

## 2005 SPJ Sunshine State Awards Winners

The 10<sup>th</sup> annual Sunshine State Awards, sponsored by the South Florida Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists to honor excellence in Florida journalism, were awarded Saturday, June 11 at the chapter's annual banquet before 175 journalists and their guests hailing from across the state. The contest drew 1,200 entries.

More information about the chapter and the awards are available at [www.spjsofla.net](http://www.spjsofla.net). For further details contact Bill Hirschman at 954-356-4513 or [muckrayk@aol.com](mailto:muckrayk@aol.com).

### ALL MEDIA

#### **James Batten Award for Public Service**

1. Sally Kestin, John Maines; **South Florida Sun-Sentinel**; Marine Attractions: Below the Surface
2. Florida Today Staff; **Florida Today**; The Insurance Storm
3. Sally Kestin, Megan O'Matz, John Maines; **South Florida Sun-Sentinel**; Cashing in on Disaster

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Simply incredible package. We were wowed ... and disturbed by the paper's findings.

### NEWSPAPERS & MAGAZINES

#### **Deadline News Reporting - Large Division**

1. South Florida Sun-Sentinel Staff; **South Florida Sun-Sentinel**; Church Bus Crash
2. The Miami Herald Staff; **The Miami Herald**; Fall of Aristide
3. The Tampa Tribune Staff; **The Tampa Tribune**; A Fateful Turn

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Just after 10 p.m. and only a few hours before last deadline, reporters sprung into action when a bus veered into the Boca Rio Canal. Three people were killed. The story revealed true deadline reporting at its finest: Details about the crash itself; conditions of the victims; descriptions of the scene; interviews with multiple witnesses, paramedics and family; and chaos at the hospital, all gathered and edited into a pounding narrative in three short hours. For a newspaper with one reporter on duty at the time of the Saturday night accident and four others called into action, the depth of the story showed incredible aggression and teamwork.

#### **Deadline News Reporting - Small Division**

1. Bradenton Herald Newsroom; **Bradenton Herald**; Carlie Brucia
2. The Villages Daily Sun Staff; **The Villages Daily Sun**; Bush Country! President Bush Visits Villages
3. Bradenton Herald Staff; **Bradenton Herald**; Hurricane Charley

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Gripping coverage.

#### **Deadline Business Reporting - Large Division**

1. The Tampa Tribune Business News Staff; **The Tampa Tribune**; CVS, Coutu to Buy, Split Eckerd Stores

#### **Deadline Business Reporting - Small Division**

1. Brian Bandell, Susan Stabley, John Fakler, Darcie Lunsford, Jim Freer; **South Florida Business Journal**; Hurricane Frances Coverage
2. Dana Sanchez, Duane Marsteller; **Bradenton Herald**; Tropicana Layoffs
3. Bob Mervine; **Orlando Business Journal**; Billboard Rebuilding

### Non-Deadline Business Reporting - Large Division

1. John Dorschner; **The Miami Herald**; Runaway Costs in the ER
2. Kathy Bushouse; **South Florida Sun-Sentinel**; Insurance / 2004 Hurricanes
3. Florida Trend Staff; **Florida Trend**; Economic Yearbook

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** John's riveting series, although a subject often written about, touches a nerve with consumers, health-care providers and policy wonks alike and thoroughly explains why ER costs are pushing up other health-care costs. John tells his stories through people and about people and includes wonderful detail and colorful quotes. The depth of his sourcing and reporting show on every page, in every paragraph. Wonderful graphics completed the package.

### Non-Deadline Business Reporting - Small Division

1. Duane Marsteller; **Bradenton Herald**; ADA: Cost of Compliance
2. Terry Sheridan; **Daily Business Review**; Fight for Domain
3. Brian Bandell; **South Florida Business Journal**; Marine Industry Runs Aground

### Feature Reporting - Large Division

1. Michael Browning; **The Palm Beach Post**; Lion in Winter
2. Francesca Donlan; **The News-Press**; Tea Parties With Angels
3. Jill Barton; **Associated Press**; Everglades Holdout

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** A skillful portrait of a colorful sheriff who cracked some of the most spectacular cases in the state's history, this profile bounces adeptly back and forth between well-told tales of the sheriff's early career and compelling portrayals of his daily life at 88.

