

Ohio News Photographer
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NEAL C LAURON/The Columbus Dispatch
Columbus Dispatch photographer Chris Russell straddles a motorcycle as he goes by cheering citizens along Hamilton Road by the Whitehall Community Park to greet Lima Company as they made their return to Columbus after serving in Iraq.



Ohio News
Photographer
February 2006

Odds n' ends

Most members are breathing a sigh of relief that contest preparation season is over. Next up on the calendar is the annual convention and educational seminar. The event will be held once again at the Columbus Airport Marriott, April 7-8.

Karl Kuntz of The Columbus Dispatch has agreed once again to put together a hands-on digital imaging workshop for those attending.

Commitments from other speakers are being finalized as this issue goes to press. Details will be in your mailbox and on the Web at www.onpa.org as soon as they become available.

Phil Masturzo of the Akron Beacon Journal won third place for Best Non-Studio Food Photography in the Association of Food Journalists annual competition. The awards recognize excellence in reporting, writing, and photography in all media, and newspaper food section design and content.

ONPA student member **Michael King** was one of 16 Ohio University students on the winner's list of the 60th College Pictures of the Year competition. King received an Award of Excellence in the pictorial category.

What I saw on my summer vacation



File this one under the heading of the pictures they don't show you on the travel brochures for the Outer Banks. Columbus Dispatch photographer Fred Squillante and his family came upon the scene in Nag Head, NC this past summer. The family was headed for dinner in a caravan of three minivans. Squillante drove as his wife Kris shot the picture from the passenger seat. Kris and I saw the funnel cloud, but we were in a state of disbelief. We were asking questions like, "Does that look like a funnel cloud?" "I don't know does it look like one to you?" "It looks like it's spinning" "I think it is a funnel cloud" (We agreed later that this was how people die - sitting and watching and asking stupid questions.) Television reports later stated that it touched down briefly but did little damage.

Ghanbari takes third in Hearst shootout.

Former ONPA student member Haraz Ghanbari from Kent State University placed third in the William Randolph Hearst Foundation Journalism Competition.

Jim Winn, of Western Kentucky University, placed first and Daron Dean of the University of Florida, finishing second.

Ghanbari won a \$3,000 scholarship for his third place finish.



Ghanbari

Finalists were brought to San Francisco for the championship to demonstrate their photography skills in on-the-spot assignments, and were then judged by a panel of professionals brought in to evaluate their work.

Ghanbari is now working for the Associated Press in Washington D.C.

John Kuntz named Ohio AP Member POY

Plain Dealer staff photographer John Kuntz has been named the Ohio AP Member Photographer of the Year.

The \$1,000 award, announced at the annual Ohio AP Photo Workshop, is based on an individual photographer's contributions to AP and the quality of those photos.



John Kuntz

Kuntz was also named photographer of the year in the 2004 Ohio News Photographers Association contest.

Ten newspapers were honored for their overall photo contributions to the Ohio AP over the last year. They were: the Akron Beacon Journal, The (Bowling Green) Sentinel-Tribune, The Repository, The Cincinnati Enquirer, The Plain Dealer, The Columbus Dispatch, the Dayton Daily News, The (Mansfield) News Journal, the Middletown Journal and the Springfield News-Sun.

Ohio News Photographers Association Inc.

Board Chairman - Bob DeMay
Akron Beacon Journal, (330) 996-3887
onpa@earthlink.net
President - Ed Suba Jr.
Akron Beacon Journal, (330) 996-3880
esuba@thebeaconjournal.com
Treasurer - Kimberly Barth
Akron Beacon Journal, (330) 996-3884
kbarth@thebeaconjournal.com

Secretary - Lindsay Semple
Akron Beacon Journal, (330) 996-3880
lsemple@thebeaconjournal.com
Still Vice President - Jonathan Quilter
The Columbus Dispatch, (614) 461-5191
jquilter@dispatch.com
TV Vice President - Tim Moushey
WBNS-TV, (614) 460-2961
tim.moushey@10tv.com

Still Clip Contest - David Distelhorst
The Repository, (330) 580-8409
david.distelhorst@cantonrep.com
Quarterly TV Contest - Bill Reagan
WBNS-TV, (614) 460-3950
bill.reagan@10tv.com
ONPA Online - Mark Duncan
Associated Press, (216) 771-2172
markduncan@ameritech.net

