

2009 WTPA Better Newspaper Contest winners

SWEEPSTAKES

Division A

First place - Kerrville Daily Times

Second - Stephenville Empire-Tribune

Tie for third - Plainview Daily Herald, Roswell Daily Record

Division B

First place - Wise County Messenger

Second place - the Highlander

Third - Graham Leader

Division C

First place - Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post

Second place - Dublin Citizen

Third place - Glen Rose Reporter

Division D

First place - Ozona Stockman

Second place - Joshua Star

Third place - Alvarado Star

Editorial Writing

Division A

First Place - Roswell Daily Record

"Good editorial; good writing, and it makes a clear if sometimes unpopular point."

"Good background and conclusion was strong although some of the arguments seemed convoluted."

Second place - Plainview Daily Herald

Third Place - Kerrville Daily Times

Honorable Mention - Brownwood Bulletin

Division B

First Place - Graham Leader

"OK overall but focuses on making sure everyone is aware of a problem rather than on any solution."

"Good editorial, good background and shines light on local issue."

Second Place - Canyon News

Third Place - Wise County Messenger

Division C

First Place - Fredericksburg Standard

"Good use of personal example to define a local problem. Good clear argumentation."

Second Place - Colorado

City Record

Third Place - Lake Country Sun

Division D

First Place - Joshua Star

"Pretty good piece."

"Good on an important issue. A kind of 'folksy' writing that is hard to pull off."

Second Place - Ozona Stockman

Third Place - Eldorado Success

Features

Division A

First - The Kerrville Daily Times

"Really touching story."

Second - Stephenville Empire-Tribune

Third - Plainview Daily Herald

Division B

First - Wise County Messenger

"Very nice, good length, great photos."

"This is great. The soldier theme was consistent in the story, title, photos and captions. The photos are great."

Second - Quanah Tribune-Chief

Third - Breckenridge American

Division C

First - The Hamilton Herald

"Very interesting."

Second - Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post

Third - Dublin Citizen

Division D

Tie, First - Hico News Review

"Great content. A nice warning tale."

First - Joshua Star

"You did a great job with explaining why Scott loves sports and what inspires him to do what he does."

Second - Crowley Star

Third - The Ozona Stockman

News Writing

Division A

First Place - Kerrville Daily Times

"Story flowed very well and kept me interested. It is a local issue, hitting on a national one. Great job localizing. Educates and informs people in a very upbeat yet serious way. Very good en-

joyed it a lot."

"Good story; you have some really good quotes and the all focused on how the ban is going to be bad for them. I think there could have been more numbers and statistics used to show how many this ordinance will effect. Great quote on how much VFW gives in scholarships. I think there should have been more emphasis."

Second Place - Brownwood Bulletin

Third Place - Stephenville Empire-Tribune

Division B

First Place - The Graham Leader

"Good lead, good use of quotes. The story made me want to keep reading, trailed off a little at the end, but overall good story."

"Good story, a few grammatical errors, but not a lot wrong."

Second Place - Hood County News

Third Place - Quanah Tribune Chief

Honorable Mention - Lampasas Dispatch Record

Division C

First Place - Fredericksburg Standard

"Interesting topic, about a topic that affects everyone, so it draws the reader. I liked the interviews with normal shoppers."

"I really like the use of the picture of the map. It really helps the reader put a visual with the story. Interesting subject for readers and could possibly inform the reader to be more safe if they were not knowledgeable about this. Good job!"

Second Place - Glen Rose Reporter

Third Place - Colorado City Record

Division D

First Place - The Ozona Stockman

"Good quotes, interesting intro, very good story, could shorten cutlines."

"Very well written, turned it into an interesting story. Colored ink on Page 1 would be cool."

Second Place - Joshua Star

Third Place - Keene Star

Photography

Division A



Mac McKinnon, publisher of *The Dublin Citizen*, announces winners of the 2009 WTPA Better Newspaper Contest.

First - Brownwood Bulletin (corn)

"Interesting photo! Good composition, display and subject."

