



2012 winners of the Omaha Press Club Excellence in Journalism Competition

Television

Best Investigative Story

FIRST PLACE: Melissa Fry, KETV ("Disabled Housing")

SECOND PLACE: Michelle Bandur, formerly of KETV ("Big Ticket")

THIRD PLACE: Michelle Bandur ("Prisoners Allowed Trips To Movies, Gym")

Best Spot News

FIRST PLACE: Liz Dorland and Jesse Coler, KMTV ("Fremont Tornadoes")

SECOND PLACE: Sarah Te Slaa and Jesse Coler, KMTV ("Joplin Tornado Survivor")

THIRD PLACE: KETV Staff ("Mapleton Tornado")

Best Sports Story

FIRST PLACE: Michelle Bandur ("Player Fights Back After Football Injury")

SECOND PLACE: Michelle Bandur ("Injured Player Making Miraculous Recovery")

THIRD PLACE: Thor Tripp, KETV ("Husker Fan Continues Fight Against Brain Cancer")

Best Evening Newscast

FIRST PLACE: KETV Staff ("10 p.m. newscast on the Mapleton Tornado")

SECOND PLACE: KETV Staff ("10 p.m. newscast on March 22, 2011")

THIRD PLACE: KETV Staff ("6 p.m. newscast on March 24, 2011")

Best Feature Story

FIRST PLACE: Ryan Luby, KETV ("Doc Runs 'Donations Only' Clinic")

SECOND PLACE: Adam Racusin and Tyler Kersing, KMTV ("Joplin Miracle")

THIRD PLACE: Matt Kline and Carol Wang, KMTV ("Nightmare Night Out")

Best Videography

FIRST PLACE: Dave Hynek, KETV ("Interstate Damage")

SECOND PLACE: Ashley Nodgaard and Ryan Luby, KETV ("Flood Threat along the Niobrara River")

THIRD PLACE: Dave Hynek, KETV ("Good Samaritans Help with Flood Evacuations")

Best Public Affairs Program or Documentary

FIRST PLACE: Julie Cornell and Matthew Lathan, KETV ("KETV Chronicle: Teen Pregnancy")

SECOND PLACE: Mike Tobias and Ray Meints, NET ("Gang Fight: Nebraska")

THIRD PLACE: Cathy Wyatt, Robert Swanson, Ted Streckfess and Dave Pearson, UNO Television (“Consider This: Flood Follow”)

Best Public Service Announcement

FIRST PLACE: Willie Garrett, KMTV (“Journal for Joplin”)

SECOND PLACE: Taylor Wilson and Paul Baltus, The Nebraska Medical Center (“Celebrating Life”)

THIRD PLACE: Willie Garrett, KMTV (“Komen Race for the Cure 2011”)

Best News Media Website

FIRST PLACE: Jonathan Garcia and Rick Adams, KETV (“KETV.com”)

SECOND PLACE: Robyn Wisch & Yellow Jersey Design, KVNO (“KVNONEWS.com”)

Radio

Best Newscast - Radio

FIRST PLACE: Brandon McDermott, KVNO (“5 o’clock news”)

Print

Best Column

FIRST PLACE: Joe Foreman, Opinion-Tribune (“Pearl Harbor Attack Touched Home”)

SECOND PLACE: Joel Stevens, Opinion-Tribune (“Hope Reigns in My Post-9/11 World”)

THIRD PLACE: Joel Stevens, Opinion-Tribune (“Community Runs Deeper Than Rising Water”)

Best Enterprise Reporting

FIRST PLACE: Jasmine Maharisi, The Reader (“Under the Influence: Omaha Doctors Receive Big Money from Big Pharma”)

SECOND PLACE: Joe Ruff, The Catholic Voice (“Faith on the Front Lines - Police Officers Say Prayer Often Gets Them through the Day”)

Best Critical Writing/Review

FIRST PLACE: Joe Shearer, UNO Gateway (“St. Louis’ Top Brass Blows Strauss Away”)

Best Editorial Cartoon

Bill Dunn, editor of the Grand Island Independent swept 1st, 2nd and 3rd in this category with his cartoons on “Congressional Redistricting,” “Chief Hughes has been Rescued,” and “Paycheck to Paycheck,” respectively.

