

Winners' ircle

2010 Better Newspaper Contest



Sponsored by TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Winners' Circle

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

718 West Fifth St., Ste. 100
Austin, Texas 78701
512-477-6755 FAX 512-477-6759
www.texaspress.com

TPA CONTEST COMMITTEE

Chairman Russel Skiles,
Lamesa Press-Reporter
Bill Crist,
The Cameron Herald
Wanda Brooks,
Moore County News-Press
Terry Collier,
Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post
Tania French,
Port Lavaca Wave
Roy Robinson,
The Graham Leader
Chad Ferguson,
Banner Press News-Columbus
Ken Esten Cooke,
Rockdale Reporter
Sue Brown Elizondo,
Pleasanton Express
Bob Brincefield,
Brownwood Bulletin
Russel Skiles,
Lamesa Press Reporter
Randy Keck,
The Community News
Mark Gwin,
The Smithville Times
Roger Estlack,
The Clarendon Enterprise
Roger Palmer,
Whitewright Sun
Michael Hodges,
Texas Press Association

TPA OFFICERS 2009-10

Terry Collier
President,
Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post
Bob Brincefield
First Vice President,
Brownwood Bulletin
Chad Ferguson
Second Vice President,
The Banner Press Newspaper
Russel Skiles
Treasurer,
Lamesa Press Reporter
Roy Robinson
Chairman of the Board,
The Graham Leader
Micheal Hodges
Executive Director,
Texas Press Association

Contents

Community Service.....	3
Special Sections.....	3, 33
General Excellence.....	4
News Writing.....	6
Advertising.....	8
Feature Story.....	11
Headline Writing.....	14
Editorials.....	16
Feature Photo.....	18
News Photo.....	21
Page Design.....	24
Column Writing.....	26
Sports Photo.....	28
Sports Coverage.....	30
Sweepstakes Winners.....	34
Results by Newspaper.....	35

About the Better Newspaper Contest

This year 172 newspapers submitted 1,743 entries in the Better Newspaper Contest. The contest is broken down into 10 divisions in which newspapers compete against papers of similar circulation size.

Weeklies compete under a unique division system in which the total number of weekly entrants is divided equally into five divisions based on descending circulation — this year 116 weeklies entered so there were 23 newspapers each in Divisions 6-9 and 24 in Division 10.

Dailies and Semiweeklies compete in fixed circulation breaks: Division 1 Dailies 100,000 or More (compete in General Excellence only); Division 2 Dailies 7,000 to 99,999; Division 3 Dailies Less Than 7,000; Division 4 Semiweeklies 4,001 or More; and Division

5 Semiweeklies 4,000 or Less.

First-place winners receive plaques and second- through fourth-place winners earn certificates. Sweepstakes points are earned for each division, except Division 1, based on point accumulation in contest categories (excluding Community Service & Special Sections) - 1st Place: 100 points; 2nd Place: 75 points; 3rd Place: 50 points; and 4th Place: 25 points. The awards were announced June 19th at the 131st Summer Convention in San Antonio.

The Winners' Circle is an annual publication saluting the Better Newspaper Contest winners. Judges' comments on first- through fourth-place winners are reprinted along with samples of winning entries.

COVER PHOTO:

First Place Feature Photo Division 4 Semiweeklies, Bryce Harper, The Williamson County Sun — Don Snell, 87, fell in love with art while attending the University of Texas as a drama student. It's a love affair that's lasted a lifetime.

BACK COVER PHOTO:

First Place Feature Photo Division 8 Weeklies, Matt Kelton, Clay County Leader — An inmate from the James V. Allred Prison Unit in Iowa Park uses an ax to clear a mesquite stump from a grave site in the Cambridge Cemetary Jan. 13. Work on the cemetary, Clay County's oldest, began Jan. 12 and will continue through Friday. The cemetary is located about three miles northeast of Henrietta.

Community Service

Daily Division



1. Waxahachie Daily Light — “Complaints Against Health and Human Services Office.” This entry is a good example of a newspaper being the voice of the unheard in a community. Not only did this series of articles give these people a voice, it changed the way things were handled around the state. Great job!

2. Brownwood Bulletin — “Homeless Residents.” I like this entry for bringing to light the lives of people in the shadows, and then forcing or facilitating discussions on how to respond and serve. Very nice.

3. Galveston County Daily News — “Texas Public Information Act.” Sometimes a small change in the law can have far-reaching impact. Good job in ferreting out the story and getting others motivated to change the law.

4. New Braunfels Herald-Zeitung — “Swine Flu Fear.” Good job in keeping the community informed and ensuring that public officials share information with the public. Too much information does not cause panic, but not knowing what’s

going on certainly does.

Semiweekly Division



1. Hood County News — “Support Our Troops.” A great way of linking the community together, even when part of the community is half-a-world away.

2. Williamson County Sun — “Coats for Kids.” One of the most important roles a newspaper plays is in aiding the least among us. With the newspaper’s support this charity was able to provide for kids during one of the worst economic times. Job well done.

3. Beeville Bee-Picayune — “Illegal Dumping.” Shame should never go out of style! It’s a good motivator and the paper used it very effectively to motivate property owners and litterers to clean up their acts.

4. Boerne Star — “When Explosive Growth and Dwindling Water Resources Collide.” Good in-depth coverage of a serious, ongoing issue.

Weekly Division



1. Cameron Herald — “\$20 on the 20th.” I really like this campaign, and I’m surprised that the mayor was so reluctant at first! It’s impressive that the paper devoted both editorial and advertising space to the campaign. That this program benefitted the community and not necessarily the newspaper makes it a clear winner in this category.

2. Bandera Bulletin — “Rabies Awareness.” Not only does this provide a community service, it’s also a compelling read. Good information presented in a way that people will learn a lot from.

3. Clay County Leader — “Pioneer Reunion and Rodeo.” It’s obvious the newspaper is fully invested in this event. Great coverage! And how nice for the people involved to have these issues to keep as a reminder of the reunion.

4. Muleshoe Journal — “Senior Living.” The paper changed its printing schedule and fully endorsed the Muleshoe EDC senior living program with a special section devoted to it. That’s what makes this entry a community service winner.

Special Sections

Routine Special Sections

Daily



1. Facts, Clute — “Holiday Handbook 2009.” Very nice section. Simple theme but well put together. Advertising was very well represented.

2. Lubbock Avalanche-Journal — “Football Fever 2009.” Loved the theme and content. There seemed to be a lack of focus on the advertising end of it. Small sponsor ads with nothing to benefit the advertiser.

3. Waxahachie Daily Light — “Ellis County 2009 High School Football Preview.” Well put together. Made an easy read while giving enough attention to all teams. Points off for the cover design, though.

4. Galveston County Daily News — “December 2009 Gift Guide.” It started out with an actual gift guide but moved away from that theme a little toward the middle and end. Overall a well-put-together section.

Semiweekly



1. Hood County News — “Newcomer and Visitor’s Guide.” Great cover. Nice mix of layouts. White space made smaller print easier to read.

2. Polk County Enterprise — “Welcome Guide to Polk County.” Great cover. Some really good pictures. Good content.

3. Bowie News — “Visitor’s and Newcomer’s Guide.” I liked the theme and content.

4. No 4th place awarded.

Weekly A



1. Smithville Times — “The Guide.” Wow, 88 pages packed with good info about your area. Made me want to visit. Like that you had fun with “Everybody Deserves a Paddling.”

2. Rockdale Reporter — “FYI 2009.” Good layout and solid news content. Unusual for a special section. Nice work.

3. Lake Travis View — “Summer Guide.” Good-looking section with excellent content. Made me want to visit.

4. Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post — “Visitors Guide.” What a beaut—144 pages is just too many not to honor. Wish you wouldn’t use two different colors of paper—a little odd—and ad sizes need to be more consistent (page 109).

Weekly B



1. Bandera County Courier — “Bandera Country Living 2009.” Love smaller product, good cover, excellent content.

2. Alpine Avalanche — “Air Alpine Football Edition.” Good photography. Lots of short features. Q&A well done!

3. Springtown Epigraph — “Fine Arts 2009.” Nice ideas for kids to draw ads and to boost the arts. Well done.

4. Hill Country Community Journal — “Fall Sports Preview 2009.” Excellent photography!

Weekly C



1. Gladewater Mirror — “2009 Fall Sports Preview.” Great blending of photos, gray copy and different headline sizes. Ads don’t compete with layout. Schedules are easy to read. Neat and clean layout throughout.

2. Wallis News-Review — “2009 Fall Sports Kick-off.” Nice use of photos, copy, logos, drop shadows make for a nice kick-off section.

3. Princeton Herald — “Princeton Panther Preview.” All elements work well together. Decent use of white space as well.

4. Franklin Advocate — “The Pink Issue.” Writing and variety of content is impressive. More photos definitely would have helped the layout. Hate the body copy typeface—difficult to read.

General Excellence

First Place Division 2 Dailies



First Place Division 3 Dailies



First Place Division 4 Semiweeklies



First Place Division 5 Semiweeklies



Division 1 Dailies 100,000 or More

No entries were received in the Large Dailies Division.

Division 2 Dailies 7,000 to 99,999



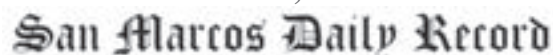
1. Victoria Advocate — Love the “bed shot” format! Excellent layout and color use. Ads spring off the page and are effective. Writing is complete, concise and thoughtful. Needs more local writing. A few too many wire stories. Art and charts are well done. They demonstrate and add to stories. Photos are top notch, although print job is sometimes lacking. Overall an excellent newspaper.

2. Lubbock Avalanche-Journal — Excellent headline editing and very well-written stories. Dominant classified page and well-thought-out ROP advertising. Sports coverage is top notch and local features, particularly arts coverage, is above average. Who would have thought that someone dead over 50 years (Buddy Holly) could still have such impact on a community!

3. Nacogdoches Daily Sentinel — Hard-hitting local news and a strong editorial page carry this newspaper quite well. Although use of wire stories is prevalent, they are at least tied to the Southwest region. Layout is okay and photos are average, but this newspaper has a hell of a lot of news for \$1.59!

4. Paris News — Very nice local paper with lots of local news. Front page and feature layouts are excellent. Headlines are hit and miss: some inspired, some not so much. Sports coverage is greatest strength. Some front page story choices are not so newsy. Editorial page very vanilla but layout is good. Ads are above average in presentation and the unique legal ad display works! Photo essays on sports page are excellent.

Division 3 Dailies Less Than 7,000



1. San Marcos Daily Record — Great use of front-page teaser. Professional, clean layout throughout. Strong sports front.

2. Waxahachie Daily Light — Great story on soldier and ghost series. Plenty of local faces.

3. River Cities Tribune — Strong opinion page. Decent photos. Sports could use more energy.

4. Taylor Daily Press — Nice front-page photos. Nice feature on diversity.

Division 4 Semiweeklies 4,001 or More



1. Williamson County Sun — Nice section fronts, solid sports and life. Clean layout, good use of photos. Could use a bit more art on inside pages. Writing is a bit vanilla, could use some punch. Overall an appealing paper.

2. Bastrop Advertiser — Nice, clean look. Good use of photos. Paper is reader-friendly throughout. Good mix of news topics. Solid sports section. Good mix of columns on editorial page.

3. Wise County Messenger — Front page with officer's body compelling; a nice idea. Good mix of stories. Need more content for lifestyles. Inside pages are loose, airy and appealing.

4. Hood County News — Headline fonts look a bit dated. Inside pages are airy but not unappealing. Nice life pages, good mix of local columns. Good mix of news and features. Writing style is appealing, good leads throughout.

Division 5 Semiweeklies 4,000 or Less



1. Bowie News — Unique in every sense. One of the only newspapers I've seen that truly is “published without fear or favor.” Montague County is well served by The Bowie News. Very strong newspaper!

2. Round Rock Leader — Clever design, nice layout and catchy heads. Better-than-average editorial page. Very unique in a division filled with unique papers.

3. Gonzales Inquirer — This is a newspaper I want to read! No B.S. with this rag! Who could resist local stories about “predators” and lost school children? Stronger than average editorial page and the guts to print the names of those arrested makes this the best kind of community-built newspaper. The Gonzales Inquirer is a newspaper with attitude!

4. Lampasas Dispatch Record — Love the wide format! Good sports coverage and nice mix of local news. Good photos. Poor print job.

Division 6 Large Weeklies



1. Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post — This paper packs a punch! Banner is a classic and the mammoth Visitors Guide is phenomenal. The wide “bedsheet” format proves that most of the time, bigger is better! Good mix of hard and soft news. Local editorials take guts and are all too rare—kudos to the editorial staff.

2. Park Cities People — Very sophisticated paper that is very readable. Somebody takes a lot of time and effort in putting this paper together. We see so many papers that are well laid out but have no depth. Park Cities People has both, and

Continued on next page

General Excellence

First Place Division 6 Weeklies



First Place Division 7 Weeklies



First Place Division 8 Weeklies



First Place Division 10 Weeklies



Continued from previous page

then some. Texas is lucky to have a newspaper this well done. Missed first place by a whisker — was the hardest call of the entire contest.

3. Hays Free Press — Best editorial and selection of news content seen. Excellent in just about every respect. Crime coverage is a little weak but a way-good paper overall.

4. Wylie News — Short, descriptive, complete heads and leads! Judy Truesdell is a very good writer. Good sports coverage. Crime coverage weak. Clean heads and good leads.

Division 7 Medium Large Weeklies

THE JASPER NEWSBOY

1. Jasper Newsboy — Love the name. Love the leads and sports shots. Strong local crime coverage is rare. Ever more rare is strong local editorials. Good job, Newsboy!

2. Bandera Bulletin — Very complete newspaper. Well prioritized and the layout is good. Headlines catchy with good, bold font. Premium newsprint helps as well.

3. Smithville Times — Nice coverage of wildfire. Good police blotter and nice to see letters to editor. Well-written spot news coverage and photos.

4. Hamilton Herald-News — Very consistent throughout. Nice design.

Division 8 Medium Weeklies

The Ellis County Press

1. Ellis County Press — Excellent editorial pages, court/arrest reports and front page, although six ads on front do distract. Bold, strong, local press — a damn good newspaper.

Best in division!

2. Kirbyville Banner — Everything a local newspaper should be. Clean, crisp and most of all, informative about local happenings.

3. Lake Country Sun — A community newspaper with comics — I love it! This paper is solid through and through. A real source of pride for Possum Kingdom and Palo Pinto. Drop-shadow distracts from banner.

4. Cameron Herald — Good community newspaper. Very solid coverage of local people and local events. Very nice sports section and clever heads and leads.

First Place Division 9 Weeklies



Division 9 Small Medium Weeklies

The Canadian RECORD

1. Canadian Record — One of the absolute best local papers in Texas, regardless of division!

2. Gladewater Mirror — Bold layout, big pictures, lots of style! Now this is what a Texas newspaper should look like! Well done, Mirror staff!

3. Dublin Citizen — Strong paper, chock-full of news. Layout makes readability difficult. Strong opinion page and a variety of events are refreshing. It's all about local coverage and the Citizen knows local!

4. Castroville News Bulletin — Excellent local coverage, strong editorials ... a real rare thing in most papers. Well done!

Division 10 Small Weeklies

THE CITIZEN

1. Bay Area Citizen — Lots of faces and plenty of quick hits on front pages. Sports pages were vibrant. Like the Xtra page.

2. Princeton Herald — Nice graphics on front page, pics too. Great sports supplement. Sports pages were bland in general. Plenty of local faces. Nice sports photos.

3. Anna-Melissa Tribune — Clean looking paper. Good use of photos. Sports pics were a tad large. Too many boxes and reverse type scattered throughout.

4. Crowley Star — Strong front-page photos. Bold text on tax-rate story is strange. Good photos all around. Sports needs more spark. Like the subscriber feature on the rail.

NewsWriting

Division 2
Dailies 7,000 to 99,999

VICTORIA ADVOCATE

1. Victoria Advocate — “Face of Illegal Immigration” by Gabe Semenza. Fantastic story, great job weaving facts into fascinating story. Great use of graphs/charts to add value. “Does It Pass The Smell Test?” by Leslie Wilber. Couldn’t read all of it, but read enough to see beautifully written story that presented facts, opinions and emotions well. These two pieces are the best investigative pieces I’ve read all day, so far.

2. Nacogdoches Daily Sentinel — “Eight-Liner Gambling Operation Busted” by Trent Jacobs. Very well done. Great job of investigative reporting; used proper processes. Good explanation of machines. “Scammer Gets Slammer” by Matthew Stoff. Fantastic lead, good quotes, good descriptions. Perfect example of how to write court stories.

3. Lubbock Avalanche-Journal — “HSC Chief Pays Back Tech Debt” by Marlene Hartz. Solid in-depth story. Might have liked to see some of the positive side. Good color in story, but more subheads would have been better. “UnLeached” by Logan Carver. Nice layout — putting two students in middle of page. Some details in “Refusal to Cooperate” may have been better higher, but good story and structure.

4. Laredo Morning Times — “Cartel Leaders” by Jason Buch. Story shows strong ability to navigate through documents. I liked the use of alternative story structure. Would have liked more about effects of gang on local life. I realize it’s hard to get. “A Zeta for Life” by Jason Buch. Another solid story. Only issue I see in submissions is lack of enterprise. (This may just be my ignorance.)

Division 3
Dailies Less Than 7,000

Waxahachie Daily Light

1. Waxahachie Daily Light — “Bee hive swarms” by JoAnn Livingston. Why you wrote such a long story I suppose is none of my beeswax! “Hungry and Hacked” by JoAnn Livingston. Quite entertaining. I can just see all those bureaucrats with their feet propped up, eating boxes of chocolates. It’s a universal phenomena.

2. San Marcos Daily Record — “Amended Use Mess” by Anita Miller. Typical inequality found everywhere in America. Good job. “Very Un-San Marcos-Like” by Anita Miller. Scary how people will just break into your home like that.

3. Brownwood Bulletin — “For the Birds” by Steve Nash. Good presentation of facts and opinions of both sides of the issue. “McCord Tells Jury” by Steve Nash. A grisly good read.

4. Seguin Gazette Enterprise — “Chase Leads to Shooting” by Ron Maloney. Thorough reporting, well done and well written. “Marion Police” by Ron Maloney. More solid reporting and writing.

Division 4
Semiweeklies 4,001 or More

HOOD COUNTY NEWS

1. Hood County News — “Now It’s Up to Voters” by Kathy Swindle. Good lead, but I want the importance of work higher in the story. Photo does help, though. Solid story. Would have liked traffic numbers. “Mission in Peril” by Kathy Swindle. Nice layout. Should have been investigative (I didn’t realize there wasn’t a separate category). Like the subheads, a little information overload, but an important story. Crazy good details. Solid story that covers every angle. A little more focus would have been even better.

