

BERNIE BUZZ! BWAA Writing Awards Are Out

Written by The Sweet Science
Thursday, 10 April 2014 08:17



TOLEDO, MANNIX, ACEVEDO, BORGES, GROVES TOP LIST OF WINNERS IN BWAA WRITING CONTEST

Repeat winners Springs Toledo, of *thesweetscience.com*, and Chris Mannix, of *Sports Illustrated*,

head the list of honorees in the 13th

annual Boxing Writers Association of America writing contest. Joining them with multiple placing entries is a newcomer to the competition, Carlos Acevedo, who writes for

Esquino Boxeo

and

The Cruellest Sport,

as well as the competition's all-time winningest writer, Ron Borges, of

Boxing Monthly

and

The Ring,

and Lee Groves, of

RingTV.com

.

The contest period covered the 2013 calendar year.

They and others who found favor with the five-person panel of judges will be recognized at the

BERNIE BUZZ! BWAA Writing Awards Are Out

Written by The Sweet Science
Thursday, 10 April 2014 08:17

89th annual BWAA Awards Dinner, to be held May 1 at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas.

Toledo, the Massachusetts-based author/historian, has a new book, *The Gods of War: Boxing Essays*, that has a publication date of April 24. Among the included pieces is his second-place-winning BWAA story in the Feature Under 1,750 Words category about the eerie parallels between the original “Kid Chocolate,” a nearly penniless Cuban named Eligio Sardinias Montalvo who arrived in New York City in 1928, and an updated fighter who appropriated the nickname, Peter Quillin, who came to Manhattan under similar circumstances in 2001.

Other placing entries for Toledo are the first he will receive in the Feature Over 1,750 Words category, a touching tribute to his friend and role model, Joe Rein, and a second, in News Story, about the boxing background of U.S. Olympic hopeful-turned-terrorist Tamerlan Tsarnaev, one of the two brothers responsible for the finish-line bombing at the Boston Marathon on April 15, 2013, that left three people dead and an estimated 264 injured. Toledo also took an honorable mention in Event Coverage, giving him 16 BWAA awards just since 2010.

Mannix, who took two first-place awards in the 2012 BWAA contest (for Feature Under 1,750 Words and Feature Over 1,750 Words), nearly matched that feat a year later. He had a first place (tying Groves, of RingTV.com) in Feature Under 1,750 Words on the talented but erratic Adrien Broner, and a second in Feature Over 1,750 Words, about the bond between junior welterweight champion Danny “Swift” Garcia and his controversial father-trainer, Angel Garcia.

Acevedo didn’t avoid a hot-button topic in his first-place Column, which deals with boxers who give so much of themselves in the ring and sometimes come away with pugilistica dementia and chronic traumatic encephalopathy. His third-place piece in Feature Under 1,750 Words also examines the same harrowing theme.

Borges has never failed to place in the BWAA contest, and he scored again with a first in News Story, in *Boxing Monthly*, on promoter Bob Arum’s promotion of two-time Olympic champion Zou Shiming, of China, and the necessity of doing so in a manner that meets with the approval of the Chinese government. The veteran Boston writer also scored a third in Feature Over 1,750 Words for a story that appeared in *The Ring* that dealt with boxer Edwin Rodriguez Jr.’s two children, who had long odds to overcome as “micropreemies,” weighing only 19 ounces at birth. Borges also had honorable mentions in Event Coverage and Column.

BERNIE BUZZ! BWAA Writing Awards Are Out

Written by The Sweet Science
Thursday, 10 April 2014 08:17

Groves, who took a first in News Story in the 2011 contest, returns to the winner's circle with his tied-for-first entry in Feature Under 1,750 Words on his personal crisis of conscience as a boxing fan wrought by the death of Francisco Leal and the serious brain injury suffered by Magomed Abdusalamov. He added tied-for-third story in News Story, for a tribute to the late Ken Norton.

Other first places went to David Weinberg, of the *Press of Atlantic City*, for his account of Darren Barker's wresting of the IBF middleweight title from Daniel Geale, and Thomas Hauser, of BoxingScene.com, in Investigative Reporting, for his account of the tragedy of Abdusalamov's brutal loss to Mike Perez.

