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Volume 74, Number 4 - April 2003 - Published by Kentucky Press Association/Kentucky Press Service

Bringing the war home for readers

By DANA EHLSCHIDE
News Bureau Director

When the first bombs were dropped on Iraq on March 19, there was little doubt what daily newspapers across the state, the country and the world would budget for their front page the following day and weeks to come. Although community weekly newspapers rarely report national news, many Kentucky newspapers have begun searching for local angles to this history-making event taking place half a world away.

Focusing stories on local individuals called to duty or those with loved ones in the Gulf region seems to be the most popular story angle for weeklies across the Commonwealth.

The Sentinel-Echo in London has focused their front-page stories on local individuals, some of whom are prominent citizens, who have been called to active duty.

"We have also localized Homeland Security preparations, as well as utilized shared news pictures and stories supplied by our parent company, CNHI," said Dale Morton of the Sentinel-Echo.

After the start of the conflict, the Spencer Magnet found a different angle on which to report - the parents of soldiers. A story in the first edition after the start of the war was about two families who have sons in Iraq and Kuwait.



The Sentinel-News in Shelbyville used this photo supplied by Shelby Countian Capt. Gary D. Harrison to help localize actions in the Middle East in their newspaper. The photo is of a Marine helicopter, a CH-46E Sea Knight, taking off from a USS Boxer amphibious ship located off the coast of Kuwait. This ship was part of a seven ship armada that sailed from San Diego in January.

"The story focused on how the parents are coping with the extensive coverage now that the conflict has started," said John Shindlebower of the Spencer Magnet.

Jessica Bratcher, managing editor at the McLean County News, report-

ed that they began collecting local comments from around the county soon after the war started for their next edition.

"We plan to pull together family

See WAR on Page 10

Kentucky native released from captivity

A week after witnesses reported seeing Louisville native Molly Bingham, a 34-year-old photographer, escorted from her hotel by Iraqi authorities, she and three other journalists were released from captivity.

Bingham, a former official photographer for Vice-President Al Gore, arrived in Baghdad on March 17. Eight days later, Iraqi authorities searched her room at the Palestine Hotel, bagged up her belongings and escorted

her from the hotel, according to a Newsday reporter.

Earlier, the Bingham family received conflicting reports of her whereabouts. One report from the U.S. State Department had her crossing into Jordan and another from a peace group said she had arrived in Syria. Bingham and the other journalists have now been released into Jordan.

Newsday reporter Matthew
See RELEASED on Page 5



Photographer Molly Bingham was released by Iraqis after a week in captivity. (AP photo)

April News & Notes

Last Call for Lang's Fairy Tale Project

Because of the success of KPA's "Luke in a Really Big Pickle" and "Noodles Makes a Boo Boo" projects, we're making available 12 Andrew Lang's Fairy Tales, adapted by Mike Peterson with H.J. Ford's original 19th Century illustrations.

The project includes a total of 21 chapters. Some of the fairy tales are one chapter, others are up to five. This gives you 21 weeks of stories to publish that will be a hit with your readers, especially younger readers.

The series also includes an excellent teaching guide, by Lisa M. Sax, that can be shared with schools in your marketing area. The teaching guide is formatted so you can include the stories you plan to use in whatever order you plan to publish them.

The series will be made available to you on a CD with the text for all 12 stories (21 chapters), the illustrations and the study guide for teachers in pdf format.

If your newspaper is interested in a project that will get younger readers involved in reading the newspaper, KPA will make the Andrew Lang Fairy Tales available to you at the following costs:

Weekly Newspapers (those published up to 3 times per week) - \$75

Daily Newspapers, Under 25,000 Circulation - \$100

Daily Newspapers, 25,001 to 50,000 - \$150

Daily Newspapers, over 50,000 Circulation - \$200

These rates are up to 60 percent off the rate you would pay individually for the rights to pub-

See NEWS on Page 7

Kentucky people, papers in the news

Haynes joins Grayson County News-Gazette

Gloria Haynes joined the staff of the Grayson County News-Gazette as editor in February.

Haynes had previously worked as a reporter at The Meade County Messenger and The Breckinridge County Herald-News. Her freelance work has appeared in numerous publi-

cations, including Arts Across Kentucky, Angels on Earth and Guideposts.

Haynes graduated from Breckinridge County High School in 1979 and earned an A.A. at Elizabethtown Community College. She later completed a B.A. in journalism at St. Mary of the Woods Women's College near Terre Haute, Ind.

Advocate-Messenger to sponsor 'Rally on the Square 2003'

The Advocate-Messenger, Danville's local newspaper, will sponsor "Rally on the Square 2003" on April 26 at Constitution State Historic Site.

The political candidates will debate and answer questions "old style" from a hay wagon.

Democratic and Republican candidates for secretary of state, treasurer, auditor, commissioner of agriculture attorney general, lieutenant governor and governor are expected to give brief speeches.

human services. She moved to Carrollton two years ago.

Previously, she was a bookkeeper for Christian Church Homes of Kentucky Social Insurance.

Taylor named advertising manager of Kentucky Standard

Candy Taylor has been named advertising manager of the Kentucky Standard in Bardstown. She began her new duties at the tri-weekly newspaper on March 17.

She was most recently an advertising representative for Landmark Military Newspapers of North Carolina in Jacksonville since July 2002. Prior to that, she was a recruitment specialist for Management Recruiters in Emerald Isle from April 1999 until September 2000. Her newspaper background includes sales director for Freedom Communications, a weekly newspaper and weekly military publication in Havelock, N.C. for five years. She was also an advertising director of two dailies and a weekly military publication for Freedom Newspapers of New Mexico for four years and a real estate specialist for the Post Tribune in Gary, Ind. for two years.

Newspaper publisher named chamber of commerce president

Patti M. Clark, publisher of The News-Herald in Owenton has assumed the presidency of the Owen County Chamber of Commerce.

Clark served as vice president for two years of the newly reorganized group and stepped into the president's role in December. She will hold the office for two years.

Campbell to handle ad sales in Trimble and Madison areas

Sharon Campbell recently joined the staff of The News-Democrat and The Trimble Banner as an advertising sales consultant.

A native of Trimble County who resides in Milton, she will be covering the Trimble County market as well as the area surrounding Madison, Ind., just across the Ohio River.

Sharon graduated from Trimble

See PEOPLE on Page 11

Meade County Messenger NIE program profiled

The Newspaper in Education program at the Meade County Messenger was profiled in both the December 2002 NIE Information Service publication and Spring 2003 Publisher's Circulation Reference.

The program began at the Messenger in 2000/2001 school year. Sandra Stone, Newspaper in Education coordinator for the Meade County Messenger, has obtained sponsors for the now 655 newspapers each week, offering two levels of sponsorship depending on the size of the classroom. The subscriptions are continued through the summer by the teacher selecting students to receive the mail-delivered paper at home.

The Meade County Messenger has a circulation of 6,000. Laura Dutschke, sales, keeps the program in mind when she is visiting customers, and Stone credits her with the past year's growth. The paper devotes a full page each week to student writings, career corner feature, Barbara's blue pen corner, and a search and find feature.

Stone regularly features classroom teachers using the newspaper in their activities to "spread the word" of what a useful tool a newspaper is in the classroom.

Kinkade hired as bookkeeper for Carrollton operation

Lorrie Kinkade recently joined The News-Democrat in Carrollton as bookkeeper.

A native of Henry County, and graduate of Henry County High School, Kinkade has a background in administrative management and

The Kentucky Press

The Kentucky Press (ISSN-0023-0324) is published monthly by the Kentucky Press Association/Kentucky Press Service, Inc. Periodicals Class postage is paid at Frankfort, KY, 40601. Subscription price is \$8 per year. Postmaster: Send change of address to The Kentucky Press, 101 Consumer Lane, Frankfort, KY, 40601, (502) 223-8821.

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The next reform should be legislative reform

We've had education reform and health insurance reform. Malpractice insurance reform was tried this session and others call for tax reform. But the next reform should be one to change the process. Legislative reform.

While I'd like to go as far as suggesting Kentucky voters reconsider the idea of annual sessions (it should have never happened) and return to the every other year structure, there is room for improvement in the present set up.

Bills have been introduced to return us to those 60 days every two years idea (would Kentucky voters consider two days every 60 years as the joke goes?) but you never see them moving through the process.

I'm not a legislative expert by any means. But I see one thing that would improve the process and who knows, maybe even shorten the regular sessions as at present.

