

KEMPA Update

FALL 2009

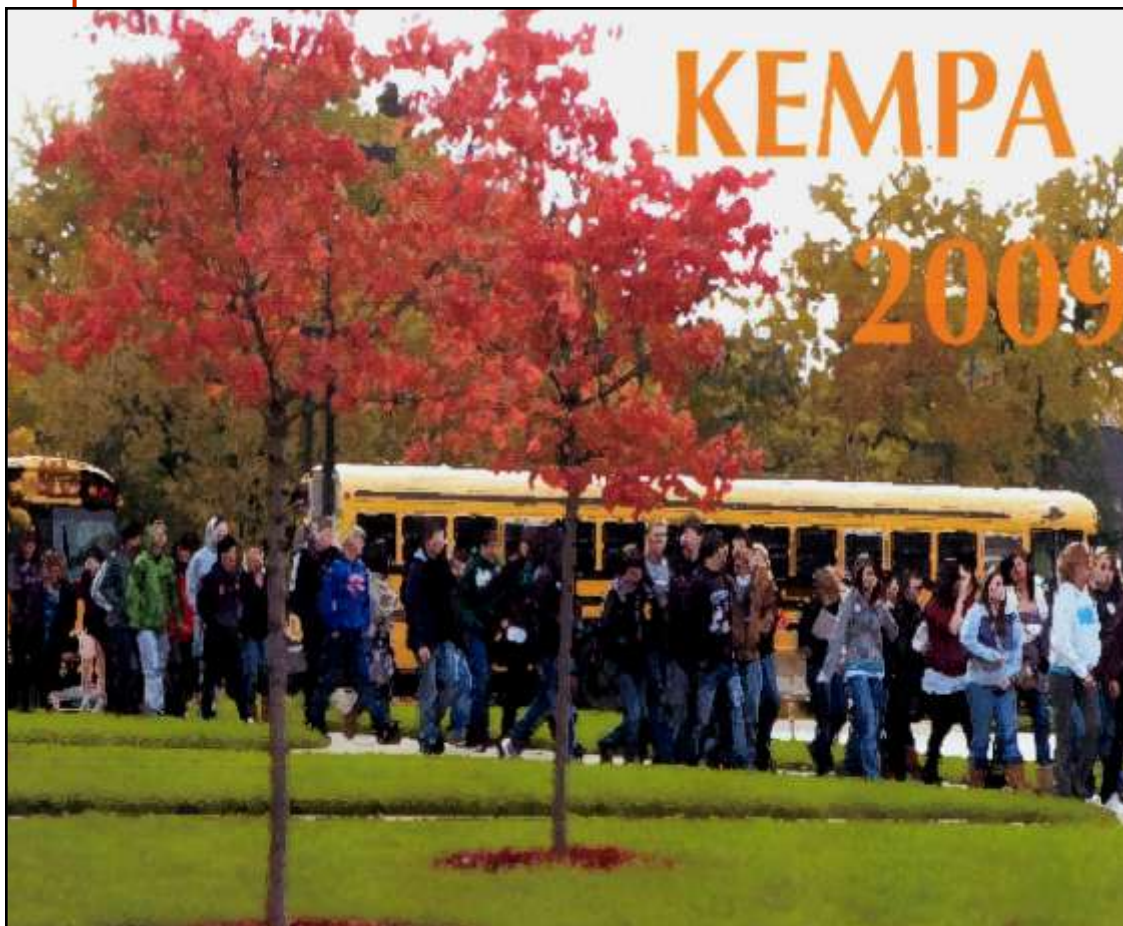
2005 ROSEMAN
UW-WHITEWATER
WHITEWATER, WI

WHAT'S UP

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Most photos are by Hank Koshollek*
- *A record-splitting number of journalists of all types attended in 2009*

