

49th Spring Conference set for April 19 at SIUC

The 49th Annual Spring Conference is set for Monday, April 19, 1999 at the Student Center on the campus of SIUC Carbondale. The conference is endorsed by the School of Journalism.

The program for the Spring Conference will follow past formats. Registration will run from 8 to 9 a.m.

The main program will begin at 9 a.m. Time is often short, so advisers are urged to arrive early and complete registration as soon as possible.

The Conference is scheduled to be completed by 2 p.m.

Final plans are being made on the program.

A work day for advisers is set for Saturday, March 27 at the School of Journalism office at 10 a.m. All SISPA advisers are welcomed to attend to sort contest material and to discuss the conference program. Those attending the work day can bring their contest material with them.

Those unable to attend the work day who have a suggestion or wish to be included on the program should contact Herman Albers at Coulterville High School (618/758-2338) or Laurie Bielong at Belleville West High School (618/233-5070, ext. 623).

Schedule of events

Registration

8 a.m.

Opening Assembly

9 a.m.

Conference Fee

\$4 per student

On-Site Cost

\$2 per entry

Deadlines to Remember

March 10 • BLUE BANNER

— Blue Banner Fee: \$8 —

Send to: Laurie Bielong, Belleville West H.S.,
2600 West Main St., Belleville, IL 62226

March 15 • ADVISERS OF THE YEAR

Send nominations to:

Herman Albers, Coulterville High School
101 W. Grant, Coulterville, IL 62237

March 23 • NEWSPAPER STORY CONTEST 1999 YEARBOOK CONTEST

Send to: SISPA, School of Journalism,
Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Carbondale, IL
62901-6601

March 27 • SPRING CONFERENCE ADVISERS' WORK DAY

10 a.m.- School of Journalism
Carbondale

New student press bill needs verbal support

With the second semester underway, the Illinois Journalism Education Association is urging everyone involved in scholastic publications to push for passage of HB 39, known as the Freedom of Expression Bill.

HB 39 has been introduced by Naperville Rep. Mary Lou Cowlshaw and is co-sponsored by Rep. Barbara Currie.

HB 39 allows public high school administrators to exercise control over student publications for legitimate educational purposes. The bill establishes guidelines regarding the types of expression that can be prohibited, eliminating unconstitutional arbitrary censorship unrelated to the school's educational mission.

In 1997 the bill passed overwhelmingly through both chambers but was vetoed by then Gov. Jim Edgar. The House overrode the veto but no motion to override was called in the Senate.

It is hoped that the bill can become law with current Gov. Jim Ryan.

Six states (Arkansas, Iowa, Kansas, Colorado, California and Massachusetts) have had similar laws for over a decade.

Please contact your representative and senator urging passage of the bill.

Additions to the Spring Conference

SIUC to host adviser luncheon

The dean of the College of Mass Communication and Media Arts, Joe S. Foote, and the director of the School

of Journalism, Donald W. Jugenheimer, cordially invite all SISPA advisers to a luncheon in their honor dur-

ing the Spring Conference.

The luncheon will be held on Monday, April 19, 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., in the

Vermillion Room in the SIUC Student Center. Advisers wishing to attend should respond by April 6 by calling 618/453-7473 or e-mailing tercsah@siu.edu.

Swap Shop brings new ideas

Advisers can come away with even more from the Spring Conference this year. A new Swap Shop session will allow advisers and editors to share and receive ideas that worked.

Each adviser needs to bring 40-50 copies of his or her favorite handout, suggestion or idea. Bring a handout used in staff training or a successful idea you have used in the past that has helped the production of your publication.

At the top of the copies please put the name of your school, the name of the person who submitted it, a phone number or e-mail address. This would insure that if someone had a question later about your idea, they could contact you.

Let's share our resources and send everyone back home with a stack of new and good ideas. Remember this is a SWAP shop, so to take something you need to bring something.

Session Leaders Needed

Plans are currently underway for the workshop sessions at the Spring Conference for both yearbook and newspaper.