For those not familiar with the legislative process, the end of the 2003 session doesn't mean the legislature is gone for the rest of the year. They will be meeting through the rest of year, though primarily as interim committees. These committees include members of the House and Senate sitting on the same committee in the respective chambers.

The committees meet monthly through the interim and hear testimony about proposed bills as well as testimony on ideas for bills or legislative action. While the background might be of benefit, overall the effort is not worth the time. They take no final action and any bill they consider has to

On Second Thought

By David T. Thompson
KPA Executive Director



be re-filed in January when the session begins.

And that leads to the same process over again — committee meetings, testimony, discussions on the bill and a vote to send it to their chamber for consideration, or deciding then and there to kill the bill.

But is the interim session really productive? In some respects, it might be if a committee is assigned a specific task for the interim. But in most ways, it's not. They know that whatever bills they hear about in the interim, will only come back in an official form after January.

So why not move to Congress' way? As a lobbyist, I envy what I know about the Congress process. Bills are scheduled for hearings and for "mark ups." Time is taken by the committee to hear as much testimony as possible, to get ideas for ways to improve bills, and especially to give members time to read the legislation.

Read the legislation? What a great idea! Too many times, legislators vote to pass a bill without having any knowledge of what the bill does. The state's budget bill in the 2003 session is a prime example. I'm still trying to find the first House member who knew language about school financial

statements was tucked away on page 245 of a 283-page document. Some even questioned my integrity when I told them what was in the bill.

It's my understanding that Congress doesn't have a committee meeting for two hours, with 15 or 20 bills to consider. In our present Kentucky structure, committee meetings are like an assembly line.

Don't get me wrong, Congressional members will still try to find a bill moving through the process and tack on some amendment that hasn't had discussion.

You can see the belt-line in action most every day during our legislative session. The chairman calls a bill to be heard and before the sponsor can sit at the table, a motion has been made, seconded and a vote taken. If you're lucky, you might get one real good discussion on a bill during any two-hour committee meeting. But typically, there's little or no discussion, no examining. That's the assembly line the present legislative structure has.

And as the end of the session nears, the line is put a full throttle. (Want to compare it to something: Just think of the I Love Lucy episode where she's employed by a candy-making company. Within minutes, she's stuffing candy everywhere she can.)

The committees, after all, have to get some bills before the full chamber and very few bills get the hearing they deserve before the committee.

And even when there might be discussion, the present structure leads to chairmen giving both sides limited times to discuss a bill. "We have other

bills today so let's make it quick," is a standard explanation.

As this past session wound down, bills were called without any discussion as the chairmen sought to get more bills out and before the chamber. You could compare it to making sausage. No one knows what's in there, no one needs to know, so live with it anyway.

Reform the process somehow. Make the interim committees more responsive. Give them authority to take action on bills. Give them time to consider fully what the legislation means and does. If it means a complicated bill gets two full hours of hearing so be it. But we're talking laws here, laws that affect our lives, our businesses, and as they all want to say — the future of all Kentuckians.

If interim committees can't wield power, then change the session process. Call the General Assembly into session, take a two-week hiatus and let committees meet, then recall the General Assembly to act only on those bills which have survived the process. Take another two week hiatus and have more bills processed through the system.

Maybe we should try the Tennessee legislature approach. All bills have to be filed by the first day of the session. Period. And on Tuesday of one week, committees post all bills that will be heard the following week. That gives all sides a chance to get ready and nothing, well very seldom, gets pushed through at the last minute.

As it is at present, it does not work. Not even smoothly.

Ad department needs your rate and data sheets

If the ad staff did not receive a new rate and data sheet from your newspaper at the end of 2002 then recently you should have received another form to update and mail back to us. This is the official form that we use to make sure that ad rates and circulation information are correct in our computer.

Thank you so much to the newspapers that responded so promptly to my mailed request. It was amazing that some of you got back to me within a week. That is so helpful with our planning. For the rest of you who have not responded, we are waiting patiently! We'll resort to calling you shortly.

Advertising Plus

By Teresa Revlett
KPS Director of Sales



When a client requests information it is our policy to turn that information around and quote the request within 24 hours. Quotes can be turned around in a matter of minutes if all of our information is current in the computer. If you are not sure that we have current

information on file for your newspaper, the best way to find out is to go ahead and drop us a new rate card in the mail. We can compare that to the rates on file and schedule ads properly.

Also if you are planning a second quarter rate increase now is the time to let us know. Otherwise we may find out that a rate is wrong after an ad has been scheduled.

For those of you who are switching to the 50-inch web, be sure and drop us a note about that fact too. We always have available two different size ads for the ones that we schedule but it is imperative that our information

remains current so that we know who is SAU and who is WEB.

Another thank you to newspapers that continue to refer clients to us. The best compliment that I can receive is when one of our members tells a client that we can help them with a statewide quote. That's why we are here and as always we should be considered an extension of our newspapers' sales staff.

Have a profitable spring. Remember, call (502-227-7992) or email me at trevlett@kypres.com with rate, circulation and size changes. Or just call me - I'd love to hear from you.

If only newspapers sold like lottery tickets

As usual, I was in a hurry. As I approached the cash register at the corner convenience store, it appeared I would be stuck in line awhile. In front of me was a bearded senior in a worn baseball cap – buying one of every scratch-off game the Kentucky Lottery has to offer. From his clothing, one might surmise the man – who resembled an older version of Fidel Castro – should have kept his money instead of handing it to the state lottery.

I doubt if there was anything unique about that scene – it's probably repeated many times a day at most every lottery outlet in the state. For me, it's not a moral issue. If people want to play the lottery, have at it – but I hate standing in lines.

As I shifted from one foot to the other and back again, my thoughts wandered back to the days more than 15 years ago when I managed a weekly in southwest Indiana. Readers would line up in the office on Wednesday afternoons to buy papers the moment they came from the printing plant. Many were subscribers and would get another copy in the mail the next day but still they couldn't wait to hand us their 50 cents several hours early just to catch up on the local news.

What if newspapers were in as much demand as lottery tickets? Wow,

Oh, By The Way

By David Greer
KPA Member Services
Director



we'd have something, wouldn't we? But why can't we motivate our readers to stand in long lines waiting to buy our products? Well, some of us do but sadly that is the exception

rather than the rule.

I won't bore you with a long list of reasons why papers don't sell like lottery tickets. That would be – as the king of clichés says – preaching to the choir. But let me plead my case for a couple of editorial content enhancements that would help us all sell more newspapers.

Writing and grammar.

That's it. Writing and grammar. Nothing too difficult or fancy. Just writing stories so readers can understand them. That means having the courage to tell our sources, "I don't understand what you are telling me. Please explain it again in plain language so my readers will understand."

Too often, that doesn't happen and stories get into our papers that make about as much sense as Mandarin Chinese makes to most of us who don't speak it.

Let me give you an example. I am a shortwave radio hobbyist. As a member of the Public Relations Committee for the ARRL, the national organization for ham radio operators, I regularly see newspaper clippings from around the nation with stories written

about ham radio operators. Recently, ham operators provided two-way radio communications for space shuttle-debris search teams in Texas. As a result, a number of hard news and feature stories were written about the ham operators, what they do and how they do it.

In several stories, the radio hobbyists interviewed talked in technical lingo and jargon that was indecipherable to most laymen. That shouldn't happen. Reporters and editors ought to say, "Wait a minute. If I don't understand this, how will my readers understand?"

"Back up and explain this again in plain language."

Some of the stories that run in large metro papers did a fairly good job in avoiding the techno-lingo disease.

Same for some of the stories that appeared on national web sites. But I saw several stories in smaller papers in which readers must have been wondering to themselves, "What does that mean? I don't understand this." You know what often happens if we're reading something we don't understand? We stop.

In coaching other ham operators around the country in how to deal with journalists when interviewed about our radio activities, I always stress that they should speak in plain language and leave the lingo and jargon for radio conversations with other ham operators in Australia or some exotic island in the Indian Ocean.

Grammar is the other area where

we are hurting ourselves. Readers do notice our mistakes – particularly many of our most devoted readers. Grammar was really emphasized when they were in school and they know it well. Readers notice when we get it and it's mixed up in the paper. Readers notice when we incorrectly make a word plural by adding 's' when only 's' is needed. Readers notice when we mix up there, their and they're. They notice when we confuse patience for patients. Or when we don't know the different between your and you're. Such mistakes erode our credibility. I've seen readership surveys in which readers say that if we make simple grammar errors in the paper, then how can we be trusted to get other things in the paper – like facts – correct?

