos, but it somehow works here. I still think it would have been possible (and better) as a traditional photo-story layout, but there's real evidence of editor and photojournalist working together to really plan, choose and arrange images that worked together. (Hope you don't make a habit of the mortising/insetting/overprinting, though.)

## CATEGORY 19 - BEST SPORTS PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: The Times-Tribune, Paul Coots - An emotional moment well-captured. Not always easy to shoot the loosing team. To improve the image, the only thing I might have done was crop it a little tighter.
SECOND PLACE: The Times-Tribune, Les Dixon - Well-executed action shot. Tells the story of the game - he's stretching for a catch he might or might not catch. Either way it looks like an almost - just like it was an almost win.
THIRD PLACE: The Richmond Register, Nathan Hutchinson - A solid celebration shot. Be interesting to see other frames if the guy in the center turned around.


CATEGORY 20 - BEST SPORTS PICTURE ESSAY
FIRST PLACE: The Times-Tribune, Darrin Spencer SECOND PLACE: The Times-Tribune, Paul Coots
THIRD PLACE: The Times-Tribune, Chris Parsons
HONORABLE MENTION: The Richmond Register, Nathan Hutchinson

## CATEGORY 21 - BEST SPECIAL SECTION

FIRST PLACE: The Richmond Register, Carrie Curry - Beautiful publication. The cover is gorgeous and the story that it goes with was excellent copy, art and layout. The design of the whole magazine was a pleasure to look at, the stories were diverse and held interest for a lot of different readers. The reporters did an excellent job in keeping the reader encaged in their stories. A quality product and I wish I could have held it in my hands to have enjoyed.
SECOND PLACE: The Richmond Register, Carrie Curry - My favorite story "Baptism at detention center..." Great headline, made me want to read the story right off the bat, and nice art to compliment the story. "What do young people need most.." again another great head line that draws the reader in. I was very surprised by the diversity in topics addressed in this publication. It was not the safe middle of the road churches and folks. I would be curious to know what your readers said about it. I would have liked to seen a graphic on the Church listing page, it would have stand apart from the newspaper listings.
THIRD PLACE: The Times-Tribune, John L. Ross, Timothy Wyatt, Jeff Noble, Kristina Smith - This is a Herculean task for a newspaper to take on. It can make or break you, and make for a tired staff! I felt that you had good subjects but didn't give them enough news hole. I would have rather seen smaller cut lines and more of a story about the person and what they did. This might have helped in not feeling like the advertising and the news were in a battle for your attention. I know you were limited with color, but I would have rather seen the scenery in color and the people in black and white. Your state park looks fantastic in black and white, I can only imagine how beautiful that page would have been in color.

## CATEGORY 22 - BEST GRAPHIC

FIRST PLACE: The Times-Tribune, Brad Hall - Good, clean design. Good presentation of the data. It's easy to read and interesting. Good work. SECOND PLACE: The Richmond Register, Bob Flynn - Clever design. Great way to illustrate the story. THIRD PLACE: The Winchester Sun, Whitney Leggett - This is a clean, effective graphic. Good work.

FIRST PLACE: The Times-Tribune, Les Dixon - This paper knows how to cover a big story and make it look like a big story. Great photos and good display.
SECOND PLACE: The Times-Tribune, Les Dixon - Prep football fans must love this section. Lots of coverage, lots of photos.
THIRD PLACE: The Richmond Register, Nathan Hutchinson - A good, overall sports section.

## CATEGORY 24 - BEST SPORTS SPECIAL SECTION

FIRST PLACE: The Richmond Register, Nathan Hutchinson
SECOND PLACE: The Richmond Register, Nathan Hutchinson

## CATEGORY 25 - BEST LIFESTYLE PAGE

FIRST PLACE: The Winchester Sun, Staff - Layout is clever and eye catching. The variety of articles aim at engaging everyone from young to old, and is very localized to the town. The stories are fun and an easy read.
SECOND PLACE: The Richmond Register, Carrie Curry - Great use of pictures. Very colorful and eye catching.
THIRD PLACE: The Winchester Sun, David Stone

## CATEGORY 26 - BEST EDITORIAL PAGE

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT: The Richmond Register, Carrie Curry

## CATEGORY 27 - BEST FRONT PAGE

FIRST PLACE: The Winchester Sun, David Stone - Strong dominant photos helped these pages in a very tight competition for first and second place. Uncluttered, easy to navigate, plenty of points of entry but nothing "gimmicky."
SECOND PLACE: Glasgow Daily Times, Lisa Simpson Strange - Great use of white space - head labels help - and good use of color, both spot and in images. The vertical-centerpiece look gets a little monotonous - try varying it if and when you can. Really lively pages to look at - good content and good variety of it.
THIRD PLACE: The Winchester Sun, David Stone - This set of pages doesn't work quite as well as first-place entry - headline hierarchy and layout in general are busier and more confusing for the reader. But still rises above rest of the pack.

## SPORTSG: WiURDAY



## CATEGORY 28 - BEST HEADLINE

## COMHODC:DONT

FIRST PLACE: The Times-Tribune, Brad Hall - Very clever usage of "Cock-a doodle-don't," which goes perfectly with the ban on roosters. "Ninja turtle" and "By Jeeps and Bounds" both also fit the stories very well without being overly corny.
SECOND PLACE: The Times-Tribune, Staff - "ROAD KILL," was the best of these, but all of them worked well for the subject stories. It's great to see colorful, imaginative headlines in the sports section, where action and excitement need to be reflected in the words.
THIRD PLACE: The Times-Tribune, Brad Hall - Really nice combo headline reflecting photo content with "Ice Scream"! Also really like "Oh, you shouldn't have." Very nice touch!

## DAILY CLASS 2

CATEGORY 1 - BEST EDITORIAL

FIRST PLACE: The Paducah Sun, Jim Paxton - Not only does the Sun take strong stances on local issues, it also efficiently and convincingly explains the reasoning behind the opinion. The paper clearly speaks for the readers and taxpayers on the issues of pay raises for power system employees and the city's rejection of a less expensive 911 system. It also eloquently reminds readers it was right about its opposition to Medicaid expansion in a previous editorial. Compelling reads all.
SECOND PLACE: The State Journal, Brad Bowman - Nice mix of strong, perhaps not popular, stances on state, national and local issues. The A1 play of each gives the editorial more heft. Editorials are extremely well written and reasoned.
THIRD PLACE: The Advocate-Messenger, David Brock - Well stated positions on important local (city council open meetings) and state (death penalty, road funding) issues. HONORABLE MENTION: The News-Enterprise, Chris Ordway


Same-sex marriage legal in U.S.


FIRST PLACE: The News-Enterprise, Gina Clear - It's often difficult during breaking news to get the "real people" most affected by it in the story. That wasn't a problem for this reporter; each source was woven into a well-written story about what this historic decision meant for those who had waited so long for this victory. Wonderful job at conveying what the decision meant for them.
SECOND PLACE: The Daily Independent, Tim Preston - Great job at setting the scene of the damage Mother Nature can cause. Good use of sources and weaving together a solid narrative.
THIRD PLACE: The Paducah Sun, Laurel Black - Great job at setting the scene this man found himself in when this little girl, the sole survivor of a plane crash, literally walked into his life. Details (like how others wouldn't have walked in fields without overalls) help paint a clear picture for readers of what this child had to endure.
HONORABLE MENTION: Kentucky New Era, Eli Pace - Good job at documenting a strange situation that, with the spread of social media, might happen more frequently. Subheads would have helped break up the text a bit.

## CATEGORY 3 - BEST GENERAL NEWS STORY

FIRST PLACE: The State Journal, Brittany Ellis - Good work. Liked the opening with the dog.
SECOND PLACE: The Paducah Sun, Joshua Roberts - Well-told. Good job putting a face on homelessness.
THIRD PLACE: The Paducah Sun, Joshua Robert - Nice details, interesting story.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Paducah Sun, Lauren Duncan - Nice work personalizing both sides.

## CATEGORY 4 - BEST FEATURE STORY

FIRST PLACE: Kentucky New Era, Eli Pace - In a highly competitive category, this touching story grabbed me immediately. Beautifully told. Kudos, also, for finding a second source for the story.
SECOND PLACE: The Daily Independent, Mike James - The way the reporter brought the church pews to life with his descriptions earned this second place. What a talent, to give them the life he did.
THIRD PLACE: The Paducah Sun, Genevieve Postlethwait - I never thought I'd be interested in reading about a bridge player, but that's what a good reporter does - get you to read about topics you didn't expect to find interesting. What a nice, light personality feature - perfect for a Sunday morning read.
HONORABLE MENTION: Kentucky New Era, Eli Pace - Writing about technical subjects can be difficult. Eli Pace did it with such ease and made it engaging to boot. For a higher placement, I would have liked to have seen at least another voice, such as someone in one of the classes mentioned.

## CATEGORY 5 - BEST COLUMN

FIRST PLACE: Commonwealth Journal, Chris Harris - His column is called Word Play and, man, does Harris make some great plays with his words. Whether writing about light, quirky topics like hidden animals or ugly old couches, or serious topics like judging someone's character, Harris writes memorable pieces with equal parts wit and wisdom.
SECOND PLACE: Kentucky New Era, Jennifer P. Brown - Brown's column suggesting all female speakers for next year's National Prayer Day event because all speakers at this year's were male was the biggest "wow" of the entries. Her take on "amateur gunslingers" hits the mark, too. Powerful, effective writing.
THIRD PLACE: The Advocate-Messenger, David Brock - The conversational, easy style of writing makes the hard punches Brock delivers even more effective.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Daily Independent, Tim Preston

## CATEGORY 6 - BEST SPORTS COLUMN

FIRST PLACE: Commonwealth Journal, Jeff Neal - I enjoyed reading your column and I believe the lesser of sports enthusiast enjoy your column too. It was hard to choose 1st from 2nd of your entries. These three received first due to the controversy you addressed. Excellent columns
SECOND PLACE: Commonwealth Journal, Jeff Neal - Excellent column. I like how you blended emotion into the story you were telling. As I said, it was hard to choose 1 st from 2nd place. Good job.
THIRD PLACE: The Daily Independent, Aaron Snyder - I liked the topics you chose to reflect your writing. It was effortless to jump into your story and you showed the humanistic aspect of those you wrote about. It was easy to connect with your subjects.
HONORABLE MENTION: Commonwealth Journal, Chris Harris - You were fun to read and submitted good topics that were thought provoking. Keep it up!

