Eighty-Seventh Annual Pulitzer Prizes Announced for Journalism, Letters, Drama and Music

The 87th annual Pulitzer Prizes in Journalism, Letters, Drama and Music, awarded on the recommendation of the Pulitzer Prize Board, were announced on April 7, 2003 by President Lee C. Bollinger.

The winners in each category, along with the names of the finalists in the competition, follow:

**Prizes in Journalism**

For a distinguished example of meritorious public service by a newspaper through the use of its journalistic resources which, as well as reporting, may include editorials, cartoons, photographs and an online presentation, a gold medal.

Awarded to The Boston Globe for its courageous, comprehensive coverage of sexual abuse by priests, an effort that pierced secrecy, stirred local, national and international reaction and produced much-needed changes in a criminal justice system that allowed lawbreakers to get away with everything from petty theft to murder; and The Pemacola News Journal for its uncommon courage in publishing stories that exposed a culture of corruption in Escambia County, Fla., and resulted in the indictment of four of five county commissioners.

**Breaking News Reporting**

For a distinguished example of local reporting of breaking news, seven thousand five hundred dollars ($7,500).

Awarded to The Eagle-Tribune staff, Lawrence, Mass., for its detailed, well-crafted stories on the accidental drowning of four boys in the Merrimack River.

Also nominated as finalists in this category were: Alan Miller and Kevin Sack of The Los Angeles Times for their revelatory and moving examination of a military aircraft, nicknamed “The Widow Maker,” that was linked to the deaths of 45 pilots (moved by the Board to the National Reporting category, where it was also entered); and The Seattle Times staff for its outstanding blend of investigation and evocative storytelling that showed how a footloose Algerian boy evolved into a terrorist.

**Explanatory Reporting**

For a distinguished example of explanatory reporting that illuminates a significant and complex subject, demonstrating mastery of the subject, lucid writing and clear presentation, seven thousand five hundred dollars ($7,500).

Awarded to The Wall Street Journal staff for its clear, concise and comprehensive stories that illuminated the roots, signifi- cance and impact of corporate scandals in America. (moved by the jury from the Public Service category)

Also nominated as finalists in this category were: Jim Haner, John H. O’Donnell and Kimberly A.C. Wilson of The Baltimore Sun for “Justice Undone,” their in-depth examination of the city’s disturbingly low conviction rate in murder cases; and The Milwaukee Journal Sentinel staff for its painstaking explanation of chronic-wasting disease among deer in Wisconsin, and the impact of the affliction on the state’s citizens, communities and culture.

**Beat Reporting**

For a distinguished example of beat reporting characterized by sustained and knowledgeable coverage of a particular subject or activity, seven thousand five hundred dollars ($7,500).

Awarded to Diana K. Sugg of The Baltimore Sun for her absorbing, often poignant stories that illuminated complex medical issues through the lives of people.

Also nominated as finalists in this category were: Cameron W. Fair of The Christian Science Monitor for the extraordinary clarity, diversity and context in his ongoing reporting of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict; and David Cay Johnston of The New York Times for his stories that displayed exquisite command of complicated U.S. tax laws and of how corporations and individuals twist them to their advantage.

**National Reporting**

For a distinguished example of reporting on national affairs, seven thousand five hundred dollars ($7,500).

Awarded to Alan Miller and Kevin Sack of The Los Angeles Times for their revelatory and moving examination of a military aircraft, nicknamed “The Widow Maker,” that was linked to the deaths of 45 pilots. (moved by the Board from the Investigative Reporting category to the National Reporting category, where it was also entered)

Also nominated as finalists in this category were: The Chicago Tribune staff for its engrossing exploration of how a Honduran boy’s perilous search for his missing mother exposed the roots of the drug trade; and Alisa Shuler and Mary Jordan of The Washington Post for their exposure of horrific conditions in Mexico’s criminal justice system and how they affect the daily lives of people.

**International Reporting**

For a distinguished example of reporting on international affairs, including United Nations correspondence, seven thousand five hundred dollars ($7,500).

Awarded to Kevin Sullivan and Anne Hall of The Washington Post for their exposure of horrific conditions in Mexico’s criminal justice system and how they affect the daily lives of people.

Also nominated as finalists in this category were: Aila M. Freedman and Steve Stecklow of The Wall Street Journal for their remarkable reports revealing little-known ways that Saddam Hussein profited from the United Nations sanctions meant to punish him; and R.C. Longworth of the Chicago Tribune for “A Fraying Alliance,” his perceptive series on emerging tensions between the United States and Europe.

**Feature Writing**

For a distinguished example of feature writing giving prime consideration to high literary quality and originality, seven thousand five hundred dollars ($7,500).

Awarded to Sonia Nazario of the Los Angeles Times for “A Fraying Alliance,” her perceptive series on emerging tensions between the United States and Europe.

Also nominated as finalists in this category were: Connie Schultz of The Plain Dealer, Cleveland, for her moving story about a woman who, convinced that her husband was a drug trafficker, exhaustively reported story of a Honduran boy’s perilous search for his mother, who had migrated to the United States.

Also nominated as finalists in this category were: Robert K. Tansey of the Denver Post, for his enterprise, sometimes surprising chronicle of a teenage prodigy’s struggle with a musical talent that proved to be both a gift and a problem.

The photo above, by Don Barletti of the Los Angeles Times, was among the work that earned Barletti the Pulitzer for Feature Photography.