That's a tough one to answer.

All this was emphasized to me recently when I met a man who lives elsewhere in Kentucky. We began making small talk. He didn't know what I did for living or my background as a journalist, but he told me about how he and his wife retired a couple years ago and moved to Kentucky. They love it here, he said. Somehow the subject of newspapers came up. Again, I didn't tell him I worked in the field but he told me how his wife loves to read newspapers but was quite disappointed in the local paper because she found 11 grammatical errors on the front page one day.

Ouch. That hurts. Readers do notice.

First Amendment suffers little damage during session

By KIM GREENE
KPA General Counsel
Dinsmore & Shohl



David Thompson and David Greer have started breathing normally again. So have Ashley Pack, Kenyon Meyer and I. This was the KPA's "team" during the 2003 legislative session. We're all glad it's over. And we're especially glad that the press and the public got through this session with minimal damage to First Amendment and access rights.

It took a lot of hard work and a lot of good luck to get to this point. The legislators never cease to amaze with the ways they can conjure up to limit access to court records or agency records or otherwise imposed burdens

on the press' and the public's right to know. Thanks to all KPA member newspapers who helped out with calls and letters to your legislators and editorials. We are clearly most effective when your legislators hear from you!

This year brought a whiff of fresh air to the process. There were actually two bills that affirmatively recognized the role of the news media. House Bill 513, sponsored by Rep. Derrick Graham of Frankfort, would have required local elected officials to participate in training sessions about their obligations under the Open Records and Open Meetings Laws. What a great idea! Unfortunately, the bill did not move at all. We should all encourage Rep. Graham to introduce it again next year.

House Concurrent Resolution 56 would have established a task force to

study methods for enhancing the safety of records related to homeland security. The sponsors of HCR 56 recognized the importance of the press' role in an endeavor like this and wrote the Kentucky Press Association in as a member of the task force. The bill made it through the House and almost through the Senate, but was assigned back to committee at the last minute.

The remainder of the 18 bills we were actively following were not as friendly. Fortunately, most of them also got waylaid in the system, at least for this session. Only four that concerned us have been passed into law. And two of those were neutralized by language changes before they were passed.

Bills that Passed

House Bill 36: This bill creates an "Amber alert" system. It requires the

Kentucky State Police to establish a system of alerting the public to child abductions in the hope of a swift recovery of the child. This is an admirable bill. When it was first proposed, however, it contained language that suggested that members of the news media were mandated to operate the system in conjunction with the State Police. That raises some legal issues and, I'm sure, some practical issues. Happily, we were able to convince the bill's sponsors to modify the language. Now, it is the Kentucky Press Association and the Kentucky Broadcasters Association which will "cooperate" with the State Police's efforts to issue the alerts. There's no mandatory language about individual newspapers.

See AMENDMENT on Page 8

Deaths

Journalism Hall of Fame member dies

Martha Purdon Comer, a member of the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame and a Maysville newspaper editor for more than 40 years, died at a nursing and rehabilitation center in Maysville. She was 96.

Comer was inducted into the hall of fame in 1995. She had worked at the Daily Independent since graduating from Maysville High School in 1924.

Her father, James Purdon, founded the paper in 1906, the year she was born in Maysville. She became editor in 1935 and remained until 1968, when the paper was sold and merged with its competition, The Public Ledger. She then became editor of the merged Ledger-Independent, overseeing both the morning and afternoon editions.

She retired as editor in 1977 and ran unsuccessfully for the legislature. That year she also resumed her college education at Maysville Community College. She remained an editorial consultant for the Ledger-Independent and wrote a daily column and editorials until 1990, when she cut back to writing commentaries two or three times a week. She served on KPA's Freedom of Information committee beginning in 1952.

Former Kentucky New Era editor dies

Robert "Bob" Howe McGaughey II, a native of Christian County, died March 22, 2003.

McGaughey is survived by his son Dr. Robert H. McGaughey of

Murray.

He was a graduate of Hopkinsville High School in 1929 and later earned his bachelor's degree in journalism in 1933 from the University of Kentucky, where he also did post-graduate work in both law and agriculture. After graduation he became advertising manager for B.F. Avery & Sons in Louisville. He then served as field representative for the A.S.C. and West Kentucky Production Credit Association for two years before being called to active duty in 1941. McGaughey received his commission as lieutenant through the University of Kentucky's ROTC program. He served in the United States Army during World War II as a training officer at Fort McClellan until his discharge as captain in 1943.

McGaughey returned to Christian County where he became the news editor for the Kentucky New Era. He also served as the first farm and news director for WHOP radio in Hopkinsville. His other media experience includes being a manager and editor of The Todd County Standard in Elkton, news and farm director for WKO, farm editor for the Kentucky New Era and as the Farm Bureau newsletter editor. He also worked for 16 years with First City Bank in Hopkinsville as vice president in charge of the farm department.

He also had four of his books published: "Life With Grandfather," "This is Your Weather," "Molly of the Shakers" and "The Way I Heard It."

He also wrote several unpublished works, including "Where Destiny Leads Me," "Four Went Fishing," "The Women in 313," "The Initiation" and "Sermons from Stones."

Senate Resolution honors Hall of Fame inductee

Senate Resolution No. 142
Sponsored by Sen. Daniel Mongiardo, Walter Blevins Jr. and Johnny Ray Turner

A RESOLUTION adjourning the Senate in honor of Louise Hatmaker upon being inducted into the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, it seems appropriate for this honorable body to recognize special Kentuckians who have enriched the lives of so many people; and

WHEREAS, Louise Hatmaker is a native of Perry County, Kentucky; she is a pioneer female journalist in Appalachia, and she began her career as a reporter for the Hazard Times, and she is the former editor, publisher and owner of the two oldest newspapers in the Kentucky River Valley, The Jackson Times and The Beattyville Enterprise; and

WHEREAS, Louise Hatmaker is a woman who is proud of her Kentucky mountain heritage, and she traces her lineage through her mother, Zada Baker Combs Bolton, to an Englishman by the name of John Combs who crossed the Atlantic on the Magnolia and landed at Jamestown in 1619; since 1735, six generations of Combses have claimed Eastern Kentucky as home, and produced such notables as the late Gov. Bert T. Combs and the immortal Earle Combs, who played the outfield for the New York Yankees with a 12 year batting average of .325; and

WHEREAS, Louise Hatmaker served on the board of directors of the Kentucky Press Association for 25 years, and she is the recipient of the Russell Metz Most Valuable Member Award for 1997, presented by the Kentucky Press Association for her longtime support of and involvement

in the newspaper industry in Kentucky; in 1987, she was awarded the Edwards M. Templin Award for Outstanding Community Service, an award presented annually to a newspaper person exhibiting outstanding community service to the community he or she serves and by whose newspaper is involved in efforts to make that community a better place in which to live and work; and she also is the recipient of the Eugene H. Combs Humanitarian Award which was presented by the Combs Family Association; and

WHEREAS, through the years, Louise Hatmaker has been committed to truth in journalism, and her newspapers obtained a reputation for publishing authentic news; and throughout her career as a journalist, she shared her knowledge with the public and gained their respect in return; and

WHEREAS, Louise Hatmaker will be inducted into the prestigious Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame on Tuesday, April 8, 2003;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of The Commonwealth of Kentucky:

Section 1. The Senate does hereby commend and applaud Louise Hatmaker for her many years of service to the citizens of this great Commonwealth. Her genius, spirit and determination have been an inspiration to many women, and her wonderful sense of humor reflects the joy of a life well-deserving. This Senate wishes her success in all future endeavors.

Section 2. When the Senate adjourns this day, it does so in honor of Louise Hatmaker upon the occasion of her induction into the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame on April 8, 2003.

tioned by Iraqi security officials in Basra.

Terry Lloyd, of ITN, Paul Moran, a freelance Australian cameraman and television reporter Gaby Rado have died in Iraq since the start of the war.

Bingham served over two years as Gore's documentary photographer for the U.S. National Archives. She also has spent years recording the plight of beleaguered people in places in Afghanistan, the Gaza Strip, Burundi, Sudan and Iran.

***Information for this story was taken from Associated Press reports.

RELEASED

Continued from page 1

McAllester, Newsday photographer Moises Saman and photographer Jahan Spanner were also released. They were taken prison the same day as Bingham.

