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Official publication of the Kentucky Press Service — Vol. 63, No. 5 — May 1992

## ties that bond News-ed seminar et for Frankfort

"Understanding Economic Development and Bond Issues" is the title of KPA's News Editorial Spring seminar, planned for May 7 at Frankfort's Best Western Inn.

Presented in conjunction with the Associates Division, the seminar will take a look at Kentucky's economic development picture and the specifics of industrial and municipal revenue bonds.

Lt. Gov. Paul Patton, also Secretary of the Cabinet for Economic Development, will be the luncheon speaker.

The day-long program begins at 9:30 a.m. The \$15 per person fee includes lunch and seminar materials.

For more information, call David Thompson at 800/866-1431.

## Papers' top ads merit top awards

KPA's Illinois counterparts have spoken and the top winners in the spring advertising contest are *McLean County News* in Calhoun, *Record-Herald* in Greensburg, *Sentinel-News* in Shelbyville, *The Gleaner* in Henderson and the *Messenger-Inquirer* in Owensboro.

Those are the papers that earned General Excellence plaques in their individual circulation categories at the awards luncheon on April 17 at the spring advertising seminar in Bardstown.

**General Excellence**

**McLean County News**  
**Record-Herald**  
**Sentinel-News**  
**The Gleaner**  
**Messenger-Inquirer**

Placing in the competition were the following newspapers.

Weekly Class I (up to 3,000 circulation): *Green River Republican*,

*Morgantown*, second, and *The Lake News*, Calvert City, third.

Weekly Class II (3,001-5,000): *Springfield Sun* and *Georgetown News*

& *Times*, second; *News-Herald*, Owenton, and *Pioneer News*, Shepherdsville, third.

Weekly Class III (5,001+): *Kentucky Standard*, Bardstown, second, and *Union County Advocate*, Morganfield, third.

Daily Class I (up to 15,000): *Advocate-Messenger*, Danville, second, and *Richmond Register*, third.

Daily Class II (15,001+): *Kentucky New Era*, Hopkinsville, second, and *News-Enterprise*, Elizabethtown, third.

Credit for the winning ads go to designers at the individual papers. At McLean County, Stacy Kassing, Jan Young, Jeanette Sutherlin, Kim Tomes

See Awards, back page

## Spelling R-e-l-i-e-f

Whether you need relief this summer as vacation schedules loom or whether you'd like to be a relief pitcher for awhile, KPA has a program you might be interested in.

"Vacation Relief" matches retirees, faculty members or others who have newspaper experience with publishers who can use a helping hand during the vacation season.

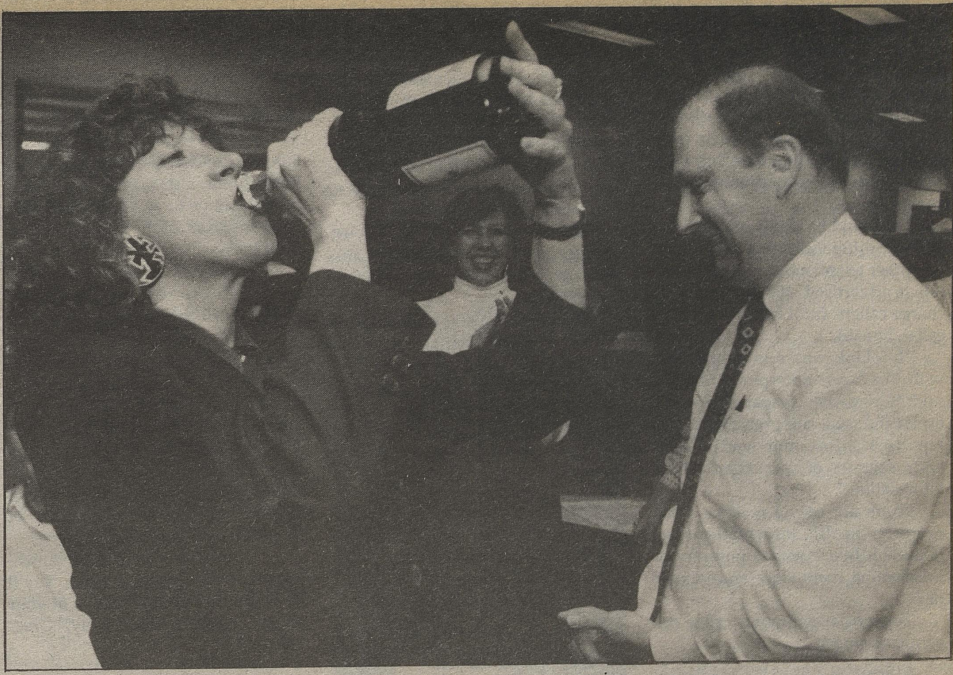
As one who'd like to get back into the business for just a week or two, you could fill in for a publisher, editor, ad sales rep, layout specialist or whatever.

On the other hand, if you're a working newspaperperson wondering how the place can go on without you for a spell, this could be your chance to have a temporary replacement who knows a little something about the newspaper world.

If you want to fill in or be filled in for, contact KPA executive director David Thompson, 800/866-1431.

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A very good year

It's not every day your boss lets you gulp champagne on the job. But then it's not every day a paper has a winner of the country's top journalism award on its staff. Maria Henson of the Lexington Herald-Leader won the 1992 Pulitzer Prize for editorial writing for her series on abused women in Kentucky. The series, "To Have and To Harm," ran periodically for more than a year and combined investigative reporting with editorial writing. It has already won a roomful of state and regional awards. Her colleagues joined her in celebration on April 7 when the announcement was made. Editor Tim Kelly apparently approves. (Photo by Rob Carr)

# News-Enterprise starts free service to link public with information

## InfoLink puts up-to-the-minute news a dial tone away

### Staff Report

*The News-Enterprise, Elizabethtown*

The News-Enterprise begins a service today (April 5) — InfoLink — that gives residents free access to more than 150 types of information via a touch-tone phone.