Judy Vidakovich, yearbook adviser at Coulterville High School, is in charge of recruiting session leaders for the conference and will be contacting you soon for input and assistance. Please begin thinking about what types of sessions you want for your staff members. Also, think about which topics you would be willing to teach or present.

"Really the best presenters would be our own advisers. We know what our students need, and we are more in touch with high school journalism," Vidakovich said.

Many in the past have been reluctant to volunteer or commit to this task. It is really no different than teaching your own staff or class. No one is expected to have an elaborate presentation, but simply to teach a concept or skill necessary to putting out a high school publication.

If you would like to volunteer to teach a session, contact Judy Vidakovich at jdvjtv@juno.com or call her at 618-656-0117 (home) 618-758-2338 (school).

Advisers are invited ...

Monday, April 19

Vermillion Room • SIUC Student Center

11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

RSVP by April 6

618/453-7473 or tercsah@siu.edu

STUDENT PRESS LAW CENTER

Membership offered for important service

For the first time in its 24-year history, the Student Press Law Center, based in Arlington, VA, now offers annual memberships.

The SPLC is the only national non-profit resource center that educates and assists students and teachers/advisers on media law, censorship and other free-expression issues as its only work.

Since its founding in 1974, the SPLC has been a leading advocate for student press rights and responsibilities in secondary schools, colleges and universities throughout the United

States.

Individual annual membership is \$25. Student media staff or high school group membership is \$50 and associate memberships for non-school business/group is \$250. Membership is for one full year beginning with the date membership is received.

Membership and inquiries can be directed to:

SPLC
College of
Journalism and Mass
Communication
University of
South Carolina
Columbia, SC
29208

1999 Yearbook Contest entries sought

There will be two categories of competition in the 1999 Copy Block Contest. One category will be for sports copy, and the other will be for feature writing.

A school must be a member of SISPA to compete. Each school may submit three entries per category.

The Photography Contest will be only one category this year. Photos

may be entered which have been taken, developed and printed by a staff member or developed and printed by professionals or some other group.

Entries should be either mounted or pasted on typing paper.

All entries must be verified by the adviser that they will appear in the 1999 yearbook.

All the entries must be **postmarked no later than March 23, 1999** to be sure they arrive at the Journalism Department at SIUC in time for judging.

Address entries to:

**SISPA, School of Journalism,
Southern Illinois University at
Carbondale, Carbondale, IL
62901.**

On-Site Contests to be held

The On-Site Writing Contest will once again be a feature of the Spring Conference, scheduled for Monday, April 27, to provide another avenue of competition and learning.

There will be ten different areas of competition. Member schools may enter two students in each category. Registration for the contest will take place the morning of the conference.

The contests will all take place at the same time, so a student may enter only one.

There will be a \$2 fee per student. Entry fees will be collected at registration.

Unless otherwise specified in the contest description, students are to bring only paper and a writing utensil. No typewriters, word processors or computers will be permitted. Also, no tape recorders will be allowed.

Although each contest is geared toward newspaper or yearbook processes, none are exclusively limited to particular staff members.

When students are finished with their competition, they are encouraged to attend the second session of workshops offered by SISPA.

Descriptions of each of the contests is as follows:

1. News Writing- Students will be given a fact sheet from which to draw information. Students will then compose a news story from information provided.

2. Editorial Writing- Students will be given a fact sheet from which to draw information. After reading the material, students will write an editorial on the topic using their ideas to support or oppose a position.

3. Caption Writing- This contest is designed for both newspaper and yearbook staffs. Students will be given several photographs and will write captions. The captions must tell a complete story but not exceed 40 words in length.

4. Yearbook Feature Copy Block- A fact sheet will be provided for those entered to write a typical feature copy block.

5. Yearbook Sports Copy Block- A fact sheet will be provided for those entered to write a typical sports copy block.

6. Yearbook Cover Design- Students will be asked to develop a cover idea based on a theme given to them. Students may bring out sheets, color pencils, markers etc.

