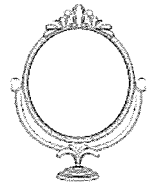


Premier Award

Best Rural and Agricultural Story

(circ. under 9,999)

Judge:
David Nickle



David Nickle is a senior political reporter with Metroland's Toronto Community News Division, and was the first place winner for the 2005 Best Agricultural Story in the Canadian Community Newspaper Association's Better Newspapers Competition.

FIRST PLACE
NWT News/North

SECOND PLACE
Uxbridge Times-Journal

THIRD PLACE
Sioux Lookout
Wawatay News

JUDGE'S COMMENTS

1st Place: News/North, North-West Territories. *Buffaloed!* Stories by Jack Danyichuk and Paul Bickford. Solid, intelligent writing and research combined with first-rate design and photography elevated this series on the demise of a NWT government experiment in bison ranching to first in this category. In an Aug. 22 news feature, Danyichuk captured the complexity - both politically and scientifically - of dealing with the diminishing Hook Lake herd and its losing battle with bovine tuberculosis. The paper followed the story with equally strong news and feature coverage from Bickford.

2nd Place: Uxbridge Times-Journal Harvest Time - *Feeding The World's Hungry* by Crystal Crimi. The headline says it all. Crystal Crimi and the Times-Journal's editorial team went all out to tell the story of local farmers' work with the Canadian Foodgrains Bank and the Canadian International Development Agency to send needed food to the developing world. The four-page section combined lush photography, evocative writing and solid design to take readers from the Regional Municipality of Durham, to Africa itself, in an interview with a local farming couple who recalled their travels there.

3rd Place: Wawatay News, *Dialysis Care in the Northwest Stories* by Rick Garrick. Garrick's series examining the challenges of providing hemo dialysis to remote communities in the north was featured by clear and humane reporting and excellent photography and design. By focusing on the patients who are managing their illness, Garrick succeeded in humanizing the issue and bringing it home for his readers.