InfoLink is a 24-hour, seven-days-a-week service. People dialing either 765-3331 or 351-3331 first will hear a greeting from Dan, the InfoLink operator, then the time and temperature along with basic instructions to use the system. Callers must have a touch-tone phone to use InfoLink. After calling the system, users are asked to enter a four-digit category number on their telephone keypad.

"People should not confuse this with a 900 number. This is free," editor David Greer said. "It allows people to call in at their convenience and access information in more than 150 categories. Recorded information is played over the phone line.

The News-Enterprise is one of about 400 newspapers nationwide and the first in Kentucky to operate its own "audiotext" system, such as InfoLink.

"While InfoLink is the first such audiotext service started by a newspaper in Kentucky, popularity is growing nationwide," News-Enterprise Publisher Mike Anders said.

"To serve increasingly diverse needs for information in their communities, publishers realize they must branch out beyond traditional newspapers."

Greer said he wants people to realize the difference between InfoLink and other telephone services, such as much advertised 900 services that charge callers. InfoLink is free to the caller, he said.

"InfoLink works in conjunction with The News-Enterprise," Anders said. "Our daily newspaper provides by far the most comprehensive local report in Hardin County, and InfoLink adds volumes of specialized bits of information."

There are movie reviews, book reviews, health information and household tips, as well as more serious information, such as local and national news.

Some most commonly called categories include:

■ **Weather** - The local weather forecast is updated twice daily, in the morning and in the afternoon. During severe weather the category is updated more often with latest conditions. Weather information for more than 100 cities worldwide also is available.

■ **Lottery** - Kentucky Lottery numbers are updated as soon as possible after the drawing at 7:30 p.m. Lotto America numbers also are available.

■ **Sports** - Local and national sports scores. National sports scores are updated about every 15 minutes as games are in progress. Local scores and sports stories are updated each evening.

■ **Local news** - Local news is updated each evening or more often if warranted.

The News-Enterprise is one of about 400 newspapers nationwide and the first in Kentucky to operate its own "audiotext" system, such as InfoLink.

■ **Business news** - Individual New York and American exchange stock quotes are updated continuously via a separate satellite feed to the newspaper. They will be about 30 minutes behind the markets. Other business news and analysis also are available.

■ **Soaps** - Soap opera summaries are updated daily.

■ **Horoscopes** - General, romantic and financial horoscopes are updated daily.

■ **Interactive trivia and adventure games** - The InfoLink system asks questions and responds to appropriate key punches in these categories.

■ **Entertainment news** - TV listings for network and cable are summarized, along with movie, music and book reviews.

InfoLink is capable of routing calls onto 11 incoming telephone lines and providing information to all 11 simultaneously.

InfoLink also includes a current events hotline that will be updated during high-interest events, such as the recent Winter Olympics or the Academy Awards.

"We believe, as many other newspapers are beginning to understand, that we really are in the information business, not just the newspaper business," Greer said. "We're looking for new ways to distribute news and advertising information."

InfoLink allows distribution of certain categories of information so specific they couldn't be printed in the newspaper because of space limitations. Other information can be offered on a more timely basis.

Greer said some readers want in-



formation about Wall Street that hasn't been included in the newspaper because of space limitations. The New York and American stock exchanges, commodities and precious metal prices all are available and updated continuously.

By entering the correct stock ticker symbol into the telephone key pad, InfoLink callers may request current information about their specific stock of interest.

National Hockey League coverage is another example of information that can be made available on InfoLink. "The majority of residents in Hardin County are not interested in hockey," Greer said. But some people do want to know hockey scores. During the playing season, NHL results will be available, he said.

InfoLink won't replace the daily newspaper. "If you want to know whether it's raining in Cincinnati, you call InfoLink," Anders said. "If you want to know who did what to whom on 'The Guiding Light,' you call InfoLink. But if you want to know, in detail, what happened here, from service clubs to circuit court, you read The News-Enterprise."

The InfoLink system uses a computer that accepts information from two satellite feeds, one for news and information and the other for stocks. Information also may be fed locally via telephone or at The News-Enterprise sound studio by newspaper staff members.

Information is stored in voice form on a high capacity laser disk drive where it can be accessed by callers.

"It represents quite a complex project that we've been working on for several months," Greer said.

The majority of information on InfoLink will be provided by the Cityline Audio Network, headquartered in Wichita, Kan. Cityline employs about 60 people who gather, write and update information categories 24 hours each day, seven days a week.

"As long as you have a (touch-tone) telephone within reach, you'll have a world of information at your fingertips free 24 hours a day," Greer said.

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# Capitol press corps: The public's eyes and ears during the General Assembly

Story & photos by Tim Webb  
KPA News Bureau Intern

Each time the General Assembly convenes in Frankfort, a group of journalists congregate from across the state to take on a new beat.

Situated at the front of both legislative chambers, the eyes and ears of what has become known as the fourth branch of government serve as a liaison, with words and images, between the people and their elected officials.

"Sometimes when covering a beat there isn't a story created every day," Bill Bartleman of the *Paducah Sun* said. "But in the General Assembly... there is plenty to write about. You just have to decide what you are going to put on the back burner and write about another day."

Bartleman, like other correspondents from papers around the state, is uprooted from his home and regular news beat each time the legislature meets.

His temporary living conditions in Frankfort, he said, help him create ideas for other politically related stories when he gets back home.