TV Clip Contest

2nd Quarter Results

In Depth

1st - Jeff Ritter, WBNS-TV, "Jack Frost Lives on in a Birdhouse"
2nd - Chris Kettler, WBNS-TV, "Tax Evaders"

General News

1st - David Bradford, WJW-TV, "Slow Down"
2nd - Rob Abel, WBNS-TV, "Hunter's Flight"
3rd - David Bradford, WJW-TV, "Cyber Pursuit"

Spot News

1st - Jeff Sheerer, WBNS-TV, "Crazy Semi"
2nd - Brian Wicker, WBNS-TV, "River Rescue"

News Feature

1st - Steve Maguire, WBNS-TV, "Golf Ball Retrieval"
2nd - Paul Kwapich, WTOL-TV, "End of an Era"
3rd - Scott Doelling, WBNS-TV, "Circle of Life"
Judges - WRAL Raleigh, NC

3rd Quarter Results

In Depth

1st - Jeff Ritter, WBNS-TV, "A Coaches Code"

General News

1st - David Bradford, WJW-TV, "A Marine's Investment"
2nd - David Bradford, WJW-TV, "Searching for Audrey"
3rd - Rob Abel, WBNS-TV, "How Do You Replace the Past"
HM - Jeff Ritter, WBNS-TV, "Drumming up Support"

News Feature

1st - Doug Herrmann, WJW-TV, "3/25 Memorial"
2nd - Paul Kwapich, WTOL-TV, "Milton Center Post"
3rd - Kendall Griggs, WJW-TV, "America's Other Obsession"
HM - Steve France, WUPW-TV, "Haskins Grease"

Spot News

1st - Rob Abel, WBNS-TV, "It Doesn't Matter What We Are Saving"
2nd - Rich Yedlicka, WBNS-TV, "One Hot Fire"
3rd - Casey Watterworth, WUPW-TV, "Broadway Fire"
Judges - WPXI-TV Pittsburgh

Standings

1st	David Bradford, WJW-TV	46
2nd	Jeff Ritter, WBNS-TV	37
3rd	Doug Herrmann, WJW-TV	32
4th	Chris Kettler, WBNS-TV	30
5th	Rob Abel, WBNS-TV	27
6th	Paul Kwapich, WTOL-TV	24
7th	Brian Wicker, WBNS-TV	22
8th	Jeff Sheerer, WBNS-TV	19
9th	Rich Yedlicka, WBNS-TV	16
10th	Kendall Griggs, WJW-TV	15

Revell thinks inside the box at trial

Facing a high profile capital murder trial and an apprehensive judge, Tim Revell of The Columbus Dispatch came up with a unique solution to create courtroom images in the case of Columbus highway shooter Charles McCoy.

McCoy was suspected in 24 shootings, most of them driving along the outer-belt of Columbus. One of the shootings was fatal.



TIM REVELL/The Columbus Dispatch
A remote camera used by Columbus Dispatch photographer Tim Revell at the Charles A. McCoy Jr. Highway shooter trial sits on a table in front of the judge's bench.

Required to shoot from one position at a right angle to the defense table, Revell created the so-called "Lunch Box Camera". The nickname for the camera came from Dispatch reporter Bruce Cadwallader, also assigned to cover the trial.

The plastic box with a lens hole cutout sat on a table just in front of Judge Charles A. Schneider's seat on the bench.

This placement gave Revell an angle looking directly at the defendant.

"The key to using the camera was a demonstration in the court room," said Revell. "Schneider was on the bench and asked for a demonstration. I said I had shot about 20 photos while he was talking to me. He did not hear the camera clicking and he said it was good for the trial!"



TIM REVELL/The Columbus Dispatch
Defense Attorney S. Michael Miller, left, and defendant Charles A. McCoy Sr. listen to his dad Charles McCoy Sr. speak about his son. Charles was crying when his dad was speaking about his childhood.

"We had court TV at the trial and they also set up a TV remote. I used a Canon 20D and a 50mm lens set on 1/80 at f5.6."