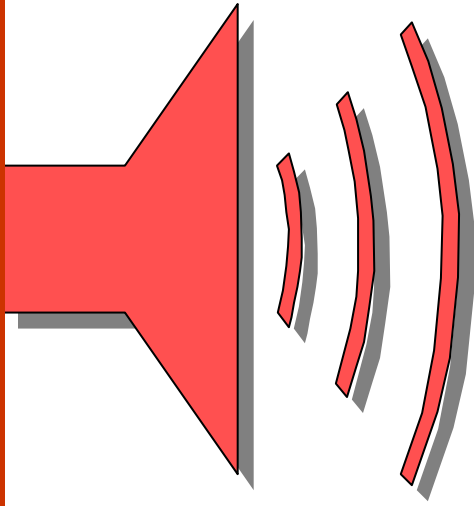


Fall Conference Numbers Over the Top



Stan
Zoller
Hall of
Fame
Recipient
2009

Numbers	
Total participants	1441
Total schools	63
Advisers	90 (65 members, 25 non-members)
Radio/TV productions	19
Competitions	23



2009
KEMPA
HONORS

MEDIA AWARD

Danielle Guerra

"A visual story-teller"

"an inspiring example of what good journalism does in the world"

—S. Jacoby

"In a job market like this, you have to learn to adjust."

—D. Guerra

OUTSTANDING ADMINISTRATOR

Brian Kersten, Waunakee

"...trusts us to do our best and provides the ideal conditions for high school journalism to flourish at our school"

—T. Rademacher

FRIEND OF KEMPA

Eric Field, Cont. Ed., UW-W

"Eric can be depended upon to be there early in the morning and late at night."

—T. Chyneweth

"Eric is always reliable to help with any KEMPA task."

—L. Barrington

HALL OF FAME

Stan Zoller

"gives generously of his time"

"Stan's our man for the KEMPA Hall of Fame."

-S. Jacoby

"Working together we have made a difference in high school journalism in our area."

-S. Zoller

Yearbook On-the-Spot (cont. from p. 7)

O'Riley, junior.

One of the most influential activities was held by Varsity Club. In reaction to the shooting last year at Northeast, A Walk of Solidarity between the rival schools raised \$5778. to repair damage at Northeast.

"I was amazed at the turnout. To do something for Northeast who we normally "hate" felt so good. I swear there were tears on as many of us as them," Ben Shetes, junior Varsity Club member said.

Adversity often brings about positive change. Universal High students saw the increasing violence as a chance to make a difference in their school, community and their own lives.

Alternative Copy

Fast Facts

Check out the numbers!

- 894 pints of blood donated
- 14 clean hallways
- \$465 for security camera
- \$5778 raised for Northeast repairs

1st Place editorial, Danya Sherbini, Grayslake Central

Living by the Tinker Standard, students exercise their rights the right way

Many students may be unaware of the rights they retain at school. They rarely question a detention or suspension, blindly obeying the established rules. While this may not be considered a bad thing, as rules are meant to be followed, students should still be aware of their constitutional freedoms and should exercise them at all times.

The first amendment of the Constitution guarantees freedom of religion, speech, press, assembly and petition. Many people may know this, but do students know that it still applies to them? Students do not lose their rights at the schoolhouse gate—this powerful statement holds true and is one to live by.

The “Tinker v, Des Moines” Supreme Court case of 1969 set the standard for all students’ rights cases soon to come. The Tinker standard holds that rights of students will be upheld as long as they do not invade the rights of others or cause a substantial disruption. These last phrase, “a substantial disruption,” is so important for students to remember when exercising free speech. The goal is not to cause a scene or uproar within the school or the student body, rather it is to express beliefs peacefully and independently.

Regarding school newspapers, the right to free expression plays a vital role. It is the job of the student journalists to report information to the student body, yet to do so tastefully and responsibly. Obscenity has no place in a school newspaper but stories on teen-related issues, such as teen pregnancy and violence, are important topics to address. Not only are they topics high school students are interested in reading about, but they are also issues that affect so many students today. School administrators may prefer a school newspaper that writes about school events exclusively, like the choir concert or spring musical, but only writing about those topics is a waste of journalistic potential. Students can, and should, write about topics which interest readers and connect to readers. Sometimes these topics will conflict with the beliefs of the School Board, but students can stand by them and support their own rights.

