

A close-up photograph of a vintage typewriter. The image shows the complex mechanical parts of the machine, including the carriage, typebars, and keyboard. A green banner with a white border is overlaid on the top center of the image. The banner contains the text '2015-16 BETTER NEWSPAPER CONTEST STUDENT DIVISION'. The typewriter is dark-colored, possibly black or dark grey, and the keyboard has various colored keys (blue, yellow, white). The background is dark and slightly out of focus, showing some wooden elements.

2015-16

**BETTER  
NEWSPAPER  
CONTEST**

STUDENT DIVISION

**O.C. McDAVID JOURNALISM CONFERENCE**  
Thursday, March 24, 2016



## GENERAL NEWS STORY

### UNIVERSITY CLASS

#### 3RD PLACE (TIE)

*The Student Printz*

Nan Buti

As offensive to many as the swastika

#### 3RD PLACE (TIE)

*The Student Printz*

Alan Rawlz

Local, National SAE chapters react to latest news

#### 2ND PLACE

*The Reflector*

Taylor Bowden

SA reviews Resolution 20

#### 1ST PLACE

*The Delta Statement*

Conor Bell

IHL approves degree eliminations at DSU

*This story was written like it was written by a seasoned professional. Well Done!*

### COMMUNITY CLASS

#### 3RD PLACE

*The Radonian*

Mariana Lunsford

A "Higher" Education

#### 2ND PLACE

*The Radonian*

Billy Loper

PTK funds student sculptures

#### 1ST PLACE

*The Radonian*

Mariana Lunsford

Are Campuses Safe?

*A thorough report on campus safety with state and national statistics and local response.*

## SPORTS STORY

### UNIVERSITY CLASS

#### 3RD PLACE

*The Reflector*

Taylor Rayburn

MSU Secondary

#### 2ND PLACE

*The Student Printz*

Julius Kizzee

Tennessee fires Tyndall

#### 1ST PLACE

*The Student Printz*

Joshua Campbell

USM dominates Austin Peay for first win

*Nice story in a weak mix from all schools.*

### COMMUNITY CLASS

#### 3RD PLACE

*The Radonian*

Alexis Melendez

Lady Bobcats bound for playoffs

#### 2ND PLACE

*The Radonian*

Dalton Middleton

Basketball heads to tournament

#### 1ST PLACE

*Ranger Rocket*

Corey McKinney

NW wins HC thriller

*Good game recap, with times, yards and scores.*

## SPORTS COLUMN

### UNIVERSITY CLASS

#### 3RD PLACE

*The Reflector*

Taylor Rayburn

#### 2ND PLACE

*The Delta Statement*

Florian Mondoloni

#### 1ST PLACE

*The Reflector*

Anthony McDougle

Community

*Well written with interesting opinions*

### COMMUNITY CLASS

#### 2ND PLACE

*The Radonian*

Hayden West

Bobcat Spotlight

#### 1ST PLACE

*The Radonian*

Madison Manning

Side Lines

## SPORTS FEATURE

### UNIVERSITY CLASS

#### 3RD PLACE

*The Reflector*

Taylor Rayburn

Gabe Myles: Starkville's Son Rises

Again

#### 2ND PLACE

*The Student Printz*

Ashley Hickman

Behind the feathered suit

#### 1ST PLACE

*The Delta Statement*

Elisabetta Zengaro

Coach Bill Merchant: Striking out adversity

*I felt this story. It is a bit long but you had a*

*lot to tell. I missed when his wife died also.*

## COMMUNITY CLASS

### 3RD PLACE

*Ranger Rocket*  
Kasey Woitesek  
Alumni Spotlight: Brandon Causey

### 2ND PLACE

*The Radonian*  
Christian Miller  
Dew looks to finish strong

### 1ST PLACE

*The Pine Burr*  
Seth Nieman  
Lee Hopes to Box  
*The writer allows the subject to tell his story through choice quotes*

## GENERAL INTEREST COLUMN

### UNIVERSITY CLASS

#### 3RD PLACE

*The Delta Statement*  
Aallyah Wright  
Social Media

#### 2ND PLACE

*The Reflector*  
Kyle Waltman  
Depression Amongst College Students

#### 1ST PLACE

*The Delta Statement*  
Conor Bell  
Doing whats best for everyone  
*Easily my choice for 1st place. Entries show knowledge of subject and make for good read.*

### COMMUNITY CLASS

#### 3RD PLACE

*The Radonian*  
Mary Kathryn Landrum  
Happy Tails

#### 2ND PLACE

*The Radonian*  
Christian Miller  
Minor Mishaps

#### 1ST PLACE

*The Radonian*  
Ethan Davis  
Mating Season  
*Sext humor...what more could a college student want?*

