

A large crowd of children, mostly of elementary school age, are shown from the chest up. They are all wearing yellow and blue 3D glasses and have their mouths wide open in a shout or cheer. They are looking upwards and slightly to the left. The children are dressed in casual summer clothing like t-shirts and tank tops. The background is a bright, sunny outdoor setting with green grass visible at the bottom right.

Winners' Circle

2018 TEXAS BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST RESULTS • A PUBLICATION OF THE TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

Winners' Circle

A publication of

TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION

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About the Cover Photo

FEATURE PHOTO, DIVISION 7, FIRST PLACE

JAMES TAYLOR | GOLDTHWAITE EAGLE

This cover photo from the Aug. 23, 2017 edition of the Goldthwaite Eagle depicts the excitement surrounding the eclipse visible in Texas last summer. Publisher Steven Bridges orchestrated the photograph and Editor James Taylor pulled the trigger with the camera. Featured in the photo are Goldthwaite Elementary students viewing the eclipse through safety sunglasses.

About the Texas Better Newspaper Contest

This year 142 newspapers submitted 1,410 entries in the Texas Better Newspaper Contest. The contest was broken down into 10 divisions in which newspapers compete against papers of similar circulation size.

Division 1 was reserved for the five metro dailies with the highest circulation in Texas, which complete only in the General Excellence category.

This year, 29 dailies competed in Divisions 2 and 3; 24 twice weekly newspapers competed in Divisions 4 and 5; and 89 weekly newspapers competed in divisions 6 through 10.

TPA member newspapers competing in each division had the opportunity to submit entries in 12 sweepstakes contest categories and four non-sweepstakes contest categories.

In the sweepstakes contest categories, awards were presented in divisions determined by circulation.

In the non-sweepstakes Community Service, Best Website, and Blue Moon special sections categories, participating dailies, twice weeklies and weeklies were combined into one division each. In the non-sweepstakes contest category of Best Routine Special Section, dailies and twice weeklies were combined into one division each and weeklies were combined into two divisions.

First place winners received plaques and second through fourth place winners earned certificates.

Sweepstakes points are earned for each division (except Division 1) based on point

accumulation in the 12 sweepstakes categories. Each first-place award earned 100 points; each second-place award earned 75 points; each third-place award earned 50 points; and each fourth-place award earned 25 points.

The awards were announced June 23, 2018, at LaTorretta Lake Resort & Spa on Lake Conroe in Montgomery, Texas.

The Winners' Circle is an annual publication saluting the Better Newspaper Contest winners.

Judges' comments on the winners are included, along with selected samples of winning entries.

The 2018 contest was judged by the Nebraska Press Association as part of the Better Newspaper Contest judging swap.

2018 Better Newspaper Contest Results by Newspaper

Advance News Journal
Second Place, Editorial**Alvin Sun**
Third Place, Column Writing
Third Place, Feature Photo
Fourth Place, News Photo
Fourth Place, Feature Writing**Austin Business Journal**
First Place, Best Website
First Place, Feature Writing**Azle News**
First Place, Sports Coverage
First Place, Headline Writing
Second Place, Editorial
Third Place, Column Writing
Fourth Place, Page Design**Baytown Sun**
Second Place, Column Writing
Third Place, Blue Moon Section**Beeville Bee-Picayune**
First Place, Editorial
First Place, Feature Writing
First Place, Community Service
Second Place, General Excellence
Second Place, Best Website
Third Place, Headline Writing
Third Place, Feature Photo
Third Place, News Photo
Fourth Place, Sports Photo
Fourth Place, Column Writing**Big Lake Wildcat**
First Place, Advertising
First Place, Feature Photo
First Place, General Excellence
First Place, Feature Writing
Third Place, Headline Writing
Fourth Place, Sports Photo**Boerne Star**
Second Place, Headline Writing
Second Place, Community Service
Third Place, Column Writing**Brenham Banner-Press**
First Place, News Photo
First Place, Sports Coverage
Third Place, Feature Photo**Burleson County Tribune**
Third Place, News Writing**Burleson Star**
Third Place, Sports Coverage**Burnet Bulletin**
First Place, Sports Photo
First Place, Headline Writing
First Place, Community Service
Second Place, Advertising
Fourth Place, Column Writing
Fourth Place, News Photo**Canton Herald**
First Place, Routine Special Section
Third Place, Blue Moon Section
Third Place, General Excellence**Castroville News Bulletin**
First Place, Advertising
Second Place, News Photo
Third Place, General Excellence**Chronicle & Democrat-Voice**
First Place, Advertising
Fourth Place, Editorial**Clarendon Enterprise**
First Place, Editorial
Second Place, Routine Special Section
Second Place, Feature Writing
Third Place, Advertising**Cleburne Times-Review**
Fourth Place, Routine Special Section
Fourth Place, Blue Moon Section**Colorado County Citizen**
Third Place, News Writing
Third Place, Editorial**Commerce Journal**
First Place, News Writing
Third Place, News Photo**Corrigan Times**
Second Place, Column Writing
Third Place, Editorial
Fourth Place, News Writing**Corsicana Daily Sun**
Fourth Place, General Excellence
Fourth Place, Sports Coverage**Cuero Record**
Fourth Place, Feature Photo
Fourth Place, Column Writing
Fourth Place, Editorial
Fourth Place, News Photo**Del Rio News-Herald**
First Place, Blue Moon Section
Fourth Place, Page Design**Devil's River News**
First Place, Sports Photo
Second Place, News Photo
Third Place, General Excellence
Fourth Place, Advertising
Fourth Place, Page Design
Fourth Place, Sports Coverage**Double Mountain Chronicle**
First Place, Column Writing
Second Place, Advertising
Second Place, Headline Writing
Second Place, Feature Photo
Second Place, Editorial
Second Place, News Writing
Third Place, Feature Writing**El Campo Leader-News**
First Place, News Photo
First Place, Routine Special Section
Second Place, Advertising
Second Place, Column Writing
Fourth Place, Editorial
Fourth Place, Feature Photo
Fourth Place, General Excellence**Eldorado Success**
First Place, News Photo
Second Place, Page Design
Second Place, General Excellence
Third Place, Sports Photo**Elgin Courier**
First Place, Column Writing
First Place, Editorial
Fourth Place, General Excellence**Ennis News**
First Place, Feature Photo
First Place, Sports Coverage
Second Place, Page Design**Farmersville Times**
First Place, Sports Photo
Second Place, Headline Writing
Second Place, News Writing**Fort Bend Herald & Texas Coaster**
Fourth Place, Editorial**Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post**
Second Place, Sports Photo
Second Place, Column Writing
Third Place, Feature Photo
Third Place, Editorial
Third Place, Advertising**Freestone County Times**
Second Place, Sports Photo
Fourth Place, Advertising**Frio-Nueces Current**
Second Place, Headline Writing
Third Place, News Photo
Fourth Place, Sports Photo**Gainesville Daily Register**
Second Place, Sports Photo
Second Place, General Excellence
Fourth Place, Headline Writing**Galveston County Daily News**
First Place, Sports Photo
First Place, Feature Photo
First Place, Advertising
Second Place, Routine Special Section
Second Place, News Photo
Second Place, Blue Moon Section
Second Place, News Writing
Third Place, Best Website
Third Place, Feature Writing**Gladewater Mirror**
First Place, Column Writing
First Place, Editorial
Second Place, Community Service
Third Place, Sports Photo
Fourth Place, Advertising
Fourth Place, Headline Writing**Goldthwaite Eagle**
First Place, Feature Photo
First Place, Feature Writing
Third Place, Sports Photo**Goliad Advance-Guard**
First Place, News Writing
Second Place, Column Writing**Gonzales Inquirer**
Second Place, Feature Writing
Third Place, Sports Photo
Third Place, Column Writing
Third Place, Best Website
Fourth Place, Sports Coverage
Fourth Place, Advertising**Hallettsville Tribune-Herald**
Fourth Place, News Writing**Hays Free Press**
First Place, Sports Photo
First Place, News Writing
First Place, Editorial
First Place, Page Design
First Place, General Excellence
Second Place, Best Website
Second Place, Headline Writing
Second Place, Advertising**Herald-Banner**
Third Place, Column Writing
Third Place, Feature Writing
Fourth Place, Editorial**Hico News Review**
First Place, General Excellence
Second Place, Headline Writing
Second Place, Feature Photo
Third Place, Column Writing
Third Place, Sports Coverage
Fourth Place, News Writing**Hill Country Community Journal**
First Place, Page Design
First Place, News Writing
Third Place, Community Service
Fourth Place, Feature Writing
Fourth Place, Routine Special Section**Hood County News**
First Place, Feature Photo
First Place, Page Design
Second Place, General Excellence
Second Place, News Writing
Second Place, Routine Special Section
Third Place, Headline Writing
Third Place, Sports Photo
Third Place, Sports Coverage
Fourth Place, News Photo**Huntsville Item**
Second Place, Editorial
Second Place, Headline Writing
Third Place, Advertising
Fourth Place, Sports Photo
Fourth Place, News Photo
Fourth Place, Feature Photo
Fourth Place, News Writing**Iowa Park Leader**
Second Place, Feature Photo
Third Place, Sports Photo
Third Place, News Photo
Third Place, News Writing
Fourth Place, Feature Writing**Jewish Herald-Voice**
Second Place, Blue Moon Section
Second Place, Feature Writing
Second Place, News Writing
Third Place, Page Design
Fourth Place, Best Website
Fourth Place, General Excellence**Katy Times**
Second Place, General Excellence**Kerrville Daily Times**
First Place, Advertising
First Place, Sports Photo
First Place, Headline Writing
First Place, News Writing
Second Place, Page Design
Second Place, Feature Photo
Third Place, Editorial
Third Place, Sports Coverage**Kilgore News Herald**
First Place, Blue Moon Section
First Place, Column Writing
First Place, General Excellence
First Place, News Writing
Second Place, Headline Writing
Second Place, Feature Photo
Second Place, Advertising
Third Place, Sports Coverage
Third Place, Feature Writing**Lake Travis View**
Second Place, Sports Photo
Second Place, Sports Coverage
Fourth Place, Feature Photo**Lampasas Dispatch Record**
Second Place, Feature Writing
Third Place, Feature Photo
Third Place, Routine Special Section
Fourth Place, Headline Writing
Fourth Place, Advertising**Leader News**
First Place, Advertising
Second Place, Feature Photo**Longview News-Journal**
First Place, Editorial
Second Place, Headline Writing
Second Place, Feature Photo
Third Place, Column Writing
Third Place, News Photo
Fourth Place, Best Website
Fourth Place, General Excellence**Lufkin Daily News**
First Place, Advertising
First Place, Community Service
Third Place, Sports Photo
Third Place, General Excellence
Fourth Place, Sports Coverage**Madisonville Meteor**
Second Place, Sports Coverage
Third Place, Routine Special Section**Marshall News Messenger**
Second Place, Best Website**Mathis News**
First Place, Headline Writing
First Place, Page Design**Meridian Tribune**
First Place, Feature Writing
Second Place, General Excellence
Third Place, Headline Writing
Third Place, News Photo
Fourth Place, News Photo
Fourth Place, Feature Photo**Mineral Wells Index**
First Place, Headline Writing
Second Place, News Photo
Second Place, Column Writing
Third Place, News Writing**Murphy Monitor**
First Place, Sports Photo
First Place, Page Design
First Place, Feature Photo**New Braunfels Herald-Zeitung**
Third Place, Sports Coverage
Third Place, Headline Writing
Fourth Place, Page Design
Fourth Place, News Writing**News-Telegram**
First Place, Feature Photo
Second Place, Column Writing
Third Place, News Writing
Fourth Place, Feature Writing**Odessa American**
First Place, News Writing
Fourth Place, Feature Writing
Fourth Place, News Photo**Palestine Herald Press**
First Place, Editorial
Fourth Place, Column Writing**Pilot Point Post-Signal**
First Place, Routine Special Section
Second Place, Sports Coverage
Fourth Place, News Writing**Pleasanton Express**
Third Place, Sports Photo
Third Place, Feature Writing
Fourth Place, Editorial
Fourth Place, Page Design
Fourth Place, News Writing
Fourth Place, Advertising**Polk County Enterprise**
Third Place, News Photo
Fourth Place, Blue Moon Section
Fourth Place, Sports Coverage**Port Aransas South Jetty**
First Place, Feature Photo
First Place, Column Writing
First Place, Editorial
First Place, News Photo
First Place, Advertising
Second Place, Sports Coverage
Second Place, Page Design
Second Place, General Excellence**Princeton Herald**
Second Place, Sports Photo
Second Place, Page Design
Second Place, News Writing
Fourth Place, Sports Coverage
Fourth Place, Feature Writing**Refugio County Press**
Second Place, Feature Writing**Rockdale Reporter**
First Place, Sports Coverage
Second Place, Feature Photo
Second Place, News Photo**Royse City Herald Banner**
Third Place, Page Design**Sachse News**
First Place, Headline Writing
First Place, Page Design
First Place, Feature Writing
Second Place, Advertising
Second Place, Sports Photo
Third Place, Feature Photo**Salado Village Voice**
Third Place, Feature Photo**San Marcos Daily Record**
First Place, Best Website
First Place, General Excellence
Second Place, Advertising
Second Place, News Writing
Third Place, Page Design**Seguin Gazette**
First Place, Page Design
First Place, Column Writing
First Place, Feature Writing
Second Place, News Photo
Second Place, Sports Coverage
Third Place, Sports Photo
Third Place, General Excellence
Third Place, Headline Writing
Fourth Place, Community Service**Springtown Epigraph**
First Place, Headline Writing
First Place, Sports Coverage
Second Place, Editorial
Third Place, News Photo
Third Place, News Writing
Third Place, Feature Writing
Fourth Place, Column Writing
Fourth Place, Page Design
Fourth Place, General Excellence**Taylor Press**
First Place, News Photo
First Place, Best Website
Second Place, Sports Photo
Second Place, News Writing
Third Place, General Excellence
Third Place, Page Design
Fourth Place, Routine Special Section**The Bastrop Advertiser**
First Place, Sports Photo
Second Place, Sports Coverage
Third Place, Editorial
Fourth Place, Headline Writing
Fourth Place, Feature Photo
Fourth Place, General Excellence
Fourth Place, Page Design**The Belton Journal**
Third Place, Sports Coverage
Fourth Place, Community Service**The Big Bend Sentinel**
Second Place, Feature Writing**The Bowie News**
First Place, Advertising
Second Place, Blue Moon Section
Second Place, Page Design
Third Place, General Excellence**The Canadian Record**
First Place, Feature Photo
First Place, General Excellence
First Place, Sports Coverage
First Place, Blue Moon Section
Second Place, Editorial
Third Place, Headline Writing
Third Place, Page Design
Fourth Place, Routine Special Section**The Clifton Record**
Second Place, General Excellence
Third Place, Advertising
Fourth Place, Sports Coverage**The Community News**
Second Place, Page Design
Fourth Place, Advertising
Fourth Place, Feature Photo
Fourth Place, Blue Moon Section**The Dublin Citizen**
Second Place, Column Writing
Third Place, Editorial
Fourth Place, Headline Writing
Fourth Place, News Photo**The Facts**
Second Place, Feature Writing
Second Place, Sports Coverage
Third Place, Page Design
Third Place, Community Service**The Fayette County Record**
First Place, Headline Writing
First Place, Sports Photo
First Place, Editorial
First Place, General Excellence
Second Place, Sports Coverage
Third Place, Advertising
Third Place, News Writing
Fourth Place, Feature Writing
Fourth Place, Page Design**The Highlander**
Second Place, News Photo
Third Place, Editorial
Third Place, Feature Writing
Fourth Place, Column Writing**The Irving Rambler**
First Place, News Photo
Third Place, Best Website
Fourth Place, Headline Writing
Fourth Place, General Excellence**The Liberty Hill Independent**
Third Place, Advertising**The Llano News**
Second Place, Column Writing
Second Place, Page Design
Third Place, News Photo
Fourth Place, Sports Photo
Fourth Place, Feature Writing**The Messenger**
First Place, Page Design
First Place, Advertising
Second Place, Editorial
Fourth Place, News Photo
Fourth Place, Community Service**The Navasota Examiner**
First Place, Column Writing
Third Place, Feature Photo
Third Place, Feature Writing
Third Place, Advertising**The Orange Leader**
Third Place, Advertising
Fourth Place, Editorial
Fourth Place, News Writing**The Panola Watchman**
Fourth Place, Best Website**The Port Arthur News**
Second Place, Page Design
Fourth Place, Column Writing**The Progress**
First Place, News Photo
First Place, News Writing
Third Place, Feature Writing**The Red River Sun**
Third Place, Column Writing
Fourth Place, Headline Writing
Fourth Place, Sports Coverage**The Sealy News**
Fourth Place, Column Writing**The Smithville Times**
Third Place, Sports Coverage
Fourth Place, Column Writing**The Times Tribune**
Third Place, News Writing
Fourth Place, Editorial**The Vindicator**
First Place, News Photo
Third Place, Editorial
Fourth Place, Sports Photo**The Wylie News**
Third Place, Headline Writing
Fourth Place, Feature Photo**Tri County Leader**
Fourth Place, Headline Writing
Fourth Place, General Excellence**Trinity Standard**
Third Place, Column Writing**Tyler County Booster**
Second Place, Sports Coverage
Second Place, News Writing
Third Place, Page Design
Third Place, General Excellence**Tyler Morning Telegraph**
First Place, Page Design
First Place, Routine Special Section
First Place, Headline Writing
First Place, General Excellence
Second Place, Sports Photo
Third Place, Advertising
Third Place, Editorial
Third Place, News Writing
Fourth Place, Feature Photo**Uvalde Leader-News**
First Place, Column Writing
First Place, News Writing
Third Place, Community Service
Fourth Place, Sports Photo**Van Zandt News**
Second Place, Routine Special Section**Vernon Daily Record**
Second Place, Feature Writing
Third Place, News Photo**Victoria Advocate**
First Place, Column Writing
First Place, Feature Writing
First Place, Sports Coverage
First Place, News Photo
Second Place, Page Design
Second Place, Community Service
Second Place, General Excellence
Third Place, Routine Special Section
Third Place, Feature Photo
Fourth Place, Advertising
Fourth Place, Sports Photo
Fourth Place, Headline Writing**Waxahachie Daily Light**
Fourth Place, Feature Writing**West Kerr Current**
Second Place, Advertising
Second Place, News Photo
Second Place, Feature Writing
Third Place, General Excellence**Westlake Picayune**
First Place, Sports Coverage**Wills Point Chronicle**
First Place, General Excellence
Third Place, Routine Special Section**Wimberley View**
Second Place, News Photo
Third Place, Sports Coverage
Third Place, Headline Writing**Winnsboro News**
Fourth Place, Sports Photo**Wise County Messenger**
First Place, Sports Coverage
First Place, Feature Writing
Second Place, Sports Photo
Second Place, Page Design
Second Place, Feature Photo
Third Place, Blue Moon Section
Third Place, Page Design
Fourth Place, News Writing**Wood County Monitor**
Fourth Place, Page Design
Fourth Place, Editorial**Yorktown News-View**
Fourth Place, Sports Coverage