Bingham's father, former Courier-Journal publisher Barry Bingham Jr., told the newspaper he last heard from his daughter in a brief e-mail March 22.

McAllester and Saman were last in contact with their editors on Monday afternoon, March 24, which was Monday night in Iraq. They sent an e-

mail indicating they would be filing material later. According to Newsday Editor Tony Marro, the staffers had been in regular contact with the newspaper, getting in touch at least twice a day.

The four were held prisoner inside a prison in Iraqi. They were denied their request to have the Red Cross visit them, a violation of the Geneva Convention. McAllester and Saman said they were not harmed and said they could feel the bombs going off in the city around them. They often heard screams from other prisoners.

Bingham did not have an Iraqi visa

and planned to enter the country by obtaining a Visa in Iran that would permit her to cross the rival nations' shared northeastern border. McAllester and Saman were reported to only have tourists' visas.

Other journalists still missing as of press time are British TV cameraman Fred Nerac and translator Hussein Othaman, and three journalists from Al-Arabiya, an Arabic-language television station in Dubai. Seven Italian journalists who had been reported missing for several days surfaced in Baghdad on Saturday, March 29. They reported they were detained and ques-

Western's SPJ honors high school journalists

Western Kentucky University's chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists honored high school students in the 2003 Mark of Excellence Newspaper and Broadcasting Contest and Awards Showcase of Excellence.

Those winning in the newspaper divisions were on March 7 were:

Best Newspaper (AAA): Bowling Green, Purple Gem, adviser Denita Hines, co-editors Ben Murphy and Cindy Casana, first; Paducah Tilghman, The Bell, adviser Johanna Rhodes, co-editors Tara Hale and Katie Green, second; Lone Oak, The Oak K, adviser Kay Campbell, editor Seth Bowen, third; Lexington Catholic, Knight News, adviser Camellia Rizk, co-editors Ryanne Frohoff, Krista Sagan and Rachel Sondag, third.

Best Newspaper (AAAA): Trinity, Echo, adviser Tony Lococo, co-editors Zak Owens and Alex Germano, first; Daviess County, The Big Red Machine, adviser Gail Kirkland, co-editors Holly Sears and Kim Morris, second; South Oldham, The Dragon's Tale, adviser Cindi Reedy, editor Megan Boehnke, third; Central Hardin, Central Times, adviser Susan Sherrard, editor Kelly Richardson, honorable mention; Barren County, Trojan Tribune, adviser Melinda Campbell, co-editors Chad Murphy and Ladonna Lawrence, honorable mention; duPont Manual, The Crimson Record, adviser Beth Stottman, co-editors Megan Richardson and Shel Abramson, honorable mention.

Best Advertising (class A/AA): Becca Jones and Casey Kute, Mercy

Academy, first; Jenni Dickens, Cumberland County, Cumberland Currents, second; Aaron Dodd, Lyon County, third.

Best Advertising (class AAA): Jenna Brown, Bowling Green, first; Bethany Clark and Ashley Hulsman, Grayson County, honorable mention; staff, Lone Oak, honorable mention.

Best Advertising (class AAAA): Aimee Hawks and Tara Granke, Barren County, first; Josh Arnold, Daviess County, second; Brittany Herndon, Pleasure Ridge Park, The Paw Print, third; staff, South Oldham, honorable mention.

Best News Writer (A/AA): Chris Anderson, Cumberland County, first; Elise Aldridge, Lyon County, second; Casey Kute, Mercy Academy, third.

Best News Writer (AAA): Justin Schilke, Bowling Green; Marie Redman, Owensboro, The Scoop, second; Brittany Fellows, Lone Oak, third.

Best News Writer (AAAA): Zak Owens, Trinity, first; Megan Boehnke, South Oldham, second; Holly Sears, Daviess County, third; Paige Priddy, Central Hardin, honorable mention.

Best Feature Writer (A/AA): Abbey Vierling, Mercy Academy, first; Craig Smith, Cumberland County, second; Jessi Coffey, Lyon County, third.

Best Feature Writer (AAA): Heather Cowherd, Bowling Green, first; Lauren Wolf, Lone Oak, second; Marie Redman, Owensboro, third.

Best Feature Writer (AAAA): Meghan Cain, Daviess County, first; Rebekah Crace, Barren County, second; Elizabeth

Riveire, duPont Manual, third; Lindsay Losik, South Oldham, honorable mention; Rebecca Gibson, Pleasure Ridge Park, honorable mention.

Best Editorial Writer (A-AAA): Will Pasley, Bowling Green, first; Lauren Wolf, Lone Oak, second; Sumer Taylor, Lyon County, honorable mention; Liz Alpiger, Mercy Academy, honorable mention; Sarah Martin, Grayson County, honorable mention.

Best Editorial Writer (AAAA): Kelly Richardson, Central Hardin, first; Kelsey Fort, Daviess County, second; Shel Abramson, duPont Manual, third; Adam Glover, Barren County, honorable mention.

Best Editorial Cartoonist (A/AA): Myranda Aldridge, Lyon County, first; Erin Bruenderman, Mercy Academy, second.

Best Editorial Cartoonist (AAA): Daniel Fitzpatrick, Bowling Green, first.

Best Editorial Cartoonist (AAAA): Tony Aros, Central Hardin, first; Melanie Banzer, duPont Manual, second; Andy McCormick, South Oldham, third; Phil Doshon, Trinity, honorable mention; Jon Pernisek, Daviess County, honorable mention.

Best Photographer (AAA): Chris Turner, Bowling Green, first.

Best Photographer (AAAA): Travis Vincent, Trinity, first; Chad Murphy, Barren County, second; Kasey Hills, Barren County, third.

Best Front Page (A/AA): Jessica Robertson, Lyon County, first; Teena Walter, Moore Traditional, second;

Liz Alpiger, Mercy Academy, third.

Best Front Page (AAA): Ryanne Frohoff and McKay Moore, Lexington Catholic, first; Ben Hays, Bowling Green, second; staff, Paducah Tilghman, third; Faith Majors, Grayson County, honorable mention; Seth Bowen, Lone Oak, honorable mention.

Best Front Page (AAAA): Trinity, first; Chad Murphy, Barren County, second; Kim Morris and Holly Sears, Daviess County, second; Megan Boehnke, South Oldham, third; Megan Richardson, Central Hardin, third; Brad Buckingham, Pleasure Ridge Park, third; Tiffany Carlson, Central Hardin, honorable mention; Michael Noltemeyer, Eastern, The Eastern Eagle, honorable mention.

Best Sports Writer (AAA): Brad Hogue, Bowling Green, first; Todd Phillips, Owensboro, second; Marshall Toy, Lone Oak, honorable mention.

Best Sports Writer (AAAA): Catherine Laroche, Central Hardin, first; Kenny Morrison, Barren County, second; Sonya Cecil, Daviess County, third; David Garvin, Pleasure Ridge Park, honorable mention; Chandler Jenkins, Eastern, honorable mention.

Most Valuable Staffers (A-AAA): Ben Murphy, Bowling Green, (adviser Denita Hines) first; Chelsea Henson, Cumberland County, (adviser Jason Dodson) second; Todd Lee Phillips, Owensboro, (adviser Chad Lewis) third.

Most Valuable Staffers (AAAA): Meghan Boehnke and Bethany Klausung, South Oldham, (adviser Cindi Reedy) first.

EDITOR

The editor's post at The Kentucky Standard (tri-weekly, 9,650 circulation) in Bardstown is now open. Good pay, good company. Stellar writing (hard news, opinion, features), editing, nose for news, photography, Photoshop, page design/pagination (Quark) are all musts.

The successful candidate will be well organized; knows and manages production flows well; coaches staff; loves community journalism and is committed to quality. This is arguably the best community news job in Kentucky. Three to five years in news supervision preferred.

Call Ron Filkins at 502-348-9003 (ext.119) or send resumes to rfilekins@bardstowncable.net.

The Standard is an LCNi property.

General Assignments Reporter

The Kentucky Standard in Bardstown is interviewing for general assignments reporter. Experience required (college or professional.)

Requisite skills: news and feature writing, photography, Photoshop, Quark. General news and some spot sports. Some evening, weekend work required.

Send resume and clips to:
Ron Filkins
110 W. Stephen Foster Avenue,
Bardstown, KY 40004.