7. Editing- Students will be asked to proofread a story checking for good journalistic style.

8. Sports Writing- Students will be given a fact sheet from which to draw information. They will write a sports newspaper story based on those facts.

9. Advertising Design- Students will be given three business information sheets. They will be asked to design ads to fit certain sizes. Students may bring a ruler and any type of pen or pencil. Artistic ability is not necessary as ads will be judged on overall design and areas may be simply marked for art work.

10. Review Writing- Students will watch a short video-taped performance. They will write a review commenting on the performance.

Judging will be done by SIUC staff members and winners will be announced in the afternoon meeting.

ADVISERS

If anyone would like to bring materials for any of these categories, contact Debbie Otto at Jackson High School 573/243-9513

Deadline for stories set for March 23

SISPA member newspaper staffs have the opportunity to compete in 20 different categories in the Best Story Contest.

All entries for the Best Story competition must be **postmarked March 23, 1999.**

As in the past, a school must be a member of SISPA to compete. There is no fee for individuals to enter the Best Story Contest.

Entries should be sent to: SISPA, School of Journalism, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Carbondale, IL 62901-6601. Award winners will be named at the Spring Conference, April 19.

Each publication is limited to a maximum of **3 entries per category except front page layout and overall layout. Only send 1 entry for each of these categories.** All entries must have been published during the 1998-99 school year.

Tape or glue each individual article on a piece of white 8 1/2" x 11" paper. If an article is too long for one sheet, continue to another sheet(s), stapling together so the entry will not get separated. On the front side of each entry please label as following:

Name of Student
Category
Newspaper
High School

Enter each article in the appropriate category. Category descriptions are listed to the right. Articles entered in the wrong category will be disqualified.

Best Story Contest's Categories explained

There are a total of 20 categories in the Best Story Contest. Each publication may enter a total of three entries per division except front page and overall layout. They are:

Best Original Advertisement

A published ad that is conceived and designed by the student. Ad slicks or ads designed by the advertised company are not eligible.

Best Computer Produced Graphic

Graphic used in lieu of photographs with the intent to enhance any news, feature, or sports article or to aid in the graphic look of the publication. All graphics must be computer produced or enhanced by student.

Best Original Art

Artwork used in lieu of photographs with the intent to enhance any news, feature, or sports article or to aid in the graphic look of the publication. All art work in this category must be hand drawn by a student.

Best Original Cartoon

A cartoon entry may be editorial or comic. It may be a single frame or multiple frames. Computer produced cartoons are acceptable as long as they are student produced and generated.

Best News Story

An article of a news event that presents new information or an angle on already published information or past events.

Best Editorial

An article written as a statement or opinion on an issue by the staff. It should not be bylined. It may seek to encourage critical thinking, to mold opinion, or sometimes to promote action.

Best Review

An opinion piece that reviews movies, music, plays, concerts, book, exhibits, performances, or other works available to the public or students. Article may be column work or an individual piece.

Best In-depth Story

Article should be issue-oriented coverage with emphasis on research, interviewing and analysis. It should be a minimum of 12 column inches.

Cub Division

Any type of article written by a freshman or sophomore on staff. Guidelines will vary depending on type of article entered. Refer

to appropriate category.

Best Interview Story

Article is dependent on the use of extensive quotes. Quotations should make up at least 60 percent of the article.

Best Feature Story

An article that entertains through material that is interesting but not necessarily important. Emphasis should be on rich detail and liberal use of quotes. It should focus on human interest.

Best Featurette

An article that contains the elements of a feature story but is shorter. Length should not exceed 6 column inches.

Best Sports Feature

A sports feature is on a sport-related topics. It would contain the same elements and guidelines of a feature article.

Best Photograph with Caption

Photograph can be a news, feature, or sports subject. Along with published picture and caption, if possible, send original photograph so that printing errors can be accounted for.