## CATEGORY 7 - BEST SPORTS STORY

FIRST PLACE: The News-Enterprise, Ryan O'Gara - Great reporting on interesting aspect of a rival game. Great use of quotes.
SECOND PLACE: The News-Enterprise, Chuck Jones - Cool story and a great use of quotes.
THIRD PLACE: The Daily Independent, Mark Maynard - Great story on a non-traditional sport. Painted a great picture of something most people don't know much about. HONORABLE MENTION: The Daily Independent, Zack Klemme story.
SECOND PLACE: The News-Enterprise, Josh Claywell - The lede grabbed me with the urgency of the situation, making a classic comeback story really work.
THIRD PLACE: The State Journal, John Minor - I mean, it's a story about a 54-year-old college kicker.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Advocate-Messenger, Jeremy Schneider - Appreciated how this historical moment was captured for current readers.

## CATEGORY 9 - BEST ENTERPRISE OR ANALYTICAL STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Gleaner, Frank Boyett
SECOND PLACE: The Paducah Sun, Genevieve Postlethwait THIRD PLACE: The Gleaner, Frank Boyett
HONORABLE MENTION: The Paducah Sun, David Zoeller

## CATEGORY 10 - BEST INVESTIGATIVE STORY OR SERIES

FIRST PLACE: The Advocate-Messenger, Todd Kleffman - This reporter used solid investigative tools and writing ability to paint a picture of horrifying, tragic fatal abuse that might have been prevented if earlier state abuse investigations had borne fruit. Chilling.
SECOND PLACE: The News-Enterprise, Chuck Jones, Nathaniel Bryan, Josh Claywell, Lawrence Barreca - This newspaper and these journalists are to be commended for the incredible thoroughness of this project, which provided valuable information for athletes and their parents. A great commitment to in-depth work, beautifully executed. Bravo!
THIRD PLACE: The News-Enterprise, Jeff D'Alessio, Gina Clear, Judah Taylor, Anna Taylor - Powerful public service journalism that focuses on an the all-too-prevalent scourge of domestic violence. The series covered many angles, and was more explanatory than classically investigative -- but achieved an admirable result.
HONORABLE MENTION: The State Journal, Brad Bowman - This is a fascinating look at a crime ring that reached deeply into a police department. Many of these stories fall more into the daily-coverage category or it would have ranked higher -- an entry like this is only as strong as its weakest link -- but it's a great tale.

## City may take legal action against state auditor

Girdler, Minton at odds on how much fuel center is involved in auditor's 'examination'

By CaRLA SLAVEY
COMMONWEALTH JOURNAL
In the final minutes or Monday's Som-
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## CATEGORY 11 - BEST ON-GOING/EXTENDED COVERAGE STORY

FIRST PLACE: Commonwealth Journal, Carla Slavey - The newspaper did a really good job following an ever-changing and complicated story. SECOND PLACE: Commonwealth Journal, Staff - This is a model for how to cover a devastating weather event. The public had to feel good about knowing that nearly all aspects of this historic storm were well-covered.
THIRD PLACE: The State Journal, Brent Schanding - Good work on an interesting series of stories that changed the way schools handled free lunches.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Paducah Sun, Lauren Duncan

## CATEGORY 12 - BEST BUSINESS/AGRIBUSINESS STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Gleaner, Chuck Stinnett - This was a tough category. A lot of good writing and reporting, so it was extremely difficult to narrow this down to four entries. And it was hard to pick a favorite. In the end, I thought this story stood out for the way it was told and how each generation of the Neel family was weaved into the story. A great effort in a great category. Congratulations to each entry.
SECOND PLACE: The Paducah Sun, Lauren Duncan - It was tough to put this story in second place because it was so well done. Maybe I'm a sucker for family stories, but I could envision the drive-in, sitting on the hood of a car, and sinking my teeth into one of those cheeseburgers. Sharp writing, good detail and a smooth style put this above all entries except the winning one. Great job.
THIRD PLACE: The Paducah Sun, Lauren Duncan - Another nice job of reporting and writing. It was a toss-up on whether this was second or third, but since it was the same reporter, the decision was a little less difficult. This exhibited the same kind of detail and good reporting as the second-place winner. The top three stories in this category really are the cream of the crop and, in my opinion, easily the best three stories in the category.
HONORABLE MENTION: The State Journal, Brent Schanding, Sam Smith - I really liked the reporting that went into this story. Good details and good use of the material. However, what separated this from being placed higher was the Q-and-A style. To me, it interrupts the flow of a story. I would have preferred a narrative. Use of a Q-and-A works better in a shorter format, preferably as a sidebar. Still, a lot of work went into this, I just thought it fell a bit short.

FIRST PLACE: Kentucky New Era, Staff - Impressive reach and engagement; good variety of posting.
SECOND PLACE: The State Journal, Dylan Buell - Very comprehensive! My main quibble is that it's almost too long ... a lot to get through. Perhaps it would be better to break it up on different games or topics. But great effort.
THIRD PLACE: The Advocate-Messenger, Staff

## CATEGORY 14 - CREATIVE USE OF MULTIMEDIA

FIRST PLACE: The Daily Independent, Ben Nandy, Lana Bellamy - I like how the video was right there in the story, as well as the photo gallery within the story. Very good use of the various multi-
 media components.
SECOND PLACE: Kentucky New Era, Eli Pace - This gallery certainly tells the story. It captured a lot of faces and tells the story without really any words needed. THIRD PLACE: Kentucky New Era, John Godsey - Great use of video and links to story. Covered all the aspects of utilizing multimedia. The video gallery and story were touching and engaging.

CATEGORY 15 - BEST BREAKING NEWS PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: The State Journal, Bobby Ellis - This was a great shot that made me holler "Cool!" the minute I saw it. It's a great breaking news shot and I think the lady standing in the foreground makes it better. Wow, this kid bites and kicks. And the officers look like they have a handful.
SECOND PLACE: The Advocate-Messenger, Clay Jackson - I liked this package as my heart goes out to dogs in distress. It also made me wonder if Dan Turcea is a little bit in over his head. Seriously, the photos capture the seriousness of the situation.
THIRD PLACE: The Advocate-Messenger, Todd Kleffman - What a sad story. I would have run the photo bigger. The only thing I thought was missing from this package was a reaction shot of officers at the scene, but maybe that didn't happen. But the photos reflect the intensity of the day. Nice job.
HONORABLE MENTION: Kentucky New Era, Eli Pace - This photo is the best of both worlds: it's breaking news and yet it made me chuckle. And it made me mutter "Why does she need that chair?" But it's a great shot that captures the moment and adds a bit of humanity. I hope she got home A-OK.

## CATEGORY 16 - BEST GENERAL NEWS PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: The State Journal, Dylan Buell - Great access and moment from a terrible situation. SECOND PLACE: Commonwealth Journal, Steve Cornelius - This is such a tricky photo to get, and the photographer nailed it.
THIRD PLACE: The News-Enterprise, Jill Pickett - Great moment.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Paducah Sun, John Paul Henry - The daily weather features are a must-have and this photographer did a great job.

## CATEGORY 17 - BEST FEATURE PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: The News-Enterprise, Jill Pickett - The photographer caught a real reaction to a subject that is over 40 years old. A fine job.
SECOND PLACE: The Advocate-Messenger, Clay Jackson - Funny and entertaining. Nice, clear face, can almost read the youngsters mind.
THIRD PLACE: The Paducah Sun, John Paul Henry - Composed about as well as can be expected.
HONORABLE MENTION: Kentucky New Era, Melissa Larimore - Nice soft lighting, felt a little posed with the dancers eye contact. Still very nice.

## CATEGORY 18 - BEST PICTURE ESSA (BREAKING, GENERAL OR FEATURE)

FIRST PLACE: The Advocate-Messenger, Clay Jackson - Great colors and angles. Great presentation of tight, medium and wide shots to tell a story.
SECOND PLACE: The State Journal, Bobby Ellis - Great overall shots of mayhem on the highway. One more detail shot would have made it pop off the page a little more.
THIRD PLACE: The News-Enterprise, Jill Pickett - Nice composition.
HONORABLE MENTION: Kentucky New Era, Meredith Willse - The photos showed nice emotion.


FIRST PLACE: The Advocate-Messenger, Clay Jackson - By far the best celebration photograph submitted. The juxtaposition of the defeated UK player walking away from the mob of ecstatic Wisconsin players is perfect. It tells the story of game in a single image. Well done!
SECOND PLACE: Commonwealth Journal, Steve Cornelius - This image captures the most unique action of any entry in the category. The photograph captures the moment at its peak. However, it needs a better crop. The action is fantastic, but too much dead space was left around it. A tighter crop would improved the focus on the action immensely.
THIRD PLACE: The State Journal, Dylan Buell - A solid frame. Powerful emotion well-captured. All the other players seemed dwarfed by his prowess in this moment. The net has not yet settled and the dunked ball is still positioned nicely in the image.
HONORABLE MENTION: Commonwealth Journal, Steve Cornelius - Good job recognizing a genuine, fun moment and capturing it. The selfie is pervasive in all facets of society anymore and its representation in news events shouldn't be overlooked.

## CATEGORY 20 - BEST SPORTS PICTURE ESSAY

FIRST PLACE: The Advocate-Messenger, Clay Jackson SECOND PLACE: The Advocate-Messenger, Clay Jackson THIRD PLACE: Commonwealth Journal, Steve Cornelius HONORABLE MENTION: Commonwealth Journal, Steve Cornelius


## CATEGORY 21 - BEST SPECIAL SECTION

FIRST PLACE: The News-Enterprise, Staff - This is a priceless piece of history, meticulously crafted and endlessly readable. The combat photographer's images alone are worth the price of admission. Can't think of a negative thing to say about it - outstanding job.
SECOND PLACE: The Paducah Sun, Staff - Really well done - hard to believe this is a "local" product, even though Paducah is a regionally significant community. Elegant design, strong photography, interesting content and theme.
THIRD PLACE: The Daily Independent, Adam VanKirk, Mark Maynard - Really difficult to choose between the two Ashland entries, but the river theme made this one stand out. I'll bet every reader discovered at least one thing he or she didn't know about their community/region in this section, and that raises it above the level of standard "progress edition" boosterism. Great plan, great execution.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Daily Independent, Adam VanKirk, Mark Maynard - Can't let this section go without some recognition. The content is more similar to other sections of this type, but many of the stories - and their illustrations - are compelling and the design is strong.


