As the Herald celebrates its 94th birthday, we also turn our attention to celebrating and recognizing the freedom of the press which is so largely done by students both at the Herald and across the country.

Our Stance: Student journalism matters and deserves the recognition and appreciation it has earned over time. Student journalists are often overlooked and remain one of the most accomplished and respected professions.

Perhaps the most significant challenge in American journalism history is currently unfolding with a national academic backlash and under-supported by the communities they are trying to benefit. Accusations of amateurism, “fake news” and “cry baby” have been directed at student journalists attacking journalism.

Today, journalism is under more attack than it has been in generations. Students are especially victimized by these attacks.

The Issue: Student journalists are often overlooked and remain one of the most accomplished and respected professions. But, even at universities and colleges with strong student press freedom programs, there is no “fake news” in the work we do. There is no “fake news” in the stories we report on harassment by faculty members. There is no “fake news” in the disturbing pattern of sexual misconduct by faculty across the state’s universities. And she did it all without identifying a single student.

The first copy is free, and additional copies are $1 each, available in the Student Publications Center on Normal Street. The legal defense funds from both the Kentucky Press Association and the Society of Professional Journalists have been a combined total of nearly $30,000. Herald alumni have reached into their own pockets, as well, giving an amount close to $7,000. These student press freedom predicaments could greatly benefit from campus-wide student support.

Reasons for that very kind of student support can be found in the work we do. There is no “fake news” in the stories we report on harassment by faculty members. There is no “fake news” in the disturbing pattern of sexual misconduct by faculty across the state’s universities. And she did it all without identifying a single student.

Student press freedom is more than just another issue to benefi t. Accusations of amateurism, “fake news” and “cry baby” have been directed at student journalists attacking journalism.

As the Herald celebrates 94 years of serving WKU today and Student Press Freedom Day on Wednesday, every noteworthy story is also fast approaching a full year of coverage. As the Country celebrates another birthday, we also turn our attention to celebrating and demanding student press freedom today and every day.

The Herald reporter Nicole Ares took the information from three employees sexual misconduct records and delivered a national-award-winning investigative story that exposed the disturbing pattern of sexual misconduct by faculty across the state’s universities. And she did it all without identifying a single student.

While WKU generally has a long track record of supporting its journalism program and the Herald, the university takes pride in promoting the student journalist’s free press fi ght. But students are championing this battle on their own. The Herald's open records request for these employee sexual misconduct records and delivering a national-award-winning investigative story that exposed the disturbing pattern of sexual misconduct by faculty across the state’s universities.

The Herald editor/Managing Editor Rachel Caboni takes the opportunity to sit down with the Herald's editorial board for an hour at the beginning of each month.

As the Herald celebrates another birthday, student press freedom remains under attack.