"It was wrapped in several small cloths and the trigger device was a pocket wizard. Sometimes the best photo of the day came from that camera because I got good reaction from McCoy and his defense team."

The case ended in a mistrial after jurors failed to reach a verdict after 29 hours deliberations over five days. McCoy later reached a plea agreement with prosecutors and was sentenced to 27 years.

On the cover

Karen Schiely
Akron Beacon Journal
1st Picture Story
May

Majid's shadow dances across the blacktop as he jumps ropes on his prosthetic legs during recess at school. Majid Fadhil Sabor lost his legs after stepping on a roadside bomb that detonated while walking to school in the Iraqi city of Aikut. Majid came to this country for \$30,000 in free medical care arranged by the Kent-based group called the Palestine Children's Relief Fund.



Convincing customers that less is more



Bob DeMay

cut
verb **cut·ting**
1 make an incision, in (something)
2 remove (something) from something larger
3 divide into pieces • separate
4 trim or reduce the length of
5 reduce the amount or quantity of
• abridge by removing material

It will be known as the year of the newsroom cuts. Turning the page on a calendar probably won't make it go away either.

Cut was the word most used in headlines referring to print media. Usually this referenced jobs, space or advertising or sometimes all three. All part of a grand plan to raise profit margins and increase revenue by making our products worse. Perhaps you need an MBA to understand the equation.

What puzzles the MBAless me is that the powers that be don't seem to understand why readers and advertisers are leaving in droves.

If General Motors launched a new vehicle that was designed to offer the customer less value and quality than the product it was replacing you wouldn't need that MBA to project sales figures.

I can see Chevrolet telling their customers, "We know the recent trends have you looking at Toyota and Honda, but we've got a great product for you. Pay no attention to the fact that our cars no longer come with tires, we throw in the hubcaps free."

Customers are not stupid. Whether they plunk down \$28,000 for a new SUV or 50 cents for the local paper they recognize when they are being screwed.

Just ask the readers of The Plain Dealer who recently lost their Sunday Magazine. Ask the readers of the Akron Beacon Journal who saw the single copy price double while local sports and community news disappear from the paper.

While companies point customers to their web sites, they don't give newsrooms the resources or training to provide the content for the paperless product.

In most cases the free content is

harder to navigate than an orange-barreled interstate in rush hour.

Do I have a horse in this race? Working at one of the 32 papers owned by Knight Ridder absolutely. More than likely so do you. It's not a Knight Ridder issue. It's not a union vs. non-union issue. It's not a big paper, small paper issue. It's an industry-wide issue.

The corporate newsroom has problems beyond profit margins and stock prices. Creativity has been sucked out of the printed and electronic products as properties produce the "Stepford Pages", following the corporate mantra of one style fits all.

The days of stability at the helm are long gone as senior managers grab the next rung on the corporate ladder in a new city before they can pay off a new car loan.

Before the ink is dry on their plan to reinvent the wheel, the replacement comes in with another recycled plan to save the paper. Take your pick. It's usually either the plan where we open bureaus in the burbs or the one where we close bureaus in the burbs.

Meanwhile those of us who call this our home are left with the readers holding the bag. The people who really care about the community are the big losers in this game of smoke and mirrors being played out for Wall Street.

When will it all end? Perhaps when those in control start listening to their readers and employees instead of their high priced consultants.

Don't set your alarm clocks thinking these executives are going to wake up anytime soon. Most are in a deep sleep wondering when will be the best time to exercise their stock options.

I may not have a job at the end of the year, but I'm not drinking their Kool-Aid. I want the car with tires.

Larger than life, it's supersized King James

Six columns is always a good measuring stick when talking about picture usage.

Ten stories beat six columns any way you measure it. That's ten stories, like the kind that measure 110 feet high. In this case, it measures 212 feet wide or about 15,264 picas if you're on a pica pole.

The photo is a LeBron James breakaway dunk captured by Mark Duncan of the Associated Press during Jame's rookie season.

The image graces a Nike billboard near the Terminal Tower directly across the street from Quicken Loans Arena. James is under a \$90 million endorsement contract with Nike.

A word of advice for photographers covering the Cleveland superstar. Be happy with five or six columns. Apologies to Mr. Duncan on the limited display in this publication.