2. Williamson County Sun — “Tops at the Tap” by Esther Robards-Forbes. Good story. Lots of details. Tried to contact everyone on list. The only problem is the main question (“Is this appropriate and should they be charged more?”) isn’t addressed until later. “Lunch Line Shows Surge in WilCo Poor” by Rachel Slade. Good lead, nice entry into story. Consider subheads instead of just square bullets. Good job addressing all issues, but would have liked more numbers on cost of coverage.

3. Bastrop Advertiser — “Cost of Justice” by Cyndi Wright. Good story. Would have been nice to get the average cost of trials. “Disaster Planning Pays Off” by Cyndi Wright. Lack of details/specifcs. Too many quotes and too generic.

4. Bay City Tribune — “Boaters Share Story” by Heather Menzies. Very cool story. Would have liked a more fleshed out vignette lead, but well written. “Community Mourns” by Heather Menzies. Well done, although next year I would submit a story with more enterprise quality. This is a tough category because it’s so broad.

Division 5
Semiweeklies Less Than 4,000

Andrews County News

1. Andrews County News — “Water Competition Forces Action” by Sam Kaufman. Good explanation, though the private company and its water usage could have been higher. Best job of several stories about water rights and laws. “Man Murdered” by Sam Kaufman. Good enterprise speaking with victim’s family and knocking down shotgun rumor.

2. Lampasas Dispatch Record — “Sheriff’s Department Targets Burglary Ring” by Jim Lowe. Good, clear writing, though it does stray into police jargon at times. “Bridge Traffic Halted” by David Lowe. Too much fire jargon, but presents a good idea of what happened.

3. Round Rock Leader — “Convicted Killer’s Legacy Lingers” by Marcial Guajardo. Good background, though a little confusing switching back and forth between victims. You did your leg work. “Done Unto ‘The Least’” by Brad Stutzman. Good story behind story.

4. Wimberley View — “Local Business Searches for Affordable Health Care” by Mary Elizabeth Davis. Good attempt to delve beyond the public event and provide more detail. “TGCD Seeks Chapter 36” by Mary Elizabeth Davis. Difficult issue was explained to readers. Needs more discussion of the impact Chapter 36 could have if approved.

Division 6
Large Weeklies

THE SILSBEE BEE

1. Silsbee Bee — “Risking Everything” by Gerry Dickert. Well reported, well written story. Very compelling. Good use of detail to convey emotion. “Protest Rocks Lumberton” by Gerry Dickert. Well reported story with strong impact on community.

2. Hondo Anvil Herald — “Problems Surface” by William Hoover. Well reported story, lots of detail. Subject’s response needed to be a bit higher in story. “Council Majority

Opts for Increased Election Expense” by William Hoover. Well reported, lots of reaction. Runs a bit long but with good detail.

3. Rockdale Reporter — “Landowners See Continued Pumping as Huge Threat to Ecology” by Ken Esten Cooke. Well-reported story with ample detail, flows well. “Dawson’s Character Remembered” by Ken Esten Cooke. Nice job on obituary story—captures emotion of the loss.

4. Hays Free Press — “Too Close for Comfort” by Jen Biundo. Good coverage of spot news story. Lots of detail. “Just Say ‘Don’t Know’” by Jen Biundo. Good lead—hooks reader. Solid reporting, well balanced.

Division 7
Medium Large Weeklies

The Smithville Times

1. Smithville Times — “Wildfire Ravages Lost Pines Area” by Phil Alley. Great details. Boiled down a wide-ranging story into a comprehensible and memorable report. “Ranchers Suffer Most in Drought” by Denis McGinness. Good job of going beyond the headline—the drought—and explaining its short-term and long-term implications. Love the lead!

2. Alpine Avalanche — “Schools Need Air-Tight Contract for Baseball” by Mike Perry. Nice work on details that could lead to a deal. “Gallego Plays Key Role in Electing the Speaker” by Mike Perry. Excellent explanation of political situation. Good work getting reaction from local legislator.

3. The Nueces County Record-Star — “Candidate for Robstown Mayor Arrested” by Christopher Maher. Good story, good job getting explanations from police and candidate. “RADAC Failed to File Tax Returns to IRS” by Tim Olmeda.

Good explanation of situation.

4. Westlake Picayune — “Boiler Explosion Rocks Jack Brown Cleaners” by Will Pafford. Good lead and leg work talking with nearby businesses. “Parental Visits Stir Debate” by Dan Anderson. Good explanation. Balanced voice given to both sides of issue.

Division 8
Medium Weeklies

THE COMMUNITY NEWS

1. Community News — “Plans to Re-open Trinity Meadows Stalled By Texas Racing Commission” by Lori Cope. Good explanation and reporting. “Local Bicyclist Remembered” by Lori Cope. Nice package of stories. Good reporting.

2. Big Bend Sentinel — “Man Assaults Woman” by Sterry Butcher. Great lead. Writing avoided police jargon. Good job. “Prosecution Delays Prompt Release of Crime Spree Suspect” by Robert Halpern. Good explanation.

3. Madisonville Meteor — “Fiber Optic Cable Cut Again” by Roxanne McKnight. Good lead. Need better introduction of who cut cable. “Pro-Tem Stanton Questions CIP Costs” by Fernando Castro. Nice job getting both sides into story. Stronger lead would have mentioned source of conflict.

4. Clay County Leader — “Disease Often Misdiagnosed” by Ignacio Cruz. Good writing, except why did I have to wait until the end to learn that the man had been cured? Good reporting. “Back Burns Save Bellevue” by Matt Kelton. Great lead. Story is good, but headline doesn’t work when back burns aren’t mentioned until the end.

NewsWriting

Continued from previous page

Division 9 Small Medium Weeklies

Pilot Point Post-Signal

- 1. Pilot Point Post-Signal** — "Cabinet Shops Cope With Slump" and "Millions Lost in Retail Sales" by Keith Magee. Reporting is excellent in both cases and numbers are presented clearly. Good economic impact stories. Very timely and well done.
- 2. Gladewater Mirror** — "It's About Dam Time" by James Draper. Good explanation of technical story and great lead. On a side note, loved headline and outline. "Family Injured in U.S. 271 Rollover" by Aaron May. Good job of getting comments from witnesses. That's not done enough by most papers these days.
- 3. Hico News Review** — "Only in Hico..." by Anna Belew. Very well-written story that reflects a feeling as well as

the events. "Council Terminates City Administrator" by Anna Belew and Jerry McAdams. Did you try to get individual comments from council members? The story needed the comments or a notation of no comment.

- 4. Canadian Record** — "Remains of the Day" and "Jail Relocation" by Laurie Ezzell Brown. No comments from judge.

Division 10 Small Weeklies

Keene★Star

- 1. Keene Star** — "Fire Takes KJCR Off Air" by Paul Gnadt. Good, straight-forward reporting—leaves no questions unanswered. "Kevin Sellers Resigns" by Paul Gnadt. I love that this story begins with what this man has done with the schools and why readers would know him. Great lead and good reporting.
- 2. Presidio International** — "Fire Destroys DY

Convenience Store" by Marion Hughes, Kat Smutz and Robert Halpern. Very descriptive writing. The reader gets a very good sense of the role this store plays in the community. "Feds Say Redford Levee Doesn't Meet Requirements for Repair Funds" by Sterry Butcher. Again, very vivid writing brings story to life for readers. The issue is explained well, which makes it easy to follow. Good job!

- 3. Bay Area Citizen** — "Woman Lived in 'Horrific' Conditions" by Mary Ann Hellinghausen. Very good lead and good reporting. The one-word quotes were a bit distracting, especially the ones that reported something already stated. But good job overall. "Conservatives, Liberals Butt Heads at Town Hall" by Dana Guthrie. Good balance of what could have easily been a "they-said-they-said" kind of story.
- 4. Everman Star** — "Paramedic's Life Remembered" by Candy McMichen. Lead was a bit awkward but the story overall was well written. "Infant's Bones Found in Rendon" by Candy McMichen. Great story. I would love to see follow-up stories!

First Place Division 7 Weeklies

Ranchers Suffer Most in Drought

By DENIS MCGINNESS
The Smithville Times

The old-timers, ranchers who have been in the business for generations, don't argue about it anymore. It's the worst drought they have ever seen and it's forcing them to make some tough decisions as pastures dry up and stock tanks evaporate.

Bastrop County is in the "exceptional drought" zone, described as having widespread pasture losses and critical shortages of water. It's the most severe drought classification. There's no measurement for anything worse.

Rachel Bauer, Bastrop County extension agent, reported last week that 12,000 cattle have left the county. They have been sold at auction or moved to areas with forage. This astonishing loss could devastate the county's cattle production for several years.

It's an endurance race, trying to make it to the next big rain, the one that will put water in the tanks

and grow grass. For some the race is over: They have sold out.

"It's a vicious cycle," said Charles "Doc" Graham, longtime veterinarian, rancher and owner of Hills Prairie Livestock Auction Company. "Hay and supplemental feed are a big hit financially. When ranchers sell they aren't always going to make that back."

"We've been seeing so many cows come through. Prices are fair but the average cow or calf is coming in light. It's getting to the point to where it doesn't dollar out for the producer," said Hills Prairie auctioneer Clint McDonnell.

"Ranchers won't have as many cattle next year, there won't be as many fall calves; some are selling breeding stock. The drought affects the breeding cycle too," Graham said, explaining the long-term impact.

Volumes at the auction barns have spiked dramatically in the last month. McDonnell kicked off the Hills Prairie auction Wednesday at noon and it ran until dark.

There were several new buyers in attendance, picking up deals and loading trucks headed for feedlots or slaughterhouses.

Jay Dawson runs a cattle-hauling company. He was raised on a dairy farm just outside Smithville, and he's been around cattle all his life. He's never seen it like this, and he's worried.

"It's the combination of things. No rain, tanks drying up, the costs of hay and feed, fuel prices, the economy; it's forcing a lot of folks to sell off their stock. I'm wondering if I'll have anything to haul next year," Dawson said.

Although some ranchers have sold out because of the drought, many are spending lots of time and money to stay in business and keep their livestock.

Many are hauling water to remote pastures, filling up water troughs daily. Ranchers have always given each other a hand, too.

"I've run hoses from my water troughs to the neighbors so they could get water to their cows," said

Pamela Hohman, owner of the Broken T Ranch in String Prairie. "I'm hoping it will get them through the worst of it, or until they can get a meter from Aqua Water or it rains."

Aqua Water is installing temporary livestock meters at a huge discount. The meter has to go on an Aqua Water line, and it can't be attached to a residence. After the crisis the meters can be removed or users can pay the balance.

"The board is trying to help. It's an emergency measure for the drought, trying to put some water in the tanks," said John Burke, Aqua Water general manager.

Ranchers are also buying lots of hay. Round bales are being shipped in from North Texas or out of state—places that have been getting rain for the past few months.

Feed stores report a brisk business for supplemental feed. Many ranchers are putting protein cubes out daily.

Grover Shade runs a registered

Continued on page 10

Advertising

First Place Division 2 Dailies



First Place Division 3 Dailies



First Place Division 5 Semiweeklies



Division 2 Dailies 7,000 to 99,999

VICTORIA ADVOCATE

1. Victoria Advocate — Killebrew: Very original. Great artwork. House ad: Great idea! Good spin-off of digital converter box campaign. Jack FM: Really funny ad. Gets your attention.

2. Paris News — Cardiology Center: Very informative. Picture gets your attention. Kimberly Clark: Great artwork. Campbell Soup Supply: Nice product and brand awareness.

3. Laredo Morning Times — Paul Young Dodge: Clean ad. Very easy to read. Paul Young Chevrolet: Nice-looking ad. Cars could have been different colors to stand out more. La Posada: Good artwork. I like the fade into the lower part of the ad.

4. Odessa American — Downtown Odessa: Nice signature page. Some logos were hard to read. Color looked a little off. House ad: Great artwork on mascots. Paul Evans Carpets: Kind of generic concept but very clean and to the point.

Division 3 Dailies 7,000 or Less

SEGUN GAZETTE ENTERPRISE

1. Seguin Gazette Enterprise — Chevrolet Dealer: Nice ad. I like the car burst. Original Laptop house ad: Very

creative. This was the best ad. I love the original laptop. Long-time Subscriber House ad: Good that you used a real subscriber. Makes the ad more personal.

2. San Marcos Daily Record — IsAnZe Hair: Great use of image. Nice choice for the IsAnZe font. Faultline Liquor: Again, good use of fonts. Benningan's: Nice artwork—it went well with the theme of the ad.

3. Waxahachie Daily Light — WaxahachieDailyLight.com: I like the way the ad was laid out and it had good information in it. Bart Crow Band: I like the design and the layout. I always try to think about how an ad would look in color and black & white. You did a great job. The Greenery: I like the colors because it was a Labor Day ad. I didn't like the fact that the pictures were everywhere.

First Place Division 4 Semiweeklies



4. Plainview Daily Herald — Gebo's 50th Anniversary: This is my favorite ad entry for this category. Love the picture and the spacing of the wording. Physician Network Services: This ad has a lot of stuff going on. I'm not really able to focus on the information. Azteca Milling: I love the bottom of the ad. If you were able to stretch that small part throughout, it would make the ad look so much better.

Division 4 Semiweeklies 4,001 or More

WISE COUNTY MESSENGER

1. Wise County Messenger — Booth Brothers: Clean and very appealing. Radio Shack: I've seen the graphics before, but I love the layout and colors. Sam's Hairquarters: Well-put-together ad.

2. Hood County News — Woods Furniture For Less: Eye-catching and bold. Love the layout. Lake Granbury Marina: Cute and straight to the point. Arbor House: Cute colors, great layout and simple.

3. Marble Falls Highlander — Alladin Home Store: Clean, simple ad. Bedroom on beach was interesting detail. Made the ad stand out. Backbone Valley: I liked the main font. I wished there was a better image of the restaurant. River City Grille: Great cutout on wisteria vine. This was the best feature of this ad. The background image was a bit too much.

4. Boerne Star — Fernbrook Estate: Simple. Bandera Dealer: Simple, clean and nice. Calamity Jane's Trading Company: Simple.

Continued on next page

Advertising

First Place Division 6 Weeklies



First Place Division 8 Weeklies



First Place Division 9 Weeklies



Continued from previous page

Division 5 Semiweeklies 4,000 or Less

The Bowie News

- 1. Bowie News** — Dakota Custom Homes: Nice layout, good heading and follow-up copy. Picture of house is appealing. House ad: Very nice use of imagery. Best ad I have seen today. Bowie Animal Shelter: Cute and pulls emotional strings of consumers. Good, small ad.
- 2. Gonzales Inquirer** — Providence Properties: Nice use of heading. Photos are slightly blurry. Man vs. Beast: Great pictures and layout. Makes you get excited about the event. City of Gonzales: Love the band artwork. Very informative but with a nice design.
- 3. Lamb County Leader-News** — Sudan ISD: Good pictures, nice message. Ace Hardware: Great ad! Color is perfect. Customer should see results. Aim Bank: Very colorful. Nice pictures. Shows the bank in a good light.
- 4. Breckenridge American** — First National Bank: Nice, original idea. Great color. First National Bank: Black and white. Nice pictures. Good heading. Good reverse. Breckenridge Buckaroos: Great signature ad. Lots of supporters. Each ad had attention paid to it.

Division 6 Large Weeklies

Hays Free Press

- 1. Hays Free Press** — Bordeaux's: Nice background art. One picture is a little dark but looks appetizing. Griffith: Very funny. Clean ad with easy-to-find pricing. Youth Sport Complex: Very cute ad. Love it.
- 2. Wilson County News** — The Steak Company: Good ad. Some of the copy seemed to be a little crowded in spots. Overall a good ad. John Wayne Heating & Air Conditioning: Nice use of artwork. Gets your attention. Caraway Ford: Nice layout for truck month.
- 3. Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post** — Gillespie County Fair: Very informative ad with good picture. Bottom position was a little bland. Timeless Luxury Homes: Beautiful picture. Really gets your attention. Hill Country Home Center: Nice use of color pictures to show off brand.

First Place Division 7 Weeklies



- 4. Tyler County Booster** — Dixie Youth Baseball: Really like the concept. Sponsor ads could have been better; they got lost. First National Bank: Great ad. Dogwood Festival Rodeo: Way too busy. Background is terrible. Really brought down the entry.

Division 7 Medium Large Weeklies

MEDINA VALLEY THE TIMES

- 1. Medina Valley Times** — Solitaire Homes of San Antonio: A lot going on in this ad. Can't really focus. Security Finance: Clean, cute, simple. Joosy Burger: Nice layout, color and picture.
- 2. Mount Vernon Optic-Herald** — Dodge Rodeo. com: Cute graphic. Love the layout and design. First National Bank of Mount Vernon: Cute and eye-catching. Happy Valentine's Day: Simple and clean.
- 3. Alpine Avalanche** — Porter's Thriftway: Clean ad design and artwork. Sonic: Good concept, nice artwork. DeLao's Exxon: I know the tiger is part of the Exxon brand, but it felt out of place in this ad.
- 4. Clifton Record** — Albrecht Health Mart: Too wordy. It made the ad boring. Kettler's Stone Wall Collections: A little busy. Willie's Place: Nice concept but it didn't have a good flow.

Continued on next page

Advertising

Continued from previous page

Division 8 Medium Weeklies

ELGIN COURIER

- 1. Elgin Courier** — Frontier Bank: Very creative. Great artwork. Sugar Girls: Loved the font. That made the ad really work. Good use of color, too. Frontier Bank: Good testimonial. Like seeing the real people.
- 2. Hill Country Community Journal** — Plant Haus 2: Great artwork. Moore's Home Furnishings: Nice layout. A little too busy. Food Drive: Good concept with the can lids.
- 3. Ellis County Press** — Big Daddy's General Store: Simple. Firehouse Grill: Clean and catchy. Giovanni's Italian Restaurant: Cute.
- 4. Springtown Epigraph** — State Farm Insurance: Cute. House ad: Love, love, love this ad. Cute layout and design. Body Exchange: A lot going on in the ad. I'm not sure what to focus on.

Division 9 Small Medium Weeklies

THE ELDORADO SUCCESS

- 1. Eldorado Success** — First National Bank of Eldorado: I like the layout. Clean, open and a lot of white space.

Fireproof: Simple and cute. I thought that the firefighter could be a little darker. Schleicher County Medical Center & Family Clinic: Cute, simple and funny.

2. Farmersville Times — Farmers & Fleas Market: Cute, creative and spacing is good. Collin Park Marina: Simple and to the point. GF Dental Family: I think that black and white ads have to stand out and this one did. I like it a lot.

3. Ozona Stockman — Snug as a Bug: Love, love, love the dog ad. Really cute. Circle Bar Cable Television: Clean, simple and cute. Ozona National Bank: Busy but cute.

First Place Division 10 Weeklies



First Place Division 7 Weeklies

4. West Kerr Current — Bill's Bar-B-Que: This is my favorite ad. Love the layout. Calvary Temple Church: Busy. A lot going on. Kerrville Main Street: Cute, sweet and simple.