Advertising

**DIVISION 6, FIRST PLACE
PORT ARANSAS SOUTH JETTY**

**DIVISION 2, FIRST PLACE
LUFKIN DAILY NEWS**

ADVERTISING

Division 2

1. Lufkin Daily News
2. Galveston County Daily News

News

3. Tyler Morning Telegraph
4. Victoria Advocate

Division 3

1. Kerrville Daily Times - *Very attractive, attention grabbing, simple ads!*

2. San Marcos Daily Record
3. Huntsville Item

Division 4

Overall there were a lot of great entries in this division.

1. The Bowie News
2. El Campo Leader-News
3. The Fayette County Record
4. Lampasas Dispatch Record

Division 5

1. The Messenger, Grapeland - *Nice style, good layout and use of color.*

2. Kilgore News Herald - *Top*

notch layout, typography and design.

3. The Orange Leader - *Good use of elements, nice color.*

4. Gonzales Inquirer - *Good use of black and white as well as color. Sharp photos, typography stand out.*

Division 6

1. Port Aransas South Jetty - *Great design, terrific color. Best all-around.*

2. Burnet Bulletin - *Dramatic use of color and photos. Great designs.*

3. Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post - *Imaginative, clever copy writing. Good design, too.*

4. Pleasanton Express - *Bold, bright well-designed ads. Dramatic use of photo in "the front page" ad.*

Division 7

1. Leader News, Lytle - *Best all around, great use of color.*

2. Hays Free Press - *Good, eye-*

catching layouts.

3. The Navasota Examiner - *Ads range from dramatic to fun and festive. Great designs.*

4. Freestone County Times - *Good use of black and white as well as color. Imaginative layouts.*

Division 8

1. Castroville News Bulletin
2. Sachse News
3. The Clifton Record
4. The Community News

Division 9

1. Chronicle & Democrat-Voice
2. West Kerr Current
3. The Liberty Hill Independent
4. Gladewater Mirror

Division 10

1. Big Lake Wildcat
2. Double Mountain Chronicle
3. Clarendon Enterprise
4. Devil's River News


**DIVISION 7, FIRST PLACE
LEADER NEWS, LYTLE**

**DIVISION 8, FIRST PLACE
CASTROVILLE NEWS BULLETIN**

STRAIGHT TO THE POINT

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DIVISION 4, FIRST PLACE
THE BOWIE NEWS




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REPAIRS
FINE DIAMONDS, STONES & PEARLS
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DIVISION 3, FIRST PLACE
KERRVILLE DAILY TIMES



It's RODEO TIME IN COLEMAN

The 80th annual Coleman PRCA Rodeo will be held at 8:00 p.m. nightly Thursday, June 8 through Saturday, June 10



DIVISION 9, FIRST PLACE
CHRONICLE & DEMOCRAT VOICE

Every time you shop **BIG LAKE** you make Big Lake more **BEAUTIFUL**.

2 cents of every dollar spent in Big Lake goes toward keeping local projects, like the BLEDC's Beautification Project, moving forward.

Make Big Lake Beautiful. Shop Local

When you spend your dollars **ELSEWHERE**, your money goes toward making that **COMMUNITY** a better place.

Be smart. Shop Big Lake first.
It helps you, and it helps your neighbors.

SHOP BIG LAKE

The Big Lake Economic Development Corporation
BLEDC'S MISSION: To improve the Quality of Life of the Community by bringing in new business to Big Lake and supporting existing businesses.
www.biglaketexas.org • 325-884-2288



DIVISION 10, FIRST PLACE: BIG LAKE WILDCAT

Page B2 www.Messenger-News.com Thursday, April 6, 2017

April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month

BUT EVERY DAY IS CHILD ABUSE AWARENESS DAY!

LET'S TALK NUMBERS!!

Out of **43,000** CHILD VICTIMS served at a CAC in Texas last year

26% of the children were not even old enough to attend kindergarten

71% were involved in sexual abuse cases

95% knew their perpetrator

Last year in Houston and Trinity counties

105 CHILD VICTIMS


- 87 were females and 18 were males
- 26 were black, 7 Hispanic, 50 white, and 23 multi race
- 29 victims were 5 years & under, 50 were 6-12 years old, and 26 were 13-17 years old
- 52 cases were sexual abuse and 18 were physical abuse and 1 physical and sexual abuse
- 12 reported and 4 child witnesses

43 ALLEGED PERPETRATORS

- 12 were juveniles and 31 were adults
- 11 were females and 32 were males
- 8 were biological mothers, 6 biological fathers, 2 stepfathers
- 2 were mom's boyfriend, 3 were dad's girlfriend, 8 other known relative (cousins, grandparents, aunts and uncles), 3 male siblings, 1 known non-relative and 3 strangers

In one year, more than 65,000 cases of child abuse were confirmed in Texas.

WE NEED YOUR HELP, LIKE THE KIDS NEED OURS!



Kalin's Center
Please send donations to Kalin's Center,
P.O. Box 901, Crockett, TX, 75835.
936-545-9455

The Kalin's Center is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization. So your donation is eligible for IRS tax credits. Our tax number is 75-2927153.

Saudier's Glass & Mirror
936-687-4958

Cutshaw Chevrolet, Inc.
936-687-2014

Nutor Vultcraft
936-687-4333

Broughton Tax & Bookkeeping
936-687-2951

Grapeland Cafe
936-687-4958

Bartee Construction
936-687-4722
936-687-4811
936-687-2631

Don Knight, DDS Family Dentistry
936-687-4915

Darvey's Furniture
936-687-4915

The Pink Dot Boutique
936-687-3707
Grapeland, TX 75844

Nicol Media
936-687-2424

DIVISION 5, FIRST PLACE
THE MESSENGER, GRAPELAND



COLUMN WRITING

Division 2

1. Victoria Advocate
2. Baytown Sun
3. Longview News-Journal
4. The Port Arthur News

Division 3

1. Seguin Gazette
2. News-Telegram, Sulphur Springs
3. Herald-Banner, Greenville
4. Palestine Herald Press

Division 4

Entertaining, thought-provoking entries. Readers are lucky to have the winning columnists in their newspapers. Several of the non-winning entries read more like editorials than personal columns. All columns should be personal opinions.

1. **Uvalde Leader-News** - Excellent. I loved the column explaining the editor's Page 1 play of the accidental death. It was direct, but gentle, and his compassion for the family shone brightly as he explained his job. More editors should share difficult decisions like this with readers. As for the other column, it was a mastery of understatement. His pride in his grandson sparkled, but it said something, too.

2. **El Campo Leader-News** - These were a joy to read. Cleverly written. I was smiling at the pressures of handling phone calls and being an editor; and the other one was poignant and nostalgic and said everything it needed to say. Your readers are lucky to have you.

3. **Boerne Star** - Excellent. You presented

your points clearly and humorously. I found myself nodding as I read. I loved the one about interruptions at home. Very well written; clever!

4. **The Highlander, Marble Falls** - Entertaining. A satirical spoof on what society considers trendy.

Division 5

1. **Kilgore News Herald** - Both were excellent. So well written, carefully crafted, no excess words, genuine feeling. Jase Graves writes with humor! These were a joy to read.

2. **Mineral Wells Index** - Wonderful! Well written, makes his point clearly. Relevant to today's issues. These were a delight to read.

3. **Gonzales Inquirer** - These are much longer than ordinary columns, but they're well written, and his points are well defended. He cares. The town is lucky to have him for an editor.

4. **Beeville Bee-Picayune** - These are fun! I nodded my head as I read these. I am sure readers enjoy her humorous columns.

Division 6

1. **Port Aransas South Jetty** - With a slight wit, these highlight important moments in the writer's life. The AA story is informative, and people are much more likely to read it as a column than as a news story. Nice choice.

2. **Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post** - Both were well written and thoughtful, and definitely appeal to a wide audience.

3. **The Red River Sun** - Both good reflections on life as a young person. Other readers have probably experienced similar situations,

and that makes the writing fun to read.

4. **Burnet Bulletin** - The Texas PhD story got a little lengthy, but a fun read for someone who lives in the area. The wife story was a comical anecdote to share and was enjoyable to read.

Division 7

1. **The Navasota Examiner** - I have never thought so deeply about a clothesline. The writer brings such life to such a mundane subject, and really makes the reader reflect on his or her own life. The "boys" of Vietnam story does the same. A powerful and interesting way to write about history.

2. **The Llano News** - Both of these are very interesting snapshots into people's lives. The historical (bad) and the historical (classy). I like how in the segregation piece, the writer reflects on his own behavior that's not necessarily good.

3. **Azle News** - Both of these are incredibly relatable, especially the one about the theater. I think it might be tough to find someone these days who doesn't think those thoughts when they walk through an airport, sit next to someone "different" from them or even walk to their car from Walmart. It's a different world. On the flip side, those men probably didn't think anything of it.

4. **Cuero Record** - The hurricane article made me tear up a bit. The love of a family can work wonders, and when home families and work families combine, you've shown what can happen. Excellent.

Division 8

1. **Elgin Courier** - Excellent. Strong pieces overall. I love the first topic - everyone's story deserves to be told. It stole me from the beginning.

2. **The Dublin Citizen** - Strong writing. Good leads. Relatable topics.

3. **Trinity Standard** - Love the lead on the feature piece. Very descriptive.

4. **The Sealy News** - Very entertaining! Extremely relatable, kept me hooked throughout. Great writing.

Division 9

1. **Gladewater Mirror** - Lovely read. Very inspiring. Well-written. It brought a smile to my face!

2. **Goliad Advance-Guard** - Very clever! Strong writing. Great leads.

3. **Hico News Review** - Excellent and entertaining.

4. **Springtown Epigraph** - Loved both pieces. Not afraid to share opinion. Strongly written. Humorous, too.

Division 10

1. **Double Mountain Chronicle** - Hilarious! Clever writing style, fun analogies and a fun read!

2. **Corrigan Times** - Clever writing style - some sentences were a bit overworked and complex, but overall they were a good read.

3. **Alvin Sun** - Enjoyed reading these columns.

4. **The Smithville Times** - Good job capturing the personality and relationships of the key subjects and what made them special enough to write about.

Jeff Hu t,
Double Mountain Chronicle
First place, Division 10

Tips for holiday trips

When traveling with children, it works best when you leave no vacant seats. It doesn't matter what you fill them with, every seat in the vehicle needs to be occupied by someone or something.

Pack a kid in every seat if you can.

Remember, for some vacations, you can borrow kids from friends and neighbors to fill up empty seats. I promise you: the additional money you spend taking an extra kid along will be worth it to avoid the chaos that an empty seat can create.

The length of time it takes before war breaks out varies, but sooner or later, someone is going to want to expand boundaries and will look to the empty seat as unclaimed territory. Hours could be spent traveling down the road before disputes erupt, or there could be a knock-down, drag-out fight a split second after the first person yells, "Shotgun."

Jase Graves,
Kilgore News Herald
First place, Division 5

About New Year's Resolutions

I've never been one to make New Year's resolutions . . . but this year, I've decided to make some significant changes, considering that it's noon on a Tuesday as I write this, and I'm still wearing pajamas.

This year, I'm resolving to stop getting worked up about what's going on in Washington, DC. It usually just makes me angry, and then I take it out on my daughters, insisting that they go bush-hog their rooms and threatening to sell their pets on eBay...

I'll just imagine I'm watching an episode of the WWE - rather than witnessing the cage match that is the US Government. The absurd plot lines are similar, the poorly choreographed moves are equally contrived, and both are led by brash billionaires who've spent time in the ring and have an apparent obsession with tanning and hair products.

I'm just glad the costumes are different.

Chris Cobler,
Victoria Advocate
First place, Division 2

Remember to breathe

The staff of the New own (Conn.) Bee sent a care package to the Victoria Advocate newsroom. The cover of the card said simply, "Breathe."

At first, I thought the card inside the box of goodies was one more example of the generous outpouring of support from U.S. newsrooms after Hurricane Harvey smacked the Texas coast. But this card punched me in the gut.

Inside, the handwritten message read, in part, "At the Newtown Bee, we have weathered storms of nature and those man made. We were recipients in those difficult days of care packages and random acts of kindness that buoyed our spirits as we worked to deliver the news."

In disbelief at first, I gradually realized this card came from the hometown newspaper of the Sandy Hook massacre, which left dead 27 people, including 20 children, on Dec. 14, 2012.

Emotions bottled up for more than a week poured forth.

Travis Webb,
Sequin Gazette
First place, Division 3

Headlines don't replace reporting

Recently, I had a conversation with an old friend back in East Texas who had taken umbrage with an AP headline he'd seen online.

This, my friend declared, was "fake news."

Except he was wrong.

To be fair to my friend, it certainly wasn't the best headline I'd ever read - it lacked nuance and trumpeted the worst case scenario - but it was accurate and factual.

Bad headline? Certainly.

Fake news? Absolutely not.

The lesson here: news you don't like isn't necessarily fake and headlines aren't replacements for the stories they accompany.

It may seem shocking in the world of cable news sound bites and social media confirmation-bias bubbles, but sometimes, you just have to keep reading.



Roger Estlack,
Clarendon Enterprise
First place, Division 10

Regents should back away from project

Sometimes when people get comfortable or excited, mistakes happen. And that certainly seems to be the case with the Clarendon College Board of Regents last week. But the situation highlights the needs for all local boards to take seriously their commitments to open government and to realize that good intentions aren't enough when dealing with public business.

Two months ago the regents jumped on an opportunity to purchase a respectable home to serve as the residence of the college president.

