

Ohio Collegiate Newspaper and Website Competition

A Competition for Collegiate Newspapers presented by
The Ohio Newspaper Association and The Ohio Newspapers Foundation



Awards & Judges' Reports 2013

As presented at The Ohio Newspaper Association Annual Convention
February 14, 2013

Collegiate Newspapers 2013

The following Ohio Newspaper Association collegiate member newspapers entered this year's competition:

Division A

The BG News - Bowling Green State University
The News Record - University of Cincinnati
Daily Kent Stater - Kent State University
The Post - Ohio University
The Lantern - The Ohio State University

Division B

The Collegian - Ashland University
Cedars - Cedarville University
The Pulse - University of Findlay
Aviso AVW - Malone University
The Transcript - Ohio Wesleyan University
Tan and Cardinal - Otterbein University
The Clarion - Sinclair Community College
The Jambar - Youngstown State University

Class 1: News Coverage

Judged by Peter Comings, Managing Editor, West Life, Westlake

Division A

First Place: The Post - Ohio University
Catherine Pomiecko, Gwen Titley, Brien Vincent,
Pat Holmes, Joe Fox, John Nero, Hannah Hitchcock,
Ashley Cappellazzi, Ryan Clark, Greg Roberts

Second Place: The Lantern - The Ohio State University

Third Place: Daily Kent Stater - Kent State University

Division B

First Place: The Jambar - Youngstown State University
Chris Cotelesse, Jordan Uhl, Josh Stipanovich

Second Place: The Transcript - Ohio Wesleyan University
Marissa Alfano, Eric Tift, Noah Manskar,
Michelle Rotuno-Johnson

Third Place: Cedars - Cedarville University

Judges' Comments

Division A

Each paper demonstrated high quality journalism, with well-researched material. All three papers reach out to their surrounding communities in service to them and, the same time, continue to serve their students. In the end it was the respective ability of each to convey the most complete sense of community that determined placement. I want to hire all of you.

Division B

Design of most entries was strong and separates first and second place.

First Place: The Jambar - Youngstown State University - Well-researched stories.

Second Place: The Transcript - Ohio Wesleyan University - Aggressive coverage of strong stories, hindered somewhat by layout.

Third Place: Cedars - Cedarville University - Quality all-around news with exceptional presentation.

Class 2: Arts and Entertainment

Judged by Keith Rathbun, Publisher, The Budget, Sugarcreek, Ohio

Division A

First Place: The News Record - University of Cincinnati
Danielle Koval, Kelly Tucker, Scott Winfield

Second Place: Daily Kent Stater - Kent State University
Kelsey Misbrener, Nicole Aikens, Brittany Hill,
Dani Bates, Kelli Fitzpatrick, Taylor Rogers,
Jacqueline Smith, Megan Confer, Brian Smith,
Rachael Chillcott

Third Place: The Lantern - The Ohio State University

Division B

First Place: Cedars - Cedarville University
Bekah Cvetich, Holly McClellan, Lindsay McGee

Second Place: Tan and Cardinal - Otterbein University
Laina Thompson, Mike Cirelli

Third Place: The Collegian - Ashland University
Justine Ackerman, Tyler Rimmel, Glenn Battishill,
Dave Immel

Judges' Comments

Overall Comments: Strong arts and entertainment pages are ones where all elements - writing, photography and graphics, and layout - are equally important. The winning pages best exemplified quality in all three areas.

Division A

First Place: The News Record - University of Cincinnati - Consistently good layout design and writing. I like that the cover stories get preferential treatment with full, 2-page layouts. The Vinyl Revolution story received a classic, retro layout. Little Eyes was the beneficiary of inspired design because of the topic. Zip Car story was complemented with strong sidebars and solid writing to help it rise above its rather unimaginative design.

Second Place: Daily Kent Stater - Kent State University - Crash Course in Coffee is a great college newspaper story. Three related stories meshed well and the three writers and designers became one. Three Families of Ragtime was a strong layout with great photos and interesting sidebars. Not Your Parents Vacation was a clever idea but poorly executed. The design helped it keep its head above water while the weak writing kept pulling it under.

Third Place: The Lantern - The Ohio State University - Very inconsistent. Student Activity Fees story contained a lot of information but never came to a real point. Steve Jobs Remembers was a good layout and well-written and was the best of The Lantern's entries, although it really was more of a news story than an entertainment feature. The Local Bands feature showed very little imagination in story or design.

Division B

Very competitive field. I feel so good about journalism's future with graduates like these coming down the pike.

First Place: Cedars - Cedarville University - Well written features and attractive design work. Joy McBride is a strong story selection for a college paper, giving current students encouragement to stay the course. Insider look saved The Crucible from the heap of tired Crucible reviews. Opera House story was an important story that received great treatment by both the writer and designer.