### Feature Reporting - Small Division

1. April Frawley; **Charlotte Sun**; Handled With Care
2. Lindy T. Shepherd; **Orlando Weekly**; Dispose of Properly
3. Peter B. Gallagher, Pam Daniel; **Gulfshore Life Magazine**; The Rise and Fall of Chief Jim Billie

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Adeptly crafted special section on the state of aging. Human touch to issues. We also liked her feature "Husband Wrapped Around Her Finger."

### Investigative Reporting - Large Division

1. David Kidwell; **The Miami Herald**; Camillus House Fraud
2. Chris Davis, Matthew Doig; **Sarasota Herald-Tribune**; Teachers Who Fail
3. The Palm Beach Post Staff; **The Palm Beach Post**; Why Roofs Failed: A Special Section

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** A really terrific piece, pinning down the fact that the director of one of S. Florida's largest charities used the charity credit cards for his own good.

### Investigative Reporting - Small Division

1. Donna Wright, Dana Sanchez, Kevin O'Horan, Scott Radway; **Bradenton Herald**; Tallevast: A Polluted Community
2. Matthew Haggman; **Daily Business Review**; Count Crisis

- Michelle L. Start; **The Daily Commercial**; Ronnie Simmons: What Went Wrong?

### Civil Law Reporting

- Chris Colby; **Naples Daily News**; Robert Ludlum Estate
- Julie Kay, Harris Meyer, Steve Ellman; **Daily Business Review**; Screeners Scrutinized
- Jay Weaver; **The Miami Herald**; Catholic Church's Clergy Sex-Abuse Scandal

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Very well handled piece on the late author and all the people who want a piece of the pie in probate court.

### Criminal Law Reporting

- Ronnie Greene; **The Miami Herald**; A Question of Justice
- Bridget Murphy; **The Florida Times-Union**; Police Custody Deaths Series
- Mike Hoyem; **The News-Press**; Under Reporting of Crimes

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Story goes to show there are innocent men put to death on Death Row. This is where a paper can make a difference.

### Medical/Health Care/Science Reporting

- Phil Galewitz; **The Palm Beach Post**; Neurosurgery Crisis: Patient Dumping
- John Dorschner; **The Miami Herald**; Runaway Costs in the ER
- Robin Williams Adams; **The Ledger**; LPMC: The Health of the Hospital

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Tenacious reporting by Mr. Galewitz uncovered serious deficiencies in emergency room care in Palm Beach County and sparked a state investigation. This work stands as a reminder that investigative reporting is not the province solely of the project writer, but also can be pursued within the constraints of daily, breaking news.

### Consumer Reporting

- Rick Allen; **Star-Banner**; Restaurant Inspections
- Matt Reed, Britt Kennerly; **Florida Today**; The Insurance Storm
- Thomas S. Brown; **The Daytona Beach News-Journal**; In Mergers We Trust

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Now, this is a true consumer service -- a weekly column on what restaurants have lousy reports from the health dept. Great, great service. Bet the restaurants hate this guy.

### International/War/National Security Reporting

- Cara Buckley; **The Miami Herald**; The Caribbean & Hurricane Frances
- Tyler Bridges, Frances Robles, Jane Bussey; **The Miami Herald**; Land in Latin America
- C. Tim Collie; **South Florida Sun-Sentinel**; Haiti Coverage

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** The coverage of the hurricane's aftermath was compelling, the angles interesting, and most important of all, the package was tightly written and edited. I found the writing powerful, i.e., "Whipped-up saltwater and ferocious winds turned the rich green countryside brown and the lush rain forest of Grand Etang into a boneyard of topped trees." That's good stuff and there was plenty of it in the series. Second, the angles were clever and different. In a story like this it's easy to fall into the tales-of-woe syndrome. They can be moving and heart-rending, but can get tiresome after a while because they don't explain what specifically is causing all the woe and what people might do to alleviate it. She highlighted some interesting facets, such as the class distinctions in Grand Cayman, and Jamaica's plans for recovery. Third, her series was informative, wide-ranging

but still tightly written and edited. These sorts of projects tend to ramble on, as if the newspaper were trying to justify the travel expenses by unloading a barrel of words on the readers. Buckley's series covered some key bases and did so in an economical and powerful way.