The story should have ended there with the board setting a budget for renovations and turning the details of that task over to the administration. Instead, the board created a committee composed of literally half the board and gave that committee "full authority" on renovations. "Full authority" given to a board committee – regardless of size – automatically triggers the Open Meetings Act for that group's deliberations and actions. It's hard to play "Fixer Upper," when all your deliberations about flooring, wall texture, and paint colors have to be first posted on public agenda for 72 hours, then your committee has to conduct a public meeting to determine if Dover White is better than Tissue White for the walls in the hallway. In this case, the board of regents set themselves up for trouble when they decided to step out of their usual policy-making role and take an active hand in home renovations.

The regents need to take a good long look at how they found themselves in this situation, take decisive measures to correct their action, and make doubly sure that it never happens again. Clarendon College is too important, and their roles – as policy makers – are too important to allow something so trivial to put the spotlight where it doesn't need to be.

Regina Keilers,
The Fayette County Record
First place, Division 4

Your right to know

Recently, I received an angry phone call from a customer concerning a public notice. My initial concern was that we had somehow published something incorrect in the public notice and would need to run a corrected version, but that was not the case. The customer was concerned that I had called attention to the public notice, which would make people read it and potentially protest the permit that was being sought.

Let me state that again. The customer was concerned that someone would read the notice and take action. The customer then asked me to refund the money because I could have caused the business to lose money due to the protests that might occur because people might actually read the notice.

Public notices, by law, are placed in the newspaper to keep the public informed of government expenditures and taxation, environmental issues and public meetings. There is, however, an effort to remove public notices from newspapers and place them only on government websites. Why would they want to do this? Those who want to remove them from newspapers say that it is a waste of money to publish the notices in the newspaper, but it seems more likely that it would be easier to bury the notice on a website, thus preventing people from taking action until it was too late to do anything about it.

The Fayette County Record has started writing headlines above the notices to give the readers an idea of the information included in the notice. . . and that's what the aforementioned customer was complaining about. We called attention to the public notice and in calling attention to it, possibly caused someone to protest.

Yes, I am concerned when a customer is upset, but my first priority is (and should always be) to inform the public, and that's what we intend to keep on doing.

Jeff Erritt,
Palestine Herald-Press
First place, Division 3

An open community needs an open government

An open community deserves an open and transparent government. That's not what the people of Palestine are getting. Local officials typically withhold as much information as they can from the public.

Here's a simple example from this week: After the city hired a consulting firm to recruit a new police chief, a Herald-Press reporter asked Communications Officer Nate Smith how much the city paid the company. Smith said the city couldn't disclose that. Why in blazes not? How much the city spends on outside contracts is routine information the public should know.

New Palestine Mayor Steve Presley has vowed to be more open. But first, Presley will need to change the culture of city government. That will take more than talk; it will take commitment and backbone.

Now, reporters requesting customary documents given to City Council during public meetings are told to make written requests. Texas law gives the city 10 days to respond. Normally, the city takes the full 10 days before giving up information it could easily, in most cases, release immediately. Stonewalling for the sake of stonewalling is childish.

City Finance Director Steve Groom releases his information and documents upon request. But he's the exemplary exception. During last year's budget sessions, City Secretary Teresa Herrera went so far as to solicit an opinion from the state Attorney General to determine whether she had to give a reporter basic budget documents received by City Council.

Journalists . . . have a special responsibility to give people the information they need to hold their government — at every level — accountable. In Palestine, they can't do their jobs, nor can residents stay informed, if government officials aren't as open as the community they serve.

EDITORIAL WRITING

Division 2

1. Longview News-Journal
2. The Port Arthur News
3. Tyler Morning Telegraph
4. Fort Bend Herald & Texas Coaster

Division 3

1. Palestine Herald Press
2. Huntsville Item
3. Kerrville Daily Times
4. Herald-Banner, Greenville

Division 4

1. The Fayette County Record - Excellent. Very well written.
2. Wise County Messenger - Two extremely strong pieces. I could feel the emotion and passion these writers have.
3. The Highlander, Marble Falls - Important topics to address. Well written and argued.
4. El Campo Leader-News - Nicely done. Strong writing.

Division 5

1. Beeville Bee-Picayune
2. The Messenger, Grapeland
3. The Bastrop Advertiser
4. The Orange Leader

Division 6

1. Port Aransas South Jetty - Tackles tough issues with well researched thoughts, well written statements, and no apologies.
2. Advance News Journal - Satirical approach to frustrating issues that gets the points across to readers.
3. Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post - Enjoyed the directness - even though written to the masses through the paper, there is no question who these are directed towards.
4. Pleasanton Express - Clever approach to issues. Enjoyed your creative angle.

Division 7

1. Hays Free Press - These editorials take on tough issues with boldness and creative writing. Very enjoyable.
2. Azle News - Very well written. Enjoyed how the topics were approached.

3. Colorado County Citizen - Enjoyable spin on conversations happening within your community - conversational tone with readers. Creative headlines. Love the quotes at the end to finalize it all.
4. Cuero Record - Topics close to home that are easily connected to by local readers.

Division 8

1. Elgin Courier - Very well written. Very much enjoyed This fight is our fight. Lots of great points that would be difficult to argue.
2. The Canadian Record - Very well written editorials! I can tell you are a great leader in your community. It is difficult to call out city government and hold them accountable. Great job.
3. The Dublin Citizen - Enjoyed your voting editorial. I recently wrote an editorial on the importance of voting but this is an aspect I hadn't considered. Thanks for the idea!
4. Wood County Monitor - Enjoyed Don't go to sleep. Something must be done and it is up to us to do it!

Division 9

1. Gladewater Mirror - Great work on both local and state issues. Well reasoned viewpoints.
2. Springtown Epigraph - Keeping community's interest and safety at forefront in both these discussions.
3. The Vindicator - Good perspective, thoughtful.
4. Chronicle & Democrat-Voice - Good community interest in promoting hometown shopping and economic development.

Division 10

- VERY hard competition to judge - all winners could have been first place.
1. Clarendon Enterprise - Straight-forward, solid writing. Classic editorials that make a case and then call for action.
 2. Double Mountain Chronicle - Very strong - both pieces well-written and thoughtful.
 3. Corrigan Times - Well-reasoned, community-minded editorials.
 4. The Times Tribune, Brookshire - Terrific topics, handled well. Love the "fake news" train.



DIVISION 8, FIRST PLACE



DIVISION 9, FIRST PLACE



DIVISION 10, FIRST PLACE

GENERAL EXCELLENCE

Division 2

1. Tyler Morning Telegraph
2. Victoria Advocate
3. Lufkin Daily News
4. Longview News-Journal

Division 3

1. San Marcos Daily Record
2. Gainesville Daily Register
3. Seguin Gazette
4. Corsicana Daily Sun

Division 4

A lot of quality journalism entered in this division. Strong writing and attention to action in photos caught my attention.

1. The Fayette County Record - Front page captures attention. I think you can dig deeper in feature writing. Great sports photos, especially action shots. The special section makes me want to visit. Strong photos and just enough information to pique interest.

2. Hood County News - Love the paper's tag line. Effective front page. Check layout on sports photos. Need variety. The issues offer a wide variety of news. Entry 2 - inter-

esting articles. Hometown heroes is a fun page! Action photos are good and could be stand-alones.

3. The Bowie News - Good headlines. Vibrant ads. Good content.
4. El Campo Leader-News - Front page has a variety of news. Drop shadow on photos is outdated. Sports features a strong sense of graphic design, based on photos.

Division 5

1. Kilgore News Herald - Solid front page design. Strong headlines. Sections filled with vivid photos and colors. Several clever headlines. Excellent paper.
2. Beeville Bee-Picayune - Front pages grab attention. Good use of pull quotes. Sports sections are well designed. Entry two has a powerful headline on main page.
3. Taylor Press - Like the tie of color throughout issue. Solid page design. Sports section is good. Good writing.
4. The Bastrop Advertiser - Strong front page design. Writing is decent. Would like to see stronger action photos in sports section.

Division 6

1. Wills Point Chronicle - This entry stood out above the rest. Strong local content and clean layout.
2. Port Aransas South Jetty
3. Canton Herald
4. Jewish Herald-Voice

Division 7

1. Hays Free Press - Great overall package. Nicely done!
2. Katy Times - Good layout, organized content makes it easy for reader.
3. Tyler County Booster - Good editions. Lots of photos.
4. The Irving Rambler - Good organization, nice package, good content.

Division 8

1. Canadian Record - Beautiful publication, well done.
2. The Clifton Record - Very Clean, love the look.
3. Castroville News Bulletin - Keep up the great work. Love it!
4. Elgin Courier - Very nicely put together. Great job.

Division 9

1. Hico News Review - Very Clean and nicely put together. Great Job!
2. Meridian Tribune - Love the look.
3. West Kerr Current - Clean and easy to read!
4. Springtown Epigraph - Love it!

Division 10

- Strong competition, hard to rank the top four.
1. Big Lake Wildcat - Great photos, great layout, terrific color. News, sports coverage, features - everything a community newspaper should have.
2. Eldorado Success - Outstanding editions. Top notch photos, sports coverage, attention to detail in layout.
3. Devil's River News - Devil's River News Good, solid news package with good use of color photos. Everything the community needs to know is here.
4. Tri County Leader - Layout has a lighter feel, sets of photos particularly well displayed. Good writing, lots of community news. Great package.

Feature Writing



CUTTING THROUGH THE PAIN

Kaylah Guerrero was so distraught after enduring years of bullying she not only carved "sorry" and "screw up" into her thighs, she also cut herself and attempted suicide. Thanks to the compassion of several people, including sheriff's office Sgt. Investigator Rick Villarreal and Constable Mickie Ochoa, she has a new lease on life.

Carving new life at new school

By Jason Collins
Bee-Picayune staff

SKIDMORE — The scars are still fresh, but the deepest cannot be seen by those that meet her.

"Sorry" is carved into one thigh.

"Screw up" is carved in the other.

The story of Kaylah Guerrero almost ended four weeks ago.

She was in eighth grade, a student at Moreno Junior High. Her parents would only later learn what she was going through.

Her arms still bear the scars from slashes with a knife. Her knuckles are still red from hitting the wall.

"I cut myself. I attempted suicide. I pierced

(See Teen, 6A)



Kaylah Guerrero is hugged by two Skidmore-Tyran students. She left the Beeville school system this year because she was being bullied, she said. She is being homeschooled for the rest of the year.

DIVISION 5, FIRST PLACE: BEEVILLE BEE-PICAYUNE

Becoming an American



Decatur woman celebrates new citizenship

BY RACEY BURDEN
Houston Chronicle

Ivonne Fernandez of Decatur has waited almost her entire life for the piece of paper she was given in a courtroom in Fort Worth last week.

Fernandez, who came to the United States from Mexico with her parents as a toddler, received her naturalization certificate Sept. 14, making her an official American citizen at 27 years old.

"When it was all over, it was a relief," she said. "I was really excited."

The road to citizenship has been a long one. Fernandez and her parents were undocumented immigrants when she was a child, though she doesn't personally remember worrying about

See Fernandez on page 2

DIVISION 4, FIRST PLACE: WISE COUNTY MESSENGER

LET HIM FEAST



Reagan County's Tristan Ortiz is a force to be reckoned with. The junior lineman has racked up 34 pancake blocks during the Owls' first four games of the season. He has his personal goals set high in 2017, and worked hard over the offseason to attain them. We talk to Coach Blake Weston, Tristan and the men who run behind him about what makes him a true blocking freak on Friday nights.

J.L. MANKIN | BIG LAKE WILDCAT

Tristan Ortiz: An Appetite For Complete Domination

J.L. MANKIN
BIG LAKE WILDCAT

It's one of our favorite questions to ask an opposing coach each week... "Which Owl do you fear the most?"

The answer, more times than not, is the same.

They may not know his name off the top of their head, but they sure know his number.

"Number 74," they say.

Tristan Ortiz is a force up front for the Reagan County Owls on both sides of the ball.

The 5'11" 270 lbs. junior is mowing down opponents with 34 pancake blocks in the Owls' first four games of the season.

A pancake, if you didn't know, is when an offensive player, typically a lineman, makes a block so hard it leaves the defender flat on his back... like a pancake.

"Our offensive line is the best group on this team," Coach Blake Weston said. "They are the best group, and he is their leader."

Tristan made his impact felt Friday night in the Owls' game against

Forsan time after time with eight pancake blocks. The worst game for the Owls this year ended up being Tristan's best with 13 pancakes in the team's season opening loss to McCamey.

"He is really special on both sides of the ball," Weston said. "When he is right, he is the best lineman I know. He is smart and strong as all get out."

Tristan doesn't think of himself as anything special though.

"I think I'd give myself a B minus at this point in the season," Tristan said. "I've made many improvements

since my sophomore year, but I have a lot of room to grow."

Those improvements started last year during spring ball.

"I came in early last year to get to know everyone," Weston said. "I noticed Tristan was slimming down. I asked another coach if he was Okay."

Turns out Tristan was hitting the weight room hard turning any extra weight into muscle.

"I knew right then he'd have a good

SEE TRISTAN ORTIZ 3

DIVISION 10, FIRST PLACE: BIG LAKE WILDCAT

FEATURE WRITING

- Division 2**
1. **Victoria Advocate** - I really loved the story about Tony Geryk and it kept me reading and wanting to know about his status. The story about mental illness was also very well written. The photos and info graphics were incredibly helpful in fully understanding the stories.
 2. **The Facts, Clute**
 3. **Galveston County Daily News**
 4. **Odessa American**
- Division 3**
1. **Seguin Gazette**
 2. **Vernon Daily Record**

3. **Herald-Banner, Greenville**
 4. **News-Telegram, Sulphur Springs**
- Division 4**
1. **Wise County Messenger** - Well written; expressive, "I dropped him," and the uncertainty leaves a reader on the edge of their seat with a lot of questions about undocumented citizens becoming citizens. For example: Why DOES it take so long?
 2. **Lampasas Dispatch Record** - All the questions I've ever wondered about PTSD were asked and answered. So glad to know there are resources out there to help our soldiers who keep us free.
 3. **The Highlander, Marble Falls** - Nicely

- weaved story with the proclamation. She looks so spirited in the photo with her son - which makes me want to meet them; hear their stories of globe trotting, and in particular her relationship with the Lord.
4. **Fayette County Record** - Inspiring, well-done stories.
- Division 5**
- There were a lot of very good stories in this competition.
1. **Beeville Bee-Picayune** - Brave young lady! Excellent story telling on a difficult topic. Very raw, open, and revealing. Kaylah will be an inspiration to many! What a great smile and group hug!

2. **Gonzales Inquirer** - Second place goes to Kathryn Penrose for her story Family declares Christmas in October. This story made me cry. Compassionate writing, woman, community, and family. The entire front page was very well laid out including the eyes on state photo.
3. **Kilgore News Herald** - Third place goes to James Draper for his story Suit Up. Powerful front page. Very interesting feature on a woman's path that lead to her passion.
4. **Waxahachie Daily Light** - Fourth place goes to Travis M. Smith for the all-time home run queen story. Well done!

Sikhs open up, explain beliefs

By Greg Ford
Staff Writer
news@sachsenews.com



Sachse resident Gurvinder Singh and his children Tripat Kaur, 7, and Amrik Singh, 8, enjoy a meal at "langar," during which food is provided to anyone, regardless of beliefs or background.

DIVISION 8, FIRST PLACE: SACHSE NEWS

SPECIAL REPORT

When every moment counts

"You're not supposed to lose your children."



During a house call, Harbor Hospice nurse Brenda Coons listens to Tony Geryk's heart and checks his pulse. It was Coons' first visit to the Geryk home.

Young man with failing heart sets out to complete bucket list with family

BY LAURA GARCIA
LGARCIA@VICTORIAADVOCATE.COM

"Rightly gripping the steering wheel, Alice Geryk felt her world falling apart. She had just learned her teenage son was diagnosed with a serious heart condition. She looked over and saw his worried expression. Taking a deep breath, she broke the silence."

"We were just dealt a pretty bum deal," she said. "Tony, what are we going to do now?" She offered him a choice. They could go home, curl up on the floor and cry about it, or they could start making every single day count. He chose the latter.

SEE TONY, A3



This is the first installment in a series about Tony's journey to complete the items on his bucket list. Follow Tony on his road trip in the Victoria Advocate and at VictoriaAdvocate.com. To donate to his bucket list fund, go to VictoriaAdvocate.com and click on this story. Any funds left after funeral expenses will be donated to Texas Children's Hospital.

