

The Spring 2007 FORMAT

The official publication of the Nebraska High School Press Association

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NHSPA honors Al-Greene, Winter

Bob Al-Greene, editor in chief of the Central High *Register* for the past year, is Nebraska's Student Journalist of the Year. As a result, his portfolio was submitted to represent Nebraska at the national JOY competition in Denver.

Al-Greene's background is in art and visuals, and he originally got on staff to provide cartoons and illustrations.

He has won multiple awards on the state and national levels for his art, including a Superior rating in editorial cartooning at the Spring 2006 JEA/NSPA Convention in San Francisco and a first place in editorial cartooning at the 2006 NHSPA journalism championships.

Al-Greene has also competed in multiple writing competitions and won state awards for his art portfolio. He will attend UNL in the fall with a Regents Scholarship to study journalism.

Hilary Winter, from Papillion-LaVista South High School, is Nebraska's JOY runner-up. She is involved in every facet of journalism the school has to offer.

After completing an introductory journalism course in her



JOY Bob Al-Greene



Runner-up Hilary Winter

freshman year, Winter joined the *South Star* yearbook staff to help chronicle PL South's first year of existence.

She became a section editor during her sophomore year, and an assistant editor-in-chief during her junior year.

Also during her junior year, Winter decided to take a more active role in journalism by joining the newspaper and broadcast television staffs. She served as the features editor on the newspaper staff, *The Torch*, as well as a reporter and anchor on the broadcast television news program, *Titan View*.

Winter currently serves as editor in chief of the *South Star*, news editor of *The Torch* and a reporter and anchor for *Titan View*.

Throughout Winter's involvement in PL South's journalism program, *Titan View* has been recognized as a Pace-maker finalist and the South Star has won two Cornhusker awards.

Winter plans to study journalism at either the University of Nebraska-Lincoln or the University of Missouri-Columbia this fall.

NHSPA Board seeks candidates for 2 positions

The NHSPA Executive Board is soliciting candidates for Class A1 representative and for the at-large member. Elections for the 3-year terms will be held at the fall NHSPA convention on Oct. 15, 2007.

Responsibilities of board members include traveling to approximately five meetings per year) for which members are reimbursed for mileage), voting on issues affecting the business of the board, and helping organize conventions and contests.

Board members elect an acting president,

secretary and chairs for the Convention Committee, Contest Committee, Critiques/Cornhusker Committee and the Commendation Committee.

The current Class A1 representative is Matt Deabler of Omaha Central. Scott Foster of Waverly is the current at-large member.

Interested advisers should contact President Marshal Kalkowski, MJE, Omaha Marian High School, 7400 Military Avenue, Omaha, NE 68134. Her phone number is 402-571-2618 (Ext. 134). Her e-mail address is mascu@marian.creighton.edu.

Adams, Collins, Vickers named Friends of Journalism

Three strong supporters of student journalists have been named winners of NHSPA's 2007 Friend of Journalism Award.

Greg Adams, a longtime yearbook representative for Walsworth Publishing Company, Dave Collins, principal at Omaha Bryan High School, and Diane Vickers, former managing editor of the Beatrice Daily Sun, will be honored at the organization's spring championships at UNL on Monday, May 7.

Adams, a 1975 graduate of Fremont High School, was nominated by Fairbury adviser Diane Schutt. He graduated in 1979 with a degree in Marketing/ADM and worked in marketing for two years.

Adams, who has been with Walsworth since 1982, enjoys all Husker sports. He and his wife, Nancy, have two sons.

In her letter of nomination for the second winner, Bryan adviser Janet Raddish said, "Mr. Collins is the type of principal every journalism teacher should want to have in his or



Greg Adams



Dave Collins



Diane Vickers

Who?

Greg Adams
Walsworth Publishing Company
Yearbook Representative

Dave Collins
Omaha Bryan Principal

Diane Vickers
Former managing editor of the
Beatrice Daily Sun

her school."

Raddish praised Collins for his hands-off approach to student publications and for

his outstanding support for the technology and educational opportunities he has helped fund for her program.

"Mr. Collins always approves my requests to take students to the annual NHSPA workshops or on other field trips," Raddish said. "He has never rejected any of my requests to take students out of the building for a variety of educational experiences."

Doris Martin, publications adviser at Beatrice High School, nominated Diane Vickers for Friend of Journalism.

In her nomination letter, Martin mentioned how Vickers has worked closely with her students in a community journalism course.

"One of Diane's greatest strengths is her ability to meet the students where they are in their writing development and then structure a curriculum to take them to the next step," Martin said.

"While she loves it when I send her those natural talents she is also eager to work with those that have the necessary desire but need to start slower."

Important Dates

July 22-26, 2007

- Summer Journalism Camp

Oct. 15, 2007

- NHSPA Fall Convention

Nov. 8-11, 2007

- JEA/NSPA national convention in Philadelphia

Feb. 15, 2008

- Student Journalist of the Year entries due to state director Marsha Kalkowski

April 17-20, 2008

- JEA/NSPA national convention in Anaheim

May 5, 2008

- State Journalism Contest

Nebraska students honored in JEA Write-Off competitions

Several Nebraska students were honored in the JEA Write-Off contests held last November in Nashville and in April in Denver.

At the Gaylord Opryland Hotel in Nashville, 1988 students competed in the Write-Off contests. The following Nebraska entrants were honored:

LeeAnne Gerz, Omaha North, honorable mention in newswriting; Courtni Kopietz, Marian, honorable mention in editorial writing; Stephanie Valentine, Omaha North, excellent in feature writing; Anna Loach, Westside, honorable mention in review writing; Annie Mehal, Marian, honorable mention in commentary writing; Lauren Wilwerding, Marian, superior in copy editing/headline/caption writing; Addy Carpenter, Westside, honorable mention in newsmagazine: layout.