### State & Federal Political/Government Reporting

1. Matthew Haggman; **Daily Business Review**; Count Crisis
2. Beth Reinhard; **The Miami Herald**; U.S. Senate Primary

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Great breaking of a story on a serious glitch in voting machines. Story is built on email memos the writer obtained that were written by a county tech expert.

### Local Political/Government Reporting - Large Division

1. Tristram Korten, Rebecca Wakefield, Kirk Nielsen, Francisco Alvarado; **Miami New Times**; Mayor X
2. Brittany Wallman; **South Florida Sun-Sentinel**; Who's Running City Hall?
3. Mary McLachlin, John Pacenti; **The Palm Beach Post**; Prison Health Services: A Crisis in Care

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** A really thoughtful analysis, not just of the mayor's race, but of the mayor's office in general.

### Local Political/Government Reporting - Small Division

1. Matthew Haggman; **Daily Business Review**; Count Crisis
2. Julie Kay, Harris Meyer, Steve Ellman; **Daily Business Review**; Screeners Scrutinized
3. Paola Iuspa-Abbott; **Daily Business Review**; Stacked Against Them: Developers Stalled by New Reading of Zoning Code

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Haggman's articles, initiated on the basis of a single e-mail written by a county technology expert, resulted in disclosure of information about a computer bug in election count software that government officials and govt watchdogs didn't know about. This series shows what substantive research, enterprise, and use of a number of experts -- many, from out of the newspaper's circulation area, but with crucial knowledge -- can do, when a time bomb is discovered. This package of well-written articles resulted in significant actions being taken, that wouldn't have been taken otherwise, possibly averting another Florida election debacle.

### Education Reporting

1. Kimberly Miller; **The Palm Beach Post**; Florida's Charter Schools: A Myriad of Problems
2. Jamie Malernee; **South Florida Sun-Sentinel**; Alternative Education
3. Rachel Davis; **The Florida Times-Union**; Untold Side of Racial Divide

### Age Beat Reporting

1. Charlotte Sun Staff; **Charlotte Sun**; State of Aging
2. Victor Hull; **Sarasota Herald-Tribune**; The Seniors' Storm

### Social Policy Reporting

1. Joe Mozingo; **The Miami Herald**; Jailing the Ill
2. Dalton Narine; **The Miami Herald**; Battle Scars
3. Deborah Circelli, Anne Geggis; **The Daytona Beach News-Journal**; Bonding or Blood

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** What distinguishes this work is that while it's beautifully written, the compelling stories also perfectly illustrate an important social issue normally hidden from public view.

### Deadline Sports Reporting - Large Division

1. Bill Ward; **The Tampa Tribune**; Glazer's Play for Soccer Team Has Some Britons Crying Foul
2. Hal Habib; **The Palm Beach Post**; Olympic Shot Put
3. Dan Le Batard, Jason Cole, Greg Cote, Bob Emanuel, Jr.; **The Miami Herald**; Ricky Williams

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Excellent job of putting a human face and emotions to a hostile takeover of a publicly held company. The passion fans have for Manchester United comes through loud and clear.

### Deadline Sports Reporting - Small Division

1. John Fineran; **Charlotte Sun**; Daytona 500 Coverage
2. Hays Carlyon; **St. Augustine Record**; Embattled UF Coach Out at End of Season
3. The Villages Daily Sun Staff; **The Villages Daily Sun**; "Classic" Comeback - Villages Gridiron Classic

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** The writer's full portfolio was in play in this entry. An A-1 overview story, a Daytona 500 race game story on the front of sports, a column on the race and a race notebook gave readers several angles of coverage. The stories were complete and the information gave us insights into the race and the drivers as well as what was going on around the race. He weaved all the news of the race into his stories with a seamless style. Overall, it was definitely the best in this field.