DIVISION 2, FIRST PLACE: VICTORIA ADVOCATE



SEGUIN HIGH SCHOOL



Felicia Frazar - Seguin Gazette

Seguin High School band director Stan Mauldin leads the Matador band volunteers in playing the Rockport-Fulton Pirates' Alma Mata during the Pirates' game against Leander Glenn on Friday in Matador Stadium.

Seguin hosts displaced Rockport team

Felicia Frazar
felicia.frazar@seguingazette.com

Texas Coast on Aug. 24.

As the category 4 storm hammered the small town, it destroyed or heavily damaged homes and businesses, including the Rockport-Fulton High School.

The spirit of Texas was evident on Friday as a pair of communities rallied to the aid of the small coastal town of Rockport.

From team dinners to fundraisers, a band filling in and a community helping to fill the stands, the Rockport-Fulton Pirates were told they were not alone.

The town of Rockport was devastated when Hurricane Harvey made landfall on the

However, that isn't stopping the Pirates from taking the field on Friday nights, head coach Jay Seibert said.

"We are playing football to give them something to get away from their problems at home," he said. "To go out and



Seguin High School faculty and students greet Rockport-Fulton fans in the Faith Lutheran Church parking lot.

PIRATES - 6A

DIVISION 3, FIRST PLACE: SEGUIN GAZETTE

Division 6

1. **Austin Business Journal** - This was so extensive and solid that it was a clear first-place winner, rising high above the others. Excellent writing and reporting. Very timely topics.

2. **Jewish Herald-Voice** - A gripping story, very well told by an unbiased reporter. I wondered if any surgery took place - that was not mentioned - but it is an excellent piece of work.

3. **Pleasanton Express** - Very well-written. Good storytelling.

4. **Hill Country Community Journal** - This first story was warm and touching, and I liked that you included his comments after

the trip. Both stories were well done.

Division 7

1. **Goldthwaite Eagle** - Excellent, and you got the space you required. Good research, well written, with opinions of professionals as well. The final story did provide a bit of hope and one woman's determination to get her life back.

2. **The Big Bend Sentinel** - Good writing earned you second place. Excellent to read.

3. **The Navasota Examiner** - Cancer story was well-told. What a story. It still radiated optimism.

4. **The Llano News** - "Bringing People Together" brought you an award. It was unique and fun to read, and said something about the

two cultures as well.

Division 8

This was a tough contest. A lot of excellent material here!

1. **Sachse News**
2. **Refugio County Press**
3. **The Progress, Three Rivers**
4. **Iowa Park Leader**

Division 9

1. **Meridian Tribune** - This was a pleasant surprise and the only entry of its type in this category. Presentation, writing and photos all fit.

2. **West Kerr Current** - Well done!

3. **Springtown Epigraph** - Very good job.

4. **Princeton Herald** - Enjoyed reading these entries.

Division 10

1. **Big Lake Wildcat** - Great writing, great pics, great layout - these features hit the high mark.

2. **Clarendon Enterprise** - Well-written features with lots of color and quotes.

3. **Double Mountain Chronicle** - Interesting topics covered in well-written features.

4. **Alvin Sun** - High School Hall of Fame story was the winner for this entry. Story captures interest, even for readers who might not be sports fans.

Headline Writing

Water tabled

Council member Pruitt's hope to cap rates for seniors delayed for now

DIVISION 9, FIRST PLACE: SPRINGTOWN EPIGRAPH

Dammed if you do if you don't



Residents wonder who's to blame for Nueces River flooding

By Paul Gonzales
Mathis News Editor

MATHIS - Last week, residents who live along Nueces River on County Road 73 began preparing for the coming flood brought upon by inland rains from the north, by Friday because they



DIVISION 10, FIRST PLACE: MATHIS NEWS

The great gas panic of Thursday, Aug. 31

Social media reports of lack of fuel spark sellouts

BY CHRISTINA DERR

Last week gas stations around Azle and North Texas as a whole began running out of fuel.

The reasons were complex. Fears of a possible gas shortage caused drivers to make a run on fuel; that only worsened the problem and made the shortage a reality - even if just for the short term. Damage and flooding from Hurri-

PLEASE SEE FUEL, PAGE 3A.



When social media lit up about possible fuel shortages because of Hurricane Harvey, drivers darted to the nearest gas pumps. The rush not only caused long lines but did, indeed, cause stations to run out of fuel in many cases.

Photo by Mark K. Campbell

DIVISION 7, FIRST PLACE: AZLE NEWS

FLESH & BLOOD



Tivy grad gets help from brothers to make horror film

DIVISION 3,
FIRST PLACE:
KERRVILLE
DAILY TIMES

HEADLINE WRITING

Division 2

1. **Tyler Morning Telegraph** - Creative headlines are inviting to reader. Layout is pleasing to eye!
2. **Longview News-Journal** - Love your headlines...made me want to dive right into the stories!
3. **New Braunfels, Herald-Zeitung** - Nice use of words that properly identify with stories.
4. **Victoria Advocate** - The use of color in the headlines is something I'm not used to seeing. I like the impact it has on the package and a lot said with very few words.

Division 3

1. **Kerrville Daily Times** - Very clever headlines. The 'wheels' headline - you said it! And the 'milk' headline was so intriguing I had to read the story!
2. **Huntsville Item** - Fun play on words in your headlines.
3. **Seguin Gazette** - What caught my attention was the 'Book Hounds' headline - the use of color pulled the package together nicely. I thought the 'Fir Trade' headline was clever!
4. **Gainesville Daily Register** - Fun play on words for the Kneading to learn.

Division 4

Headline writing is an art. Sometimes it's tempting to reach for a cute or well-known phrase that doesn't necessarily fit. Original-

ity and effectiveness are just as important as cleverness and humor. A good reminder for anyone writing headlines.

1. **The Fayette County Record** - These are what headlines should be: Accurate, clever, original while still being effective and having a real impact. These headlines instantly made me want to read the stories and know more. Clearly best in class.
2. **Boerne Star** - Long arm of progress" works perfectly with the page. Headlines are clever without overreaching. This paper realizes that sometimes basic works best.
3. **Hood County News** - Headlines work well with stories and do a good job of teasing reader to find out more.
4. **Lampasas Dispatch Record**

Division 5

1. **Mineral Wells Index** - These are very good headlines. Accurate, original and clever! Nice work.
2. **Kilgore News Herald** - This paper clearly puts a lot of effort into its headlines. I would caution against trying a little too hard to be cute as it can lose impact and headlines didn't always match well with stories. But overall headlines are creative and clever.
3. **Beeville Bee-Picayune** - Headlines were clever and had clear impact. Bonus points for originality.
4. **The Bastrop Advertiser** - I appreciated that this newspaper doesn't try getting "cute" with headlines like all too many these days.

Sometimes less is more.

Division 6

1. **Burnet Bulletin** - Clever, enticing headlines! Draws the reader to the article. The Chinese headline was incredibly clever. I wanted to know more about the "dead wife!" Great use of words to draw the reader in!
2. **Frio-Nueces Current** - Good use of puns in the last headline. Headlines tie in well with the article and tell just enough to make the article seem interesting, but doesn't give too much away-as a headline should. Great job!
3. **The Wylie News** - That first headline has a great pun. Each of the headlines interestingly pull the reader in. Nice job.
4. **The Red River Sun** - Alliteration paid off for this first article. Well done on the steamboat headline. Nice use of the word "deja vu" instead of "again" or "a second time," etc.

Division 7

1. **Azle News** - Nice use of puns; "The great gas panic of Thursday, Aug. 31" is clever.
2. **Hays Free Press**
3. **Wimberley View**
4. **The Irving Rambler**

Division 8

Overall for this category, headline writing for the State of Texas is above average with a promising, journalistic future for both print and online. Congrats to all contest entrants for participating!

1. **Sachse News** - Effective, Short, Comprehensive Headlines. Backed up with articles. Clickable headlines if newspaper was online.
2. **Farmersville Times** - Play on words good. Headlines piqued my interest to read more. Wished to read more of story on same page.
3. **The Canadian Record** - Clickable play on words. Desired for the headlines to stand out more and for at least a small written article under the headlines.
4. **The Dublin Citizen** - Clever headlines. Some headlines eye catching. Headlines just as accurate as articles following.

Division 9

1. **Springtown Epigraph** - Play on words, evidence of creativity, supporting articles all made these headlines a pleasure to read. Headlines are clickable, too!
2. **Hico News Review** - Headline word play is good, but a bit wordy. Headlines are very accurate and have impact on reader.
3. **Meridian Tribune** - If there was an award for alliteration, you win! Choice of words well selected.
4. **Gladewater Mirror** - Word play evident (creativity and originality).

Division 10

1. **Mathis News**
2. **Double Mountain Chronicle**
3. **Big Lake Wildcat**
4. **Tri County Leader**



Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Catholic Church in High Hill deservedly carries the name "Queen of the Painted Churches," with floral designs, portraits and textures painted on nearly every square inch of the interior.

How Great This Art

Fayette County's Famous Painted Churches

DIVISION 4, FIRST PLACE: FAYETTE COUNTY RECORD

Thank heaven; council says no to 7-11

Council denies SUP for convenience store at PGBT, Miles Rd.

By Greg Ford

Staff Writer
news@sachsenews.com

Residents will have to wait a little longer to find out what kind of businesses will be go-

ing up at intersection of the George Bush Turnpike (GBT) and Miles Road.

City council members made sure of that during their Aug. 21 meeting by unanimously denying a special use permit (SUP) to construct a 7-11 convenience store and gas station at the intersection's northeast corner. The decision was reached after a lengthy discus-

sion, which included a recommendation from city officials to deny the request, and came down to council members saying the use doesn't fit the comprehensive plan projections for that area.

"The whole purpose of the Comprehensive Plan is to develop the whole area, and not just one piece," Councilman Brett Franks said.

Nothing else was included in the SUP request, and Franks expressed concern what might be built around the 7-11.

The comprehensive plan, which the council adopted several months ago, included a "concept plan" for the intersection that has a gas station on the northwest corner, with a hotel behind it, and some other development. On the northeast

side, the plan has a pharmacy, with a hotel just east of that, and a grocery store behind it.

"We have an opportunity for it to be great, to be a destination. This does not allow that to happen," Councilman Jeff Bickerstaff said.

Had the council approved the SUP request, the facility would

See **SLURPEES** page 6A



BCISD teaching how to speak 普通话

Mandarin Chinese now part of LOTE curriculum

DIVISION 6, FIRST PLACE: BURNET BULLETIN

Local resident cries foul over spilled milk

Man accused of breaking into home, stealing milk, pouring it on himself

Benny ^{versus} BOOZE

DIVISION 8, FIRST PLACE: SACHSE NEWS

SCANARTISTS



DAVID MAY/INDEX

PPGH radiologic technologist Sherry Neal looks over digital 360-degree images of a patient's spine taken by the hospital's new 64-slice CT scanner.

Palo Pinto General Hospital begins using a newer, faster CT scanner

By DAVID MAY

editor@mineralwellsindex.com

Sharon Neal has been a radiologic technologist performing and processing CT scans at Palo Pinto General Hospital for nearly 19 years.

For 12 of those years, she used a CT scanning machine that took 16 images, or slices, per rotation and sometimes required long post-procedure scanning times.

In mid-March, she and others working

See **PPGH**, page 5

STORAGE | TIPS

CLOTHES IN ON CLOSETS

WITH A LITTLE CREATIVITY, YOU CAN MAKE UP FOR LACK OF STORAGE SPACE



1



2

DIVISION 2, FIRST PLACE: TYLER MORNING TELEGRAPH

DIVISION 5, FIRST PLACE: MINERAL WELLS INDEX

Feature Photo



DIVISION 9, FIRST PLACE: Madison Gigon, left, Sunday Curry, center, and Aria Goodson try and construct a dog or cat toy using craft supplies handed out to children who attended Moonlight Movies in Murphy. (Carin Curry/Murphy Monitor)



DIVISION 5, FIRST PLACE: Ennis High School Lionettes dressed in scary masks as part of their Halloween-themed pep rally performance ahead of the 2017 Ennis Lions football homecoming football game against Jacksonville. (Chris McGathay/Ennis News)



DIVISION 2, FIRST PLACE: Brenda and Burt Beals watch from their second floor window as trick rider Atom Baker of the United Freestyle Stunt Team performs a flip at the 22nd annual Grand Kids Festival. (Stuart Villanueva/Galveston County Daily News)



DIVISION 10, FIRST PLACE: Marco Gomez lays down pinstripe down on a 1954 Ford Victoria. Marco has a passion for cars, pinstriping and kustom culture art. (J.L. Mankin/Big Lake Wildcat)

FEATURE PHOTO

Division 2

1. **Galveston County Daily News** - All photos are beautiful and well done. Photos are technically sound and bring out an emotional response. Creativity is great too. Fantastic job!
2. **Longview News-Journal** - Great job capturing the moment in these photos. Love seeing different personalities in ballerina shot. The fifth photo of the taps player is stunning.
3. **Victoria Advocate** - You have some great photos in this bunch. Love the unique perspective in photo 1. The last shot of the man affected by Hurricane Harvey is the best; though, because it is not only technically sound but his expression tells the story.
4. **Tyler Morning Telegraph** - Most photos show great expression. There are some interesting perspectives as well. The lighting in photo 4 is particularly breathtaking.

Division 3

Each entry has elements of story telling that make good news photographs.

1. **News-Telegram, Sulphur Springs** - Great job capturing candid moments, especially the Division II football win.
2. **Kerrville Daily Times** - Great job capturing interesting perspectives in your photos. The rodeo photo is particularly well done.
3. **Brenham Banner-Press** - Good job capturing beautiful colors in night sky in several photos. Nice lighting in photo of girl with guitar.
4. **Huntsville Item** - Good job capturing expressions of people in most photos. The photo of the child dancing is particularly well done.

Division 4

Tough competition to judge

1. **Hood County News** - Great eye for detail, excellent technical skills displayed in all photos.
2. **Wise County Messenger** - Photos show community events in best light. Good eye for detail.
3. **Lampasas Dispatch Record** - Acrobat photo especially good; all show good eye and framing.

4. **El Campo Leader-News** - Great subjects, good framing and good display.

Division 5

1. **Ennis News** - The firefighter, Power of Prayer and dancers are all powerful photos. The juxtaposition of what a dance team typically is and the creepiness of the masks made me linger on that photo for awhile. Those four and the water tower are all visually interesting and made my eyes pause before moving on. Good work.
2. **Kilgore News Herald** - The lineman rodeo photo is the most visually interesting shot in this contest. There is so much going on in the photo, and it's an unusual sight. Take more photos like that.
3. **Beeville Bee-Picayune** - The yellow slime photo is fantastic! Crystal clear, and the boy's expression is perfect.
4. **The Bastrop Advertiser** - The impeachment photo adds a lot of local color and tells a story without the story. The honor choir photo stood out because of its mix of actual colors and culture.



DIVISION 8, FIRST PLACE: Canadian was well represented in the 2017 the National Junior High School Rodeo Association Finals with team ropers Jordan and Nicholas Lovins, and barrel racer Camree Slavin. (Peyton Auffer/ The Canadian Record)



Division 6

The top finishers set themselves apart with action shots that were visually compelling—photos that made me think.

1. Port Aransas South Jetty - The sunset, dog and surfing photos are fantastic! In focus in the right places and full of life and color. Notches above some other photos in this category. Great job!

2. Rockdale Reporter - I really want to know how you got the high jumper to balance like that! What an intriguing photo.

3. Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post - The tractor, flags and astronomy photos are most interesting. I like the juxtaposition of light and dark in the astronomy one. Two of the photos were not as visually interesting; the other three were great.

4. The Wylie News - It's not every day you can witness dental work being done on a tiger. One Smokin' Ride had great timing catching the buck and the hat in the air.

Division 7

1. Goldthwaite Eagle - Outstanding photo entry. Very strong shots that tell a story.

2. Leader News, Lytle - Good shots telling the story. Strong overall entry.

3. The Navasota Examiner - Two elements with difficult to capture action make this entry strong.

4. Cuero Record - Very good shots.

Division 8

1. The Canadian Record - Each submission was electrifying, engaging, thoughtful and interesting. I loved the different angles, lighting, size and subject matter. Excellent job!

2. Iowa Park Leader - What makes these photos stand out is their consistent placement. The photo of the swarm of bees and the spring foliage were particularly pleasing to look at.

3. Sachse News - I can hear that little girl squeal! I can see her zeal! Captivating emotion! I was also intently gazing at the Sikhs and the differences in their culture versus the American culture.