While school-sponsored, curriculum based newspapers are subjected to prior review, it is important to remember that censorship must be backed up by legal reasons and evidence. Dozens of cases in federal courts have witnessed high school students defending their rights, and these cases show that students truly do retain a measure of personal power, both in schools and out of them.

One case, *Dominger v. Noehoff*,” was brought before the Supreme Court, and dealt with a student who was denied participation in student government when she called the superintendent and other school officials “douche bags.” The insult was posted on her blog, which was made outside of school. In addition, she also encouraged other students to call the superintendent and purposely make her angry. The insult alone may not have been enough to oppose the student, but these words enticed students to cause a disruption. This is an example of where students should draw the line. Free speech can be exercised, but it should not direct others or their own rights.

Nevertheless, students are encouraged to know their rights and utilize them, living by the power of the 1st amendment, while following the guidelines of the Tinker Standard.

On-the-Spot Results 10/09

Editorial Writing:

First Place—Danya Sherbini, Grayslake Central (on this page)

Second Place—Nick McDowell, Belvidere North H.S.

Third Place: Tessa Cornelius, Belvidere H.S.

Cartoon Competition:

First Place—Kelly Byrne, Grayslake Central (see page 6)

Third Place—Rick Cameron, Belvidere North

Newspaper Write-Off:

First Place—Amish Shah, Grayslake Central (see p. 4)

Second Place: Thomas Ashley, Belvidere North

Third Place: Andrea Seagren, Rockford Jefferson

Yearbook Write-Off: Megan Buja, Rockford Jefferson (see p. 7)

First Place Newspaper Write-Off

by Amish Shah
Grayslake Central

In the current generation, many teenagers do not fully know their Constitutional rights, according to Professor of School Law at Northeastern Illinois University Steven Brown. Due to this fact, Brown believes that many students get their rights taken away at school.

It is stated in the First Amendment that citizens of the United States have the freedom of expression and press. However, Brown says that some school administrators think differently.

“Principals (in public schools) have power in schools and they sometimes make decisions that are right on the spot and not based off of the Constitution,” said Brown.

Because of this, there have been many controversies involving students’ Constitutional rights at school.

The Supreme Court case that set the standard for upcoming freedom of expression decisions was “Tinker vs. Des Moines.”

John and Mary Beth Tinker, along with other students, decided to wear black armbands to protest the Vietnam War. The school administrators decided to make that against school policy and the kids were suspended.

When the Supreme Court reviewed the case in 1965, they decided in a 7-2 vote that the students have the right to wear those armbands because it did not disrupt the school environment and the kids were re-instated back into the school.

“Neither students nor teachers

shed their Constitutional rights to freedom of speech or expression at the school house gate,” said majority opinion writer Supreme Court Justice Abe Fortas.

This case created the Tinker Standard which has been used in other cases to bring forth rulings, according to Brown.

The Tinker Standard has been applied to many other student expression cases in public schools.

In the case of *Guiles v. Marineau*, a student wore a shirt depicting former President Bush in a negative way.

The Court of Appeals 2nd Circuit, with newly appointed Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor, held that the student had the right to wear that particular shirt under the 1st and 14th Amendments.

According to Sotomayor and the majority opinion of the court, students have the freedom of expression at schools as long as it is not hate speech, unlawful speech, physically disruptive speech, and it does not disrupt the school environment; also known as the Tinker Standard.

However in recent times, schools have been more restrictive in their activities such as the school’s newspaper and the other activities, according to Brown.

Prior restraint and censorship have been an issue in many schools in that the line of judgment is a little faded.

According to Brown, school administrators become parents to the students at the school while they are at school, a concept called “in loco parentis” or “in place of the parent” in Latin.

Thus in case of *Doninger v. Niehoff*, Sotomayor and the other majority justices ruled that off-campus speech can be regulated by a school principal if it disrupts the school environment and causes “material and/or substantial disruption” (Tinker Standard).

“Students have the right to engage in freedom of expression if it does not invade the rights of others or have material and substantial disruption of for-

mal activities,” said Brown. However, free speech does not become an absolute right, according to Brown.