The complete list of award winners is below:

2013 BERNIE WINNERS

BOXING EVENT COVERAGE

First Place

DAVID WEINBERG, "Barker's Stirring Comeback Thrills Revel Crowd," *Press of Atlantic City*, August 19, 2013

Second Place

PABLO S. TORRE, "A Night of 'Fiesta' Turns into Tears," *ESPN.com*, September 15, 2013

BERNIE BUZZ! BWAA Writing Awards Are Out

Written by The Sweet Science
Thursday, 10 April 2014 08:17

Third Place

NORM FRAUENHEIM, "Mayweather Wins Big According to Everyone But One Judge," *15Rounds.com*,
September 14, 2013

Honorable Mention: **Ron Borges**, *Boston Herald*; **Tim Dahlberg**, *Associated Press*; **David P. Greisman**

,
BoxingScene.com

,
Lance Pugmire

,
Los Angeles Times

,
Michael Rosenthal

,
RingTV.com

,
Joseph Santoliquito

,
Philadelphia Daily News

,
Springs Toledo

,
thesweetscience.com

BOXING COLUMN

First Place

CARLOS ACEVEDO, "A Darkness Made to Order," *Esquino Boxeo*, October 9, 2013

BERNIE BUZZ! BWAA Writing Awards Are Out

Written by The Sweet Science
Thursday, 10 April 2014 08:17

Second Place

MICHAEL WOODS, "He's Still the Most Handsome Man, and Everything to Me," *thesweetscience.com*,
December 24, 2013

Third Place

JERRY IZENBERG, "Meeting Mandela: A Heavyweight Memory to Last a Lifetime," *The Star-Ledger*,
December 15, 2013

Honorable Mention: **Adam Berlin**, *Boxing.com*; **Ron Borges**, *Boston Herald*; **Thomas Gerbasi**, *Boxing Scene.com*;
;
David P. Greisman,
,
BoxingScene.com
;
Gordon Marino,
The Ring

BOXING NEWS STORY

First Place

BERNIE BUZZ! BWAA Writing Awards Are Out

Written by The Sweet Science
Thursday, 10 April 2014 08:17

RON BORGES, "Fists of Gold," *Boxing Monthly*, August 2013

Second Place

SPRINGS TOLEDO, "Boston Beats the Count," *thesweetscience.com*, April 21, 2013

Third Place (Tie)

BART BARRY, "Un-Cancelled: Garcia Misses Weight, Lopez Does Not," *15Rounds.com*, June 14, 2013

LEE GROVES, "A Tribute to Ken Norton," *RingTV.com*, September 20, 2013

Honorable Mention: **Tim Dahlberg**, *Associated Press*; **Bernard Fernandez**, *thesweetscience.com* ; **Thomas**

Hauser , *Ma*

xBoxing.com

;

Ron Ross

,

Boxing News Magazine

;

George Willis

,

New York Post

BERNIE BUZZ! BWAA Writing Awards Are Out

Written by The Sweet Science
Thursday, 10 April 2014 08:17

BOXING FEATURE (Under 1,750 words)

First Place (Tie)

LEE GROVES, "Commentary: One Boxing Fan's Crisis of Confidence," *RingTV.com*,
November 9, 2013

CHRIS MANNIX, "Problem Child," *Sports Illustrated*, December 16, 2013

Second Place

SPRINGS TOLEDO, "Kid Chocolate," *thesweetscience.com*, February 5, 2013

Third Place: (Tie)

CARLOS ACEVEDO, "Leftover Life to Kill: Blood, Death, Remembrance, Alphabet City," *The
Cruellest Sport*
, July 31, 2013

JEFF MacGREGOR, "Cloud Notebook," *ESPN.com*, March 13, 2013

Honorable Mention: **Tim Dahlberg**, *Associated Press*; **Bernard Fernandez**, *Philadelphia Daily
News* ; **Joseph**

Santoliquito

,
The Ring

; **David Weinberg**

,

BERNIE BUZZ! BWAA Writing Awards Are Out

Written by The Sweet Science
Thursday, 10 April 2014 08:17

The Press of Atlantic City

BOXING FEATURE (Over 1,750 words)

