

2013 Michigan Press Association College Contest Winners



News Story

Division 1 – News Story

34 Entries

1st Place: WMU - The Western Herald

Part-time professors at Western Michigan University protest low wages

Ambrosia Neldon

Nice lede and transitions. "Let's crunch the numbers" is a good lead in to the discussion of the numbers, which could be boring, but is actually presented concisely and clearly. Quotes incorporated nicely. Several compelling points are explained and a context provided in the bigger picture of pay issues.

2nd Place: CMU - CM-Life

Professor charged with child porn possession, suspended

Eric Dresden, Aaron McMann

Interesting background on what led to the suspension of this instructor. The involvement of the campus IT personnel is an interesting twist. I particularly commend the writer for seeking information from some sources that may not have responded, but it is mentioned they were contacted. To address the fact that this instructor worked in a building with a child care center is also notable. A thorough story...the person's status and how that impacts classes is addressed, as is the fact that he is suspended with pay during the investigation.

3rd Place: CMU - CM-Life

Suspect shot, killed following abduction, rape of CMU student

Aaron McMann, Justin Hicks

Certainly a riveting story from beginning to end. The subject matter alone demands attention. The story clearly explains the sequence of events and is careful to attribute information to its source. Structure is more or less chronological, so does not have an interweaving of sources. It does what it is supposed to do as part of a larger package.

Hon. Mention: GVSU - Grand Valley Lanthorn

FORWARD

Any Zentmeyer

Good use of local sources to provide analysis. Nice focus on young voters to address the writer's audience. Quotes are skillfully used and the story well crafted.

Division 2 – News Story

21 Entries

1st Place: Hillsdale College/ The Collegian

Tower Light, Fed quarrel over budget

Evan Brune

Comprehensive story! Excellent use of quotes from various perspectives. Most importantly, the debate about the purpose of the Student Fed is the underlying issue, and that is well explained as well. Great ending, telling readers how they can voice their opinion. I hope after reading such a strong article that they did have opinions to express on it!

2nd Place: Hillsdale College/ The Collegian

Convention controversy

Casey Harper

Story reports on an obviously heated event and captures the atmosphere nicely. Nice job referring to "footage" of the event, adds credibility. Explains how some of the "maneuvering" behind the scenes may have happened. Should stir up some discourse.

3rd Place: SVSU - The Valley Vanguard

SVSU grad & campus faculty finish Boston Marathon before explosions

Justin Brouckaert, Tyler Bradley

After the Boston Marathon bombings, many media outlets tracked down local participants who could share their views. This story does a nice job jumping in with the local connection and drawing readers in immediately. Excellent selection of quotes that help capture the events. Last part of story was anticlimactic with quotes from people who were not there at the time but had been there at other times.

Division 3 – News Story

40 Entries

1st Place: University of Detroit Mercy/ The Varsity News

Badges or badgering

Ian Thibodeau

Certainly an issue that impacts the entire school community. Nice variety of student quotes and explanation of the reasons for the policy. Well developed story and engaging lede (what is NOT happening). Just wondering if there are any consequences to not complying? Wraps up with a nice closing quote. Transitions good; story flows. Nice job!

2nd Place: Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice

Candidates, voters clash in battleground state

Kelly Bracha

Writer chose an interesting focus to the story - "battleground." Nice not to see the typical summary of speeches story. The pull quotes are thoughtfully selected to show a range of views. Nice decision not to incorporate the pull quotes into the main story. Pieces complement each other nicely.

3rd Place: Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice

How safe is WCC

Anna Elias

Important issue with some strong concerns raised. Certainly of great importance. The big news event seems to be this meeting in which there was an outpouring of concern. Would like to have seen that given emphasis earlier. It provided a context that was missing at the beginning of the story.

Hon. Mention: Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice

Immigration, humanized

Kelly Bracha

The story's format may be a fairly common one - report what speakers said - but it was skillfully written and deserving of mention. It can be hard to condense a speech into the space of a story. Nice job selecting quotes and emphasizing that the stories are shared for a reason... how they relate to a current issue. Summing up with the other speakers listed and purpose of the event were key. Compelling topic.

Investigative Reporting

Division 1 – Investigative Reporting

15 Entries

1st Place: CMU - CM-Life

International students often greeted with troubles upon CMU arrival

Ryan Fitzmaurice

This accountability story uses a good mix of stories and facts to present a clear view of what's wrong with the college's international student program and how to fix it. Great work.

2nd Place: CMU - CM-Life

Six-part athletics and academics investigative series

Justin Hicks

Great series breaking apart different aspects of data pertaining to athletics. Reader friendly and well researched. Breaking apart into a series to focus on one specific group of information at a time was a smart decision by the editors.