MARK DUNCAN/Associated Press

Flags flap in front of a large mural of the Cleveland Cavaliers' LeBron James on the side of a downtown Cleveland building.

On the Move

Lifetime ONPA member, **Carla Allshouse** retired as Chief photographer at The Bryan Times after a 25 year career.

You might need a scorecard to keep up with the staff changes at The Columbus Dispatch over the past year.

Shari Lewis has joined the staff of The Columbus Dispatch. Lewis, a 2001 graduate of Ohio University, was previously freelancing in the Columbus area. She has also worked for The (Lorain) Morning Journal and The Lima News.



Shari Lewis

Renee Sauer also joined the staff at the Dispatch after spending two years at the Arizona Daily Star in Tucson, AZ, and three years at the Gaston Gazette in Gastonia, NC. Sauer is an Ohio State graduate.



Renee Sauer

Lisa Marie Miller is another new face on the staff at the Dispatch. Miller was previously at the Deseret Morning News in Salt Lake City, Utah.



Lisa Miller

Jonathan Quilter has left his position as chief photographer at This Week Newspapers to join the staff at The Columbus Dispatch.

This Week staffer **Darrin Bryan** is the interim chief there. **Tim Norman** moves from Suburban News Publications in Columbus to join the staff at This Week Newspapers.

Longtime ONPA member **Stephen Herppich** has left the Cincinnati Enquirer to lead the photo department at The Olympian in Olympia, Washington. Prior to working at the Enquirer Herppich worked at The Repository in Canton.

Scott Galvin is now a photographer at the University of Michigan. Galvin had been freelancing and working for the Valley Voice, a weekly newspaper published by striking employees from The Vindicator. Galvin acquired the Michigan position just as the nine month long strike ended.

Kyle Lanzer moves from the Alliance Review to Sun Newspapers in the Cleveland area.

Jim Tullis has left the Ashland Times-Gazette and moved to Hanover, Pa.

STILL CLIP RULES

Photos must be entered in the month published. A photo can be entered only after its initial publication. Publication is defined as printed or electronically reproduced by your publication's official Web site.

All Web published entries must be in the form of a hard copy no larger than 8 by 10 inches, with a screen shoot of the picture's online publication on the back.

Submissions of wire photos will be handled similarly. If a clip of your AP submission is not available a print no larger than 8 by 10 inches may be entered. Attached must be a proof from your AP server of the photo or the routing code and date of transmission.

Remove your name and affiliation from the front of the clip. Affix a completed official entry label on the back. Include a separate sheet of paper with your name, address and total number of clips entered.

Layouts are judged as a single entry but single pictures from a layout can be entered also. You must submit another clip of the single image from the layout in this case.

Sort clips by category:

Spot news: A picture of an unscheduled event for which no advanced planning was possible. Examples: fires, accidents and natural disasters.

General news: A picture of a scheduled political, social or cultural event for which advance planning was possible. An assigned and/or scheduled news event. Example: Demonstrations, funerals, trials and promotional events.

Portrait: A picture of a person that reveals the essence of the subject's character.

Sports: An unposed sports-related picture, either feature or action. Sports-related portraits should be entered in the portrait category.

Feature single: A general human-interest photo.

Multiple pictures: A photo story, sequence or series of any subject matter.

Illustration: A created picture, not a found situation or portrait. Intended to clarify or dramatize a preconceived idea. This would include illustrations depicting food, fashion, industrial or editorial topics. This category will be judged quarterly but clips must be entered in the month published.

Each entrant is limited to a total of nine clips per month. The clip contest is open to all ONPA members in good standing who live or work in Ohio during the month entered. The ONPA clip contest is not affiliated with the NPPA Region 4 clip contest. Clips must be in the hand of the clip chairman by the 7th of the month following publication. Clips should be sent to

David Distelhorst
The Repository
500 Market Ave S
Canton, OH 44702-9901

SUBMITTING WINNING CLIPS

All winners in the monthly clip contest must submit a copy of the winning entry for the ONPA newsletter and/or web site. Winners will be notified via e-mail, so remember to include your e-mail address on the back of each clip. If you do not respond to the first notification in seven days a second notice will be sent. Failure to respond to the second notice in ten days will result in a loss of points for that clip win. If in subsequent months the same photographer fails to reply he or she will be disqualified from entering the contest for the remainder of the year.