WKPA discusses media's pressing issues

By DANA EHLSCHIDE
News Bureau Director

Members of the West Kentucky Press Association met at Murray State University on March 28 for their spring convention.

Chip Hutcheson, publisher of the Times Leader in Princeton, gave the group an update about some information he learned at the National Newspaper Association's Government Affairs Conference held in Washington D.C. the previous week.

Hutcheson said it is a "frightening time" for the newspaper business citing the implementation of the Health Information Portability and Accountability Act and the postal pension reform, both of which could have a major impact on the media.

HIPAA is set to go into affect April 14, 2003, and will restrict what health and medical professionals may disclose about a patient to the press. Media relations officers, nurses, doctors, ambulance crews, EMTs, social workers and insurance companies will no longer be able to release information about patients.

Hutcheson said that reporters would no longer be able to call a hospital and ask the name of a person brought in after an accident. If the reporter knows the name of the individual, the hospital personnel will be allowed to release a one-word condition, he said.

The hospital will no longer be able to release a list of births from the hospital.

All HIPAA regulated entities will face criminal and civil penalties if they violate the Privacy Rule. They must refuse to respond to requests from unauthorized sources for any detailed medical information.

It will take an act of Congress to roll this legislation back, but as of now no legislation is pending, Hutcheson reported.

The Postal Pension Reform could cause regular first class rates as well as periodical rates to increase, Hutcheson reported.

"This will have a major impact financially on all of us," he said.

When the Postal Service was formed in 1970, its employees were covered by the federal government's Civil Service Retirement System, which required an employee/employer match in addition to a government appropriation to

cover the full cost of pension benefits. In the 1980s, the Postal Service shifted to a new system like a 401(k) plan requiring no supplemental appropriation, but employees covered by CSRS remained in the old system. Annually, USPS has had to make annual payments to the Office of Personnel Management to cover the gap between the employee/employer contribution and the full pension benefit in CSRS. Those payments were expected to continue through the lives of the CSRS retirees. In November 2002, an audit of CSRS demonstrated that better-than-expected returns on the invested assets had produced a schedule for full funding of the benefits without the \$2.9 million annual payments. The audit found that if the USPS continued to contribute the annual payment, the fund would be overpaid by \$71 billion. The law however, requires the payments to continue. Paying this annual payment could cause postal increases next year.

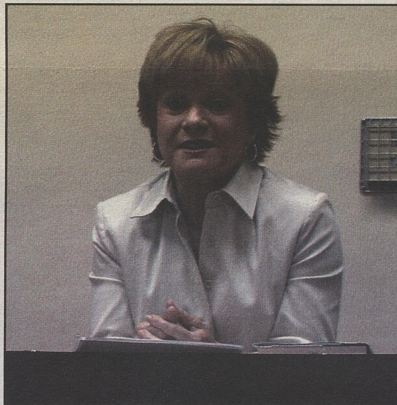
A change in the law is required to prevent the overpayment, Hutcheson said. If payment does not have to be made, there will be no postal increase until 2006.

Hutcheson urged WKPA members to contact their congressmen and senators. Companion bills S. 380 and HR 735 have been filed in both Houses of Congress to stop the overpayments. Both bills must be heard by the Budget Committees before a floor vote.

The group also discussed the measure in the Kentucky budget, which will allow school districts to advertise their yearly legal advertisements on the Internet instead of in their local newspapers. The group voiced their concern about not only the lost in funds to the industry but the hardship it puts on the public to have easy access to the advertisements.

Cheryl Lawson, director of public relations for the McCracken County Public Schools, and Donna Rains, public information coordinator for the Paducah Public Schools, each spoke about how they can work with newspapers to better cover public education.

Kenyon Meyer, of law firm Dinsmore & Shohl, spoke to the group about recent cases his firm has handled involving the media. He gave examples of things that newspapers should look for when running stories, advertisements, editorials and political cartoons.



Top: Kenyon Meyer, of Dinsmore and Shohl, told those attending the West Kentucky Press Association conference in Murray March 28 about some of the recent cases the firm has handled involving the media. Left: Donna Rains, the public information coordinator for the Paducah Public Schools, spoke during the WKPA about how newspapers can cover public education and work with the schools' public relations departments.

NEWS

Continued from page 1
lish these stories.

The deadline to sign-up is May 2. The register contact David T. Thompson at (800) 264-5721 or dthompson@kypress.com

If you have any questions call Kriss Johnson, KPA Circulation Division chair, at (859) 231-3353.

Journalism Hall of Fame luncheon

Six journalists with Kentucky ties

will be inducted into the Kentucky Journalism Hall of Fame and honored at a luncheon April 8 at the University of Kentucky.

The ceremony will be held at UK's Hilary J. Boone Faculty Center.

The inductees are Bob Edwards, Louise Hatmaker, the late Robert G. McGruder, the late Ed Ryan, Ed Staats and Carl West.

Later the same day, UK will also host the 26th annual Joe Creason Lecture in Memorial Hall. Edwards will be this year's Creason lecturer. He is the host of National Public Radio's "Morning Edition."

Publishers, editors think readers support war in Iraq

Most Americans in communities represented by community newspapers do nothing or little to take new precautions when the nation's threat level increases, according to a thumbnail glimpse of opinion among publishers in the community press.

Perhaps that is because most believe homeland security performance has improved since 9/11 or perhaps because most are in areas far

away from Washington DC or other perceived likely targets. A third, however, believe homeland security is no safer than before 9/11.

The opinions were offered by members of the National Newspaper Association, a 118-year old organization representing about 3,200 weekly and small daily newspapers across the country. The NNA polled its members during its 42nd Annual

Government Affairs Conference in Washington, D.C. March 19-22.

The publishers and editors expressed strong support for the war with Iraq and 57 percent believed their readers tend to support the war, but have questions about it. The war is justified in readers' minds, they said, because 83 percent believe that Iraq possesses nuclear, chemical and biological weapons. However, about

50 percent of publishers and editors believe their local communities will not be much affected by the war.

However, the increased security threats and the war support did not soften the publishers' and editors' concerns about restrictions in access to government information, use of surveillance of telecommunications

See **SUPPORT** on Page 9

AMENDMENT

Continued from page 4

House Bill 109: This bill relates to police merit boards in consolidated local governments. That means, of course, it affects only Lexington and Louisville. This bill states, among other things, that an individual police officer's promotion test results and ratings are not available to the public. This was a change in the language of the current statute, although the representative of the FOP (which was pushing for this bill) argued that the new language reflects how promotion test results and ratings have been handled in the past. In any event, this bill moved through both chambers and was signed by the Governor with lightning speed (unusual in this session).

House Bill 269: Tucked deep inside the budget bill (page 254, lines 12-21) was language which would move publication of public school financial statements from newspapers to the internet. Despite objections that internet accessibility is not universal throughout the state, both houses passed the budget with this language intact. And, despite efforts to convince the Governor to exercise his authority to line-item-veto this language, he declined to do so.

Senate Bill 213: This bill somehow managed to slide in under the radar screen. It had passed the Senate and was being sent to the House floor when we learned of it. The bill grants immunity to legislators and Legislative Research Commission staff from having to testify about the intent of any bill or the process of moving it through the legislature. More troubling to us was the second half of the bill, which removed the General Assembly and the LRC from the Open Records Act. This would have given the LRC complete discretion over public access to public records in the possession of the LRC or the General Assembly. None of the provisions of the Open Records Law (the presumption that records are

public, the limited exceptions, appeal to the Attorney General, etc.) would have applied.

We were able to propose some alternative language and convince the LRC to agree to it. Now SB 213 provides that certain enumerated records in the possession of the General Assembly and the LRC are automatically available to public inspection. As to any other records someone might request, the Open Records Act's presumption of openness and exceptions apply to an LRC determination of whether to release them.

The bill still removes the Attorney General's review process from these requests. It is replaced with direct appeal to the court of a denial by the LRC.

We do not agree with the premise of this bill. Since the Open Records Act was enacted in 1976 by the General Assembly, the General Assembly and LRC have been subject to its provisions. We are not aware of any problem with this in all that time. However, since the bill passed and was signed by the Governor, we are pleased that the modifications we negotiated maintain most of the framework or the Open Records Act for requests for records of the General Assembly and LRC.

Bills that Almost Passed

Some of the most troubling bills came very close to being passed, but didn't quite make it for one reason or another. They warrant some discussion here, though, since we will likely see many of them in future legislative sessions.