3rd Place: Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo

Echo

Details of Norfleet impeachment scarce

Bryan Alfaro

Good overview of the impeachment, including making people who didn't want to go on the record do so, and good effort to get what little information was available on the reasons. The reporter should have pressed why an executive session was permitted for an impeachment of an officer of student government and made officials either defend or no-comment that choice.

Hon. Mention: CMU - CM-Life

Beating the street: A look at the drug-chasing Bay Area Narcotics Enforcement Team

Tony Wittkowski

Solid story but wish the reporter went to the narcotics team to get a comment on that specific student CI's allegations. Good explanation of BAYANET and how it interacts with the university, though.

Division 2 – Investigative Reporting

11 Entries

1st Place: Hillsdale College/ The Collegian

Manor to close doors after 80 years

Caleb Whitmer

Very solid reporting, making the connection back to the audience and using a variety of records to provide key context. Always nice to beat the local paper to the punch, too.

2nd Place: Hillsdale College/ The Collegian

Douglass' 2nd visit discovered

Sally Nelson

A really cool discovery by a staff member that was properly vetted and confirmed - nice work by Sally Nelson on this report. Shows that not all investigations are about contemporary events.

3rd Place: Hillsdale College/ The Collegian

Political donations: President Arnn leads staff, faculty

Evan Brune

Good report on public records that people care about, but an explanation of how campaign disclosure laws in the state work would have helped the reader and highlighted that the information may not be complete.

Hon. Mention: Hillsdale College/ The Collegian

15% of students use study drugs

Sally Nelson

Great idea, good information and a nice use of another academic source even if it's from a different state. But an explanation of the survey methodology would have helped -- was it random, was it a self-selected, what was the margin of error and confidence level?

Division 3 – Investigative Reporting

14 Entries

1st Place: Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice

A campus divided

Adrian Hedden, Ben Solis

Great work covering a complex issue and using records, both obtained through requests and more importantly given freely by sources, to report the developments. Staying with a story like this is challenging, and the reporters maintained a fair presentation throughout the coverage.

2nd Place: Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice

Campus crime can't be ignored

Staff

Holding officials accountable for public information is the bedrock of investigative reporting. It's nice to see a paper stand up to the Clery Act, and even better to see them grade the colleges -- keep up the good work.

3rd Place: Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice

Washtenaw's Homeless

Eric Wade

Provides insight into homelessness as only a college newspaper can, especially the "hellhole" quote, and made the issue real to the readers. While it's not uncovering government misdeeds, this is the sort of story that is valuable for educating readers.

Hon. Mention: Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice

Trustee Hopeful banned? With Editorial

Adrian Hedden

After being stonewalled, The Voice had the right reaction: filing a public records request. This one worked out brilliantly, and the questions The Voice raised about the candidate are serious ones.

Feature Story

Division 1 – Feature Story

26 Entries

1st Place: CMU - CM-Life

Young at heart: At 105, Bill Burden helped build Barnard Hall; still handy, active

Adam Niemi

What a fabulous, uplifting story. To be that ambitious at 105!! Truly amazing. Equally amazing, is that the writer took the time to listen to their elders and share their interests with their readers.

2nd Place: CMU - CM-Life

Back in time: 1860s culture, lifestyle displayed at weekend Civil War encampment

Adam Niemi

I loved this story a lot. I was also quite smitten by the photographs. Good job!!!

3rd Place: CMU - CM-Life

Soldiers in the making: ROTC members put in work over weekend at Fort Custer

Tony Wittkowski

What bravery on the soldiers part!!! Well written.

Hon. Mention: CMU - CM-Life

Moving forward: Kathy Ling, Sharon Tilmann serve as Mount Pleasant's first mayor-vice mayor duo

Emily Grove

What I really liked about this story was the way the writer brought back bits of the not so distant past into the present. Men and women's want ads? Really? Who knew? Rock on ladies!

Division 2 – Feature Story

24 Entries

1st Place: Hillsdale College/ The Collegian

Beyond the snapshot: the art of photography

Shaun Lichti

The type of stove doesn't make a good cook, a fancy automobile doesn't make a race car driver, a hammer doesn't make a carpenter. It comes down to love of what you do and passion. The writer captured this clearly in the story. Well done to an individual who, no doubt wrote on a computer, but has great ability to see with words.

2nd Place: Cornerstone University/ The Herald

Couple marks wedding anniversary on Starbucks date

Cassie Daszko

Ahhhh, this made my eyes wet! Nice job.

3rd Place: Hillsdale College/ The Collegian

Mark Keller: Hillsdale Renaissance man

Roxanne Turnbull

To be true to ourselves - no matter what.

Division 3 – Feature Story

63 Entries

1st Place: Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate

To another world and back again

Natalie Hillmann

What a brave woman to share this story. To open a door most would shut with a deadbolt and to share so freely. Wonderfully written - this story will stay with me for a long time.

