

WNA

WISCONSIN NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

2018 Collegiate Better Newspaper Contest

The 2018 WNA Foundation Collegiate Better Newspaper Contest was judged by members of the Washington Newspaper Publishers Association. The contest received 283 submissions in 20 categories from 11 student publications in Wisconsin. Eligible entries were published between Sept. 1, 2017 and Dec. 31, 2018.

Group A is comprised of newspapers that publish either weekly or daily. Group B is comprised of newspapers that publish month-

ly or bi-monthly OR at campuses with undergraduate enrollment of 7,499 or less. Categories with three or fewer entries were merged into the next highest circulation group.

All active student publications in Wisconsin were eligible to participate. Students received their awards March 8, 2019, at the WNA Convention & Trade Show Student Honors Luncheon at The Madison Concourse Hotel in Madison, Wis.

General Excellence Group A/B

First Place: *The Clarion* - **Judge's comments:** Brilliantly developed, writing is integrated and enhanced in layout, very attractive features.

Second Place: *Marquette Tribune* - **Judge's Comments:** Very clean design and top quality writing.

Third Place: *Advance-Titan* - **Judge's Comments:** First-rate news coverage, ace writers in a well-balanced traditional newspaper format.

Collegiate Journalist of the Year Group A/B

First Place: *Marquette Tribune* - Morgan Hughes.

Second Place: *MediaMilwaukee* - Talis Shelbourne.

Third Place: *The Badger Herald* - Matt O'Connor.

Honorable Mention: *The Clarion* - Jessica Deegan.

Breaking News Reporting Group A/B

First Place: *Marquette Tribune*, "Wisconsin Supreme Court rules in *McAdams' favor*" - Morgan Hughes. **Judge's Comments:** Followed the story from the beginning to its conclusion. Reporting was concise and covered all bases, while coming out ahead of national news agencies.

Second Place: *The Daily Cardinal*, "Chemistry TA relieved from teaching duties amid allegations of white supremacy" - Noah Habenstreit. **Judge's Comments:** Well-reported piece. Clarified all aspects of the story to the reader.

Third Place: *College Days*, "Controversial meeting of YAF and administrators" - Connor Renshaw. **Judge's Comments:** Well-reported piece, provides clear timeline of events and details the entire story.

Honorable Mention: *The Clarion*, "Immigration policy changes add to worries" - Adrienne Oliva. **Judge's Comments:** Very well-written piece. Captures the plight of DACA students.

Public Affairs Reporting Group A

First Place: *MediaMilwaukee*, "Generation Lockdown" - Staff. **Judge's Comments:** Taking an issue of national significance, examining its history, its effect on lives, using a current event with which to wrap it, brings it home to this entry's community through well-crafted on-scene reporting and visual support. Readers/viewers get a fully focused account via contemporary events and on-scene well-balanced reportage. This is not a gun-control story, but an evaluation of America's Second Amendment effect on society — the positives, as advocates maintain, and negatives as opponents perceive. A national issue localized.

Second Place: *MediaMilwaukee*, "Exposing Sexual Harassment" - Talis Shelbourne, Nyeshia Stone, Miela Fetaw,

Jennifer Rick **Judge's Comments:** A generally thorough account of lingering and ongoing investigations related to the university's administering of and responding to sexual harassment and assault complaints involving faculty, staff and students. The focus of these stories further emphasizes the importance of reliable information imbedded in public records and their availability. An



**Morgan Hughes, Marquette Tribune,
Collegiate Journalist of the Year**

admirable effort sourcing/resourcing, reporting and writing/recording about the issues disclosed here.

Third Place: *The Badger Herald*, "Executive order to end DACA leaves UW dreamers living in limbo" - Alice Vagun. **Judge's Comments:** Very good narrative exploring the effects of DACA's demise, though sourcing shows lawmakers aren't willing to abandon efforts to restore (as of

“Sophomore vlogger helps viewers adjust to college lifestyle” - Olivia Homel.

Third Place: *The Daily Cardinal*, “The Blood is at the Doorstep is a testament to the power of documentary films” - Alex M. Jankovich.

Honorable Mention: *The Badger Herald*, “This should be a Mac Miller interview” - Tolu Igun, Ben Sefarbi.

Group B

First Place: *Arches*, “Speaking Through Song” - Ashley Altan. **Judge’s Comments:** Nicely put together profile story on what makes musician Willy Porter tick, including vignettes from an example show.

Second Place: *Stoutonia*, “The Menomonie Music Scene Finds a Home in The Abbey” - Bryce Parr. **Judge’s Comments:** Decently solid story that speaks to the local bar scene.

Sports Story Group A

First Place: *The Badger Herald*, “Fullback U: Why football’s forgotten position still reigns supreme in Madison” - Will Stern.

