

AP Ohio Reports

March 2006

Dates to Remember

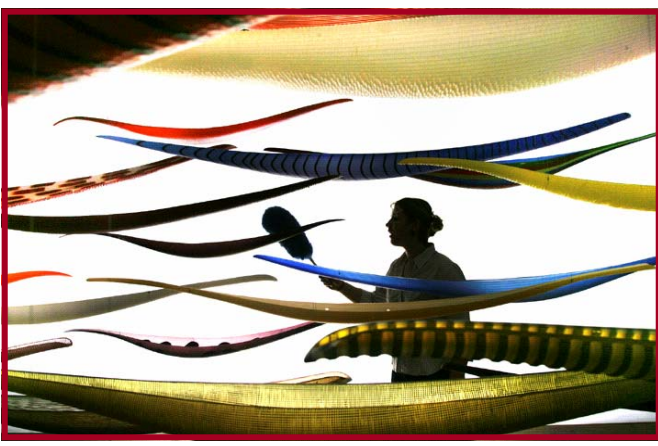
April 30, 2006, APSO Annual Awards Luncheon
September 2006, AP Sports Workshop, [Date TBA](#)

Thank You

Dennis Janson of **WCPO-TV**, Cincinnati, called AP with first word of the arrest of Cincinnati Bengals receiver Chris Henry in a street altercation in Orlando, Fla. He wins a \$20 prize for his news tip.

Ohio AP members contributed 159 photos to the wire in February, led by **The Columbus Dispatch** with 45 and **The Cincinnati Enquirer** with 27. Overall, the Ohio AP moved 634 photos for the month.

Neil C. Lauron of **The Columbus Dispatch** won the Ohio AP Best Feature Photo award for February for his photo, above right, of gallery assistant Samantha Hookway dusting glass art work by Lino Tagliapietra at the Hawk Gallery.



The Columbus Dispatch/Neil C. Lauron

Dave Zapotosky of **The (Toledo) Blade** won the Ohio AP Best News Photo award for February for his photo, below, of firefighters battling a blaze at Hidden Cedars condominiums in Springfield Township.



The Blade/Dave Zapotosky

This Just In ...

When word reached AP's Manila bureau that a mudslide had buried hundreds of homes and an elementary school packed with children in a village on Leyte Island, **Paul Alexander** had of the Philippine capital, chief of bureau **Paul Alexander** had staffers fly to nearby Cebu, where they rented a helicopter that took them directly to the village. The result: Manila news editor **Hrvoje Hranjski**, reporter **Oliver Teves** and photographers **Bullit Marquez** and **Pat Roque** got to the scene eight hours ahead of AFP and 12 hours ahead of Reuters.

The victory by Hamas in Palestinian elections caught virtually everyone off guard. But not AP's photo staff. From election campaign images by Oded Balilty, to votes being counted on a school blackboard by **Emilio Morenatti**, to demonstrations and scuffles as the momentous events unfolded, AP photographers captured the most compelling images and the key moments. Their work was perhaps capped by the scene in Ramallah when photographers **Kevin Frayer** and **Muhammed Muheisin** got the day's best pictures of Hamas raising their flag in triumph at the Palestinian Legislative Council. Those images made the front page of **The New York Times**, **The Washington Post** and **International Herald Tribune**.

When 13 miners were trapped in the Sago Mine in West Virginia, the rescue teams included a seven-man crew from the Viper mine near Williamson in central Illinois. They were tight-lipped after their mission, which discovered the bodies of 12 miners and rescued one miner alive. During their time at the Sago Mine, they remained anonymous. A short time later, though, a statement by Illinois' governor identified them. The AP immediately contacted the rescuers by phone or went to their homes. None would give an interview. Southern Illinois correspondent **Jim Suhr** persisted. His efforts paid off when crew member Brett Bushong called to say he'd recount the rescue-and-recovery. Suhr eventually spent 20 minutes on the phone with Bushong, gleaned a gripping account of how the crew helped save the lone survivor. The resulting story recounted the team's sad findings of several of the dead clustered together, as if on a break, many with notes to their families. And Bushong told how he was haunted by the fact that the team could rescue only one man.



President Bush speaks about health care at Wendy's International in Dublin, during his 39th visit to Ohio since taking office. (AP Photo/Kiichiro Sato)

The gambling story that shook the National Hockey League was big and competitive. **Angela Delli Santi** of the Trenton bureau and Mount Laurel, N.J., correspondent **Geoff Mulvihill** led the AP effort that broke some of the story's most important elements. AP was first to report that Wayne Gretzky's wife, Janet Jones, had placed bets through the ring. We were also first to report that wiretaps had Gretzky talking to the alleged financier of the ring about how his wife could avoid being implicated. The key was source work. After an initial story on the wiretaps by the **Star-Ledger** of Newark, AP used long-cultivated sources with direct knowledge of the investigations to break major developments in the case. AP's effort also extended to Phoenix, where Gretzky coaches. **Beth DeFalco** of the Phoenix bureau worked long hours and provided phone numbers that helped develop the story. And in New Jersey, the entire bureau staff pitched in to help. AP's work was so strong that major competitors could not match it. **The New York Times**, **USA Today** and **ESPN** credited AP.