Unlike Bartleman who has been covering the lawmakers for 16 years, a reporter who has never worked the General Assembly before can be intimidated in trying to understand the political process that makes Frankfort tick.

"Being a total novice can get you down," said Madelynn Coldiron of the *Frankfort State Journal*. "I'm at somewhat of a disadvantage because I don't carry the weight of others by being a rookie."

Even the veteran writers around the capitol admit the first few sessions were hard to grasp.

Charles Wolfe of the *Associated Press* said he never did master the process during his first session in 1984.

"The legislature is nuance. And you have to get used to that," he said.

Although the process can be intimidating, working with the veterans can help a young reporter.

"I feel I was treated really well, considering I was somewhat of an outsider," said Tracey McQueen of the *Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer*. "I tried to gain from their experience."

Knowing the inside information on certain bills and legislators is one of the reasons these reporters have become veterans of the trade.

"They immediately know the history of everything that would be a new issue to me," Coldiron said.

With reporters from the state's largest newspapers gathered in the same building, you would expect competition among the writers.

One thing that helps break the



The *Lexington Herald-Leader's* Jennifer Podis eyes the House of Representatives. Working with the legislature every day helps her to "understand the process a lot better because you can follow a bill through committees and on to the floor for passage."

competition barrier is that not all the newspapers are within the same circulation zone.

Having a team of reporters can have its advantages, Coldiron said, because the more reporters there are, the broader the range of questions asked.

"I can work with others and share with reporters who aren't circulating in Paducah," Bartleman said.

The folks at AP, Wolfe added, try to look out for particular papers like *Paducah*, *Owensboro* and *Ashland*, making sure they are not caught unaware.

"It's not like they were coming over and giving me stories, but they were helpful," McQueen said.

On stories such as the budget address or State of the Commonwealth, where several people are interviewed, Wolfe said the reporters may swap quotes with one another.

Bartleman added that working alongside the broadcast media can offer a different perspective.

"I think sometimes people in the broadcast media are seeking more of a 15 second clip, than they are substantive information. Because they don't have time for a 90-second answer."

Dealing with the legislature on a daily basis, reporters have to watch about getting too close to their sources.

"You have to keep it at arm's

length," Wolfe said. "You can't be buddy buddy with any of them."

For the photographers covering the assembly, being limited to the corners and sides of the House and Senate creates the constant search for a new angle.

"A lot of photographers don't like to cover the General Assembly because

the angle never changes," said the *State Journal's* award-winning photographer, Rob Carr.

Most of the time photographers look for interesting feature shots of the legislators or shots dealing with the sponsors of important bills, he said.

Sometimes a graphic shot of someone working in the chambers before the House or Senate convene works well, Jennifer Podis, photographer for the *Lexington Herald Leader*, said.

She added that it was a major advantage to work the Assembly every day.

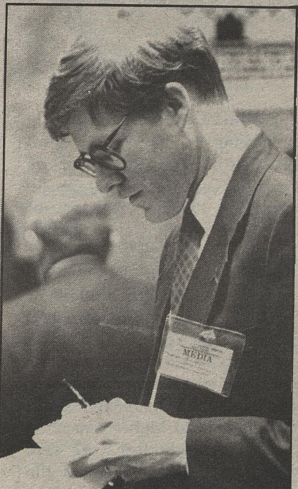
"Being up there every day helps you understand the process a lot better," she said, "because you can follow a bill through committee and on to the floor for passage."

Being limited on shot selection isn't the only restraint photographers face. The doormen can be a little too strict sometimes, Carr said.

"We're not trying to interfere, we're just trying to get some pictures."

Although the press corps is made up mostly of men, Carr said he felt Podis had an advantage over him because the legislators were more receptive to her as a woman.

"They're more receptive to her because she is a hell of a lot cuter than I am," he said jokingly.



Gil Lawson of *The Courier-Journal's* Frankfort bureau takes notes during House session.

## Naming names

Editorial writer **MARIA HENSON** has won the Green Eyeshade Award for her *Lexington Herald-Leader* editorial series on the fate of abused women in the courts. The award is presented by the Atlanta Professional Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists.

**STAN MCKINNEY**, news editor of the *Central Kentucky News-Journal* in Campbellsville, recently received the 1991 Landmark Community Newspapers President's Award for Community Service. McKinney, who holds bachelor's and master's degrees from Murray State University, joined the staff of the Campbellsville paper in 1980. The award was presented April 3 by LCNI President **LARRY COFFEY** at the group's awards banquet in Louisville.

**STEVE OLDING**, former editor of the *News-Herald* in Owenton, is the new associate editor of the *Campbell County Recorder*. The Northern Kentucky University graduate replaces **SUZANNE K. SMITH**, who resigned March 4.

A Western Kentucky University graduate, **REBECCA MORRIS**, has joined the staff of the *Grayson County News-Gazette* in Leitchfield, replacing **FAYE PETTY**. Morris has worked with papers in Hardinsburg and Bowling Green, as well as Mount Vernon, Ind.

**MARY GRAHAM**, a recent Murray State University graduate, is doing both advertising and reporting in her new job with *The Lake News* in Calvert City.

*The News-Democrat* in Carrollton has added three new faces. **CARLA KIDWELL**, a former Berea College student and *Henry County Local* staffer, is advertising composition manager and circulation manager, **DEBBY MITCHELL** is a part-time staff writer, and **KATHY RODEN** is office manager.

*The Pioneer News* in Shepherdsville has hired two new office assistants. **KAREN HOLMAN**, a Laurens, SC, native and paralegal graduate of Wattersson College, is the new receptionist in the Mount Washington office. When **DONNA HOWLETT** was named classified advertising manager, **PHYLLIS REYNOLDS** was appointed to replace her as bookkeeper.

