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May 19, 2006

## They're rad; judges glad

### Riley Review once again racks up awards

By **JIM MEENAN**  
Tribune Staff Writer

SOUTH BEND -- Was it the bylines done with a label maker? Or the newspaper's logo and section headers done with cut-outs of letters of totally funky fonts and sizes?

Maybe it was six letters to the editor giving the high school paper a strong appearance of relevance with its audience.

Then there's the writing on subjects such as coffeehouses and Army recruiting, not to mention its presentation in a hip and modern design.

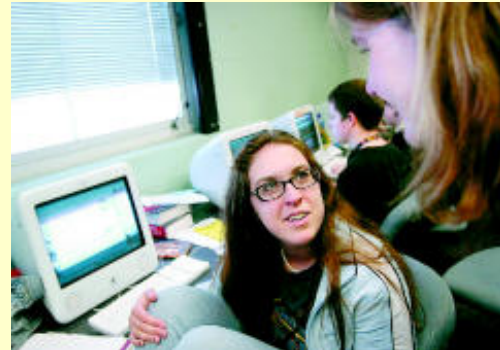
Whatever it was, the result is another award-winning year for the Riley Review, the student newspaper at Riley High School.

"We broke some design conventions and took some risks because it fits our image to be kind of cool and cutting edge to appeal to the students," Marcia Kovas, teacher/adviser, said.

It's somewhat based on the Chicago Tribune's RedEye edition, she added.

"It has a feel that you gotta have it," Kovas said. "It fits our image of being important to students and being a must read.

"We try to tell more than club news, but issues that we are dealing with at our school."



**Riley Review editor Sarah Scanlon, left, discusses possible lead stories for the final edition of the school paper with Marcia Kovas, adviser of the school paper, Wednesday at Riley High School. It was another award-winning year for the Riley Review and Scanlon herself won a second "Gold Key" award.**

Tribune Photos/MARCUS MARTER



It apparently impressed the judges.

The paper under the direction of co-editors Amanda Sommers, Sarah Scanlon, Bobby Williams and Noel Ullery won the following awards recently:

- Highest possible rating from the Indiana High School Press Association, being named "superior" once again by a national judge in statewide competition, thus making it a Hoosier Star finalist. The students find out in October if they win the honor as the top prep paper in the state.
- Special distinction for content and coverage; in-depth coverage and editing; visual packaging; photography and inside page design and art.
- Juniors Chyna McBride and Britney Burton won the prestigious scholarship for Outstanding Minority Journalists to the Indiana University Journalism Institute this summer, a one-week journalism camp.

**Sommers**



**Ullery**



**Williams**

- Scanlon won her second Gold Key in the Quill and Scroll International Writing and Photo contest for high school journalists for her story "Free Falling," detailing the aftermath of a student's bloody fall from a car in the Riley parking lot.
- Williams, a senior, was named a first place winner in the Women's Press Club of Indiana state wide journalism competition for the second straight year. His column "Go Army, Seriously Leave!" was written in protest of the recruitment of teenagers in their high school cafeterias by the military. His graphic of an Army recruit also took an honorable mention.

"They are incredible writers," Kovas said of Williams and Scanlon. "The one thing you can say about both of them is they have a voice, a need to write. Both are prolific writers."

- Junior Bobby Lopez's movie review of "Stage Beauty" won an honorable mention in the review division in the Women's Press Club of Indiana competition.

For the students, carrying on Riley's long-running award winning tradition means a lot.

"It was really exciting," said Sommers, who has been a part of the paper all four years.

"I just think our creativity is something that fuels us. I get really excited when things look creative and fun and that's what we try to do with our pages."

For Scanlon, it meant a lot, too.

"I think it is pretty neat because we work so hard in here, and seeing all that work pay off in an award, that is awesome," she said.

The Gold Key meant a lot, too.

"That's super rad because I am very conscientious with my writing and make sure all my facts are right," Scanlon said. "Seeing I got a Gold Key shows I am moving in the right direction."

Awards are nice, but putting out newspapers in high school is not easy. It makes the awards all the more sweet to Noel Ullery, also a senior.

"It means a lot to me," Ullery said. "It keeps me going (during the frustrating times of dealing with pages, deadlines and articles). It keeps me motivated and it makes me realize that when I am under a lot of stress and things are not coming together that it will all pay off in the end."

Kovas is proud of her pupils.

They have ownership in the paper, and that helps bring about its success, she said.

"One thing the Review is strong about is letting the students choose their material," she said. "Therefore they have a lot of ownership."

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