In the case of *Hazelwood v. Kuhlmeier* in 1988, the Supreme Court ruled against the students because it effected the right of privacy of the divorced parents and it also said the freshmen of the school were “too young” to read about teenage pregnancy, according to the school principal.

Furthermore, since the school newspaper was a class, the school administrators were allowed to censor. “The school has every right to censor whatever they want, under reasonable related terms (when the newspaper is a class),” said Brown.

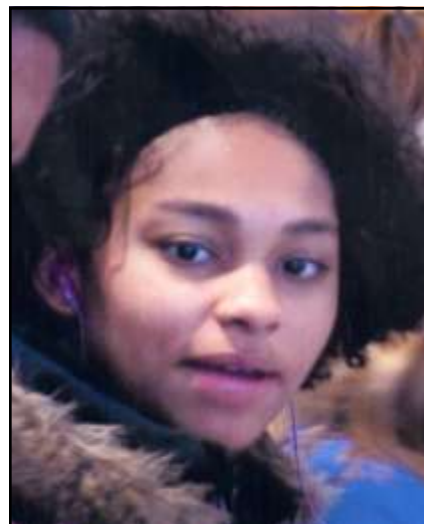
Students still have their Constitutional rights in school but it has been lately changing how the Supreme Court views on what is disrupting the school and what is not.

And, according to Brown, students must know their rights in order to flourish as “student journalists.”

Judge’s comments:

- *Lead—need to tell where and why*
- *Good use of information*
- *Good use of quotations*

One journalist among hundreds!



Co-chairs announce evaluation results ...and the judges say . . .

KEMPA member school publications which arrived by the deadline then made their way to the judges (none from Illinois or Wisconsin to prevent "conflict of interest").

Each judge used the same publication evaluation booklet returned to the schools at the fall conference with the rating and judge's comments.

Schools enclosing the additional \$5 received a "Super Critique" where the judge included many extra suggestions to the staff for improvement, as well as citing work that was especially well done.

NEWSPAPERS

ALL-KEMPA

Antioch **Tom Tom**
D.C. Everest **The Jet**
Grayslake Central **Rampage**
Lakes Community **Talon Times**
Lake Zurich **Bear Facts**
Maine West **Westerner**
Rolling Meadows **The Pacer**
Superior **The Spartan Spin**
Wheeling **Spokesman**

Mukwonago journalists and adviser Rod Wick "storm" the University Center for registration and Session 1 at 9:15.

NEWSPAPERS

FIRST PLACE

Belvidere North **North View**
Brookfield Central **Tyro**
DeKalb **Barb Wire**
Fort Atkinson **The Signal**
Grayslake North **The Knight Times**
Lake Forest Academy **The Spectator**
Rufus King IB **The King's Page**
Stoughton **The Norse Star**
Vernon Hills **The Scratching Post**
Warren Township **Scratch Paper**
Wausau West **Warrior's Word**
Wauwatosa West **West Side Stories**

Newspapers

Second Place

Greendale **Pioneer Outlook**
Regina Dominican **Crown**

Newspapers

Third Place

Loyola Academy **The Prep**
Parkview **Parkview Voice**
Rockford Lutheran **The Purple Ink**

Honorable Mention

Montello **Topper Talk**

YEARBOOKS

ALL-KEMPA

Antioch **Sequoia**
Hamilton **Lance**
Loyola Academy **The Year**
Milton **Talon**
Vernon Hills **Continuum**
Wausau West **Aurora**
Wheeling **Lair**

YEARBOOKS

First Place

D.C. Everest **Everette**
Naperville North **Reflections**
Janesville Parker **Valhalla**
Rockford Lutheran **Cavalier**
Wauwatosa East **Cardinal Pennant**