DIVISION 6, FIRST PLACE: Arthur Pecore, 13, of Port Aransas slices through a wave while surfing on the south side of Horace Caldwell Pier on a recent day. (Dan Parker/Port Aransas South Jetty)

DIVISION 3, FIRST PLACE: E'Dream Jones is an 11-year-old outside line-backer in her third year of playing football for Sulphur Springs Youth Football and Cheer. (Jillian Smith/ News-Telegram, Sulphur Springs)



DIVISION 4, FIRST PLACE: Wade Allen of Granbury, 5, goes down in the mutton bustin' event at City Beach as part of General Granbury's Birthday Bash on the square. (Debbie Schneider/ Hood County News)

4. The Community News, Aledo - Very nice shots, well displayed.

Division 9

1. Murphy Monitor

2. Hico News Review

3. Salado Village Voice

4. Meridian Tribune

Division 10

1. Big Lake Wildcat - Easy pick for first place - great work! Stands out above the rest.

2. Double Mountain Chronicle - Love the egg photo!

3. Alvin Sun - Drumming photo was by far your strongest entry.

4. Lake Travis View - Nice egg hunt photo.

News Photo



DIVISION 4, FIRST PLACE: Flooded from her home, Bertha Garcia of Wharton (center) is lifted from a transport vehicle by Texas National Guardsmen Victor Ochoa (left) and Staff Sgt. Ernest Gunnell, who took her to a shelter. (Matthew Hofferek / El Campo Leader-News)

DIVISION 3, FIRST PLACE: Mound Hill-Cedar Hill-Gay Hill Volunteer Fire Department firefighters work to quickly extinguish a grass fire before it spreads out of control in the Longpoint area. (Melissa McCaghen / The Banner-Press, Brenham)

Lower right photo:



DIVISION 9, FIRST PLACE: Students of Hardin ISD line the roadside of FM 834 as the funeral procession of Chief Warrant Officer II Lucas Lowe passes by in route to Guedry Cemetery. (Wayne Moody/The Vindicator, Liberty)



NEWS PHOTO

Division 2

1. **Victoria Advocate** - These photos perfectly capture a tragic moment. The photos alone tell stories without needing the articles and captions. Well done!
2. **Galveston County Daily News**
3. **Longview News-Journal**
4. **Odessa American**

Division 3

1. **Brenham Banner-Press**
2. **Seguin Gazette**
3. **Vernon Daily Record**
4. **Huntsville Item**

Division 4

This was a hard category to judge, lots of excellent fire and flood photos. Enjoyed the entries with a wide variety of news items.

1. **El Campo Leader-News** - Great variety and cutlines, I wanted to keep reading.
2. **The Highlander, Marble Falls** - Good variety!
3. **Polk County Enterprise** - Really

enjoyed your entry and the variety you included. Great looking paper.

4. **Hood County News** - Attractive paper with cute photos and cutlines.

Division 5

Strong competition.

1. **Taylor Press** - Great pics help tell stories. Layout displays them well in generous sizes.
2. **Mineral Wells Index** - "Bottle works" and "state champs" photos were the real winners. Good framing, news judgment.
3. **Beeville Bee-Picayune** - Good effort on smokey fire photos. Good news judgment, selection and cropping.
4. **The Messenger, Grapeland** - Good photos, these visuals enhance stories and several can stand alone.

Division 6

1. **Port Aransas South Jetty** - Fantastic job capturing big moments in your readership area. Photos are technically well done and I would think impactful for your readers.

2. **Rockdale Reporter** - Good job getting close to the scenes, especially in the fire photos.

3. **Frio-Nueces Current** - Good job getting close to the subjects of your photos (fire, flood, cops).

4. **Burnet Bulletin** - Nice job getting close to the action. The prescribed burn photo is particularly dramatic. Well done!

Division 7

1. **The Irving Rambler** - Very good photos, well displayed.
2. **Wimberley View** - Terrific scenes of night time fire.
3. **The Llano News** - Nice, large photos.
4. **Cuero Record** - Good community interest photos.

Division 8

1. **The Progress, Three Rivers** - Excellent angles! Enjoyed the unexpected view.
2. **Castroville News Bulletin** - Great action shots that immediately draw the

eye and create desire to read more.

3. **Iowa Park Leader** - Fun focus on young members of the community.
4. **The Dublin Citizen** - Nice candid shots of youth; catching them in honest, raw moments.

Division 9

1. **The Vindicator** - Goosebumps! I was immediately drawn in and wanted to know more. Excellent eye.
2. **West Kerr Current** - Great action shots that genuinely captured moments and drew readers in.
3. **Springtown Epigraph**
4. **Meridian Tribune**

Division 10

1. **Eldorado Success** - Good news judgment, sharp photos displayed well.
2. **Devil's River News** - Good, sharp photos displayed well in page layout.
3. **Commerce Journal** - Good mix of photos, dramatic and light hearted.
4. **Alvin Sun** - Strong photos make good use of both color and black and white.



FIRST PLACE, DIVISION 6: As a laughing, jeering crowd looks on, Port Aransas Police Officer II Matt Ponder attempts to arrest a young man during a fracas amidst a large group of Spring Breakers on the beach near Mile Marker 30. Police said 235 arrests were made by the combined law enforcement agencies in Port Aransas throughout the 2017 Spring Break period. (Zach Perkins/Port Aransas South Jetty)



Above, right:

DIVISION 2, FIRST PLACE: Joe Michael Ramirez, 57, tests the sturdiness of framing in his home that was damaged in Hurricane Harvey. A tarp covers the exposed roof. (Angela Piazza/Victoria Advocate)



DIVISION 10, FIRST PLACE: Steer wrestler Ty Harris, of San Angelo, crooks his arm under the right horn of a charging steer and grasps the left horn as he dismounts his horse during the Friday night performance of the Top of the Divide Rodeo. (Kathy Mankin/The Eldorado Success)



DIVISION 5: FIRST PLACE: Demolition of the McDonald's restaurant in Taylor was picturesque. Ronald seemed to be directing the demolition and, as always, the operation is polite. (Richard Stone/Taylor Press)

The McDonald's on North Main Street is getting more than a facelift, it's being torn down to make room for a brand new store, which should open by September. By the time you read this, the old McDonald's location will be little more than a clean slab but Thursday, the demolition was picturesque. Ronald seemed to be directing the demolition and, as always, the operation is polite.



DIVISION 7, FIRST PLACE: Firefighters fight a blaze at New World International warehouse. (John Starkey/Rambler Newspapers)

DIVISION 8, FIRST PLACE: The last of nine victims ejected from a Chevrolet Suburban is taken to a waiting AirLife helicopter for transport to the hospital. Rescue workers at the scene said six children and three adults who were thrown from the SUV in the accident. (William J. Gibbs Jr./The Progress, Three Rivers)

News Writing

Todds toast experiences



PHOTO BY MOSES LEOS III

Out-going mayors Todd Webster of Kyle (left) and Todd Ruge of Buda met at Buck's Backyard for a special interview to talk about their experiences as mayors of the two neighboring cities.

Out-going mayors discuss accomplishments and downfalls from their years in office

BY MOSES LEOS III

Upon setting down a glass of whiskey and water, Kyle Mayor Todd Webster engaged Buda Mayor Todd Ruge in a conversation on weight loss strategies.

Cutting out beer and switching to spirits seems to do the trick, Webster said. Running a few miles a day also helps.

Such is the nature of conversation between the two mayors, who during the course of the past week officially passed the baton to their successors to lead their respective cities.

Along the way, both men gathered a mutual respect for one another; a bond that perhaps is shared with the rigors of

"Being the mayor, you get a lot of blame for things you probably shouldn't, but you also get the credit for things other staff or citizens do. You get to be in front of the parade at all times."

—Todd Ruge, out-going mayor of Buda

mayor's seat really is.

Ruge, who steps down after a seven-year tenure as a mayor and city council member, felt as if he grew up "a lot" during that time.

Much of the growth was learning how citizens feel, which often comes "very quickly." But such an experience also goes hand-in-hand with a loss of privacy, as

motivation was to avoid the prospect of potentially being bombarded with questions from the community.

"There's always going to be a handful of people out there who are going to seek you out and give you their opinions," Webster said. "There's no refuge from it, no matter where you are."

has to be on their best behavior at all times, as they're "representing the city."

"Being the mayor, you get a lot of blame for things you probably shouldn't, but you also get the credit for things other staff or citizens do," Ruge said. "You get to be in front of the parade at all times."

A sense of pride is what Ruge and Webster felt when they describe accomplishments made during their tenures. Ruge highlighted the success of his three campaign tenets of improving public safety, maintaining responsible grow and keeping taxes low.

For Webster, one of his primary accomplishments was water, wastewater and road



Anatomy of a grass fire

When fighting these fires, one rule applies: attack from the black

BY BILL CLOUGH

A FIREMAN on East Hennig Road douses one of numerous grass fires that occurred last week that

burned more than 500 acres and a van.

The fires will become data collected by the Texas Forestry Service and, being

dry statistics, are dismissed by many with the phrase "Oh, they were just grass fires."

Members of the Goliad

Volunteer Fire Department know better. Last year, according to those Service statistics, 9,209 grass fires (See LCES, 12A)

DIVISION 9, FIRST PLACE: GOLIAD ADVANCE-GUARD

Ponder cleared of charges by Hunt County DA

ANNOUNCEMENT COMES DAY AFTER CHIEF CLEARED OF RACIALLY-BASED ALLEGATIONS

By Ryan Scott
Journal Staff

Charges were dropped against a Texas A&M University-Commerce student involved in a May 20 incident that led to what was called a wrongful arrest.

Carmen Ponder, 25, was being charged with evading



Carmen Ponder

arrest or detention, but the Hunt County District Attorney's Office dropped the charges Tuesday, citing a lack of evidence.

Ponder said that she was harassed by a motorist in the parking lot of the Commerce Walmart. According to

her into the parking lot after she passed the truck on the road. She says that the passenger, who said he was teaching his 14-year-old daughter how to drive, got out of the vehicle and accosted her.

"He continued yelling and tussling me out and I finally turned around and said 'It's illegal,' when he kept saying that it was a 14-year-old driving,"

Ponder said. "That's when he screamed 'oh whatever, you black tw@t@le!'"

Ponder initially believed that the man she was interacting with was Commerce Chief of Police Kerry Crews. According to a city statement, Crews was at Walmart as a customer and



Kerry Crews

became involved in the incident when approached by one of the parties.

Video of the incident released on Tuesday shows Crews, in plain clothes, approach Ponder as she exited the store, flashing his badge

» SEE CISO, PAGE A3

DIVISION 10, FIRST PLACE: COMMERCE JOURNAL

DIVISION 7, FIRST PLACE: HAYES FREE PRESS

NEWS WRITING

Division 2

Strong entries, very tough category to judge. These are all top quality.

1. **Odessa American** - Excellent package, series about the downfall of a hometown hero. Well-researched, great reading.
2. **Galveston County Daily News** - Great coverage. Murder story has all the salacious elements of pulp fiction, but told in straight-forward news style. Story about volunteers helping evacuate near-by town during Hurricane Harvey flooding brings heart to the harrowing experience.
3. **Tyler Morning Telegraph** - Good, thorough disaster coverage of record-breaking tornado. Story of local attorney's battle with Lewy Body Dementia brings public light to this rare ailment.
4. **New Braunfels, Herald-Zeitung** - Touching, well-written coverage of two horrific tragedies.

Division 3

1. **Kerrville Daily Times** - Difficult situation handled well in story about a local family's despair when one family member is accused of killing another. Story of nurse convicted a fifth time for killing babies is also a tough topic.

2. **San Marcos Daily Record** - Well-research historical perspective on the decision by the local school board to be among the first in Texas to integrate following the federal court order more than 60 years ago. Story on neighborhood damaged by flooding with little help with recovery was also handled well.

3. **News-Telegram, Sulphur Springs** - Well-researched, localized look at the national epidemic of opiate addiction.

4. **Huntsville Item** - Two public issues researched and told in well-written stories.

Division 4

1. **Uvalde Leader-News** - Well-written, in-depth coverage of horrific car-church bus accident and its aftermath is a winner.

2. **Hood County News** - Well-researched, organized coverage of the impact of DPS Driver Responsibility Program is absorbing. Coverage of city council member's beef with the city over a wedding venue is also a great read.

3. **The Fayette County Record** - Straight-forward, well written coverage of devastation caused by flooding in the aftermath of Hurricane Harvey and snappy lede in "Who is in charge here" make these winner stories.

4. **Wise County Messenger** - Writer makes right-of-way issues between a church and an energy company an interesting story. Tribute to a judge and community leader equally well done.

Division 5

1. **Kilgore News Herald** - Interesting leads, well-organized.
2. **Taylor Press** - Clear, concise writing, facts presented, a good read.
3. **Mineral Wells Index** - Good art makes these two nice news packages.
4. **The Orange Leader** - Clean, straightforward, well done.

Division 6

1. **Hill Country Community Journal** - Great investigative journalism and use of a FOIA request
2. **Jewish Herald-Voice** - Excellent opportunity to highlight a unique after effect of Hurricane Harvey.
3. **Burleson County Tribune**
4. **Pleasanton Express**

Texas, your stories about your communities coming together after tragedy, may it be fire, flood, hurricane, homicide or otherwise, should leave you with a sense of pride. May you hold the honor of telling their stories with that same pride.

— Nebraska Press Association judge



Councilman's abuses mount



Then-City Council District 1 candidate Malcolm Hamilton, right, looks over early voting results with former City Councilman Bill Cleaver on Nov. 8, 2016, at the Ector County Administration Building.

A threat to a charity, pressure at courthouse, shouts at City Hall. Can Hamilton fix it?

BY COREY PAUL
cpaul@oasa.com

Kathy Gibson Leoffler recalled that Friday in January when District 1 Councilman Malcolm Hamilton visited the Salvation Army, where she works as the office manager.

Hamilton asked to see the major to talk about a complaint he received of a broken washer in the emergency shelter that serves needy Odessans. Instead of waiting, Hamilton left a business card and told a receptionist to have Major Guy Watts call him.

When the major called Hamilton, Leoffler says she was one of two others in the room.

"He said 'You better get a washer and dryer in there' or he was going to pull our city funding," Leoffler said.

But Hamilton's threat to the charity was a bizarre one. The Salvation Army doesn't even get city funding.

"He was being very stern and telling us what we better do when he didn't even really know the facts," Leoffler said.

It's yet another account of the

OAG
MY
com

Check out video of Malcolm Hamilton's stop by the Odessa Police Department.

Tinyurl.com/237w55

See MALCOLM Page 1A

See MALCOLM Page 1A

Who is Malcolm Hamilton?

Financial troubles preceded star athlete's Odessa return

BY COREY PAUL
cpaul@oasa.com



During his campaign, Malcolm Hamilton presented himself as a home-grown athlete who reached the pros and then built a life as a successful businessman. These experiences, he said, qualified him to represent Odessa's District 1.

"I'm used to dealing with pressure," Hamilton said in an October interview. "I have experience in investment banking. I have experience in business. I have experience in negotiations, and that's what a lot of this is about. It's about being a liaison as well as a good communicator and I think I bring that to the table."

But a closer look at Hamilton's life presents a more nuanced picture at a time when the councilman finds himself amid ongoing controversy.

He was a star high school athlete who achieved an improbable rise to become a professional football player. His time in the National Football League was short lived. And it was followed by financial trouble and a series of career changes — including a stint in a sales role at a brokerage firm but not a job as an investment banker who raises capital for companies or other entities.

All led up to Hamilton's return to Odessa and his pursuit of another long-held goal — winning public office.

See HAMILTON Page 7A.



'He's a product of the community ... He sees even slum and blight through a different perspective with more passion ... GENE COLLINS Community activist and newly appointed Odessa Development Council member

DIVISION 2, FIRST PLACE: ODESSA AMERICAN

Hualde Leader-News

LOCALLY OWNED INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER—SINCE 1879 A LEADER IN SOUTHWEST TEXAS

ONE SECTION, 22 PAGES

SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2017

VOL. 137 NO. 5 75 CENTS

'He didn't even hit the brakes'

Witness tells of traveling behind pickup driver

THE UVALDE Leader-News was the first news organization to interview crash witness Jody Kuchler of Leakey, who is quoted in the following story.

