

tograph of his pregnant wife in a Polk County grainfield (see cover). A short time later, judges selected this photo as the grand prize winner. Johnson will receive a two-week trip for two to Tahiti as his prize.

Carroll Cannefax of Dayton won second grand prize for his beautiful potrait of a swan at rest in the Portland Zoo. It was the first-place color winner in June.

In July, Ed Vranizan of Portland was awarded second place in black and white for his shot of a half-buried plane at the Hailey, Idaho, airport. Citing "powerful lighting" and a curious subject, the judges selected it as the third grand prize winner in the contest.

Of Johnson's award-winner, one judge noted its color, expression and "simple charm" as reasons for its success. "It's got some thought," another remarked.

"The final winners are typical of the diversity in subject and treatment that we have seen all along," said Joseph R. Bianco, editor of Northwest Magazine. "Some 5,000 photographs were entered in this contest, and the subjects were as varied as the mind can imagine. It really shows how many facets there are to life in the Pacific Northwest — and that's what we wanted this contest to show.

"The winning photos were the ones that took a subject from all this diversity and focused on it, making a clear, strong statement, drawing the viewer to take a second look and probe deeper."

First place in black-and-white in the September judging went to Mark Bailey of Eugene for a fascinating portrait of card players in a smoky room. Few photos in the entire contest captured such intense and interesting facial expressions.

Second place in black-and-white was awarded to Jim Atwood of Portland for his shot of cross-country skiers at 10,000 feet in British Columbia. Michael Curry of Corvallis captured sunlight streaming through a forest on the coast, and his picture won second place in color for September.

Honorable mentions went to Susan Dahlstrom of Beaverton (black-and-white) and Maddock Roberts and Jim Schubert of Gaston (color).

Reflecting on the contest, one of the five judges observed, "Too many photographers lose a prize winner by not checking for little things such as a pole growing out of a horse's head or wheat strands across a person's face." And even with the increased popularity of picture-taking today, he said, it's still harder to take a good black-and-white photograph than a color one.

Another judge said many entries "revealed an unusual awareness of composition, with less emphasis on the 'cute kid' or 'unusual situation' picture. Instead, the entries exuded



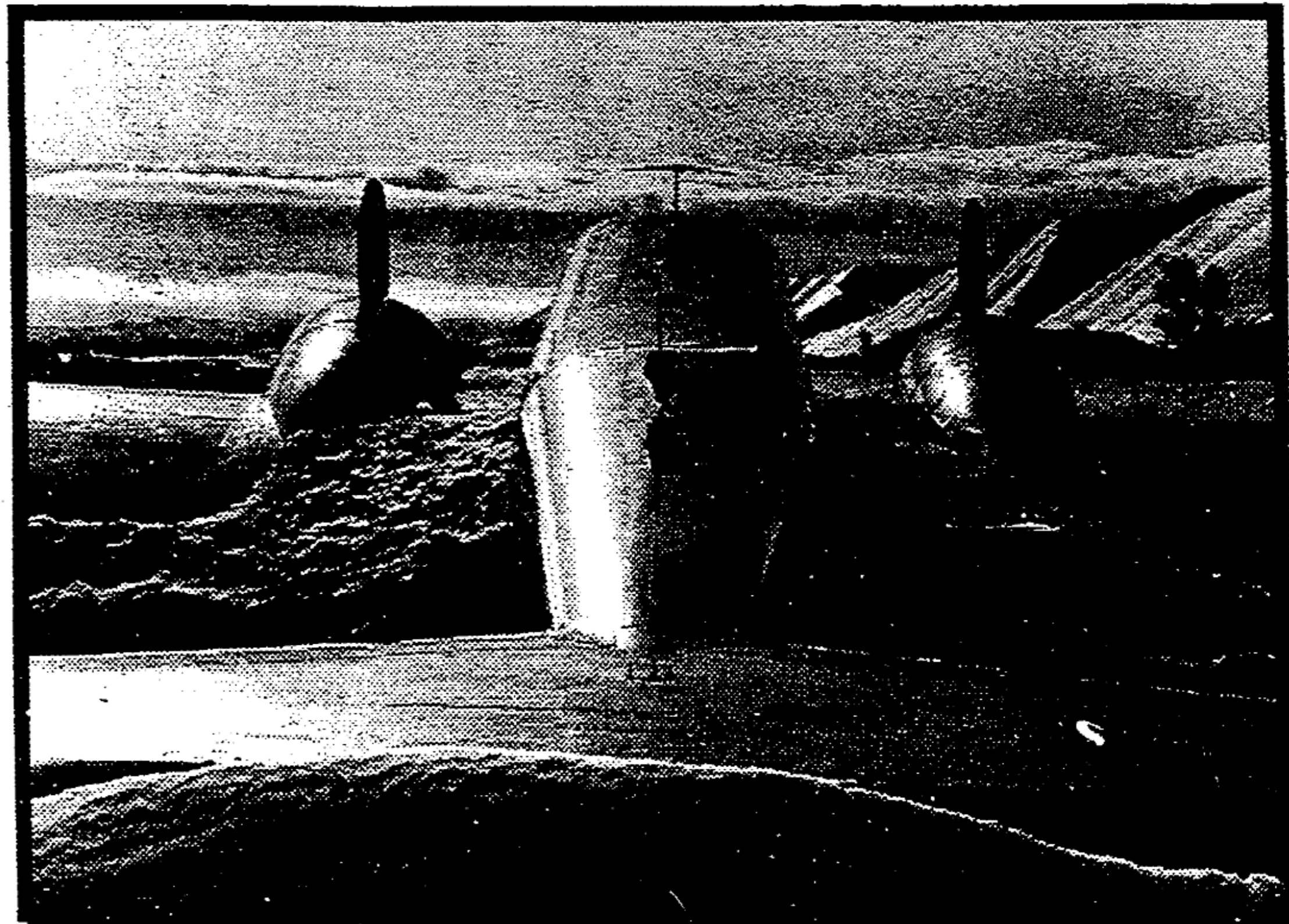
First place black and white in September — Mark Bailey, Eugene. Card game with no losers.

a simple message of beauty and feeling."

Judges for the contest were Joseph Erceg, a Portland graphic designer; David Falconer, chief photographer of The Oregonian; William Grand of the Portland Art Museum Photography School; Wes Guderian, photo editor of The Oregonian, and Al Monner, former Oregon Journal photographer.

"Our photo contest was a great success," editor Bianco concluded, "not just in numbers of entries, but in the quality and diversity of the photographs and in the interest demonstrated in photography as an art form."

By Bob Michelet, a member of the Northwest Magazine staff.



THIRD GRAND PRIZE — Ed Vranizan, Portland. Airport at Hailey, Idaho.



Second place black and white in September — Jim Atwood, Portland. Cariboo Mountain Range, B.C.