House Bill 263: This bill proposed an amendment to Kentucky's rape shield law, a rule of evidence intended to protect alleged victims of sexual misconduct, including rape, against testimony about their intimate relationships. The bill would have changed the procedure an alleged perpetrator's lawyer would go through to offer evidence of the alleged victim's prior sexual behavior which the defense attorney believed to be pertinent. In the process, this bill would

have sealed certain court records which are not required to be sealed by the current Kentucky rule.

This bill appeared to be on a fast track through the legislature. It was sponsored by the chair of the House Judiciary Committee (the committee which initially approved the bill) and Supreme Court Justice Cooper testified in committee that, because of the process required to amend a rule of evidence, the legislature could only vote the bill up or down, it could not modify the bill. Our research confirmed this was so. Nevertheless, although the bill passed the House it did not come to vote in the Senate.

House Bill 288: This bill would have created identification cards for certified volunteer firefighters. Although the bill specified that this was a non-driver's identification card, it tied access to the cards and the information on them to the federal Driver Privacy Protection Act. That meant that the news media and members of the public would not have access. The sponsor of the bill, Robert Damron, would not budge on this point. (You may remember that he sponsored the concealed carry law and fought successfully for a provision that made concealed carry permits confidential.)

In the end, the bill did not pass. It got through the House and through its second reading in the Senate when it was diverted to the Rules Committee.

House Bill 426: Among other things intended to deal with election fraud, this bill would have exempted absentee ballot requests and applications from disclosure under the Open Records Act until after all voted ballots were returned to the county clerk or election day. It passed the House but never reached the Senate floor.

House Bill 466: This bill was one of two repeaters from the 2002 session. It would have allowed a court to expunge an emergency protective order (EPO) upon a finding that domestic violence has not occurred and will not occur. As a general matter, the KPA opposes expungement of court records because it is tantamount

to saying something which did happen didn't. Fortunately, this bill did not make it through the House.

House Bill 485: This was another bill KPA had fought successfully in 2002. It would have required automatic expungement of criminal records if the person were found not guilty or if the charges were dismissed. This bill even took that matter out of the judge's discretion. Like HB 466, this bill made it through the House Judiciary Committee but was never brought to a vote on the House floor.

Senate Bill 187: This bill would have allowed county clerks to charge 50¢ per page for photocopies of records in his or her control. KPA opposed this bill but modifications in committee and on the Senate floor made it a little less troublesome. A mandatory 50¢ per page charge was changed to a permissive 50¢ per page charge. And the requesting individual was permitted to use a digital camera or other imaging device of his or her own to copy the requested documents at no charge unless the individual used the county clerk's electricity.

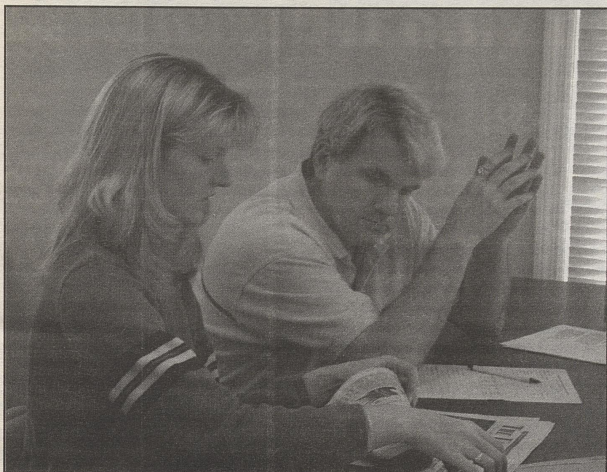
After the Senate passed this bill, the House passed an amended version of it. It was returned to the Senate for concurrence but lapsed there.

This column started with a sigh of relief that the 2003 session was over. I hate to do it, but I'm going to end the column by saying it's not too early for us to turn our attention to the 2004 session. Many of these bills that almost made it through will likely return. We need to put our heads together now to formulate our strategy for next January.

If you have any questions about any of these bills or other matters covered by the Hotline, don't hesitate to call your Hotline attorneys.

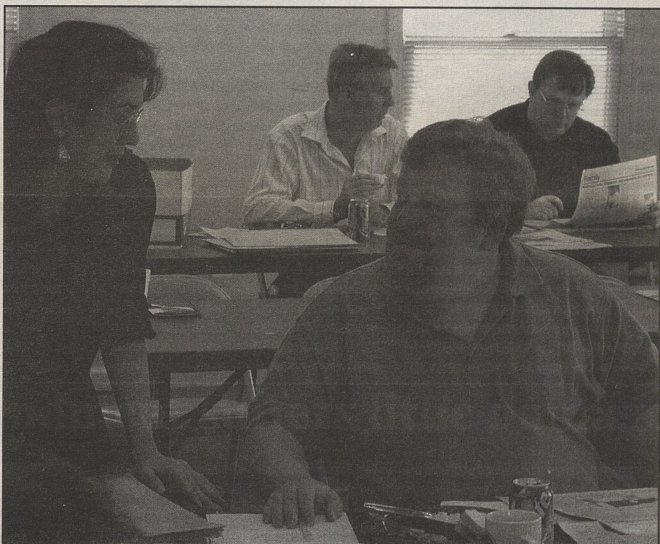
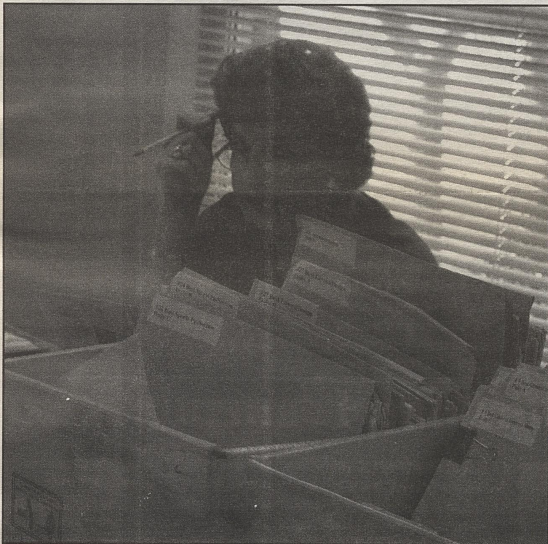
Jon L. Fleischaker: 502/540-2319
Kimberly K. Greene: 502/540-2350
R. Kenyon Meyer: 502/540-2325
Ashley C. Pack: 502/540-2385

DINSMORE & SHOHL, LLP
Switchboard: (502) 540-2300
Facsimile: (502) 585-2207



Mississippi Press Association Editorial Contest Judging at KPA

Left top: Tricia Bray and Jeff Neal from the Commonwealth Journal in Somerset look over an entry in the Mississippi Press Association contest KPA members helped judge on March 27. Bottom left: Carolyn Wilson, executive director of the Mississippi Press Association, brought the contest entries to Frankfort for the judging. Below: Randy Patrick of the Jessamine Journal and Lisa Rowell of the Pulaski News-Journal discussed the entries they read during the all day judging.



SUPPORT

Continued from page 8

and the handling of detainees. Only 4 percent of the group agreed without reservation that the restrictions are acceptable.

The poll was conducted by DecisionQuest, Inc., a national strategic communication firm that specializes in electronically surveying audiences during presentations and presenting instant analysis of audience feedback. The opinion measures were taken during presentations by Sen. Pat Roberts, R-KS, chairman of the

Senate Select Committee on Intelligence, and Chuck Hagel, R-NE, chairman of the Senate Subcommittee on International Economic Policy, Export and Trade Promotion. Two Democratic candidates for the 2004 Presidential race, Rep. Dennis Kucinich, D-OH, and former Vermont Gov. Howard Dean.

The audience consisted of about 150 newspaper professionals from various sizes of communities, primarily rural and small town weekly and daily newspapers. Most publishers characterized their editorial policy as middle of the road, with conservatives claiming 27 percent of editorial

pages and 22 percent for liberals.

Other findings:

Going into the day's presentations, Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts was the favored Democratic candidate of the publishers. After the presentations Howard Dean, former governor of Vermont, was picked to win the Democratic nomination for president.

Gov. Dean's opinion ratings rose 38 points after he spoke to the group. Dean was ranked most likely to be endorsed by the newspapers from among the field of nine announced candidates.

Sixty two percent of responders

have more negative views of France as a result of the United Nations' resolutions.

Most (73 percent) say their readers are either very anxious or somewhat anxious about the war on terrorism.

