Campus journalists capture press awards

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by John Donnelly

For columns on "Miss Maine" and "Gay Blue Jeans Day" and for an editorial denouncing the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, two Maine Campus journalists have received awards from the annual Better Newspaper Contest, a person for the sponsoring Maine Press Association announced Friday.

Former managing editor and columnist Dan Warren won first place for the best local column in non-daily papers in Maine, and former co-editor Kendall J. Holmes received third prize for the best editorial for all newspapers in the state.

In addition, the Campus received an honorable mention for the best front page for weeklies category on one of its issues last semester.

The contest, which was open to all Maine newspapers, was for the year ending July 1, 1978.

A board of 17 editors from newspapers from the Midwest and East Coast selected the winners, said Howard Keyo, executive secretary of the MPA.

Howard James, who is publisher of newspapers in Rumford, Norway, and Berlin, N.H., was in charge of the contest and selected the judges, Keyo said.

When questioned about the award, Warren, who has been a staff reporter for the Portland Press Herald for three years, said, "I was shocked. I still think you guys are yanking my chain."

Warren said he submitted the two columns as representations of his work for the fall semester last year.

"Journalism is a very frustrating field, and you often mire in anonymity and obscurity, but this is pretty cool. I have to thank Pat Murkland (former Campus copy editor) for cleaning up my act. Some of my pieces were pornographic before they were edited.

"This is pretty wild. I'm pretty happy I guess," he admitted. Warren will be writing a column, "Letters from Camp Orono," this semester for the Campus.

Holmes, who has worked for Portland newspapers for two years and is currently the suburban reporter for the Portland Press Herald, commented on the Teamster editorial: "The Teamsters had just brought the Ellsworth American to court for taking the same stance. For a small newspaper, just by writing it there was a prospect of being dragged into court," he said.

"I'm happy but can't say I'm surprised," Holmes continued. "The issue we wrote on was a big one, and I'm glad I recognized the fact. I think I influenced many readers," he added.

In other categories, Bob Cummings, environmental writer for the Guy Gannett Newspapers in Portland, was named the MPA's Journalist of the Year.

For the second year in a row, the Biddeford Journal Tribune won first place for general excellence among daily newspapers.

Editor's note: The two award-winning columns which Dan Warren submitted to the Maine Press Association have been reprinted in their entirety.
Early in the semester I still plenty strong, and practical jokes that marked each day for her on campus, I thought. I rejoiced. "America and misbehaving, as I am, I was often reinforced for "just lovely," but that some college kids term "simply nauseating," Terri gets a few fringe benefits. One of those benefits is a couple thousand dollars in scholarships.

I'd call myself a winner if it meant getting a free boat to the Big O. It's easier to understand her, I think, if you realize the circumstances behind the person and the image.

Terri Elaine Gilpatrick is not really a whole lot different than we are. She sleeps through her share of eight o'clock classes, hates long lines at the bookstore and cringes at the thought of eating Tuna Surprise in the cafeteria.

The jokes and mimicking of her statements were fun for most. But perhaps we should acknowledge that underneath the Miss Maine image, she's just another student.

Isn't it time we started treating her as such.