Division 10 Small Weeklies

Red Oak Record

- 1. Red Oak Record** — Red Oak Drug: Simple, clean. This was a good ad. It stood out on the page. Red Oak Chiropractic: Good use of artwork. It Figures: Good artwork. All of these ads were well designed.
- 2. Lindsay Letter** — Gainesville Gold & Silver Exchange: Nice ad design. Red River Peach Orchard: Nice image. Good look. Text on the left side was hard to read. St. Pete's Homecoming Picnic: This was my favorite. Loved the font.
- 3. Murphy Monitor** — Richardson Door & Weatherstrip: Good ad. Would like to have seen a real door. Whiskers & Paws Pet Resort: Great artwork. Woodbridge Golf Club: A little text-heavy but good artwork.
- 4. Princeton Herald** — Bob Tedford Chevrolet: Good artwork but too busy. Princeton Family Dental: Liked the team pride. Bob Tedford Memorial Golf Classic: Good layout design but I didn't like the artwork.

Continued from page 7

Ranchers Suffer Most in Drought

Beefmaster cow-calf operation 10 miles south of Smithville near Muldoon. In October 2007, *The Times* ran a story about the ranch. There had been plenty of rain, stock tanks were full and the grass was tall.

Today Shade is buying hay and feed. He's putting out protein range cubes, about five pounds per cow, per day.

"We usually wean in August and September. We'll be starting a lot earlier this year to get the calves off the cows. A dry cow will breed back faster," Shade explained, hoping things turn around.

Shade is also concerned about the grass. "The shorter the grazed grass, the shorter the root system. Some folks have had to overgraze and the grass won't rebound very

fast," Shade said.

Shade knows his neighbors are getting hit hard, some more than others. "Right now there are a lot of folks hurting, trying to stay in business to keep beef on the table," he said.

RELIEF FOR RANCHERS

Last week, Todd Staples, Texas Department of Agriculture commissioner, made a second formal request to the U.S. Department of Agriculture requesting immediate action in providing federal emergency assistance for Texas ranchers and farmers.

This week, Bastrop County Judge Ronnie McDonald is expected to deliver a letter to congressional representatives Lloyd

Doggett and Mike McCaul, requesting additional assistance for citizens of Bastrop County that have been affected by the drought.

In February, McDonald asked Governor Perry to declare a state of emergency, alerting him to "significant threats to life, health and property" because of the drought and that the county faces an "inability or the limited ability for recovery from such losses."

Even though 70 counties, including Bastrop, were declared disaster areas based on agricultural losses, there is still no financial assistance to be found.

The USDA is telling producers that federal assistance may not be available until fall.

U.S. Senator John Cornyn contacted Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack about the delay, stating in part "these producers have done all that the USDA has asked of them in order to prove their dire conditions and confirm eligibility, and yet they wait for the SURE program to be finalized."

U.S. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison met with the Texas Farm Bureau. She said, in a statement, that immediate assistance would give ranchers "the help they need to make it through the drought."

Ranchers need rain and relief and will take one or the other or both, the sooner the better.

FeatureStory

First Place Division 7 Weeklies

Horse sense

Famed colt Smarty Jones triggered a life-long love for Westlake student Maddy Scott

By DANE ANDERSON
Westlake Picayune

On July 5, 2004, 3-year-old stallion Smarty Jones, winner of both the Kentucky Derby and the Preakness Stakes, stood at the starting gate at Belmont Park, poised to win the first Triple Crown since Affirmed took the titles in 1978.

At home in Westlake, 10-year-old Madison Scott was glued to the family's big-screen television, accompanied by several of her favorite plastic Breyer horses. It was the first horse race of her life.

She watched Smarty Jones bolt out of the gate, his spirit barely in check in the early leg of the race. Smarty Jones lost his bid for the Triple Crown that day, outpaced at the end by 36-1 long-shot Birdstone. What the chestnut racehorse lost in the Belmont Stakes, he gained in stalwart fan support from a bright-eyed Texas filly seated in front of a television set.

"I fell in love with him during that race," Scott, now 15, said. "I began to read books and articles about him online—anything I could get my hands on. I collect everything I can find—programs, ticket stubs, posters, photos—anything."

Scott now even follows the foals sired by Smarty Jones, all 300 of them. She said about 100 are active in races now.

Sure, the teenager keeps up with horses in other big races, horses like Saratoga hopeful Rachel Alexandra.

"But there's no horse like Smarty," she said decidedly.

For five years now, Scott has been Smarty Jones' number-one fan. Her passionate interest followed him into retirement to Three Chimneys Farm in Kentucky in August 2004 after he encountered problems with chronic ankle bruising. That interest earned the Westlake High School sophomore the rare honor of an invitation to meet with Smarty Jones' owner, Pat Chapman, and a visit to Three Chimneys Farm in June. Chapman asked Three Chimneys to arrange a visit after corresponding with Scott.

"Maddy had been writing and e-mailing Three Chimneys ever since Smarty moved there," Chapman said. "They kept telling me about this fabulous fan. I was curious."



After 2008 Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner Big Brown moved to Three Chimneys earlier this year, Scott became con-

cerned that Smarty Jones would be eclipsed and lose his coveted stall to the more recent race winner.

"She sent the farm a big poster that said, 'Do not move Smarty Jones,' and threatened a boycott," Chapman said, chuckling. "I thought that was so precious. I thought I better get in touch with this remarkable young lady."

First by mail, then by e-mail, Scott and Chapman corresponded. Chapman told Three Chimneys that she wanted to meet Scott in person, and the staff arranged a summer visit.

Along with Chapman, Scott got the chance to meet with many of the team members at Three Chimneys, including owner Robert Clay, marketing director Jen Roytz and tour director Ann Hayes.

"When I first started working at Three Chimneys in 2006, the previous tour guides had a file that included several letters from Madison," Hayes said. "Her letters kept coming, and I replied."

Smarty Jones has a lot of fans, Hayes said.

"But Madison convinced us

Continued on page 13

Division 2 Dailies 7,000 to 99,999

LUBBOCK AVALANCHE-JOURNAL

1. Lubbock Avalanche-Journal — "Against the Odds" by Kristen Hackney-Redman. Nice narrative. "Happy Who Endure" by Elliott Blackburn. Excellent story. A story that traces the heartbreaking life of a woman who finds herself homeless. Honest treatment of a difficult story.

2. Galveston County Daily News — "Tropical Depression" by Laura Elder. Excellent concept; out of the ordinary. The story flows well, informs the reader and gives a little hope for the problem. "Stories to Sell" by Laura Elder. Again, unique story idea. Well executed.

3. Kerrville Daily Times — "They're Classics" by Sonya Campbell. Fabulous lead! Fun story. Well written. "Inexpressible Love" by Carlina Villalpando. Story flows well.

4. Odessa American — "A Behind-the-Scenes Look at Ratliff" by Matthew McGowan. Wow. Amazing story about

behind-the-scenes work. Good job. "Vicky's Kids" by Matthew McGowan. Nice story.

Division 3 Dailies Less Than 7,000

Waxahachie Daily Light

1. Waxahachie Daily Light — "Help on Hold" by JoAnn Livingston. Story flows well. However, a one-source story without any response from the other side makes it weak. At the least, let readers know that local office declined comment. "The Long Road Home" by Neal White. Well-done narrative of soldier's recovery and return.

2. River Cities Tribune — "Signs of Faith" by Raymond V. Whelan. Great layout. Unique topic. Fun. "Fatherhood: The greatest job in the World" by Daniel Clifton. More column than feature, but nice job.

3. Plainview Daily Herald — "Homes Rode in Style in Checker 'Bus'" and "Glider Base Held Key Role in War Effort" by Doug McDonough. I like the "looking back" theme. You found unique topics to pursue and made them an interesting read.

4. Ennis Daily News — "Harrell Tackles MS Head On" by Tye Chandler. Nice story. Good job seeking out more than one source. "AVID Offers Students a Boost" by Liz Crawford. Weak story.

Division 4 Semiweeklies 4,001 or More

THE SUN

1. Williamson County Sun — "Agricultural rEVOolution" by Ben Trollinger. Who knew olives could be so interesting? Great art and design. "Forbes Middle School: Band Begins on High Note" by Rachel Slade. Nice lead.

Continued on next page

FeatureStory

Continued from page 11

- 2. Wise County Messenger** — “Love’s Long Journey” by Travis Measley. Great art and presentation. Very touching. “A selfless sacrifice” by Travis Measley. No comment.
- 3. Hood County News** — “Tackling Her Dream” by Rick Mauch. Great art and headline. Nice subject. “Confined Dining” by Gary Engle. Art does not mix with subject. Still interesting.
- 4. The Uvalde Leader-News** — “Walk on the Wild Side” by Craig Garnett. Good rugged writing style—kept me interested throughout. Wanted to see the bear. “Life-changing Experience” by Meghann Garcia. Good insight into their reasoning.

Division 5 Semiweeklies 4,000 or Less

Round Rock Leader

- 1. Round Rock Leader** — “After the Guilty Verdict” by Marcial Guajardo. This was the best story in the division. I appreciate the level of research you did to be able to detail that timeline. Good development from the lead. “Closing Time” by Brad Stutzman. Fitting lead to a feel-good story.
- 2. Andrews County News** — “Serving up Steak Fingers: Buddy’s celebrates 40 years of business in Andrews” by Sam Kaufman. Interesting and quirky. Good lead. “Battle at Bastogne” by Sam Kaufman. A solid profile of a WWII veteran. Very clear as far as his travels, which can get difficult to follow.
- 3. Gonzales Inquirer** — “Staying Strong” by Greg Little. A moving tribute. Would have liked to hear from Herb a bit more. Good idea to break up the story with subheads. “Katy’s Story” by Nicole W. Little. Comprehensive (but concise) and very explanatory. Would have liked to hear more about Katy and Josh’s relationship.
- 4. Mabank Monitor** — “Funding a Passion for Refuge Horses” by Pearl Cantrell. Good topic, but lead could have been better. Remember, you’ve got one sentence to pull the reader in. Sidebar is a welcome and helpful addition. “Answering the Call” by Pearl Cantrell. Solid profile.

Division 6 Large Weeklies

Park Cities People

- 1. Park Cities People** — “Kershaw Learns Ropes of Starting in Majors” by Chuck Cox and “Family Can’t Help But Smile About Rickshaw” by Georgia Fisher. Captivated by both stories. Georgia did an especially good job of drawing the reader in with her description of getting the rickshaw started.
- 2. Azle News** — “Creative Vision” by Jeri Field. Your description of what the woodworker does along with the photos made for a nice experience in words and pictures. “Haven of Hope” by Jeri Field. No comment.
- 3. Hays Free Press** — “Buda Woman Unites U.S. War Widows” and “Hello, Baby” by Jen Biundo. Nice writing. A little more color in the writing would have helped. Also photos on “Hello, Baby” should have been stronger.
- 4. Rockdale Reporter** — “The Man Who Stopped the Klan” by Mike Brown. Great start, but got a little bogged down after the jump. Some of the historical detail could have been made more concise. “My Little Pony” by Marie Bakken. A nice

story. Nicely presented.

Division 7 Medium Large Weeklies

Westlake Picayune

- 1. Westlake Picayune** — “Horse Sense” and “A Lens to Life” by Dane Anderson. Two well-written features. Interesting, well designed and accompanying photos are also interesting and appropriate. Of all the entries, these two pieces stand out for being the strongest submissions. Good leads and use of quotes. Overall, great packaging of great products!
- 2. Mineola Monitor** — “Fifty Years of Cutting Our Hair, His Way, to Our Satisfaction” by Gary Edwards. The most descriptive lead out of all the entries in this division! Layout is nice. “Mullins Comes Out Swinging After Fall” by Gary Edwards. Would love to have gotten a little more of an in-depth story, but both are well-written pieces.
- 3. Smithville Times** — “From the Fire Line” by Mark Gwin. Really interesting perspective. The literary torch is fabulous here. Provocative piece for a tragic event. Kudos to the newspaper for giving this space to someone with a writing talent and access to the story. “Watching the River Flow” by Denis McGinness. Informative piece. Well written, yet dry compared to the other. Still, good work and interesting. Again, commendations to the newspaper for publishing longer, more substantial stories.
- 4. Pittsburg Gazette** — “One Man’s Story from Nov. 22, 1963” by Marsha Neeley and “Healing Faith” by Susan Taft. Well-written human interest stories. Both are a little predictable, but still solid. But each writer should have a style and stylistically, these are very similar. Encourage staff writers to find their voices in feature writing. Layout on “Healing Faith” allows for easy reading.

Division 8 Medium Weeklies

THE BIG BEND Sentinel

- 1. Big Bend Sentinel** — “Wagon Train Offers Students an Educational Adventure” by Sterry Butcher and “Just Another Evening in Marfa” by Mark Glover. Without a doubt, these two writers stood out among all the entries. Despite flashier layouts in other papers, these stories rose above as well written, engaging and stylistically memorable. Well done, Sterry and Mark!
- 2. Ellis County Press** — “Man of Steele: From Drum Sticks to Gavel” by Megan Gray. Passive lead. Interesting story, but get active in first graf. “Hope Restored for Fallen Hero” by Jennifer Mulhausen. Why imagine? This is what happened—go with an anecdotal lead and take it to the hilt!
- 3. Clay County Leader** — “Dove Season Salute” by Matt Kelton. Lead/first graf needs to be more compelling. “41-30” by Ignacio Cruz. Love this lead!
- 4. Community News** — “Change for a Dollar” by Randy Keck. Great layout and images. Lead needs work. Story is interesting but lead is tough to get through. “Great Strides” by Lori Cope. Don’t wait until graf four to tell me what’s important!

Division 9 Small Medium Weeklies

The Canadian RECORD

- 1. Canadian Record** — “A Peace Corps Volunteer in Vanuatu” by Laurie Ezzell Brown. More prominent picture of Katy would have been nice. Solid. Dinner and wedding pictures good. Good use of interesting anecdotes. Specific details were great. Nice ending quote. “The Fruits of Their Labor” by Laurie Ezzell Brown. Odd placement of photos in the middle of page five. Good detail in the story, but the text is small and the story a little long.
- 2. West Kerr Current** — “Apelt Armadillo Farm Restored After 7 Years of ‘Blood, Sweat, Tears’” by Irene Van Winkle. Nice lead. Some parts drag, but good content overall. Subheads would have helped tremendously. Good use of specific anecdotes. “Saga of Losses” by Irene Van Winkle. Good story. Good choice of content and submissions.
- 3. Pilot Point Post-Signal** — “Big Things Come in Small Packages” by Veronica Hamlett. Very good story—one of the few stories I read every word of. Good use of quotes and good storytelling. “In Dad’s Footsteps” by Veronica Hamlett. Solid feature story. Good pair of stories.
- 4. Albany News** — “Coke Couple Collects the Real Thing” by Kathryn Stapp. Nice layout, except you don’t want the story to break in half like that. Good detail. “Oldest Albany Graduate Moves Past Century Mark” by Kathryn Stapp. Good end quote. More descriptions of Swinger and her love would have been nice. Specific anecdotes are always better than general descriptions.

Division 10 Small Weeklies

Crowley★Star

- 1. Crowley Star** — “Tracing the Past” by Andrew D. Brosig. Great story, very well written and presented. This entry was a clear winner in the category. “Memories of War” by Andrew D. Brosig. This story had the perfect amount of “in his own words” and writer summary—a good balance that allows the reader to easily follow the narrative.
- 2. Overton Press** — “Local Schools’ Attendance Remains Strong Despite Flu’s Spread in ETx” by Charlotte Heldenbrand. Nicely written and good balance in tone between slightly light-hearted and serious subject. “Oldest Surviving Rescuer Recalls Work at the Scene” by Charlotte Heldenbrand. I suspect all the stories in the “Memories” piece were compelling, as the overall story grabs attention so easily. But an overly dramatic write-up can ruin the best natural stories. Fortunately for the readers, that is not the case here. Nicely done!
- 3. Dripping Springs Century News** — “Creek Road Cuisine” by Anne Drabicky. This could have easily veered off into a business story, but by keeping the focus on the friendship, it keeps it more of a feature story. “Farm-fresh Feast” by Anne Drabicky. Nice presentation on both pieces. Good quotes.
- 4. Keene Star** — “Still Unsolved” by Gnadt. Interesting look back at an unsolved case, especially since it’s the only murder case. I would have liked to see a little more about the victim though. Friends? Family? What do they say about the case status? “Thermal ‘Eye’ Helps Keene Police See You at Night” by Paul Gnadt. Fun lead. Takes readers into a nice little story.

FeatureStory

First Place Division 6 Weeklies

Oddest of Autos Saves Gas, Inspires Laughs

Family can't help but smile about rickshaw

By GEORGIA FISHER
Park Cities People

"All right," Tracy Ross McLaughlin hollers to her daughter from inside a comically small red vehicle. Her primary mode of transport looks like the love child of a golf cart and a lawnmower, with a Vespa hiding somewhere in its family tree – and, as McLaughlin will tell you, she long ago broke the belt that sends it into reverse.

"Give me some Fred Flintstone!"

Hope, 11, obliges, gripping the front of the car's windowless frame as her flip-flops push hard against the ground. It rolls fast after a second or two, and Hope leaps inside as her mother gives it gas.

Their not-so-typical ride, called an auto-rickshaw, features a scooter's engine, handlebars, a covered top, and cushioned front and back seats that can easily hold about five adults. It's a standard means of get-

ting around India, Southeast Asia, and other parts of the world in the McLaughlin family's case, the Park Cities.

Tracy, Hope, and Ike, 14, have had theirs for about five years, and weather permitting, they use it for grocery shopping, rides to school, and most-in-town errands. Onlookers tend to stop them at lights, take photographs, wave, stare, ogle, and generally crack up when the rickshaw chugs by – and with bumper stickers like "Willie Nelson For President," it's hard not to break a smile.

"You can't drive it if you're in a bad mood," McLaughlin said. "It's the greatest thing, because it forces you to talk to people. Being a snobby rickshaw driver won't work ...and once they realize they're laughing *with* me, it's cool."

In ideal conditions with zero drag, the rickshaw tops out at about 40 miles per hour.

"Originally, we were going to make everyone wear helmets, but it was so comical that my vanity

prevailed," said McLaughlin – who calls herself a "safety freak" and says she doubts she'll ever let the kids drive the rickshaw, even when they're old enough for a motorcycle license.

McLaughlin's one-time stunts include cramming it full of seven adults, and, sans passengers, putting all the way from her home on Mockingbird Lane to Interstate 635.

"But it wasn't real smart," she said. "I had it on the access road at 75 just because my mom told me I couldn't."

Because of changing emissions and import laws, replacement parts for the little vehicles are increasingly difficult to find, said Oliver Sitrin, operations manager at University Scooters, where McLaughlin bought hers.