2nd Place: Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice

Weighing the Truth

Natalie Wright

TRUTH!!! Set the masses free. There is no right size or weight to be. I thought all parts of this story were amazingly written. I would liked to have seen some of the lies - but the last sentence said - do your homework. Touche'.

3rd Place: Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice

Wounded Warrior advocate gives hope to soldiers with role on TV's 'Nashville'

Matt Durr

This story made me smile as broad as the person being written about. His dedication to the Wounded Warrior Program is exemplary. Best wishes on acting!

Hon. Mention: University of Detroit Mercy/ The Varsity News

The Tower

Colin Bennett

I loved the intro and photography on this story as well as the history. Very well written.

Sports News/Features

Division 1 – Sports News/Features

17 Entries

1st Place: CMU - CM-Life

Track & field program in disarray, Randolph under fire by players

Justin Hicks

This was an excellent story. The writer did a good job of interviewing the track athletes who left the team and was able to paint a clear picture of why they decided to walk away. He also did a good job of providing an opportunity for the coach and CMU administrators to give their opinions on the issue. Well done!

2nd Place: CMU - CM-Life

Do or Addae: What is going on under those dreads?

Matt Thompson

This was a very well-written feature story. The reporter did a great job of interviewing many sources and weaved all of the information together into an excellent feature piece.

3rd Place: CMU - CM-Life

Ghost town: Attendance issues plague home football games, athletics confident tickets will reach NCAA benchmark

Ryan Zuke

This was a good subject to tackle, especially when the poor attendance is evident at home games. Moving a quote from one of the two fans to an earlier point in the story would have helped make it a bit stronger. Overall though, the writer did a good job explaining the subject to readers and why attendance matters.

Hon. Mention: GVSU - Grand Valley Lanthorn

Ready and Willing

Brady Fredericksen

This story had a good mix of comments from both players and coaches. The tone was a little too casual at some points for a straight news article. Writing about the subject in a personal column would have given the writer the freedom to be more creative and casual with the material.

Division 2 – Sports News/Features

22 Entries

1st Place: Hillsdale College/ The Collegian

Concussed: trainers, coaches, players hit issue head-on

Phil Morgan

This was a well-done story on a topic that is an important one for football players, coaches and fans. The writer did a nice job of providing readers with a firsthand perspective from a player who has had a concussion, and he then supplemented that with quotes from trainers, coaches and teammates. The artwork in the middle may not have been the best choice to accompany the article, but the story itself was strong and interesting.

2nd Place: Cornerstone University/ The Herald

Army gunner turns runner for CU track

Emily Anderson

Emily Anderson did a great job with this story. I could tell she had done her research and had asked a lot of good questions to come up with the information that was in the article. She also selected good quotes and put them in proper places. Several of her other entries in this contest were also excellent.

3rd Place: Hillsdale College/ The Collegian

Lucas Hamelink: a pitcher with poise

Shannon Odell

The first sentence of this story really grabbed my attention, and the use of good sources and other information kept my attention throughout the piece. This was a well-done feature story.

Hon. Mention: Cornerstone University/ The Herald

Rusticus still enjoys work after nine years at CU

Garrett Craig

I enjoyed reading this piece about someone who plays an important role in the lives of Cornerstone athletes. The opening paragraph was good and the tone throughout was fun and lively.

Division 3 – Sports News/Features

23 Entries

1st Place: Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate

Built Raider Tough

Greg Wickliffe

This was an excellent, excellent story by Greg Wickliffe. He did a very nice job of researching the information, and his work allowed him to show readers how difficult it was for the player to go through cancer treatments. He also did a great job of choosing good quotes and putting them in proper places in the story. The story flowed well from beginning to end and was memorable. Good job!

2nd Place: University of Detroit Mercy/ The Varsity News

Russia, Belarus, Georgia: Freshmen bring international flavor to tennis team

Joe MacLean

I liked the way this story showed how the three tennis players are adjusting to the country. Joe MacLean did a nice job of interviewing the players and creating full profiles of them as people, not just as athletes. The quote from the teammate was also a nice way to wrap up the feature story.

3rd Place: Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice

Fired up UM hoops fans put head on furniture after NCAA Finals loss

Ben Solis

This certainly wasn't a pollyanna version of the night of the championship game, but it was a truthful version of what many college-age residents of Ann Arbor were doing throughout the day. The writer interviewed many sources and made the day come to life. While I personally disagreed with many of the actions and comments from the people he interviewed, he did reveal the destructive mindset of those people without glorifying their actions or words.

Hon. Mention: Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate

Never Give Up

Greg Wickliffe

This was another nice feature story by Greg Wickliffe. He did a good job with the background of Arthur Richards and showed how he is overcoming the disadvantages of being in a wheelchair.