## LANDFILL TIMELINE



## CATEGORY 22 - BEST GRAPHIC

FIRST PLACE: The Daily Independent, Adam VanKirk - Does just what I hope a graphic will do, visually tells the story quickly and leads me through it. I understand the problem and history without touching the story. Only criticism is that the graphics themselves could be a little crisper, which is a product of color palette choices and style. Good communication. Good storytelling. Graphic is layered and works with other story components.
SECOND PLACE: The News-Enterprise, Justin Shartzer - Not crazy about using a fever chart when the numbers are so low, but visually the package works. Also not sure why coroner names were included instead of, say, personal details about victims: "Student at KU, survived by a young son" or whatever. Has the homicide feel and quickly communicates details and diversity of the cases and their status. Visually engaging.
THIRD PLACE: The News-Enterprise, Melissa Vessels - Creative way to quickly give me a lot of facts and concepts about domestic violence. Does exactly what I hope a graphic will do: capture my attention and communicate quickly and clearly. Nice work.
HONORABLE MENTION: The News-Enterprise, Melissa Vessels - Very nicely executed, clean graphic. Lot of space devoted to a map that seemed a bit of a tangent to the story and that it took some concentration to understand its significance. Graphics need to communicate instantly, not just rely on a headline. Map of his movement was also clean, but needed something to tip reader that there was a sequence of movement. Technically very impressive, but work to make items more intuitive. Mad skills.

## CATEGORY 23 - BEST SPORTS PAGE/SECTION

FIRST PLACE: The News-Enterprise, Chuck Jones - Well designed section. The artistic approach does not overshadow the content; instead, it helps accentuate it.
SECOND PLACE: Kentucky New Era, Jesse Jones - The presentation of the athlete stories is well done. I'm not usually a fan of stylistic headlines, but these work and help add to the presentation.
THIRD PLACE: Commonwealth Journal, Steve Cornelius - Love the approach taken to presentation. Stories that need to be played up are certainly played up. But stories that aren't as important still get the appropriate play.
HONORABLE MENTION: The News-Enterprise, Chuck Jones - Good design, although some of it doesn't work.

FIRST PLACE: The News-Enterprise, Chuck Jones, Nathaniel Bryan, Josh Claywell, Ryan O'Gara - Attractively designed section to recap the previous week's prep football action. If I had to wait a day to read about the Friday night games, this is probably how I would want to do it - no doubt this is a section that local prep football fans look forward to each week. All the info is there and there's ample space devoted to photos, as well. Nicely done.
SECOND PLACE: The Daily Independent, Aaron Snyder, Zack Klemme, Rocky Stanley, Adam VanKirk - An interesting cover theme that pulls reader into a section with lots of good content with a magazine feel. Lots of good info in outbox format, although sometimes it feels a bit cramped. Modular ad stacks would help with the overall design.
THIRD PLACE: The News-Enterprise, Chuck Jones, Nathaniel Bryan, Josh Claywell, Ryan O'Gara - Like the cover illustration and organization that doesn't make me jump repeatedly from page to page. Offers authoritative and frank analysis of the teams' prospects for the new season, although the switch to agate type when ads appear was noticeable. Interesting cover story as well - felt compelled to look up how E'town's girls team finished. Was kind of disappointed they lost in the quarters at state. A good section.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Advocate-Messenger, Staff, Jeremy Schneider - What this entry lacks in page count it makes up for in organization and a fun theme. Would have liked to see team rosters.

## CATEGORY 25 - BEST LIFESTYLE PAGE

FIRST PLACE: The State Journal, Brent Schanding - Layout is fantastic and eye catching. The insets of people to their houses and cutouts of the teen board are visually appealing. The one wheel wonder also uses quotes, great pictures and tips as a breakout. Nicely done !!
SECOND PLACE: The News-Enterprise, Melissa Vessels - Great visuals and use of color. Lay out is catching and pictures tell the story. Clean and crisp layout and really captures the interest of a reader.
THIRD PLACE: Kentucky New Era, Melissa Larimore - Skyboxes are nicely done as is the layout of the page. The layout is visually appealing and captures the essence of the pictures and stories.

## CATEGORY 26 - BEST EDITORIAL PAGE

FIRST PLACE: The News-Enterprise, Ben Sheroan - Design makes the page easy to enter. Lots of local content, voices. SECOND PLACE: Commonwealth Journal, Jeff Neal
THIRD PLACE: Kentucky New Era, Jennifer P. Brown

## CATEGORY 27 - BEST FRONT PAGE

FIRST PLACE: The Daily Independent, Adam VanKirk - While a number of entries in this category may have had more bells and whistles, VanKirk's front pages stood out because of their simple elegance and ability to let a big story carry the page. Particularly effective is VanKirk's graphic on the Big Run Landfill, which is both informative and eye catching. News copy is well written and edited.
SECOND PLACE: The News-Enterprise, Melissa Vessels - The "Building Momentum" front/back page double truck was the strongest package presentation among the entries. Wow! The "Out of the Darkness" series package gave an appropriately stark feel. News copy was just a notch below other top entries in the category.
THIRD PLACE: The News-Enterprise, David Stith - Many entries included front pages of late-winter snowstorms, but none were presented as effectively as Stith's "March Enters heartland Like a Lion." Left-rail ruler used as a measuring stick of area snowfalls is a really creative way to illustrate the storm's impact.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Daily Independent, Adam VanKirk

## CATEGORY 28 - BEST HEADLINE

FIRST PLACE: Commonwealth Journal, Chris Harris - Clever and effective headline that captures the story and entices the reader to go further.
SECOND PLACE: The News-Enterprise, Ben Sheroan - Clear, clean, concise. Extra points for the fact the headlines involve space constraints that can make it difficult to write effective headlines.
THIRD PLACE: Commonwealth Journal, Ken Shmidheiser - Clever without sacrificing the news element of the headlines' purpose.

## DAILY CLASS 3

## CATEGORY 1 - BEST EDITORIAL

FIRST PLACE: Lexington Herald-Leader, Jamie Lucke - The voice of the writing is very immediate. It has a nice drumbeat quality that gets right to the point and hammers away at it until the punchy end.
SECOND PLACE: Lexington Herald-Leader, Jacalyn Carfagno
THIRD PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Neil Budde

FIRST PLACE: Lexington Herald-Leader, Staff - Excellent wall-to-wall coverage, reflecting the magnitude of the storm. Solid writing and reporting makes this the top of a crowded field.
SECOND PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Chris Kenning, Matt Glowicki - Well done.
THIRD PLACE: The Courier-Journal, James Bruggers, Allison Ross - Very solid entry.
HONORABLE MENTION: Lexington Herald-Leader, Bill Estep, Jim Warren

## CATEGORY 3 - BEST GENERAL NEWS STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Phillip Bailey - Great personal interviews combined with hard data. This one of the best stories from all of Kentucky.
SECOND PLACE: Kentucky Enquirer, Terry DeMio - Wow. Great job on capturing all the nuances in a complex story.
THIRD PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Mike Wynn - It was hard to re-read all the Kim Davis stories with fresh eyes so soon, but this story sang. "Make cornbread, not war" is completely unforgettable.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Courier-Journal, Jeffrey Lee Puckett - Loved this story.
BATTERED AND BURIED
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## CATEGORY 4 - BEST FEATURE STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Chris Kenning - Scene-setting lede is what edged this to first place in an incredibly talented category. History and facts were seamlessly woven into the narrative this writer masterfully set up.
SECOND PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Matt Glowicki - Excellent writing on what could have been a difficult topic. The writer's masterful storytelling ability makes this a compelling read.
THIRD PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Chris Kenning - Nuanced narrative and concise, crisp writing conveys this child's nightmarish journey toward (hopefully) a better life in America. Excellent work.
HONORABLE MENTION: Lexington Herald-Leader, Greg Kocher - What could have been just a routine story about a common event - a family getting a Habitat home - instead was an intimate portrait of the love this family of two shares. It's clear the reporter was invested to accurately portray the struggles this family has encountered, and the brighter future they were headed toward with this new house.

## CATEGORY 5 - BEST COLUMN

FIRST PLACE: Lexington Herald-Leader, Paul Prather - Faith, reason, wisdom, news: That's a busy intersection. Yet Prather skillfully directs the daily traffic of ideas and emotions. His column gives readers a lens of fairness and morality through which they can make sense of issues. A very good column up against very good competition.
SECOND PLACE: Lexington Herald-Leader, Tom Eblen - Good columns in a competitive category. Writing reflects good reporting and research. The Elinor Grace Cook was especially strong, reflecting Eblen's deep knowledge of his city.
THIRD PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Joe Gerth - Again, more good columns up against other good columns. Good reporting and research.
HONORABLE MENTION: Lexington Herald-Leader, Merlene Davis - Good work writing about the underserved. Important to keep issues of poverty and opportunity in front of readers. Reporting such as this often leads the privileged to action.

## CATEGORY 6 - BEST SPORTS COLUMN

FIRST PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Tim Sullivan - Lots of good columns in this category. Enjoyed the nuance and detail in these columns most.
SECOND PLACE: Lexington Herald-Leader, John Clay - Comparing later-in-life appreciation for UCLA basketball and Led Zeppelin was an interesting angle. A strong entry. THIRD PLACE: Lexington Herald-Leader, Mark Story - Enjoyed the writer's knack for finding angles and takes that were a little different than the typical sports column.