Yearbooks

Second Place

Belvidere North **Equus**
Oak Park and River Forest **Tabula**

Yearbooks

Third Place

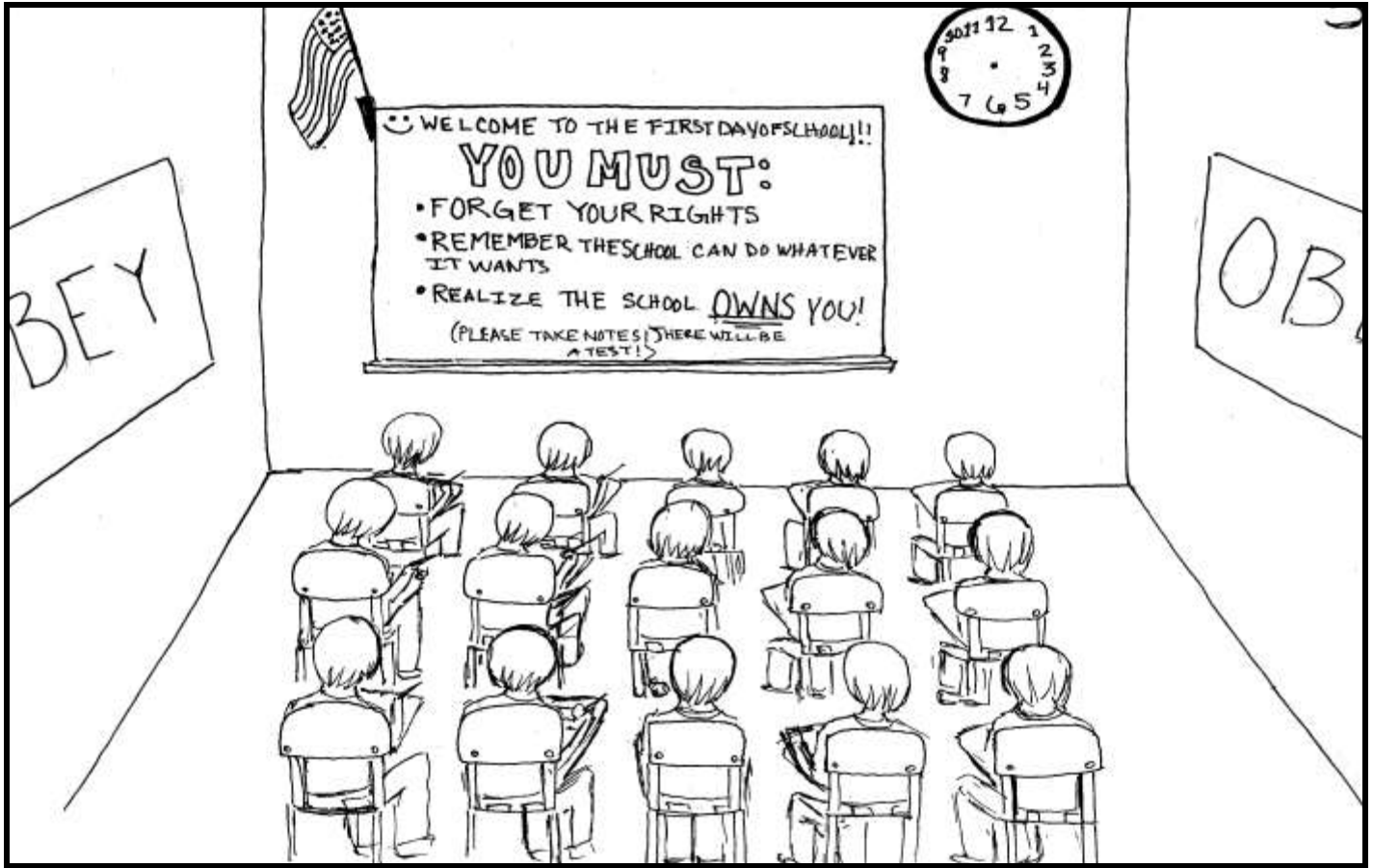
Brookfield Academy **Anabasis**
Waterloo **Wathilo**
Wauwatosa West **Olympian**

Note: Fall delivery yearbooks and those not submitted in time for the announcement of ratings at the fall conference will be evaluated and returned to schools with the judges' comments.

