

# The Reporter



Founded as ΠΔΕ (1909) and ΑΦΓ (1919)

October 2004, Volume 9, Issue 2

*The Nation's Oldest National Honorary Collegiate Journalism Organization*

*The Contest deadline is coming soon!*

## Remember to enter your media organization

By Mary Jennings  
SCJ First Vice-President

It's not too early to begin to think about entries in the Society for Collegiate Journalists Competition for the calendar year 2004.

As you know, SCJ's competition is the only one we know of that uses only judges working in the profession. They work at The Associated Press in New York and Dallas, at newspapers small and large, nationwide, at magazines and radio and television stations. They donate their time, energy and expertise because they realize how important the competition is to our students.

### **A few specifics:**

In past years there has been some confusion about yearbook entries. Let me clarify. All books entered are judged in all categories. Please send two complete books; NO tearsheets. The competition categories that DO require tearsheets are newspaper — all categories except overall excellence, which, of course, requires full issues.

On the newspaper tearsheet, which carries date of publication, outline the entry in red or blue, and affix the entry form to the back of the tearsheet. In order not to have the judges swearing and tearing their hair, we insist on full page tearsheets, with the entry form securely fastened with tape or stapled. Clippings are discarded.

Please DO NOT affix the entry

form with paper clips; if you do it will be discarded. Some schools chafe at the limit of three entries per category. One suggestion put forward a year or two ago was that of having a qualifying round for

your school, with local professionals judging, and recommending the entries they judge strongest to go on to national competition.

Deadline for entries in my office is December 31.

## The SCJ National Contest

Below is a listing of the general rules for the National Contest. For a complete listing please refer to the paper included with the mailing of this newsletter.

- Only active chapters of SCJ and their members are eligible to participate.
- All entries must have been published or broadcast between Jan. 1, 2004 and Dec. 31, 2004. In all newspaper categories, unless otherwise specified, individual tearsheets are to be submitted.
- Individual entries must be affixed neatly to entry blanks provided to ease handling by judges. Complete information must be provided.
- Entries for Overall Excellence of Publication must be submitted in the prescribed manner: Three complete issues of newspapers published on or nearest the 2004 dates of April 12, Oct. 13, and Dec. 4: No more than Two complete copies of yearbooks: all, or up to four, consecutive issues of magazines or newsletters.
- Multiple items may be stapled. **Paper clips** must not be used. Stories in a series may be submitted as one entry.
- No more than three entries from each chapter may be submitted in any individual category. Submit only entries, which are of high quality and merit attention.
- Improperly prepared, as well as late, entries will be disqualified.
- No entries will be returned to chapters or individual members. Where possible, judges' comments will be published with awards listings in **The Collegiate Journalist** magazine.
- If, in the opinion of the SCJ Contest Director, too few entries are received in any category, that category will be eliminated from the contest.
- The entry forms, which are included with this mailing, should be copied for use with multiple entries. Information on the form should be typed. Entry forms may be programmed into a word processor.
- All work must have been produced by a student member of an SCJ chapter and must have been printed in a student publication or aired on a broadcasting facility.
- Entry deadline is **December 31, 2004**. All entries must be postmarked by this date. Please send submission to:  
**Mary Jennings**  
**University of North Alabama**  
**Box 5027**  
**Florence, AL 35632**

1,500 copies of student newspaper trashed by thieves at Texas university

## Editor says story about fraternity fight resulted in issues stolen from news racks across campus

**TEXAS** – Staff at Midwestern State University's student newspaper said approximately 1,500 copies of the weekly paper were stolen after a front-page story featured a fight at a fraternity party that led to the fraternity being placed on alcohol probation.

On Oct. 6, within 30 minutes after the *Wichitan* was distributed at 3:30 p.m., a custodian at the school's liberal arts building told the newspaper staff he had found a stack of newspapers in a trash can and refilled the newsstand with 200 new copies, Editor in Chief Camron Rushin said.

When those 200 copies were found in trashcans, the staff replaced those copies, and the cycle continued throughout the day. Newspapers were stolen from multiple locations on the university campus, Rushin said.



Rushin said he believes the theft is linked to the story about the fraternity party. "That was the only controversy in the paper," he said.

In the Oct. 13 issue of the *Wichitan* the staff offered a \$1,000 reward for any information leading to the arrest and conviction of the perpetrator.

The *Wichitan* estimates the total value of the stolen newspapers was \$3,000.

Mike Hagy, chief of university police, said the campus police are handling this case as a theft of property. Hagy said the police could confirm

only 200 papers were stolen, based on the number the *Wichitan* saw in a trash can and the number a custodian removed from a trash can.

After the reward was offered, campus police received an anonymous phone call that a student had seen two black males at 6:00 p.m. on Oct. 6 take a large number of papers from the school's student center and throw them in a trash can.