After 25 years, **IRENE FORTNER** has called it quits at *The Grant County News*. The recent retiree began work for the Williamstown paper in 1968 as office manager, bookkeeper and proofreader.

The advertising division of *The News-Enterprise* in Elizabethtown has had a subtraction and three additions. Sales representative **JUDY MARTIN** recently resigned after 17 years. Joining the staff as sales reps are **BETH LEPPERT**, a marketing graduate of Eastern Kentucky University, where she was ad director for *The Eastern Progress*, and Murray State University alumnus **AMY MICHELE HICKS**. She interned at the *Tribune Courier* in Benton and the *Evansville (Ind.) Courier*. The paper's newest telemarketer is **DONATA J. SMITH**.

**MARYJEAN WALL** of the *Lexington Herald-Leader* won the first place award for Best Sports Event Story, newspapers 50,000-175,000, in the annual competition of Associated Press Sports Editors. **JOHN CLAY**, also of the *Herald-Leader*, took a fifth place ranking in Best Feature Story category, and **MARK C. MATHIS**, *Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer*, won fifth place award for Best News Story, under 50,000 circulation.



### Walt Dear honored

Among the more meaningful acts of the recent Kentucky General Assembly was passage of Senate Resolution 199, honoring one of KPA's own. **Walt Dear**, head of Gleaner Publishing, was the subject of the resolution, introduced by Sen. **Henry Lackey**, on the occasion of Dear's selection as Distinguished Citizen of the Year by Henderson Chamber of Commerce. Dear's support of community fundraising efforts, service on local boards, contributions to higher education and personal volunteer work were cited. The resolution called the former KPA president an "Ambassador of Goodwill for the Commonwealth."

Representatives of two KPA members are nominees for the board of directors of the Kentucky Chamber of Commerce. **JUDY CLABES**, editor of *The Kentucky Post* in Covington, is a returning nominee, and **SANDRA JONES**, public relations manager for KPA Associate Westvaco in Wickliffe, is a new nominee. The slate of directors is to be confirmed at the organization's annual meeting in Ft. Mitchell in May.

Former *Lexington Herald-Leader* features editor **MAUREEN WEST** has been named news editor of *The Arizona Republic*.

Former *Middlesboro Daily News* publisher **MAURICE K. HENRY** recently was given the 1991 Outstanding Achievement Award from Bridgewater College in Virginia. The award cited his career with the newspaper and radio station **WMIK**. During the college's annual president's dinner, at which he received the award and at which he was guest speaker, Henry announced he and his wife, **Gray**, have endowed a \$250,000 scholarship at the college, his alma mater. The scholarship will assist students from Middlesboro and Surry and Alleghany counties in Virginia. He served as KPA president in 1965 and was named Most Valuable Member in 1962.

**ARTHUR PETTIGREW** has rejoined the staff of the *Central Kentucky News-Journal* in Campbellsville as camera technician/driver.

Students at Western Kentucky University and the University of Kentucky were regional standouts in advertising competition sponsored by the American Academy of Advertising/International Newspaper Advertising & Marketing Executives Foundation. **WKU's TRACY TROUTMAN** and **MICHEL HOUSTON** took first place honors in Region 8, and **LORI SIMS** and **HOLLY CHERRY** earned a third place citation. Their sponsor was **CAROLYN SPRINGER**. **UK** students, sponsored by **ED SCHEINER**, swept all awards in Region 10. First place went to **LESLIE WRENN**, second to **KRISTEN DICKERSON**, and third to **BENJAMIN PURCELL**. Region 10 honorable mentions were given to **ANITA HILBORN** and **STACY THOMPSON**, whose sponsor was **SCOTT WHITLOW**.

Two Kentucky high school students are among 67 winners of minority scholarships from American Society of Newspaper Editors. They are **NICOLE BROWN**, a student at Louisville's Butler Traditional/Technical High School, and **LOURRAINE ANN TIGAS**, a student at Russell High School. The recipients of the \$750 awards were among 554 applicants from 46 states. **DAVID HAWPE**, editor of *The Courier-Journal*, was an ASNE judge.

Freedom of the press . . . is not just important to democracy, it is democracy. —Walter Cronkite

## KPA judges KIPA

A number of editorial and advertising people from KPA judged entries in the annual contest of Kentucky Intercollegiate Press Association.

They include **John Bramel**, *Lebanon Enterprise*; **Larry Craig**, *Green River Republican*; **Kenn Johnson**, *Mt. Sterling Advocate*; **Ron Jenkins** and **Steve Austin**, *Henderson Gleaner*; **Jim Osborn**, *Kentucky Post*; **Ken Hart**, *Ashland Daily Independent*; **Mike Marsee** and **James Morris**, *Danville Advocate-Messenger*; **John Nelson**, *Pulaski Week*; **Richard RoBards**, *Central Kentucky News-Journal*; **Ron Greenwell**, *Kentucky Standard*.

Also, **Mark Cornelison**, *Richmond Register*; **Don White**, *Anderson News*; **Lisa Carnahan** and **Celia McDonald**, *Harlan Daily Enterprise*; **Ben Sheroan**, **Mark Mathis** and **Allen Lake**, *Owensboro Messenger-Inquirer*; **Steve Vest** and **Rob Carr**, *Frankfort State Journal*; **Max Heath** and **Bonnie Gray**, *Landmark Community Newspapers*; **Gary Luhr**, *Kentucky Living*; **Mike Embry**, *Associated Press*; **Jack Hillwig** and **Scott Wilson**, *Eastern Kentucky University*.

