



2009-2010 MINNESOTA NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION

# Better Newspaper Contest

## Ely Timberjay wins Mills Trophy

## Forum of Fargo-Moorhead earns Vance Trophy

The weekly *Ely Timberjay* won the Mills Trophy with 8 awards, earning 36 points. Their winning entries for weeklies up to 1,500 included six first place awards for: Typography and Design, Editorial Page as a Whole, Use of Photography as a Whole, Advertising Excellence, General Reporting and General Excellence. They had two second place awards for Community Interaction Web Site and Web Site.

This is the first time the *Ely Timberjay* has won the Mills Award.

The *Litchfield Independent Review* took second place with 9 awards earning 31 points. Their winning entries for weeklies 2,500 to 5,000 included: First Place for Sports Story, Sports Reporting, Typography and Design, Use of Photography as a Whole and General Excellence. They earned three Second Place awards for Social Issues Story, General Reporting and Human Interest Story and had an Honorable Mention for Sports Story.

*The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead* won the Vance Trophy earning 86 points for 33 awards. For dailies over 10,000, *The Forum* won the following awards: First Place in General Reporting, Social Issues Story, Self-Promotion, Sports Photo, Headline Writing, General Excellence, Photo Story, News Photo, New Journalist of the Year, Investigative Reporting, Freedom of Information, Circulation Promotion, Advertising Excellence, Use of Information Graphics and Graphic Illustrations, Community Leadership, Web Site, Editorial Page as a Whole and Sports Reporting. Second Place awards included Human Interest Story, Government/Public Affairs Reporting, Explanation of News Operations, Use of Information Graphics and Graphic Illustrations, Newspaper in Education, Classified Ad Section, Multimedia Special Project, Sports Story, Advertisement, Local Spot News Story, and Photo Story. Honorable Mention awards included: Sports Photo, Photo Story, Feature Photo and Sports Photo.

This is the second time *The Forum* has won the Vance Trophy.

The *St. Cloud Times* won second place with 20 awards that earned 49 points in dailies over 10,000. First Place awards included: Community Interaction Web Site, Innovative Online Advertising, Classified Ad Section, Explanation of News Operations, Typography & Design, Government/Public Affairs Reporting, Editorial Portfolio, Photographer's Portfolio. Second Place awards included: Advertising Excellence, General Excellence, Use of Photography as a Whole, Social Issues Story, Columnist, Feature Photo, Investigative Reporting, and two ties for Photographer's Portfolio. The *Times* won three Honorable Mentions for Sports Photo, Government/Public Affairs Reporting and Sports Photo.

## Trophy winners are determined by a point system

All newspapers winning a number of awards in the Better Newspaper Contest are automatically eligible for the Mills and Vance trophies. Trophy winners are determined on the basis of points. 12 points are given for a first place in General Excellence, 10 points for second place in that category. After that, four points are given for every first place and two points for every second place won by the newspaper. Three points are given for every first place and one point for every second place earned by a staff member.

## General Excellence

First place General Excellence winners in this year's contest are:

Weeklies up to 1,500: *Ely Timberjay*

Weeklies 1,501 to 2,500: *Rosemount Town Pages*

Weeklies 2,501 to 5,000: *Litchfield Independent Review*

Weeklies over 5,000: *Southwest Journal*

Dailies up to 8,000: *Faribault Daily News*

Dailies 8,001 to 15,000: *Winona Daily News*

Dailies over 15,000: *The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead*

## Other Awards

The **Herman Roe Editorial Writing Award** went to Larry Dobson of the *Star Herald* of Dodge Center/Hayfield.

John Grones, *Voyageur Press of McGregor*, took first place for **Photographer's Portfolio** for all weeklies and Dave Schwarz, *St. Cloud Times*, took first place for the dailies.

First place winners of the **AP Editorial Portfolio** are the *Northfield News* (all weeklies) and *St. Cloud Times* (all dailies).

First place winner of the **New Journalist of the Year Award** are Chris Olwell, *Eden Prairie Sun Current* (all weeklies) and Kelly Smith, *The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead* (all dailies).

The winner of the **Lynn Smith Community Service Award** is *The Forum of Fargo-Moorhead*.

All winners can be especially proud as they were chosen from 3,064 entries.