First place winners should be 10 inches widest measurement @ 200 dpi. 2nd, 3rd, HM: winners should be 7 inches widest measure @ 72 dpi. Files should be slugged accordingly: month_category_place.jpg Example: May_genews_1st.jpg

Send all winning entries to clips@onpa.org

CLIP STANDINGS THROUGH MAY 2005

1	Mike Levy, The Plain Dealer	368
2	Marshall Gorby, Springfield News-Sun	350
3	Neal Lauron, The Columbus Dispatch	300
4	Eric Albrecht, The Columbus Dispatch	240
5	Scott Heckel, The Repository	210
6	Bill Lackey, Springfield News-Sun	180
7	Tom Dodge, The Columbus Dispatch	170
8	Lynn Ischay, The Plain Dealer	164
9	Jeremy Wadsworth, The Blade	122
10	Ken Love, Akron Beacon Journal	110
	Gus Chan, The Plain Dealer	
12	Lew Stamp, Akron Beacon Journal	100
	Chris Russell, The Columbus Dispatch	
	Phil Masturzo, Akron Beacon Journal	
	David Distelhorst, The Repository	
16	Fred Squillante, The Columbus Dispatch	90
17	Michael Blair, The News-Herald	88
18	Roadell Hickman, The Plain Dealer	886
19	Mike Cardew, Akron Beacon Journal	80
	Jeff Hinckley, The Columbus Dispatch	
21	Ed Suba Jr., Akron Beacon Journal	78
	Marvin Fong, The Plain Dealer	78
23	Ernest Coleman, The Cincinnati Enquirer	70
24	Scott Shaw, The Plain Dealer	66
25	Bruce Bishop, The Chronicle Telegram	62
26	Lindsay Semple, Akron Beacon Journal	60
	Karen Schiely, Akron Beacon Journal	
	Jocelyn Williams, Akron Beacon Journal	
29	Ron Alvey, Dayton Daily News	58
	Garrett Hubbard, The Columbus Dispatch	
	Tim Norman, Suburban News	
32	Tom Puskar, Ashland Times Gazette	52
33	Tim Revell, The Columbus Dispatch	50
34	Jim Witmer, Dayton Daily News	46
35	Mike Balash, The Repository	40
	Aaron Rudolph, The Morning Journal	
37	Lorrie Cecil, This Week Newspapers	38
38	Mike Munden, The Columbus Dispatch	36
	Tom Ondrey, The Plain Dealer	
40	Sheila Krishnan, The Advocate	34
	Chuck Humel, The Chronicle Telegram	
42	Chris Stewart, Dayton Daily News	20
43	Jim Tullis, Ashland Times Gazette	18
	Kyle Lanzer, Sun Newspapers	
45	Dan Kraus, The Star Beacon	16
46	Chuck Crow, The Plain Dealer	14
47	C.H. Pete Copeland, The Plain Dealer	12



Ernest Coleman Hamilton's Ali Mahon is tagged out by Oak Hill's Rose Broderick at second base.
Cincinnati Enquirer
1st Sports - April

March winners

Spot News

- 1st - Bruce Bishop, Chronicle Telegram, "Heros Rescue"
- 2nd - Marshall Gorby, Springfield News-Sun, "Firefighter Drags FuelTank"
- 3rd - Gorby, Springfield News-Sun, "Officer Prepare to Arrest"

General News

- 1st - David Distelhorst, The Repository, "Full House"
- 2nd - Scott Heckel, The Repository, "Welcome Home"
- 3rd - Lew Stamp, Akron Beacon Journal, "Coach Smith Funeral"

Feature Single

- 1st - Phil Masturzo, Akron Beacon Journal, "Learning Curves"
- 2nd - Bill Lackey, Springfield News-Sun, "Stars, Stripes and Hats"
- 3rd - Jeff Hinckley, The Columbus Dispatch, "Tricky Handoff"