Other winners include Lauren Steier,

Marian, excellent in yearbook copy/caption: student life; Kristina Tripp, Omaha North, honorable mention in yearbook copy/caption: student life; Molly Wiesen, Marian, honorable mention in yearbook layout: theme; Meg Alley, Westside, excellent in literary magazine: layout; Patrick O'Malley, Omaha Central, honorable mention in yearbook sports photography; Ashley Cummins, Westside, excellent in newspaper sports photography; Kit Straley, Marian, excellent in newspaper news/feature photography; Eva Draper, Westside, honorable mention for in-camera feature; Anna Ripa, Westside, honorable mention for in-camera feature.

At the spring convention in Denver, 1,479 students competed in the JEA Write-Offs. Patrick Breen of Omaha Central earned an excellent award in sports writing.

Pedersen, Baird, Howe receive national honors

Three Nebraska advisers have been honored by the Journalism Education Association and the National Scholastic Press Association at their recent conventions.

Sheila Pedersen, retired

adviser at Millard North High School, received JEA's Lifetime Achievement Award at the fall convention in Nashville.

Susan Baird was named a Medal of Merit winner by JEA. Cathy Davis, Hastings

adviser who co-chaired the summer journalism camp with Baird for several years, received the award for Baird at the April convention in Denver.

Omaha Westside's Rod Howe was presented NSPA's

Pioneer Award at the Nashville convention. The Pioneer Award, the highest award NSPA offers to journalism educators, is presented to individuals who make substantial contributions to high school publications.

2006 Cornhusker Winners

Yearbooks

- A1 Millard North
- A1 Millard West
- A1 Omaha Central
- A2 Hastings
- A2 Scottsbluff
- B Norris
- B Omaha Gross Catholic
- C Brownell-Talbot
- C Central City
- C Heartland
- C Ravenna
- D Dorchester
- D Nebraska Christian

Newspapers

- A1 Bellevue East
- A1 Omaha Central
- A2 Hastings
- A2 Omaha Marian
- A2 Scottsbluff
- B Fairbury
- B Omaha Gross Catholic

Central, Westside staffs honored in Best of Show

Omaha Central and Omaha Westside were honored by the National Scholastic Press Association at the fall and spring conventions in Best of Show competitions.

At last fall's convention in Nashville, Central's *Register* took home fourth place Best of Show honors in the Newspaper 9-12 Pages category. Westside's *Pundit* won second place Best of Show in the Newspaper

Special Edition category.

Also honored in Nashville was Westside's literary magazine. *Xanadu* won sixth place in Best of Show.

At the spring convention in Denver, *The Register* received third place Best of Show honors in the Newspaper Special Edition category and fourth place honors in the Newspaper 13-16 Pages category.

From the NHSPA President



Dear Nebraska High School Press Association:

Happy Spring!

What an exciting time to be involved in scholastic publications. Contemporary culture is full of media situations that give us great classroom discussion material. Student freedom of expression is in the Supreme Court again and broadcast personalities are causing people to question what is not only legal to say to the world, but what is responsible.

We've been witness to national tragedy and even experienced tragedy closer to home. We have recognized that young journalists have a voice and with an opportunity to share that voice, can make a positive difference in the lives of those around them.

Today, at the NSAA/NHSPA State Journalism Contest, we recognize Nebraska's best of the best young journalists. We congratulate the students who qualified to compete and those who were preliminary winners. We celebrate the staff members who pushed their peers to do their best work and the advisers who

were actively involved in the entire process. We thank the parents of these young people who have supported the educational and journalistic process. We appreciate the school systems and administrators who recognize the value of strong student publications. We are indebted to the Nebraska School Activities Association for their recognition of the student press as a vital part of well-rounded student activities and we are grateful for their sponsorship of this state contest and the awards ceremony.

Even if your students head for home without medals around their necks or a trophy in their hands, they are still winners. It is an honor to be here today and to know that they are among the best student writers, photographers and designers in the state. They may not realize that they are also among the best in the nation. Although not everyone is able to compete or attend national conventions, when students of Nebraska do so, they do quite well.

As members of the NHSPA Executive Board, we urge you, as advisers, to stay active and get involved in the organization that was created to help your students. Send your students to camp, submit their publications for critique and enter their work in the contests. We want to recognize them and you for the outstanding work you do.

Please enjoy the time in the spotlight today and know that the Board is really here for your concerns. Use us!

Have a great summer!

Marsha A. Kalkowski
Marsha Kalkowski, MJE

JEA/NSPA Fall National High School Journalism Convention



November 8-11, 2007 • Philadelphia Marriott Downtown

Convention Highlights

- Keynote addresses by some of the nation's top newsmakers and reporters
- More than 200 learning sessions in newspaper, yearbook, broadcast, advising, press law and more
- Special pre-convention workshops and issue seminars
- Media and sight-seeing tours to top attractions and publications
- On-site critiques and competitions, including NSPA Best of Show and JEA Write-off competitions
- Share info at Break with a Pro and Swap Shop
- Check out products and services at the trade show

Registration Fees

JEA or NSPA members

- \$80 if paid by October 18, 2007
- \$90 when paid October 19, 2007 or later

Nonmembers

- \$95 if paid by October 18, 2007
- \$110 when paid October 19, 2007 or later

Nonmember professionals (not students or advisers): \$150

Save money by registering early and by joining JEA and NSPA.

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