The store no longer carries the rickshaws produced by the Indian company Bajaj, but it does service them and still gets inquiries about the brand a few times a month, said Sitrin, adding that the only other local model he knows of

belongs to a Carrollton-area customer McLaughlin calls "Rickshaw Ralph," whose streaming white ponytail is often seen catching air on Greenville Avenue.

Owning such an odd vehicle has its healing powers, said McLaughlin, who underwent a rough divorce last year.

"It's made me feel connected," she said. "The rickshaw has been a great way to get back into life a little."

Granted, she joked, "It hasn't really been a date-grabber."

But it takes only a gallon of gas, needs refueling just once a week, and – save for the whole "reverse" issue – has been virtually problem free, said McLaughlin, who also has a vintage Corvette, a rare Mercedes-Benz G500 with "an engine that'll rock your world," and a Chevy Tahoe that she seems loathe to look at directly.

"See, no one knows who I am in this thing," McLaughlin clucked, nodding toward the SUV's tinted windows. "It's for bad-mood days."

First Place Division 7 Weeklies

Continued from page 11

Horse sense

through her letters and e-mails that she really was the number one fan," Hayes said. "Her enthusiasm is addictive."

"It's in her blood, and it doesn't go away," Scott's mother, Lori, said. "Maddy has always been passionate about whatever she is interested in. For kids who love horses and then move on, it's a fever. For those who love them forever, it's a disease."

The teenaged horse addict said she learned a lot during her summer

visit to dreamland.

"I got a feel for the life of people who live and breathe horses, at least the people who have done very well at it," she said. "These people were so welcoming. They are already like a family. They told me they expect a lot from me."

Those expectations don't seem to worry the youngster. She is already looking at colleges and options in equine science and management programs. Three Chimneys has already

talked to her about job shadowing when she is older.

Whatever she does for a living, Scott is going to have her hands on horses, said her mother.

"Because of a passion she never let die, she has met these amazing people who want to help her as she chooses her career," Lori said. "They are giving her a good look at what it means to make a living with horses."

Nearer to the present, Scott is already making plans with Three

Chimneys to visit again during the 2010 World Equestrian Games held in Kentucky starting in September. Chapman said she looks forward to meeting with Scott again during the trip.

"Maddy has already surpassed me with her horse knowledge," Chapman said. "It is fascinating to see what she has taught herself. I am really excited about seeing what she decides to do with her life."

HeadlineWriting

First Place Division 2 Dailies

Goodbye,
Red Brick Road

Character Builder

For some, Tech season
tickets are a loyal pain

First Place Division 3 Semiweeklies

ROADWAY MISHAP
MELTED DREAMS

HAIL OF A STORM

Asking for a raze

First Place Division 5 Semiweeklies

City commissioners
take a swing at golf
course rules

A burning desire
Volunteers go up in
flames in 'TEXAS' scene

*Woman of faith races to
help others through trials*

Division 2
Dailies 7,000 to 99,999
LUBBOCK AVALANCHE-JOURNAL

- Lubbock Avalanche-Journal** — Character Builder: Good hammer, with impact and clever use of phrase. Difficult Fix: “Loyal Pain” is a nice turn of phrase. Goodbye, Red Brick Road: Also puts nice twist on phrase and fits story well.
- Kerrville Daily Times** — Swine Flu: Works better as an art element than a headline, but it is informative and impactful. Snake Savvy: Works as both a head and graphic element (other good heads on page as well). Godzilla Tales from the Hood: Induces a chuckle. Clever head for fun story.
- Victoria Advocate** — What Should Yield: Gets point across, plays well off the photo. The Lighthouse: Clever turn of phrase, part of nice centerpiece design. Chicken Plucked: Not too original. Fun story calls for fun head.
- Facts, Clute** — It Takes Guts: Makes reader take notice. Unchained Maladies: Clever turn of phrase. Escaping Ike: Clever phrasing but not sure how well it fits story (and great story, by the way).

Division 3
Dailies Less Than 7,000
The River Cities
DAILY TRIBUNE

- River Cities Tribune** — Melted Dreams: Cute! Asking for a Raze: Perfect! Hail of a Storm: Wow!

First Place Division 4 Dailies

Police scanners
are over and out

Georgetown couple
beats the ID-ocracy

Big Finn-ish

- San Marcos Daily Record** — City Writing on the Wall: Combination of headlines and subheads work well on all three. Dry Dusty: Says it all. No Green Blues: Clever.
- Taylor Daily Press** — Officer Jungle Gym: Appropos. Birds Are Back: Liked lead-in. City Refuses Excessive Refuse: Nice play on words.
- Ennis Daily News** — Kelly Manor Keeps: Sums it all up. Who’s King of Jungle: Gets point across. EJHS: A little trite but still cute.

Division 4
Semiweeklies 4,001 or More

THE  SUN

- Williamson County Sun** — Big Finn-ish: Super! Georgetown Couple Beats ID-ocracy: Clever. Police Scanners Are Over and Out: 10-4!
- Burleson Star** — Sew Much Time: Not the best of your entries. Propable Cause: Better. Timber Tantrum: Best. All are great!
- Wise County Messenger** — That’s All Folks: Great! Love the subhead. Thou Shalt Not Steal: Perfect! Early Flight: Good.
- El Campo Leader-News** — Students Understand: Nice. Supporters Shell Out: Great job. Lid May Be Closed: Just great.

Division 5
Semiweeklies 4,000 or Less
The Canyon News

Continued on next page

Headline Writing

First Place Division 6 Weeklies

Stalking history
in a corn field

Jirasek parks Tigers
in regionals

Big Blue
squeegees
Marlin

First Place Division 7 Weeklies

Freight truck smash:
Was someone texting?

Chicken carcasses and
cash: Valley trucker short
on answers

Dope in her bra,
fugitive collected kids

First Place Division 9 Weeklies

Shooting buzzards
won't fly

It's About Dam Time

There Arose Such A
CLATTER

Continued from previous page

- 1. Canyon News** — City Commissioners Take Swing at Golf Course Rules: Nice to add levity to a commission story. A Burning Desire: Very good! Woman of Faith Races to Help: Again, well done.
- 2. Sealy News** — Sky's the Limit: Strong. Love of Bearded Dragons: Again, very nice. Scout's Honor: Great! Great copywriters/editors/reporters—whoever writes these!
- 3. Breckenridge American** — A Win Nguyen Situation: Great! Swine Flu Who: No comment from judge. BPD Folds Up Laundry Burglar: Very nice.
- 4. Center Light and Champion** — Car Drives Thru, Leaving a Bitter Taste, Residents Talk Trash: Very good work!

Division **6**
Large Weeklies

The Rockdale Reporter

- 1. Rockdale Reporter** — Stalking History in Corn Field: Compelling. Jirasek Parks Tigers in Regionals: Been waiting to use that one? Big Blue Squeegees Marlin: Great!
- 2. Wilson County News** — Bones Spook Workers: Good eye-catcher. Pee-Wee Champion Rides Tall in Saddle: No comment from judge. Barber No Stranger to Close Shaves: Great!
- 3. Colorado County Citizen** — Tea'd Off in Columbus: Chuckle. Stop Wasting My Money: no comment by judge. Scat Cat: Great!
- 4. Wylie News** — City Filters Ban on Tobacco: Nice. Pen-nies Provide Pooch Protection: No comment from judge. Ag Students Get Swine Blue: No comment from judge.

First Place Division 8 Weeklies

Bobcats bust Brahmas
in boo-boo-burdened
battle

Cats lick Bulldogs in
'bone'-a fide pounding

Cats claw canines in
Cat-aclysmic Cat-fight

Division **7**
Medium Large Weeklies

Frio-Nueces
Current

- 1. Frio-Nueces Current** — Chicken Carcasses and Cash: Wow. How could they not read this one. Dope in Her Bra: You squeezed a lot into this head! Freight Truck Smash: You should work for Drudge.
- 2. Smithville Times** — Bond. Bail Bond: Well done, 007. The Pew. The Proud. The Bench Boys: Best in this entry. Pretty in Pictures: Not bad. Why didn't the newspaper do this book?
- 3. Hamilton Herald-News** — Pork Choppers: This is why you placed. Great! Paschal's Pickled Peppers: Better than boring, but there's such a thing as too much alliteration. Zebras Say Neigh: Do Zebras neigh?
- 4. Medina Valley Times** — Apples for Students: This is your best entry. Hondo's House Divides on Recall: Not flashy, but biblical reference gets point across. Drought Losses Ripple: Matches photo well.

Division **8**
Medium Weeklies

Refugio County Press

- 1. Refugio County Press** — Bobcats Bust Brahmas in Boo-Boo Burdened Battle: Never seen alliteration taken to this level. Clever, accurate and fun. Cats Lick Bulldogs: No comment from judge. Cats Claw Canines: No comment from judge.
- 2. Community News** — Water Rates Flowing Uphill: No comment from judge. No Place Like Om: Clever. Four Grams

Continued on page 17

Editorials

Division 2

Dailies 7,000 to 99,999

THE DAILY NEWS

1. Galveston County Daily News — Michael A. Smith. Adult Laws Needed: Strong job of explaining the issue, offering details on proposed bill and taking a stance on its likely effect. A lot of research and thought went into this effort. Money for Suffering: Very strong writing, with dramatic twist to make case for storm victims. Writer uses a conversational style but hammers home points quite well.

2. Victoria Advocate — Justice Gone to Dogs: Great lead hooks reader on unique topic. Strong views drive point home effectively. Open Case: Good discussion of key local issue with kicker of offering to help pay for citizen-driven legal action. That's showing community involvement in a real way.

3. Laredo Morning Times — Police Dept. Must Show Merit: Takes a while to reach point but does effectively with good use of facts throughout. County Leaders: Strong opinion and good use of facts to support your views.

4. Facts, Clute — Michael Morris/Yvonne Mintz. Gaps in Bridge: Solid job on key topic with good use of facts to support views. Seizure of Reporter's Papers Intolerable: Good lead and detailed description of event. Made your point well without descending into "the police chief is picking on us" rhetoric.

Division 3

Dailies Less Than 7,000

TAYLOR DAILY PRESS

1. Taylor Daily Press — Be Passionate: This seems to have been a hot-button issue in the community, which would justify acknowledging the kind of Web comments made. An effective job in addressing both the euthanasia issue and response to it. Good Communications: A solid job of presenting the facts and reaching a conclusion.

2. Waxahachie Daily Light — We Expect More: Good job of detailing problem and holding agencies accountable. Needs to be more pointed by offering detailed solutions. Train of Disruption: A unique problem but clearly affected the town and justified commentary.

3. River Cities Tribune — SAWS: Alphabet soup of acronyms somewhat confusing, though probably not to devout local readers. Still tackles a key local issue in a detailed manner. Devo Dark Chapter Closed: Good discussion of the death penalty, weighing historical and moral context with details of this case.

4. San Marcos Daily Record — RHR. Battle Lines: Clever use of song lyrics to discuss public discourse, but repeated inserts become distracting after the first few instances. King and Kingdom: An important local topic but could have gone further in making case for keeping sports in perspective.

Division 4

Semiweeklies 4,001 or More

The Highlander

1. Marble Falls Highlander — Imperfect Rules: Sounds like this criticism is well deserved. Keep it up! Good review of history with eye on next election! Miller's Departure: Excellent point, just because they can discuss a personnel decision behind closed doors doesn't mean they don't owe the public an explanation.

2. Beeville Bee-Picayune — Hinojosa's Cowardice: Way to call out your congressman for being too chicken to hear from constituents! Taking Chance on Kids: Nice defense of a new policy.

3. Hood County News — Monitoring Council: Good call for open government. Mission Granbury: Wow. Way to call them on this. What a racket!

4. Williamson County Sun — County's Right—For Now: Well written. Fire This Time: Makes you think.

Division 5

Semiweeklies 4,000 or Less

Round Rock Leader

1. Round Rock Leader — Grocery Employee Fired: This is excellent. Unbelievable story. Hopefully this store's competitor will hire this guy. Kudos to WilCo: Nice support for cause.

2. Gonzales Inquirer — School Traffic Issues: Now this is an issue the local community can relate to. Well done. Here We Go Again: Very well argued. Being transparent is in their self-interest.

3. Perryton Herald — Interlocks Needed: Short, to the point, backed by facts. Well done. Death Penalty Deters: Well put, with supporting case!

4. Lampasas Dispatch Record — Voting Bill: Well argued. Not sure your readers are as interested though. (Maybe to their detriment.) Thanks to McQueen & Company: Nice props for the new, drought-breaking coach. I bet your readers like this.

Division 6

Large Weeklies

The Rockdale Reporter

1. Rockdale Reporter — Re-Zoning: Way to take on council for trying to pass the buck! Burden of Proof: Excellent points, with good supporting details.

2. Houston Business Journal — Ford Gunter/Bill Schadewald. State Agency: Funny! What hypocrisy of an "environmental" group to keep wasting trees/paper. You keep good records. Nice, detailed history of their incompetence. Check-Writing: Facing the computer age—something we can all relate to.

3. Port Aransas South Jetty — Mary Judson. Fourth Estate: Excellent defense of the newspaper. Of course I like it! A Matter of Doing What's Right: Good explanation of mayor's issue and fair call for public officials to meet higher standard.

4. Jewish Herald-Voice — Where Were You: This is what got you 4th place. An excellent call for your readers to remember what evil men can do, with hopes of preventing a repeat. Bridging Gaps: No comment by judge.

Division 7

Medium Large Weeklies

THE JASPER NEWSBOY

1. Jasper Newsboy — City Strikes Out: Very persuasive. Nice job. Brooks Decision: An unusual move applauded. Good work.

2. Frio-Nueces Current — Desperate and Deadly: Very well done, buttressed by facts, anecdotes and feeling. Reunited: Moving Memorial Day tribute.

3. Colorado City Record — Carol Parsons. Farewell Imagination: You make a good point. I didn't even hear of this. Something Worth Holding: Wow. A tearjerker. Ought to be required July 4th reading. Thank you for reminding us what America means.

4. Pharr Advance News Journal — G. Romero Wendorf. Levi's and Haggars: Makes you think. Don't forget our Congress levies the highest corporate taxes in the developed world. Agree or not, it's well argued with anecdotes. Drug Test Parents: I bet this made people read and talk. Provocative if nothing else.

Division 8

Medium Weeklies

Lake Country Sun

1. Lake Country Sun — Environmental Lip Service: Local. This Week's Meeting: Local.

2. Big Bend Sentinel — Obama Address to Students: No comment by judge. Thought Police Cuts Both Ways: No comment by judge.

Judge did not award a 3rd or 4th place in Division 8.

Division 9

Small Medium Weeklies

Gladewater Mirror

1. Gladewater Mirror — Lawmakers Wasting Time: Well said! Residents Must Stay Involved: Good call to engagement.

2. Frankston Citizen — Unclear Who Can Vote in Coffee City: Interesting issue. This is a little long, but something voters should learn. Marching Band Plays: This is excellent. Wanted to stand and cheer the band. Good work, and I'm sure they appreciated it.

3. Clarendon Enterprise — Roger Estlack. Era of Bigger Government: Well put. Something affecting all of us. City, Sheriff Back at Odds: Good insight into dispute, with direction of what to do.

4. Eldorado Success — In Memory of Travis and Rachel: Very sad and poignant. Very specific memories. Well done. AEP Should Improve: Who can't relate to that!

Division 10

Small Weeklies

The Big Lake Wildcat

1. Big Lake Wildcat — Randy Mankin. City Council Wrong: Good primer on open meetings! Way to be instructively critical. Paul Harvey, Good Day: Nice remembrances of a legend.

2. Overton Press — Price of Progress: A good reminder of the value of history. Take Time for 9/11: Duly reminded.

3. Everman Star — Candy McMichen. Open Government: Well put! School Tax Election: Good info.

4. Wallis News-Review — Johnny Griffin. Anniversaries: Solemn reminder of obstacles overcome. We The People: Good points. We are responsible.

Editorials

First Place Division 5 Semiweeklies

Grocery employee should be thanked

File this one under the category of “no good deed goes unpunished.” Or perhaps it belongs in “The Devil’s Dictionary,” where Ambrose Bierce defined “loyalty” as “the characteristic common to those about to be betrayed.”

Whatever the case, former Randalls produce manager Troy Schafer got a raw deal, when the grocery store chain fired him last month after he’d come to the aid of a woman whose purse had been stolen.

As the *Leader* reported on its front page—and as had been reported across the country—on July 21 Round Rock resident Ann Welch was shopping in the Randalls

on Gattis School Road when a teenage boy (allegedly) stole her purse out of her shopping cart.

Schafer—who was just returning to the store from his lunch break—heard Welch’s cries for help.

Schafer did not apprehend the youth, or otherwise physically engage him. But he did give chase, relaying information about the (alleged) knucklehead’s whereabouts, so our Round Rock cops could catch him. Which they did.

Schafer’s reward, for coming to the aid of a middle-aged woman who’d just been robbed, was to be fired by Randalls management three days later.

Schafer apparently violated company policy, but let’s be real clear: The former produce manager is not the rotten apple here.

We understand why these rules are in place. Nearly every business has them. People can get hurt or killed, when they get in the way of robbers and thieves.

But we also know there is a time to follow the rules, to the letter, and a time to look at circumstances on a case-by-case basis.

In this case, Randalls apparent “zero-tolerance” policy makes about as much sense as when schools—operating under the theory that a drug is a drug—treat girls who bring Midol to school as

if they were smoking crack in the restroom. As so often happens, “zero tolerance” equals “zero thinking.”

We also know this: We would not give you 2 cents for any able-bodied man who would not have responded the same way Troy Schafer did.

We would have wanted him around, had that purse-snatching victim been our mother or sister or wife. We’d bet that deep down, the very same folks who fired Schafer feel the same way.

And Schafer put it best: “In all honesty, you do what’s necessary to help a person in need. You’ve got to be who you are morally.”

Headline Writing

Continued from page 15

of Bird: I had to read the story because of the headline. Good job!

3. Hill Country Community Journal — Court Adjourned: No comment from judge. Looking for a Kink: Clever play on name. Prescription for Dissent: No comment from judge.

4. Bandera County Courier — Busted Flat in Lake-hills: Consistently writes headlines that make the reader go further into the story. Double Whammy: No comment from judge. Do Newly Hired Jailers Pass Infamous Smell Test: No comment from judge.

Division **9**
Small Medium Weeklies

The Gladewater Mirror

1. Gladewater Mirror — Shooting Buzzards Won’t Fly: Great, clever summation of story. It’s About Dam Time: Makes you look! There Arose Such a Clatter: Works well with photo!

2. Llano County Journal — Toddler Home: Sums it up well. Purple Pedicures: Makes you look. Llano Woman Gets Second Wind: Good way to put it!

3. Albany News — Hunting Season Starts With Bang: Yes it did. Bite Back Holiday Eating: Well put. Lake Couple Collects Real Thing: My favorite.