Portrait

- 1st - Michael Blair, The News-Herald, "Pony Ride Owner"
- 2nd - Roadell Hickman, The Plain Dealer, "Paul Silas"
- 3rd - Neal Lauron, The Columbus Dispatch, "Discovering Africentric"

Sports

- 1st - Scott Heckel, The Repository, "Agony of Defeat"
- 2nd - Neal Lauron, The Columbus Dispatch, "Loose Ball Scramble"
- 3rd - Roadell Hickman, The Plain Dealer, "Varejao's Blocked Shot"

Feature Story

- 1st - Chris Russell, The Columbus Dispatch, "Pipeline From Mexico"
- 2nd - Ed Suba Jr, Akron Beacon Journal, "Magic Words, Play Ball"
- 3rd - Gus Chan, The Plain Dealer, "Eviction"

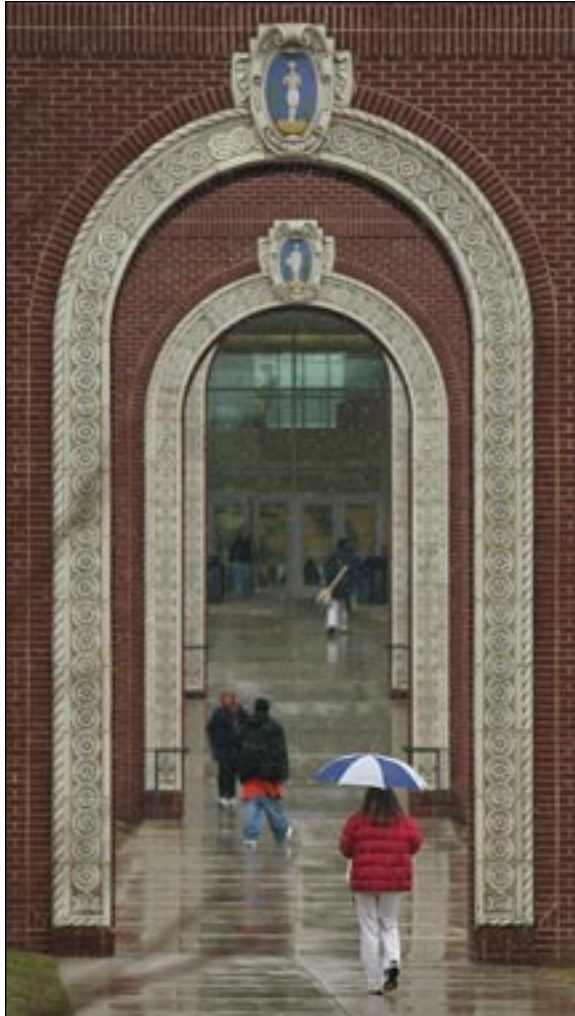
1st Qtr Illustration

- 1st - Neal Lauron, The Columbus Dispatch, "The Big Dance"
- 2nd - Marshall Gorby, Springfield News-Sun, "Colorstrology"
- 3rd - Chuck Humel, The Chronicle Telegram, "Words To the Wise"

Judges: Doings Newspapers
Pioneer Press Editor: Scott Hardesty, Staff: Steve Johnston, Mike Johnson, Steve Stokes

Neal Lauron
The Columbus Dispatch
1st Illustration

Cover illustration for The Big Dance, a preview section for the 2005 NCAA men's and women's basketball tournament



Phil Masturzo
Akron Beacon Journal
1st Feature

University of Akron students pass through newly constructed archways as a gentle snow falls.



Chris Russell
The Columbus Dispatch
1st Portrait

Columbus has an unofficial sister city in central Mexico. A two-way pipeline to the remote village of El Paxtle increasingly channels people, dollars and culture.



David Distelhorst
The Repository
1st General News

Ron Revlock stands outside the door during a Jackson Township zoning meeting. Residents attended the meeting, expecting the commission to vote to rezone 162 acres near Akron-Canton Airport.



Michael Blair
The News Herald
1st Portrait

Rollins-B-Pony Rides owner Bob Barnard of Pierpoint watches as he ride is assembled on Chardon Square just in time for the start of the Geauga County Maple Festival.



Bruce Bishop
The Chronicle Telegram
1st Spot News

A neighbor carries a baby that was rescued from a house fire on Camden Avenue in Lorain.