Best Humorous Column

An article under a permanent title written regularly and giving expression to the writer's opinion. It would have a lighter tone either through writing style and/or subject matter.

Best Editorial Column

An article under a permanent title written regularly and giving expression to the writer's own opinion. The editorial column should be of a serious nature.

Best Sports Column

Like the editorial and humorous column, the sports column differs only in that its subject deals with sports.

Best Sports Story

A news article that emphasizes timely action, including coverage of sporting events. It may be an advance, follow-up, summary, or combination story.

Best Front Page Layout

Enter one front page tearsheet.

Best Overall Layout

Enter one complete issue.

Blue Banner Entry Form

Include two (2) copies of three issues of your publication from the 1998-99 school year.

School _____

Newspaper _____

Enrollment _____ Number of Issues Planned in 1998-99 _____
Categories

- I. Printed Illinois newspaper, school enrollment of 700 or more
- II. Printed Illinois newspapers, school enrollment under 700
- III. All newspapers regardless of reproduction process from schools under 300

Category _____

Please Answer the Following:

1. How is your newspaper produced? _____
2. Who sets the type? _____
3. Who sets the headlines? _____
4. Who does paste up? _____
5. Where is it printed? By whom? _____
6. Do you use desktop publishing? YES NO What type of hardware and software? _____
8. How large is the staff? _____ Do you have a journalism class? _____
9. How is your publication financed? _____
10. Please explain any problems, set backs, or circumstances beyond your control that would be helpful in evaluating your publication.

Entry Fee Enclosed _____ (\$8.00 - Make check payable to SISPA)

SISPA Member Yes _____ or Enclosed _____ (\$15.00 - Make check payable to SISPA)

Adviser _____ Editor(s) _____

Address _____

Phone _____

DEADLINE: POSTMARKED BY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10, 1999

Send To: Laurie Bielong, Belleville West H.S., 2600 West Main St., Belleville, IL 62226

Questions: 618/233-5070, ext. 623 or 9607

Blue Banner deadline set for March 10

Recognizing overall excellence, the Blue Banner Contest will again be a part of SISPA's spring activities.

Schools must be a SISPA member to participate. There is an \$8 fee to participate in this contest.

The criteria for receiving the Blue Banner has not changed. This contest will continue to recognize those publications that show overall excellence.

Newspapers are judged within three separate categories according to size.

To enter, choose three issues, staff choice, which were printed during the 1998-99 school year.

Please send two (2) copies of each of the three issues sent in.

Complete the entry blank contained in this newsletter and send with papers and entry fee to:

Laurie Bielong, Belleville West High School, 2600 West Main St., Belleville, IL 62226.

Entries must be postmarked by Wednesday, March 10.

The winners will be announced at the Spring Conference during the beginning assembly. Recipients will receive a specially designed plaque.

Any questions, contact Laurie Bielong at Belleville West High School at 618/233-5070, ext. 623, or to leave a message, use ext. 9607.

SISPA takes over Senior Interview contest

The Senior Interview contest has been sponsored by The SIUC chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists (SPJ), but this year SISPA will take the event over.

The rules of the event will remain the same. The contest is open to two

seniors from each school who will interview a prominent individual. At this time, a personality to be interviewed as not been chosen.

Students should approach the story as a feature assignment. The same rules will apply for this event as

the On-Site Writing contest.

The Senior Interview will begin at 9:40.

Students will have until 11:10 to finish a polished story based on a fact sheet and interview.

All judging will be done by SIUC professors.

Winners will be announced at the Closing Assembly which begins at 1 p.m.

Three places and honorable mentions are given.

Winners will receive the same certificates as participants in the other on-site events.

Adviser of the Year nominations wanted

SISPA honors one newspaper adviser and one yearbook adviser at its Spring Conference annually. It is time now to nominate this year's possible recipients.

The award is called the Manion Rice Adviser of the Year in honor of the long-time SISPA director.