## CATEGORY 7 - BEST SPORTS STORY

FIRST PLACE: Kentucky Enquirer, James Pilcher - An incredibly detailed report. It brought to light an old controversy with new and enticing details that made it jump from the sports page for good reason.
SECOND PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Jason Frakes - The lead was a fabulous way to introduce this touching Cinderella story of football. It read well from beginning to end.
THIRD PLACE: Bowling Green Daily News, Zach Greenwell - A strong lead with great detail about the text message, which was woven nicely into the rest of the story.
HONORABLE MENTION: Lexington Herald-Leader, Alicia Wincze Hughes - Great detail giving on the spectators and how American Pharoah moved around the track.

FIRST PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Tim Sullivan - Well sourced and nicely written story on this tragic event. Story has many angles, twists and turns and Mr. Sullivan weaves them together effortlessly. That said, it's also a story that needed to be brought out into the open and told. I'm glad he did.
SECOND PLACE: Lexington Herald-Leader, Jennifer Smith - A one of a kind story that you just couldn't put down. Ms. Smith made me feel like I was there every step of the way. True, it was an amazing story to tell, but she put the work in to make it really special.
THIRD PLACE: Bowling Green Daily News, Zach Greenwell - Beautiful profile of this player and how she got to the level she has achieved. Well sourced too.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Courier-Journal, Kyle Tucker - A great story about a great young man. It shows there's more to college athletics than what happens on the court or playing field. Thanks for sharing it with your readers!

## CATEGORY 9 - BEST ENTERPRISE OR ANALYTICAL STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Chris Kenning- Clear winner in a strong field. Transports the reader, uncomfortably, right into the community and the problem. Nicely weaves personal accounts with information.
SECOND PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Kristina Goetz
THIRD PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Steve Jones, Adam Himmelsbach
HONORABLE MENTION: Lexington Herald-Leader, Linda Blackford - Good watchdog reporting.

## CATEGORY 10 - BEST INVESTIGATIVE STORY OR SERIES

FIRST PLACE: Lexington Herald-Leader, Beth Musgrave - A standout package among a lot of heavy hitters in the category. Thorough, thoughtful writing.
SECOND PLACE: Lexington Herald-Leader, John Cheves, Linda Blackford, Bill Estep, Valarie Honeycutt Spears Exhaustive, in-the-trenches reporting brings the series to life for readers. The kind of hard-hitting look into issues that keeps newspapers relevant.
THIRD PLACE: Bowling Green Daily News, Katie Brandenburg - Painstaking research is clear, evident in the fact the article managed to catch the attention of state auditors, who began their own investigation.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Courier-Journal, James Bruggers

## CATEGORY 11 - BEST ON-GOING/EXTENDED COVERAGE STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Laura Ungar - Great job dissecting a complicated issue and making it reader-friendly. SECOND PLACE: Lexington Herald-Leader, Bill Estep
THIRD PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Mike Wynn, Andrew Wolfson, Chris Kenning, Phillip Bailey
HONORABLE MENTION: Lexington Herald-Leader, Valarie Honeycutt Spears

## CATEGORY 12 - BEST BUSINESS/AGRIBUSINESS STORY

FIRST PLACE: Bowling Green Daily News, Charles A. Mason - Good story on a very unique subject.
SECOND PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Jere Downs - This was great, and I enjoyed the anecdotes of Col. Sanders' life. Really well done. THIRD PLACE: Lexington Herald-Leader, Tom Eblen - Great story about four friends and a mansion renovation. This was a challenging category to judge.
HONORABLE MENTION: Bowling Green Daily News, Robyn Minor - Very well-written. Including the social media aspect made this story shine.

CATEGORY 13 - BEST USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

FIRST PLACE: Bowling Green Daily News, Joe Imel - Very informative and entertaining Twitter account. I can tell you're an authority on your subject in the region with how many people reach out to you with news tips. Your account is a great way to get news tips and a nice way to handle news that is important to people but perhaps doesn't need to be a full-blown story.
SECOND PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Staff - A great mix of elements ranging from photos to tweets to the front page of the print edition. A nice way to get readers engaged and involved in the story, while also bringing them important information. THIRD PLACE: Lexington Herald-Leader, Brian Simms, Ron Garrison - Nice work bringing followers important news quickly. Following it made me feel like I was there. Great use of multiple media as well - photos, videos and text.
HONORABLE MENTION: Lexington Herald-Leader, Staff - What a fun way to bring past news to followers. I love that it appeals to both older readers with its history and millennials by using the Twitter format.

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BGPD looking for a temale that was last seen on Main St. chanting and spprinkling something on the caller's lawn. BGPD familiar with her.

FIRST PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Staff - This interactive graphic was very informative and very easy to understand and use. With each click of a school, everything I would want to know about the changes at the school was at my fingertips. Very useful and a great way to present the school changes to your readers
SECOND PLACE: Lexington Herald-Leader, Jonathan Palmer - The video was well planned and well produced. It allows the viewer to easily follow the 31-0 season the Wildcats had. The music used helped to build a sense of a climax toward the 31st victory.
THIRD PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Chris Feldmann - This was a great alternative form of storytelling. The interactives and the animated video were well thought out and well produced. A great way to tell the story.
HONORABLE MENTION: Lexington Herald-Leader, Chris Ware, Mat Graf, Dennis Varney - A nice presentation of Kentucky's 31-0 season. It provided a nice recap of each game. Using the jerseys as the entry point to the package was very clever. It was easy to pick and choose any game I wanted to see.

## CATEGORY 15 - BEST BREAKING NEWS PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Scott Utterback - What a great, great shot that tugs at the heartstrings and conjures up anger. I'm hurt seeing what the kids are going through and mad for the same reason. Nice job of capturing the moment. I feel I am very close to the scene, almost among those being escorted out.
SECOND PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Pat McDonogh - Oof, what a mess! That is quite some snowstorm and a great shot capturing its impact. I get cold just looking at the shot. It's a wonderful job of framing a shot. Nice work.
THIRD PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Michael Clevenger - This fire really fills up the skyline. What a dramatic day for the area. I really like it cause it captures the vastness of the blaze. I think it really captures the drama of the moment.
HONORABLE MENTION: Lexington Herald-Leader, Pablo Alcala - There's breaking news and then there's breaking news that makes you smile. I like this shot as it captures an unusual moment. It's a nice job by the photographer of being in the right place at the right time. I would think that readers grinned to themselves as they saw this shot in their morning paper.


## CATEGORY 16 - BEST GENERAL NEWS PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: Bowling Green Daily News, Bac To Trong - I love the everyday feel of this photo - the way it tells the story of these young girls, just being girls. SECOND PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Alton Strupp - A historic photo, very well executed.
THIRD PLACE: Lexington Herald-Leader, Charles Bertram - A great angle.
HONORABLE MENTION: Bowling Green Daily News, Miranda Pederson - A really great moment captured.


## CATEGORY 17 - BEST FEATURE PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: Lexington Herald-Leader, Tom Eblen - Wonderful expression on the young lady. Can feel the "g-forces" from here!
SECOND PLACE: Bowling Green Daily News, Bac To Trong - Beautifully lit and technically perfect. Dogs are cute too. THIRD PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Alton Strupp - The photographer found a great space for the shoot and used it well. HONORABLE MENTION: The Courier-Journal, David Harrison - A great image for the subject matter.

## CATEGORY 18 - BEST PICTURE ESSA (BREAKING, GENERAL OR FEATURE)

FIRST PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Matt Stone - Some nice shots. Good choice for lead image. Images held together. SECOND PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Pat McDonogh - Solid work. "Classic" feel didn't come through like it could and not sure portrait was best choice for lead art.
THIRD PLACE: Lexington Herald-Leader, Charles Bertram - Some nice shots collected. Not really telling me a story or showing me much I haven't seen before, but journeyman work that I'm sure readers loved.
HONORABLE MENTION: Bowling Green Daily News, Miranda Pederson - Really isn't a photo essay. No variety or real insight offered, and several redundant images of people and cages from predictable angles. Strength of lead image carried the package and pretty much told the story on its own.

## CATEGORY 19 - BEST SPORTS PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Michael Clevenger - Amazing moment.
SECOND PLACE: Bowling Green Daily News, Miranda Pederson - Great that the photographer held onto the action in the photo.
THIRD PLACE: Bowling Green Daily News, Bac To Trong - Great, jubilant moment.
HONORABLE MENTION: Lexington Herald-Leader, Charles Bertram - Great high angle.

FIRST PLACE: Bowling Green Daily News, Bac To Trong SECOND PLACE: Lexington Herald-Leader, Charles Bertram THIRD PLACE: Bowling Green Daily News, Austin Anthony HONORABLE MENTION: The Courier-Journal, Alton Strupp

## CATEGORY 21 - BEST SPECIAL SECTION

FIRST PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Kyle Slagle - Beautifully put together section with interesting comment, great art and a pleasing layout.
SECOND PLACE: Lexington Herald-Leader, Brian Simms, John Stamper, Chris Ware - Love the grids for candidates. This is an idea we've used at our paper, and these are flawlessly done.
THIRD PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Staff - Interesting content, pleasing and clean layout and good art makes this section sing.
HONORABLE MENTION: Lexington Herald-Leader, Jared Peck, Ron Garrison, Mark Sonka - A terrific way to capture the history of a big part of the community.

## CATEGORY 22 - BEST GRAPHIC

FIRST PLACE: Lexington Herald-Leader, John Stamper, Chris Ware, Brian Simms - Draws the reader in through artistic and detailed style.
SECOND PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Clay Sisk - A unique approach to visually telling a story that would be seemingly difficult to capture. Sets the tone quickly for the article and clearly illustrates subject.
THIRD PLACE: Lexington Herald-Leader, Dennis Varney, Mat Graf, Chris Ware, Brian Simms

## CATEGORY 23 - BEST SPORTS PAGE/SECTION

FIRST PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Tom Fox - Well designed pages. They capture exactly what a reader wants to see and

 despite being a big presentation, they don't feel overpowering.
SECOND PLACE: Lexington Herald-Leader, Dennis Varney - Well presented pages. Love the big and emotional art. These pages took some planning to put together and it was executed beautifully.
THIRD PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Andrew Scheiderich - These pages are wonderfully presented and excellently executed.
HONORABLE MENTION: Bowling Green Daily News, Rob Herbst - It's clear these pages took some planning to put together.


