

Contest Dates

March 16

ADVISERS OF THE YEAR

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

March 28

BLUE BANNER

Blue Banner Fee: \$10

Send to: Laurie Biefong
Belleville West, 2600 West Main St.
Belleville, IL 62226

April 4

NEWSPAPER BEST STORIES 2001 YEARBOOK CONTEST

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

April 7

SPRING CONFERENCE ADVISERS' WORK DAY

10 a.m.
School of Journalism
SIU at Carbondale

Spring Conference set for Wed., May 2

The 51st Annual Spring Conference is set for Wednesday, May 2, at the Student Center on the campus of SIU 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.

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, April 1, at the School of Journalism office at 10 a.m. All SISPA advisers are welcome to attend to sort contest material and to discuss the conference program. Those attending the work day can bring their contest material.

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).



An annual tradition at the Spring Conference is the awarding of attendance prizes. When students arrive, they will receive an entry form. Then names are drawn during the afternoon session. In the past, winners have received SIU t-shirts, banners, hats and other prizes.

2001 Yearbook Contest entries sought

There will be two categories of competition in the 2001 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 includes

photos 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 2001 yearbook.

All the entries must be postmarked no later than April 4, 2001 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,
Carbondale, IL 62901.

On-Site Contests continue

The On-Site Writing Contest will once again be a feature of the Spring Conference, scheduled for Wednesday, May 2, 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.

The Senior Interview will also be part of the Spring Conference.
More in the next *Editor*.

Blue Banner deadline set for March 9

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 \$10 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 2000-2001 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 28.

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 618/222-7623 or lbielong@hotmail.com.

Blue Banner Entry Form

Include two (2) copies of three issues of your publication from the 2000-2001 school year.

School _____

Newspaper _____

Enrollment _____ Number of Issues Planned in 2000-01 _____
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 _____ (\$10 - 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 FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 2001

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

Questions: 618/222-7623

Deadline for stories set for March 21

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 April 4, 2001**.

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, May 2.

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 2000-2001 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.

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 16, 2001.

SISPA Adviser of the Year Nomination Form

Nominee Name _____

School _____

Adviser of: Newspaper Yearbook

Briefly describe the nominee's accomplishments and qualifications to receive this honor. attach additional sheets if necessary

Nomination submitted by: (please include school)

Phone number _____

Send nominations by MARCH 16, 2001 to: Herman Albers, Coulterville High School, 101 W. Grant, Coulterville, IL 62237

Who's on-line? Help wanted in offering sessions

In the ever evolving world of high school journalism, many newspapers have gone on the World Wide Web to capture the cyber audience.

SISPA would like to keep up with the

times, by offering sessions on making newspaper websites at the Spring Conference.

Sessions on planning for a newspaper site, designing the website, maintaining the site and the le-

galities of the Internet would be helpful.

If any adviser would like to head a session or knows of anyone who would, please contact Laurie Bielong at Belleville West High School, 618/222-7623 or

lbielong@hotmail.com.

If your paper currently is on the Web, please forward your address to lbielong@hotmail.com so that it can be printed in the next *Editor*. Newspaper staffs in-

terested in taking the leap may then view current SISPA publications for ideas.

Anyone interested in heading any session at the Spring Conference is urged to contact Herman Albers.

SISPA Membership Form

School Name _____

School Street Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

School Phone _____ Enrollment _____

Newspaper Name _____

Adviser _____ email _____

YearbookName _____

Adviser _____ email _____

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

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

Questions: 618 • 222-7623 or lbielong@hotmail.com

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 •