Multimedia Reporting

Division 1 – Multimedia Reporting

5 Entries

1st Place: CMU - CM-Life

Women's basketball season ends with 78-73 loss to Oklahoma despite Bradford's monster effort

Brandon Champion, Adam Niemi, Seth Newman, Matt Herrod

Excellent package in which all the pieces contribute to the whole and complement each other. Great job. Story well done, outstanding photos in the photo gallery and a video that shows a variety of editing skills including voice over and incorporating a variety of clips. Outstanding entry!

2nd Place: Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo

Intermedia Gallery group visits Detroit

Darice Cobb

Story and photos complement each other, though having photos of members of the group in candid shots, looking at the art work or talking about it as it is pictured in the background, would have been a bonus. A video would have completed the package.

3rd Place: Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo

EMU discusses unused dorms

Jess J. Salisbury

Well developed story. To make a multi-media package, more photos would have helped give the feeling of the unused space. A video interview would have been nice or a video tour.

Division 3 – Multimedia Reporting

5 Entries

1st Place: Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice

Record Store Day

Staff

This entry shows the most sophistication with video production, with voice over, subtitles, etc. Smooth, high quality video with engaging breakaway shots. For a complete category package, an accompanying story would have been nice.

2nd Place: Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice

Violin Monster

Cashmere Morley, Charles Manley

This entry had a story and video together but the video was a non-edited performance clip. Was a nice complement to the story though.

3rd Place: Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice

Voice Box, Oscars Edition

Natalie Wright, James Saoud

This was a fun video to watch. Nice job including variety of voices and cutting from one to the other. The "story" component simply repeated the quotes from the clips. Would have been nice if the two had different content.

Hon. Mention: Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice

Fire sweeps through Ypsi apartment complex

Benjamin Knauss, Staff

Story and video both short so not much development or techniques, but, hey, when you have people shouting to save a cat that can be seen in the window, it is definitely going to catch the viewer's attention and make their heart pound a little. Any coverage that does that deserves a mention.

Column- Review or Blog- News or Sports

Division 1 – Column-Review or Blog-News or Sports
35 Entries

1st Place: WMU - The Western Herald

Opinion: Is it fair for parking permit revenue to go toward public transportation?

Craig Manning

Good research, use of quotes from fellow students.

2nd Place: Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo

Memories are thoughts, not things

Leo Romyn Fabbri

Thought-provoking, well-written.

3rd Place: Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo

Why I will never identify with republicans

James Tatum

Insightful without being overbearing - well done.

Hon. Mention: Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo

Dutch DJ Tiesto rocks Convocation Center

Krystal Elliott

The writer's ability to paint a picture through storytelling is impressive.

Division 2 – Column-Review or Blog-News or Sports
20 Entries

1st Place: Hillsdale College/ The Collegian

The military's unconditional surrender to gender politics

Emmaline Epperson

Well-argued and insightful.

2nd Place: Hillsdale College/ The Collegian

MADD: From well-intended advocacy to misguided bureaucracy

Emmaline Epperson

The parallel drawn between prohibitionist and MADD is intriguing and the writer defends the position articulately.

3rd Place: Hillsdale College/ The Collegian

The boys who need the Scouts the most

Patrick Timmis

Insightful and thoughtful.

Hon. Mention: Albion College/ The Pleiad

The statistics behind NCAA Tournament success

Geoffrey Knight, Dan Myckowiak

Judge did not comment.

Division 3 – Column-Review or Blog-News or Sports
60 Entries

1st Place: University of Detroit Mercy/ The Varsity News

Alzheimer's means a new intro on every visit with grandpa

Ian Thibodeau

Really well-written and poignant.

2nd Place: Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate

The quest for a great cup of coffee

Natalie Hillmann

Great review - thorough, consistent, engaging.

3rd Place: Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice

His charred apartment a total loss, Voice staffer just covers the news

Benjamin Knauss

Interesting juxtaposition of balancing the challenge of covering spot news with personal tragedy.

Hon. Mention: Lansing Community College/ The Lookout

Rumours has everyone talking

Sarah Spohn

Judge did not comment.

Editorial

Division 1 – Editorial

4 Entries

1st Place: CMU - CM-Life

An E for Enos

Hailee Sattavara, Catey Traylor, Aaron McMann, Eric Dresden, Justin Hicks, John Irwin

A controversial topic and an important one on a college campus. Nice, reasoned tone. Strong writing.

2nd Place: CMU - CM-Life

No to Knight

Aaron McMann, John Irwin, Catey Traylor, Hailee Sattavara, Kristopher Lodes

Sometimes what should be clear isn't. This is one of those editorials that makes a needed, obvious point -- good to you for doing so.

3rd Place: GVSU - Grand Valley Lanthorn

Street Smart

Anya Zentmeyer

Nice writing.