Judge’s Comments: Great story that uses detail on a little-known football position.

Second Place: *The Badger Herald*, “Wisconsin rugby caps offseason with Big Ten Championship” - Adam Blackwell.

Judge’s Comments: Straightforward sports story that is an easy, compelling read.

Third Place: *Marquette Tribune*, “Car accident forces women’s basketball to make quick adjustment at Fiserv Forum” - John Steppe. **Judge’s Comments:** Everyone on campus would want to read this story. It’s not every day that someone drives onto the arena floor.

Honorable Mention: *Advance-Titan*, “History stopped short” - Neal Hogden.

Judge’s Comments: Lots of information, which the graphics help get across.

Group B

First Place: *Student Voice*, “Rick Bowen court dedication reflects how far UWRF basketball has come” - Zach Dwyer.

Second Place: *Student Voice*, “National anthem protests raise questions nationally, within UWRF football team” - Zach Dwyer.

Third Place: *The Clarion*, “Dealing with concussions” - Andrew Kicmol.

Honorable Mention: *Arches*, “Gotta Be a Champion” - Payton Hintz.

Editorial Writing Group A

First Place: *The Daily Cardinal*,



The Badger Herald, First Place, Group A/B, News Photography

“Proposed ‘Free Speech’ Act would stifle campus discourse” - Editorial Board.

Judge’s Comments: There’s nothing more important than free speech in this country. This editorial captures that by reporting how phony the legislature’s attempt was to say it would help free speech.

Second Place: *The Badger Herald*, “Alec Cooks sentencing shows judges must be held accountable, like any other public official” - Editorial Board. **Judge’s Comments:**

A major problem in this country, and obviously in this area, is how protected judges are. They do not walk on water, and they need to be held accountable.

Third Place: *Marquette Tribune*, “University investments demand transparency” - Maya Korenich, Editorial Board. **Judge’s Comments:** This type of information often seems to be hidden from the public. Great idea bringing it to the forefront to let them know you are watching.

Honorable Mention: *Advance-Titan*, “Recent cases prompt action” - Lauren Freund. **Judge’s Comments:** Great job of reporting on the issue. But as an editorial it needed less reporting and more opinion. Reporting should support the opinion, not the other way around.

Group B

First Place: *Arches*, “This is No Longer a Political Issue” - Quinn Clark, Bryanna Sanders. **Judge’s Comments:** Effective graphic presentation and strong writing make this a first place winner. Loved the dual perspective.

Second Place: *The Clarion*, “Speaker Ryan, we want real action” - Megan

Binkley. **Judge’s Comments:** Personal and well-written, this piece carries a sense of urgency. Nicely done.

Third Place: *Student Voice*, “Gun violence is horrible, but will only change if we demand it” - Student Voice.

Judge’s Comments: A well-written editorial that takes a strong position and backs it up with facts. Good job.

Column Writing Group A

First Place: *Royal Purple*, “Fears of Sexual Assault Persist” - Shannan Lojeski.

Judge’s Comments: By far the best writing in this category. The column is personal and emotional, but offers support and information for others. Nice job.

Second Place: *The Badger Herald*, “Student city council candidates provide valuable insight, representative leadership” - Ethan Carpenter. **Judge’s Comments:** Nice to see a column focused on a local issue. Good research and solid arguments make this a winner.

Third Place: *Marquette Tribune*, “Student-faculty relationship ban needed at Marquette” - Matthew Harte. **Judge’s Comments:** Hard to imagine why this rule hasn’t been adopted. Good information on what has happened elsewhere. A quality job.

Group B

First Place: *Arches*, “Beyond Bipolar” - Julia Wachuta. **Judge’s Comments:** Fantastic. Almost poetic. Love the short sentences, rhyme and reasoning. I feel I know more about being bipolar than if I

would have read a long research paper.

Second Place: *Arches*, “*Head Over Heart: Dating a Transracial Adoptee*” - Jamie Hollins. **Judge’s Comments:** Great job mixing your opinion and personal circumstances and getting experts to explain it even more. Deeply personal.

Third Place: *The Clarion*, “*A survivor’s perspective*” - Hannah Switzer. **Judge’s Comments:** Thank you for sharing your personal story. Only great competition kept you from placing higher.

Honorable Mention: *Student Voice*,



The Badger Herald, First Place, Group A/B, Newspaper Promotion

“*Danger and harassment can be around any corner for women*” - Lauren Simenson. **Judge’s Comments:** Excellent job of putting the reader in your shoes. I felt like I was there and felt your fear. Again, only great competition kept you from placing higher.