4. Sachse News — Local Haunts Serve Up Scares: Good Halloween header. Owls Own Night: Good play on mascot. Performing Arts Take Center Stage: Well done.

Division **10**
Small Weeklies

Keene★Star

1. Keene Star — Little Punch on Hot Day: Very appropriate. Not a Good Sign: Laughing at this one. Capitalizing on the Opportunity: Clever.

2. Everman Star — Council Tables Tables Tables: Very creative and accurate! Guns and Hoses: Nice. Call for Arms: Very nice.

3. Lindsay Letter — Family Court: Accurate and pun-filled. Classic Car Takes Joy Ride: Story is told right there. Passion and Payne: Payne—I get it!

4. Murphy Monitor — Energy Demonstration: Clever. International Flavors: Very clever. School Boundary: Very, very clever.

First Place Division 10 Weeklies

NOT A GOOD SIGN

Capitalizing on the opportunity

A LITTLE PUNCH ON A HOT DAY

FeaturePhoto



FeaturePhoto



CLOCKWISE from left:
1) First Place Division 2 Dailies, Frank Tilley, Victoria Advocate - (Featured in the "Click" series).
2) First Place Division 3 Dailies, Ashley Landis, San Marcos Daily Record - Nathan Rodriguez, 8, climbs into a giant, inflatable bubble. Food, games and prizes were provided throughout the day at the annual event.
3) First Place Division 9 Weeklies, Mac McKinnon, The Dublin Citizen - FLAG DOESN'T MEAN NO CONTACT - For those who believe flag football is a non-contact sport, this picture will tell them otherwise. It was in action Saturday at the practice field at DHS.
4) First Place Division 6 Weeklies, Port Aransas South Jetty- Me, first! - Two brown pelicans try to out-position each other to catch a hand-out of piggy perch tossed into the water by an angler on the bulkhead at Dennis Dreyer Municipal Harbor in July last year. It might seem like fun, but feeding the pelicans actually isn't a good idea for a variety of reasons, according to Port Aransas wildlife rehabilitator Tony Amos.

PREVIOUS PAGE from left:
1) First Place Division 4 Semiweeklies, Bryce Harper, The Williamson County Sun - Aerial Acrobats.
2) First Place Division 10 Weeklies, Kathy Floyd, The Lindsay Letter - Kobi Bryant snuggles with Snickers, her Holland lop rabbit, at the Cooke County Youth Fair Friday.
3) First Place Division 2 Dailies, Frank Tilley, Victoria Advocate - Pastor Mike Swearingen responded to a higher calling when fellow bikers asked him to form a biker church and become their pastor. At 63, Swearingen was planning on just riding his motorcycle and ministering the Bible, but starting a church was a challenge he wasn't quite prepared for.

FeaturePhoto

Division **2**
Dailies 7,000 to 9,999

VICTORIA ADVOCATE

- 1. Victoria Advocate** — Frank Tilley. Click (photo 1) and Heaven's Angel (photo 2): Photos compelled me to read the story and that's what they should do.
- 2. Kerrville Daily Times** — Tom Holden. Great Dane (photo 1) and Man of the People (photo 2): Loved the composition of both photos.
- 3. Laredo Morning Times** — Ulysses Romero/Cuate Santos. As Bull Approaches (photo 1) and Storm on Horizon (photo 2): Nice job. These photos are key to telling the story.
- 4. Facts, Clute** — Dan Dalstra/Holly Parker. Autism (photo 1) and In Your Own Defense (photo 2): Liked how you captured expressions on everyone's face.

Division **3**
Dailies Less Than 7,000

San Marcos Daily Record

- 1. San Marcos Daily Record** — Ashley Landis. Nathan Rodriguez Climbs: Very eye-catching photo. I like the placement on the page. Memorial Skateboarding: Maybe a little too much of their backs.
- 2. Plainview Daily Herald** — Hayley Cox and Richard Porter. On the Nose: Very funny photo and nice moment. Cattle Drive: A little boring. I like the higher angle though.
- 3. River Cities Tribune** — Daniel Clifton. Whooo Goes There: A different and eye-catching photo for the front page. Plucky Musicians: Nice moment. Good job with composition in this one.
- 4. Taylor Daily Press** — Jason Schaefer. Raising Main: Nice composition. He's a bit dark, though. Taylor ISD Transportation: Way to get low. It's a little dark, but it works O.K. Good job.

Division **4**
Semiweeklies 4,001 or More

THE SUN

- 1. Williamson County Sun** — Bryce Harper. Aerial Acrobats (photo 1) and Portraits (photo 2): Awesomeness. Fabulous shots. By far the best in category. Lovely wide angle in aerial. Great design, great use of light in portrait.
- 2. Wise County Messenger** — Joe Duty. Pendleton, Ore. (photo 1) and Going for Spin (photo 2): Both great moments. Good use of images in layout.
- 3. Bastrop Advertiser** — Terry Hagerty. Julie Jones: fabulous moment. Martin Hinojosa: Nice composition, light.
- 4. Burlestone Star** — Kim Ovard/Andrew Brosig. Let's Get Rowdy: Funny shot, but definitely not as strong as graduation shot. Congratulations Class of 2009: Expression trumps!

Division **5**
Semiweeklies 4,000 or Less

Round Rock Leader

- 1. Round Rock Leader** — Marcial Guajardo. Dragonettes in Synch: Nice lighting creates colorful effect. Pretty Maids in Row: Unique angle. Also nice turn of phrase in cutline.
- 2. Lampasas Dispatch Record** — David Lowe/Lisa Carnley. Honoring the Fallen: Vice nice photo, dramatic. Living History: Looks posed.
- 3. Bowie News** — Barbara Green. Closer Look: Nice, tight angle. Good crop for play. Giant Mushrooms: Not sure of news value. Doesn't seem to be photo worthy of front page.
- 4. Breckenridge American** — Jean Hayworth/Stephen Peters. Puckering Porker: Fun photo, great expression on pig's face. Class Act: Different angle. A bit disorienting on its own. Works O.K. with package.

Division **6**
Large Weeklies

SOUTH JETTY

- 1. Port Aransas South Jetty** — Dan Parker. High Flying: Good use of light, shadow, composition. Me First: Great photo, great reproduction. Cutline drew me into the story.
- 2. Wylie News** — Brad Walsh/Donnita Nesbit Fisher. Showcased: Great reproduction, composition. Welcome Home: Great capture of emotion.
- 3. Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post** — Cathy Collier/Lisa Treiber-Walker. Fairly Tuckered Out: Great title. Good catch to illustrate local event. Heavy Downpours: No comment by judge.
- 4. Azle News** — Jeri Field. Meagan Gardner: Great composition—way to look for the extraordinary in an ordinary assignment. On Bubble: Good capture of energy and emotion.

Division **7**
Medium Large Weeklies

THE BANDERA BULLETIN

- 1. Bandera Bulletin** — Jessica Hawley-Jerome/James Taylor. Caught in Middle: Lucky guy! Great shot! Young Gun Salute: There's a winner!
- 2. Westlake Picayune** — Paul Brick/Ed Allen. Peyton Burns: Great emotion. Dog Days: No comment by judge.
- 3. Smithville Times** — Denis McGinness. It's Around Here Somewhere: Nice catch! Fun at Fire Station: Can't beat laughing kids!
- 4. Nueces County Record-Star** — Tim Olmeda/Christopher Maher. Team Roping: Nice use of light. Sparking Interest: Nice use of light.

Division **8**
Medium Weeklies

CLAY COUNTY LEADER

- 1. Clay County Leader** — Matt Kelton. Airman in Training: Good expression. Watch your composition with large groups of people. Paying His Department: Beautiful! Excellent composition.

- 2. Refugio County Press** — Kenda Nelson/Velma Gonzales. Girl Brushing Show Steer: Interesting photo. Nice composition. Like the blur. Last Splash of Summer: Predictable but good photo.

- 3. Community News, Aledo** — Kathy Chruscielski/Erin Lopes. Snow Day: Expression trumps all! Nice moment. Spring Swing: Good expression. Nice moment.

- 4. Springtown Epigraph** — Mark K. Campbell/Gail Gilmore. Let 'Em Run: Nice composition with good expression. Wild West Fest: Interesting picture.

Division **9**
Small Medium Weeklies

The Dublin Citizen

- 1. Dublin Citizen** — Mac McKinnon/Paul Gaudette. Flag Doesn't Mean No Contact: Nice shot, good reaction, nice color. No Eeyores in Sight: Poor reproduction. Hard to tell what he's doing.
- 2. Waller County News-Citizen** — Joe Southern/Vince Yokom. Texas Army: I don't like the knockout of the smoke. Let the photo stand. Reproduction is iffy. Get Your Goat: Good facial reaction, nice play. Good color. Would have been nice to identify the girl, though.
- 3. Eldorado Success** — Kathy Mankin. Eye on You: Great reaction, really cute. Color repro is a bit off. Dance Instructor: So-so. Might have worked better in color.
- 4. Frankston Citizen** — Jeff Graham. Kids at Fire Safety Demo: Cute kid, nice shot. Reproduction is a bit iffy. Also could have been played better. Great Dane Lap Dog: Nice shot but reproduction is poor and photo isn't played well. Should have led page. Copy desk not doing this photographer any favors.

Division **10**
Small Weeklies

The Lindsay Letter

- 1. Lindsay Letter** — Kathy Floyd/Richard Greene. Furry Friend (photo 1) and Tug of War Mud Pit Splash (photo 2): Clear winners. Sharp, good action and emotion in both photos and good explanations.
- 2. Crowley Star** — Andrew D. Brosig. Ounce of Prevention: Good capture of tough moment. Tells the story with no need of explanation. Author and First Book: Error in cutline hurts, but not fatal.
- 3. Alvarado Star** — Christopher Amos. Crunch (photo 1) and Can You Hear Me Now (photo 2): No comments by judge.
- 4. Bay Area Citizen** — Mary Ann Hellinghausen/Dana Guthrie. Giving Spirit: Good composition and capture of emotion. Hop to It: A moment easy to miss, but this photographer didn't.

NewsPhoto



First Place Division 8 Weeklies, Matt Kelton, Clay County Leader — Clay County's 1890 Jail Museum and Heritage Center stands in the background as Grady Smith of the Lone Star Troubadours sings during the historical society's Grand Gala Saturday night. More than 400 people attended the event, celebrating the reopening of the museum following a \$500,000 renovation. The event featured museum tours, horse-drawn buggy rides, face painting, childrens games and an antique printing press demonstration. A performance by country and western singer-songwriter Jay Hollis brought the event to a close.

Division 2 Dailies 7,000 to 99,999

* GALVESTON COUNTY *

THE DAILY NEWS

- 1. Galveston County Daily News** — Jennifer Reynolds. Body Found on Pier: Compelling image that—dare I say—rises to the level of art. Outstanding. Mother's Day Wreck: Crashingly good.
- 2. New Braunfels Herald-Zeitung** — Laura McKenzie. Firefighters Battle Blaze: This photo is a water-filled wonder of streaming delight. Fatal Fire: Excellent composition. A step beyond the usual house engulfed in flames.
- 3. El Paso Times** — Mark Lambie/Victor Calzada. Operation Diesel Rolls: Excellent composition. Photo really drives home point that these two are under arrest! Nurse Prepares Shot Needle: Photo manages to make mundane seem interesting.
- 4. Facts, Clute** — Dan Dalstra. Car Slams Into Salon: Well-composed photo that says it all. Blessed to Know Him: Captures human tragedy of war.

Division 3 Dailies Less Than 7,000

Plainview Daily Herald

- 1. Plainview Daily Herald** — Richard Porter. Fatal Fire: Photo head in the frame? Not a good idea, but good photo. Fatal Mishap: Not bad. I said it once and I'll say it again—not bad.
- 2. River Cities Tribune** — Chris Porter. Out of Harm's Way: The emotion is captured well. Good job. Scary Ride: Mildly interesting.
- 3. Seguin Gazette Enterprise** — Katie Collins/Ron Maloney. Head-on Collision: A crashing delight. Going Back: You can't go home again.
- 4. San Marcos Daily Record** — Ashley Landis. Up in Smoke: Text in photo butchers the photo, then smothers it. Helicopter Crash: Text butchers photo.

Division 4 Semiweeklies 4,001 or More

Burleson★Star

- 1. Burleson Star** — Christopher Amos. Car Accident: Very nice job. You showed enough of the car for us to understand what happened, and you were in the right spot to show her emotion. Neighborhood of Tragedy: Nice work framing

him in doorway. I'd like to see a bit more emotion. Hand on face, etc. Keep the text off of a news photo.

- 2. Graham Leader** — Cherry Rushin. Watching Newcastle Burn: A bit too wide and a little soft. Nice job showing massive fire. Too Close for Comfort: Really nice image. I like the angle a lot. I wish you waited a split second longer to frame the subject better in the window.
- 3. Wise County Messenger** — Joe Duty. Empty Pulpit: I really like this shot. It is different and not your standard news photo. I wish the stained glass was illuminated more. Tough Loss: Color is a bit off. Nice moment though.
- 4. Hood County News** — Mary Vinson. Mobile Home Fire: A lot going on in this shot. Good job, but maybe wait for a firefighter to turn around and show some emotion. Fire Destroys Apartments: It looks like the fire is in focus, but I think the firefighters needed to be. Get lower, too!

Division 5 Semiweeklies 4,000 or Less

The Light and Champion

- 1. Center Light and Champion** — Denise Matthews/JoAnna Martin. Firefighter O'Connor: Well composed. Body language works even from the back perspective. Emergency

Continued on next page

NewsPhoto



LEFT: First Place Division 3 Dailies, Richard Porter, Plainview Daily Herald - Volunteers help first responders as they work to free the victim of a wreck which occurred at 7:13 p.m. Thursday in the 1100 block of the east service road of North I-27. The southbound Toyota Corolla, driven by Michelle Mary Meyer, 44, of Minnesota, failed to yield the right-of-way to the northbound semi, driven by Brian Scott Hartry, 46, of Missouri. The truck was entering the on-ramp of the interstate. Meyer was taken to Covenant Hospital Plainview where she was pronounced dead.

Continued from previous page

Crews: Less effective than photo 1, but clear.

2. Lamb County Leader-News — Joella Lovvorn/Joe Gonzales. Dryland Crop: Extremely dry image. Want closer, more expression, something. Fatal Accident: Well composed, close enough to see faces and expressions.

3. Breckenridge American — Rob Durham. Blaze Consumes Lake Houses: Good capture. All the fire elements present. Gary Trammel Films: This would be more effective if frame allowed for some of the actual subject being filmed.

4. Copperas Cove Leader-Press — Crystal Brown/Crystal McCoy. Bus in Ditch: Get closer! Heat Wave: Interesting image. Heat is not normally something captured through the lens so effectively.

Division 6 Large Weeklies



1. Port Aransas South Jetty — Dan Parker. In the Zone: Kinda ho-hum. The Fight, the Finish: Compelling images. You didn't start that fire just to get a good photo, did you?

2. Hays Free Press — Mary Stone/Cyndy Slovak-Barton. Lights Out: Right place at right time. Fatality: Two times! Well done.

3. Azle News — Gail Gilmore. Rainy Day Backup: Here comes that rainy day feeling again. Parker County Search: Not bad.

4. Silsbee Bee — Brent Guidry. Hoop Heartbreaker: He should have scored more points. Missing Man: It looks like they're trying to kill the guy.

Division 7 Medium Large Weeklies



1. Gazette, Pittsburg — Susan Taft/Marsha Neeley. High Speed Chase: Pretty good. Plain and simple but good shot. Fatal Accident: Pretty good illustration of bizarre accident.

2. Bandera Bulletin — James Taylor. Historic: Good

composition and you can't go wrong with a kid. Saluting All Veterans: Captures the celebration well.

3. Alpine Avalanche — Mike Perry/Cindy Perry. Dark Beautiful Rain: Nice color. Horse Action: A cute kid and a horse—you're not playing fair!

4. Banner Press Newspaper, Columbus — Ramona Ferguson/Chad Ferguson. Fair Pageantry: Pretty interesting. I can't complain. Texas Forest Service Helicopter: Pretty interesting.

Division 8 Medium Weeklies



1. Clay County Leader — Matt Kelton. Western Swing Welcome: Good composition and informative outline. In the Black: Excellent composition.

2. Community News, Aledo — James Albritton/Lori Cope. Inferno: Great fire picture. Good composition and use of scale. Postal Worker Adjusts Flag: Good composition, interesting angle. Effective photo.

3. Ellis County Press — Megan Gray/Charles Hatfield. Police Investigate: Effective photo, given outline. Nicely reproduced. Fatality Accident: Very newsworthy.

4. Springtown Epigraph — Carolea Hassard/Edwin Newton. Trinity Industries: Nice use of scale. DPS Officer: Good composition. Use rule of thirds.

Division 9 Small Medium Weeklies



1. Muenster Enterprise — Janie Hartman. Shattered Dreams: Emotion trumps everything. Well done. Fire Strikes: Perfect fire picture! The composition of this is top notch. Digging the stair-step effect. Outline is super informative. Hats off to you!

2. Gladewater Mirror — James Draper/Aaron May. Students Injured in Accident: Emotion trumps everything. Way to capture a sad moment. Outline very informative. Sidewalk Chalk Artist: Not super newsworthy, but innovative. Where

were you standing to take this? Good composition and use of rule of thirds.

3. Albany News — Melinda Lucas/Donnie Lucas. Deputy Mabry: Definitely timely, but would've liked you to move so that the truck wasn't behind Mabry. Outline informative. Battling Wildfires: Good composition here and good use of rule of thirds. Seems press was a bit off.

4. Pilot Point Post-Signal — David Lewis/Keith Magee. Paramedic Tends Accident Victim: Would've liked a different angle so the truck wasn't growing out of the paramedic's head and the firefighter wasn't growing out of his (buttocks). I know it's hard with news, but keep an eye on composition. Firefighters: Excellent fire picture! More outline info, please.

Division 10 Small Weeklies



1. Crowley Star — Kim Ovard/Andrew D. Brosig. Total Loss: Absolutely compelling images. Normally I would not advise placing an image over the top of another, but it works here. Man and dog, perfect image, well composed. Youth Injured in Accident: My paper would never run this image, nor would I have been O.K. shooting it. But I loved that the boy is conscious. It provides some hope. Light on his face makes him seem other-worldly. Interesting.

2. Alvarado Star — Christopher Amos. Neighborhood of Tragedy: Framing and composition is good here. Would prefer text off image—a bit distracting. Cancer Survivor Comforted: Nice moment. Both photos well composed and timely. Different from other news photos competing this year. Refreshing to see something besides wrecks, fires and perp walks!

3. Presidio International — Juanita Hillin/Guillermo M. Morales. Volunteer Firefighters: Average. Illegal Immigrants Voluntarily Deported: Good. This image pushed the entry to 3rd place. Compelling and well composed. Relevant to story and interesting.