Division 2 – Editorial

17 Entries

1st Place: Cornerstone University/ The Herald

The church needs to rise up, take its place

Herald Staff

A highly appropriate topic for a Christian university. Well written, perhaps a bit too long, but the points made are good ones. Nice job.

2nd Place: Hillsdale College/ The Collegian

The Collegian Weekly: Obama's win

Katy Bachelder

A very interesting take on President Obama's victory from the editorial board of a politically conservative college. Nice work.

3rd Place: SVSU - The Valley Vanguard

Vanguard Vision: Students should consider costs of campus housing

Justin Brouckaert

Nice choice for a topic because it's the kind of practical one that students should be interested in. Keep up the good work.

Division 3 – Editorial

14 Entries

1st Place: Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate

Student Congress disbandment for the best

Justin Dawes

Nice writing. Good topic. Good suggestion on where things go from here.

2nd Place: University of Detroit Mercy/ The Varsity News

All votes should carry same weight in student election

Liked the lead a lot. Excellent throughout.

3rd Place: Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice

Faculty union, president and trustees: We're counting on you

Ben Solis

This is the kind of editorial college officials may not like to read, but they feel compelled to do so because of the way it was couched here. Nice work.

News-Only Photo

Division 1 – News-Only Photo

14 Entries

1st Place: Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo

Madison

Adam Karr

Nice job, not only in taking the photo, but of cropping, lighting and how it was played on the page. These shots aren't always easy to get good focus, but this is crisp.

2nd Place: CMU - CM-Life

A Special Athlete

Zack Wittman

Love the expression caught on the girl's face. Enough said. Good job.

3rd Place: WMU - The Western Herald

Preacher creates uproar at WMU flagpoles

Kenny Wenzel

Twisted a bit on choice for third, but just a lot of elements here that are good. The views expressed on the signs and the faces made it for me.

Hon. Mention: CMU - CM-Life

The Haunted Yard

Charlotte Bodak

Love the kid's face and the home owner's reaction. Just a bit blurry on the kid (at least the file made it look that way). But still a shot worth mention.

Division 2 – News-Only Photo

5 Entries

1st Place: Cornerstone University/ The Herald

Boston Bombs

Cassie Daszko

This photo won because it showed emotion. Too many entries didn't tell the reader anything. This one does. I liked the way it was played.

2nd Place: Hillsdale College/ The Collegian

Children with flag

Shaun Lichti

I like the photo, but I would have liked it better without the newspaper's flag played over the flag... The photo works to help tell the story.

3rd Place: Albion College/ The Pleiad

Q&A: Student claims knowledge of vandalism

Alexa Hyman

Judge did not comment.

Division 3 – News-Only Photo

14 Entries

1st Place: Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice

Washtenaw's Homeless

Eric Wade

It was easily the top entry in this division. Although a bit posed, the photo still conveys a story. It's nice work for a college paper.

2nd Place: Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice

Apartment Fire

Charles Manley

2nd place could have been any of three photos for me. I just liked this for how it was framed, maybe by accident, maybe by choice -- spray coming from one side, flames on the other.

3rd Place: Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice

We jammin'

Kelly Bracha

Although I'm not sure which photo was 'the one' I went with the top, lead photo... Nice close up, cropped tight. Good subject for a college paper... Avoid putting type on a photo, however.

Feature or Sports Photo

Division 1 – Feature or Sports Photo

20 Entries

1st Place: CMU - CM-Life

Fire Up, Chips!

Adam Niemi

This was a great picture because it told the entire story of the day. The photo showed how excited the students were about the victory and really captured the pure elation of the moment for Central Michigan.

2nd Place: WMU - The Western Herald

Two WMU gymnasts compete in NCAA Central Regional meet

Rob Wetterholt

It can be hard to get an emotional photo snapped at the right moment, but Rob Wetterholt did a very nice job of this. The picture clearly shows the excitement on the gymnast's face and lets readers know that she has done well. There was a bit too much dead space at the top of the photo. Cropping it would have helped the gymnast's face stand out a bit more and could have helped the picture go from excellent to top-of-the-class.

3rd Place: GVSU - Grand Valley Lanthorn

Too Little, Too Late

Eric Coulter

This photo captured the agony of defeat beautifully. Readers could tell how much the loss hurt the players and how much they cared about their team and season.

Hon. Mention: CMU - CM-Life

Bad Call

Chuck Miller

This is a fun photo because it immediately grabs the reader's attention. The bulging eyes and wide-open mouths of the players tell a story and make people curious about the play's outcome. Was it a travel? Was it a foul? This was a good photo choice for the paper.

Division 2 – Feature or Sports Photo

15 Entries

1st Place: Ferris State University/ The Torch

Reach Toward the Goal Line

Brock Copus

This was a nice picture of the player stretching the ball toward the end zone. Football can be a tough sport to photograph because of the fast action and distance away from the field, so to get a shot like this takes skill, timing and preparation.