When community newspapers write about Washington news, they mostly write about federal agency announcements, grants or regulations (27 percent), national politics affecting their hometowns (20 percent) or federal legislation affecting the hometowns (15 percent). The papers reported little coverage of international or foreign policy.

Quarles will address API

Reston, VA - Orage Quarles III, president and publisher of the News Observer Publishing Company and former Newspaper Association of America chair, will appear at the Senior Executives' Retreat: Reflective Leadership for Complex Times, a seminar to take place June 8 to June 10 at the American Press Institute.

The Retreat is an intensive, three-day, interactive roundtable designed exclusively for community newspaper publishers and senior group executives. Quarles will report on his experiences as an NAA representative traveling around the country meeting media leaders from small to medium to large operations, and lead a discussion on the challenges of media leadership today.

Other discussion leaders, distinguished professionals from both inside and outside media, will lead examinations of such topics as vision and execution, talent management and retention, the business impact of workforce diversity and personal development for peak performance.

In a small-group peer setting, led by an expert facilitator, participants will look at the most relevant media issues of the day, including: the value of multi-media operations, reconciling profitability with journalism excellence, the role of a free press in a free society and strategic approaches to operational issues.

For more information, contact Mary Lynn Billitteri, API associate director, at (703) 620-3611 or marylynn@americanpressinstitute.org

The American Press Institute is an independent, not-for-profit 501c(3) educational center with headquarters in Reston, Virginia.

These programs have been attended by more than 35,000 women and men from newspapers, broadcast and new-media operations, magazines and from schools of journalism. The Institute also offers training online and develops intensive on-site learning programs for individual media companies. API's Media Center is a worldwide leader in helping the news industry devise strategies and tactics for improving online content and revenues.

WAR

Continued from page 1

reaction and features from those we know about," Bratcher said. "We're also looking at a feature on local kids creating care packages, and a feature on a bulletin board at the middle school with pictures and letters from servicemen with local ties."

The Sentinel-News in Shelbyville is not only doing stories on local reaction, they have been running photos and comments coming directly from a local soldier via e-mail from an aircraft carrier.

"I'm not sure how long that will be allowed since it all has to be cleared first, but I'm hoping he'll keep them coming," said James Mulcahy Sentinel-News editor.

The Jessamine Journal has been running at least one local-angle story every week for the past several weeks, even before the official start of the war, said Editor Randy Patrick. Its first story was an interview with a young woman from Ashbury College, whose husband, also an Asbury student and a Marine reservist, was called to active duty on their wedding day. He received the news from his sergeant, who was part of his wedding party a few hours earlier. That was their lead story that week.

During the week following the war Patrick also planned to interview ministers about their views on the war for the religion page.

"Our local Episcopal church is having a 24-hour prayer-fast for peace, and a nondenominational church across the street from us has stirred up a controversy by placing a sign out front say 'Pray for Saddam Hussein,' and quoting scripture about one's enemies," Patrick said. "With the seminary and the Christian college here, this is a very religious community, and religious news is a much bigger part of our coverage than it is at most papers."

The McCreary County Voice decided that the news of the war and President George W. Bush's remarks were important enough to hold its front page March 19 until after Bush's speech.

Those comments along with coverage of the deployment of McCreary County's local reserve company deploying out of Monticello the night before and photos and comments from local soldiers who are most likely heading overseas comprised 75 percent of the front and inside front.

As newspapers did during the first Gulf War, many again are using space

inside the paper to list the names of servicemen and women with local connections.

"We've been publishing a running list of active duty military personnel from Spencer County," said Shindlebower. "We usually run that list accompanied by a picture of a blue star service banner with information on how families can obtain such a banner from the local VFW."

After the start of the war the Spencer County newspaper also published, with the help of a local sponsor, a full-color back page sporting a large American flag with the words "We Support Our Troops" along with the list of names.

The McLean County News has also been publishing a "Loved Ones in the Military" page.

The Crittenden Press has taken it a step further by listing the local soldiers on its website with links so that people can send them e-mail.

Kentucky's dailies have also been looking at a way to localize stories and offer additional coverage about an issue that hits close to home for many subscribers.

On March 20 the Ashland Daily Independent's first edition following the start of military action featured a four-page wrap of Section A with full-color wire photos on each page and wire stories. Its normal Page One was actually Page 3 of the section with interviews and photos of local residents' reaction to what began the night before and precautions being taken by area law enforcement and emergency management agencies as a response to increased threat of terrorism posed by

war with Iraq.

"Developments as they unfold will dictate the amount of space allocated daily to war coverage from this point on," said Stan Champer, news production editor.

Journalists from the Lexington Herald-Leader and the Kentucky New Era in Hopkinsville are among the approximately 500 covering the war firsthand.

The Lexington Herald-Leader has two staffers "embedded" with military units in the war zone.

Tom Lasseter is with the 101st Airborne Division's 502nd Infantry, Second Battalion, Delta Company. He arrived in Kuwait on March 10. At last report, he was at Camp New York on the Kuwait-Iraq border.

"This unit is the equivalent to the WWII 'rat patrol' that you may remember from the movies," said Tom Caudill of the Herald-Leader. "It is a Humvee unit designed to go in as soon as the initial bombing is over and hunt down Iraqis. We expect it will be one of the first units into Baghdad."

Herald-Leader photographer Pablo Alcala arrived in Kuwait on March 1 and has been assigned to an infantry unit of the First Marine Division, First Battalion of the Fourth Marines, a front-line combat unit.

Kentucky New Era Managing Editor Rob Dollar departed March 3 with elements of Fort Campbell's 101st Airborne Division's 159th Aviation Brigade.

The Kentucky New Era was featured on MSNBC April 1 for its story about the 101st Airborne Division, based at Fort Campbell, losing one of its soldiers in the war.

CIRCULATION DIRECTOR

Located along the Ohio river in Southern Indiana, directly across from Louisville, Kentucky, The Evening News, a Monday through Saturday daily, and The Tribune, a Sunday through Friday daily, are seeking applications for the position of Circulation Director. The ideal individual would be joining CNHI, a dynamic company, with a reputation for its focus on community newspapers.

Qualified applicants should have strong sales, strategic planning, leadership skills, and budgeting experience. The Circulation Director is responsible for revenue goals, expense management, preparation of the circulation budgets, as well as the ability to lead and manage all facets of circulation growth in both single copy and home delivery sales, customer service, telemarketing and distribution management. This individual should also have the vision to focus outside of the traditional methods of circulation management, and be successful in a highly competitive marketplace. This position reports directly to the General Manager, and previous newspaper circulation experience is a must. This key management position offers a competitive compensation and benefits package, which includes, medical, dental, vision, and life insurance, paid vacation, holiday, and sick time, along with a bonus plan, and 401(k) program.

Qualified applicants should send a cover letter, and resume, with salary requirements to:

Jean Gibson, General Manager
PO Box 867
Jeffersonville, IN 47131-0867
Fax: (812) 283-1150 E-mail: jsgibson@cnhi.co

PEOPLE

Continued from page 2

County High School and attended Eastern Kentucky University.

She brings more than eight years of local advertising experience to the table. With the management and production of *The Trimble Banner* moving to the Carrollton office, her abilities and contributions in local and combo advertising sales will help make the transition smoother.

Hamilton named chamber vice-president

Chris Hamilton, editor/general manager of *The Lebanon Enterprise*, was recently elected to serve as the 2003 Vice-President of the Lebanon-Marion County Chamber of Commerce.

Elected to the board for a three-year term in 2002, Hamilton is also presently serving as chairman of the chamber's tourism committee. His volunteer work doesn't stop with the chamber. He serves as the Rotary Club treasurer and is on the board of directors for Centre Square, the area's new community center.

News-Herald receives award for Relay for Life coverage

The *News-Herald* in Owenton was honored recently by The American Cancer Society with two awards for coverage of the annual Relay for Life.

The *News-Herald* received first place for its public service campaign in Region 1 of the Mid-South Division as well as third place in the region for the special section it produced after the 2002 Relay.

Additionally, the Owen County event, which was chaired by *News-Herald* Publisher Patti M. Clark, was honored as being one of the top 25 events in the Mid-South Region for fundraising efforts.

The 2002 event, the fifth for Owen County, raised more than \$60,000 and has raised nearly \$250,000 for the American Cancer Society since it started locally in 1998.

