Feature (1) - Personal Statement, Walgreen Cashier

My connection to this photo runs deep. Mike Haynes (Center) is someone I not only saw before this photo but someone I see almost daily. What happened on this day was beyond deserving as he truly is one of the kindest people I've ever met. About a week later, I went to see him and brought him a framed copy of this picture. Its moments like this that make me grateful for what I have the opportunity do.

CAPTION: Local Walgreens employee Mike Haynes was rewarded with a large donation from the community through a online fundraiser and a suprise from The Ellen Show that started because of his extensive kindness and caring for others.

News (1) - Personal Statement, Press Conference

I personally know just about every person in this photo - from the three students in the foreground, to a large portion of the student body behind them. Covering this event conveyed to me the impact that students can have when the put their minds together and work collaboratively towards a better society.

CAPTION: At a student held press conference, Clayton High School Junior Sydney Tennill speaks to students and media about her feelings on gun reform and legislation given the current tensions surrounding the subject.

News (2) - Personal Statement, Stockley Verdict Police Line

This photo might not even exist if I hadn't relentlessly begged my mother to let me go down and shoot the protest. When the ok was relucent it showed me that the idea of change is not over and that we still have people willing to put up a fight for what's right.

CAPTION: Officers from the St. Louis City Police Department create a bicycle barricade in front of the downtown courthouse in the City of St. Louis during protests following the acquittal of former white police officer Jason Stockley in the 2011 shooting death of black driver Anthony Lamar Smith.

Sports Action (1) - Personal Statement, Clayton Tennis

This photo is more about what he is wearing rather than the massive backhand he delivered to win the point. Clayton and Ladue, two long standing rivals, came together to in unison to host a match benefiting cancer complete with food, fun, and shirts, like the one Angelo is wearing, to help

benefit Siteman Cancer Center. Events like this provide good contrast to the tragedy that consumes the media cycle.

CAPTION: Clayton High School Senior Angelo Vidal delivers a powerful backhand during the annual Clayton v. Ladue rivalry match benefiting cancer.

Sports Reaction (1) - Personal Statement, State Loss

This photo doesn't just picture a athlete who is competing at the state tournament and lost. This is the final time this athlete will ever play a competitive tennis match. That feeling of knowing it's all over is quite the emotion and one that I believe is captured here.

CAPTION: Senior Noah Brown hangs in head in defeat after losing in the third place match during the state tournament in Springfield, Missouri on May 25.