## CATEGORY 24 - BEST SPORTS SPECIAL SECTION

FIRST PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Staff
SECOND PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Kyle Slagle
THIRD PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Kyle Slagle
HONORABLE MENTION: Lexington Herald-Leader, Dennis Varney, Brian Simms, Mat Graf

## CATEGORY 25 - BEST LIFESTYLE PAGE

FIRST PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Brian Gray - Great use of art to tell a story.
SECOND PLACE: Bowling Green Daily News, Scotty Hyde - The photo of the teacher looking out the window with her students was very impactful.
THIRD PLACE: Bowling Green Daily News, Crystal Akers - Layout drew you in along with the stunning photography.
HONORABLE MENTION: Bowling Green Daily News, Scotty Hyde - Great headline with tiny house story. Lay out was strong.

## CATEGORY 26 - BEST EDITORIAL PAGE

FIRST PLACE: Lexington Herald-Leader, Staff - Great opportunity for engagement, love to see project work out of the Opinion page, nice diversity of content.
SECOND PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Staff
THIRD PLACE: Bowling Green Daily News, Eugene Embry

FIRST PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Catherine Pomiecko - Wow. That's about the only thing I can say about the depth and quality of this category. There is some absolutely spectacular work displayed in all of the entrants in this category. Truly impressive. For me, the winning entry distinguished itself largely on two stunning photos. One, the line of traffic snowbound on I-65, and two, the GE fire. Great work, enhanced by clean design and buttressed with strong stories. The content on all three fronts was entirely local. The reporting and writing was excellent. In an extremely strong category, I think this entry was a clear winner.
SECOND PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Kyle Slagle - The smallest of things kept this from being the top in the category. The cover with American Pharoah may have been the best single page in the category. I just felt that overall, the winner was a bit more consistent in design and had stronger overall photos. The writing in the article, "Senseless," was strong, painting a vivid word picture to go with the dominant cover photo. Great work.
THIRD PLACE: Bowling Green Daily News, Eugene Embry - A trio of strong pages. Good coverage of the snowstorm. Really liked the lead photo with it. Also thought the photo with the Corvette museum story really popped off the page. Good story on the Western Kentucky University funding cuts. Reading these three pages, it seems to me the Daily News is serving its customers well.
HONORABLE MENTION: Lexington Herald-Leader, Brian Simms - Lots of things to like about these pages. Solid work on all pages, however, nothing really popped off the page at me. The photos and story on the new home on Thanksgiving was well done. Also liked the point and graphic of the Kentucky bourbon story. I did think there was some overuse of bright reds and blues that sometimes distracted me from other page elements. Still, an incredibly effective presentation. Honorable mention in this category really means something. A lot of excellent work didn't even get that.


## CATEGORY 28 - BEST HEADLINE

FIRST PLACE: Lexington Herald-Leader, Franklin Renfro - How can you not want to read a story that has SPAM, vultures and vomit in the headlines? All of these headlines were creative without being punny. Nice work!
SECOND PLACE: The Courier-Journal, Kathryn Gregory - I like how this headline works on multiple levels. It definitely gets you interested in the story. The design is great, too. THIRD PLACE: Bowling Green Daily News, Crystal Akers - These headlines made me smile. I thought they were great plays on words. My favorite was "Fan's best friend." My only criticism is that they are all a little punny, which runs the risk of growing tiresome.
HONORABLE MENTION: Bowling Green Daily News, Scotty Hyde - I thought "The beat goes on" headline was incredibly creative. Great work.

## ASSOCIATE NEWSPAPERS

## Marijuana stance draws strong reaction













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## CATEGORY 1 - BEST EDITORIAL

FIRST PLACE: Western Recorder, Todd Deaton
SECOND PLACE: Western Recorder, Todd Deaton

## CATEGORY 2 - BEST BREAKING NEWS COVERAGE

FIRST PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Megan Locke Simpson
SECOND PLACE: Florence Recorder, Nancy Daly
THIRD PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Megan Locke Simpson, Amy Newcomb

## CATEGORY 3 - BEST GENERAL NEWS STORY

FIRST PLACE: Floyd County Chronicle, Mary Meadows - Easy to read, balanced piece. It's clear a lot of reporting went into this. SECOND PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Megan Locke Simpson - Solid writing, organized well. Would have benefited from quotes from those at the listening session.
THIRD PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Mari-Alice Jasper - Loved the descriptive lede. The story was also packed with info in an easy-to-read way.
HONORABLE MENTION: South Kenton Recorder, Melissa Stewart - Initially, the lede didn't work for me, but I grew to appreciate it and what the reporter was going for. The details the reporter included about the almost empty office scored points from me, as did the number of sources.

## CATEGORY 4 - BEST FEATURE STORY

FIRST PLACE: South Kenton Recorder, Melissa Stewart - This is a well-crafted story with a gripping lead that grabs the reader's attention right away. SECOND PLACE: The Eagle Post, David Snow - This story was not long, but truly lively as the writer takes us from doorway to table to surprise. Nicely done.
THIRD PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Amy Newcomb - Although the subject is fairly mundane, the writer does a nice job of drawing us into the training and support of community firefighters. HONORABLE MENTION: Gold Standard, Rachael Tolliver - I enjoyed this story very much. A bit long, but interesting read. (Headline has a punctuation error, a serious matter for a lead story.)


## CATEGORY 5 - BEST COLUMN

FIRST PLACE: Gold Standard, Rachael Tolliver - These columns are personal and personable. Rachael's piece about her mother and dementia was moving. The travel/activity stories were surprises since we don't typically see those topics in contests. Yet, I found both pieces fun and readable. I'm interested in visiting.
SECOND PLACE: The Eagle Post, David Snow - All good entries. The column about listening to baseball games with his father is an especially good read. A good reminder for all dads.
THIRD PLACE: Gold Standard, Catrina Francis - Good topical entries. Good to see a local sports columnist taking on national issues.

## CATEGORY 6 - BEST SPORTS COLUMN

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT: The Eagle Post, Adam May

## CATEGORY 7 - BEST SPORTS STORY

FIRST PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Amy Newcomb - A standout entry with a good lead, descriptive writing, touch of history and effective use of quotes. A true home run!
SECOND PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Mari-Alice Jasper - Thanks for the ride on the bus. A good start to a nice story and it got better as we read. Interviews with kids is what the story is all about. Nice job.
THIRD PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Mari-Alice Jasper - Well told story about coaching problem. Tighter lead would have helped but loved the fact there were three sources quoted. Could have played up the role model angle right from the get go show the reward of coaching
HONORABLE MENTION: Fort Campbell Courier, Megan Locke Simpson - This report shows that not all golf stories having to be boring. Thorough.

## CATEGORY 8 - BEST SPORTS FEATURE STORY

FIRST PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Megan Locke Simpson - Edged the rest due to thorough reporting, multiple sources and a story with broad community appeal.
SECOND PLACE: The Eagle Post, Adam May - Nice tight story about a local boy getting his 5 minutes of fame on sports' biggest day. Good effort in tracking down the subject and using effective quotes. A good read.
THIRD PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Amy Newcomb - A good feature needing a stronger teaser lead...First Lt. Nicholas Bundy keeps defying the odds....then explain. Insightful interview worth reading.
HONORABLE MENTION: Fort Campbell Courier, Heather Huber

## CATEGORY 9 - BEST ENTERPRISE OR ANALYTICAL STORY

FIRST PLACE: Floyd County Chronicle, Mary Meadows - Well researched with a level of detail far ahead of other entries.
SECOND PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Michele Vowell
THIRD PLACE: Western Recorder, Myriah Snyder
HONORABLE MENTION: Fort Campbell Courier, Megan Locke Simpson

## CATEGORY 10 - BEST INVESTIGATIVE STORY OR SERIES

FIRST PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Amy Newcomb - I liked the look at different aspects of the police force, each with a specific focus. The depth of the stories really allowed me to understand the people involved.
SECOND PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Staff - A great focus on a service that might otherwise go unnoticed. I liked how each story was an interview with a different person.
THIRD PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Heather Huber, Amy Newcomb - At first I wasn't sure what the connection was between the first story and the two others. Overall well written and factual.

## CATEGORY 11 - BEST ON-GOING/EXTENDED COVERAGE STORY

FIRST PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Megan Locke Simpson, Michele Vowell - I really liked the stories behind the boots. It was a great personal touch to a series of stories leading up to the ultimate event.
SECOND PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Michele Vowell, Megan Locke Simpson - This series did a good job explaining the solar array project from start to finish. THIRD PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Heather Clark - Good comprehensive coverage of a program's launch to first graduating class.

FIRST PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Megan Locke Simpson - Informative story about a local fitness studio that gives readers a good idea of what the business has to offer. Very thorough.
SECOND PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Megan Locke Simpson - Another solid story from this reporter. She does a good job letting readers know about the business and what it offers.

## CATEGORY 13 - BEST USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT: Fort Campbell Courier, Staff

## CATEGORY 14 - CREATIVE USE OF MULTIMEDIA - No entries



## CATEGORY 15 - BEST BREAKING NEWS PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: Florence Recorder, Nancy Daly - Poignant with the Ronald McDonald looking over the demolished ruins of his restaurant. Great choice. It would have been nice to have seen this picture given the space it deserves.
SECOND PLACE: The Eagle Post, John Godsey - You can feel the fireman's helplessness. Having a person in the photo helps with perspective.
THIRD PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Amy Newcomb - This image would have been helped if there had been a person or two in the foreground surveying the damage.

## CATEGORY 16 - BEST GENERAL NEWS PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Amy Newcomb - Photographer was in the right place at the right time to capture the action at its peak. Viewers feel the soldier is coming right at them.
SECOND PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Heather Huber - Photographer catches the excitement. Viewers see right away what is going on.
THIRD PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Heather Huber - One thinks of Lincoln as a serious man, but this photo captures another side of him. The photographer captures the man playing Lincoln a little off balance as he walks on the line.
HONORABLE MENTION: Fort Campbell Courier, Michele Vowell - I would have moved to the end of the line of boots on the left, and looked down the line of boots toward the mother. Or else cropped the photo to just the mother and the one pair of boots.