Judges from the *Lexington Herald-Leader* were **Kit Wagar**, **Susan White**, **Joel Pett**, **Tim Kelly**, **Rob Kaiser**, **Chuck Culpepper**, **Paula Anderson**, **Chris Ware**, **Charles Bertram**, **Ron Garrison**, **Mary Epple-Ekhoff**, **Linda Morgan**, **Kevin Nance**, **Merlene Davis**, **Malcolm Stallons** and **Brenda Waybright**.

From the *Courier-Journal* were **Ralph Dunlop**, **C. Ray Hall**, **Bob Hill**, **Robert Garrett**, **Herman Wiederwohl** and **Nick Anderson**.

Other judges included **David Williams**, *St. Petersburg Times*; **J.D. Crowe**, *San Diego Tribune*, and KPA staff members **David Thompson**, **Gloria Davis** and **Pam Shingler**.

# Collegiate journalists win awards at spring meet

By Dr. Libby Fraas  
KIPA Executive Secretary  
Eastern Kentucky University

BOWLING GREEN - Almost 300 college journalists were inspired by such speakers as Louisville *Courier-Journal* associate editor Mervin Aubespain and Pulitzer Prize-winning photojournalist Michael Williamson at the annual meeting of the Kentucky Intercollegiate Press Association in Bowling Green, April 3-4.

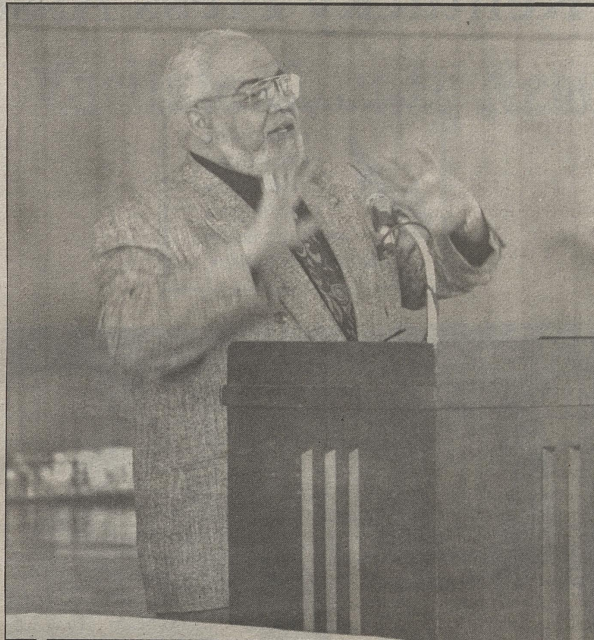
Aubespain invited the students into the newspaper industry, but urged them to "do the right thing now" by learning more about their profession, making contacts and reading newspapers and watching TV news.

New officers elected to serve during the 1992-93 year were president Tony J. Baize, Bellarmine College; first vice president Leigh Landini, Murray State University; second vice president Patty Newcomb, Owensboro Community College, and secretary Stacey Durbin, Northern Kentucky University.

On site competitions in deadline writing and copy editing were part of the two-day conference, along with the presentation of awards for the KIPA contest judged by media professionals, including 1991-92 KIPA award winners.

Competing in Division A were Eastern Kentucky, Western Kentucky, Northern Kentucky, Morehead State and Murray State universities and the universities of Kentucky and Louisville.

In Division B were Bellarmine, Asbury, Georgetown and Union colleges and community colleges in Henderson, Hopkinsville, Jefferson, Owensboro, Paducah and Somerset.



Handing out advice

Read newspapers and watch TV news if you want to be a journalist. That's one piece of advice a gesturing Merv Aubespain gave to students attending the spring meeting of the Kentucky Intercollegiate Press Association. A KIPA board member, Aubespain is with *The Courier-Journal* in Louisville. (Photo by Tim Webb)

The winners by category and division were:

**Deadline Writing:** Division A - First, Kristi Helms, Murray; second, John Martin, WKU; Scott Cook, NKU. Division B - first, Michael Steinmacher, Bellarmine; second, E.L. Gold, Hopkinsville; third, Bee Bryant, Asbury.

**Copy editing competition:** A - First, Susan Wessling, WKU; second, Kerry Sigler, EKU; third, Victoria Martin, UK. B - first, Scott Byrom, Asbury; second, Tracy Sullivan, Bellarmine; third, (tie) Barbara Hatfield, Owensboro, and Chris Hill, Jefferson.

**Outstanding Journalist:** A - Clint Riley, EKU; B - Donna Hall, Bellarmine.

**News Story:** A - First, Graham Shelby, UK; second, Tom Marshall, EKU; third, Christ Poynter, WKU. B - first, Lynn McFalls/Kelsey Davis, Somerset; second, Donna Hall, Bellarmine; third, Bobbie Beans, Paducah.

**Investigative Reporting:** A - First, Jim Hannah, WKU; second, S. Kaye Summers et al, WKU; third, Clint Riley, EKU. B - first, Michael Steinmacher/Tracy Sullivan, Bellarmine; second, Joseph Brown, Bellarmine; third, Donna Hall/Tracy Sullivan, Bellarmine.

**Continuing News:** A - First, John Martin/J.L. Johnson, WKU; second, Greg Hall/Joel Braun/Kelley Popham, UK; third, Michele Carlton et al, Murray. B - first, Renee Ward/Steve Thompson/Chris McKinley, Owensboro; second, Barbara Hatfield, Owensboro; third, Joseph Brown/Michael Steinmacher/Kathryn Wong, Bellarmine.

**Analysis/Special Reports:** A - First, Meredith Little et al, UK; second, Bobby King/Greg Hall, UK; third, Clint Riley/Mike Morgan, EKU. B - first, Kelsey Davis/Phyllis Braun, Somerset; second, John Byrne/Bill McIntyre, Owensboro; third, Donna Hill, Bellarmine.