### Non-Deadline Sports Reporting - Large Division

1. Mike Hodge; **Star-Banner**; Trinity Catholic
2. Steve Megargee; **Scripps Treasure Coast Newspapers**; Freedom of Choice: Opened Doors/Closed Doors
3. Godwin Kelly, Steve Master, Ken Willis; **The Daytona Beach News-Journal**; Zero Tolerance

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Mike's story tells what happens when you're too ... private, and good. This is the price the school pays for its level of achievement and it's not a one-sided piece -- it's told from all sides, with the arguments presented and the reader left to decide what's right and wrong, if anything. What struck me about the story was the recognition of the situation, the guts enough to ask the tough questions on both sides and what I'll bet was the backlash he got from certain sensitive circles for reporting it in the first place. Bravo. You'd have thought you'd see a story like this about why no one wants to schedule non-conference against Florida State in football, not Trinity Catholic.

### Non-Deadline Sports Reporting - Small Division

1. Gary Corsair, Burke Noel, Clint Dunham; **The Villages Daily Sun**; Major Memories
2. Roger Mooney; **Bradenton Herald**; Rewriting History
3. Cristina Ledra; **Charlotte Sun**; Iron Man

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** In a word, this entry was overwhelming -- an extremely impressive package. The five-part series reflected a tremendous amount of research and hard work. The stories were well organized and well written with plenty of sidebars, informational graphics and interesting photos to complement them. There were innumerable sources quoted throughout. None of the other entries even came close to matching the entire body of work.

### Spanish-Language Publication

1. El Sentinel Staff; **El Sentinel**
2. La Palma Editorial Department; **La Palma**
3. David Plazas; **Gaceta Tropical**

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Excellent use of photography, compelling design, fine use of typography. El Sentinel grabs readers with an elegant style and a well-balanced selection of location, national and international news.

### Editorials - Large Division

1. Joe Guidry; **The Tampa Tribune**
2. Joel Engelhardt; **The Palm Beach Post**
3. Krys Fluker; **The Daytona Beach News-Journal**

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** The most impressive things about Guidry's editorials is the amount of reporting he has done. His thought processes are clear, his arguments strong. He takes on important regional and statewide issues and brings them home for readers. Well done!

### Editorials - Small Division

1. John Hackworth; **The Sun**
2. Michael Lewis; **Miami Today**

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** These tightly focused, well written editorials go right after local topics that affects readers' lives now. They're enterprising, too, connecting the dots of smaller events to present a larger perspective and, in some cases, urgent calls to action.

### Editorial Cartooning

1. Jeff Parker; **Florida Today**
2. Jake Fuller; **Gainesville Sun**
3. Ed Hall; **St. Augustine Record**

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Sophisticated and clean drawing style with very expressive characters and lots of detail. The ideas presented are a quick read and easy-to-digest.

### Religion Reporting

1. Trevor Aaronson; **New Times Broward\*Palm Beach**; Bombs for Babies
2. Cary McMullen; **The Ledger**; Science and Religion
3. Dianna Smith; **Naples Daily News**; God Has a Sense of Humor

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Aaronson's skillful narrative approach gradually unfolds troubling revelations not only about militant strains in the Christian Right movement but also about unforeseen implications of the USA Patriot Act. The piece succeeds as both a cops-and-courts beat report and a cultural examination of religious extremism.

### Real Estate Reporting

1. Terry Sheridan; **Daily Business Review**; Surviving the Storm
2. Dana Sanchez; **Bradenton Herald**; St. Joe's Giant Footprint
3. Michael Pollick; **Sarasota Herald-Tribune**; Flipping Property

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Where other reporters saw only the destruction caused by four hurricanes, Sheridan saw an opportunity to examine the storms' long-term impact on manufactured housing. The result is a story that skillfully explores the balance between mobile homes' safety issues

and their role as a source of affordable housing. A great example of relevant, well-sourced and well-written explanatory journalism, this is one of three strong entries by this journalist.