Second - Kerrville Daily Times

Third - Plainview Daily Herald

Honorable Mention - Kerrville Daily Times

Division B

First - Lamb County Leader (fire) - "A perfect, newsy, interesting front page photo. Truly captured a unique and interesting moment!"

Second - Wise County Messenger

Third - Breckenridge American

Honorable Mention - Wise County Messenger

Division C

First - Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post (track)

"Great photo, captures expressions."

Second - Dublin Citizen

Third - Fredericksburg Standard Radio-Post

Honorable Mention - Glen Rose Reporter

Division D

First - Hico News (bridge) "Eye-catching photo! Very well composed."

Second - Alvarado Star

Third - Ozona Stockman

Honorable Mention - Crowley Star

Advertising Composition

Division A

First Place - Plainview Daily Herald

"Ads catch readers attention; even the one without color. Not too cluttered or wordy, gets message across succinctly."

Second Place - Brownwood Bulletin

Third Place - Stephenville Empire Tribune

Division B

First Place - Wise County Messenger

"Very original, eye-catching, great ideas. Very creative. Gets message across in an

See WINNERS, Page 11

Winners

continued from Page 10

interesting way. Very good!"
Second Place - Hood County News

Third Place - Jack County Herald
Honorable Mention - Graham Leader

Division C

First Place - Hamilton Herald News

"Good use of creative artwork - still interesting even without photos. Nice use of fonts. Nicely put together."

Second Place - Fredericksburg Standard

Third Place - Lake Country Sun

Division D

First Place - The Albany News

"Great ads! Good composition and color; good photos, very clean design."

Second Place - Crowley Star

Third Place - Keene Star

Column Writing

Division A

First - Stephenville Empire-Tribune

"The writer gets to the point. Second column is very interesting."

Second - Roswell Daily Record

Third - Kerrville Daily Times

Honorable Mention - Plainview Daily Herald

Division B

(Tie) First - The Perryton Herald

"Nice analysis."

First - Lamesa Press-Reporter - "Touching story about small town antics. Really enjoyed reading it."

Second - The Highlander

Third - The Burlleson Star

Division C

First - Glen Rose Reporter - "Awesome story, very interesting about the relation to billion-dollar corporations getting bailed out while Average Joes are still struggling."

Second - Fredericksburg Standard

Third - Dublin Citizen

Division D

First - Hico News-Review - "Excellent, very newsworthy. Hits home to most."

Second - Joshua Star

Third - South Tarrant Star

General Excellence

Division A

First Place - Stephenville Empire Tribune

"Good overall appearance; not too cluttered. Sports pictures are very professional. Great focus on local elections."

Second Place - Plainview Daily Herald

Third Place - Kerrville Daily Times

Honorable Mention - Brownwood Bulletin

Division B

First Place - Burlleson Star
"I like the National Dog Week. Lots of good coverage on local stories."

Second Place - Wise County Messenger

Third Place - The Canyon News

Division C

First Place - Fredericksburg Standard

"High resolution photos had better quality than most papers in the same division. Catchy headlines, good layout."

Second Place - Dublin Citizen

Third Place - Hamilton Herald News

Honorable Mention - Glen Rose Reporter

Division D

First Place - The Olney Enterprise

"Overall, very good appearance. We loved the little kids page. We also like the panoramic picture of the fire on the front page."

Second Place - South Tarrant Star

Third - Crowley Star

Honorable Mention - Alvarado Star

Special Coverage Award

Division-Weekly

First Place - Dublin Citizen
"This was a stand-out entry. Great coverage of behind the scenes politics and an appraiser's fight with local business interests."

Second Place - South Tarrant Star

Third Place - Ozona Stockman

Division - Semi-Weekly/ Daily

First Place - The Highlander

"Great coverage of a hometown hero's rise to Olympic contender."

Second Place - Canyon News

Third Place - Graham Leader

Honorable Mention - Lamb County Leader News

Special Section

Division A

First Place - Brownwood Bulletin

"This entry won first place in a field of tough competitors. Tons of good features that really show the reader what the people of Brownwood are like."