**Personality Profile:** A - First, Susan Wessling, WKU; second, John Dyer Fort, UK; third, Kyle Foster, UK. B - first, Jana Mansfield, Paducah; second, Melissa Hyde, Union; third, Tracy Sullivan, Bellarmine.

**Feature Story:** A - First, J.S. Newton/Phil Todd, EKU; second, Dale Greer, UK; third, Tim Wisenhahn, UK. B - first, Emilie Davis, Georgetown; second, Gary Wagner, Owensboro; third, Shannan Grief, Paducah.

**Review:** A - First, Brent Tisk, WKU; second, J.D. Busser, WKU; third, Dave Lavender, UK. B - first, Emilie Davis, Georgetown; second, Michael Steinmacher/Tracy Sullivan, Bellarmine; third, David Dalton, Georgetown.

**General Interest Column:** A - First, Tony Gibbs, UK; second, Paul Hohman, UL; third, Mary Madden, UK. B - first, Chris McKinley, Owensboro; second, Brooke Barnett, Georgetown; third, Barbara Hatfield, Owensboro.

**Editorial:** A - First, UL; second, Eric Walker, Murray; third, Clint Riley, EKU. B - first, Lynn McFalls/Kelsey Davis, Somerset; second, Donna Hall, Bellarmine; third, Bobbie Beans, Paducah.

**Editorial Cartoon:** A - First, Ken Minter, UK; second, George Taylor Jr., UL; third, Beau Janzen, UK. B - first,

Carolyn Blankenship, Union; second, Randy Major, Hopkinsville; third, Jason Smith, Somerset.

**Opinion Pages:** A - First, Clint Riley, EKU; second, Victoria Martin/Alan Cornett, UK; third, James G. Lockwood, Murray. B - first, Donna Hall/staff 1992, Bellarmine; second, Allison Baker, Asbury; third, Fall 1991 staff, Bellarmine.

**Sports Game Story:** A - First, Andy Lyons/Danny English, WKU; second, Cara Anna, WKU; third, Bob Norman, UK. B - first, Scott Byrom, Asbury; second, Emilie Davis, Georgetown; third, Donna Hall, Bellarmine.

**Sports News Story:** A - First, Tim Wisenhahn, UK; second, Brad Crafton, Murray; third, Mary Ann Ott, UL. B - first, Amy Zettel, Bellarmine; second, Amy Callihan, Union; third, Autumn Byrne, Bellarmine.

**Sports Feature:** A - First, Bobby King, UK; second, Bart Summar, WKU; third, Doug Tatum, WKU. B - first, Cathy Jones, Georgetown; second, Amy Callihan, Union; third, Brandon King, Asbury.

See KIPA awards, page 10

## Pick ups

"Twice Abused," the *Lexington Herald-Leader* series about the failure of the legal system for child sexual abuse victims, has won the National Headliners award for outstanding public service by a daily newspaper. The series, which appeared last December, was written by Jay Grelen, Valarie Honeycutt, Frank Langfitt and Kevin Nanette. The national competition is sponsored by the Press Club of Atlantic City, NJ.

Sparks from an acetylene torch being used on the third floor fell onto newsprint on floors below, causing a minor fire at *The Courier-Journal* pressroom on March 15. Some employees of the Louisville paper and of Associated Press, which has offices in the building, had to be evacuated for about an hour. Maintenance workers had contained the newsprint fire before city firefighters arrived to douse the blaze. The torch was being used to repair a mail room conveyor. Smoke and water damage were reportedly minor.

## Classifieds

### Needed

**SPORTS EDITOR:** The Paintsville Herald in Johnson County (weekly, 6,000 circulation) is looking for a talented, do-it-all sports writer/editor to work a one-person sports desk. This job requires good writing, editing and headline writing skills. Knowledge of Macintosh computer system and photography a plus. Must be a team player, able to lend a hand in news and other departments. \$225/week to start, plus excellent benefits. Send resume, work samples and references to Larry Martin, The Paintsville Herald, Box 1547, Paintsville, KY 41240.

### Available

**ATTENTION, PUBLISHERS:** Talented weekly GM, new to Kentucky, seeks full time, part-time or temporary assignments. Measurable success with business dept., sales/mgmt., promotions, supplements, research, circulation projects. Sharon Whalen, 502/244-5912.

## Paper begins magazine delivery

The *Lexington Herald-Leader's* circulation department has begun its own alternative delivery division, Community Delivery Service.

Through an agreement with Publishers Express in New York, the local service delivers national magazines to the homes of subscribers in the Lexington area.

Presently being delivered by part-time carriers are Time, People, Ladies Home Journal, Better Homes & Gardens and Southern Living. Eight more magazines are to be added in the next couple of months, according to an article by Liz Caras Petros in the newspaper's Business Monday section on March 9.

The *Herald-Leader's* venture into alternative delivery started in 1989 with free weekly advertising supplements from supermarkets, Petros said. Product samples and catalogs were then added to the service.

The newspaper charges clients 14 to 25 cents per delivered piece, the article said. Carriers receive a percentage of the piece rate based on the route and weight of products delivered. The number of carriers is expected to increase from the present 100 to 250 by May.

Magazines are turning to this type of locally contracted delivery across the country because of increasing postal rates, Petros said. Newspapers, she said, can deliver magazines and the like for 15 to 30 percent cheaper than the postal service.

The delivery business can also accommodate advertisers who want to target specific neighborhoods and customers.

Local news

# Who is the Kentucky Press Association?

By Pam Shingler  
Press editor

## The Advance-Yeoman

Kentucky's westernmost newspaper is located in a picturesque town plucked right off the pages of a Mark Twain book.