**Advisers: mark
calendars now!
March 5-6, 2010
The Abbey, Lake
Geneva
John Cutsinger
You deserve a
getaway! Laugh,
learn, buy stuff at
the Silent Auction!**



"I love deadlines. I especially like the whooshing sound they make as they go flying by." -Douglas Adams



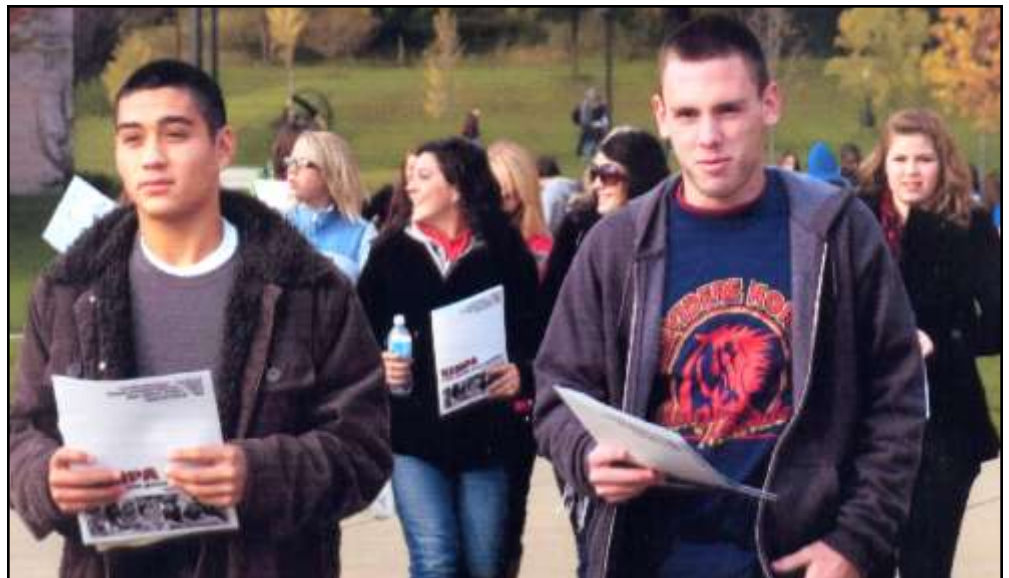
First Place Cartoon by **Kelly Byrne**, Grayslake Central High.

After an opening session with **Dr. Steven Brown**, Northeastern Illinois University, writers and cartoonists headed for their secluded areas to create interpretations of the presentation.

The topic covered the fight for press rights, the emergence of prior review, the Tinker ruling and possible changes in Supreme Court rulings with the new makeup in the Court personnel.

The cartoon at the top of the page was judged as best capturing the spirit of the speech.

On pages 3 and 4 the first place editorial and news story are reproduced. KEMPA readers will get some hints about what makes



good writing.

Danya Sherbini, Grayslake Central, wrote the first place editorial.