Freedom of Information Award Group A/B

First Place: *MediaMilwaukee*, “*Sexual harassment on campus*” - Talis Shelbourne, Jennifer Rick, Nyesha Stone, Miela Fetaw, Elizabeth Sloan. **Judge’s Comments:** An exceptional entry, but most important, an exceptional team effort to report with detail and attribution the human effect of harassment issues on this campus. The stories here are not composed with just the accounts delivered in public records, but the human impact of harassment on campus. It’s reflective, the stories relate, on alleged administrative indifference to complaints with absence of resolution . . . both for victims and those accused.

And the “team” approach makes this a critical example of that tactic’s success. Just excellent!

Second Place: *The Badger Herald*, “*War of words: Proposed legislation reignites tensions on campus over free speech*” - Emily Hamer. **Judge’s Comments:** A terrific reporting and writing effort, tackling a “sensitive” First Amendment issue with a comprehensive analysis from campus to the halls of the state legislature. The story has exceptional balance; it does not focus on just the First Amendment challenge, but reflects on how free speech issues affect the campus environment, positives and negatives. Exceptional sourcing, too!

Third Place: *Marquette Tribune*, “*MUPD uses undercover cops, K-9 units to investigate drug cases*” - Sydney Czyzon. **Judge’s Comments:** A very good story, using records and accountable live sources to examine what appears to be challenging drug-related issues on this campus, and how the campus police respond and investigate reported abuses. Well reported, well written.

Honorable Mention: *The Badger Herald*, “*Instead of facing removal hearings for homophobic, anti-Semitic comments, Student Judiciary member quietly resigned*” - Matt O’Connor. **Judge’s Comments:** A good account, using records and direct human sourcing, to report on a challenging issue before the university’s student Judiciary Committee. Records disclosed the issue, good reporting put it into “context” with those involved. Good reporting; good writing.

News Photography Group A/B

First Place: *The Badger Herald*, “*I can’t eat: Students gather in Gordon to protest mandatory dining plan*” - Emily Hamer.

Second Place: *MediaMilwaukee*, “*Generation Lockdown*” - Henry Morgan.

Third Place: *Marquette Tribune*, “*Look inside: Wild Commons welcomes first students*” - Sydney Czyzon.

Honorable Mention: *MediaMilwaukee*, “*Hurricane Harvey*” - Talis Shelbourne.

Feature Photography Group A

First Place: *Marquette Tribune*, “*Men assaulted too*” - Photo Staff. **Judge’s Comments:** There is so much power in these photographs. I want to read this story, because I feel like these portraits connect with you immediately.

Second Place: *Advance-Titan*, “*Fans cheer*” - Alicia Kahl, Krystal Knuth. **Judge’s**

Comments: You can feel the joy leaping off the page.

Third Place: *MediaMilwaukee*, “*Welcome to Barron*” - Aubryana Bowen. **Judge’s Comments:** Very powerful. Great capture of emotions and really shows us a look into what this cultural group is going through.

Honorable Mention: *The Badger Herald*, “*With Paul Ryan announcing retirement, Democrats and Republicans gauge potential of blue wave*” - Emily Hamer. **Judge’s Comments:** Very powerful. Very creative.

Group B

First Place: *Arches*, “*Wicked Bat Wings*” - Ashley Altan. **Judge’s Comments:** Pro magazine-quality photo. The circle pattern of food plates plus the action of the hands, with the piece of napkin at the bottom of the centered teal plate and the vertical wood lines from the table, really does it to make this a great magazine-style feature photo!

Second Place: *The Clarion*, “*A holiday to remember*” - Emily Dimond. **Judge’s Comments:** Good composition and filling the frame helped this news photo hit all the right points.

Third Place: *The Clarion*, “*Get ready to wake up early on Record Store Day*” - Max Goldberg. **Judge’s Comments:** Cool idea and approach to what could have become a bland pic of people perusing records.

Sports Photography Group A/B

First Place: *College Days*, “*Ripon College volleyball*” - Becky Bajt. **Judge’s Comments:** Great quality image caught the volleyball right as it left player’s fingertips.

Second Place: *The Badger Herald*, “*Ethan Happ*” - Daniel Yun. **Judge’s Comments:** Flying high here to get a great moment in a basketball game.

Third Place: *The Clarion*, “*Starting strong*” - Tessa Morhardt. **Judge’s Comments:** Collision in soccer catches a great moment.

Infographic Group A

First Place: *Marquette Tribune*, “*Students learn to register to vote with Milwaukee organizations*” - Clara Janzen. **Judge’s Comments:** Nice attention grabbing graphic presents lot of useful information well. One thing to watch would be “widows” – essentially leaving one single word on a line all by itself (the word “day” on the very last section). Bump

it up to the previous line with the other text – that will save space and look clean. I realize that's super picky, but sometimes attention to the smallest detail can make a difference.

