

AP Ohio Reports

July 2006

Dates to Remember

September 27 - AP Ohio Sports Writers Seminar

Thank You

Mike Ehler of **WXIX-TV**, Cincinnati, called AP with first word of the death of a man accused of shooting a deputy marshal in Columbus. He wins a \$20 prize for his news tip. The **Warren Tribune Chronicle** stayed in close contact with AP for a story on four people killed in Columbus that ended up having connections to Warren. **Becky Baker** at **The (Wooster) Daily Record** called to point out the correct name of a man killed in a buggy accident. **Veronica Van Dress** of **The (Canton) Repository** called to point out that the Cuyahoga County coroner released the wrong last name of a crewman electrocuted on a Lake Erie freighter.

Ohio AP members contributed 258 photos to the wire in June, led by **The (Cleveland) Plain Dealer** with 78 and **The Columbus Dispatch** with 55. Overall, the Ohio AP moved 1,010 photos for the month.



The (Cleveland) Plain Dealer/Gus Chan



The Columbus Dispatch/James D. DeCamp

Gus Chan of **The (Cleveland) Plain Dealer** won the Ohio AP Best Feature Photo award for June for his photo, above right, of Denzil St. Clair, president of the Lorain County Beekeeper Association, trying to set the Guinness Book of Records for bee poundage. St. Clair wore 73 pounds of bees, short of the world record of 87.5 pounds. He said he got stung about 30 times.

James D. DeCamp of **The Columbus Dispatch** won the Ohio AP Best News Photo award for June for his photo, left, of an unidentified woman and boy reacting to the news that four people were found shot to death inside a northside Columbus home.

This Just In ...

Cleveland sports writer **Tom Withers** was first to report July 8 that NBA star LeBron James had accepted a contract extension of up to five years and about \$80 million with the Cleveland Cavaliers. Withers broke the news at 1:48 p.m. and had the news exclusively at least until early evening, both on the air and online. **ESPN** credited Withers and AP by name for breaking the story. Play also included the Chicago Tribune and the Web sites of **USA Today**, **New York Times**, **Sporting News**, **LA Times**, **Fox Sports** and **Sports Illustrated**. **WKYC-TV** in Cleveland invited Withers to appear that day and did a story about his scoop.

Cincinnati Correspondent **Dan Sewell** broke the news that Emi, a Sumatran Rhino, is pregnant again. The Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden resident is already the only one of the critically endangered mammals to give birth twice in captivity, and the first since the 19th century, even though captive breeding programs have been tried in her native Indonesia and in other zoos.

Tipped by an e-mail from a military source in Iraq that a big story was about to break, **Ryan Lenz** pressed for details. Eventually, he learned the horrific facts: U.S. soldiers had allegedly raped a young woman and brutally murdered her, her parents and her younger sister. Lenz, AP correspondent in Evansville, Ind., who is on temporary assignment in Iraq, pressed the U.S. military for confirmation. He got it -- and AP led the way in reporting this latest case of U.S. soldiers accused of killing unarmed Iraqi civilians. AP's reporting forced the military to issue a bare-bones statement on the investigation to all media, but Lenz alone had key details like the rape and the burning of the body.

Aaron Davis in Sacramento put the AP out front on a story saying the Bush administration would fall well short of mustering the 2,500 National Guardsmen it planned to have on the Mexican border by the end of June.



Terrence Gasper, former senior official at the Ohio Bureau of Workers Compensation, center, listens to his attorneys in the Franklin County Courthouse in Columbus. Gasper was the first BWC official to be charged in the state's investment scandal. Prosecutors say he took money for personal use in exchange for business deals with the bureau's \$15 billion fund. (AP Photo/Kichiro Sato)

Ed Medina and **Cynthia Romero** in AP's Online Department teamed up to produce an interactive graphic that aggregated many of the excellent photos and graphics produced by AP when thousands of people were ordered to evacuate Pennsylvania following days of flooding. A template had to be created on the fly to feature large-format aerial images, allowing users to pan across flooded landscapes to see the destruction. The finished work can be seen at: http://165.1.76.240/specials/interactives/_national/northeast_flooding/index.html.

What's New at Your AP

Products - Services

New AP Photo Site in Works

AP is getting ready to launch a new Web platform to make it easier for users to find and download the 2.8 million images housed in AP's extensive online collection. Currently, members use multiple Web sites to obtain Rerun and Archive photos. Others use Web sites to access custom international content not available on PhotoStream, or to purchase commercial photographs through AP/Wide World Photos. The new platform will combine access to all of AP's photo services into one site that is easier to use and has more features. In the coming weeks, you'll be hearing from an AP Images associate who will schedule a time to show you a demonstration, get you set up on the new platform, and answer any questions you may have. The old sites will be turned off in October. Questions? Contact api_member_support@ap.org or AP Images at 212-621-1940.

AP "Thinks Outside the Stox" with New Service, AP Money & Markets

The earliest stock tables in the United States appeared in the New York Herald in 1835. One hundred eight years later, it's time for a change. AP Money & Markets brings a fresh approach to financial data in print and online, with innovative content that is explanatory, analytic and forward looking. Attractive modules "snap" together to create customized pages. The modules work not only in stocks pages but anywhere in the newspaper.