2nd Place: Cornerstone University/ The Herald

CU men's basketball earns first WHAC win

Austin Radebaugh

This was a good action shot. The photo was taken at the right moment with the ball just about to leave the player's hands, and the expression on the defender's face is good as well.

3rd Place: SVSU - The Valley Vanguard

Winning the Battle

Alyssa Ellis

This photo is a fairly standard shot, but it does capture the excitement of the pregame entrance of the football team. The fact that the player in the middle is looking toward the camera with his arms raised gives a personal touch to the picture.

Hon. Mention: Ferris State University/ The Torch

Brawling the Broncos

Brock Copus

This was a good action photo, but it needed to have some sort of context to it. The photo loses a little bit of luster without a cutline to explain basic information such as the names of players and the reason they were fighting.

Division 3 – Feature or Sports Photo

31 Entries

1st Place: Schoolcraft College/ The Connection

[Kicking it in the fast lane](#)

Andrew Kieltyka

This is a fantastic action photo that captures the desire of both players to reach the ball first. You rarely see someone grab another player's uniform as dramatically as the photo shows here, so this was a unique and interesting picture to get.

2nd Place: Lansing Community College/The Lookout
[Freshman setter Erin McCumby \(6\) of Lansing Community College emphatically celebrates a point for the Stars.](#)

Dominick Mastrangelo

Photos that show players reacting with emotion usually turn out to be good pictures, and this was the case here. Readers are immediately drawn to Erin McCumby's excitement after winning the point. The picture is also enhanced by the fact that McCumby is wearing an alternate-colored jersey, so she stands out from her teammates even more.

3rd Place: Grand Rapids Community College/ Collegiate

[Back to Nature](#)

Miranda Haddix

I was intrigued by this picture because of the planning that had to come beforehand in order to make it happen. The photographer had to come up with the idea of having a person sitting at a desk in the woods, figure out a good location for the photo and plan to take the shot at the right time of day. They then had to snap the picture while the pieces of paper were floating in the air around the person at the desk. This showed enterprise on the photographer's part and was a good lead-in to the story.

Hon. Mention: Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice

[Captain America](#)

Adrian Hedden

This was a good feature picture because the photographer would have had to overcome the low light in the welding area. The photo does a nice job of capturing a closeup look at the welding shield and having some sparks fly around it.

Original Cartoon-Editorial or Entertainment

Division 1 – Original Cartoon-Editorial or Entertainment

3 Entries

1st Place: Eastern Michigan University/Eastern Echo

[Sam and Leroy](#)

Erin Abramowicz

Definitely the classiest cartoons in this group. Well-drawn and funny or thoughtful. Good work.

2nd Place: Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo

[Big Head Society](#)

Lorenzo Jones

Judge did not comment.

3rd Place: Eastern Michigan University/Eastern Echo
[Humor is Dead](#)

Victoria Behne

Judge did not comment.

Division 2 – Original Cartoon-Editorial or Entertainment

4 Entries

1st Place: Ferris State University/ The Torch

[Freedom for Egypt](#)

John Vestavich

Drawing is a good illustration of the dilemma facing Egyptians.

2nd Place: Hillsdale College/ The Collegian

[Opinion page cartoons](#)

Tommy Lundberg, Dane Skorup

Lots of variety and talent here.

3rd Place: Hillsdale College/ The Collegian

[Camera arts header](#)

Megan Prom, Hannah Ahern, Forester McClatchey

Sketches add a visual dimension to the layouts.

Hon. Mention: Ferris State University/ The Torch

[Michigan Winter](#)

John Vestavich

Judge did not comment.

Division 3 – Original Cartoon-Editorial or Entertainment

7 Entries

1st Place: Schoolcraft College/ The Connection

[Find Everything](#)

Mandy Getschman

Well-drawn and very entertaining. A lot of effort went into each of the find-it puzzles.

2nd Place: Schoolcraft College/ The Connection

[Politically Correct...](#)

Urmila Bilgi

Very cleverly drawn and written.

3rd Place: Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice

[Butterfly Effect](#)

Michael Adsit

A good yuck.

Hon. Mention: Lansing Community College/The Lookout

[Lansing Community Squirrels](#)

Maranda Zimmerman

Judge did not comment.

Front Page Design

Division 1 – Front Page Design

3 Entries

1st Place: CMU - CM-Life

[4-26-13 Front Page Design](#)

Mariah Prowoznik

Balanced art with story and tweet nugget. Compelling, sure to pull fans in. Headlines didn't say the obvious.

2nd Place: CMU - CM-Life

[Jan. 18, 2013 front page](#)

Mariah Prowoznik

Great story, dull art is something all papers deal with. Strong headlines soften that blow. Texty in the middle with art pushed to outside.

