

Alabama 2008 Associated Press Broadcasters Association Award Winners

RADIO

- **Best Regularly Scheduled Newscast:** WVAS, Tana Shealey, Melanie Hogan, Robb Taylor, "Newscast Election Day".
- **Best Extraordinary Coverage of a Planned Event:** Alabama Public Radio, APR News, "Election 2008".
- **Best Coverage of a Spot News Story:** Alabama Public Radio, APR News, "GAO Ruling".
- **Best Investigative Reporting:** Alabama Public Radio, Brett Tannehill, "Keeping Up with the Flu".
- **Best General Sports:** WBHM, Steve Chiotakis, & Tanya Ott, "Goal Ball; Fight Songs; Appalachian Trail".
- **Best Public Affairs or Documentary:** WBHM, Tanya Ott, Andrew Yeager. Marie Sutton, Denna Francavilla, Les Lovoy, Gigi Douban, Dan Carsen, "Considering Faith".
- **Best Hard-News Feature Story:** Alabama Public Radio, Brett Tannehill, "Arthur Execution Stayed".
- **Best Soft-News Feature Story:** Alabama Public Radio, Brett Tannehill, "Deontay Wilder".
- **Best Web Journalism:** WBHM, WBHM, "WBHM.org".
- **Best Reporter:** WBHM-FM, Andrew Yeager, "Gustav Evacuees, VW, Vipassana Behind Bars".
- **Best Anchor:** WBHM, Andrew Yeager, "Newscast, On the Line".
- **Best Commentator or Editorialist:** Alabama Public Radio, Alisa Beckwith-Ayilliath, "The Election at Home".
- **Best Sports Reporter:** WBHM, Steve Chiotakis, "Goal Ball, Appalachian Trail, Baseballs Black History".
- **Best Sports Anchor:** WBHM, Andrew Yeager, "Newscast on the Line".
- **Best Specialized Reporter:** WBHM, Tanya Ott, "Langford Charges, Beer Brawl, Langford Religion".
- **Best Use of Tape:** Alabama Public Radio, Brett Tannehill, "Kathryn Tucker Windham Turns 90".

CLASS AAA

- **Best Regularly Scheduled Newscast:** WTVY, Tim Elliott, "News 4 at 10 pm".
- **Best Documentary:** WTVY, Heidi Stuck, "Enterprise Rising: Past, Present & Future".
- **Best Series:** WVUA, Terry Brewer, Jerome Davis, "West Alabama's Unsolved".
- **Best Investigative Reporting:** WTVY, Rhiana Huckins, WTVY, "Polluting Our Past".
- **Best Spot News Story:** WVUA, Mary Scott Speiger, Jerome Davis, "Bus Crash".
- **Best Feature Story:** WVUA, Robert Stevenson, Jerome Davis, "Northport Barber Shop Report".
- **Best Sports Story:** WVUA, John Huddleston, Todd Hoyer "Remembering Johnny".
- **Best Sports Feature:** WVUA, Clare Stewart, John Huddleston, "How to Kick a Field Goal".
- **Best Sports Program:** WTVY, Brad Sherwood, Chris Harris, Jonathan Trawick, Mike Gursan "Friday Night Football".
- **Best Extraordinary Coverage of a Planned Event:** WTVY, Heidi Stuck, Tim Elliott, "Enterprise Tornado Anniversary".
- **Victor Irving Best Staff Photography:** WVUA, Jerome Davis, Todd Hoyer, Eric Hopes, "Lynn Rings, Deontay, Walking Miracle".
- **Best Reporter:** WVUA, Mary Scott Speigner, "Bus Crash, a Walking Miracle".
- **Stan Tarilton Best Photographer:** WTVY, Lisa Blackwell, "Water Warriors; Drug Bust; Rattlesnake Rodeo, Green Circle Bio".
- **Best News Anchor:** WVUA, Clare Stewart, "WVUA News at 10".
- **Best Weather Anchor:** WVUA, Wes Wyatt, "Weather".
- **Best Sports Anchor:** WVUA, John Huddleston, "Various Sportcasts".
- **Best Specialized Reporter:** WTVY, Lisa Blackwell, "Cutting Edge Medicine-Brain Surgery, Knee Replacement, Cornea Transplant".
- **Best Web Journalism:** WTVY, Toygar Ayla, "www.wtvynews4.com".

CLASS AA

- **Best Regularly Scheduled Newscast:** WHNT, Becky Banaszak, Denise Vickers, Brittan Anderson, WHNT Staff “Best Newscast”.
- **Best Documentary:** WSFA, WSFA 12 News Team, WSFA 12 News Production Team, Eileen Jones, “Honor Flight in Alabama”.
- **Best Series:** WHNT, Wendy Halloran, Carter Watkins, Shane Hays, Denise Vickers, Joe Glotzbach, “Where’s the Justice”.
- **Best Investigative Reporting:** WHNT, Wendy Halloran, Shane Hays, Denise Vickers, Joe Glotzbach, Jacob Greene “Degrees of Deception”.
- **Best Spot News Story:** WAFF, WAFF Staff, “February Tornadoes”.
- **Best Feature Story:** WHNT, David Wood, “At Last”.
- **Best Sports Story:** WAFF, Blake Mann, Scott Theisen, “Behind the Walls AM Racing”.
- **Best Sports Feature:** WHNT, John Pearson, “Bean Batting”.
- **Best Sports Program:** WHNT, Greg Screws, Carson Clark, David Wood, John Pearson, David Williams, “Sec Championship Game Preview”.
- **Best Extraordinary Coverage of a Planned Event:** WAFF, Tory Dunnan, Chris Chapman, Daniel Farmer, Stacey Richter, Blake Mann, Elizabeth Gentle, Kanobia Russell, Ben Eisenhower, Lisa Screws, Amanda Jarrett, Brian Temple, Lee Marshall, WAFF News Production Staff, “Vice President Valley Visit”.
- **Victor Irving Best Staff Photography:** WHNT, Carter Watkins, Shane Hays, David Wood, Denise Vickers, Andy Wilkins, “Best Photography”.
- **Best Reporter:** WAAY, Regina Raccuglia, “Powers Search”; Crack Bust; Gene Stalling”.
- **Stan Tarilton Best Photographer:** WHNT, David Wood, “WHNT Channel 19”.
- **Best News Anchor:** WAFF, Mark Thornhill, “Mark Thornhill-Best News Anchor”.
- **Best Weather Anchor:** WSFA, Rich Thomas; “December 2008”.
- **Best Sports Anchor:** WHNT, John Pearson, “Best Sports Anchor”.
- **Best Specialized Reporter:** WHNT, Wendy Halloran, “Wendy Hollaran Consumer Investigative Reporter”.
- **Web Journalism:** WSFA, WSFA 12 News, “Lauren Burke Murder Case”.
- **Best Investigative Reporting:** WHNT, Greg Privett, “Investigative Reporting”.

CLASS A

- **Best Regularly Scheduled Newscast:** ABC 33/40, Thomas Lower, David Baird, Brenda Ladun, Yenu Wadajo, Roy Hobbs, Jason Bradley, Keith Poss, Carlos Slaughter, & Denise Phillips, “6 pm – Tues. Oct. 14th”.
- **Best Documentary:** ABC 33/40, Bill Castle, Tracy Bynum, James Spann, Jason Simpson, Ashley Brand, Pam Huff, Brian Peters, Dave Baird, Brenda Ladun, Linda Mays, Tracy Haynes, Roy Hobbs, Don Ward, Monroe Walton, David Polk, Dennis Togman, Brian Wallace, Jeff Myers, Bill Hudson, Ron Thomas, Keith Poss, Denies Phillips, & Carlos Slaughter.
- **Best Series:** WIAT, Kimberly Rankin, & Phillip Ohnemus, “Journey of Courage”.
- **Best Investigative Reporting:** WBRC, Ronda Robinson, Vincent Parker, “Paid Sick Leave, Dirty Hotel, Syphilis Outbreak”.
- **Best Spot News Story:** WVTM, Jon Paepcke, Havonnah Johnson, & John Thompson, “Warehouse Fire”.
- **Best Feature Story:** WBRC, Rick Karle, Taylor Hulsey, Alan Baker, and Sean McDonald, “Heaven Sent”.
- **Best Sports Story:** WALA, Rob Lehocky, “Challenger Field”.
- **Best Sports Feature:** WBRC, Rick Karle, Alan Baker, Matt Morris, “A Father’s Love”.
- **Best Sports Program:** ABC 33/40, Mike Raita, Jeff Speegle, Keith Taylor, David Polk, Jeff Myers, Bill Castle, Victor Thompson, Ron Thomas, Roy Roberson, Keith Poss, Carlos Slaughter, & Denise Phillips, “Blitz Game day”.

- **Best Extraordinary Coverage of a Planned Event:** No Winner
- **Victor Irving Best Staff Photography:** WALA, Kevin Sullivan, Rob Lehocky, Franz Barraza, “Fiddle Shop”, Challenger Field, Man Hunt, Santa Wishes”.
- **Best Reporter:** ABC 33/40, Jeremy King, “Violence & run Down Communities, Prattville Tornado, One Vets Protest”.
- **Stan Tarilton Best Photographer:** WALA, Kevin Sullivan, “Santa Wishes, Police Standoff, Fiddle Shop”.
- **Best News Anchor:** WIAT, Sherri Jackson, “Throughout 2008, Various Newscast”.
- **Best Weather Anchor:** ABC 33/40, Jason Simpson, “Jason Simpson”.
- **Best Sports Anchor:** ABC 33/40, Mike Raita, “Best Sports Anchor”.
- **Best Specialized Reporter:** WBRC, Janet Hall, “Every Now and Then”.
- **Web Journalism:** WIAT, Kimberly Rankin, Michael Nix, “Journey of Courage”.

MOST OUTSTANDING NEWS OPERATION

- **Radio :** WBHM-FM
- **Television Class AAA:** WTVY
- **Television Class AA:** WAAY
- **Television Class A:** ABC 33/40

AP News Cooperation Awards

- **Radio:** WERC
- **TV:** WSFA
- **TV:** WAFF
- **TV:** WBRC