A custodian told the police he saw a black male and a white male take papers from the school's fine arts center. The police could not obtain video surveillance tapes to identify the suspects because the tapes are erased every five days, Hagy said.

*This story is reprinted with the permission of the Student Press Law Center. For more information about the issues of the student press check online at [www.splc.org](http://www.splc.org).*

Va. college officials threaten to confiscate independent student newspaper

## Officials at Lynchburg College say paper must request recognition from student government

**VIRGINIA** – Staff at the *Lynchburg Current* have refused to request official recognition from the Student Government Association at Lynchburg College for the student newspaper, despite warnings that future issues will be confiscated by the administration if they fail to do so.

Officials at the private Christian college in Lynchburg say recognition by the student government is necessary to gain access to the college community.

"Since we are going to cover the school government and the Student Government Association from a critical perspective, it makes no sense to be attached to them," Editor in Chief Rich Danker said.

Danker began publishing the *Current* in April as an independent newspaper funded by donations and grants from non-profit groups, family and friends. The *Citrograph*, a longstanding student newspaper at the college, has been recognized.



Considering the requirements of being recognized by the student government – including advertisement restrictions, applying for re-recognition every year and having to write a constitution – Danker said he feels the "red tape" is not worth it.

Danker said that by seizing future issues of the *Current*, the administration would be contradicting the student handbook. The first of the student rights listed in the student handbook reads, "[Students have] the right to exercise freedom of religion, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, and freedom of peaceful assembly and petition."

But Dean of Students John Eccles said the college recognition policy

does not contradict the guarantees, and that the college has a right to protect its institutional values. "You have the right to say whatever you want to say," Eccles said.

"There are certain checks and balances in place that are meant to provide for the whole community."

For example, student groups planning events must notify the administration in advance to ensure "the event runs smoothly," Eccles said.

The college gave the *Current* until the end of September to apply for recognition, and Eccles has extended that date indefinitely. However, Danker said he still has no intention of applying for recognition.

Danker said he now plans to publish the *Current* on an independent Web site only.

*This story is reprinted with the permission of the Student Press Law Center. For more information about the issues of the student press check online at [www.splc.org](http://www.splc.org).*

# Clarion SCJ Chapter helps with 8th CMD

Courtesy of SCJ Clarion

Pittsburgh area media professionals Rose Gabianelli and Larry Richert addressed students from Clarion University and other colleges and high schools at Clarion University's College Media Day VIII.

Gabianelli, who is the senior vice president of corporate affairs for Mellon Financial Corporation, advised students on how to find their first jobs and provided insight into the College Media Day VIII theme, "Managing the Message." Richert, who is the host of the KDKA radio morning show, also addressed students, he focused on the way his education prepared him for his current position and trends in broadcast



Kevin Smith, Sports Editor of the *Pittsburgh Tribune Review*, addressed students at Clarion University's College Media Day VIII.

Photo Courtesy of The Clarion Call.

communication.

Student journalists from Pennsylvania and West Virginia attended the one-day intensive learning experience.

This year's theme was "Managing the Message." The theme set the course for six academic sessions which explored the ways in which messages are used in different channels of communication. The sessions were presented on a number of different topics.

The first round of presentations included a session about the way public relations and journalism intersect through the use of press releases, a session focusing on changing a sports story to make it more interesting than the basic

"game" story, and a session focusing on ethics in collegiate journalism. Fairmont State SCJ Chapter Adviser, Kevin Smith, presented the ethics session.

The second round of panels included sessions about political communication, the evolving world of electronic media, and finding a job in the newsroom of the future.

The first College Media Day was held in 1997 and focused on ethical issues in student journalism. The event was hosted by *The Clarion Call* and supported



CMD VIII Keynote Speaker, Larry Richert. Richert is the host of KDKA's morning show.

Photo Courtesy of The Clarion Call.

by the Clarion University Office of the Provost.

"The day went off without a hitch," said Adam Earnhardt, CPD Co-coordinator. "The SCJ National Office stipend helps us continue to make this event happen, and I believe everyone benefits from this initiative."

CPD VIII was sponsored by **The Clarion Call**, student newspaper; The Society for Collegiate Journalists, Clarion Chapter; the National Office of the Society for Collegiate Journalists; the Office of the Dean of Arts and Sciences, Clarion University; the Department of Communication, Clarion University; The National Broadcasting Society, Clarion University; The Center for Student and University Relations, Clarion University.