LaRue County Herald News presents \$1,000 to survey winner

A Hodgenville woman was the grand prize winner in the *Herald News'* recent online survey.

Judy Deckard won \$1,000 in a random draw by visiting the Pulse Research Website and answering a few

questions about her reading and buying habits. She was selected out of the approximately 2,500 entries in the contest.

Other winners in the contest were: Kevin McClaskey of Turners Station who won \$100; Michelle Farfaglia of Lake Panasoffkee, Fla. who won \$50; and Dennis Mefford of Worthville who won \$50.

Petery joins Carrollton's editorial staff

Amy Petery recently joined the editorial staff of *The News-Democrat* in Carrollton.

Petery, originally from Richmond, Ind., was hired as editorial assistant. She is now living in Madison, Ind.

Petery graduated from the journalism program at Asbury College in Wilmore in May 2002. She worked for *The Collegian*, the student newspaper at Asbury, for three years, starting as a staff writer her sophomore year and working her way up to the position of editor-in-chief her senior year.

Also during her senior year, she completed an internship serving as assistant chairman for public relations for the Ichthus Central Committee. Ichthus is a Christian music festival held annually in Wilmore.

WKU faculty, graduates honored

Jeanie Adams-Smith, an assistant professor of photojournalism at Western Kentucky University, has been honored in the 60th annual Pictures of the Year International Competition.

Adams-Smith received third place in the feature picture story category. The subject of "Best Friends" was the friendship of a boy and a Vietnam veteran who are neighbors in Hopkinsville.

Three Western graduates and a former faculty member also were honored in the competition, sponsored by the Missouri School of Journalism.

Tamara Voninski, a 1993 WKU graduate who works for a publications and photo agency in Australia, received two awards. "Drought" placed third in the science and natural history picture story category while "Street Performers" received an award of excellence in the feature picture category.

Amber Tanille Laforet, a 2002 graduate, placed second in best use of multi-media/interactive publication.

Mark Osler, a 1993 graduate, shared in four awards of excellence with other staff members of the Rocky Mountain

News. The Denver paper received photo-editing awards for "Season to Share," "Killer in the Herds," "Colorado Amish" and "The Hayman War."

David M. LaBelle, a former photojournalism faculty member, shared an award of excellence with staff members of the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* for "A Day to Remember."

More than 23,000 entries were submitted with 250 awards presented in 44 categories.

WKU student newspaper wins Gold Crown

The *College Heights Herald*, Western Kentucky University's student newspaper, has again swept the two major national awards for college newspapers.

The *Herald* was one of six Gold Crown winners announced by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association in New York City.

Other winners were from Ball State University, Northwestern University, School of Art Institute of Chicago, Indiana University and Kansas State University.

Last fall, the *Herald* received its ninth national Pacemaker Award from Associated Collegiate Press. The awards are considered the Pulitzer Prizes for college newspapers. The *Herald* also won a Gold Crown award in 1999 and two in 2000.

Of the 1,749 CSPA members eligible, 1,550 magazines, newspapers and yearbooks entered the competition.

The papers were judged on writing/editing, design, content, concept, photography, art and graphics.

The editors for the period judged were Ryan Clark and Brian Moore, both of Louisville. Clark is finishing a sports writing internship at *The Orlando Sentinel* and will be heading to *The Washington Post* for a summer internship. Moore will graduate in May and has accepted a reporting position at *The Courier-Journal*.

Several *Herald* staff members or graduates also were recognized as Gold Circle winners. The Gold Circle newspaper competition encompasses 30 individual categories.

Taylor Loyal, education reporter at the *Daily News*, placed second in general features and received a certificate of merit in news features.

Brandy Warren, a Louisville senior, placed second in in-depth news/feature story.

Crestwood senior Stephanie Gladney and Robyn Larsen, a gradu-

ate serving in the Peace Corps, placed third in sports page design.

Receiving certificates of merit were Moore and Louisville senior Joseph Lord, news writing; Kyle Tucker, a senior from Clarksville, Tenn., sports news; and Caroline Lynch, a December graduate from Louisville, opinion page design. The contest attracted more than 3,700 entries.

Alabama company's deal includes six Kentucky newspapers

The Brown Publishing Company has purchased 23 newspapers in Kentucky and five other states.

The two Kentucky dailies are the *Harlan Daily Enterprise* and the *Middlesboro Daily News*. The Kentucky weeklies are the *Russellville News-Democrat* and *Leader*, the *Hazard Herald*, the *Prestonsburg Floyd County Times* and the *Leitchfield Grayson County News-Gazette*.

Creech named Tri-City News staff reporter

Veronica Creech was added to the *Tri-City News* staff in late February.

Creech is a resident of Benham and is a graduate of Cumberland High School and Lincoln Memorial University. Her duties at the *Tri-City News* will cover all aspects of news writing as well as feature writing and photography.

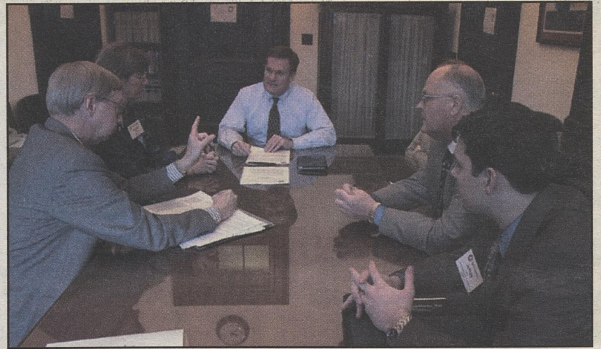
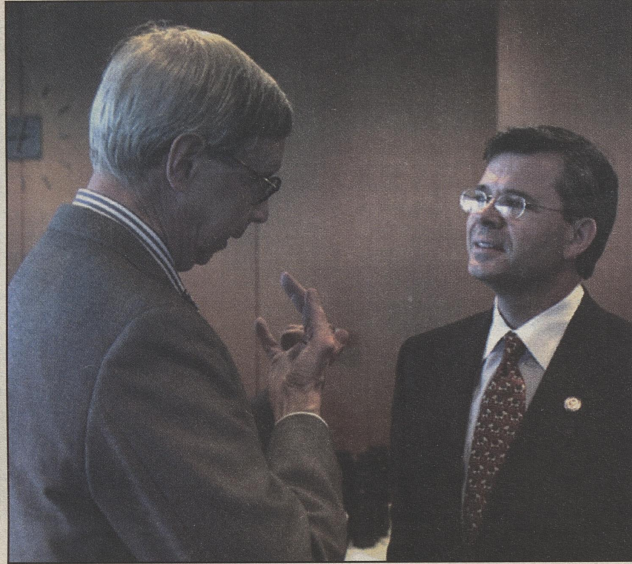
Two C-J reporters win Polk Award

Two *Courier-Journal* reporters who exposed a backlog of criminal cases in the Bullitt County courts are among the winners announced in late February of the George Polk Award.

The "Justice Delayed, Justice Denied" series last year by reporters Jason Riley and R.G. Dunlop was one of the 14 Polk winners announced by Long Island University, which has administered the awards since 1949. Dunlop and Riley's Polk Award is in the category of local reporting.

The three-part series, investigated over six months and published in November, found that at least 200 people charged with felonies, including rape and murder, escaped prosecution because cases were misplaced, mismanaged or delayed during the past 20 years. The honor is the newspaper's fourth Polk Award and the second for Dunlop who received it in 1998.

National Newspaper Association Government Affairs Conference



Left: Max Heath, left, Landmark Community Newspapers, Inc., VP Circulation /Postal and 1988 KPA President, talks with U.S. Rep. Ernie Fletcher of Kentucky about co-sponsoring a bill to correct Postal Service pension overpayments to help delay a postage rate increase by two years to 2006. The discussion came during a Congressional lunch reception at the Library of Congress during the National Newspaper Association's Government Affairs Conference March 20 in Washington, D.C. Above: Max Heath, left, outlines a request for postal legislation to Mason Wiggins, legislative assistant to Sen. Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, during a visit on Capitol Hill March 20. Behind Heath is Sharon Tuminski, financial manager of The Winchester Sun and KPA president. On the right are David T. Thompson, executive director of KPA, and Jeff Carson, NNA legislative staffer. Chip Hutcheson, Princeton publisher and NNA State Chair, took the photo. The meeting was part of the NNA Government Affairs Conference in Washington. NNA seeks a change in postal pension funding that would correct overpayments and add two years to current rate stability.

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