Wickliffe, population 851 and home of The Advance-Yeoman, sits on a bluff of the Mississippi River, a hop, skip and jump from its confluence with the Ohio.

The Ballard County town with its prim, white houses and its churches on almost every corner is an easy bicycle ride from Illinois and Missouri, making it not only a part of the union of the two mighty rivers, but also of three states.

Folks in these parts get their news from media in all three states and are as apt to work alongside Fighting Illini and Mizzou Tigers as Kentucky Wildcats.

The Advance-Yeoman is full of community news and upbeat stories about local people. Church news also abounds since the county, with only about 8,000 people, boasts 46 churches.

This is the type of place, in fact, where people drop news items in the home mailbox of advertising salesperson Terris King.

"It's a close county. People care about each other and care about the paper," offers editor Teresa Sullivan.

Community concern for the paper is evident in local support during a rough winter as the Advance-Yeoman adjusted to new ownership.

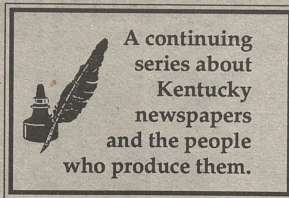
Last fall, Judy Magee Stone, who had run the paper for almost half a century, sold it to Kentucky Publishing Co. Transition problems brought the once 20-page weekly down to around eight to 10 pages.

With a new three-woman staff, stability is on the horizon, and the paper is now averaging about 12 pages a week. King and Missourian Pam Ahlgren, secretary/typesetter, signed on in January. Sullivan, who had formerly written occasional features for the paper, joined the staff in February.

All three have been learning on the job. "We're busier than you can imagine," Sullivan says, with a pronounced sigh.

In March, the new staff got off on the right foot with a group of people who are critical to the Advance-Yeoman — community correspondents. News gatherers, from Bandanna to Oscar (no one from Monkey's Eyebrow), came together for a pot luck lunch and getting-to-know-you session.

Sullivan and general manager George LeNeave, who oversees the



### Advancing

The staff members of The Advance-Yeoman in Wickliffe — from left, Terris King, Teresa Sullivan and Pam Ahlgren — have all joined the newspaper since January. Talk about on-the-job training!

company's holdings in the area, patted correspondents on the back and gave them gentle tips on writing and reporting. They also took mug shots of the 14 correspondents to add to each local column.

A group picture of the participants ran on the front page of The Advance-Yeoman's next edition.

The newspaper, which celebrated its first century in 1990, is almost as old as the former frontier county it serves. Its present form is a result of the merger

of the Weekly Advance, started in 1910 in neighboring LaCenter, and the Ballard Yeoman, dating to the 1800s in Wickliffe.

Both papers at one time had been in the Wear family. The Advance had also been owned by Harry Lee Waterfield, prominent Western Kentucky politician and publisher and 1942 KPA president.

Its modern history began in 1946 when, fresh out of the Army, New Yorker Pat Magee brought his Madi-

son Avenue advertising expertise to wife Judy's home county. The couple bought the Advance from Ada Wear.

A year later, they purchased the Yeoman from John C. Miller and combined the two papers at the Wickliffe office.

When Pat died in the late 1960s, Judy continued to run the paper by herself and at various times with the couple's three children, Mike, Gross and Ava, all of whom grew up in the newspaper office. At one time, the family also owned papers in Carlisle, Hickman, Livingston and McCracken counties.

The present three-person staff operates out of the tiny front office of the newspaper building. Old printing and layout equipment in the larger back room is idle since the new owner discontinued the commercial printing business.

Staff members write and typeset the paper's contents in Wickliffe and then go to the company's Paducah office for the paste up. There, ads to be run in Kentucky Publishing's other papers are added.

The economy in the area is "good compared to other places," says ad salesperson King. Several large factories, including KPA Associate Westvaco, provide employment for the area workers. And the 4,000-circulation paper draws advertisers from about a 30-mile radius that includes Paducah and Mayfield, as well as Cape Girardeau, Mo.

### Carlisle County News

Ten or so miles down the road and a few miles inland is Bardwell, just a tad smaller than Wickliffe.

The seat of Carlisle County looks like the set for a video of a country song about a town that experienced its heyday 50 or a hundred years ago.

From two-lane US 51 which hops from county seat to county seat in this area, you see only the backs of the buildings that comprise the downtown block. The facades of the buildings, though painted and neat, appear unchanged in a century of use. The railroad track parallels the block and the main street.

To present the whole picture, that country song would have to mention that this is a relaxing town where folks care about one another and adhere to the heartland values.

About a third of the more than 2,000 copies of the weekly Carlisle County News, for instance, are sold over the counter in restaurants and

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stores across the county. Buyers don't bother the cashier; they just drop their coins in a jar next to the stack of papers.

"Our sales are on the honor system," says editor Judy Prince, who's worked for her hometown paper for more than 20 years. "If I take 75 papers to a location, nine times out of 10 I'll have money for 75 papers."

That song would also have to refer to the way everyone knows everyone else. "People stick their heads in the door (of the newspaper office) and say 'Put in the paper that my mom's been visiting so and so,'" Prince laughs. "They don't say who 'mom' is. They expect us to know, and we do."

Certainly, you'd have to weave family into the song. The newspaper staff is a prime example. The editor's daughter-in-law Jolana Prince sells ads and does ad make up.

Beth Bowles, the editor's aunt, edited the paper for 18 years before retiring. She's back now as a typesetter, the condition she set for coming out of retirement. "She said she'd come back only if she could stay in the back and do nothing else," says Prince.