Scott Heckel
The Repository
1st Sports

Lindsey Gaut agonizes over the Fairless Falcons narrow loss to Lake Catholic in the Div II Regional semi-finals as she walks off the floor.

April winners

Spot News

- 1st - Marshall Gorby, Springfield News-Sun, "Pickup truck accident"
- 2nd - Marvin Fong, The Plain Dealer, "Fire"
- 3rd - Aaron Rudolph, The Morning Journal, "Tire fire"

General News

- 1st - Mike Levy, The Plain Dealer, "Slain brother"
- 2nd - David Distelhorst, The Repository, "Special graduation"
- 3rd - Tom Dodge, The Columbus Dispatch, "Remembering a friend"
- HM - Lew Stamp, Akron Beacon Journal, "Pope"

Feature Single

- 1st - Scott Heckel, The Repository, "Playing Games"
- 2nd - Lynn Ischay, The Plain Dealer, "First steps"
- 3rd - Tom Dodge, The Columbus Dispatch, "Passover skit"
- HM - Scott Heckel, The Repository, "Working at sunset"
- HM - Scott Shaw, The Plain Dealer, "Basketball"

Portrait

- 1st - Mike Levy, The Plain Dealer, "Bey brothers"
- 2nd - Mike Cardew, Akron Beacon Journal, "Hiram freshman"
- 3rd - Lorrie Cecil, This Week Newspapers, "Senthana Mahendrarasa"
- HM - Chris Russell, The Columbus Dispatch, "Jury Duty"
- HM - Ken Love, Akron Beacon Journal, "Winter All-Stars"

Sports

- 1st - Ernest Coleman, Cincinnati Enquirer, "High School softball"
- 2nd - Phil Masturzo, Akron Beacon Journal, "Broken Bat"
- 3rd - Marvin Fong, The Plain Dealer, "40-Yard Dash"
- HM - Jocelyn Williams, Akron Beacon Journal, "Aeros Baseball"

Feature Story

- 1st - Scott Shaw, The Plain Dealer, "Handsdwn"
- 2nd - Mike Levy, The Plain Dealer, "Local Street gangs"
- 3rd - Lynn Ischay, The Plain Dealer, "First Steps"

Judges: Marc J. Kawanishi, Visuals Director and Adjunct Professor, East Carolina University; Jason A. Frizzelle, Photographer, The (Greenville, N.C.) Daily Reflector; Cliff Hollis, Photo Chief, Brody School of Medicine, East Carolina University

Mike Levy
The Plain Dealer
1st General News

Tamara Cuevas grieves over a memorial to her slain brother, Brandon Davis, whose picture she is holding. Brandon, 11, was killed outside the Lonnie Burten Recreation Center in Cleveland. The community attended a vigil and prayer service in the lot where he was shot.