### Environmental Reporting

1. Donna Wright, Scott Radway, Kevin O'Horan, Dana Sanchez; **Bradenton Herald**; Tallevast: A Polluted Community
2. Steve Patterson; **The Florida Times-Union**; Asbestos
3. Suzanne Wentley; **Scripps Treasure Coast Newspapers**; Wild, Scenic and Struggling: A Look at the Loxahatchee River

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Shades of Erin Brockovich! What the staff wrote, what the paper printed, what information the public received, what actions were taken during and after the series on pollution in a small neighborhood ... was outstanding! Deadly pollution. Bureaucratic cover-up. Lack of governmental oversight. What else would you want from a paper that truly cares about its readers. A No. 1 in every respect.

### Arts Reporting

1. Larry Aydlette; **The Palm Beach Post**; Ruby's Song
2. Nicole White, Evelyn McDonnell; **The Miami Herald**; Hip Hop Series
3. Steven Ray Haberlin, Rick Cundiff; **Star-Banner**; The Appleton Museum

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** A beautifully written feature which illuminates an important piece of local (and national) cultural history.

### Criticism

1. Charles Passy; **The Palm Beach Post**
2. Evelyn McDonnell; **The Miami Herald**
3. Jay Boyar; **Orlando Sentinel**

### Humorous Column Writing/Commentary

1. David Grimes; **Sarasota Herald-Tribune**
2. Barry Densa; **Jupiter Courier**
3. Diane Feen; **Boca Raton Observer - A&A Publishing**

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** The most consistently funny writer of the bunch.

### Serious Column Writing/Commentary

1. Leonard Pitts Jr.; **The Miami Herald**
2. Eric Ernst; **Sarasota Herald-Tribune**
3. Tonyaa Weathersbee; **The Florida Times-Union**

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Very thorough and intriguing. Easy read on "tough" subject. Held interest.

### Sports Commentary

1. Martin Fennelly; **The Tampa Tribune**
2. Dan Le Batard; **The Miami Herald**
3. Karen Crouse; **The Palm Beach Post**

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** There are no small stories, just small ideas. Fennelly's knack for seeing diamonds in the rough is impressive, whether it's the bowling legend working behind a counter at the local lanes or the small-college hoops fan who lives and dies by a team most of us didn't know existed. He writes in an easygoing, unpretentious style and provides one underrated element missing in many sports pages these days -- the element of surprise.

## **NEWSPAPERS & MAGAZINE COPY EDITING, PHOTOGRAPHY & GRAPHICS**

### **Breaking News Photography - Large Division**

1. Michael Laughlin, Photography Department; **South Florida Sun-Sentinel**; Tragedy In Haiti
2. J. Albert Diaz; **The Miami Herald**; Florida's Furious Four
3. Craig Bailey; **Florida Today**; Déjà vu

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** As an old "shooter," it takes quite a bit to pique my interest and make me wish I had taken the photos viewed. Michael not only got my attention, he riveted me to the photographs; after the judging, I went back to his collection and looked at them over and over again. The photos are that good, that powerful, the angles and lighting that creative. The best of the best. Nothing else to say.

### **Breaking News Photography - Small Division**

1. Paul Schmidt; **Charlotte Sun**; Moments After Charley
2. Tiffany Tompkins-Condle; **Bradenton Herald**; Running Crook
3. Sarah Coward; **Charlotte Sun**; Coming Around

### **Sports Action Photography - Large Division**

1. Wilfredo Lee; **Associated Press**; It's Mine
2. Roger Simms; **The Daytona Beach News-Journal**; Pits Flip
3. Chris Weatherly; **Scripps Treasure Coast Newspapers**; Mastering the Art of Swimming

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** An impressive shot, capturing a newsworthy moment.

### **Sports Action Photography - Small Division**

1. Sarah Coward; **Charlotte Sun**; Rag Doll
2. Brian Blanco; **Bradenton Herald**; Three Times a Charm

### **Feature Photography**

1. Wilfredo Lee; **Associated Press**; Fishy Treat
2. Paul Schmidt; **Charlotte Sun**; Rebuilding
3. Wilfredo Lee; **Associated Press**; Stormy Wedding

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** The subject is literally a fish out of water. Very nice.