AP Money & Markets Online features powerful tools and timely content. Like the print component, Money & Markets online can be localized to emphasize companies, industries and mutual funds that are of interest to your readers. Money & Markets becomes available this fall. Grand Central Stocks customers can receive the new content at no additional fee. Pricing is available for other members. For more information on AP Money & Markets, including sample pages and individual modules, go to <http://www.ap.org/markets>. Questions? Contact Ohio bureau chief **Eva Parziale** at eparziale@ap.org or 614-885-2727.

Members invited to participate in July 13 conference calls on asap

AP plans two conference calls July 13 -- at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. -- to discuss new asap feeds designed to get asap content onto member sites automatically. This has been a feature members have been asking for and with good reason. Many sites are light on resources and grabbing and posting asap takes time. We hope these new feeds will make it easier to fully integrate asap. Current subscribers to asap, AP's new service aimed at younger readers, and those considering subscribing are invited to participate.



Phil Mickelson tees off on the 12th hole while finishing up the second round of the Memorial Golf Tournament at the Mulrfield Village Golf Club in Dublin, Ohio. (AP Photo/Kichiro Sato)

To participate, call 866-228-9900 or 719-359-4032, enter passcode 878294 and wait for **Dwayne Desaulniers** to begin the meeting. If you have any problems joining the Web portion of this meeting, press *0 on your touchtone keypad once inside the audio meeting or dial 888-569-3848. Questions? Contact Ohio bureau chief **Eva Parziale** (eparziale@ap.org) at 614-885-2727.

Online Video Network Updates

AP is now offering more frequent e-mail updates on the traffic to the Online Video Network. In addition to official monthly statistics, we now provide daily and weekly reports on the stream count from individual member sites. Details include the total number of content streams served from the member's player and the most popular across streams across the AP network. The monthly reports are sent mid-month and are an official count and are detailing the previous month's traffic. The daily and weekly stream counts are an unofficial way to keep members better informed, but are not audited and may differ from the official monthly reports on which revenue is based. The more frequent reports are available to subscribers already promoting and linking directly to the Online Video Network. Questions? Contact Ohio bureau chief **Eva Parziale** (eparziale@ap.org) at 614-885-2727.

AP Podcasts

Auto racing and baseball are the newest additions to the AP's stable of podcasting products. The weekly racing feature draws on the experience of AP auto racing writers **Jenna Fryer** and **Mike Harris**. They cover NASCAR, the Indy Racing League, Champ Cars and more. The podcast is anchored by **Jack Briggs** of the AP's Broadcast division. The baseball podcast is anchored by the AP's **John Klobucar**. It combines reports from AP writers in the major league cities and the AP's national baseball writers. View podcasts at: <http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/fronts/PODCAST?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME>. AP Podcasts are available at no extra charge to members subscribing to Hosted Custom News. Questions? Contact Ohio bureau chief **Eva Parziale** (eparziale@ap.org) or assistant bureau chief **Nancy Nussbaum** (nnussbaum@ap.org) at 614-885-2727.

Special Editions

The Special Editions' Back to School package moved July 11. Among the stories were those on grade school fashions, private after-school centers, part-time faculty members, packing for life in a college dorm and teaching gardening to schoolchildren. Questions? Contact Special Editions editor Julia Rubin, (jrubin@ap.org) at 212-621-7199. Here's the calendar for the remainder of the year:

- Aug. 1 -- Parenting
- Sept. 12 -- Cars
- Oct. 3 -- Philanthropy/Volunteering
- Nov. 7 -- Holidays
- Dec. 5 -- Weddings

AP Update

New Digest Format

AP has changed the format of the AP News Digest and the Ohio News Digest. They're tighter and more consistent, and highlight multimedia where applicable, as well as stories of special interest. Digests start with the top news headlines of the day. Full digest lines are now shorter and faster to read, and we've dropped headlines above each digest item. Story slugs are at the top of each digest line, and the word count is deleted from the new line. The byline immediately follows the description of the story, on the same line. It is followed by a separate line noting photos and graphics. Finally, supervisor and contact information has been moved to the bottom of the digest. Questions? Contact Ohio news editor **Deb Martin** (dmartin@ap.org) at 614-885-2727.



Donna Schultz, center, sits with her adopted children on the back porch of their home in North Ridgeville. (AP Photo/Mark Duncan)

Industry News

The Dayton Daily News (over 100,000 daily circulation) and the **Elyria Chronicle Telegraph** (under 100,000 daily circulation) were chosen as Ohio's best daily newspapers by the Ohio chapters of the Society of Professional Journalists. The Daily News won five other first-place awards in the contest, which judged work from 2005.

The Press Club of Cleveland named **The (Cleveland) Plain Dealer** (over 100,000 daily circulation) and **The (Lorain) Morning Journal** (under 100,000 circulation) the best daily newspapers in Ohio. **The Cincinnati Enquirer** won the Best Web Site award in that contest.