Nominations can be made in two ways. First, an adviser can nominate a candidate for each category.

Secondly, nominations can be made by students who would like to nominate their newspaper or yearbook adviser. Each staff can make one nomination.

Nominations are reviewed in committee, and a final winner is then determined.

At the Spring Conference, the winners are announced at the beginning assembly and receive a plaque.

Send nominations using the form provided by March 15, 1999.

SISPA Adviser of the Year Nomination Form

Nominee Name _____

School _____

Adviser of: Newspaper Yearbook

attach additional sheets if necessary

Briefly describe the nominee's accomplishments and qualifications to receive this honor.

Nomination submitted by: (please include school)

Phone number _____

Send nominations by MARCH 15, 1998 to: Herman Albers, Coulterville High School, 101 W. Grant, Coulterville, IL 62237

Deadline March 12

Scholarships available for SIUC

The Small-Seright Scholarship and the Karl Monroe Scholarship are available to a graduate of a Southern Illinois high school who majors in journalism at SIUC.

Both scholarships are renewable for four years provided the student remains in journalism and maintains a satisfactory grade point average.

Seniors graduating from high

schools in 34 Southern Illinois counties are eligible to apply. These include all counties south of US Highway 50 in Illinois.

Applications were mailed to all journalism advisers. The deadline is March 12.

Additional applications can be obtained by contacting: Dr. Don Juggenheim, School of Journalism, SIUC, Carbondale, IL 62901.

“When I was a senior at Murphysboro High School in 1990, I applied for a journalism scholarship in my search for ways to pay for college expenses. I was a staff member of my school's newspaper, a student in a journalism class and I loved to write, so I thought I might have a small chance.

To my surprise, I became the first recipient of the Small-Seright Scholarship. I maintained my grades so I received my scholarship each semester, and the money made paying for college much easier.

When I still was in high school, I was uncertain about what direction I wanted to take my career, but now, thanks to that scholarship, I know I want to work hard to be the best journalist I can be.”

-Terri Lynn Carlock
SIUC journalism graduate

With Deepest Sympathy

1959 SISPA Adviser of the Year dies

Word was received recently of the death of Charles L. Hortin of Carmi.

Mr. Hortin was one of SISPA's strongest backers through the years

including those as a high school principal.

Mr. Hortin was the second adviser to receive the SISPA Adviser of the Year Award in 1959 while in Carmi.

Services were held at the First Baptist Church in Carmi/

Burial was in the White County Memorial Garden also in Carmi.

Excuse Notes from Parents

These are actual excuse notes from parents (including original spelling). They were collected by Nisheeth Parkh of the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston.

- ☛ My son is under a doctor's care and should not fake P.E. today. Please execute him.
- ☛ Please excuse Ray Friday from school. He has very loose vowels.
- ☛ Dear school: Please excuse John being absent on Jan. 18, 29, 30, 31, 32 and also 33.
- ☛ Please excuse Tommy for being absent yesterday. He had diarrhea and his boots leak.
- ☛ Please excuse Jimmy for being. It was his father's fault.
- ☛ I kept Billie home because she had to go Christmas shopping because I don't know what size she wear.
- ☛ Sally won't be in school a week from Friday. We have to attend her funeral.
- ☛ Chris will not be in school cus he has an acre in his side.

Join SISPA for 1998-99 school year

Membership Form

School Name _____

School Street Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

School Phone _____ Enrollment _____

Newspaper Name _____

Adviser _____

Yearbook Name _____

Adviser _____

Send this form with \$15 membership dues per school to:

Laurie Bielong, Belleville West High School, 2600 West Main, Belleville, IL 62226

SISPA

Southern Illinois School Press Association
 School of Journalism
 Southern Illinois University at Carbondale
 Carbondale, IL 62901-6601

Herman Albers and Judy Vidakovich
 Coulterville High School
 Box 386
 Coulterville, IL 62237

• PLEASE FORWARD TO THE APPROPRIATE PUBLICATION ADVISER •