4. Bay Area Citizen — Dana Guthrie/Mary Alys Cherry. District 22 Voter: Emotion trumps everything. Eight Apartments Destroyed: No comment by judge.

NewsPhoto



CLOCKWISE from left:

1) First Place Division 2 Dailies, Jennifer Reynolds, The Galveston County Daily News - Eunike Powell is comforted by family members at the 29th Street pier where a body, presumed to be that of her boyfriend, Tony Blocker, was found Friday by a member of Texas EquuSearch. Blocker was last seen Tuesday afternoon swimming with Powell near the San Luis Resort.

2) First Place Division 5 Semiweeklies, Denise Matthews, The Light and Champion - Center Firefighter Kevin O'Connor stops to catch his breath during a recent fire. The heat, the weight of the gear and the effort required cause exhaustion to be just another fight to battle.

3) First Place Division 6 Weeklies, Dan Parker, Port Aransas South Jetty - Port Aransas firefighters, Mark Young and Vinton James, from atop a ladder truck, spray the roaring flames coming from homes burning in the Port Aransas Private Marina early Friday morning, Oct. 9.

4) First Place Division 6 Weeklies, Dan Parker, Port Aransas South Jetty - Motorists drive through the school zone in Port Aransas on the morning of Monday, Sept. 14. The Port Aransas City Council will meet tonight and discuss whether to enforce a new state law that prohibits hands-on cell phone use in school zones.

PageDesign

First Place Division 2 Dailies



Division 2 Dailies 7,000 or More

The Facts

- 1. Facts, Clute** — Great use of teasers, cut-outs. Pics were playful, professional. Fonts were clean. Opinion was too cluttered with too much bold.
- 2. Lubbock Avalanche-Journal** — Love the blue-red-blue headers. Buddy Holly layout was eye catching. Flowers feature was lovely. Sports and opinion designs were very clean, professional.
- 3. Victoria Advocate** — Great teasers. Nice “block” images of photo. Great color on sports front. Nice cut-out on opinion.
- 4. El Paso Times** — Amazing teaser on front. Nice use of cutout of Rihanna. Spaghetti bowl graphic was compelling. Nice color throughout, especially on opinion.

Division 3 Dailies 7,000 or Less

San Marcos Daily Record

- 1. San Marcos Daily Record** — Interesting use of story about flag. Great buzzard art.
- 2. Taylor Daily Press** — Needs color sports on front. Good veteran shots. Nice rail on sports.
- 3. Waxahachie Daily Light** — Fun lifestyle front. Plenty to look at on front page. Ads on top look hokey.
- 4. Brownwood Bulletin** — Pink? Nice lifestyle front. Needs color on sports.

Division 4 Semiweeklies 4,001 or More

THE SUN

- 1. Williamson County Sun** — Digging your paper!

First Place Division 3 Dailies



Fonts are consistent but order of importance is obvious. Kudos to graphics designer—very effective. Loved boxing photo. Good use of photos above fold to draw readers. Use of lines, headlines, subheads and white space make this newspaper clean and reader-friendly.

- 2. Wise County Messenger** — Wow! Your front page is ballsy! Definitely a fitting tribute to a fallen officer. Kudos for having the guts to not run typed stories on the front. Good use of quality photos. Wasn't crazy about font on sports front, but it is appropriate given the gritty, urban effect you were going for. Op-ed page easy to read.
- 3. Hood County News** — Way to rock some photos! Excellent use of art above fold. Clean and easy to read. Design features—boxes on sports page—clean. Editorial page a bit hard to read. Frames and text on lifestyle page too much, although I understand the effect. Overall very clean.
- 4. Beeville Bee-Picayune** — Liked that you aren't afraid to run big photos. Graphic with grapes on lifestyles front and teaser bar on front page interesting. Headlines have too many decks and tend to look the same. Use typography to tell readers what's important.

Division 5 Semiweeklies 4,000 or Less

Round Rock Leader

- 1. Round Rock Leader** — Points for innovation on homefront page! Overall good package, clean. Maybe consider breaking up text a bit more on homefront and editorial pages.
- 2. Copperas Cove Leader-Press** — Your presentation of the dog fight on front made the page. Design elements—sidebars and other graphics—broke up the text well. Try to give things a bit more room to breathe and beware of too many three-deck headlines.
- 3. Lampasas Dispatch Record** — Good use of photos to break up text. Sports sidebar is well done, as is sales tax graphic. Overall, division of stories—editorial page especially—needs some work. It's O.K. to use some lines. Liked front and sports pages!
- 4. Andrews County News** — Good presentation of page 1 murder story—nice package! Good photo but too much

First Place Division 4 Semiweeklies



text on sports. Don't change body fonts on editorial page, one on one. Not a bad package overall.

Division 6 Large Weeklies

Hays Free Press

- 1. Hays Free Press** — All pages well designed and attractive. Good use of color and photos. All pages have a strong local image. Editorial page is well balanced. Clean design on sports page—very appealing. Neighbors page plays photo and flows well. Very nice looking paper.
- 2. Wilson County News** — Nice front centerpiece design. Good skybox. Nice photo display on living page. Sports has odd headline fonts! Distracting and not effective. Stick to main typeface. Good use of color photos throughout.
- 3. Rockdale Reporter** — Nice front design of fair photos. Very strong sports page. You use photos well but cut down on use of color tints—looks dated and makes pages too busy and cluttered. Go for cleaner look. Good, strong headline fonts are used well throughout.
- 4. Pleasanton Express** — Sports is your best page—nice impact, good use of photos and headlines. Main art on front page is attractive but posed and a bit cheesy. Living page lacks a focal point and dominant art. Green tint boxes went out with the '80s.

Division 7 Medium Large Weeklies

The Smithville Times

- 1. Smithville Times** — Great fire/storm package. Good elections box. Strong opinion page. Fun and interesting lifestyles page.
- 2. Alpine Avalanche** — Strong flag and teaser rail. Nice Obama package. Strong opinion page. Great year-in-review

Continued on next page

PageDesign

First Place Division 5 Semiweeklies



First Place Division 6 Weeklies



First Place Division 7 Weeklies



First Place Division 8 Weeklies



First Place Division 9 Weeklies



First Place Division 10 Weeklies



Continued from previous page

feature. Bright sports page.

3. Jasper Newsboy — Two nice packages on front page. Excitement of football season expressed on sports.

4. Hearne Democrat — Good front-page rail. Nice birthday box and menu listing.

Division 8 Medium Weeklies

West Austin News

1. West Austin News — Great front page package and events page. Very clean photography.

2. Community News, Aledo — Great front page packages "on the side." Compelling sports front. Nice hot dog package.

3. Clay County Leader — Great football package on front. Nice, clean fonts. Nice information for readers on son-dries page.

4. Hill Country Community Journal — Great use of color on front page. Strong teasers. Great sports front.

Division 9 Small Medium Weeklies

The Canadian RECORD

1. Canadian Record — Nice tabloid look. Good use of space on front to tease inside stories. Lots of photos in sports makes pages lively. Solid, clean look on other pages. Don't overdo spot color or tint boxes, which can distract.

2. Albany News — Nice, clean modular look on front, well organized for readers. Good looking sports page. Clean fonts. Go for more consistent fonts, look in skyboxes. Simple design works for readers.

3. Gladewater Mirror — Nice look, clean and well organized. Great photo on front page, played well. Love sports page. Features page draws eye as well. Too many competing headline fonts. Pick a main face and play variations off it.

4. Pilot Point Post-Signal — Nice look, good impact with main photo. Good mix of elements, well organized. Sports page is a little airy—lots of white space. A little is good. Nice features page.

Division 10 Small Weeklies

Everman★Star

1. Everman Star — Congrats on your first edition. Front is clean and well organized. Paper is easy to read throughout. Simple design, not a lot of bells and whistles, but that's not always bad. Solid sports page.

2. Keene Star — Nice, clean appealing front page. Don't need heavy tint box inside rail. Good, newsy page with clean headlines. Sports photos need work, need more focus, pick one as main art. Other pages work O.K.

3. Murphy Monitor — Nice clean, simple design. Front page easy to scan and read. Headline font a bit thin, looks squeezed. Sports and editorial pages fine. Photo page is too cluttered. Knockout pic plopped on top of page looks random, distracting.

4. Joshua Star — Solid front page. Main photo and headline draw the eye. Clean, orderly page. Editorial page solid and clean. Sports could use action photos of local teams.

Column Writing

First Place Division 10 Weeklies

Paul Harvey made every day a good day

By CHARLOTTE HELDEN-BRAND
The Overton Press

Coca-Cola used to have an ad slogan: the pause that refreshes. Perhaps the speaker who most elegantly utilized the pause was Paul Harvey.

Folks will remember his signature lines "Stand by for NEWS!" or "And now you know... the rest of the story." Also distinctive were his pauses in his readings, especially the pause in "Paul Harvey... good day!"

I once saw him on Late Night With David Letterman and Dave asked him to say that at the end of their interview. Mr. Harvey complied and after he said his name, he looked at the second hand on his watch before saying "good day." And the crowd went wild.

The journalists' creed is to comfort the afflicted and afflict the comfortable. Mr. Harvey, one of the best radio personalities ever, said his job was to make what was important interesting and what was interesting important. I believe his legion of listeners would say: mission accom-

plished, sir.

The man who died over the weekend at the age of 90 was humble, never getting in the way of the story. It would not be in poor taste to say he was among a dying breed.

It's typical these days for radio stations to devote perhaps 2 minutes or so to news, so Mr. Harvey's 5-minute shows were unheard of. A newspaper editor once told me when I was starting out that the average reader's attention span ends before a 15-inch story does. And I said, "Not if it's well written or something in which he's interested."

Sometimes I think our society's pessimistic views are a self-fulfilling prophecy. We believe our citizens are ignorant, we treat them that way, and—what do ya know: they'd rather not read a book or expand the realms of their imaginations.

Paul Harvey never underestimated the intelligence of his listener and we rewarded him by tuning in day after day after day.

He once told the story of a man who awoke on a cold, snowy day, praying the Lord would give him

the strength to get up, dress, run 10 miles and then go to work. Instead, he said the Lord gave him wisdom, so he rolled over and went back to sleep.

In my nearly 20 years in the newspaper business, I have covered a variety of meetings and interviewed or photographed numerous people. I've even been blessed to win some Texas Press Association awards. But the biggest thrill I've had—and I'll always remember it—was when someone walked into the Kilgore News Herald office and told me Paul Harvey read one of my Kilgoround items on his program that day.

"What?! You've gotta be kidding," I said. For those who are not familiar with Kilgoround, it is a column with newsy, local items of interest printed daily on the front page of the newspaper. The Kilgore Bulldogs football team was scheduled to play Waxahachie in the playoffs and as I wrote my Kilgoround that morning I was trying to stretch it out a bit since there was a dearth of local tidbits.

So I commiserated with the poor

fans of Waxahachie, writing something along the lines of "Imagine those poor cheerleaders leading a chant: Gimme a W, Gimme an A, Gimme an X... By the time they spell out Waxahachie, the fans will be falling over in the bleachers."

Evidently experiencing a similar slow news day, Paul Harvey read my Kilgoround joke and now Overton Press readers "know the REST of the story." I must give a tip of the hat to the late Mary Meador, a crackerjack journalist who toiled for ump-teen years at the Kilgore paper; many, many times she was immortalized on the broadcaster's program. No doubt, one of Harvey's staff was perusing the KNH hoping to mine some Meador wisdom and had to make-do with my lame joke.

He'd been around so long, the golden-throated newsman was—like many good things in our world—taken for granted. And now he's gone. There will never be another like him.

Division 2
Dailies 7,000 to 99,999

El Paso Times

1. El Paso Times — "Cherish the game—every last second of it" by Bill Knight. Knight's columns are not news stories with a dose of editorializing thrown in like so many are. He has a message and perspective. In "Cherish the game..." he almost poetically memorializes the allure of Friday night football in Texas, of little boys' dreams, of big boys' memories of the gridiron. Good read! "Like it or not, this is a golden era for UTEP" by Bill Knight. Knight has a knack for selling his perspective without getting preachy. His points are usually simple, wise and heartfelt and laid out in beautiful writing. He makes column writing an art.

2. Galveston County Daily News — "Housing precipice" and "No need for civility in free speech" by Dolph Tillotson. Dolph Tillotson takes on important topics such as post-Ike public housing needs and free speech. There's no doubt where he stands on issues. Well written and thoughtful.

3. Facts, Clute — "In bad economy, no place assured of sunny skies" and "Bryan Beach has fallen into sad shape" by Michael Morris. Michael Morris is a storyteller. While he's making an unmistakable point in his columns, he paints a picture for readers. You can see the scene he's describing, which makes his viewpoint easier to see as well. Both are well done!

4. Victoria Advocate — "The planning on planning a wedding blues" and "How I discovered the weight-loss cure" by Aprill Brandon. Aprill Brandon's columns are not going to solve any of the major problems of the world, but they are engaging, funny, relatable and exactly the kind of reader-focused content newspapers need to value. Her personable style is no doubt popular with readers. She has a youthful perspective on life.

Division 3
Dailies Less Than 7,000

Plainview Daily Herald

1. Plainview Daily Herald — "A mountain for Sue Terrill" and "What's in a name?" by Kevin Lewis. Lewis has a

personable and engaging style. His topics aren't news of note, but they are important because they are about real life, whether it's building a "mountain" in tribute to his late mother-in-law or exploring the quirkiness of names.

2. San Marcos Daily Record — "One cartoon, two Charlies and a little art appreciation" and "School bells for Tay" by Rowe Ray. Ray's columns not only display his writing prowess, they reveal who he is as an editor and a man. His excitement over his discourse with readers as well as his paying homage to Mondays with his grandson shows he cares. That no doubt strikes a chord with Record readers.

3. Brownwood Bulletin — "Pondering role models, and lessons that can be learned" and "Mourning Michael Jackson: Either you get it, or you don't" by Gene Deason. The Ted Kennedy question Deason explores is provocative and his answers are wise. His writing also imparts knowledge of his subjects, whether political history or pop culture.

4. Waxahachie Daily Light — "Clyde Riddle: An American hero" and "Do you Twitter?" by Neal White. Neal White's columns show his range, from the touching tribute to veteran Clyde Riddle to his irreverent take on Twitter. Neal white made me laugh.

Continued on next page

Column Writing

Continued from previous page

Division 4 Semiweeklies 4,001 or More

Uvalde Leader-News

- 1. Uvalde Leader-News** — “Sibling rivalry: Let the war games commence” and “Guide: How not to cook a cow head” by Craig Garnett. The headline, “How not to cook a cow head,” certainly grabs your attention and Garnett’s column lives up to it. He’s a riveting storyteller with wry observations, whether it’s about sibling rivalry or bovine culinary methods. Garnett certainly has a way with words.
- 2. Boerne Star** — “When it comes to what really matters, my brother was a success” and “On how to mess up an Ugly Dog’s life” by Elena Tucker. Rare is the columnist who can be both poignant and funny, but Elena Tucker pulls it off. Her tribute to her brother’s life and her point that all lives are noteworthy was touching. Then she entertains us with how she messed up Ugly Dog’s life. Beautiful writing.
- 3. Beeville Bee-Picayune** — “Growing the economy one tomato at a time” and “Perils of first pop president: Talk about overexposure” by Chip Latcham. Latcham’s victory garden notion is brilliant. Who knew gardening metaphors could be so much fun? He also had fun conjuring a faux daily itinerary for the president. Bottom line is he’s a compelling writer who uses his imagination to illustrate important topics.
- 4. Hood County News** — “Poll vault” and “Here’s the skinny on columnist’s fat digs” by Kathy Swindle. Swindle’s sardonic writing style is a breath of fresh air, whether explaining the perils of targeting computer geeks in an online poll or taking on snooty, NYC columnists. She’s sassy and compelling. Bet readers love her!

Division 5 Semiweeklies 4,000 or Less

Lamesa Press Reporter

- 1. Lamesa Press-Reporter** — “Men wearing gowns is not a pretty sight” and “Amazing video displays reason to be thankful” by Russel Skiles. Skiles tackles an important topic—colonoscopies—with a major dose of levity and a short gown. He paints a vivid picture for readers with his words in both columns. But “Men wearing gowns...” is exceptional. His hospital gown might be short on length, but he’s not short on talent.
- 2. Round Rock Leader** — “The old judge goes home to Ellagene” and “The Jewish usher at St. Helen’s somehow avoids Mass confusion” by Brad Stutzman. Stutzman outdoes himself with his ode to the “old judge.” Simply masterful writing. “The Jewish usher...” is also a testament to his writing prowess.
- 3. Perryton Herald** — “Ochiltree Observer: As It Seems” and “Ochiltree Observer: Drug War” by Jim Hudson. Hudson’s columns are a joy to read, whether a more serious tone on the perils of drugs or a fun reminder that things are not always as they seem.
- 4. Copperas Cove Leader-Press** — “Honoring their sacrifice this Memorial Day” and “Dawgs lose 27-2 in gawd-awful baseball game” by John Eubanks. Eubanks is a good storyteller who takes readers on a journey with him. Honoring veterans is always a worthy topic, but his flashback to 40 years ago reminds us of the grip Vietnam had on our country. And the column on the windy 27-2 baseball game—yes, he’s seen it all.

Division 6 Large Weeklies

Hays Free Press

- 1. Hays Free Press** — “Quit renaming our holidays” by Clint Younts. I always wondered what St. Valentine’s did. This column made me laugh. Good job and congratulations. “Clintodamus predicts the unpredictable” by Clint Younts. Very funny and creative. Looking forward to see what comes next!
- 2. Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post** — “Cats Rule—And Don’t Forget It” by Terry Collier. Great storytelling. Everyone’s got a “pet the kiddo left at home” memory. Would have liked to have learned about those peppers! “Leading With Their Hearts” by Terry Collier. Nice!
- 3. Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post** — “Meet Dr. No” by Cathy Collier. A story your readers can relate to. Update on terrible twos required! “He’s The Man” by Cathy Collier. Great job. Longest lead ever, in a way, and a delight to read.
- 4. Cleveland Advocate** — “Jury is out on lawyer shows” by Aryn Corley. Very nice. I was a little confused at first, thinking you meant CNN/FOX-type shows. Love the Mattress Tag Unit! “Don’t mock my smock” by Aryn Corley. Good column on a topic everyone is tired of!

Division 7 Medium Large Weeklies

The Goldthwaite Eagle

- 1. Goldthwaite Eagle** — “It’s the Little Things...” by Tammarrah “Tammy” Pledger. Great way to honor a community—with your personal experiences. “The Heartbreakers:” by Tammarrah “Tammy” Pledger. Nice narrative.
- 2. Advance News Journal** — “Johnny Rogers was a hell of a guy” by G. Romero Wendorf. Very nice column. Good job personalizing a news story while also honoring a friend. “Anti-war crowd silent now that Democrat’s in power?” by G. Romero Wendorf. No comment.
- 3. Alpine Avalanche** — “Lots and lots of rain talk at the coffee shop” by Mike Perry. Nice way to write a round-up of observations and opinions. Easy-to-read writing style. “Ciro, coaches, watching Pete and labels” by Mike Perry. No comment.
- 4. Alpine Avalanche** — “Needed: Animal shelter and owners with brains” by George Covington. Good lead. Good information. A convincing argument for a local need. “Art at the end of the Earth or near the end of the Earth” by George Covington. Nice writing style.