AP Cleveland photographer Mark Duncan at the Turin 2006 Winter Olympic Games. (AP Photo/Herbert Knosowski)

What's New at Your AP

AP Launches Online Video Network

On March 1, AP and MSN announced the official launch of the AP Online Video Network, a new breaking news video service available to AP newspaper and broadcast members and customers in the United States. Going forward, the service will offer some 40 video clips per day covering national, international, technology, business and entertainment news, including packages from this week's coverage of the Academy Awards. Learn more about the network, and see it in action, by going to <http://www.ap.org/ovn/>.

asap

After a limited launch, asap, AP's 18-to-34-year-old news wire is now available to all newspaper members. The rate has been discounted for the remainder of the trial (through December 2006). To

date, approximately 230 members have signed up and are making use of asap in print and online. Since the service launched in 2005, we've doubled the amount of video and audio reporting in response to member feedback.

Members who sign up for asap are licensed to use the material in print and online, and even over the air through local wireless. In addition, subscribers will receive reports from younger reader focus groups we'll be conducting three times this year. Please contact Ohio AP bureau chief **Eva Parziale** (eparziale@ap.org) or assistant bureau chief **Nancy Nussbaum** (nnussbaum@ap.org) at 614-885-2727 for more information or to sign up for the service.

AP Page-Ready Baseball

There's still time to sign up for a free test of AP Page-Ready Baseball during the final weeks of Spring Training. AP Page-Ready Baseball offers box scores and linescores as completely formatted and ready-to-use displays. At deadline, your sports desk simply drags and drops the presentation onto the page. AP Page-Ready Baseball offers modules in Quark and InDesign formats. Starting this year, it offers modules in six-column format in addition to seven-column format. Please contact Ohio AP bureau chief **Eva Parziale** (eparziale@ap.org) or assistant bureau chief **Nancy Nussbaum** (nnussbaum@ap.org) at 614-885-2727 for more information or to sign up for the service.



The United States' Shaun White, right, and Daniel Kass celebrate after finishing first and second in the Men's Halfpipe Snowboard competition at the Turin 2006 Winter Olympic Games. (AP Photo/Mark Duncan)

AP Travel Online

AP Travel Online offers expanded coverage of destinations, trends and travel news for member Web sites from The Associated Press. This service is the easiest and most efficient way for member sites to present AP's travel stories and photos. Featuring weekly destinations, columns and travel links, AP Travel Online delivers a comprehensive suite of travel resources on a fully hosted platform or as XML feed. To see a sample of the service, go to www.dallasnews.com/travel. Please contact Ohio AP bureau chief **Eva Parziale** (eparziale@ap.org) or assistant bureau chief **Nancy Nussbaum** (nnussbaum@ap.org) at 614-885-2727 for more information or to sign up for the service.

AP Graphics Change

With the merger of Adobe and Macromedia nearing completion, AP Graphics is planning to start posting its Graphics in Adobe's vector rendering program, Illustrator, starting in July 2007. Graphics currently uses Macromedia's FreeHand, which is expected to be phased out with the acquisition. Even after we start posting graphics in Illustrator, we will continue to provide graphics in FreeHand, and as PDFs, for a year after the changeover to give members enough time to make the transition to the new software. We will delay the July 2007 target date if Adobe adopts some FreeHand features and releases the new software after July 2007. If you have questions, please contact AP's director of Graphics, Scott Johnson, at dsjohnson@ap.org or 212-621-6900.

Industry News

AP Wins 7 in World Press Photo Competition

The Associated Press won seven prizes in the highly-competitive World Press Photo competition, including top honors in the spot news-stories and general news-singles categories. The contest drew 80,000 images from photographers in 122 countries. A slideshow of the winning images is available on AP.org: http://www.ap.org/pages/about/pressreleases/pr_021006a.html



JoAnne Viviano has joined the Columbus AP as a newswoman from the Detroit bureau. Viviano has also worked as a reporter for the **Romeo (Mich.) Observer**; **The Macomb Daily** in Mount Clemens, Mich.; the **New Haven (Conn.) Register**; and **The (Youngstown) Vindicator**. She holds a master's degree in journalism from Columbia University and a bachelor's in English and communication from the University of Michigan.



Rick Szabrak was named publisher of the **Lancaster Eagle-Gazette** and the **Chillicothe Gazette**. He succeeds **Greg Ptacin**, who retired. Both newspapers are owned by Gannett Co. Szabrak has worked in the circulation departments of several Gannett newspapers and last year was appointed circulation director of the company's **Newspaper Network of Central Ohio**.

Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist **Connie Schultz** has taken a leave of absence from **The (Cleveland) Plain Dealer** while her husband, Sherrod Brown, campaigns for a U.S. Senate seat. Schultz, who last year won the newspaper's first Pulitzer Prize in more than 50 years, announced her decision on the paper's Web site in a column titled, "It's time to do what feels right." She wrote that she is becoming more limited in her choice of column topics because she could be accused of campaigning for her husband of two years, currently a Democratic congressman. She also said her presence at the newspaper could create difficulties for her colleagues covering the Senate race. Schultz, who won the Pulitzer for commentary, will return to her twice-weekly column after the November election.

Obituaries

Richard W. "Dick" Otte, a sports writer, sports editor, metro columnist and managing editor during a 34-year career at **The Columbus Dispatch**, has died at age 81. Otte, who had cancer, died at his home in DeLand, Fla. Joining the Dispatch in 1954, Otte covered Ohio State basketball for 15 seasons, including the 1960 national championship team. As a columnist he wrote "In, Out and About" for four years. He became managing editor in 1981 and executive managing editor a year before his retirement in 1988. Before joining the Dispatch, Otte worked at the **Springfield News-Sun** and the **Dayton Journal-Herald**. Survivors include his wife, Marjory; three sons; and a daughter.

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