







Newspaper Design

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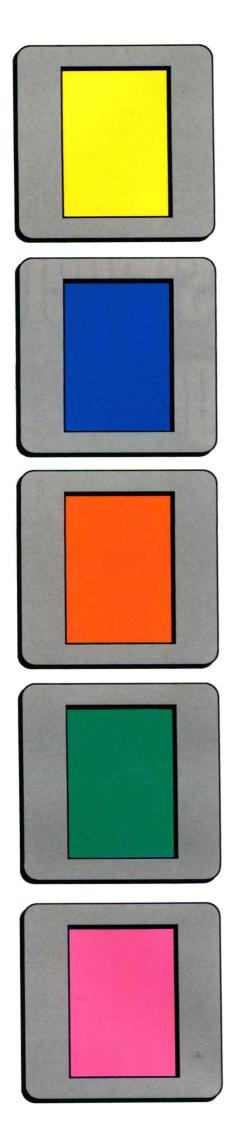
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Foreword

At a glance, as we in the newspaper business are fond of saying, this book contains the best of newspaper design from the Spring of 1986 to the Spring of 1987.

Designers have the ability to control how a message is transmitted, and thus, how the message is received. Every step a designer takes, consciously or unconsciously, says something to a reader. These pages show us the outstanding efforts of the clearest-thinking, most creative minds in our business, using state-of-the-art technology to present information and chronicle history as the decade of the '80s winds down.

Beyond the selection of type, the choice of photographs, the style of illustration, the use of color, what we see is designers at work in the on-going effort to better explain the news to readers.

As you look through these pages, you'll see the range of human experience transmitted through the minds and skills of some of our most talented journalists.

We hope you enjoy this book because what we're really looking at is ourselves—from the Spring of 1986 to the Spring of 1987.

MAGGIE BALOUGH

President, Society of Newspaper Design

The Society of Newspaper Design, an international professional organization founded in 1979, is dedicated to the betterment of newspapers through good design. The Society's more than 2,000 members in the United States, Canada and 30 other countries encompass the entire spectrum of newspaper disciplines, from artists to designers, reporters to photographers, editors to publishers. For more information on The Society of Newspaper Design, or for previous Best of Newspaper Design volumes, write: The Society of Newspaper Design, The Newspaper Center, Box 17290, Dulles International Airport, Washington, DC 20041, or call 703-620-1083.

Introduction

During the course of the judging, it might have seemed that the judges were being very hard-nosed; I remember late into the first day there weren't many winners. I thought, "This is great. We won't have to do a book, we can just publish a pamphlet!" But at the end of the weekend when we totaled up the medalists and winners, I was surprised at how many entries had won. The numbers make it appear to be very generous; the reality is different.

As happens every year, some very good work wasn't good enough. In some cases, the redundancy of topic and style worked against entries. I was pleased with the quality of the judging. They looked at 7.034 entries and never waivered from absolute scrutiny, making certain that everything about a page, a section, a paper had to work, from the folio to the jumpline. The results: 11 Gold Awards, 66 Silver Awards and 464 Awards of Excellence. The comments that follow were made during the judging process, and sum up the competition in a nutshell.

NANETTE BISHER

Eighth Edition Chairwoman

ON DESIGN

"As judges, we are looking for some indication that the designer knows what information he or she is trying to put over—involvement. Too often this is not the case. There's just a picture and space for type, without the problem being thought through." NIGEL HOLMES

"As an editor, I wouldn't want to encourage the attitude that we don't have the kind of space to do certain things. It is incumbent on the designer to take all of the elements that we've agreed should be on the page and make them work together."

N. CHRISTIAN ANDERSON

"A lot of papers have gotten into some bad habits. I've seen more pages without headlines, daring me to get into the page, as if a oneword label and art is enough. I dearly miss the headlines."

ROBERT LOCKWOOD

ON TRENDS

"The best this year is as good as the best last year, but we're not seeing new things."

CLAUDIO RODRIGUEZ

"We're seeing a lot of mimicry this year. No one is starting any trends. It's as if people saw what was selected last year and that was the way to do it. That's not what it takes to win. We're very tough on reruns."

NIGEL HOLMES

ON COLOR

"Very few papers know how to handle color. Most overdo it because they have to justify it economically. I'd love to see the return of spot color. People see infographics in other papers, and want to do it themselves, without having the resources or the time to do it properly."

NIGEL HOLMES

"The biggest problem is color used inappropriately. Color has to be used in the proper balance with the black and white on a page."

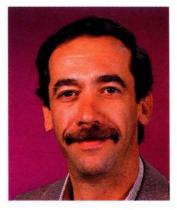
JUDY CROOK

The Judges



ROBERT LOCKWOOD

Founder, First President, Society of Newspaper
Design
Principal, News Graphics, New Tripoli



CLAUDIO RODRIGUEZ
Director of Art, NOVEDADES, Mexico City
President, National Foundation of Design
Associations of Mexico



CHRISTINA BRADFORD Managing Editor/News Detroit News



C. THOMAS HARDIN
Director of Photography, Louisville
Courier-Journal and Times
President, National Press Photographers
Association (1984–85)



SARA GIOVANITTI
Founding member, Society of Newspaper
Design
Principal, Sara Giovanitti Design, New York City



GERARD SEALY
Design Director, Sunday Magazine
Cleveland Plain Dealer