### **Art/Photo Illustration**

1. Ron Borresen; **Bradenton Herald**; Manatee County Fair
2. Carol Cleere; **The Tampa Tribune**; Choice Without Counsel
3. Eric Raddatz; **The News-Press**; Spooky Stories

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Good use of color and presentation.

### Front-Page Design - Large Division

1. Ed McDonald; **The Miami Herald**
2. The Gainesville Sun Staff; **The Gainesville Sun**
3. The Florida Times-Union Staff; **The Florida Times-Union**

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** The Herald offers its readers easy navigation with its use of labels and display type and a consistent look throughout. The main Charley page makes the best of an excellent photo choice, and the before-and-after hurricane photo presentation really shows the devastation - good work.

### Front-Page Design - Small Division

1. Heather Weinsheimer, Burke Noel, Mike Wright; **The Villages Daily Sun**
2. Emily Méndez; **La Palma**
3. Bradenton Herald Staff; **Bradenton Herald**

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** This daily is using available space to the best possible advantage with its quick-hit election rail packed with information and the eye-catching cutouts in the promos. The "Enemies among us" centerpiece is elegant and understated, but do the town labels paired with the datelines throughout seem redundant?

### Local Front Design - Large Division

1. Larry Sullivan; **The Tampa Tribune**
2. Amanda Cortright; **The Daytona Beach News-Journal**
3. Erin West; **The Tampa Tribune**

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** It's apparent that the Tribune is taking extra time and care with its local front, offering creative centerpieces that make good use of photography. In addition to fun or informational elements on every page, the typography and spacing is consistent throughout. Good work!

### Local Front Design - Small Division

1. Charlotte Sun Staff; **Charlotte Sun**

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Overall, this is a well-presented local news front with especially eye-catching and organized downpage information.

### Business Front Design - Large Division

1. Robert Coon, Shane Blatt; **The Tampa Tribune**
2. Kelly Markowitz; **The Daytona Beach News-Journal**
3. The Daytona Beach News-Journal Staff; **The Daytona Beach News-Journal**

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** All three fronts pay particular attention to centerpieces that pop - with extra kudos going to the Christmas tree primer - and an excellent headline hierarchy. The beige boxes are chock-full of helpful bits, and the judges were strangely drawn to the unusual three-rule dividers throughout.

### Business Front Design - Small Division

1. Martha Harmon; **Bradenton Herald**
2. Stacey Shervan; **South Florida Business Journal**

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** One of the most attractive business pages we have seen.

### **Feature Front Design – Large Division**

1. Philip Brooker, Ana Larrauri; **The Miami Herald**
2. Eric Raddatz; **The News-Press**
3. Michelle Green; **Sarasota Herald-Tribune**

### **Feature Front Design - Small Division**

1. Emily Méndez; **La Palma**
2. The Villages Daily Sun Staff; **The Villages Daily Sun**
3. Ron Borresen; **Bradenton Herald**

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Beautifully conceived pages transcend the language barrier.

### **Sports Front Design – Large Division**

1. Andy Smith; **The Tampa Tribune**
2. George Hanns, Connie Hester-Moore, Mike Washuta, Jeff Wilen; **The Daytona Beach News-Journal**
3. Jeff Wilen; **The Daytona Beach News-Journal**

### **Sports Front Design - Small Division**

1. Dave Mondt; **Charlotte Sun**
2. Loren Nelson; **Bradenton Herald**
3. Burke Noel, Heather Weinsheimer, Don Hunsberger; **The Villages Daily Sun**

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Nice mix of headline typography and photography.

### **Informational Graphics/Special Page Design - Large Division**

1. Jeff Cull, Michael Donlan, Andrew West, Amanda Inscore; **The News-Press**; Sanibel's Causeway
2. T.J. Standish; **Florida Today**; Exploring Saturn's System
3. Connie Hester-Moore; **The Daytona Beach News-Journal**; The Condo Coast

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** This is an amazing and useful piece of work packed with valuable information. It's obvious you took a lot of time with the research and presentation -- nicely done!