**HEY SCJers - Don't forget to attend the CMA convention!**

**Nashville Convention - November 3-7**

**And plan ahead for the upcoming CMA conventions**

Spring 2005 Convention March 17-19 in New York

Fall 2005 Convention October 27-30 in New Orleans



## National Council

### President

Dr. William Ruehlmann  
1584 Wesleyan Drive  
Virginia Wesleyan College  
Norfolk/Va Beach, VA 23502-5599  
(757)455-3419 FAX (757)461-5025  
E-mail: wjruehlmann@vwc.edu

### Past President

Dr. Sheridan Barker  
Carson-Newman College  
Box 1869  
Jefferson City, TN 37760  
(423)581-7731

### First Vice President

#### National Contest Director

Mary Jennings  
University of North Alabama  
Box 5027  
Florence, AL 35632  
(256)765-4426 FAX (256)765-4275  
E-mail: mcjennings@una.edu

### Second Vice President

Shirley Shedd  
Communication Department  
1111 N. Glenstone  
Evangel College  
Springfield, MO 65802  
(417)865-2811  
E-mail: sashedd@aol.com

### Third Vice President

Dr. Michael Longinow  
Department of Communication  
RM 400 Morrison Hall  
Macklin Dr.  
Asbury College  
Wilmore, KY 40390-1198  
(606)858-3511 ext. 248  
E-mail: mlonginow@asbury.edu

### Executive Director

Arthur H. Barlow  
Becker Hall  
Clarion University  
Clarion, PA 16214  
(814)393-2515 FAX (814)393-2186  
E-mail: abarlow@clarion.edu

### Chapter Representatives

Dr. Joe Mirando  
SLU 10428  
Hammond, LA 70402  
(504)549-3374  
E-mail: rhi@thunder-rain.com

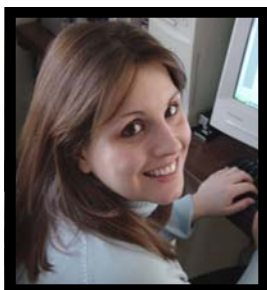
Cathy Keuhner  
Shenandoah University  
1460 University Drive  
Winchester, VA 22601  
(540)678-4338  
E-mail: ckeuhner@su.edu

Frank Barnas  
Communication Arts Department  
Valdosta State University  
Valdosta, GA 31698  
(229)259-5087 FAX (229)245-3799  
E-mail: fbarnas@mail.valdosta.edu

Dr. Sheridan Barker  
Carson-Newman College  
Box 1869  
Jefferson City, TN 37760  
(423)581-7731



## Notes from the *Interim* Executive Director



October is coming to a close, and soon winter will be upon us. The SCJ National Office is preparing for the November National Council meeting to be held at the ACP/CMA conference in Nashville. At this meeting we will discuss issues including, publications and fundraising.

In the upcoming months we hope to provide a copy of our new Feature writing text, "The Feature Story Strikes Back." This publication was authored by SCJ National President Dr. William Ruehlmann and will serve as a tool for use in student publications. In addition, webmaster Adam Earnhardt is hard at work re-creating elements from the previous website that were lost in the server change. Soon the Constitution Handbook will again be available online. When the website has been completely re-created, Earnhardt will turn his attentions to designing and publishing *The Collegiate Journalist* online magazine.

As your National Contest Director and First Vice President, Mary Jennings, wrote in the front page story, the contest deadline is quickly approaching. Be sure to have your entries ready and mailed in to her before the deadline. Contest rules are included in this mailing of *The Reporter*. Remember, this is the only contest judged by professional journalists.

Fall is also a great time of year for an initiation banquet. Remember to honor the student journalists who work hard at your campus.

Also, a hearty congratulations to our Executive Director, Dr. Arthur H. Barlow. Barlow has been named the Four Year Distinguished Newspaper Adviser by College Media Advisers. He will receive his award at the 50th Anniversary Luncheon on Friday, November 5, 2004 at the Nashville Convention.

## SCJ Chapter Notes and News

### Want to host a College

### Media Day?

The form for obtaining a \$250 stipend to host an approved College Media Day is available through the SCJ National Office. Please contact us at (814)393-2526 or mearnhardt@clarion.edu if you would like a copy of the form.

### The SCJ contest deadline is approaching!

The rules are enclosed with this mailing. For more information contact the National Contest Director, Mary Jennings. Her phone number is (256)765-4426 or you can email her at mcjennings@una.edu.

### Don't fall behind on the law.

For the latest briefings on the legal issues of the collegiate press and answers to frequently asked questions, check out the Student Press Law Center online at [www.splc.org](http://www.splc.org). Remember SPLC is SCJ's official national philanthropy.

### The SCJ Reporter

The SCJ newsletter is published once a month during the fall and spring semesters in accordance with the Clarion University of Pennsylvania academic calendar. It is created on an Optiquist computer using Microsoft Publisher 2000.

Editor...Mary Beth Earnhardt

Please send submissions to:

Art Barlow  
Becker Hall  
Clarion University  
Clarion, PA 16214

E-mail:  
[barlow@clarion.edu](mailto:barlow@clarion.edu)  
[mearnhardt@clarion.edu](mailto:mearnhardt@clarion.edu)