Second Place: *Marquette Tribune*, "MUPD uses undercover cops, K-9 units to investigate drug cases" - Sydney Czyzon. **Judge's Comments:** I like the variety of items shown in the graphic and colors used. The breakdown by residence hall is quite interesting. Overall, nice and informative. As an outsider looking in, it took me a second to figure out what MUPD was – I think putting a title or heading over the entire graphic would have been helpful – something starting with "Marquette University's Police Department's investigation..." That would have spelled it out quickly for someone not acquainted with the area.

Third Place: *Advance-Titan*, "Department of Journalism Timeline" - Ana Maria Anstett. **Judge's Comments:** Nice, clean, simple timeline. I like the combination of photos and text.

Honorable Mention: *Marquette Tribune*, "Students launch blockchain



The Clarion, First Place, Group A/B, Advertisement

consulting firm" - Josh Anderson. **Judge's Comments:** A graphic is definitely useful in explaining blockchain. I had no idea what it was and coupled with the story, it makes more sense. Maybe adding one more section at the top just to give the definition of blockchain could have been useful. But very informative in a nice simple step-by-step design.

Group B

First Place: *The Clarion*, "Hunger survey results" - Alexandra Christensen. **Judge's Comments:** Love the blender and serving tray pie charts. Very creative.

Second Place: *College Days*, "March on!" - Cordell Walker, Mackenzie Dibelius. **Judge's Comments:** Good use of a timeline approach and lots of good information.

Third Place: *Arches*, "Let's Take a Walk" - Teresa Wooster. **Judge's Comments:** This is great stuff. Visually appealing but also very informative.

Honorable Mention: *Arches*, "The Persistence of Racial/Ethnic Stereotypes" - Payton Hintz. **Judge's Comments:** Good work. Love the different colored hands at the bottom. The word "lazy" definitely jumps out at you, which is an important part of the information being presented.

Page Design Group A

First Place: *Advance-Titan* - Morgan Van Lanen, Alex Nemec, Laura Dickinson. **Judge's Comments:** LOVE the design on the main story. The masthead over the top of the photo. The headline using the number on the jersey. Great creativity that really works.

Second Place: *The Badger Herald*, "After investigating racist past, UW grapples with creating an inclusive future" - Lily Oberstein. **Judge's Comments:** Excellent design work. Very creative drawings with the KKK hood coming out of the backpack and near the trash. Well done.

Third Place: *The Badger Herald*, "Money Talks" - Sam Christensen. **Judge's Comments:** Love the design. Simple, yet delivers an effective message.

Group B

First Place: *The Clarion* - Alexandra Christensen. **Judge's Comments:** I like the various photos and text at the top to direct the reader inside. I like the use of the interesting survey graphic. It looks like you have a nice package of stories relating to the hunger topic – Nice to address a common topic from several angles.

Second Place: *Arches*, "Cover Fall 2017" - Denisse Hernandez. **Judge's Comments:** Love the graphic with the name in the coffee. You should continue that fun look with the other copy on the page – the story names and page numbers are relatively boring in comparison. Use a more fun, edgy font to continue the look throughout.

Third Place: *Arches*, "Cover Fall 2018" - Denisse Hernandez. **Judge's Comments:** Interesting, edgy graphic draws the eye in. Could have played with the font more using various sizes like enlarging the 66% and "Go unreported" to grab attention. The font just seems a bit boring for the edgy graphic.

Use of Multimedia Group A/B

First Place: *Arches*, "March 2018 online



The Daily Cardinal, First Place, Group B, Editorial Writing

issue" - Staff.

Second Place: *The Badger Herald*, "I Can't Draw" - Lynda Barry" - Violet Wang.

Third Place: *The Clarion*, "Dealing with concussions" - Andrew Kicmol, Sean Bull.

Honorable Mention: *The Clarion*, "Grant sparks innovation" - Jessica Deegan, Jessica Pokrandt, Max Goldberg.

Website Group A/B

First Place: *Marquette Tribune* - Staff.

Second Place: *MediaMilwaukee* - Staff.

Third Place: *Arches* - Staff.

Honorable Mention: *The Clarion* - Dylan Martin.

Advertisement Group A/B

First Place: *The Clarion*, "Changing the narrative" - Bernadette Witzack.

Second Place: *College Days*, "Mugs Coffeehouse crossword" - John Myers.

Third Place: *The Clarion*, "Winterfest" - Bernadette Witzack.

Newspaper Promotion Group A/B

First Place: *The Badger Herald*, "New Member Promotional" - Lily Oberstein.

Second Place: *Advance-Titan*, "MailChimp newsletter" - Elizabeth Pletzer.

Third Place: *Marquette Tribune*, "Classes end, but our basketball coverage doesn't" - John Steppe.