## FEATURE STORY

### UNIVERSITY CLASS

#### 3RD PLACE

*The Student Printz*  
Cam Borelli  
Photo Project Showcases Pet Personalities

#### 2ND PLACE

*The Student Printz*  
Joshua Starr  
SGA moves toward smoke free campus

#### 1ST PLACE

*The Blue & White Flash*  
Dwayne Joseph, Jr.  
Students and Professionals discuss Christianity  
*The first and one of the most important roles of a journalist is to keep the public informed. This is a unique piece that does just that.*

### COMMUNITY CLASS

#### 3RD PLACE

*The Radonian*  
Cody Courtney  
JCJC smitten with duck squad

#### 2ND PLACE

*The Radonian*  
Ethan Davis  
Overcoming Cancer

#### 1ST PLACE

*Ranger Rocket*  
Reagan Pepper  
Sexual Abuse  
*The writer takes a national issue and makes local resources available.*

## EDITORIAL CARTOON

### ALL NEWSPAPERS

#### 3RD PLACE

*The Radonian*  
Bethany Smith  
Free Speech

#### 2ND PLACE

*The Blue & White Flash*  
Kristen Hudson  
Dreaded Midterm

#### 1ST PLACE

*The Radonian*  
Bethany Smith  
Hillary on Snapchat  
*Funny, clever & on the mark*

## GENERAL NEWS PHOTO

### UNIVERSITY CLASS

#### 3RD PLACE

*The Student Printz*  
Kate Dearman  
Women's rights

#### 2ND PLACE

*The Blue & White Flash*  
William H. Kelly, III  
JSU morns Travis Woods

#### 1ST PLACE

*The Blue & White Flash*  
William H. Kelly, III  
Tigers Pink Out  
*We were immediately drawn to the young woman's face as she watches the balloons. Great emotional impact.*

#### 3RD PLACE

*The Pine Burr*  
Garrett Graves  
Handel's Messiah

#### 2ND PLACE

*Ranger Rocket*  
Lauren Benton  
Most Beautiful

### COMMUNITY CLASS

#### 1ST PLACE

*The Radonian*  
Anna Beth Houston  
Color Run  
*Captures a fun, colorful moment. Sorry it did not run larger.*

## SPOT NEWS PHOTO

### UNIVERSITY CLASS

#### 3RD PLACE

*The Reflector*  
Emma Katherine Hutto  
Freeze Frame

#### 2ND PLACE

*The Reflector*  
Taylor Bowden  
Shooting Scare (Large photo)

#### 1ST PLACE

*The Reflector*  
Taylor Bowden  
Shooting Scare (Small photo)  
*This is true photojournalism. Not planned. It took some serious guts to be out there when a shooter was at large*



## COMMUNITY CLASS

### 3RD PLACE

*Ranger Rocket*  
Lauren Benton  
Winter Weather

### 2ND PLACE

*The Radonian*  
Anna Beth Houston  
Tire Fire

### 1ST PLACE

*The Pine Burr*  
Garrett Graves  
Color Run  
*Good Timing!*

## SPORTS PHOTO

### UNIVERSITY CLASS

#### 3RD PLACE

*The Reflector*  
Noah Siano  
Hogs get blocked

#### 2ND PLACE

*The Student Printz*  
Susan Broadbridge  
USM Women's Basketball

#### 1ST PLACE

*The Delta Statement*  
Elisabetta Zengaro  
Matteo Fraschi  
*Look at the eyes!!! Enough said.*

### COMMUNITY CLASS

#### 3RD PLACE

*The Radonian*  
Anna Beth Houston  
Chris Morgan Slides

#### 2ND PLACE

*The Pine Burr*  
Garrett Graves  
Bears beat Springhill

#### 1ST PLACE

*The Radonian*  
Hayden West  
Bobcat Jarkice Davis  
*Great catch! This would be a winner in any contest!*

## FEATURE PHOTO

### UNIVERSITY CLASS

#### 3RD PLACE

*The Student Printz*  
Mary Sergeant  
Buku Fest

### 2ND PLACE

*The Reflector*  
Jacob Follin  
Human Society seeks owners for dogs

#### 1ST PLACE

*The Reflector*  
Sarah Story  
*Reunion Photo shows emotion, touching picture, easy to relate to. Tells a story by their expressions on their faces*

### COMMUNITY CLASS

#### 3RD PLACE

*The Radonian*  
Chase Roberts  
Open Carry

#### 2ND PLACE

*Ranger Rocket*  
Lauren Benton  
Graduation

#### 1ST PLACE

*The Radonian*  
Troy Orgeron  
Aspiration for Music  
Great framing of photo. Nice to see it played big on this page!