3rd Place: Eastern Michigan University/Eastern Echo
[Detroit Art](#)

Victoria Behne

Tight, not a lot of space between stories. Art would have been well placed had it not made the reader jump so much. Top story is main story, but art on bottom is dominant art. Tricky to create balanced page.

Division 2 – Front Page Design

7 Entries

1st Place: Hillsdale College/ The Collegian

[October 25, 2012 A1](#)

Sally Nelson

Political package draws the eye upward with lots of information smartly placed.

2nd Place: Hillsdale College/ The Collegian

[September 20, 2012 A1](#)

Sally Nelson

Way to create a center package without a lot of dynamic art elements.

3rd Place: Cornerstone University/ The Herald

[Issue 11 Page 1](#)

Garrett Craig

Right idea with balanced art.

Hon. Mention: SVSU - The Valley Vanguard

[Vol. 45 No. 11](#)

Almost there; just needed to rearrange stories for balance.

Division 3 – Front Page Design

18 Entries

1st Place: Schoolcraft College/ The Connection

[The Final Frontier and So Much More](#)

Jonathan King

Creative and edgy. Tilting the package gives it a dimension and depth that leaving it vertical wouldn't have. Guess there wasn't room for an AstroCat in the design.

2nd Place: Schoolcraft College/ The Connection

[Haggerty Road Construction](#)

Urmila Bilgi

We all know what those orange cones look like. Nicely frames the story. Art at bottom shows that it doesn't always have to follow the rules.

3rd Place: Schoolcraft College/ The Connection

[How to save a life](#)

Connection Staff

Schoolcraft takes chances on design. Nice layout for a serious subject.

Hon. Mention: Lansing Community College/ The

[Lookout](#)

[Issue 6 Front Page](#)

Nikki Nicolaou

Really like the student perspectives. Action art, nice layout.

[Non-Front Page Design](#)

Division 1 – Non-Front Page Design

7 Entries

1st Place: CMU - CM-Life

[Feb. 20, 2013 non-front page design entry](#)

Mariah Prowoznik, Victoria Zegler

Eye-catching layout.

2nd Place: Eastern Michigan University/Eastern Echo

[Halloween masks](#)

Victoria Behne

They must be well-known or not well liked to get this treatment. Don't see this every day.

3rd Place: Eastern Michigan University/Eastern Echo

[Williams, wrestling](#)

Jason Williams

Move art around to create an even more dynamic page.

Hon. Mention: Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern Echo

[Velazquez page design, Diana](#)

Francisco Velazquez

Move art into the middle of the page to get rid of the text ocean.

Division 2 – Non-Front Page Design

14 Entries

1st Place: Ferris State University/ The Torch

[Eating Healthy](#)

Staff

Effective way to tell a story using a fresh layout.

2nd Place: Ferris State University/ The Torch

[Beat The Blue](#)

Staff

Best balanced page of the bunch. Text overlay works nicely in layout. Art spread throughout page.

3rd Place: Cornerstone University/ The Herald

[Issue 11 Page 4&5](#)

Cassie Daszko, Briana Pringle

Decent photos and bringing a story from around the world right to the students.

Hon. Mention: Hillsdale College/ The Collegian

[March 21, 2013 Opinion page](#)

Bailey Pritchett

Good reader-grabbing headlines and love that George. Gives students and readers many points of view in an understandable layout.

Division 3 – Non-Front Page Design

25 Entries

1st Place: Siena Heights University/ Spectra

[SHU McLaughlin Center to Open Fall 2013](#)

Courtney Keller

Great use of white space and pop of red color, especially incorporated into the headline.

**2nd Place: Schoolcraft College/ The Connection
Diversity of Campus**

Urmila Bilgi

Lots of information smartly designed.

**3rd Place: Schoolcraft College/ The Connection
The Bradner Library: 50 years and counting**

Connection Staff

Like the wraparound of the art on the right side, with the giant & separating the stories. Nice.

Hon. Mention: Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice

7

Peter Hochgraf

Breaking rules with dog legs usually raises my hackles, but this page tugged at my think-out-side-the-box heart.

General Excellence

Division 1 – General Excellence

3 Entries

1st Place: GVSU - Grand Valley Lanthorn

GVL Staff

The slight favorite, with balanced, well-conceived pages with strong photos and graphics. Loved the op/ed pages with local input. Good writing and local news content.

2nd Place: CMU - CM-Life

CM Life Staff

Clean, well-organized design elements throughout. Good attention paid to matching spot colors and screen tints to keep content harmonious. Great sports pages and good writing throughout. I like some of the magazine-style subheads and decks. Photos were good, but almost all were horizontal, possibly to facilitate the layout, but mix them up, folks!