Division 8 Medium Weeklies

Springtown Epigraph

- 1. Springtown Epigraph** — “Who needs to win when you have the Death Star?” by Mark K. Campbell. Good writing style—strikes just the right notes of sarcasm and satire. “Hitting the (sea)wall with a 2-year-old boy” by Mark K. Campbell. Good use of humor without belaboring the point.
- 2. Community News** — “Lessons from Salieri” by Randy Keck. Excellent writing. Points are well made and

blended. I think it could have been shorter without losing much of the meaning. “Not just blowing (second-hand) smoke” by Randy Keck. Good use of facts and stats to make points. Again, could have been done in fewer words.

3. Kirbyville Banner — “Every day is a winding road...” (September 2, 2009) and “Every day is a winding road...” (June 10, 2009) by Sherri White. Columns are written from the heart and it comes through clearly. You put into writing the heartfelt moments experienced by parents that are so hard to describe.

4. West Austin News — “Westside Stories” by Forrest Preece. Interesting topic. “Dean Lofton Still Leads Parades” by Forrest Preece. Good topic. I like how you introduced the readers to the other sides of people they think they may know.

Division 9 Small Medium Weeklies

THE CLARENDON Enterprise

- 1. Clarendon Enterprise** — “Mom’s love will live on” by Roger Estlack. Moving and descriptive memories of your mother. I wish I had known her! “Era of bigger government has begun” by Roger Estlack. Sound the alarm.
- 2. Quannah Tribune-Chief** — “This too shall pass” by Carol Ann Whitmire. Moving tribute to co-worker. Well done! “Two of like minds” by Carol Ann Whitmire. You have a talent for obits!
- 3. Frankston Citizen** — “Debunking ‘backwoods Frankston’ concept” by J. Tom Graham. Way to defend your community! “Neches pillars gather until time to pay” by J. Tom Graham. Creative look at old men’s club. I feel like I know them!
- 4. Hico News Review** — “That McAdams Column” (March 5, 2009) by Jerry McAdams. A well-deserved tribute. “That McAdams Column” (July 23, 2009) by Jerry McAdams. A sobering look at then and now.

Division 10 Small Weeklies

THE Overton Press

- 1. Overton Press** — “It’s hard when it’s your team facing ‘the longest yard’” by Charlotte Heldenbrand. Excellent reminder. Gentle constructive criticism. “Paul Harvey made every day a good day” by Charlotte Heldenbrand. Very well done. You write well.
- 2. Bay Area Citizen** — “Riding the range early on” by Chuck Hlava. Wow—do you have a history to draw from. Nice ending too! “Taking to the skies” by Chuck Hlava. Great lead!
- 3. Menard News** — “More Than A Box of Books!” by Dan Feather. Great example of a good local column. “Yes, I Am A Chili Expert!” by Dan Feather. Funny!
- 4. Wallis News-Review** — “Hard Times” by Michael Griffin. Well done! Needful reminder of dark days! “The Rooster” by Michael Griffin. Ha!

SportsPhoto



First Place Division 4 Semiweeklies, Joe Duty, Wise County Messenger - HIGH FLYING - Northwest guard Priscia Kibibi sacrifices her body to get a hand on a loose ball during Friday's district basketball action. The Lady Texans used their patented stingy defense to dispose of the Chargers 44-24.

Division 2 Dailies 7,000 to 99,999

THE DAILY NEWS

1. Galveston County Daily News — Kevin M. Cox. Friendswood's Brant Luifau: Nice emotion. Clear Creek Short-stop Cassie Fournet: Nice clean action.

2. Facts, Clute — Holly Parker/Dan Dalstra. Danbury State Champs: Vice nice! Angleton's Donnie Foster: A bit standard, but nice.

3. Kerrville Daily Times — Joe Harrington/Tom Holden. Hot Shots: Very nice! Great emotion. I wish it was exposed a bit better, but it's football, so I understand. On to the Playoffs: Standard. Color is a bit off. Work on white balance when using flash and watch for red eye.

4. El Paso Times — Victor Calzada/Mark Lambie. Dogs' Day: Try using fill flash. Nice shot. I wish you had a frame with the guy on top, not looking at you. Nice though. Grady Gray Rodeo: Nice action. I wish we had more emotion on rider's face.

Division 3 Dailies Less Than 7,000

San Marcos Daily Record

1. San Marcos Daily Record — Ashley Landis. San Marcos JV: Very nice image. A winning sports photo doesn't always need to be hard-hitting action. Blowout for Bobcats:

Good action. I'm not sure I like the loose crop with the text of the picture.

2. Brenham Banner-Press — Melissa McCaghren. Burton HS Softball Pitcher: Interesting photo. It's a different look for a standard softball picture. Touchdown Catch: Very nice action. You may want to try cropping up from bottom. Look at the fold. Above is great. Below is useless. Good job!
3. Plainview Daily Herald — Richard Porter. Going the Other Way: Standard football photo. Watch your technical issues. Under the Tag: Very nice action. Nice crop. Good job!
4. Brownwood Bulletin — Derrick Stuckly. History 3-Peats: Nice happy moment. Way to be there. Hungry for More: Looks a little soft. Nice action though.

Division 4 Semiweeklies 4,001 or More

WISE COUNTY MESSENGER

1. Wise County Messenger — Joe Duty. Diving Into New Season: Nice shot. Crisp and clean. Good work. High Flying: This is great. I love the tight crop. It brings the reader right into the action. Good work!

2. Marble Falls Highlander — Stephen Colwell. Conner Docherty: Nice action and expression on athlete. Long Eight Seconds: Good rodeo shot. Nice facial expression.

3. Hood County News — Mary Vinson. Key to Playoff Hopes: This is O.K. Nothing too exciting but good action. Victory at Last: Nice peak action. I like how he's reaching out for a score. I wish he was a bit sharper.

4. Fayette County Record — Tom Wood. DeAndre Dugan: Nice peak action. I wish you were on the other side!

D'Vonte Daniels: A little soft. Nice shot though.

Division 5 Semiweeklies 4,000 or Less

THE MONITOR

1. Mabank Monitor — Kerry Yancey. Jesse Fossil. Right place, right time, right photo! Yellowjacket Squads Battle in Kemp: Again, great timing. Picture and good outline tell the story.

2. Bowie News — Ryan Evans. Riley Dorman: Great shot. Great expression on Dorman's face. Broncos: That's gonna hurt.

3. Copperas Cove Leader-Press — Dennis Knowlton. Two Bulldawg Defenders: Wishbone! Great photo. Beef up the cutlines. Bulldawgs Fly Past Wildcats: Nice photo. Consider tighter crop.

4. Bowie County Citizens Tribune — Ben Valencia. Two Rounds With Kilgore: Excellent shot! Hooks' #12: Good, but not great. Thanks for highlighting non-football sports!

Division 6 Large Weeklies

THE SILSBEE BEE

1. Silsbee Bee — Gerry Dickert/Brent Guidry. Silsbee High Catcher: Crop tighter. Not sure if bat does anything for photo. Ryan Asher: Great job capturing a nice moment. Very

Continued on page 32

SportsPhoto



Left to right:

1) First Place Division 2 Dailies, Kevin M. Cox, The Galveston County Daily News - Friendswood's Brant Liufau celebrates a first-quarter interception Friday against Texas City at Stingaree Stadium. The Mustangs defeated the Stings, 33-17.
2) First Place Division 3 Dailies, Ashley Landis, San Marcos Daily Record - San Marcos High School junior varsity football players run a drill at their first practice with pads on Friday morning. The SMHS varsity football team will play Waco High School Aug. 28.
3) First Place Division 8 Weeklies, Stuart Cunyus, Hill Country Community Journal - Tivy's Logan Vick (6) gets tangled up with Burnet baserunner Cody Peacock (8) during the Antlers' battle with the visiting Bulldogs last week at the Fredericksburg Tournament. Tivy opened 2009 season play with 10-2 win over Fredericksburg last Tuesday at Battlin' Billies Stadium, then posted a 2-2 overall record later in the week in tournament play, including impressive wins over Brownwood (7-2) in tournament-opening action Thursday and Seminole (15-0) Saturday.



Sports Coverage

First Place Division 2 Dailies

First Place Division 3 Dailies

First Place Division 4 Semiweeklies

First Place Division 5 Semiweeklies



Division 2 Dailies 7,000 to 99,999

LUBBOCK AVALANCHE-JOURNAL

- 1. Lubbock Avalanche-Journal** — Game Day wrap is packaged very nicely. Lots of info, good use of photos. Thorough high school football package. Layout throughout the section is pleasing to the eye. Great mix on content!
- 2. Galveston County Daily News** — Well-balanced section. Good mix of stories on front. Good use of photos, even smaller ones are very effective.
- 3. Paris News** — Very impressive high school football coverage. Nice mix on stories, photos and stats.
- 4. Odessa American** — Nice mix of stories on front pages and inside. Front-page rail is a good way to get more local content on front. Clean layout and good mix of elements.

Division 3 Dailies Less Than 7,000

BROWNWOOD Bulletin

- 1. Brownwood Bulletin** — Writing was best in division, especially soccer stories. Layout would be better with On Deck inside the section. Headlines are clear and make sense, something that wasn't always the case with other entries. Any way to get section front in color?
- 2. Waxahachie Daily Light** — Best photos in division and good use in layouts. More subheads with stories would break up gray copy a little better. Good to get JV in paper. Love invitation to get more student artwork, as well as Inside the Locker Room, to get kids more involved with paper.
- 3. Plainview Daily Herald** — Writing was some of the best in division, but headlines were hit and miss. Great job

covering range of sports and including youth activities.

- 4. San Marcos Daily Record** — Love the use of photos with centerpiece stories, but Two Minute Drill on front page is distracting. Stories and pages need a little tighter editing to catch mistakes. Good job mixing high school and college coverage and getting JV and junior high into the paper.

Division 4 Semiweeklies 4,001 or More

WISE COUNTY MESSENGER

- 1. Wise County Messenger** — Great mix of coverage - games stories, features and news. Creative cover on cross country package. Feature story on Sutton really sets it off. Clean design and effective photos, especially cross country cover and news photo. Some pics could have been a little smaller.
- 2. Bastrop Advertiser** — Outstanding range of coverage. Prime Time page works very well - lots of information and easy to read. Solid design and writing throughout.
- 3. Williamson County Sun** — Sports section and front-page section are packaged nicely. Great combination of photos and headlines. Solid design. Lots of elements without seeming too crowded.
- 4. Boerne Star** — Great mix of content - seven different sports on one cover, four on another. Would like to have seen more features, but the game stories are solid and not redundant.

Division 5 Semiweeklies 4,000 or Less

COPPERAS COVE LEADER PRESS

- 1. Copperas Cove Leader-Press** — Very creative leads make the section stand out. Also, strong variety of topics

and strong lead photos pull section together. Column also is very effective way to get more local content in paper.

- 2. Round Rock Leader** — Solid mix of content makes for an interesting section. Writing and lead photos are strong and design makes front pages easy to read.
- 3. Lampasas Dispatch Record** — Good mix of content and photos. I like the fact that several sports are featured throughout section. Strong action photography on section fronts.
- 4. Center Light and Champion** — Strong action photos pull section together. Good use of other elements such as standings and schedules.

Division 6 Large Weeklies

LAKE TRAVIS VIEW

- 1. Lake Travis View** — Well done section. Strong coverage of football team, great use of photos (Bob Cooper is good). Nice game-day package on p. 3, lots of info. Also good variety in covering other sports. Ambitious and colorful with solid writing.
- 2. Rockdale Reporter** — Nice design, good use of color, photos. Good variety of coverage, features, columns. Inside pages clean and attractive. Very comprehensive, lots of teams and sports covered.
- 3. Hays Free Press** — Nice clean layout, uncluttered. Lets headlines and photos draw readers. Good use of break-out info boxes. Good writing throughout with leads that draw reader into story. Good variety of sports. Nice photos. Very solid sports section.
- 4. Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post** — Heads cluttered and fail to grab reader. Odd dogleg copy wrap over photo. Big section with lots of coverage and variety. Work on design that highlights what you do well. Lots of photos throughout.

Continued on next page

SportsCoverage

First Place Division 7 Weeklies



First Place Division 8 Weeklies



First Place Division 9 Weeklies



First Place Division 10 Weeklies



Continued from previous page

First Place Division 6 Weeklies



Division 7 Medium Large Weeklies

Westlake Picayune

- 1. Westlake Picayune** — Great photos. Layout clever. Understandable headlines with excellent writing make this entry a clear winner. Great job!
- 2. Smithville Times** — Very good writing and great range of coverage. I suspect every parent loves this sports section!
- 3. Jasper Newsboy** — Writers do a good job of capturing atmosphere and excitement of games. Big, strong photos just add to the great coverage.
- 4. Alpine Avalanche** — Fun pics of ladies on softball team are different than the usual team pics and invite the reader to learn more about the team.

Division 8 Medium Weeklies

Hill Country COMMUNITY JOURNAL

- 1. Hill Country Community Journal** — Great layout and photos draw readers in and there is a sport here for everyone! Good job!
- 2. Springtown Epigraph** — Great writing for a large variety of sports. The photos bring home the action.
- 3. Schulenburg Sticker** — Photos pull readers in and deliver on a wide range of coverage. May want to punch up writing a bit with more active writing.
- 4. Refugio County Press** — Good, solid job of covering local sports.

Division 9 Small Medium Weeklies

The COUNTY Llano Journal

- 1. Llano County Journal** — Great photos, prominently displayed. Appropriate eye-catching headlines given room to breathe. Writing that delivers on action and interest, and coverage of the whole world of sports. That's what makes this entry #1. Great job!
- 2. Pilot Point Post-Signal** — A charming lead on the state champs story totally won me over. Great use of photos and white space, too!
- 3. Albany News** — Well written, interesting stories packaged with great photos. Well done!
- 4. Farmersville Times** — When you've got good photos, run 'em big! Which is exactly what this paper does. The headlines are appropriate for stories and treated with importance, not smashed down onto copy and photos. Good job!

Division 10 Small Weeklies

THE CITIZEN

- 1. Bay Area Citizen** — A very solid sports section. From the bold Practice Makes Perfect to the more demure Sports Shorts, the headlines are eye-catching. Fun. The great photos pull readers in and the coverage of all the sports is excellent.
- 2. Val Alstyne Leader** — Great use of photos to tell the story! A very good job of covering many sports.
- 3. Princeton Herald** — Good use of photos and interesting stories that give readers more than just scores and stats.
- 4. Everman Star** — The photos do a good job of engaging the reader. Good, solid writing also makes this entry a winner.



First Place Division 6 Weeklies, Brent Guidry, The Silsbee Bee - Ryan Asher, No. 39, gets clipped low by a Barbers Hill tackler, sending the senior runningback vertical in his attempt to gain a few more yards in the Raiders' game against the Eagles this past Friday night. The Raiders won the non-district game 35-29.

Continued from page 28

good peak action. Watch your cutline - he is horizontal, not vertical.

2. Hays Free Press — Cyndy Slovak-Barton. Head Over Heels: Love the action. Lots of dead space. Hays Receiver Martin Casias: Get lower! This would have been great if you were on your bottom.

3. Hondo Anvil Herald — Charles Carlson/Kim Freehauf. Ball Out of Bounds: Nice job capturing peak action. Watch your technical issues with high school football. Lee Ray Quintanilla: Good work. I'd like to see more emotion on the athlete.

4. Rockdale Reporter — Bill Martin/Ken Esten Cooke. Rivals.com: Nice expressions. I don't understand the text/headline on photo. Bike Lake Badgered: Nice high school football photo.

Division **7**
Medium Large Weeklies

THE BANDERA BULLETIN

1. Bandera Bulletin — James Taylor. Try, Try Again: Goes above "cute" by getting action and intensity in shot. Protective Torso Gear: Ouch! Great shot.

2. Clifton Record — W. Leon Smith/Carol Spicer. Splish Splash: Wow! Great illustration of wet football. Horstman on Mound: Nice overview of game while focusing on player.

3. Banner Press Newspaper, Columbus — Donnie Rollins. Thomas Sweed of Navasota (photo 1) and Defensive Back Edward Pope (photo 2): Both photos are excellent action photos. Captured action well.

4. Mineola Monitor — Gary Edwards. Mineola Junior: Good baseball photo. Brianne Phillips: Intensity of her expression takes this photo beyond average.

Division **8**
Medium Weeklies

Hill Country
COMMUNITY JOURNAL

1. Hill Country Community Journal — Stuart Cunyers. Halfway to State (photo 1) and Play Ball (photo 2): Excellent action plus expression and intensity in both photos. Excellent work.

2. Navarro County Times — Stephen Farris. Navarro Dominates Texas: Good moment to capture. Ladys' Soccer: Captured some fierce competition on field.

3. Ellis County Press — Steve Patterson/Clay Scarborough. Ennis Baserunner: no comment by judge. Jamison Sterns: Excellent action photo.

4. Bandera County Courier — Rick Mender. Bulldog Wide Receiver: Good illustration of determination that took these players to a win. Bandera Bulldog Sophomore: no comment by judge.

Division **9**
Small Medium Weeklies

Deport Times
BLOSSOM TIMES

1. Deport Times/Blossom Times — Tony Corso.

Heartbreak and Pain: Could feel Schuelke's agony. Patriot 7th Grader Heath Swaim: Loved the water spray. It's tough for black and white to compete in a color world, but you proved you can. Excellent job, excellent shots, great work, Tony!

2. Mart Messenger — Karla Reynolds. Flying J: Good, not super great. Cutlines are excellent. Hats Off to Children: Just great! Right place, right time. Good job.

3. Muleshoe Journal — Stacy Conner. It's Going to Hurt: Your cutlines really are a plus for this competition. It's Lonely at the Top: Both shots are excellent. Great job!

4. Hico News-Review — Jerry McAdams. Hico Senior Flanker: O.K. shot. Weak cutline. Hand to Hand: Awesome shot!

Division **10**
Small Weeklies

The Princeton Herald

1. Princeton Herald — Victor Tapia. Panther Noel Nevarez: Outstanding! Right place, right time! Panther Josh Molina: Yeah editor for running shots big!

2. Wallis News-Review — Johnny Griffin. Shelbie Zotyka: What a great job! Heidi Vykukal: Very solid photo.

3. Rosebud News — Brenda Allison. Lott's Skylar Savage: Clear, captured at right moment. McGregor's Defense: You can feel the defenders closing in! Great.