## CATEGORY 17 - BEST FEATURE PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Heather Clark - Great use of depth of field to isolate the frozen peak action and the alternating black and yellow pattern of the obstacles adds punch to the image and helps draw the eye to the subject.
SECOND PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Megan Locke Simpson - Clean, well composed 'decisive moment' image.
THIRD PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Heather Huber - Good, sharp concert image with nice use of backlighting. Microphone and shoulder of bandmate jutting from left add distraction to an otherwise clean composition. HONORABLE MENTION: Floyd County Chronicle, Mary Meadows - Wonderful expression and nice use of depth of field. Cropped just a bit tight on top of the head.

## CATEGORY 18 - BEST PICTURE ESSA (BREAKING, GENERAL OR FEATURE)

FIRST PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Megan Locke Simpson - Very powerful pictures. Words aren't necessary to tell the story.
SECOND PLACE: Gold Standard, Rachael Tolliver - Good photos that tell a story, but the headline on the page distracts.
THIRD PLACE: Community Recorder, Nancy Daly - This would have been better if the top right photo were more dominant on the page. Otherwise, the photos tell the story. HONORABLE MENTION: Fort Campbell Courier, Heather Clark - If the photos had been located at the top of the page, this entry may have scored higher. Who wants to read about the singer before they can look at pictures of women dressed like rockstars?

## CATEGORY 19 - BEST SPORTS PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Megan Locke Simpson
SECOND PLACE: Floyd County Chronicle, Cory Vance THIRD PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Heather Huber HONORABLE MENTION: Fort Campbell Courier, Heather Clark

FIRST PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Heather Clark - Not a single entry in this category quite measured up to what I would consider a complete sports photo essay. I would describe the entries I reviewed as sequences of sports action photos...not in anyway different than your typical collection of game-play action photos. Do action shots tell a story? Yes, albeit a very basic one. A sports photo essay should not only portray the action, but other elements of the the athlete's experience. I want to see the athlete(s) before and after the game, on and off the field. Images that tell me a little about the person. Do they have a unique pregame ritual? How do they handle pressure? What are they doing during a timeout? Do they step away for a quiet moment alone in their own corner of the locker room, or do the seek the encouragement of a group pep talk? What's the expression on their face after a win or a lose? Where's that trophy they earned? I saw plenty of well-executed and technically-correct action shots, such the ones featured in your submission. But therein also lies the weakness - they are almost entirely action shots. I chose you as a winner because you did include at least one frame that was outside of the action. The wrestling sequence does have a clear beginning middle and end. Wrestlers shake hands to start, then they wrestle, and then the third frame shows the aftermath, in this case an injury. The best stories have lots of emotion. Admittedly, this is very difficult to capture. It's a task that will require a certain degree of rapport with your subjects, but the results will be very rewarding. Seek that in your sports photo essays going forward. After seeing such similarity among the entries, I realize my definition of a sports photo essay probably differs from some photographers' understanding of the term, but getting shots outside of strictly game-play action is the only way to set it apart from just that - a sequence of action shots.
SECOND PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Heather Huber - Not a single entry in this category quite measured up to what I would consider a complete sports photo essay. I would describe the entries I reviewed as sequences of sports action photos...not in anyway different than your typical collection of game-play action photos. Do action shots tell a story? Yes, albeit a very basic one. A sports photo essay should not only portray the action, but other elements of the the athlete's experience. I want to see the athlete(s) before and after the game/event, on and off the field. Images that tell me a little about the person. Do they have a unique pregame ritual? How do they handle pressure? What are they doing during a timeout? Do they step away for a quiet moment alone in their own corner of the locker room, or do the seek the encouragement of a group pep talk? What's the expression on their face after a win or a lose? Where's that trophy they earned? I saw plenty of well-executed and technically-correct action shots, such the ones featured in your submission. But therein also lies the weakness - they are almost entirely action shots. I chose you as a winner because you did include at least one frame that was outside of the action. You do have the frame of the woman carrying her boy over her shoulder, which is very good. (I only would have cropped it some more. I want to their smiles to stand out!) They appear to be getting in some laughes and are clearly having a good time. That reveals to me the character of the event. The best stories have lots of emotion. Admittedly, this is very difficult to capture. It's a task that will require a certain degree of rapport with your subjects, but the results will be very rewarding. Seek that in your sports photo essays going forward. After seeing such similarity among the entries, I realize my definition of a sports photo essay probably differs from some photographers' understanding of the term, but getting shots outside of strictly game-play action is the only way to set it apart from just that - a sequence of action shots. THIRD PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Megan Locke Simpson - Not a single entry in this category quite measured up to what I would consider a complete sports photo essay. I would describe the entries I reviewed as sequences of sports action photos...not in anyway different than your typical collection of game-play action photos. Do action shots tell a story? Yes, albeit a very basic one. A sports photo essay should not only portray the action, but other elements of the the athlete's experience. I want to see the athlete(s) before and after the game/event, on and off the field. Images that tell me a little about the person. Do they have a unique pregame ritual? How do they handle pressure? What are they doing during a timeout? Do they step away for a quiet moment alone in their own corner of the locker room, or do the seek the encouragement of a group pep talk? What's the expression on their face after a win or a lose? Where's that trophy they earned? I saw plenty of well-executed and technically-correct action shots, such the ones featured in your submission. But therein also lies the weakness - they are almost entirely action shots. I chose you as a winner because you did include at least one frame that was outside of the action. You do show the fella with his trophy at the end, which ties it up nicely. Now out of those other photos, I wanted maybe two more showing something not strictly of a golf swing. The best stories have lots of emotion. Admittedly, this is very difficult to capture. It's a task that will require a certain degree of rapport with your subjects, but the results will be very rewarding. Seek that in your sports photo essays going forward. After seeing such similarity among the entries, I realize my definition of a sports photo essay probably differs from some photographers' understanding of the term, but getting shots outside of strictly game-play action is the only way to set it apart from just that - a sequence of action shots.

## CATEGORY 21 - BEST SPECIAL SECTION

FIRST PLACE: Gold Standard, Staff, Catrina Francis, Capt. Jo Smoke, Rachael Tolliver - Far and away the cream of the entries in this class. Breadth of information is impressive. Well written, nice photos and laid out nicely.
SECOND PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Michele Vowell - Very reader-oriented section. Lots of good information and "news you can use" type of stories.
THIRD PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Michele Vowell, Brendalyn Carpente - Nicely done. I especially liked the use of the map to direct readers to various activities and functions.
HONORABLE MENTION: Fort Campbell Courier, Staff - This is a fairly impressive section but I found the layout and advertising stronger than the writing. According to rules we should be looking for the opposite, so the challenge is to work on writing and photography for the future.

## CATEGORY 22 - BEST GRAPHIC

FIRST PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Mari-Alice Jasper - Great visuals with the pie chart and trash bags. Made the information easy to understand told a story without making readers read a ton of words.
SECOND PLACE: Floyd County Chronicle, Cory Vance - The large graphic was nice, but I would have loved to see more details with graphics relating to numerical data in the story.

FIRST PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Heather Huber - The Ft. Campbell Courier takes first, second and third on the strength of great photos, effective layouts, use of color and a very diverse and interesting sports community. To improve I'd focus on getting more life into headlines and limiting the 40 and 50 word sentences.
SECOND PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Heather Clark
THIRD PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Michele Vowell
HONORABLE MENTION: Floyd County Chronicle, Randy White - Nice layouts and tight writing. Headlines need work and I'm not sure why movie page, classifieds and full page ads were included as part of the entries. Consider reorganizing paper to keep Sports pages together.

## CATEGORY 24 - BEST SPORTS SPECIAL SECTION

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT: The Eagle Post, David Snow, Adam May

## CATEGORY 25 - BEST LIFESTYLE PAGE

FIRST PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Megan Locke Simpson - Summer staycations was a clever way to showcase local attractions.
SECOND PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Heather Clark - Would have been better with a paragraph of introduction before the city-by-city events. I would have done gradiation or the elaborate font on the Independence Day headline. Too much space for cheesy rocket graphic. The little green men section balanced the entry with it's cleverness and creativity. Great font/design in the spirit of the story. Good reporting.
THIRD PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Heather Huber - The weakest entry was on Pennyrile Forest, which seems like it's trying too hard. Also, the lede was not what I wanted. I find it hard to believe the location could be the most interesting thing about the park. Location-as-lede was a common thread throughout Fort Campbell entries. The lede for the Broadway series could have been jazzier, too, perhaps showcasing the range of shows or something like that. The page was striking though. You could have polished it with a quick interview instead of press release quote. The art lab story was better reported.
HONORABLE MENTION: Fort Campbell Courier, Amy Newcomb - Stop with the located ledes. That can't be the best story telling you can come up with. That comes across as the primary thing you want to convey. The aquarium is along the river. That's obvious from the photo and big whoop. Same for the other two stories. Freshwater megafish, now that's interesting. Alligators, also interesting. Some sense of the feel of the aquarium (which I've visited and it's great), would be more compelling. Cruises, also an interesting element. And it's totally buried. I did like the comprehensive approach to the attractions of all three places. You did a good job finding courtesy photos, too.


## CATEGORY 26 - BEST EDITORIAL PAGE

FIRST PLACE: The Eagle Post, David Snow - The clear winner in this category. SECOND PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Staff

## CATEGORY 27 - BEST FRONT PAGE

FIRST PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Michele Vowell - The great photography and use of photos contributes to this entry being selected as first place. What would take these front pages to the next level would be more consistent use of fonts and some polish to the teasers at the top. Overall, really well done! SECOND PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Heather Huber - Strong front pages. Great photography and multiple entry points make this a strong entry. One suggestion: Lose the clip art. If your photography on the front is this strong, you can do better on the top teasers. Great work!
THIRD PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Heather Clark - Great design that is somewhat overshadowed by-once again-the teasers at the top. Clean look makes the reader want to read on. Keep up the good work!

## CATEGORY 28 - BEST HEADLINE

FIRST PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Megan Locke Simpson Especially liked "That Sinking Feeling"
SECOND PLACE: Fort Campbell Courier, Megan Locke Simpson - Headlines are concise, descriptive, grammatically correct.