**3rd Place: Eastern Michigan University/Eastern Echo
The Echo Staff**

The Eastern Echo is a very well-written, informative paper, with some very good ideas. It could use some retooling, such as the masthead which is too small, especially with the large adjacent teasers. Pages are a bit too gray, and leading on body and headlines is inconsistent.

Division 2 – General Excellence

4 Entries

1st Place: SVSU - The Valley Vanguard

The overall design of this paper would stand up to many national publications. It's very well-organized, consistent throughout, with great in-depth reporting and writing. The A&E and sports pages are well done.

2nd Place: Hillsdale College/ The Collegian

Hillsdale Collegian Staff

A slick, contemporary look with great imagination in layout and coverage, with balanced pages and strong feature pages. Regular inside news pages tend to be a bit gray, and although the feature page heads are flashy and eye-catching, they aren't harmonious with each other. Please don't crop photos so they cut into others. Keep them all four-sided.

**3rd Place: Cornerstone University/ The Herald
Staff**

This pub has a nice, light and airy page design with good layout elements throughout. Content is good but needs some livelier story leads and some "in-your-face" use of photos and graphics to make it more contemporary.

**Hon. Mention: Ferris State University/ The Torch
Staff**

A strong newspaper with good writing and coverage. The overall design cries out for harmony, as spot colors that clash run rampant, and there is an over-use of small, bright line art that adds little. Think of each page as a canvas and compose it accordingly. I loved the reader involvement in this paper.

Division 3 – General Excellence

3 Entries

**1st Place: Washtenaw Community College/The Voice
Staff**

As near-perfect as a publication can be. Strong variety and edgy graphics throughout. The ONLY thing I might change is the font in the front nameplate. If I were a subscriber to this paper I would enjoy the writing, photography and layout of this and look forward to each issue.

**2nd Place: Schoolcraft College/ The Connection
Connection Staff**

This pub has a very strong, well-thought-out magazine appeal, with some incredible individual pages that fit the subject matter. Very strong advertising with as much imagination as the editorial content.

**3rd Place: Lansing Community College/The Lookout
The Lookout Staff**

There is a good balance of editorial content and graphics. I loved the "Last Look" pages and the A&E and other feature pages. Photos throughout are a bit dark and give the issue a heavy look. Try to keep spot colors and screen tints compatible with other elements on each page.

Single Ad

Division 1 – Single Ad

3 Entries

**1st Place: Eastern Michigan University/ Eastern
Echo**

Colors in Harmony

Melissa Jasperse

Judge did not comment.

2nd Place: GVSU - Grand Valley Lanthorn

Dairy Queen

Sam Atherton

Judge did not comment.

3rd Place: GVSU - Grand Valley Lanthorn

Unplugged

Judge did not comment.

Division 2 – Single Ad

4 Entries

1st Place: Ferris State University/ The Torch

Cranker's

Emily Noffsinger, Laura Pewinski

Judge did not comment.

2nd Place: Ferris State University/ The Torch
kobo

Emily Noffsinger, Laura Pewinski

Judge did not comment.

3rd Place: Ferris State University/ The Torch
Walgreens

Emily Noffsinger, Laura Pewinski

Judge did not comment.

Hon. Mention: Cornerstone University/ The Herald
Journalism Classes

Judge did not comment.

Division 3 – Single Ad

7 Entries

1st Place: Schoolcraft College/ The Connection
Newspaper is Marriage

Urmila Bilgi

Judge did not comment.

2nd Place: Schoolcraft College/ The Connection
Student Activities Office: A Powerful Organization

Urmila Bilgi

Judge did not comment.

3rd Place: Washtenaw Community College/ The
Voice

Happy Holidays

Brittany Barnhart

Judge did not comment.

Hon. Mention: Washtenaw Community College/ The
Voice

House Ad w/ Cat

Peter Hochgraf

Judge did not comment.

Special Advertising Section

Division 1 – Special Advertising Section

1 Entry

1st Place: GVSU - Grand Valley Lanthorn
Money Matters

Judge did not comment.

Division 2 – Special Advertising Section

1 Entry

1st Place: Ferris State University/ The Torch
2013 Housing Guide

Emily Noffsinger, Laura Pewinski

Judge did not comment.

Division 3 – Special Advertising Section

1 Entry

1st Place: Washtenaw Community College/ The Voice
Seep in the Groove: Celebrating Record Store Day
and vinyl culture

GREAT JOB!

Online Newspaper

Division 3 – Online Newspaper

2 Entries

1st Place: Washtenaw Community College/ The
Voice

www.washtenawvoice.com

Tom Lee

Very thorough website with lots of interesting reading. Nice clean look.

2nd Place: Lansing Community College/ The
Lookout

[Online newspaper](#)

The Lookout Staff

Nice design and variety of categories for this entry. It has a nice firm foundation.