### **Informational Graphics/Special Page Design - Small Division**

1. Matthew Moss, Mike Wright; **The Villages Daily Sun**; Veterans Memorial Post 347

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Rather than just printing a list of names, you found a creative way to draw people into the subject matter. The names are still easy-to-find and easy-to-read and – amazingly – no hyphenation!

### **Graphic Design - Large Division**

1. Michael Shavaliier; **Miami New Times**
2. Kori Rumore; **Naples Daily News**

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** This designer takes full advantage of the freedom inherent in working in the alternative press. The designs are bold, funky, interesting and perfectly paired with the subject matter.

### Graphic Design - Small Division

1. Nadine A. Ouillette; **Marco Island Eagle**
2. Mike Wright; **The Villages Daily Sun**
3. Lori Ceier; **The Walton Sun**

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Lively designs, even on the normally drab Business page.

### Headline Writing

1. Kevin Barnard; **The Tampa Tribune**
2. Loretta Grantham; **The Palm Beach Post**
3. Sean McCrory; **The Gainesville Sun**

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Really standout heds.

### BROADCAST - Television

#### Deadline Reporting

1. Eyewitness News Staff; **WFTV-TV**; Hurricane Charley
2. Chris Trenkmann, Mike Hannah; **WKMG-TV**; Rapid Fire Frenzy
3. Eyewitness News Staff; **WFTV-TV**; Mass Murder

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** This was a story extremely critical to its viewers. The reporting was solid, the video was obviously compelling and the writing to video was sound. It was a very good team reporting effort.

#### Feature Reporting

1. Laurie Stein, Shannon High-Bassalik, Jeremy Fisher; **WFOR-TV**; Living Beyond Breast Cancer
2. Bill McGinty, Casey Cumley; **WTSP-TV**; Do Ya Get What Ya Pay For?
3. Nelis Gonzalez, Les Morgenstein; **WXEL-TV**; Jack the Bikeman

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** This series was superb. Well written, thoughtful editing and excellent photography. The candid and personal writing won us over. It is one of the best features we've seen. The reporter did a fine job of telling her story without getting overly dramatic. Excellent!

#### Sports Feature/Commentary

1. Zach Klein, Shane Whitehead; **WFTV-TV**; Long Jumper
2. Antawan Smith, Tyrone Mack; **SNN6**; Golf Stud

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Enjoyable feature. Nicely done.

#### Investigative Reporting

1. Mike Mason, Matt McGlashen, Aaron Wische; **WFTS-TV**; Alarming Failure
2. Mike Mason, Matt McGlashen, Aaron Wische; **WFTS-TV**; Expressway Investigation
3. Patricia Andreu, Scott Zamost, Pedro Cancio, Ed Garcia; **WTVJ-TV**; 911 Disconnect

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** There were a dozen strong contenders in this category, but this report was the clear winner for the problem it exposed, the results it prompted and the impact it had on the community. Extremely well done.

### **Criminal Justice Reporting**

1. Wendy Saltzman; **WKMG-TV**; Taser Abuse
2. Tony Pipitone, Darran Caudle; **WKMG-TV**; An Innocent Man

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Very thorough investigation that exposed alarming increase in taser use by Orlando police. The report prompted the formation of a task force to look into the issue. It was the clear winner in this category.

### **Consumer Reporting**

1. Todd Ulrich, Gerry Mendiburt; **WFTV-TV**; Condo Graves
2. Wendy Saltzman, Darran Caudle, Chad Breedlove; **WKMG-TV**; Sick Puppies for Sale
3. Mark Douglas, Eric Hulsizer; **WFLA-TV**; Kids Wish

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** This story had all the elements of an award-winning consumer report. It exposed a wrong through emotional interviews with families who were victimized. The reporter made an effort to get the other side of the story, confronting the cemetery owner on his property. This report yielded results, with a state investigation now underway. Well done, and worthy of first place in a field of several strong contenders.