## SINGLE ADVERTISEMENT

### UNIVERSITY CLASS

#### 3RD PLACE

*The Blue & White Flash*  
William H. Kelly, III  
Marshall Ramsey Book Signing

#### 2ND PLACE

*The Blue & White Flash*  
William H. Kelly, III  
Graduate & Professional School Days

#### 1ST PLACE

*The Blue & White Flash*  
William H. Kelly, III  
Ted Williams  
*Very nice looking and appealing ad. Eye catching*

### COMMUNITY CLASS

#### 2ND PLACE

*The Radonian*  
Alexis King  
JCJC Bookstore

#### 1ST PLACE

*Ranger Rocket*  
Karen Parks  
Cottage Cleaners  
*Clean, easy to read design. Good use of map as element of design, as well as coupons.*

## MISCELLANEOUS AD

### ALL NEWSPAPERS

#### 3RD PLACE

*The Student Printz*  
Katherine Frye  
The Strays

#### 2ND PLACE

*The Student Printz*  
Katherine Frye  
Silo Road

#### 1ST PLACE

*The Student Printz*  
Katherine Frye  
Muscle Shoals  
*Good use of Color. Looks very balanced and easy to read*

## IN-DEPTH OR INVESTIGATIVE REPORT

### ALL NEWSPAPERS

#### 3RD PLACE

*The Radonian*  
Marianna Lunsford, Ethan Davis, Cody Courtney, Miranda Espey, Hayden West & Morgan Clark  
A higher education

#### 2ND PLACE

*The Reflector*  
Lacretia Wimbley, Taylor Bowden & Bek Yake  
Shooting Scare

#### 1ST PLACE

*The Delta Statement*  
Elisabetta Zengaro & Conor Bell  
DSU cuts journalism  
*Great work by this staff in a seemingly insurmountable situation*

## EDITORIALS

### UNIVERSITY CLASS

#### 2ND PLACE

*The Blue & White Flash*  
Deidra Harris Glover  
Suffering silently

#### 1ST PLACE

*The Delta Statement*  
Elisabetta Zengaro  
The Power of the Press  
*Informative and thought provoking*

**COMMUNITY CLASS****3RD PLACE***The Growl*

Joshua Dilmore

Starbucks War on Christmas

**2ND PLACE***Ranger Rocket*

Lauren Benton

How community college has benefitted my life

**1ST PLACE****THE RADIONIAN**

Marianna Lunsford, Chance Clark &amp;

Hayden West

*Well thought out and researched editorials***DESIGN****UNIVERSITY CLASS****3RD PLACE***The Student Printz*

Parker Brewer &amp; Alan Rawlz

**2ND PLACE***The Delta Statement*

Tiago Doneux

**1ST PLACE***The Reflector**Easily the winner here! Clean layout, good photos. Especially liked Bad Dawgs!***COMMUNITY CLASS****3RD PLACE***The Pine Burr***2ND PLACE***Ranger Rocket***1ST PLACE***The Radonian**By far the best entry in this division.**Great use of graphics, white space, and typography.***FRONT PAGE****UNIVERSITY CLASS****3RD PLACE***The Blue & White Flash***2ND PLACE***The Delta Statement*

Tiago Doneux

**1ST PLACE***The Reflector*

Taylor Bowden

*Hands down the best entry. Good layout.**Clean. Good pictures. Great story mix. Nice use of banner***COMMUNITY CLASS****3RD PLACE***The Pine Burr***2ND PLACE***Ranger Rocket***1ST PLACE***The Radonian**Best entry by far. Great graphics and use of white space***GRAPHIC****UNIVERSITY CLASS****3RD PLACE***The Student Printz*

Hanna Schloemer

USM Offense

**2ND PLACE***The Reflector*

Bek Yake

New SI Sessions Assist

**1ST PLACE***The Student Printz*

Aubry Sanders

*Fan Poll Interesting poll and very well designed. Stood out among all entries***COMMUNITY CLASS****3RD PLACE***The Radonian*

Hailey Ishee

Intoxicating Lifestyle

**2ND PLACE***The Radonian*

Hailey Ishee

College Students and alcohol

**1ST PLACE***Ranger Rocket*

Reagan Pepper

Things to avoid during finals

*Colorful, draws eye to story***USE OF VIDEO****ALL NEWSPAPERS****3RD PLACE***The Delta Statement*

Matteo Zengaro

Ewing Evacuation

**2ND PLACE***The Blue & White Flash*

Staff

Sigma Alpha Epsilon

**1ST PLACE***The Blue & White Flash*

Staff

Sit-In protest

*Good background and use of interviews.**Well done!***WEBSITE****UNIVERSITY CLASS****2ND PLACE***The Reflector***1ST PLACE***The Blue & White Flash**Very clean and easy to navigate. Better than some professional newspaper sites.***COMMUNITY CLASS***2nd Place*

The Radonian

**1ST PLACE***Ranger Rocket*

Easy to read and navigate

**GENERAL EXCELLENCE****UNIVERSITY CLASS****3RD PLACE***The Blue & White Flash***2ND PLACE***The Delta Statement***1ST PLACE***The Reflector***COMMUNITY CLASS****3RD PLACE***The Pine Burr***2ND PLACE***Ranger Rocket***1ST PLACE***The Radonian*