Second - Roswell Daily-Record.

Third - Stephenville Empire-Tribune

Honorable Mention - Kerrville Daily-Times

Division B

First place - Highland Lakes,

"Articles were good and original."

Second - Canyon News

Third - Hood County News

Fourth - Wise County Messenger

Division C

First - Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post

"Interesting take on a subject. Articles were good and creative."

Second - Dublin Citizen

Third - Colorado City Record

Honorable Mention - Hondo Anvil-Herald

Division D

First - Ozona Stockman

"Good articles all related to the theme of the section. Layout and design were simple but photos were OK. Overall, something different."

Second - El Dorado Success

Third - Albany News

Sports

Division A

First Place - Stephenville Empire-Tribune

"Strong use of leads to draw the reader in. An effective job of covering sport-related information for a variety of sports. Articles read easily and clearly. Photos are great, very clear images and nice job capturing action photos. Nice job equally distributing coverage on each segment of

sports related events/material. Visual presentation of the information is appealing."

Second Place - Roswell Daily Record

Third Place - Kerrville Daily Times

Division B

First Place - The Highlander

"Pictures and layout are amazing; Very intriguing."

Second Place - Burlleson Star

Third Place - The Graham Leader

Division C

First Place - Fredericksburg Standard

"Wonderful pictures! Nice coverage of all sports for Fredericksburg and surrounding areas. Good leads. Way to keep attention throughout story. Photo captions are good. Nice color in stories. Good headlines!"

Second Place - Hondo Anvil-Herald

Third Place - Glen Rose Reporter

Honorable Mention - Dublin Citizen

Division D

First Place - The Albany News

"Lots of good stories and pictures. Great range of coverage. Everything from varsity to youth, great coverage. Good future info."

Second Place - The El Dorado Success

Third Place - The Alvarado Star

Photographer of the Year

Weekly Division

First Place - Lisa Walter, Fredericksburg Standard-Radio Post - "Great perspectives and use of visual storytelling techniques."

Second Place - Christopher Amos, Alvarado Star

Third - Kim Ovard, Crowley Star

Honorable Mention - Joe Hernandez, Ozona Stockman

Semi-Weekly

First Place - Joe Duty, Wise County Messenger - "Great photos, visually compelling journalism."

Second Place - Gabe Wolf, Lampasas Dispatch

Third Place - Russel Skiles, Lamesa Press Reporter

Honorable Mention - Kim

Ovard, Burlleson Star

Daily

First - Mark Wilson, Roswell Daily Record, "Photos that make you say 'wow!'"

Second - John Schmid, Kerrville Daily Times

Third - Richard Porter, Plainview Daily Herald

Journalist of the Year

Division-Weekly

First Place - The Llano County Journal - George Hatt

"Well written, interesting subjects. Shows that you can write about anything from sports to crime scenes and still be effective. Great leads, from features to sports to difficult situations. You kept interest and wrote effectively in all areas. Great stories, huge variety, very interesting. Good profile, good leads and variety in stories. Good visuals and great layout and presentation."

Second Place - Alvarado Star-Christopher Hico

Third Place - The Hico News Review - Anna Belew

Division-Semi-Weekly

First Place - Wise County Messenger - Mandy Bourgeois

"Her articles varied in topic from Santa profiles to the heartwarming story of two sisters. Her writing always helps the reader to see the funny and the meaningful side of the topic."

Second Place - Lampasas Dispatch-Record - David Lowe

Third Place - Graham Leader - David Rupkalvis

Honorable Mention - The Highlander - Bobbi Gage

Division- Daily

First Place - Stephenville Empire Tribune - Amanda Kimble

"Great range of coverage. The sexual assault stories were inspiring. Good photos along with stories. Lead to 'Let's Eat' culinary story was good. Nice way to link Athena to the goddess Athena - Made us want to read more. Pretty good headlines."

Second Place - Plainview Daily Herald - Doug McDonough

Third Place - Kerrville Daily Times - Alyson Chapman

Honorable Mention - Roswell Daily Record - Richard Jacques