KIMBERLY RUBIO
STAFF WRITER

WHILE MULTIPLE news organizations have since interviewed him and quoted him, as witness the 70-year-old driver believed to have caused the crash admitted that he was looking and driving, neither that admission nor any other conversation during the head-on collision was mentioned during our interview.

FOR THAT reason, the Leader-News has opted not to add the additional information being given to other newspaper and television stations.

"... He is going to hit somebody head-on or he is going to kill his own damn self. Somebody needs to get this guy off the road."

Those were the words spoken by Leakey resident Jody Kuchler to Real County Sheriff's Office dispatchers just minutes before he witnessed a

two-vehicle collision that left 13 people dead and two others injured.

The Wednesday afternoon wreck is one of the most horrific motor vehicle crashes to occur in the area.

The fatal crash occurred on U.S. Highway 83 North, 1.7 miles south of Farm-to-Market 1050 in Uvalde County.

The recording from the 911 call to Real

County Sheriff's Office by Leakey resident Jody Kuchler, shows him at the scene of the wreck at 12:19 p.m.

Kuchler and his girlfriend Thania Sanchez first called 911 to report a reckless driver at 12:04 p.m., and Uvalde County Sheriff's Office deputies were notified by phone at 12:05 p.m.

PLEASE SEE COUNSELING, PAGE 22



Aerial footage shows first responders at the scene of a two-vehicle head-on collision that occurred Wednesday, just south of Garner State Park. Thirteen people died as a result of the crash.

DIVISION 4, FIRST PLACE: UVALDE LEADER-NEWS

New role

Boulette says title he cherishes most is that of 'Father'

By TAMMY PROUT
Publisher

He was ordained as a priest in the Catholic church, elevated to the role of Monsignor and now has been appointed by Pope Francis as auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of San Antonio and Mike Boulette is honored, but the title he cherishes most is that of "Father."

"I've cherished the name 'father' because of what it signifies," Boulette said. "In the ancient languages, the word 'father' means to author life. And God is the unique father, because he uniquely authors life among

us."

Boulette said that God gives life, then He loves it, guides it and protects it. God is the ultimate parent, he said.

"And so, I would want to be for the parish what a good parent is for their family," Boulette said.

Serving as the leader of his church family comes naturally for Boulette, who credits his mother, Pat Boulette, for his strong sense of family and love for God.

"Mom was the focal point of love and support, nourishment and care," Boulette said. "She was the one who was the heart of our family unit."

When it came time for Boulette to enter into the seminary at age 14, Boulette said, not everyone in his family was completely on

See FATHER, Page 12A



File Photo by Tammy Prout

MONSIGNOR MIKE BOULETTE has been a fixture in the Kerrville area for more than 26 years, serving as priest of Notre Dame Catholic Church and Founding Director of St. Peter Upon The Water in Ingram.

DIVISION 6, FIRST PLACE: HILL COUNTRY COMMUNITY JOURNAL

Division 7

1. Hays Free Press - Great, timely stories with local emphasis.
2. Tyler County Booster - Good detail, use of quotes in articles about rural hospital issue.
3. Colorado County Citizen - Solid reporting and writing skills.
4. Hallettsville Tribune-Herald - Good topics handled well, could use some tightening.

Division 8

Texas, your stories about your communities coming together after tragedy, may it be fire, flood, hurricane, homicide, or otherwise, should leave you with a sense of pride. May you hold the honor of telling their stories with that same pride. Thoroughly enjoyed reading stories from your corner of the world.

1. The Progress, Three Rivers - The Jensen story pulled me in, and had me hanging by every word. Tragic, but very well written. Billboard story was a great representation of reporting. Detailed from every angle. Great story.
2. Farmersville Times - Good detailed story on animal cruelty, gave a good description from start to finish. The

quotes in the plane crash story brought a tear, and gave a full vision of who these two were. Great writing.

3. Iowa Park Leader - Great detail in a twisted story about a deranged animal hoarder gone rogue. Had to read the Ewing story a few times to understand the story, but it was a good story that pained the heart.

4. Pilot Point Post-Signal - Good Hurricane Story, loved the standing up to hate story, the quotes from Saint James made the story for me.

Division 9

Texas, you have a wide variety of great stories to tell. I appreciated the detail in most of the entries. The stories about how you came together as a community in the wake of natural disaster are powerful, but the variety included with other pieces were appreciated as well

1. Goliad Advance-Guard - Great lead. Great idea and writing with the grass fire piece. Loved the photo, cutline, details and statistics.

Pandemonium in the Courtroom was a fun piece to read, great photos and excitement.

2. Princeton Herald - Enjoyed the fire at Walmart story, and the photos that accompanied it. Enjoyed the variety of

writing here.

3. Springtown Epigraph - Great detail and entertaining stories. Interesting material.

4. Hico News Review - Fun stories about controversy in the community. Great coverage on the local issues.

Division 10

All the placing entries were top notch. Large field of very good entries.

1. Commerce Journal - Story of repercussions of police chief's actions told well with straight-forward, clean writing.

2. Double Mountain Chronicle - Thoroughly researched, well organized and documented. Important story tracing issues within county government.

3. The Times Tribune, Brookshire - Virtual and real traffic worlds collide in interesting take on tourism traffic's impact on local neighborhoods.

4. Corrigan Times - Both stories get at the root of the issues with no jump. Great information for reader.

SPOTLIGHT

Tyler Morning Telegraph

MUSIC | CONCERT

LOVING LOVETT

The Houston native, with John Hiatt, will perform an acoustic show Friday in Caldwell Auditorium

DAVID WICK

For an artist who has been in the music business for over 40 years, Lovett is still going strong. The Houston native, who has released 11 studio albums, is set to perform an acoustic show with John Hiatt at the Caldwell Auditorium on Friday, Nov. 23. Lovett, who has been in the music business since 1974, is a multi-instrumentalist and a prolific songwriter. He has worked with some of the biggest names in the industry, including George Strait, and has released several successful albums. Lovett's music is a blend of country, rock, and folk, and he is known for his powerful vocals and guitar playing. This acoustic show is a special occasion for Lovett, as it allows him to showcase his songwriting and guitar skills in a more intimate setting. Lovett and Hiatt, who is also a multi-instrumentalist and a prolific songwriter, will perform a variety of songs, including some of Lovett's most popular hits. The show is a must-see for any fan of country music.

PHOTOGRAPHY: ALBERTO

LOVETT: "I've been in the music business for over 40 years, and I'm still going strong. I'm a multi-instrumentalist and a prolific songwriter. I've worked with some of the biggest names in the industry, including George Strait, and I've released several successful albums. My music is a blend of country, rock, and folk, and I'm known for my powerful vocals and guitar playing. This acoustic show is a special occasion for me, as it allows me to showcase my songwriting and guitar skills in a more intimate setting. I'm excited to perform with John Hiatt, who is also a multi-instrumentalist and a prolific songwriter. We'll be performing a variety of songs, including some of my most popular hits. The show is a must-see for any fan of country music."

GALLERY: ALBERTO

LOVETT: "I've been in the music business for over 40 years, and I'm still going strong. I'm a multi-instrumentalist and a prolific songwriter. I've worked with some of the biggest names in the industry, including George Strait, and I've released several successful albums. My music is a blend of country, rock, and folk, and I'm known for my powerful vocals and guitar playing. This acoustic show is a special occasion for me, as it allows me to showcase my songwriting and guitar skills in a more intimate setting. I'm excited to perform with John Hiatt, who is also a multi-instrumentalist and a prolific songwriter. We'll be performing a variety of songs, including some of my most popular hits. The show is a must-see for any fan of country music."

ENTERTAINMENT BEAT | BIG VARIETY

Holly, Valens, Big Bopper tribute show Saturday

DAVID WICK

It's a tribute to three of the most popular country music artists of the 1950s and 1960s. The "Holly, Valens, Big Bopper" tribute show is a celebration of the music and lives of these three legendary artists. The show features a variety of songs and performances that pay tribute to the music of Holly, Valens, and Big Bopper. The show is a must-see for any fan of country music.

DAVID WICK

The show is a celebration of the music and lives of these three legendary artists. The show features a variety of songs and performances that pay tribute to the music of Holly, Valens, and Big Bopper. The show is a must-see for any fan of country music.

DIVISION 2, FIRST PLACE
TYLER MORNING TELEGRAPH

SPORTS

Disappearing Act

Tyler's Raycroft has 0-1 record for no-hitters

DAVID WICK

Raycroft's no-hitter was a historic moment for the Tyler Oilers. The Oilers, who are currently in the playoffs, were looking for a way to advance to the next round. Raycroft's no-hitter was a key moment in the Oilers' season, and it was a testament to his skill and determination. Raycroft's no-hitter was a historic moment for the Tyler Oilers, and it was a testament to his skill and determination.

DAVID WICK

Raycroft's no-hitter was a historic moment for the Tyler Oilers, and it was a testament to his skill and determination.

SPORTS

Monster fifth inning seals Seguin comeback

Seguin's comeback was a historic moment for the Seguin Red Sox. The Red Sox, who were down 3-0 in the fifth inning, came back to win the game. Seguin's comeback was a testament to his skill and determination.

DAVID WICK

Seguin's comeback was a historic moment for the Seguin Red Sox, and it was a testament to his skill and determination.

DIVISION 3, FIRST PLACE
SEGUIN GAZETTE

SPORTS

All-District 26-5A

Tyler's Raycroft has 0-1 record for no-hitters

DAVID WICK

Raycroft's no-hitter was a historic moment for the Tyler Oilers. The Oilers, who are currently in the playoffs, were looking for a way to advance to the next round. Raycroft's no-hitter was a key moment in the Oilers' season, and it was a testament to his skill and determination. Raycroft's no-hitter was a historic moment for the Tyler Oilers, and it was a testament to his skill and determination.

DAVID WICK

Raycroft's no-hitter was a historic moment for the Tyler Oilers, and it was a testament to his skill and determination.

Hood County News

More than a newspaper. A Hood County legend since 1880.

Saturday, December 23, 2017

Deep in the



55 Buds provided for children's hospital

2,700 Children helped through the Christmas for Children program

269 Flew blankets and gifts to the poor

560 Buds prepared for the Christmas for Children program

of Hood

250 Holiday food bags packaged for the needy

200 Jeans and jackets collected for the needy

Residents reach out to help neighbors

A GROWING BLESSING: Lakeside Baptist Church is looking forward to a new home for Leaves and Fishes as well as other ministry opportunities. 18

DIVISION 4, FIRST PLACE
HOOD COUNTY NEWS

Hays Free Press

More than a newspaper. A Hays legend since 1880.

Friday, December 22, 2017

Feel the love

Kyle OKs \$45K for police audit

Budapest under fire for lack of accountability

Kyle updates PID policy

COMING UP

Starlight Symphony Orchestra

Elisa Albert reading and book signing

DIVISION 5, FIRST PLACE
THE MESSENGER, GRAPELAND

DIVISION 6, FIRST PLACE
HILL COUNTRY COMMUNITY JOURNAL

DIVISION 7, FIRST PLACE
HAYS FREE PRESS



C
May 19-23, 2017
Hosko Publications
csm@hospko.com
972-462-8913

[illegible]

DIVISION 10, FIRST PLACE MATHIS NEWS

2. The Llano News - *Nice photo page.*

3. Tyler County Booster
4. Azle News

- Division 8**

 - 1. Sachse News**
 - 2. The Community News**
 - 3. The Dublin Citizen**
 - 4. Wood County Monitor**

REFERENCES

- Division 9**

 - 1. Murphy Monitor**
 - 2. Princeton Herald**
 - 3. Meridian Tribune**
 - 4. Springtown Epigraph**

Division 10

1. Mathis News
2. Eldorado Success
3. Royse City Herald Banner
4. Devil's River News

1. Hays Free Press - *Attractive use of photos.*

- ### 1. Hays Free Press - *Attractive use of photos.*

Special Sections

ROUTINE SPECIAL SECTION

Dailies

This was hard. Very, very hard. I'd be proud to offer any one of them at my newspaper. Well done, all.

1. Tyler Morning Telegraph - Stunning cover. I'm a sucker for reverse type and a fancy drink. Editors message and contents are good. Photos throughout are stunning. Great design and use of white space, this is very very nice. The wine page is awesome, I am a little distracted that the Lost Draw bottle is a slightly different angle than the others. Wow, that's getting picky. Good life products layout is spectacular. Love the jeep and rock climbing articles, great job of offering content that appeals across demographics. Coffee directory is great. Recipe pages are hands-down the best in class. Perfect layout, amazing photos... well done. I could keep gushing, but do I really need to? Fantastic.

2. Galveston County Daily News - Strong design, beautiful layout with great imagery and white space. Even the ad sizes (varying 1/2 H/V, 1/4pg, and 2/3 - 1/3 are visually interesting. The western wear guide and "seaside style" features are great, revenue maker or no charge? Either way it's great.. Q&A format is good. Villanueva's pics are great, Reynold's are fantastic. This is a great section. Wow.

3. Victoria Advocate - Great cover, makes me want to pick it up. It's so good, in fact, that I assumed it was a stock photo until I read the intro page. Kudos, Angela. I like the contents page, would have liked to see a Pg S4 reference in the cut line for the large photo to make it more relevant. Layout is simple but very effective, I have no trouble navigating and the pages flow well. Great photos throughout, great use of cropping and lighting. Love the capsules, lots of info and easy to read. The kickoff calendar and "top games" section is a great idea, haven't seen that anywhere else. Definitely stealing that idea. I really enjoyed the Cuero '87 story, love the writer's style. End-of-section stats, schedule, etc is awesome - that's a lot of work, and very well done.

4. Cleburne Times-Review - Love the cover. Tremendous drone imagery, great images overall. Nice job making it "scannable" with section headings. The client should be very happy with this."

Semiweeklies

Very difficult category to judge. All entries represented hard work and great design efforts.

1. El Campo Leader-News - Great layout, ad designs coordinated with well-organized content, great pics - complete package.

2. Hood County News - Exceptional content, good layout and advertising design, great pics.

3. Lampasas Dispatch Record - Beautiful photos, good layout and design. Well-organized content.

4. Taylor Press - Lots of color, great pics. Layout and ad design added to the overall package.

Weekly I

This was a difficult category to judge. So many quality publications. In the end, strong writing and consistency in layout/design led to the top four choices.

1. Canton Herald - Inviting cover. Classy table of contents page. Consistent layout with vibrant photos. I want to visit now.

2. Van Zandt News - This is one of the best sports previews I have seen and read. Ever. Amazing cover, clear and concise table of contents page that also relies on visual cues. Consistent layout. A winner!

3. Wills Point Chronicle - I like this design. There's a sense of flow. It doesn't feel crowded.



FIRST PLACE, DAILIES, TYLER MORNING TELEGRAPH



FIRST PLACE, WEEKLY I, CANTON HERALD

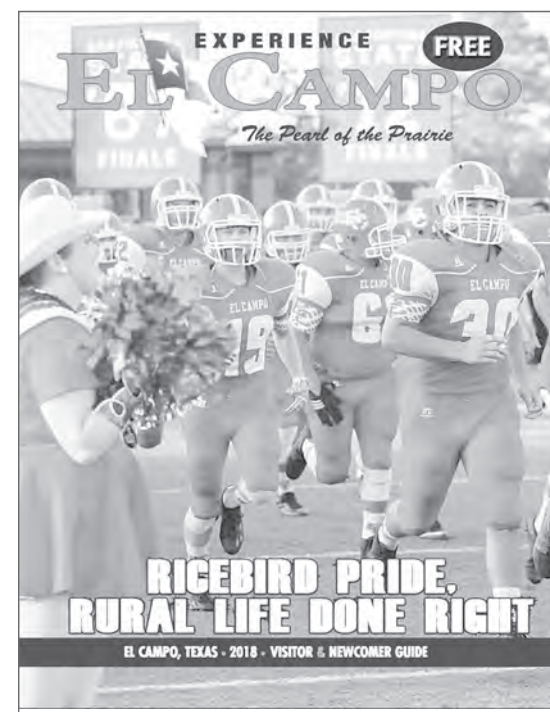
Strong photos tell the story. Good job.

4. Hill Country Community Journal - I like the tagline and consistency of its placement. Overall, strong design. Like the monthly events layout. One change I'd consider: moving the demographics information toward the back. Let the photos and articles tell the story.

Weekly II

Some tough choices to make here. At least 8 or 9 could have been in top four.