# That sinking feeling 

## UNIVERSITY

CATEGORY 1 - BEST EDITORIAL

FIRST PLACE: The Eastern Progress, Jacob Blair - The editorial was well-written, well-organized and rightfully defended the right of the public to attend public meetings without the burden of a 2-hour drive. This is what media must champion in our communities. Good job.
SECOND PLACE: The Murray State News, Carly Besser - In encouraging the city to include the LGBT community in a revision of its human rights ordinance, the editorial stepped outside of its university comfort zone and into the larger arena of its world. It offered a tremendous upside to local officials as to why this would be a positive change that would enhance their community.
THIRD PLACE: The Murray State News, Allison Borthwick - Of the many editorials and opinions I've read of the Kim Davis situation, this one was one of the best. It was well-thoughtout, clear in its presentation and offered a much-needed civics lesson for those who don't understand the separation of church and state and the 1st Amendment rights.
HONORABLE MENTION: Thorobred News, Staff - A well-done analysis of a new college president's efforts on behalf of the school. Though it did not influence my rating here, the writers misused 'moral' twice when they really meant 'morale.' Have to watch that.

## CATEGORY 2 - BEST BREAKING NEWS COVERAGE

FIRST PLACE: College Heights Herald, Trey Crumbie, Shelby Rogers - Hazing and drugs at a frat house? What will they think of next? Well done, researched and presented in a short timeframe about serious issues that continue to plague colleges and universities.
SECOND PLACE: Kentucky Kernel, Will Wright, Anne Halliwell, Cheyene Miller - Well presented aftermath of bad behavior and mass arrests following a lost football game.
THIRD PLACE: College Heights Herald, Taylor Harrison - Covering fatal fires is a sad and tough assignment - but necessary. Good job of getting commentary on the kind of person he was.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Northerner, Lizzie Kibler - Well done presentation of an unexpected event.

## CATEGORY 3 - BEST GENERAL NEWS STORY

FIRST PLACE: Kentucky Kernel, Morgan Eads - You turned a hole in the ground into a pretty good piece of Gonzo journalism. Keep up the good work.
SECOND PLACE: The Northerner, Tori Lentz - Thorough job on an important health topic.
THIRD PLACE: Kentucky Kernel, Marc Thomas - Suicide is a hard story to find sources for. Good job.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Eastern Progress, Evan Nichols - Not being a sports writer (or from Kentucky), a new basketball coach isn't really that interesting a story. But your writing sparkled and kept my attention. Good job.


Students story shows the therapeutic effects of opening up


## CATEGORY 4 - BEST FEATURE STORY

FIRST PLACE: The Northerner, Matt Spaudling - The clear winner. Crisp, concise writing in a narrative style that makes the reader feel the pain of the main subject. Excellent job at weaving in relevant information about how students deal with the loss of a loved one during their college days.
SECOND PLACE: The Louisville Cardinal, Maggie Little - Writer took a story that could be rather mundane campus dining options - to illustrate how the school is working to provide healthier options. Solid, clear writing. THIRD PLACE: College Heights Herald, Kyle Williams - Excellent profile on a man who obviously means a lot to this community.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Louisville Cardinal, Simon Isham - Nice feature I would not expect to read in a campus publication. Well done.

## CATEGORY 5 - BEST COLUMN

FIRST PLACE: The Eastern Progress, Dan Klapheke - All three columns were excellent. A perfect blend of strong writing, newsworthiness and humor.
SECOND PLACE: College Heights Herald, Jackson French - Ms Hardin has a very fun, easy-to-read style of writing that keeps the reader engaged and entertained throughout. Fun topics, great work!
THIRD PLACE: Kentucky Kernel, Will Wright - "Budweiser is the ISIS of beers" What a great opening line. Good topics, strong writing, very nice work all around.
HONORABLE MENTION: College Heights Herald, Will Hyde

FIRST PLACE: College Heights Herald, Elliott Pratt - Columnist did a good job spreading around his topics, rather than just covering the revenue sport at the school - that's what a pro beat writer would do. The columns are reported and presented well. Nice work

## CATEGORY 7 - BEST SPORTS STORY

FIRST PLACE: College Heights Herald, Kyle Williams - This was obviously an exciting game with lots of intrigue and strategy. The writer did a great job of capturing all of that and conveying to his readers. Great inside look, good use of quotes, just a solid game story all around.
SECOND PLACE: The Murray State News, Kelsey Randolph - Reporter did a nice job of combining sports reporting, police reporting and some internet research. Since this story ran a couple of days after the arrest, ideally I'd have liked to see some player and student reaction included, but as far as it goes it's a good read.
THIRD PLACE: College Heights Herald, Kyle Williams, Elliott Pratt - There's lots of good reporting in this entry, but after reading it several times, I still don't understand what the "deficit" is and it's key to the story. It should have been explained better for the average reader who isn't an insider to college athletic budgets.
HONORABLE MENTION: Kentucky Kernel, Kevin Erpenbeck, Jonathan Krueger - Overall, this is a pretty generic game advance, but I just loved how the writer used the story about the "Willie Cam" to compare last season to this season and draw the reader into the story. The unique/strong lead made me want to read the whole thing.

## CATEGORY 8 - BEST SPORTS FEATURE STORY

FIRST PLACE: College Heights Herald, Jonah Phillips
SECOND PLACE: College Heights Herald, Elliott Pratt
THIRD PLACE: The Murray State News, Mallory Tucker
HONORABLE MENTION: College Heights Herald, Billy Rutledge

> Remembering Topper legend Jimmy Feix

BY ELLIOTT PRATT
SPORTS@WKUHERALD.COM
It's hard to distinguish one single thought to describe a man like the late Jimmy Feix.


Trust me, I've asked many to pinpoint it the past two days.
Many have said he was a man of integrity, a family man, a good Christian man and one that cared deeply Elliott Pratt about his players.
Then in a conversa-
tion with someone who watched every play Feix coached on the sidelines, one of the simplest,

SEE FEIX PAGE B5

## CATEGORY 9 - BEST ENTERPRISE OR ANALYTICAL STORY

FIRST PLACE: Kentucky Kernel, Will Wright, Michael Reaves, Marjorie Kirk - This was interesting and well researched. It was apparent that the reporter had a grasp of the topic.
SECOND PLACE: College Heights Herald, Jonah Phillips - Great story examining a real issue and a question I would have had seeing funding for suspended programs.
THIRD PLACE: The Louisville Cardinal, Olivia Krauth - Good effort tackling a challenging and relevant issue facing college students and women in general.
HONORABLE MENTION: College Heights Herald, Lashana Harney - Good process story detailing the university budget. Budget stories are always challenging, but important.

$\qquad$ OLVIA KRAUTH

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THIRD PLACE: Kentu follow-up stories, including the change in patrols resulting from the murder.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Northerner, Abby Anstead, Carrie Crotzer - Good coverage of what could have become a campus shooting. Solid questions asked about the what as well as the what-ifs of the incident. Would have benefited from more on what happened to the young lady as well as more of her background.

## CATEGORY 13 - BEST USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA

FIRST PLACE: Kentucky Kernel, Morgan Eads, Anne Halliwell, Will Wright, Cheyene Miller - Great seen on scene moments. Good sourcing opportunities and collection of information. Good use of hashtags. Video captured the moment well.
SECOND PLACE: Kentucky Kernel, Joshua Huff, Will Wright - Excellent play by play in tweets. Great photography incorporated to keep readers and social audience engaged. Good use of tweets that offers retweeting options. The addition of video would give social audience another view.

## CATEGORY 14 - CREATIVE USE OF MULTIMEDIA

FIRST PLACE: The Northerner, Tori Lentz, Lindsey Rudd, Kody Kahle, Wyatt Nolen - This is a comprehensive look at an issue of critical importance to many students on

## BREAKING: Students flood State Street

MARCH 28, 2015 BY MORGAN EADS (EDIT)


Scanner: \#StateStreet mostly cleared out, street sweeper coming through
1:53 AM - 29 Mar 2015
23
campus. The story was good. The graphics were good. The video enhanced the package by giving the reader a first-person view of what it is like to try to park. The video might have benefited from more editing. And it might have been good to take video of a number of people as they attempted to park. But, overall, the package provides solid coverage of a hot issue. The team used a number of tools to tell the story.
SECOND PLACE: The Murray State News, Josiah Brand, Ben Manhanke, Tori May, Cameron Witte - This package features quite a bit of nice footage of the event and many one-on-one interviews. The student journalists attempt to tell all sides of the story of this event -- why people go, what they sing, how it comes together, etc. It could have been better organized, but it gave a nice overall snapshot. The reporters let other people tell the story - one of the advantages to multimedia presentation. I would have liked to have heard more of the singing -- or see some of the acts preparing their act. But I liked this package because the reporters clearly understand that the best way to tell a story is to talk directly to the people involved to get many viewpoints. Too often, we see young journalists try to tell stories by quoting things they see on social media, observing without interviewing or standing far away when capturing images. That wasn't a problem here.
THIRD PLACE: College Heights Herald, Luke Franke, Alyssa Pointer, Emily Kask, Bria Granville - This team produced a very nice piece about a campus boxing event. The video was interesting to watch, included a variety of footage, and featured well-edited interviews with people involved.
HONORABLE MENTION: Kentucky Kernel, Marcus Dorsey - This video enhances the story without repeating it. The journalist makes sure to get footage that will give viewers/readers an idea of what it was like to participate, to watch or to stand on the sidelines of this annual event.


