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Big Sky senior named top Montana high school journalist of 2008

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BIG SKY SENIOR NAMED TOP MONTANA HIGH SCHOOL JOURNALIST OF 2008

MISSOULA –

Billie Loewen, a senior editor for Missoula Big Sky High School’s Sun Journal, has been named Montana’s High School Journalist of the Year.

The annual contest, sponsored by the Montana Journalism Education Association, the Montana Newspaper Association and The University of Montana School of Journalism, honors the best in high school newspaper writing, photography and design. It is judged by Montana newspaper professionals and UM journalism faculty.

Loewen was selected from six high school seniors nominated for the honor by their high school journalism advisers. She will receive a $1,000 scholarship from the MNA.

Judges were impressed by the sophisticated stories and editorials Loewen produced and the high quality of her writing. She also designed pages for the Sun Journal, which was honored separately as the best designed high school newspaper in the state. “Billie is well-rounded in journalism, and seems to do everything she tackles very well,” the judges wrote.

Top honors in the Pacesetter category for best overall school newspaper in their respective classes went to the Great Falls High Iniw (Class AA), Sidney High School’s Spokesman (Class A), Jefferson County High School’s Panther Press (Class B) and Ennis High School’s The Stang (Class C).
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