

PRESS RELEASE

From: Louisiana Press Association

Subject: Better Newspaper, Free Circulation and Special Interest, and Student Newspaper Editorial Competition Results

Embargoed until 3 p.m., Saturday, April 10

The *West Side Journal* (Port Allen), the *Plaquemine Post/South*, *L'Observateur* (LaPlace), the *Minden Press-Herald*, *The Courier* (Houma), *The Town Talk* (Alexandria), and *The Advocate* (Baton Rouge) earned Newspaper of the Year honors in their respective divisions at the 119th Annual Louisiana Press Association Convention in New Orleans.

The designation for the Newspaper of the Year is based on the number of points earned in the Better Newspaper Editorial Competition and the Better Newspaper Advertising Competition for 1998 with awards being given in individual contests for first, second, and third places. The editorial contests range from news story writing to graphic design while the advertising entries were judged based on design, creativity and effectiveness. The West Virginia Press Association judged the advertising contest last fall. The North Carolina Press Association judged the editorial contest this spring.

Sixty-eight newspapers, publications, and college/university student newspapers submitted 2,019 entries.

Earning sweepstakes awards in the editorial competition were the *Madison Journal* (Tallulah), the *Plaquemine Post/South*, *L'Observateur* (LaPlace), *The Slidell Sentry-News*, *The Courier* (Houma), *The News-Star* (Monroe), *The Advocate* (Baton Rouge).

The (Alexandria) *Town Talk* won the Freedom of Information competition open to all publications. (***needs to be completed with explanation***)

(Enclosed is a sheet listing the awards your newspaper won as well as a complete list of winners. Note that on the complete listing both front and back of the pages were used)

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