

AP Associated Press **Broadcast Notes**

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May 2008

2008 Nebraska AP Contest

Winners of this year's Nebraska AP Broadcast Association contest have been announced. WOWT of Omaha, KOLN/KGIN of Lincoln, NET Radio and WJAG/KEXL of Norfolk were among the top winners this year. Winners are posted on the Nebraska AP's Web site at <http://www.ap.org/nebraska/>.

New Nebraska AP Broadcast Association board

Below are the new members and their positions on the NAPBA board of directors:

Mark Baumert, past president, NTV in Kearney
David Fudge, president, KELN/KOOQ-AM in North Platte
Dennis Kellogg, vice president, KHAS-TV in Hastings
Kevin Mooney, at-large, KNEB-AM/FM in Scottsbluff
Rose Ann Shannon, at-large, KETV in Omaha
Dave Schroeder, at-large, KRVN-AM/FM in Lexington

AP Vote Tabulation Ahead of Secretary of State

Returns came in at a fast clip on the night of the May 13 primary in Nebraska. Early votes were posted to some county election websites when the polls closed at 8 p.m. CDT. The Associated Press had a team of people, including vote reporters in all 93 counties, to make sure the AP tabulation was both fast and accurate. By 8:15 p.m. CDT the AP count went ahead of the Secretary of State website and stayed ahead all night. Here are some snapshots of the total vote reported for various candidates, comparing how many votes AP had tabulated to how many the Secretary of State (SOS) was reporting:

8:30 p.m.	Hillary Clinton had 9,538 votes in the AP system to 4,532 reported by the SOS.
9:30 p.m.	Clinton had 18,559 in the AP table, 15,801 in SOS.
9:37 p.m.	Obama took the lead over Clinton in the AP count, where AP had tabulated 23,376 for Obama and the SOS showed 16,685 for him.
10:00 p.m.	AP gave Obama 33,421 while SOS had him at 28,053. At the same time AP counted 86,383 for McCain but SOS showed him at 65,734.

AP was the first to declare Obama winner of the Democratic primary.

AP members got the election results faster than anybody watching the secretary of state Website. Subscribers to the AP special election services got even more frequent updates and were the first to know that Obama had wiped out Clinton's early lead.

Cameras in Courtrooms

While other states have allowed media cameras inside courtrooms for decades, Nebraska has traditionally allowed cameras only the state Appeals Court and Supreme Court. A new pilot project in the state is changing that. Cameras are being allowed inside some courtrooms in Lancaster County District Court and the 1st Judicial District, which includes 11 southeastern counties. Here is a story on the first such allowance in a Nebraska district court that ran Monday,

May 19:

BEATRICE, Neb. (AP) _ A murder trial has begun with a new type of visitor in the courtroom. In what is believed to be a first for the state, media cameras are being allowed in a district court courtroom for a trial. It's part of a pilot project that could lead to more video and still images from court proceedings across the state.

Judge Paul Korslund is overseeing the trial that began Monday. He says that allowing cameras could improve the public's understanding of how the courts work. The state Supreme Court is behind the pilot project also being conducted in the Lancaster County District Court.

On trial in Beatrice is Richard Allen Griswold. He has been charged with first-degree murder in the shooting death of a woman in November.

Sales Contacts

Desmond Barlow has changed positions within the AP and no longer handles radio sales for Nebraska. Radio stations needing help with that end of the business can contact Treon Glenn at 202-641-9067 or tglenn@ap.org for the name of another sales rep. TV stations can still contact Sam Moore at 972-677-2227 or srmoore@ap.org.

KUDOS

Thanks to David Fudge and Heather James of KELN/KOOQ for their timely contributions of both sports and news items this month. Fudge alerted the AP to Nebraska first baseman Craig Corriston's knee surgery. James passed along stories of a meth lab-induced house fire and the Lincoln County Sheriff coming under fire for drinking beer with deputies during a road trip to a law enforcement seminar.