### **International/War/National Security Reporting**

1. Scott Thuman, Matt Reeser; **WFTV-TV**; Germany Hospital
2. Roger Lohse, Elias Jacob; **WPLG-TV**; Airport Security Breach
3. Deanna Sheffield, Alex Atwell; **WTSP-TV**; Medal of Honor

### **Political/Government Reporting**

1. Tony Pipitone, Darran Caudle, Tim Arnheim, Brent Singleton; **WKMG-TV**; Campaign Cash
2. Jodie Fleischer, Kevin Benoit; **WFTV-TV**; Ballfield Grants
3. Mike Deeson, Paul Thorson; **WTSP-TV**; What's That Costing You?

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** This story is a standout, in part because of the video of politicians at rallies, etc. Solid reporting throughout.

### **Education Reporting**

1. Mike Mason, Matt McGlashen, Aaron Wische; **WFTS-TV**; Alarming Failure
2. Mike Mason, Matt McGlashen, Aaron Wische, Randy Wright; **WFTS-TV**; School Mold
3. Jodie Fleischer, Kevin Benoit; **WFTV-TV**; School Name List

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** This is an outstanding -- and equally frightening -- story about a major public safety hazard. The shots of nailed-shut windows, locked safety doors, etc., graphically show the danger local school children face in buildings that don't meet fire code.

### **Spanish-Language Broadcast**

1. Jorge Hidalgo, Guillermo Santa-Cruz, Eli Velazquez, Roberto Pardo; **Telemundo Sports**; Titulares Telemundo

2. Jorge Hidalgo, Guillermo Santa-Cruz, Eli Velazquez; **Telemundo Sports**; Olympics Athens 2004

### **Public Affairs Program**

1. Matt Parcell, Bruce Wiley, Margaret Norman; **WFTV-TV**; Facing an Unfit Future
2. Matt Parcell, Bruce Wiley, Margaret Norman; **WFTV-TV**; Off Limits Online
3. Mike Buresh, Kevin Labrecque; **WTEV/WAWS-TV**; In With the New at the Jacksonville Zoo: Range of the Jaguar

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** This documentary should be required viewing for all parents. Good use of facts, experts, demographics, etc., to explore this "big" societal problem. Interviews with overweight teens literally put a face on the issue.

### **BROADCAST - Radio**

#### **Deadline Reporting**

1. John A. Levitt; **WIOD News Radio 610**; Hurricane Jeanne Hits South Florida
2. Robert M. Link, Jr., Ronald J. Ebben, Gretl Plessinger; **Florida Public Radio**; Election Night Coverage

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Good actuality reporting and use of people on site, etc. Station kept listeners informed and up-to-date.

#### **Radio Feature Reporting**

1. Aron Myers, WFSU-FM News Staff; **WFSU-FM**; Historic Florida!
2. Bobbie O'Brien; **WUSF 89.7**; The Playmakers
3. Mark Simpson; **Florida Public Radio**; Silencing the Sound of the Season

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** A wonderful feature set! High production values -- well written, excellent use of sound (especially music!) -- and "guest" narrator use inspired.

#### **Radio Newscast**

1. WUSF 89.7 News Staff; **WUSF 89.7**

### **STUDENTS**

#### **College Journalist of the Year**

1. Vanessa Alonso; **University of Florida**
2. John Sepulvado; **Tallahassee Community College**

### **INTERNET**

#### **News Web Site**

1. Damon Carroll, Jon DeVries, Lucas Grindley, Brian Mohr; **Sarasota Herald-Tribune**; [www.HeraldTribune.com/Charley](http://www.HeraldTribune.com/Charley)
2. Tampa Bay Online Staff; **Tampa Bay Online**; [www.TBO.com](http://www.TBO.com)

**Judges' First-Place Comments:** Good top bantop and nav easy to read, locate. Nice photo placement, with top story, and other top stories, with dateline, Good breakdown on days for Charley. Nice coverage on a tough topic, the insurance, payment, or lack thereof after the hurricane cleanup.