The John Glenn Institute for Public Service & Public Policy of The Ohio State University recently announced it is merging with **WOSU** and Ohio State's Digital Bill to improve its Kiplinger Program. The program will offer journalists training in new media techniques such as podcasting, video field production and editing, and audio and video streaming. The new training curriculum will help journalists develop the skills necessary to succeed in a digital age. The institute is now recruiting its next class of journalists. **The deadline to apply is July 20**. Visit www.kiplingerprogram.org for more information.

2006 APME Great Ideas

The search for contributions to the **2006 APME Great Ideas** booklet is under way. By contributing, you will gain exposure for your staff's best work, while helping other editors. Each year, Lance Johnson, executive editor of The Day in New London, Conn., puts together a collection of more than 200 cutting-edge content strategies. The best new ideas will be showcased at the 2006 APME conference Oct. 25-28 in New Orleans. For each submission, please describe your Great Idea in no more than 300 words. More than one idea can be submitted. Please include your paper's name, contact editor, title, phone number and e-mail address. E-mail ideas and electronic page images to: Lance Johnson, Executive Editor, The Day, 47 Eugene O'Neill Drive, New London, CT 06320, ljohnson@theday.com, 860-701-4379.

2006 Ohio Sunshine Laws Update

The Ohio attorney general's office has published an updated version of the book that details the terms of Ohio's open meetings and public records laws. The 156-page book, called the **"2006 Ohio Sunshine Laws Update"**, can be downloaded on the attorney general's Web site at www.ag.state.oh.us/spotlight/sunshine.asp.

NEA Arts Journalism Institute in Classical Music and Opera

Do you write about classical music or opera, or do you supervise such coverage? Do you need to update your skills? Consider applying to take part in the **NEA Arts Journalism Institute in Classical Music and Opera** Oct. 15-25 in New York City. The institute is intended for writers or editors who wish to refresh their perspective or gain new knowledge and contacts in the field of classical music and opera. The program is designed for journalists who live and work outside the top media markets. No specialized training in classical music is required. The deadline to apply is Aug. 8. For an application send an e-mail to nea_institute@earthlink.net. Questions? Call 202-210-9494.



Amanda Walker, owner of Heavenly Bath, Body, and More store, displays a pair of Crocs shoes in Harrison. The bulky clog with a strap along the heel and holes across the top and around the toes is winning consumers over with its versatility and comfort. (AP Photo/Al Behrman)

Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues

Do you know a publisher, editor, reporter or photographer who has demonstrated courage, tenacity and integrity in rural journalism? You are invited to nominate them for the Tom and Pat Gish Award, presented by the **Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues**. The Gish Award is given to rural journalists who demonstrate courage, tenacity and integrity often needed to render public service through rural journalism. Send your nominations by Sept. 1 to: Al Cross, director, Institute for Rural Journalism and Community Issues, 122 Grehan Journalism Bldg., University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY 40506-0042, or by e-mail to Al.Cross@uky.edu.

Member News

Al Getler, former vice president of marketing and circulation for the **News- paper Network of Central Ohio**, has been named president and publisher of **The Daily Star** in Oneonta, N.Y. Prior to his appointment, Getler was vice president of circulation for **Community Newspaper Co.**, with responsibility for marketing, customer service and distribution at the group of more than 100 daily and weekly newspapers in eastern Massachusetts. Getler had also worked for **Thomson Newspapers** as vice president of circulation marketing for **Thomson Central Ohio** starting in 1995. The Daily Star is owned by Ottaway Newspapers.

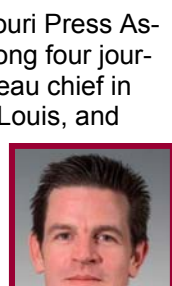
AP News



Stevens

Paul Stevens, Central region vice president of AP, has been named to the Missouri Press Association Newspaper Hall of Fame. Stevens, who is based in Kansas City, is among four journalists who will be inducted Sept. 15. The 30-year AP veteran has also been bureau chief in Indianapolis and Albuquerque, N.M., and worked in bureaus in Albany, N.Y., St. Louis, and Wichita, Kan. A native of Excelsior Springs, Mo., Stevens received a master's degree from the University of Kansas and a bachelor's from the University of Iowa.

Cleveland sports writer **Tom Withers** won the Associated Press Sports Editors' Best Feature award for the headline of LeBron James, which moved for the end of Dec. 10-12. The headline summed up the piece nicely: "AP Interview: LeBron James _ beyond his years, beyond the hype."



Withers



Spencer Ghose

Columbus newswoman **Carrie Spencer Ghose** was among a group of reporters who contributed to an AP story, "Sept. 11-Lax Loans," which won a Loeb award, the highest honor in business journalism. The story, which was honored in the news services or online content category, examined government loans that were meant to help businesses in New York City following the 2001 terrorist attacks and found that much of the financing went to companies nationwide. The principal authors were AP reporters **Frank Bass**, **Dirk Lammers** and **Larry Margasak**.

Need national industry news? The latest edition of AP's weekly Industry News is available online at <http://www.ap.org/pages/indnews/>.

Questions? Comments? Contact Melissa Curry at mlcurry@ap.org, or call (800) 762-4841 or (614) 885-2727.