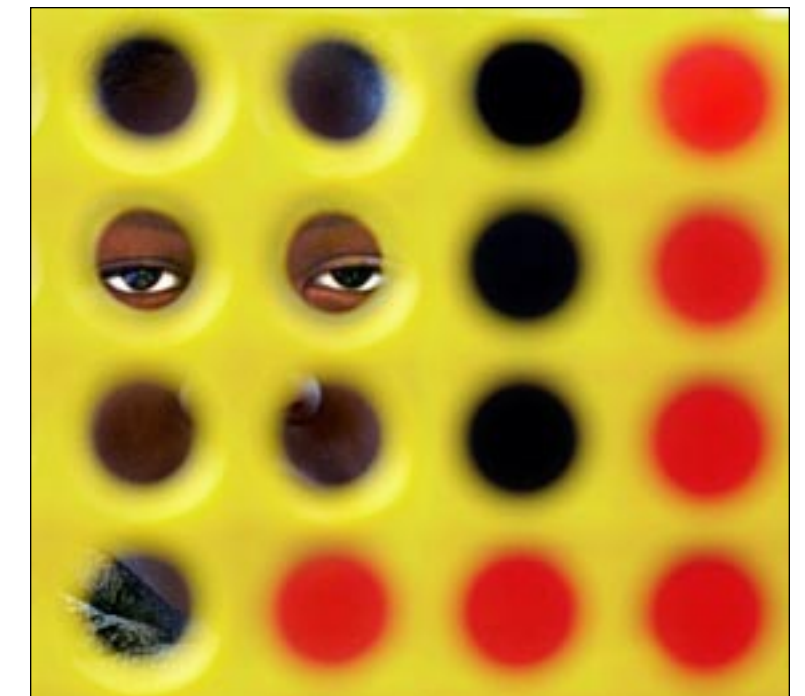


Mike Levy
The Plain Dealer
1st Portrait

Cortez Bey, right, and his brother Mickey Bey Jr. will be making their professional boxing debuts at Cleveland State's Wolstein Center.

Marshall Gorby
Springfield News-Sun
1st Spot News

Members of the Springfield Fire Division help a passenger out of a pickup truck after an accident.



Scott Heckel / The Repository
1st Feature

Jaleel Smith plays Connect Four after school at the Madge Youtz branch of the Stark County District Library in Canton.

Scott Shaw / The Plain Dealer
1st Picture Story

Meet the athletes who have the talent, passion and touch to be called - hands down - the Most Valuable Performers in their sports this winter.

May winners

Spot News

1st - Bill Lackey, Springfield News-Sun, "Dust Bowl"
 2nd - Lackey, "Two Families Homeless Fire"
 3rd - Jeremy Wadsworth, The Blade, "Worried Parents"

General News

1st - Tim Norman, Suburban News, "At Rest"
 2nd - Tom Dodge, The Columbus Dispatch, "Lost In the Line of Duty"
 3rd - Tom Dodge, The Columbus Dispatch, "Murder Acquittal"
 HM - Neal Lauron, The Columbus Dispatch, "Coffin Passes Students"
 HM - Gus Chan, The Plain Dealer, "Praying Muslim"

Feature Single

1st - Neal Lauron, The Columbus Dispatch, "Strawberry Fields"
 2nd - Eric Albrecht, The Columbus Dispatch, "Girl in Fountain"
 3rd - Jeff Hinckley, The Columbus Dispatch, "Classical Afternoon"

Portrait

1st - Eric Albrecht - The Columbus Dispatch, "What's In A Number"
 2nd - Mike Levy, The Plain Dealer, "Holocaust Survivor"
 3rd - Mike Levy, The Plain Dealer, "The Banks Boys"

Sports

1st - Jeremy Wadsworth, The Blade, "Home Plate Collision"
 2nd - Jeremy Wadsworth, The Blade, "Taste of Victory"
 3rd - Michael Blair, The News-Herald, "Softball Loss"

Feature Story

1st - Karen Schiely, Akron Beacon, "Majid"
 2nd - Tim Revell, The Columbus Dispatch, "Web of Neglect"
 3rd - Eric Albrecht, The Columbus Dispatch, "Old Man On Campus"

Judges: Will Lester, Thomas Cordova, Therese Tran, Mediha DiMartino, Marc Campos, John Valenzuela from the Inland Valley Daily Bulletin-Ontario, Calif.



Jeremy Wadsworth
The Blade
 1st Sports

Edgerton catcher Sean Thiel tags Ottawa Hills High School's Kyle Binion at the plate during the sixth inning of the Division IV regional baseball semi-final. Edgerton took 18 innings to defeat Ottawa Hills 6-5.



Eric Albrecht
The Columbus Dispatch
 1st Portrait

The number 14 has been a good-luck charm to three-sport athlete Cory Cook of Lancaster. He chose it because it was worn by a former Lancaster athlete he idolized.



Tim Norman
Suburban News Publications
 1st General News

Jody Davidsz lowers her head after a Marine Corps honor guard marches in front of her family after the internment of Davids' son.



Neal Lauron
The Columbus Dispatch
 1st Feature

Doug Sullivan, of Circle S Farms, adjusts the spray pattern of sprinklers that provide frost protection to strawberry plants.



Bill Lackey
Springfield News-Sun
 1st Spot News

People run for the shelter of their cars in the West Liberty-Salem High School parking lot. A sudden thunderstorm with 60 mph winds filled the air with dirt from the surrounding farm fields, cutting down visibility and causing the Ohio Heritage Conference track meet at the school to be delayed until the storm passed.