Second Place: Tan and Cardinal - Otterbein University - Student Mommies is an important story choice, and it was written brilliantly by Laina Thompson, and received strong graphic accompaniment. Zeta House story was entertaining and Drum Major feature was encouraging to fellow students to always give it their best effort.

Third Place: The Collegian - Ashland University - A Run to Remember is a story to remember. The writer took an average sports subject and crafted a very entertaining feature by bringing in the Twitter angle. A Very Collegiate Christmas was a creative idea with great page design, but light on writing and content. Secret Menu was interesting, but too long for the subject.

Class 3: Editorial Writing

Judged by Peter Mattiace, The Courier, Findlay, Ohio and
Steve Keller, managing editor; Brad Sherman, staff writer, The Telegram, Jackson, Ohio

Division A

First Place: Daily Kent Stater - Kent State University
Rabab Al-Sharif, Nick Glunt, Frank Yonkof,
Taylor Rogers, Conner Howard, Courtney Kerrigan,
Jennifer Shore, Raytevia Evans, Daniel Moore

Second Place: The Post - Ohio University
Wesley Lowery, Adam Wagner, Alex Stuckey,
Cori Sherman

Third Place: The Lantern - The Ohio State University

Division B

First Place: Tan and Cardinal - Otterbein University

Second Place: The Jambar - Youngstown State University
Josh Stipanovich, Doug Livingston, Jordan Uhl

Third Place: The Pulse - University of Findlay

Judges' Comments

Division A

First Place: Daily Kent Stater - Kent State University - The Daily Kent Stater's editorials are strong, clear, and perhaps most importantly, directly aimed at campus issues. Agree or not, there's no question where The Daily Kent State stands.

Second Place: The Post - Ohio University - This entry consisted of three personal opinion columns. An examination of a UC student's Fourth Amendment rights in protesting airport security, written by James Sprague, was well done. Sam Green made a rational argument in defense of a Cincinnati police officer who accidentally ran over and killed a sleeping homeless woman.

Third Place: The Lantern - The Ohio State University - The Lantern's opinion is obviously valuable and necessary on a campus so large. It does an excellent job and is obviously a "light" to students. It need not be defensive, nor long-winded, nor refer to itself in its editorial copy.

Division B

First Place: Tan and Cardinal - Otterbein University - Topics were well researched and solutions offered for the topics presented. Nice, even enjoyable, to read.

Second Place: The Jambar - Youngstown State University - It was difficult to choose between first and second place winners. The ideas published were well thought out and nicely presented.

Third Place: The Pulse - University of Findlay - This paper wrote about issues concerning their audience and used numbers where needed. Not badly written.

Class 4: Sports Coverage

Judged by Thomas Fladung, Managing Editor, The Plain Dealer, Cleveland

Division A

First Place: The Post - Ohio University
Michael Stainbrook, Rob Ogden, Jim Ryan

Second Place: The News Record - University of Cincinnati
Sam Weinberg, Joshua Miller

Third Place: The Lantern - The Ohio State University

Division B

First Place: Tan and Cardinal - Otterbein University

Second Place: The Collegian - Ashland University
Chris Bils, Dan Shade

Third Place: Cedars - Cedarville University
Jesse Silk, Stephen Port

Judges' Comments

Division A

First Place: The Post - Ohio University - Smart coverage throughout from *The Post*. Examples: Talking to the players left behind, playing in a pickup game at the gym, after Coach Groce's exit for Illinois. And the ESPN camera placement piece to go with the "Blackout" game preview package.

Second Place: The News Record - University of Cincinnati - Photography stood out for *The News Record*, particularly the action shot of the fumble and the picture of UC's injured QB.

Third Place: The Lantern - The Ohio State University - The strongest single enterprise piece entered was the story and graphic combo from *The Lantern* on the cost of the OSU football scandal.

Division B

The profile of retiring Otterbein AD and basketball coach Dick Reynolds was the highlight in this group. Nice, personal writing and attractive design.

Class 5: Design

Judged by Jerry Mossbarger, Publisher, The Telegram, Jackson, Ohio

Division A

First Place: The Lantern - The Ohio State University

Second Place: Daily Kent Stater - Kent State University

Third Place: BG News - Bowling Green State University
Max Filby, Nick Baker, Danae King

Division B

First Place: Cedars - Cedarville University

Second Place: The Jambar - Youngstown State University
Sam Marhulik, Kevin Buck, Paris Chrisopoulos,
Keeley Black

Third Place: Tan and Cardinal - Otterbein University

Judges' Comments

Division A

First Place: The Lantern - The Ohio State University - Great use of color to highlight areas of emphasis. Nice photo layout to draw attention to sections of page.

