



**PRO FOOTBALL HALL OF FAME**  
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## **NEWS RELEASE**

Sports Illustrated photographer John Biever is the winner of the Dave Boss Award of Excellence for his entry in the 36th annual Pro Football Hall of Fame Photo Contest. His photo, entitled "Balancing Act," was deemed Photograph of the Year.

The color action photo depicts Cincinnati Bengals running back Jeremi Johnson stepping on a pylon in mid-air as he soars into the end zone for a touchdown. The photo was taken during the second half of the Bengals' 24-19 win over the Kansas City Chiefs on November 16, 2003.

This is the second time that Biever has received Photo of the Year honors in the Hall of Fame Photo Contest. He previously won the grand prize in 1999. Only one other photographer has repeated as the Hall of Fame's Photo Contest grand prize winner. Sports Illustrated's Walter Ioss, Jr. won the contest in 1979 and 2000.

The prestigious contest, sponsored by Canon, the official camera of the Pro Football Hall of Fame, is open to professional photographers ordinarily on assignment to cover National Football League games. Photos taken during the 2003 season, which included Super Bowl XXXVIII and the 2004 Pro Bowl, were eligible.

Biever's entry was the first place winner in the action category. The first place winner in the feature category was Jim Davis of *The Boston Globe*. Davis's image titled "Super Joy," shows New England Patriots defensive back Rodney Harrison in a tearful celebration following the Patriots' victory over the Carolina Panthers in Super Bowl XXXVIII.

Judging for this year's contest was conducted on April 16, by a panel of prominent photo editors and photographers. The judges included **Mike Fabus**, Pittsburgh Steelers' team photographer/image coordinator; **Paul Nisely**, senior photo editor, *The Sporting News*; **Brad Smith**, national picture editor, *The New York Times*; **Kevin Terrell**, director of photo services/managing photo editor, NFL Creative; and **Tony Tomsic**, freelance photographer.

All of this year's judges have helped determine the Hall of Fame's Photo Contest winner multiple times in the past. As a group, they agreed that the images submitted for this year's contest were very impressive. "This was the strongest group of collective images that I have ever seen," stated Smith. "It was really difficult to pick a winner."

Biever will be officially honored at the Enshrinees Game Day Roundtable, part of the Pro Football Hall of Fame enshrinement celebration, on August 9, 2004 in front of a sellout crowd of 4,000 people. The multi-day celebration is highlighted by the induction of the Class of 2004 – Bob Brown, Carl Eller, John Elway, and Barry Sanders – on August 8, followed by the AFC-NFC Hall of Fame Game the next day. This year's game showcases the Denver Broncos against the Washington Redskins.

To download high resolution images of this year's winners, log onto:  
[www.profootballhof.com/media](http://www.profootballhof.com/media) (UserName: canton; Password: canton)

# Pro Football Hall of Fame 36th Annual Photo Contest (2003 Season)

## List of Winners

Dave Boss Award of Excellence, 2003 (Photo of the Year)

### Action Winner – John Biever, Sports Illustrated

#### Action

- First Place – John Biever, Sports Illustrated, “Balancing Act,” Kansas City Chiefs at Cincinnati Bengals, November 16, 2003.
- Second Place – Donald Miralle, Getty Images, “Tip-Toed,” Cincinnati Bengals at San Diego Chargers, November 23, 2003.
- Third Place – Dilip Vishwanat, Sporting News, “Cat Grab,” Carolina Panthers at St. Louis Rams, January 10, 2004.
- Hon. Mention – Jeff Chiu, Associated Press, “Boldin Reaches,” Arizona Cardinals at San Francisco 49ers (NFC Divisional Playoff,) December 7, 2003.
- Hon. Mention – Jim Davis, The Boston Globe, “Over The Top,” New York Jets at New England Patriots, September 21, 2003.
- Hon. Mention – Bill Frakes, Sports Illustrated, “Panther Prey,” Tennessee Titans at Carolina Panthers, October 19, 2003.
- Hon. Mention – Drew Hallowell, Philadelphia Eagles, “Got Air?” Philadelphia Eagles at Miami Dolphins, December 15, 2003.
- Hon. Mention – James E. Mahan, Urbana (OH) Daily Citizen, “Helmets Away,” Pittsburgh Steelers at Cincinnati Bengals, September 21, 2003.
- Hon. Mention – Chaz Palla, Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, “Leaping El,” Tennessee Titans at Pittsburgh Steelers, September 28, 2003.
- Hon. Mention – William Serne, St. Petersburg Times, “Hard Knock,” New York Giants at Tampa Bay Buccaneers, November 24, 2003.
- Hon. Mention – Damian Strohmeyer, Sports Illustrated, “Flying Fish,” Miami Dolphins at Buffalo Bills, December, 21 2003.
- Hon. Mention – Damian Strohmeyer, Sports Illustrated, “One Handed,” Indianapolis Colts at Tennessee Titans, December 7, 2003.

# Feature

- First Place – Jim Davis, The Boston Globe, “Super Joy,” Carolina Panthers vs. New England Patriots (Super Bowl XXXVIII), February 1, 2004.
- Second Place – Dan Powers, The Post-Crescent (WI), “Headless Lion,” Green Bay Packers at Detroit Lions, November 27, 2003.
- Third Place – Louis DeLuca, Dallas Morning News, “Super Bowl XXXVIII,” Carolina Panthers vs. New England Patriots (Super Bowl XXXVIII), February 1, 2004.
- Hon. Mention – Barry Chin, The Boston Globe, “Reflections for a Son,” Carolina Panthers vs. New England Patriots (Super Bowl XXXVIII), February 1, 2004.
- Hon. Mention – Donald Miralle, Getty Images, “Tunnel Vision” Minnesota Vikings at San Diego Chargers, November 9, 2003.
- Hon. Mention – James D. Smith, Freelance, “Texas Stadium Flyover,” Miami Dolphins at Dallas Cowboys, November 27, 2003.
- Hon. Mention – Chaz Palla, Pittsburgh Tribune-Review, “Cold Warmup” Pittsburgh Steelers at New York Jets, December 14, 2003.