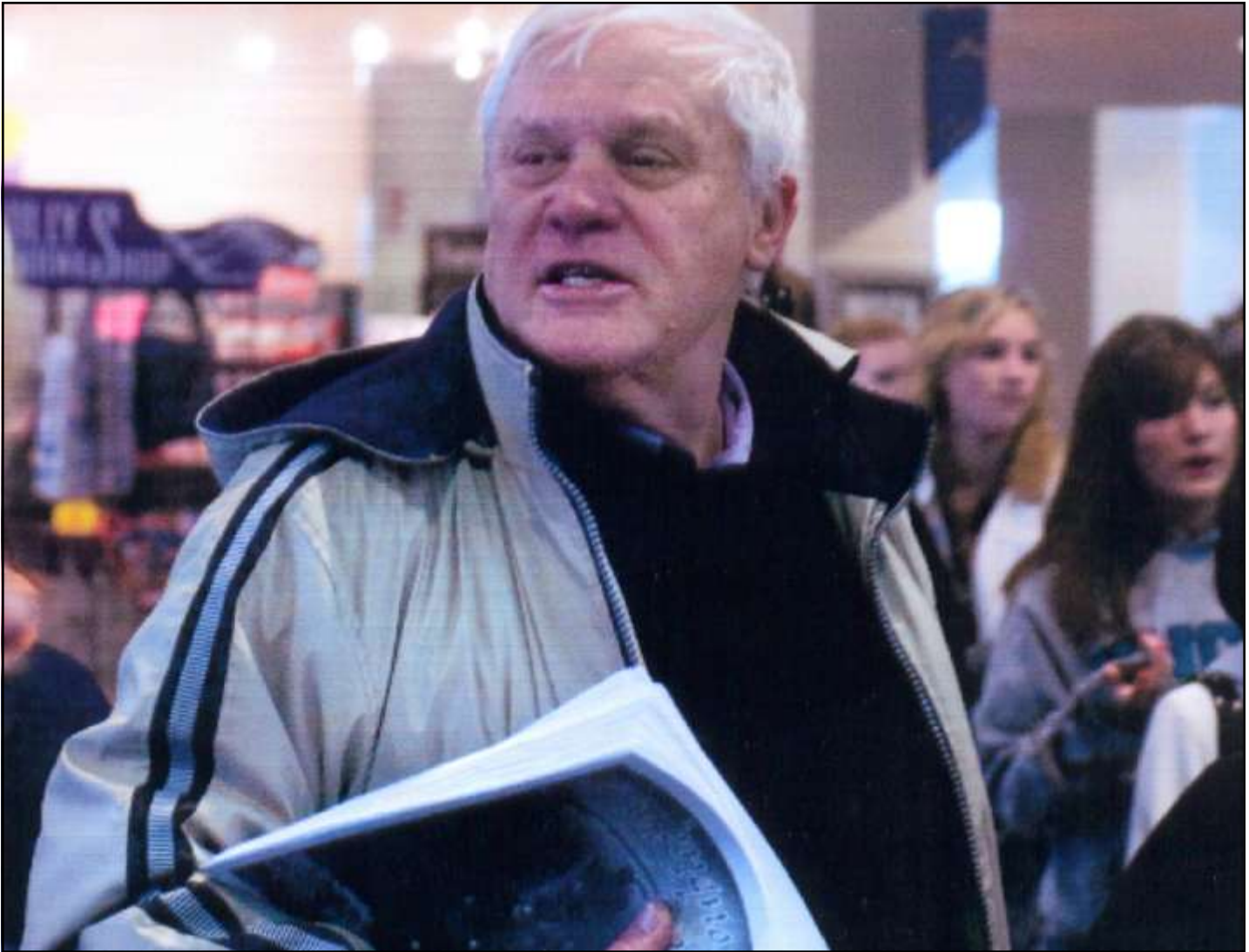
Something must be going very right in journalist writing at Grayslake as **Amish Shah** from the same school as

Sherbini, placed first in the news story category. .

Megan Buja, Jefferson High School (Rockford), won the Yearbook On-the-Spot writing contest. Writers had facts to incorporate in a story. (p. 7)

Journalists from Belvidere North set off down the Mall in search of their first session.

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com



Former Stoughton (WI) Norse Star adviser Dave Wallner

works to assemble his group in the University Center lobby.

Wallner now serves as mentor to adviser Ben Tripp. Koshollek photo

Yearbook On-the-Spot, Megan Buja, Rockford Jefferson

Negative to Positive-sparking change from adversity

Violence has become an increasing issue in schools across the country. After a shooting took place close to home, students decided to take the initiative to revitalize Universal High School and the community. Former clubs stepped up and new organizations were formed to team up against violence and make the school a better, safer learning environment.

Various groups worked to make improvements within the school itself. A few different angles were used to improve different aspects. Foreign language clubs, student gov., Youth Under Pressure, and Drama Club all had a positive impact. A new security camera, clean hallways, and better informed students were all products of these groups.

“I’ve never seen the school so clean for more than a day,” said Howie Black, principal.

In order to help the community, Key Club, Helping Hands, Senior-It is, and Student Government worked together. Battered women and children received Easter bags, senior citizens were entertained, and food and blood drives were held. The blood drive even broke its previous record.

“We were non-stop all day for the blood drive. It was cool we broke the record by that much,” said Mike