## CATEGORY 15 - BEST BREAKING NEWS PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: Kentucky Kernel, Taylor Pence - While the submission indicated to judge the image of murder suspect Justin D. Smith specifically, what I appreciated most about this entry is overall photographic coverage of this very important news event. Photos of the crime scene, the memorial services, and of course the suspects behind lead by police. The photo of the suspect is straightforward. Nothing visually spectacular or innovative about it, but that's not the primary objective of a breaking news photo. The important part was the photographer was there to capture an image of suspect in a setting that tells the story.
SECOND PLACE: Kentucky Kernel, Cameron Sadler - Covering mobs is not exactly a comfortable experience. Emotions are high and crowds are unpredictable, but nevertheless, they are important to cover photographically. I like the strong light of the flames on the subjects face, and the leers and cheers of the crowd in the background instantly portray it as the scene of a mob. I only wish his other hand wasn't cut off at the bottom frame. It looks as though he might be holding or throwing something in the hand not visible. I'm curious what it might be. I would like to also maybe see a wider version of this photo, just to see what he's looking at that's on fire.
THIRD PLACE: College Heights Herald, Nick Wagner - Nice image. It neatly captures the essence of a snow day. The delighted expressions on the students faces says it all. Good perspective with the wide lens from the front of sled. While a snow storm is often easier to capture than, say, compelling images of a murder scene or house fire or the like, this image definitely captured the news in the most aesthetic way out of all the other entries, hence it's spot in the top three.
HONORABLE MENTION: Kentucky Kernel, Michael Reaves - This is one of those light and fun breaking news events. The main image definitely captures a "showdown" moment between the student and the steer. Anytime an animal is involved in a breaking news story, a good storytelling image is essential to the coverage and good on you for seeking out that cow once you heard it was lose. Readers love few things more than photos of animal mischief. Nice headline. Good secondary image as well...Would be interesting to see your other takes from this event to see if there were any more visually appealing angles.


## CATEGORY 16 - BEST GENERAL NEWS PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: College Heights Herald, Emily Kask - The photographer worked hard to find exactly the right position to capture a variety of elements, without anything extraneous.
SECOND PLACE: Kentucky Kernel, Joel Repoley - Photo taken at exactly the right moment to catch the water squirting out of the balloon. Loved the look on the woman's face.
THIRD PLACE: The Murray State News, Kalli Bubb - This is an excellent photo, using the right angle to capture the guitarist without any of the distracting elements usually preset on a stage (lots of cables, water bottles, other instruments, etc.).
HONORABLE MENTION: Kentucky Kernel, Adam Pennavaria - The lighting and exposure are just right.

## CATEGORY 17 - BEST FEATURE PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: Kentucky Kernel, Michael Reaves - Remarkable photo that grabs the audience's attention. Subject is intense and you can feel his emotions.
SECOND PLACE: The Eastern Progress, Topher Payton - Great photo and gr40eat use of black and white art. The shot makes me feel as though I am at the taping of the video. Love seeing so many people in the picture.
THIRD PLACE: Kentucky Kernel, Michael Reaves - The angling of the letters around the model and details of the writing shows the sincerity of the picture. The complementing colors of the flooring and the models hair make the image pop. Great lighting.
HONORABLE MENTION: College Heights Herald, Nick Wagner - I can feel the coldness of the snow in wintertime in Kentucky. Nice picture!

## CATEGORY 18 - BEST PICTURE ESSA (BREAKING, GENERAL OR FEATURE)

FIRST PLACE: College Heights Herald, Mike Clark, Jeff Brown, Ashley Cooper - Creative shots that really bring the reader to the event. Brilliant event to photograph for an essay. Great news judgement.
SECOND PLACE: College Heights Herald, Brittany Greeson - Moving portraits and stirring topic.
THIRD PLACE: Kentucky Kernel, Adam Pennavaria, Emily Wuetcher - These are really fun photos. The topic isn't taken too seriously, but rather the spirit of the event is really captured. HONORABLE MENTION: Kentucky Kernel, Michael Reaves, Hunter Mitchell, Adam Pennavaria

## CATEGORY 19 - BEST SPORTS PICTURE

FIRST PLACE: College Heights Herald, Nick Wagner
SECOND PLACE: The Eastern Progress, Johnna Speaks
THIRD PLACE: Kentucky Kernel, Taylor Pence
HONORABLE MENTION: College Heights Herald, Luke Franke

## CATEGORY 20 - BEST SPORTS PICTURE ESSAY

FIRST PLACE: College Heights Herald, Abbey Tanner, Mike Clark - Clean compositions, images that don't entirely on the physical activity of the game and good photographic technique really made this stand out. Using just four strong images in a strong layout is also a great example less is more.
SECOND PLACE: Kentucky Kernel, Adam Pennavaria - Good, strong images and nice diversity within the subject matter. Overall impact as a photo essay was hurt a little bit by jumping the story.
THIRD PLACE: College Heights Herald, Harrison Hill, Emily Kask, Nikki Boliaux - Strong images provide a nice solid overview of the rodeo. The only criticism would be that image of the team ropers from above is a bit to similar in perspective to the overall arena image.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Louisville Cardinal, Austin Lassell - Wonderful images but feel's a bit clutter. Would have been stronger with one less image in the mix.


## CATEGORY 21 - BEST SPECIAL SECTION

FIRST PLACE: The Louisville Cardinal, Maggie Little, Sarah Rohleder - Genius. Every college student should read this. Good variety of stories. Helpful advice. Great issues. Would have benefited from more on credit cards.
SECOND PLACE: College Heights Herald, Abby Belknap - Good mix of stories and sophisticated design. The study-abroad was presented especially well, except I didn't like the text over the circled photos. Screenshots seemed like they would be useful. Dorm infographic was clever. You could have presented photography better, though.
THIRD PLACE: College Heights Herald, Staff - When I saw the subject, I groaned. But you guys made it interesting and useful and fun. The infographic on which housing is right for you was inspired. The articles were varied and really got to the issues.
HONORABLE MENTION: Kentucky Kernel, Staff - Good organization of the four components you focused. Good mix of his photos and photos of him. Well written.

FIRST PLACE: The Murray State News, Taylor McStoots - The placement of this graphic over the newspaper's flag (and accompanying lack of information underneath) is extremely effective. Gives the feeling of "silencing" the press - like putting a hand over someone's mouth. Good color choice. Strong, simple, clear message. Nicely done.
SECOND PLACE: The Murray State News, Taylor McStoots - A clever idea that was well executed. Quote selection for shadowed half of face works with graphic to draw reader in. Black and white is also effective. Well done.
THIRD PLACE: Kentucky Kernel, Elizabeth Glass - Good use of spot color. Simple graphics. Clear message. All work together well. I like how the entire boxed layout looks like a parking ticket. Nice work.
HONORABLE MENTION: College Heights Herald, Katherine Sproles - Cutting up dollar bill into pieces to help reader visualize the "budget breakdown" is a great idea. Could've used a little more space as verbiage got cramped toward the right. Way to explain concept "graphically."


## CATEGORY 23 - BEST SPORTS PAGE/SECTION

FIRST PLACE: College Heights Herald, Staff - These pages are striking and the section is well-organized. It's clear to readers that care is taken to present a full sports report. SECOND PLACE: The Eastern Progress, Jordan Burke, Evan Nichols - This is a well-presented and well-organized sports section.
THIRD PLACE: The Murray State News, Kelsey Randolph

## CATEGORY 24 - BEST SPORTS SPECIAL SECTION

FIRST PLACE: The Louisville Cardinal, Sam Draut, Sarah Rohleder, Jacob Abrahamson, Olivia Krauth - Clean, well-produced section. Good blend of in-depth articles anc quick-hit features.
SECOND PLACE: The Northerner, Staff - Good balance between teams and interesting vignettes on players.
THIRD PLACE: The Louisville Cardinal, Noah Allison, Simon Isham, Sam Draut - Interesting stories, coupled with just the right amount of stats. Inviting design.

## CATEGORY 25 - BEST LIFESTYLE PAGE

FIRST PLACE: The Eastern Progress, Kristi Branham, Tara Leisure, Kayla Lasure - Consistently well laid out section. Great photos and use of artwork. Very clean masthead and great font.
SECOND PLACE: The Murray State News, Breanna Sill - Great visuals with the drink photos cleverly laid out. Good use of calendar in the week ahead and strong finish with coming out this week. Good presentation overall.
THIRD PLACE: The Murray State News, Connor Jaschen - The color in the photo really pops and draws the reader in. Nice use of pull quotes.
HONORABLE MENTION: The Murray State News, Breanna Sill

## CATEGORY 26 - BEST EDITORIAL PAGE

FIRST PLACE: College Heights Herald, Staff - Bold, well displayed. Opinions are put forth plainly. Consider devoting a little less space to tweets which, while entertaining, are less substantive. A very strong page.
SECOND PLACE: Kentucky Kernel, Staff - Outstanding illustrations, clearly stated opinions. When entering a contest, be sure to send any needed jump pages. It's hard to judge when you can't see the end of an article.
THIRD PLACE: The Murray State News, Allison Borthwick - Clean display. When using an editorial board, the resulting opinions can come across as a little disjointed. Strive for a clear, strong voice.

## CATEGORY 27 - BEST FRONT PAGE

FIRST PLACE: The Murray State News, Mary Bradley
SECOND PLACE: The Northerner, Dillon Wray
THIRD PLACE: The Louisville Cardinal, Sarah Rohleder, Olivia Krauth
HONORABLE MENTION: College Heights Herald, Staff

## CATEGORY 28 - BEST HEADLINE

FIRST PLACE: Lexington Herald-Leader, Franklin Renfro - The emotion in this headline is obvious. It is a tribute to receive this recognition at the end of a lengthy career.
SECOND PLACE: The Louisville Cardinal, Jacob Abrahamson - This shows a clever use of the word overdue in connection with a story about the library.
THIRD PLACE: Kentucky Kernel, Staff - This headline is short and sweet. It tells the story in few words. Very clever.
HONORABLE MENTION: College Heights Herald, Charley Nold - I particularly liked the "Under Water" headline. All three headlines showed serious thought and concise structure.

BEST HEADLINE FIRST PLACE WINNERS

## SNOW COUNTRY

## FOR OLD MEN

*Or for kids, squirrels or anyone else for that matter ...

# SHIRLEY IT CAN'T BE TRUE 

Lexington Herald-Leader, Franklin Renfro

## Snowstorm has had a low-salit diet

Commonwealth Journal, Chris Harris
R.A. Williams Co. tries to wash hands of Cedarbrook sewer

The Cynthiana Democrat, Becky Barnes

## Spam aloft? Mystery meat shower of 1876 unsolved

## COMING LATE SUMMER

Information on the 2016 KPA News Contest
Covers all issues between October 1, 2015, and September 30, 2016.
Entry deadline will be Mid-October, 2016


KENTUCKY PRESS ASSOCIATION


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First Place
Second Place Third Place

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First Place
 Third Place

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First Place
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