Best Special Section

FIRST PLACE: Omaha World-Herald (“Storm Chasers 2011 Fan Guide”)

Best Sports Column

FIRST PLACE: Joe Foreman, Opinion-Tribune (“Fremont-Mills: A True Rags to Riches Story”)

Best Feature Story

FIRST PLACE: Howard K. Marcus, Omaha World-Herald (“Studying Comics Religiously”)

SECOND PLACE: Joel Stevens, Opinion-Tribune (“A 70-Year Love Story”)

THIRD PLACE: Lisa Maxson, The Catholic Voice (“Omaha Pastor Reflects on his Chaplaincy at Ground Zero”)

Magazine

Best Feature Story

FIRST PLACE: Elizabeth Kumru, University of Nebraska Medical Center (“UNMC AIDS A-Team”)

Best Layout and Design

FIRST PLACE: Don Doll, Rick Davis, Sheila Swanson, Kim Manning and Pam Adams Vaughn, Creighton University (“Reaching Out”)

Best News Photo

FIRST PLACE: Corey Perrine, Omaha World-Herald (“Welcome Home Dad”)

SECOND PLACE: Kent Sievers, Omaha World-Herald (“In Memory of Kylie”)

THIRD PLACE: Joe Shearer, UNO Gateway (“Chemistry Field Day Ends with a Bang”)

Best Photo Essay:

Joe Shearer of the UNO Gateway swept 1st, 2nd and 3rd in this category with “UNO Student Dazzles on Violin,” Chemistry Field Day Ends with a Bang” and “Storage Facility Hosts Science Fair,” respectively.

Best Sports Photo

FIRST PLACE: Kent Sievers, Omaha World-Herald (“A Record Tumbles”)

SECOND PLACE: Joe Shearer, UNO Gateway (“Maverick Wrestlers Dominate Rival Lopers”)

Best Feature Photo

FIRST PLACE: Kent Sievers, Omaha World-Herald (“In Support of America”)

SECOND PLACE: Joe Shearer, UNO Gateway (“UNO Student Dazzles on Violin”)

THIRD PLACE: Fr. Don Doll, Creighton University (“Veiled Differences, Unveiled Similarities”)

Best Media/Press Kit

FIRST PLACE: Jo Giles, UNMC (“UNMC College of Public Health Grand Opening”)

Best Website

FIRST PLACE: Ryan Shaw, UNMC (www.UNMC.edu)

SECOND PLACE: Fr. Don Doll and Brian Scholl, Creighton University - Magis Productions

(www.magis.creighton.edu)

Best Brochure / Direct Mail

FIRST PLACE: Fr. Don Doll, S.J., Pat Osborne and Fr. David Korth, Creighton University (“St. Augustine Indian School Calendar”)

SECOND PLACE: Patty Perry, Daake Design, Sheila Swanson and Kim Manning, Creighton University (“Spirit of Creighton”)

THIRD PLACE: Annie Hergenrader, Daake Design, Sheila Swanson, Kim Manning, Creighton University (“Inauguration of Timothy R. Lannon”)

Best Blog

FIRST PLACE: Chris Allen, University of Nebraska at Omaha (“Oman Journal”)

Best Annual Report

FIRST PLACE: Tom Waples, UNMC (“Munroe-Meyer Institute Annual Report”)

SECOND PLACE: The Salvation Army (“We Shine Because You Shine”)

THIRD PLACE: James Fogarty, John Dechant, Wayne Kobza, Dave Pantos and Annette Farnan, Fogarty Creative Group "Access to Many . . . Justice for All - Legal Aid of Nebraska Annual Report")

The Excellence in Journalism awards were sponsored by: ConAgra, Better BNC, Nebraska Press Association Foundation, Inc., Swanson Russell, All Makes Office Equipment, Bailey Lauerman, Jewish Federation of Omaha Foundation, Michael Barmettler Special Images and Universal Information Services.

A portion of the proceeds from the Excellence in Journalism Awards is earmarked for college scholarships for journalism students through the Omaha Press Club Foundation, a 501(c)3 corp.

Next year's contest will open in January of 2013.

For more information, contact:

Nicole Lindquist, 402-559-9149, nlindquist@unmc.edu