1. Pilot Point Post-Signal - Great idea followed up with great stories. Well done. Design wasn't as "wow" as some in category, but "wow" isn't necessary when you have "wow" content. Interesting reads even for someone



FIRST PLACE, SEMIWEEKLIES, EL CAMPO LEADER-NEWS



FIRST PLACE, WEEKLY II, PILOT POINT SIGNAL

like me who doesn't know those people.

2. Clarendon Enterprise - Loved the cover photo, which says welcome ... Eye popping design and some catchy heads. The maps were great addition. Sometimes the color was overwhelming but all good.

3. Madisonville Meteor - Never thought I'd see a section devoted to Mushrooms! Nice layout. Great information about vendors, etc. in easy-to-read layout. Vendor map in middle a plus.

4. The Canadian Record - Most sports previews were fairly routine. Not this one. Very eye-catching design. Not as much varied content as most others, but, wow, this one catches the reader's attention. Even a non-sports fan had to enjoy.

Special Sections

BLUE MOON SPECIAL SECTION

Dailies

1. **Del Rio News-Herald** - Awesome! Keepsake Worthy!
2. **Galveston County Daily News** - Very nicely put together!
3. **Baytown Sun** - Nice look and very well put together!
4. **Cleburne Times-Review** - Loved it!

Semiweeklies

1. **Kilgore News Herald** - Theme nicely carried throughout section. Color pops. Clean, easy to read design with good content. Well done.
2. **The Bowie News** - Liked the layout and history that was shared. Not as much content as some others, but it was handled well. I don't give a premium for color as some don't have that option, but this was good color work.
3. **Wise County Messenger** - A lot of effort to gather the photos and information. Not sure about the cover. Think it didn't need that special effect. Imagine your audience appreciated this, which is what makes it count!
4. **Polk County Enterprise** - Section cover pages were nicely done but pages after those were a bit gray. More white space would have helped make it easier on the eyes on those pages. Liked the idea

Weeklies

1. **The Canadian Record** - Wow. Kudos to your graphics designers. Brilliant throughout. Really eye-catching and fun to look at. Love how the ads fit right into the theme with more pictures of the team. Fun individual pictures of the girls. You really got them to let loose and bring out their personality. Winning a state championship is very special and rare thing. It deserves to be played up big, and you certainly did that. Outstanding job of covering all aspects of the season, from player profiles, coaches' thoughts, even a look back at a prior team that got close. One minor suggestion I would make it to include sub heads on the stories. You have some clever titles but they don't always give the reader a clear idea of what the story is about. For example, I went into "12 years in the making" assuming it was going to be about the girls in youth basketball. Your reader should always have an idea what a story is going to be about before reading it. I was also unclear if some stories were continuations from previous pages. Overall, just an outstanding package that I am happy I got the chance to see. Well done.

2. **Jewish Herald-Voice** - You do an excellent job of covering many different aspects of the hurricane recovery through the lens of the Jewish community. Very thorough coverage. Your writers did some heavy lifting that week. Hope they got some time off after that! A couple of minor suggestions: Some of the pictures needed to be played larger. Some pages did not have a dominant photo. Also, a lot of your headlines look the same - same size, weight, etc. Use some different variations of your headline typeface, and vary the size more.

3. **Canton Herald** - Good job of playing the photos large. You get several different perspectives, including some of your own first-person experiences, of the storm that helps capture the whole experienced of your community. Well done. You have some really long quotes in your main story. Some of that info would have been better relayed outside a quote. Try to use complete sentences for your cutlines.

4. **The Community News** - A nice review of a very successful season. I like going in depth on some of the changes that made a difference, like the lineman who switched positions.



FIRST PLACE, DAILIES, DEL RIO NEWS HERALD



FIRST PLACE, SEMI-WEEKLIES, KILGORE NEWS HERALD



FIRST PLACE, WEEKLIES, CANADIAN RECORD

Community Service

I am reassured in the inherent goodness of our world. The events and coverage offered here are tremendous, and we should all be proud to cover such positivity and acts of kindness.

– Nebraska Press Association judge

VICTORIA ADVOCATE

Beeville Bee-Picayune

Burnet Bulletin

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Dailies

1. **Lufkin Daily News** - Fantastic coverage of Little League World Series, and the response was phenomenal. Newspapers can unite communities.
2. **Victoria Advocate** - Great public interest reporting, from attempting to examine storm response plan to telling victims where they could get help.
3. **The Facts, Clute** - Gritty, in-your-face reporting. What a shocker for a small Texas town, but coverage was terrific and necessary. Well done.
4. **Seguin Gazette** - Persistence paid off. Newspaper played key role in dismissal of school leader and search for an appropriate replacement. Steady and forceful editorials were key.

Semiweeklies

1. **Beeville Bee-Picayune** - Stem-to-stern coverage of avoidable drinking water crisis led to city manager's resignation and recognized volunteers' efforts to deliver drinking water over two-week period.
2. **Boerne Star** - Unbelievable coverage and editorial support. Fantastic job!
3. **Uvalde Leader-News** - Continuing coverage of a tragic situation kept the plight of the Galindo family in the public eye and people responded by helping with fundraisers.
4. **The Messenger, Grapeland** - An admirable result from newspaper publicity. Good cause for any community to get behind.

Weeklies

There were some great entries here - but even beyond that, I am reassured in the inherent goodness of our world. The events and coverage offered here are tremendous, and we should all be proud to cover such positivity and acts of kindness. These stories are all great.

1. **Burnet Bulletin** - Wow, that's heart-wrenching. A perfect example of the power of local press. Here's to getting the funding and improvements QUICK! Thorough reporting, ongoing coverage, and a great job of respecting the families and victims. Glad to see the cooperation with local authorities - kudos to you.
2. **Gladewater Mirror** - Great undertaking and great coverage, well-written and hyper-local. Must admit I read several other articles too, you have a great paper!
3. **Hill Country Community Journal** - Good coverage of a worthy cause. Great recognition of the volunteers giving their time and talent! Well done, exemplifies the role of local press.
4. **The Belton Journal** - Wow, that's a big undertaking, looks like an A+ event. I do wish there had been more local content... while the info is tremendous, I think there was opportunity to get a local take. Here's to your show organizers, there is a lot of time and effort there.

Sports Coverage



This football team has had enough adversity in the last four weeks to last a lifetime.



East prevails in overtime

After a hard-fought battle, the East team prevailed in overtime, securing a victory over the West team. The game was a closely contested affair, with both teams showing great skill and determination. The East team's offensive strategy proved to be the key in the final minutes of the game.

West defeats La Vernia late

In a dramatic turn of events, the West team defeated La Vernia in the final moments of the game. The victory was secured through a combination of solid defense and a timely offensive play.

Palacios snaps 18-game losing streak

After an 18-game losing streak, the team managed to snap the streak with a hard-fought victory. The win was a significant morale booster for the players and fans alike. The team's resilience and determination were on full display throughout the game.



The victory was a testament to the team's ability to overcome adversity. The coaching staff praised the players' effort and teamwork, highlighting the importance of staying focused and fighting until the very end.



Cubs, Wildcats meet in one-gamer

The Cubs and the Wildcats are set to meet in a one-gamer, a game that promises to be a thrilling contest. Both teams are looking to improve their records and secure a spot in the playoffs. The game is expected to be a high-scoring affair with plenty of action.

The game is scheduled for Friday night at the local stadium. Fans are encouraged to attend and cheer for their favorite team. The weather is expected to be clear and warm, providing a perfect setting for a night game.

The Cubs have been performing well recently, while the Wildcats have been struggling. This game could be a turning point for both teams. The outcome will have significant implications for their season.

DIVISION 3, FIRST PLACE THE BANNER-PRESS, BRENHAM

The Banner-Press, Brenham, has been recognized as the first place winner in Division 3. The publication's sports coverage was praised for its depth, accuracy, and engaging writing style.



DIVISION 4, FIRST PLACE WISE COUNTY MESSENGER

SPORTS COVERAGE

- Division 2**
 1. Victoria Advocate
 2. The Facts, Clute
 3. New Braunfels, Herald-Zeitung
 4. Lufkin Daily News
- Division 3**
 1. Brenham Banner-Press
 2. Seguin Gazette
 3. Kerrville Daily Times
 4. Corsicana Daily Sun
- Division 4**
 1. Wise County Messenger - Love the photography on the basketball honors section. Well laid out with superior design. Excellent action shots of each player. Good softball pictures. Both faces in focus. Great baseball picture with a story that had good writing with quotes and detail. I'd like to see more of your week-to-week (or day to day) coverage in an entry. You clearly do the special sections very, very well. How about the regular coverage on a regular week? I only saw one game story here that quoted a coach.
 2. The Fayette County Record - Great design on the football preview. I like the "By the numbers," info box. Well written. Would like

- to see attribution earlier in your long quotes. Sometimes you get three, four sentences into the quote before you let the reader know who is talking. You do a nice job of being through will all the area sports. I like the inclusion of stats like box scores and track results.
- 3. Hood County News - Great design on the football preview. I like the "By the numbers," info box. Well written. Would like to see attribution earlier in your long quotes. Sometimes you get three, four sentences into the quote before you let the reader know who is talking. You do a nice job of being through will all the area sports. I like the inclusion of stats like box scores and track results.
- 4. Polk County Enterprise - Really great photography in your baseball special edition. I like how you used some excellent shots as backgrounds for your stories and info boxes. I also like the inclusion of the full roster and stats and individual pictures so everyone involved with this historic team will be recognized and remembered. Making it to a state championship game is a rare and wonderful thing, and you play it up big, as it should be. One thing that really bothered me, though, was there was no mention of what this team won or what their accomplishment was until the story on page 4 (which oddly did not have

- a headline). Looking at your cover, I didn't know what was going on. Conference championship? District? State title? I had to dig quite a ways into the section before figuring out what was going on. An issue like this is likely to be a keepsake, perhaps even end up framed on a wall somewhere. It would be nice to have "2017 State Runners-up" somewhere on that first page so people looking back on it years later can tell right away what is going on. I like the logos of all the schools in your coverage area on top of the regular sports page. Lot of dead space in that baseball pictures with the district champs article. Needed a better angle. No coaches' comment about the district title? Interesting story on the pole vaulter."
- Division 5**
 1. Ennis News - Nice use of cutouts. Pages are clean and easy to follow. Layout of photos are well done. The photos themselves are great!
 2. The Bastrop Advertiser
 3. Kilgore News Herald
 4. Gonzales Inquirer
- Division 6**
 1. Rockdale Reporter
 2. Port Aransas South Jetty

- 3. The Belton Journal
- 4. The Red River Sun
- Division 7**
 1. Azle News
 2. Tyler County Booster
 3. Wimberley View
 4. Yorktown News-View
- Division 8**
 1. The Canadian Record
 2. Pilot Point Post-Signal
 3. Burleson Star
 4. The Clifton Record
- Division 9**
 1. Springtown Epigraph
 2. Madisonville Meteor
 3. Hico News Review
 4. Princeton Herald
- Division 10**
 1. Westlake Picayune - Tough choice between first and second places. Layout and use of photos really nice.
 2. Lake Travis View
 3. The Smithville Times
 4. Devil's River News

Section 1 • March 12, 2017

THE ENNIS NEWS

Sports



Tylen Jeff Thompson revs up for a record-setting season

Mark Worts
tylenjeffthompson.com
Broomfield for a record-setting season. Thompson, 19, is a senior at Broomfield High School. He is a four-time state champion in the 100-yard dash, 200-yard dash, 400-yard dash, and 800-yard dash. He is also a two-time state champion in the 1600-yard dash and 3200-yard dash. Thompson is currently ranked first in the nation in the 100-yard dash with a time of 14.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 200-yard dash with a time of 29.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 400-yard dash with a time of 1:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 800-yard dash with a time of 2:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 1600-yard dash with a time of 4:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 3200-yard dash with a time of 8:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 6400-yard dash with a time of 16:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 12800-yard dash with a time of 32:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 25600-yard dash with a time of 64:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 51200-yard dash with a time of 128:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 102400-yard dash with a time of 256:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 204800-yard dash with a time of 512:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 409600-yard dash with a time of 1024:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 819200-yard dash with a time of 2048:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 1638400-yard dash with a time of 4096:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 3276800-yard dash with a time of 8192:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 6553600-yard dash with a time of 16384:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 13107200-yard dash with a time of 32768:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 26214400-yard dash with a time of 65536:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 52428800-yard dash with a time of 131072:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 104857600-yard dash with a time of 262144:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 209715200-yard dash with a time of 524288:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 419430400-yard dash with a time of 1048576:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 838860800-yard dash with a time of 2097152:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 1677721600-yard dash with a time of 4194304:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 3355443200-yard dash with a time of 8388608:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 6710886400-yard dash with a time of 16777216:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 13421772800-yard dash with a time of 33554432:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 26843545600-yard dash with a time of 67108864:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 53687091200-yard dash with a time of 134217728:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 107374182400-yard dash with a time of 268435456:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 214748364800-yard dash with a time of 536870912:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 429496729600-yard dash with a time of 1073741824:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 858993459200-yard dash with a time of 2147483648:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 1717986918400-yard dash with a time of 4294967296:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 3435973836800-yard dash with a time of 8589934592:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 6871947673600-yard dash with a time of 17179869184:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 13743895347200-yard dash with a time of 34359738368:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 27487790694400-yard dash with a time of 68719476736:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 54975581388800-yard dash with a time of 137438953472:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 109951162777600-yard dash with a time of 274877906944:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 219902325555200-yard dash with a time of 549755813888:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 439804651110400-yard dash with a time of 1099511627776:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 879609302220800-yard dash with a time of 2199023255552:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 1759218604441600-yard dash with a time of 4398046511104:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 3518437208883200-yard dash with a time of 8796093022208:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 7036874417766400-yard dash with a time of 17592186044416:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 14073748835532800-yard dash with a time of 35184372088832:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 28147497671065600-yard dash with a time of 70368744177664:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 56294995342131200-yard dash with a time of 140737488355328:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 112589990684262400-yard dash with a time of 281474976710656:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 225179981368524800-yard dash with a time of 562949953421312:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 450359962737049600-yard dash with a time of 1125899906842624:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 900719925474099200-yard dash with a time of 2251799813685248:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 1801439850948198400-yard dash with a time of 4503599627370496:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 3602879701896396800-yard dash with a time of 9007199254740992:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 7205759403792793600-yard dash with a time of 18014398509481984:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 14411518807585587200-yard dash with a time of 36028797018963968:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 28823037615171174400-yard dash with a time of 72057594037927936:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 57646075230342348800-yard dash with a time of 144115188075855872:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 115292150460684697600-yard dash with a time of 288230376151711744:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 230584300921369395200-yard dash with a time of 576460752303423488:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 461168601842738790400-yard dash with a time of 1152921504606846976:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 922337203685477580800-yard dash with a time of 2305843009213693952:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 1844674407370955161600-yard dash with a time of 4611686018427387904:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 3689348814741910323200-yard dash with a time of 9223372036854775808:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 7378697629483820646400-yard dash with a time of 18446744073709551616:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 14757395258967641292800-yard dash with a time of 36893488147419103232:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 29514790517935282585600-yard dash with a time of 73786976294838206464:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 59029581035870565171200-yard dash with a time of 147573952589676412928:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 118059162071741130342400-yard dash with a time of 295147905179352825856:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 236118324143482260684800-yard dash with a time of 590295810358705651712:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 472236648286964521369600-yard dash with a time of 1180591620717411303424:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 944473296573929042739200-yard dash with a time of 2361183241434822606848:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 1888946593147858085478400-yard dash with a time of 4722366482869645213696:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 3777893186295716170956800-yard dash with a time of 9444732965739290427392:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 7555786372591432341913600-yard dash with a time of 18889465931478580854784:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 15111572745182864683827200-yard dash with a time of 37778931862957161709568:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 30223145490365729367654400-yard dash with a time of 75557863725914323419136:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 60446290980731458735308800-yard dash with a time of 151115727451828646838272:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 120892581961462917470617600-yard dash with a time of 302231454903657293676544:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 241785163922925834941235200-yard dash with a time of 604462909807314587353088:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 483570327845851669882470400-yard dash with a time of 1208925819614629174706176:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 967140655691703339764940800-yard dash with a time of 2417851639229258349412352:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 1934281311383406679529881600-yard dash with a time of 4835703278458516698824704:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 3868562622766813359059763200-yard dash with a time of 9671406556917033397649408:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 7737125245533626718119526400-yard dash with a time of 19342813113834066795298816:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 15474250491067253436239052800-yard dash with a time of 38685626227668133590597632:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 30948500982134506872478105600-yard dash with a time of 77371252455336267181195264:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 61897001964269013744956211200-yard dash with a time of 154742504910672534362390528:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 123794003928538027489912422400-yard dash with a time of 309485009821345068724781056:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 247588007857076054979824844800-yard dash with a time of 618970019642690137449562112:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 49517601571415210995964889600-yard dash with a time of 1237940039285380274899124224:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 990352031428304219919397793600-yard dash with a time of 2475880078570760549798248448:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 1980704062856608439838795587200-yard dash with a time of 495176015714152109959648896:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 3961408125713216879677591174400-yard dash with a time of 9903520314283042199193977936:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 7922816251426433759355182348800-yard dash with a time of 19807040628566084398387955872:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 15845632502852867518710364697600-yard dash with a time of 39614081257132168796775911744:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 31691265005705735037420729395200-yard dash with a time of 79228162514264337593551823488:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 63382530011411470074841458790400-yard dash with a time of 158456325028528675187103646976:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 126765060022822940149682891580800-yard dash with a time of 316912650057057350374207293952:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 253530120045645880299365783161600-yard dash with a time of 633825300114114700748414587904:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 507060240091291760598731566323200-yard dash with a time of 1267650600228229401496828915808:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 1014120480182583521197463532646400-yard dash with a time of 2535301200456458802993657831616:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 2028240960365167042394927065292800-yard dash with a time of 5070602400912917605987315663232:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 4056481920730334084789854130585600-yard dash with a time of 10141204801825835211974635326464:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 8112963841460668169579708261171200-yard dash with a time of 20282409603651670423949270652928:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 16225927682921337339194165322342400-yard dash with a time of 40564819207303340847898541305856:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 32451855365842674678388330644684800-yard dash with a time of 81129638414606681695797082611712:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 64903710731685349356776661289369600-yard dash with a time of 162259276829213373391941653223424:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 12980742146337069871355332578739200-yard dash with a time of 324518553658426746783883306446848:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 25961484292674139742710665157478400-yard dash with a time of 649037107316853493567766612893696:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 51922968585348279485421330314956800-yard dash with a time of 129807421463370698713553325787392:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 103845937170696558970842660629913600-yard dash with a time of 259614842926741397427106651574784:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 207691874341393117941685321245827200-yard dash with a time of 519229685853482794854213303149568:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 41538374868278623588337064249154400-yard dash with a time of 1038459371706965589708426606299136:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 83076749736557247176674128498308800-yard dash with a time of 2076918743413931179416853212458272:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 166153499473114454353348256996617600-yard dash with a time of 415383748682786235883370642491544:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 332306998946228908706696513993332800-yard dash with a time of 830767497365572471766741284983088:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 664613997892457817413393027986665600-yard dash with a time of 1661534994731144543533482569966176:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 132922798578491563482678605597331200-yard dash with a time of 3323069989462289087066965139933328:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 265845597156983126965357211194662400-yard dash with a time of 6646139978924578174133930279866656:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 53169119431396625393071442238932800-yard dash with a time of 1329227985784915634826786055973312:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 106338238862793250786148844477865600-yard dash with a time of 2658455971569831269653572111946624:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 212676477725586501572297688949731200-yard dash with a time of 531691194313966253930714422389328:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 425352955451173003144595377899462400-yard dash with a time of 1063382388627932507861488444778656:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 850705910902346006289190757798924800-yard dash with a time of 2126764777255865015722976889497312:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 1701411821804692012578381515597849600-yard dash with a time of 4253529554511730031445953778994624:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 3402823643609384025156763031195699200-yard dash with a time of 8507059109023460062891907577989248:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 6805647287218768050313526062391398400-yard dash with a time of 17014118218046920125783815155978496:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 1361129457443753610062705212478278400-yard dash with a time of 34028236436093840251567630311956992:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 2722258914887507220125410424956556800-yard dash with a time of 68056472872187680503135260623913984:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 5444517829775014440250820849913113600-yard dash with a time of 13611294574437536100627052124782784:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 10889035559550028880501641699826227200-yard dash with a time of 27222589148875072201254104249565568:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 21778071119100057761003283399652454400-yard dash with a time of 54445178297750144402508208499131136:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 43556142238200115522006566799304908800-yard dash with a time of 108890355595500288805016416998262272:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 87112284476400231044013133598609817600-yard dash with a time of 217780711191000577610032833996524544:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 174224568952800462088026267197219635200-yard dash with a time of 435561422382001155220065667993049088:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 348449137905600924176052534394439270400-yard dash with a time of 871122844764002310440131335986098176:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 696898275811201848352105068788878540800-yard dash with a time of 1742245689528004620880262671972196352:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 139379655162240369670421013777757081600-yard dash with a time of 3484491379056009241760525343944392704:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 2787593103244807393408420275555141638400-yard dash with a time of 6968982758112018483521050687888785408:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 5575186206489614786816840551110283276800-yard dash with a time of 139379655162240369670421013777570816:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 11150372412979229573633681102222566553600-yard dash with a time of 27875931032448073934084202755551416384:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 22300744825958459147267362204445131107200-yard dash with a time of 55751862064896147868168405511102832768:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 4460148965191691829353472440889026222400-yard dash with a time of 111503724129792295736336811022225665536:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 8920297930383383658706944881778052444800-yard dash with a time of 223007448259584591472673622044451311072:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 1784059586076676731741388976355610489600-yard dash with a time of 44601489651916918293534724408890262224:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 3568119172153353463487777852711221779200-yard dash with a time of 89202979303833836587069448817780524448:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 7136238344306706926975555705422443558400-yard dash with a time of 17840595860766767317413889763556104896:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 1427247668861341385395111141084488711718400-yard dash with a time of 35681191721533534634877778527112217792:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 28544953377226827707902222821689773433600-yard dash with a time of 71362383443067069269755557054224435584:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 5708990675445365541580444564337954687200-yard dash with a time of 14272476688613413853951111410844887117184:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 114179813508907310831608892886790937600-yard dash with a time of 285449533772268277079022228216897734336:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 228359627017814621663217777773577817200-yard dash with a time of 57089906754453655415804445643379546872:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 456719254035629243326435555547155634400-yard dash with a time of 1141798135089073108316088928867909376:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 913438508071258486652871111094311268800-yard dash with a time of 2283596270178146216632177777735778172:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 1826877016142576933305742222188622537600-yard dash with a time of 4567192540356292433264355555471556344:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 3653754032285153866611484444377245675200-yard dash with a time of 9134385080712584866528711110943112688:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 7307508064570307733222368888754491350400-yard dash with a time of 18268770161425769333057422221886225376:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 1461501612914061466644737777750892260800-yard dash with a time of 36537540322851538666114844443772456752:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 2923003225828122933289475555501784521600-yard dash with a time of 73075080645703077332223688887544913504:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 58460064516562458665789511035635690400-yard dash with a time of 1461501612914061466644737777508922608:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 116920129033124917331579022071271380800-yard dash with a time of 29230032258281229332894755555017845216:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 233840258066249834663158044142542761600-yard dash with a time of 584600645165624586657895110356356904:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 467680516132499669323176088285085523200-yard dash with a time of 1169201290331249173315790220712713808:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 935361032264999338646352176570171046400-yard dash with a time of 2338402580662498346631580441425427616:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 1870722064529998775292704353140228211200-yard dash with a time of 4676805161324996693231760882850855232:00.1 seconds. Thompson is currently ranked first in the 3741444129059997550585408706280454422400-yard dash with a time of 9353610322649993386463521765701710464:00.1 seconds. He is also ranked first in the 748288825811999510117081412256



VICTORIA ADVOCATE

KILGORE NEWS HERALD

AMERICA'S NO. 1 SMALL CITY | CAPITAL OF THE EAST TEXAS OIL FIELD

The Springtown Epigraph

The Kerrville
DAILY TIMES

PORT ARANSAS
SOUTH JETTY

The Sachse News
Shining on the community, events and people of Sachse

THE FAYETTE COUNTY RECORD

Hays Free Press

Reporting the News for Fisher, Kent & Stanswell Counties
Double Mountain CHRONICLE

DIVISION 2

1. Victoria Advocate	675
2. Tyler Morning Telegraph	550
3. Galveston Co Daily News	475
4. Longview News Journal	375

DIVISION 3

1. Kerrville Daily Times	650
2. Seguin Gazette	600
3. San Marcos Record	300
4. Huntsville Item	300

DIVISION 4

1. Fayette County Record, LaGrange	625
2. Hood County News, Granbury	525
3. Wise County Messenger, Decatur	500
4. El Campo Leader News	325

DIVISION 5

1. Kilgore News Herald	625
2. Beeville Bee Picayune	475
3. Taylor Press	350
4. Bastrop Advertiser	325

DIVISION 6

1. Port Aransas South Jetty	725
2. Burnet Bulletin	375
3. Fredericksburg Standard Post	300
4. Rockdale Reporter	250

DIVISION 7

1. Hays Free Press	650
2. Azle News	350
3. Tyler County Booster	250
4. Goldthwaite Eagle	250

DIVISION 8

1. Sachse News	500
2. The Canadian Record	475
3. The Progress, Three Rivers	250
4. Farmersville	250

DIVISION 9

1. Springtown Epigraph	500
2. Hico News Record	375
3. Meridian Tribune	325
4. Murphy Monitor	300

DIVISION 10

1. Double Mountain Chronicle	525
2. Big Lake Wildcat	475
3. Eldorado Success	300
4. Devil's River News	300

** Awards in Community Service, Website and Blue Moon and Routine Special Section categories are not counted toward sweepstakes totals.*

** Sweepstakes Tiebreaker Rules: Contestants with the highest placement in the general excellence category are given preference. If no newspaper in a tie has points in General Excellence, the newspaper with the most first place awards overall is declared the place winner.*



BEST WEBSITE

Dailies
Great group of competitors. With the surge of mobile users, having a responsive site that is clean in desktop and mobile sizes is important. Keep in mind that sometimes users can be bogged down with content, it is nice to keep information organized and clean cut on the website.

1. **San Marcos Daily Record** - *I loved your utilization of the Hays County site and the cleanliness of it all paired with being committed to responsive material. Very well done.*

2. **Marshall News Messenger** - *Very clean, well done.*

3. **Galveston County Daily News** - *Great work!*

4. **Longview News-Journal** - *Great work!*

Semiweeklies

1. **Taylor Press** - *Great overall package, multi-media section on home page set this one apart.*

2. **Beeville Bee-Picayune** - *Good, clean package, easy to read and navigate.*

3. **Gonzales Inquirer** - *Strong home page, site is easy to navigate with eye-catching pics.*

4. **The Panola Watchman** - *Good overall package, pics help grab attention, easy to read.*

Weeklies

Great group of competitors!

1. **Austin Business Journal**

2. **Hays Free Press**

3. **The Irving Rambler**

4. **Jewish Herald-Voice**



DIVISION 7, FIRST PLACE: With the Austin skyline in the background, Hays Rebel freshman Reagan Casey attempts to clear the bar set at 5-feet, 4-inches in the High School Girls high jump competition at the 90th Clyde Littlefield Texas Relays. (Moses Leos III/Hayes Free Press)



► **DIVISION 5, FIRST PLACE:** Cedar Creek's Taylor Nagy gets her head on the ball to take control for her team. Nagy, who scored seven goals and had seven assists in an offensive role last season, is shifting to center back. (Mike Valiska/Bastrop Advertiser)



DIVISION 10, FIRST PLACE: Sonora's Wesley Dutton eyes a Junction defender on his way to the end zone during a Broncos' pre-district game against the Eagles. Sonora made easy work of Junction in their 61-20 win at Bronco Stadium. (Kimberley Meyer/The Devil's River News)



SPORTS PHOTO

Division 2

Tough category to judge as 1st and 2nd place were close. Great images and great job by the photographers.

1. Galveston County Daily News - *This entry stood out right away. Great work all around!*

2. Tyler Morning Telegraph - *Really nice work. Very close between 1st and 2nd place. Keep up the great work!*

3. Lufkin Daily News - *Nice images that could use some tweaking in shooting techniques.*

4. Victoria Advocate - *Nice entries. Keep up the good work.*

Division 3

1. Kerrville Daily Times

2. Gainesville Daily Register

3. Seguin Gazette

4. Huntsville Item

Division 4

1. The Fayette County Record - *Strong composition and really nice timing on the action shots. Nice bull riding shot, lions roar to state has good raw emotion.*

2. Wise County Messenger - *Strong composition and very good reproduction. Culine quality is OK, but these photos speak for themselves.*

3. Hood County News - *State champs has good emotion, great timing with football hurdler.*

4. Uvalde Leader-News - *I definitely don't want to be a bull rider, but I definitely did like that photo!*

Division 5

1. The Bastrop Advertiser - *This photographer is the total package. Good composition, good action and solid reproduction. Facial expressions make all the difference in sports photography. This photographer gets it!*

2. Taylor Press - *Some really nice, tight, sharp shots with good composition. Kudos for not being afraid to run a photo big!*

3. Gonzales Inquirer

4. Beeville Bee-Picayune

Division 6

1. Burnet Bulletin - *The photographer captured some wonderfully strong emotions. The back flip and basketball layup photos are great captures and I appreciate how well the eyes of the subjects can be seen. Observing more than just the game paid off for this photographer!*

2. Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post - *Nice captures here! The girl blowing a bubble while competing in track is a unique photo-good eye! Great work capturing the baseball with the pitcher. Overall nice photos!*

3. Pleasanton Express - *Emotions run strong in these photos-wonderful captures of pure team spirit from the crowd and the*

team! The football photos are great captures...nice timing on each.

4. Frio-Nueces Current - *Timing and patience paid off in three of the photos (hurdles and two football ones). The basketball photo is strong because of his facial features, but would have been stronger overall if it had been taken vertically. A different angle for the high jump would have made this photo stronger. Nice photos overall.*

Division 7

1. Hays Free Press - *Wow! The collection of photos here are incredibly strong, backed by clear emotions, well-timed moments, and close-knit crops. Props to the photographers for the angles used to capture the photos!*

2. Freestone County Times - *Great action shots--the photographer knows where to look during the game to capture the moment!*

3. Goldthwaite Eagle - *Nice, close-up captures. Love the facial expressions on many of the subjects. Photos are clear and cropped well.*

4. The Llano News - *Very nice shots! The photographers did great job at snapping the perfect moment of action. The baseball photo is an amazing shot!*

Division 8

1. Farmersville Times - *Action oriented cutlines and photo get reader to not only notice paper, but to buy paper and get reader inside paper. Crisp clear photos make paper quality reading (like a wine label).*

2. Sachse News - *Liked the photo on front. Crisp clear photos. Gets reader to notice paper and potentially buy it. Cutlines further tell story.*

3. Iowa Park Leader - *Photos used well on front page. Photos are clear with well placed cutlines. Gets prospective readers attention with placement.*

4. Winnsboro News - *Pictures are crisp and clear and supported by good cutlines. Nice wide shots convey story of the moment.*

Division 9

Good photos and captions. Also very nice layout designs using the sports photos. Wish there were more of them!

1. Murphy Monitor - *Great layout design for sports photos. Cutlines in combination with photo make the highlight of the week evident.*

2. Princeton Herald - *Titles, cutlines and photos good. Good 'label' for getting readers attention and to "get the paper in their hands!"*

3. Gladewater Mirror - *Photos focused and cutlines well-described.*

4. The Vindicator - *Photos well-taken. Cutlines worded well.*

Division 10

1. Devil's River News

2. Lake Travis View

3. Eldorado Success

4. Big Lake Wildcat

Sports Photo



DIVISION 4, FIRST PLACE: LaGrange's Keyton Powell goes up for a shot against the defense of Fayetteville's Damon Gerik. (Grace-Anne Match/Fayetteville County Record)



DIVISION 2, FIRST PLACE: Houston Astros fans cheer as their team is honored in a parade celebrating the 2017 Championship season. (Stuart Villanueva/Galveston County Daily News)



DIVISION 6, FIRST PLACE: Surrounded by his Bulldog teammates senior running back Noe Martinez celebrates the Dawgs homecoming win over Llano with a crowd pleasing back-flip. (Wayne Craig/Burnet Bulletin)



DIVISION 8, FIRST PLACE: Kale Dunlap reacts in amazement after being called out at home in the second game of the Class 3A Region II quarterfinals series. (Victor Tapia/The Farmersville Times)