



By Russ Pankonin

The Imperial Republican

The Imperial Republican brought home a pair of awards from last week's National Newspaper Association annual convention held in Phoenix, Ariz.

News Editor Jan Schultz received an honorable mention for best sports photo in the weekly division with circulation of less than 3,000.

Her photo published in June 2012 featured Cameron Johnson making a catch during a T-ball practice. The judges commented, "Nice feature pic guaranteed to draw reader response. Captures facial expression with tongue sticking out."

The staff was recognized for their efforts with an honorable mention for best local news coverage among dailies and weeklies with circulation of less than 3,000.

The paper submitted 2012 issues from March 15 and Sept. 20 for consideration.

The judges said the Imperial Republican offered a "good solid community news package."

Other judges' comments included, "Broad coverage, solid records reporting, sports; nice editorial page. From city hall to farm field. Nice ad product, including classifieds."

Another Johnson Publications newspaper, the Holyoke Enterprise, won a pair of advertising awards.

The paper took third place for best classified section in the daily and non-daily class.

They also took third place for best newspaper promotion in the daily and non-daily division with circulation less than 10,000.