Second Place: Daily Kent Stater - Kent State University - Wonderfully legible font. Appropriate placement of photos and art to break text.

Third Place: BG News - Bowling Green State University

Division B

First Place: Cedars - Cedarville University - Great covers with attention-grabbing pictures and titles.

Second Place: The Jambar - Youngstown State University - Entertaining and pleasant use of fonts for each section head. Nice, clean layout with online video content highlighted on the cover.

Third Place: Tan and Cardinal - Otterbein University

Class 6: Photojournalism

Judged by Monica Nieporte, Publisher, The Athens Messenger, Athens, Ohio

Division A

First Place: The Lantern - The Ohio State University

Second Place: The Post - Ohio University
Brien Vincent, Matt Hatcher, Alex Stein, Joel Bissell, Greg Roberts, Maddie Meyer

Third Place: Daily Kent Stater - Kent State University
Philip Botta, Jacob Byk, Kristin Bauer

Division B

First Place: The Collegian - Ashland University
Dan Shade

Second Place: Cedars - Cedarville University
Stephen Port, Stuart Li, Alex Xayathone

Third Place: The Jambar - Youngstown State University
Chris Cotelesse, Dustin Livesay, Kevin Alquist

Judges' Comments

Division A

First Place: The Lantern - The Ohio State University - A nice mix of photos with variety of subject matter. The pie in the face photo has been done a thousand times but never quite this well.

Second Place: The Post - Ohio University - The photos are simple but dramatic and draw the reader into the story to find out more.

Third Place: Daily Kent Stater - Kent State University

Division B

First Place: The Collegian - Ashland University - Great way to capture the emotion and intensity of the competition!

Second Place: Cedars - Cedarville University - Interesting and dramatic photos.

Third Place: The Jambar - Youngstown State University - Nice mix represented.

Class 7: Headline Writing

Judged by Thomas Fladung, Managing Editor, The Plain Dealer, Cleveland, Ohio

Division A

First Place: Daily Kent Stater - Kent State University

Second Place: The Lantern - The Ohio State University

Third Place: The Post - Ohio University
Joe Fox, John Nero, Sara Jerde

Division B

First Place: The Pulse - University of Findlay
Devon Marti, Alexis Hill, Abbey Nichel

Second Place: Tan and Cardinal - Otterbein University

Third Place: The Transcript - Ohio Wesleyan University
Marissa Alfano, Paul Gruber, Elizabeth Childers, Natalie Duleba, Eric Tift

Judges' Comments

Division A

First Place: Daily Kent Stater - Kent State University - The headline achieves the ultimate goal: It makes me want to read the story. A good example of a successful hard-news enterprise headline.

Second Place: - The Lantern - The Ohio State University - An inspired headline: 'Footloose' remake loses Bacon, adds cheese.

Third Place: - The Post - Ohio University - Solid headlines on each entry. Particularly liked how "Monae" headline also played off the art.

Division B

Here we have a lot of worthy headlines and not much difference between first, second and third. Congrats!

Special mention to The Jambar's headline on an editorial: "Bend over, students" made me laugh out loud.

First Place: The Pulse - University of Findlay - These headline writers show off a nice blend of news and creativity. It's great to be clever. But you've also got to give me an idea of the news. These did.

Second Place: - Tan and Cardinal - Otterbein University - The headline writers are having fun. So, the readers have fun.

Third Place: The Transcript - Ohio Wesleyan University - Another successful blend of creativity and news.

Best Collegiate Newspaper Website

Judged by Rick Markus, RickMarkus.com, Freelance Web Developer, Chicago, Illinois

Division A

First Place: The Lantern -The Ohio State University
www.thelantern.com

Second Place: The Post - Ohio University
www.thepost.ohiou.edu

Third Place: The BG News - Bowling Green State University
Max Filby, Meagan Smith, Kendra Clark, Danae King,
Alex Alusheff, Nathan Elekonich
www.bgnews.com

Division B

First Place: Aviso AVW - Malone University
www.theaviso.org

Second Place: Tan and Cardinal - Otterbein University
www.otterbein360.com

Third Place: The Clarion - Sinclair Community College
www.sinclairclarion.com

Judges' Comments

Division A

First Place: The Lantern - The Ohio State University - Well rounded site, offering lots of content that's easy to find.

Second Place: The Post, Ohio University

Third Place: The BG News - Bowling Green State

Division B

First Place: Aviso AVW - Malone University - Nice design. To the point. Complete.

Second Place: Tan and Cardinal - Otterbein

Third Place: The Clarion - Sinclair Community College

General Excellence Award

Division A

The Lantern
The Ohio State University

Division B

Cedars
Cedarville University