4. Crowley Star — Eris Allenson/Andrew Brosig. North Crowley Sophomore: Great shot. Joshua's Austyn Ross: Well-captured.

Special Sections

First Place Blue Moon Dailies



First Place Routine Weeklies C



First Place Routine Dailies



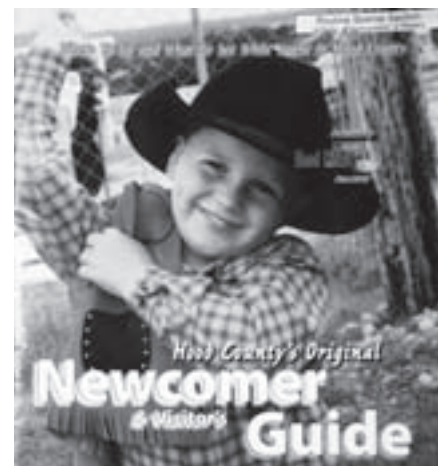
First Place Blue Moon Semiweeklies



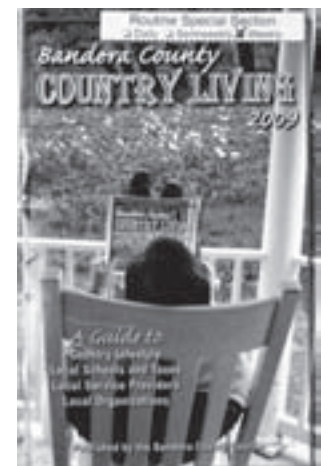
First Place Blue Moon Weeklies A



First Place Routine Semiweeklies



First Place Routine Weeklies B



Continued from page 3

Blue Moon Special Sections Daily Division



1. Galveston County Daily News — "Hurricane Ike: Battered Not Beaten." Great layout and design. Beautifully put together. Content was well thought out and stayed on topic the whole section. Ad support was tremendous.

2. Odessa American — "Class of Friday Night Lights 20 Years Later." A little hard to follow sometimes but still an excellent section that brings attention to both the real people and the movie.

3. Lubbock Avalanche-Journal — "Our Buddy." Very impressive.

4. Waxahachie Daily Light — "Souvenir Edition Sports Extra." Very well put together. Nice pictures. Really liked the front page highlights of the season.

Semiweekly Division

The Canyon News

1. Canyon News — "Women in Business." Very well-laid-out piece. Idea is great. Lots of advertising support.

2. Round Rock Leader — "Round Rock Express 10th Anniversary." Great design and layout. Good theme with clear content.

3. Graham Leader — "Remarkable 2009 High School Football Season." Great idea. No new content, not much extra work involved. Good advertising support.

4. Fayette County Record — "LaGrange Football Season to Remember." Good section. Put together well.

Weekly Division A

Jewish Herald-Voice

1. Jewish Herald-Voice — "A House of Mitzvot." Very well organized. Nice design and layout. Overall theme very consistent. Great presentation.

2. Tyler County Booster — "Discover Tyler County." Theme and content were very good. Only needed more of it to

be great. Small copy with lots of ads on the same page. Overall a very nice looking and informative piece.

3. Austin Business Journal — "Corporate Relocation and Homes." Put together very well. Very nice layout. A little confused on your target distribution.

4. Alpine Avalanche — "Saluting Our Firefighters." Great concept. Layout was lacking. Clean it up on the inside. Cover could have used some creativity.

Weekly Division B

THE ARANAS PASS PROGRESS

1. Aransas Pass Progress — "Centennial Edition." Very well done. Good art. Good content. A keepsake.

2. Gladewater Mirror — "101 Things to Do in East Texas." Very nice! Content and layout make this a winner!

3. Lake Cities Sun — "Lewisville Lake Toll Bridge." Glad to see dedication to news. Not sure I like the section layout, but front page and content are excellent.

4. Wallis News-Review — "Catholic Family Fraternal 100th Anniversary." Well done. Good for the organization and the community.

Sweepstakes **W**inners

1st
Division
2

☆ GALVESTON COUNTY ☆
THE DAILY NEWS

1st
Division
3

San Marcos Daily Record

1st
Division
4

WISE COUNTY
MESSENGER

1st
Division
5

Round Rock Leader

1st
Division
6

Hays Free Press

1st
Division
7

The Smithville Times

1st
Division
8

THE COMMUNITY NEWS

1st
Division
9

**The Gladewater
Mirror**

1st
Division
10

THE CITIZEN

2010 Better Newspaper Contest Results by Newspaper

DAILY							
Brenham Banner-Press 2nd. Sports Photo	4th. Advertising	3rd. Headline Writing 3rd. News Photo 4th. Advertising 4th. Feature Photo	3rd. News Writing 3rd. Routine Special Sections	Big Bend Sentinel 1st. Feature Writing 2nd. Editorials 2nd. News Writing	4th. Sports Coverage	3rd. Blue Moon Special Sections	2nd. General Excellence 3rd. Sports Coverage 3rd. Routine Special Sections 4th. Advertising
Brownwood Bulletin 1st. Sports Coverage 2nd. Community Service 3rd. Column Writing 3rd. News Writing 4th. Page Design 4th. Sports Photo	River Cities Tribune 1st. Headline Writing 2nd. News Photo 2nd. Feature Writing 3rd. Editorials 3rd. Feature Photo 3rd. General Excellence	Burleson Star 1st. New Photo 2nd. Headline Writing 4th. Feature Photo	Sealy News 2nd. Headline Writing	Big Lake Wildcat 1st. Editorials	Frankston Citizen 2nd. Editorials 3rd. Column Writing 4th. Feature Photo	Lake Country Sun 1st. Editorials 3rd. General Excellence	Quannah Tribune-Chief 2nd. Column Writing
EL Paso Times 1st. Column Writing 2nd. Web Site 3rd. News Photo 4th. Page Design 4th. Sports Photo	San Marcos Daily Record 1st. Feature Photo 1st. Page Design 1st. Sports Photo 1st. General Excellence 2nd. Headline Writing 2nd. News Writing 2nd. Advertising 2nd. Column Writing 4th. Editorials 4th. News Photo 4th. Sports Coverage	Canyon News 1st. Headline Writing 1st. Blue Moon Special Sections	Uvalde Leader-News 1st. Column Writing 4th. Feature Writing	Cameron Herald, The 1st. Community Service 4th. General Excellence	Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post 1st. General Excellence 2nd/3rd. Column Writing 3rd. Advertising 3rd. Feature Photo 4th. Sports Coverage 4th. Routine Special Sections	Lake Travis View 1st. Sports Coverage 3rd. Routine Special Sections	Red Oak Record 1st. Advertising
Ennis Daily News 4th. Feature Writing 4th. Headline Writing	Seguin Gazette Enterprise 1st. Advertising 3rd. News Photo 4th. News Writing	Copperas Cove Leader-Press 1st. Sports Coverage 2nd. Page Design 3rd. Sports Photo 4th. Feature Writing 4th. News Photo	Williamson County Sun, The 1st. Feature Writing 1st. Feature Photo 1st. General Excellence 1st. Headline Writing 1st. Page Design 2nd. News Writing 2nd. Community Service 3rd. Sports Coverage 4th. Editorial 4th. Web Site	Canadian Record 1st. Feature Writing 1st. General Excellence 1st. Page Design 4th. News Writing	Frio-Nueces Current 1st. Headline Writing 2nd. Editorials	Llano County Journal 1st. Sports Coverage 2nd. Headline Writing	Refugio County Press 1st. Headline Writing 2nd. Feature Photo 4th. Sports Coverage
Facts, The 1st. Page Design 1st. Routine Special Sections 2nd. Sports Photo 3rd. Column Writing 3rd. Web Site 4th. Editorials 4th. Feature Photo 4th. Headline Writing 4th. News Photo	Taylor Daily Press 1st. Editorials 2nd. Page Design 3rd. Headline Writing 4th. Feature Photo 4th. General Excellence	El Campo Leader-News 4th. Headline	Wimberly View 4th. News Writing	Castroville News-Bulletin 4th. General Excellence	Gladewater Mirror 1st. Editorials 1st. Headline Writing 1st. Routine Special Sections 2nd. General Excellence 2nd. News Photo 2nd. News Writing 2nd. Blue Moon Special Sections 3rd. Page Design	Madisonville Meteor 3rd. News Writing	Rockdale Reporter 1st. Editorials 1st. Headline Writing 2nd. Sports Coverage 2nd. Routine Special Sections 3rd. News Writing 3rd. Page Design 4th. Sports Photo 4th. Feature Writing
Galveston County Daily News 1st. Editorials 1st. Blue Moon Special Sections 1st. Web Site 1st. News Photo 1st. Sport Photo 2nd. Sports Coverage 2nd. Feature Writing 2nd. Column Writing 3rd. Community Service 4th. Routine Special Sections	Victoria Advocate 1st. Advertising 1st. News Writing 1st. Feature Writing 1st. General Excellence 2nd. Editorials 3rd. Headline Writing 3rd. Page Design 4th. Column Writing	Fayette County Record, The 4th. Sports Photo 4th. Blue Moon Special Sections	Wise County Messenger 1st. Advertising 1st. Sports Photo 1st. Sports Coverage 2nd. Feature Writing 2nd. Feature Photo 2nd. Page Design 3rd. General Excellence 3rd. Headline Writing 3rd. Web Site 3rd. News Photo	Clarendon Enterprise 1st. Web Site 1st. Column Writing 2nd. Editorials	Goldthwaite Eagle 1st. Column Writing	Medina Valley Times 1st. Advertising 4th. Headline Writing	Rosebud News 3rd. Sports Photo
Kerrville Daily Times 2nd. Feature Photo 2nd. Headline Writing 3rd. Sports Photo 3rd. Feature Writing	Waxahachie Daily Light 1st. News Writing 1st. Community Service 1st. Feature Writing 2nd. General Excellence 2nd. Sports Coverage 2nd. Editorials 3rd. Advertising 3rd. Routine Special Sections 3rd. Page Design 4th. Blue Moon Special Sections 4th. Column Writing	Gonzales Inquirer 2nd. Advertising 2nd. Advertising 3rd. Feature Writing 3rd. General Excellence	Alpine Avalanche 2nd. News Writing 2nd. Routine Special Sections 2nd. Page Design 3rd. Advertising 3rd. News Photo 3rd/4th. Column Writing 3rd. Sports Coverage 4th. Blue Moon Special Sections	Cleveland Advocate 4th. Column Writing	Hamilton Herald-News 3rd. Headline Writing 4th. General Excellence	Menard News 3rd. Column Writing	Sachse News 4th. Headline Writing
Laredo Morning Times 3rd. Advertising 3rd. Editorials 3rd. Feature Photo 4th. News Writing	Andrews County News 1st. News Writing 2nd. Feature Writing 4th. Page Design	Graham Leader, The 2nd. News Photo 3rd. Blue Moon Special Sections	WEEKLY	Clifton Record 2nd. Sports Photo 4th. Advertising	Mount Vernon Optic-Herald 2nd. Advertising	Mineola Monitor 2nd. Feature Writing 4th. Sports Photo	Schulenburg Sticker 3rd. Sports Coverage
Lubbock Avalanche Journal 1st. Feature Writing 1st. Headline Writing 1st. Sports Coverage 2nd. Routine Special Sections 2nd. General Excellence 2nd. Page Design 3rd. News Writing 3rd. Blue Moon Special Sections	Bastrop Advertiser 1st. Web Site 2nd. General Excellence 2nd. Sports Coverage 3rd. News Writing 3rd. Feature Photo	Highlander, The 1st. Editorials 2nd. Sports Coverage 3rd. Advertising	Albany News 2nd. Page Design 3rd. Headline Writing 3rd. News Photo 3rd. Sports Coverage 4th. Feature Writing	Colorado City Record 3rd. Editorials	Hays Free Press 1st. Advertising 1st. Column Writing 1st. Page Design 2nd. News Photo 2nd. Sports Photo 2nd. Web site 3rd. Feature Writing 3rd. General Excellence 3rd. Sports Coverage 4th. News Writing	Muleshoe Journal 3rd. Sports Photo 4th. Community Service	Silabee Bee 1st. News Writing 1st. Sports Photo 4th. News Photo
Nacogdoches Daily Sentinel 2nd. News Writing 3rd. General Excellence	Bay City Tribune 4th. News Writing	Hood County News 1st. Community Service 1st. Routine Special Sections 1st. News Writing 2nd. Advertising 3rd. Editorials 3rd. Feature Writing 3rd. Web Site 3rd. Page Design 3rd. Sports Photo 4th. General Excellence 4th. News Photo 4th. Column Writing	Aransas Pass Progress 1st. Blue Moon Special Sections	Colorado County Citizen 2nd. Headline Writing	Hearne Democrat 4th. Page Design	Murphy Monitor 3rd. Advertising 3rd. Page Design 4th. Headline Writing	Smithville Times 1st. News Writing 1st. Page Design 1st. Routine Special Sections 2nd. Sports Coverage 3rd. Feature Writing 3rd. Feature Photo 3rd. General Excellence
New Braunfels Herald-Zeitung 2nd. News Photo 4th. Community Service	Beeville Bee-Picayune 2nd. Editorial 3rd. Community Service 3rd. Column Writing 4th. Web Site 4th. Page Design	Lamb County Leader-News 2nd. News Photo 3rd. Advertising	Anna-Melissa Tribune 3rd. General Excellence	Community News, The 1st. News Writing 2nd. Column Writing 2nd. Headline Writing 2nd. News Photo 2nd. Page Design 2nd. News Photo 2nd. Page Design 2nd. Web Site 3rd. Feature Photo 4th. Feature Writing	Hico News Review 3rd. News Writing 4th. Column Writing 4th. Sports Photo	Navarro County Times 2nd. Sports Photo	Springtown Epigraph 1st. Column Writing 2nd. Sports Coverage 3rd. Routine Special Sections 4th. Advertising 4th. Feature Photo 4th. News Photo
Odessa American 2nd. Blue Moon Special Sections 4th. Advertising 4th. Feature Writing 4th. Sports Coverage 4th. Web Site	Boerne Star 2nd. Column Writing 4th. Advertising 4th. Sports Coverage 4th. Community Service	Lamesa Press Reporter 1st. Column Writing	Aransas Pass Progress 1st. Blue Moon Special Sections	Crowley Star 1st. Feature Writing 1st. News Photo 2nd. Feature Photo 4th. General Excellence 4th. Sports Photo	Hill Country Community Journal 1st. Sports Photo 1st. Sports Coverage 2nd. Advertising 3rd. Headline Writing 4th. Page Design 4th. Routine Special Sections	Nueces County Record Star 3rd. News Writing 4th. Feauture Photo	Tyler County Booster 2nd. Blue Moon Special Sections 4th. Advertising
Paris News 2nd. Advertising 3rd. Sports Coverage 4th. General Excellence	Bowie News 1st. Advertising 1st. General Excellence 2nd. Sports Photo 3rd. Feature Photo 4th. Routine Special Sections	Light & Champion, The 1st. News Photo 4th. Headline Writing 4th. Sports Coverage	Austin Business Journal 3rd. Blue Moon Special Sections	Deport Times & Blossom Times 1st. Sports Photo	Hondo Anvil Herald 2nd. News Writing 3rd. Sports Photo	Overton Press 1st. Column Writing 2nd. Editorials 2nd. Feature Writing	Van Alstyne Leader 2nd. Sports Coverage
Plainview Daily Herald 1st. Column Writing 1st. News Photo 2nd. Feature Photo 3rd. Feature Writing 3rd. Sports Photo 3rd. Sports Coverage	Bowie County Citizens Tribune 4th. Sports Photo	Mabank Monitor 1st. Sports Photo 4th. Feauture Writing	Azle News 2nd. Feature Writing 3rd. News Photo 4th. Feature Photo	Dripping Springs Century News 3rd. Feature Photo	Houston Business Journal 1st. Web Site 2nd. Editorials	Ozona Stockman 3rd. Advertising	Waller County News Citizen 2nd. Feature Photo
	Breckenridge American	Perryton Herald 3rd. Column Writing 3rd. Editorials	Bandera Bulletin 1st. Feature Photo 1st. Sports Photo 2nd. General Excellence 2nd. News Photo 2nd. Community Service	Dublin Citizen 1st. Feature Photo 3rd. General Excellence	Jasper Newsboy 1st. Editorials 1st. General Excellence 3rd. Page Design 3rd. Page Design	Park Cities People 1st. Feauture Photo 2nd. General Excellence	Wallis News Review 2nd. Sports Photo 2nd. Routine Special Sections 4th. Column Writing 4th. Editorials 4th. Blue Moon Specials Sections 4th. Web Site
		Polk County Enterprise 2nd. Routine Special Sections	Bandera County Courier 1st. Routine Special Sections 4th. Headline Writing 4th. Sports Photo	Eldorado Success 1st. Advertising 3rd. Feature Photo 3rd. Web Site 4th. Editorials	Jewish Herald Voice 1st. Blue Moon Special Sections 4th. Editorials	Pharr Advance News Journal 2nd. Column Writing 4th. Editorials	West Austin News 1st. Page Design 4th. Column Writing
		Round Rock Leader 1st. Editorials 1st. Feature Photo 1st. Page Design 1st. Feature Writing 2nd. Sports Coverage 2nd. Blue Moon Special Sections 2nd. Column Writing 2nd. General Excellence	Banner Press Newspaper 3rd. Sports Photo 4th. News Photo	Elgin Courier 1st. Advertising	Joshua Star 4th. Page Design	Pilot Point Post-Signal 1st. News Writing 2nd. Sports Coverage 3rd. Feature Writing 4th. News Photo 4th. Page Design	West Kerr Current 2nd. Feature Writing 4th. Advertising
			Bay Area Citizen 1st. General Excellence 1st. Sports Coverage 2nd. Column Writing 3rd. News Writing 4th. Feature Photo 4th. News Photo	Ellis County Press 1st. General Excellence 2nd. Feature Writing 3rd. Advertising 3rd. News Photo 3rd. Sports Photo	Keene Star 1st. Headline Writing 1st. News Writing 2nd. Sports Photo 4th. Feature Photo	Pittsburg Gazette 1st. News Photo 4th. Feature Writing	Westlake Picayune 1st. Sports Coverage 1st. Editorials 2nd. Feature Photo 3rd. Web Site 4th. News Writing
				Farmersville Times 2nd. Advertising	Kirbyville Banner 2nd. General Excellence 3rd. Column Writing	Port Aransas South Jetty 1st. Feature Photo 1st. News Photo 4th. Editorials	Wilson County News 2nd. Advertising 2nd. Headline Writing 2nd. Page Design
					Lake Cities Sun, Lake Dallas	Presidio International, The 2nd. News Writing 3rd. News Photo	Wylie News 2nd. Feature Photo 4th. General Excellence 4th. Headline Writing



Sponsored by TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION