



## Photo of the Month

Grand Forks Herald Photographer Eric Hylden captured flames and smoke following an oil pipeline fire that killed two workers who were repairing it Nov. 28, 2007 in Clearbrook, Minn. The pipeline carries crude oil from Canada to the Midwest. He collected \$100 for submitting the top member photograph in November.

### Dates to Remember:

- Minnesota Newspaper Association annual convention January 23 – 25, Sheraton Hotel South, Bloomington
  - Minnesota Associated Press Association Board meeting Wednesday, Jan. 23 at 3 p.m. during MNA Convention
- Minnesota Associated Press Association Awards Banquet Friday, June 6, at The Depot Minneapolis

### Staff Work

**Martiga Lohn** previewed new laws taking effect in Minnesota Jan. 1 by highlighting a new ban on mercury in cosmetics. ... **Amy Forliti** was first to interview the father of Tiffany Johnson, a Hibbing native killed in the Colorado church shootings. ... **Josh Freed** was out front with his report that former UnitedHealth chief Bill McGuire was asking a judge to unfreeze some \$800 million in stock options due to the "substantial hardship" the freeze had caused him. ... **Lohn** and **Brian Bakst** teamed up to break the story that disgraced MnDOT emergency management official Sonia Morphew Pitt was asking for her job back. ... **Bakst** broke the news that former Star Tribune publisher Par Ridder was fighting a court order barring him from working at the paper. ... **Steve Karnowski** rounded up former Twins mentioned in baseball's Mitchell report. ... **Patrick Condon** spotlighted a movement in some liberal churches to stop performing civil marriage ceremonies as long as gay marriage is illegal.

### Member Shout-outs

**The Duluth News Tribune** shared its story and photos on cycle from the funeral Dec. 15 for Tiffany Johnson, the Hibbing native killed in the Colorado church shootings. ... **The Grand Forks Herald** shared a photo the night two workers were killed on a northern Minnesota oil pipeline, then followed up with their next day's coverage, too.

### **AP Elections 2008**

With the Iowa Caucus and the New Hampshire Primary a month away, now is the time to sign up for the AP's election services. Don't wait to get on board. If members sign up now, they can take advantage of online content that allows them to drive traffic to their Web sites and analytical tools their reports can use today. For the first time, we are offering an all presidential primaries service that provides members with access to all primaries and caucuses and delegate tracking throughout the presidential primary season.

We also have a new premium service for this year, Campaign Plus. This service is designed to bring the campaign to member Web sites and provide opportunities to monetize AP provided content.

Please contact **Dave Pyle at (612) 332-2727 or [dpyle@ap.org](mailto:dpyle@ap.org)** to set up a demonstration of all of AP's election services. Members can sign up today, receive services now and will be billed in 2008. Do not miss the chance to get on board early, make optimal use of the online content and participate in the full testing schedule for next year's historic election season.

### **AP services make it easier to keep your Web site fresh**

The Associated Press offers two services to save you production work and time to keep your Web site up-to-date. When severe weather hits, OPENS, the Organizations, Places and Events Notification System, lets you collect and distribute information without missing a beat. It keeps up with the rapidly changing school closings and event cancellations without diverting your resources from news coverage. (AP Photo/Warren Westura)

AP SNAPfeed offers a quick and easy way to add video breaking news to your Web site. SNAPfeed enables video journalists to send broadcast optimized video from the field to the newsroom over satellite phone, wireless broadband, Internet, or dial-up phone line. SNAPfeed is also capable of providing quick live video remotely without a satellite truck. For more information contact **Dave Pyle at (612) 332-2727 or [dpyle@ap.org](mailto:dpyle@ap.org)**



*AP Photo/Warren Westura*

### **State News Online keeps your Web site local and up-to-date**

AP State News Online gives your Web site the full range of AP's state news reports: politics, legislative and government news, business, sports, features and more. With State News Online, breaking news from your state appears as it happens, and is updated quickly and accurately 24/7. Headline packages with up to 10 top items linked to a state's top stories are updated six times an hour to provide readers with the most up-to-date news at a glance.

For more information, **contact** Dave Pyle at (612) 332-2727 or [dpyle@ap.org](mailto:dpyle@ap.org) and visit [www.ap.org/newspapers](http://www.ap.org/newspapers).

### **AP Money & Markets**

AP Money & Markets offers flexible local content to build your online readership and advertising for financial and consumer news. Choose from more than 30 modules, such as Question of the Day, which builds interactivity and sends traffic from print to your Web site. Watchlist offers readers a way to track their favorite companies and mutual funds. Check it out at [www.ap.org/markets](http://www.ap.org/markets).

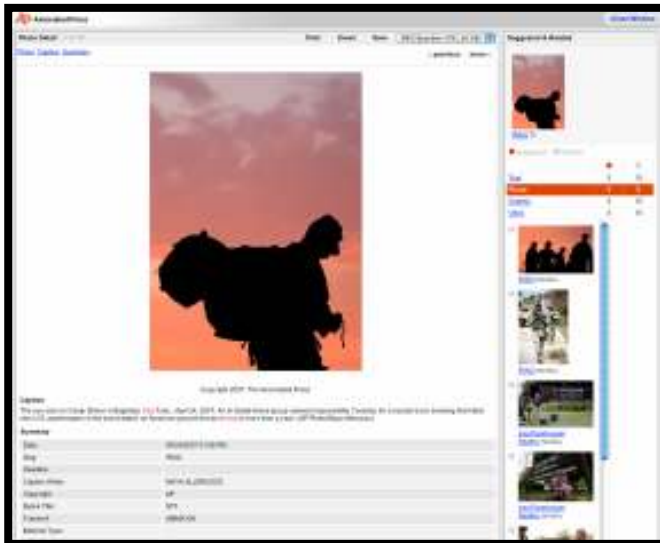
To join a conference call and Webex to hear about the latest developments, contact **Dave Pyle at (612) 332-2727 or [dpyle@ap.org](mailto:dpyle@ap.org)**.

### **U.S. Military to Submit Evidence Dec. 9 against Bilal Hussein**

The U.S. military has set Dec. 9 as the date on which it will submit evidence against an Associated Press photographer to the Iraqi judiciary system, an American official says. The move would be the first legal step in initiating formal charges against photographer Bilal Hussein, who was seized in Ramadi on April 12, 2006. Hussein has been imprisoned without charge ever since. Navy Capt. Brian J. Bill informed AP counsel Paul Gardephe of the December date in a Nov. 29 e-mail. A public affairs officer had notified the AP last week that the military intended to submit a written complaint against Hussein as early as Nov. 29. There was no explanation for the change in the date. The AP's own inquiry has found no support for the U.S. military's claims.

Read more about the detention of Bilal Hussein on the corporate Internet site at <http://www.ap.org/bilalhusein/>.

## AP Exchange offers new features, and training on how to use them better



Many editors have started working with AP Exchange in the past few weeks. As with any new system, a learning curve is necessary and we'd like to help with this as much as possible. Searching for news is one thing, but putting AP Exchange to work for members is what we really hope to be able to do. AP offers online AP Exchange training for your newsroom to teach some of these enhanced features. Additionally, AP Channels are a powerful new source of subject-specific news from the AP. Available only in AP Exchange, AP Channels scour the entire AP report for news on specific topics. It's content beyond what members have ever had access to. The most popular AP Channel is Education.

Editors who have access to this Channel receive all education stories from all AP state wires and English international wires. For education reporters, this Education Channel provides a rich source of news for print and online. Other popular Channels include Kids and Family, Environment, Health,

Energy and Crime. Lastly, members are now able to search for news by concept in AP Exchange. A number of concept searches have been organized based on issues most newsrooms cover today. A concept search is a time saver. Editors can gather all news on a specific issue with one quick search in AP Exchange.

To run a concept search, preface the search with *subject name=* and then add the concept. For example, to find all news on women's health, type *subject name="women's health"*. If the concept name contains two or more words, enclose the concept in quotation marks (" "). Concepts that are now live include architecture, children's health, economy and performing arts. To get the full details on AP Exchange training or AP Channels, contact **Dave Pyle at (612) 332-2727 or [dpyle@ap.org](mailto:dpyle@ap.org)**. For more information on concept searches, visit the AP Exchange blog at <http://apexchange.ning.com>.

### Tom Curley Keynote Speaker at ACAP

AP President and CEO Tom Curley served as keynote speaker for an international publishers conference on protection and licensing of content rights. The conference, held at New York headquarters Nov. 29, unveiled the ACAP (Automated Content Access Protocol) proposal, a new, nonproprietary open standard and an initiative of the World Association of Newspapers, the European Publishers Council and the International Publishers Association. It was showcased at the conference following a 12-month pilot project between a group of publishers and search engines. Starting in December, publishers of content on the Web will be encouraged to implement ACAP and to express their individual access and use policies in a language that search engine robots and similar automated tools can read and understand.

Read Tom Curley's full keynote address on AP's corporate site at:  
[http://www.ap.org/pages/about/pressreleases/pr\\_111607a.html](http://www.ap.org/pages/about/pressreleases/pr_111607a.html).

### Special Editions for December

The Weddings Special Edition moves Dec. 4. Stories include:

- The latest in gowns, with photos and video
- New takes on "Something Blue"
- How to make Destination Weddings kid-friendly
- Couples who follow the old list of anniversary gifts (first year: paper) and why
- Pros and cons of planning your wedding online
- "Trash the Dress" photo shoots

The 2008 schedule for Special Editions is:

- Jan. 22 – Taxes
- Feb. 5 – Home/Garden
- March 4 – Pets
- April 1 – Seniors
- May 6 – Outdoors
- June 3 – Weddings
- July 8 – Back to School
- Aug. 5 – Teens and Tweens
- Sep. 9 – Cars
- Oct. 7 – Crafts/Hobbies
- Nov. 4 – Holidays
- Dec. 9 – Weddings