First Place

SPRINGS TOLEDO, "Joe," *thesweetscience.com*, November 12, 2013

Second Place

CHRIS MANNIX, "A Father's Faith," *Sports Illustrated*, September 9, 2013

Third Place

RON BORGES, "Little Warriors," *The Ring*, April 2013

Honorable Mention: **Carlos Acevedo**, *The Cruellest Sport*; **Norm Frauenheim**, *The Ring*; **Jack Hirsch**

,
boxingnewsonline.net

;
Gordon Marino

,
The Ring

;

BERNIE BUZZ! BWAA Writing Awards Are Out

Written by The Sweet Science
Thursday, 10 April 2014 08:17

Pablo S. Torre,
ESPN The Magazine

BOXING INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING

First Place

THOMAS HAUSER, "Magomed Abdusalamov and the Dark Side of Boxing," *BoxingScene.com*
, November 22, 2013

Second Place

BRIN-JONATHAN BUTLER, "Requiem for a Welterweight," *SBnation*, November 20, 2013

Third Place

BART BARRY, "Frankie Deal: Death and a Haunting Question." *The Ring*, December 20, 2013

Honorable Mention: **Bernard Fernandez**, *thesweetscience.com*; **David P. Greisman**, *Boxing Scene.com*

BERNIE BUZZ! BWAA Writing Awards Are Out

Written by The Sweet Science
Thursday, 10 April 2014 08:17

2013 BERNIES JUDGES:

LEE BARFKNECHT : Omaha World-Herald

TOMMY DEAS : Executive Sports Editor, Tuscaloosa News; 3rd Vice President, Associated Press Sports Editors

STEVE GORTEN : South Florida Sun-Sentinel

JIM McNALLY : Boxing Coach, United States Naval Academy

RAY MURRAY : Assistant Professor, Oklahoma State University, School of Media and Strategic Communications

[WATCH RELATED VIDEOS ON BOXINGCHANNEL.TV](http://BOXINGCHANNEL.TV)

[Comment on this article](#)

The Commish says:

Congrats to all the winners, especially three of my faves: Michael Woods, Ron Borges and Lee Groves.

-Randy G.

brownsugar says:

Congrats EM.. Its interesting to me that your writing style is a lot like boxing...you'll circle around a topic for a while..do a little backtracking.. Coming forward to offer a hint of what is to come..while using a full arsenal of ammuntion to soften the reader to you view point that you

BERNIE BUZZ! BWAA Writing Awards Are Out

Written by The Sweet Science
Thursday, 10 April 2014 08:17

hammer into place with the precision of a deftly delivered right hand... all this behind the disguise of a folksy pre-amble that leaves the reader somewhat unprepared for the complexity of the delivery of the final blow...keep up the good work.

admin says:

I am saving this analysis for my archives!! Love it, bro. THANKS, EM
[QUOTE=brownsugar;48754]Congrats EM.. Its interesting to me that your writing style is a lot like boxing...you'll circle around a topic for a while..do a little backtracking.. Coming forward to offer a hint of what is to come..while using a full arsenal of ammuntion to soften the reader to you view point that you hammer into place with the precision of a deftly delivered right hand... all this behind the disguise of a folksy pre-amble that leaves the reader somewhat unprepared for the complexity of the delivery of the final blow...keep up the good work.[/QUOTE]

admin says:

Had to read this twice...I cracked up, at the DEFT way u describe my meandering HAHAHA.
[QUOTE=brownsugar;48754]Congrats EM.. Its interesting to me that your writing style is a lot like boxing...you'll circle around a topic for a while..do a little backtracking.. Coming forward to offer a hint of what is to come..while using a full arsenal of ammuntion to soften the reader to you view point that you hammer into place with the precision of a deftly delivered right hand... all this behind the disguise of a folksy pre-amble that leaves the reader somewhat unprepared for the complexity of the delivery of the final blow...keep up the good work.[/QUOTE]

the Roast says:

[QUOTE=admin;48812]Had to read this twice...I cracked up, at the DEFT way u describe my meandering HAHAHA.[/QUOTE]

I read it twice and I still don't know what he's talking about. #overmyhead

brownsugar says:

[QUOTE=admin;48812]Had to read this twice...I cracked up, at the DEFT way u describe my meandering HAHAHA.[/QUOTE]

I'm onto your Mayweather like word-generalship EM.. Took a while to crack the code...LOL..