The fourth member of the staff, Sandy Woodruff, "is not kin to any of us, but we all go to the same church. We're all Baptists." Prince lets out a raucous laugh, the kind that often causes people at the beauty shop next door to peek in to see what's so funny.

The staff has stayed intact since the Carlisle County News was purchased last fall by Kentucky Publishing Co. from James W. Payne, a local banker.

Payne bought the paper in 1980 "to keep it in Carlisle County," when long-time owners, the Graves family, put it up for sale.

Compared to most other Kentucky newspapers, The Carlisle County News has had relatively few owners in its 94 years. Tom Pettit started the Bardwell paper in 1894 and operated it for close to 50 years. Former Lt. Gov. Harry Lee Waterfield then owned it for a time in the 1940s, before selling it to Ralph W. Graves.

Prince claims Ralph W.'s son, Ralph E. Graves, as her mentor, the person who got her into the business and taught her every aspect of newspaper work.

While Payne was still publisher, Prince not only wrote the copy and laid out the usual eight pages, but also kept the books.

Today, she and the other three staffers are all part-time employees, but the newspaper phone is programmed to ring at Prince's home, "a short hop" away, when no one is in the office.

Although the paper draws some advertising from Paducah, about 80 percent comes from Carlisle County. Prince jokes that the paper is "the sun tan advertiser. Everybody's bought a

## Carlisle County News



### Camera shy

Newspaper people are, without doubt, the hardest of any group to photograph. Judy Prince, editor of the Carlisle County News in Bardwell, would consent only to this door shot. But she made sure the paper, for which she's worked 20 years, was prominently noted.

tanning bed." In one recent week, two tanning parlors held grand openings.

### Hickman County Gazette

Mary Jo Duke describes herself as a "county-oriented" person. That's why she bought the Hickman County Gazette from out-of-county owners in 1990.

Forget that the self-made millionaire, a sharecropper's daughter, knew nothing about running a newspaper. "I didn't realize what I was getting into," says the owner of Edwards Trucking Co.

She knew how to run a business. After all, she'd spent 20 years (at \$200 a week) learning the trucking business as an assistant to Harry Edwards, and, at his death in 1980 when no buyers for the company had come forward, she had the gumption to borrow almost \$2 million to buy it herself.

Since then, with 12- to 16-hour workdays, she's brought the business from 14 trucks and 35 employees to 60 tractors, 200 trailers and 100 employees. Under her ownership, revenues have almost tripled.

Duke approaches the newspaper business the same way. "I figured it's not different from any other business. You treat customers right, and you provide service," she says matter-of-factly.

She took a systematic approach. She moved the paper from its old building in Clinton to a wing of the company's modern offices about a mile out of town. She hired ad manager

Jeane Cromika's husband, John, to construct built-in layout and light tables. She bought new furniture and computer equipment and set about setting goals for her new acquisition.

Already, circulation has risen by several hundred to just under 2,000, and ad revenues have increased. She and the newspaper staff, headed by general manager Mary Ann Elliott, plan to have 2,500 subscribers by next winter, shooting then for 3,000.



### Top of the line

Hickman County Gazette publisher Mary Jo Duke shows off her Entrepreneur of the Year award. She was cited by the Kentucky and Southern Indiana business community last year for her operation of Edwards Trucking.

Since the latter figure is almost two-thirds of Hickman County's population, Duke is looking to surrounding counties for coverage and ad revenues.

A recent edition, for instance, ran bowling and fiscal court news from neighboring Carlisle County, along with a house ad that read, "Carlisle County news is appreciated." And recently, a resident of nearby Graves County contacted Elliott about joining the paper's 13 other correspondents in submitting community news.

Duke says she tries not to interfere with the actual newspaper work. "I try to watch and encourage the staff to grow. I don't work with the work, I work with the people."

Of Elliott, the general manager, who previously directed the county's senior citizens program, Duke says, "If I make her happy, she'll make my customers happy, and then my customers will make me happy."

Besides Elliott and Cromika, the paper employs reporter Gay Bradberry, ad representatives Carol Jackson and Becky Bash, layout specialist Jennifer Cromika (Jeane's daughter) and part-time photographer Jerald Chandler.

They are just a few of the people who've kept Hickman Countians informed over the years. Elliott says that the 91-year-old Gazette was the county's 14th paper for which records exist.

See Local News, page 8

## Local news: Who is KPA? from page 7



### The Hickman County contingent

Posing in front of their model, custom-made layout tables are members of the Hickman County Gazette staff, from left, Gay Bradberry, Jennifer Cromika, Jeane Cromika, Jerrald Chandler and Mary Ann Elliott. Away from the office selling ads at the time were Carol Jackson and Becky Bush.

Hickman County's rich journalistic history began in the town of Columbus with the Enterprise in 1852 or '53. Another newspaper, the Columbus Crescent, cropped up before the Civil War, and two papers, the Daily Confederate News and the War Eagle, apparently duked it out during the war.

The Gazette's pre-history ties to Ed B. Walker, who owned the Columbus Times after the Civil War and then edited the Clinton Democrat and the Twice-a-Week Gazette before opening the present paper in 1901.

Other publishers before Duke are renowned journalistic names in these parts: Harry Lee Waterfield, Ralph Graves and Judy Magee Stone.

### Fulton Leader

It's not easy running a newspaper in Fulton, Kentucky. In fact, it's not hyperbole to say that William and Rita Mitchell are in a unique situation.

The 3,000 circulation paper is truly a two-state medium. All you have to do is walk across the downtown street and Presto! you're in South Fulton, Tennessee.

Nothing looks any different. There's no highway marker or billboard sign welcoming you to Kentucky's southern neighbor. In appearance, you're in the same town, whatever the state.

However, there is a difference and that complicates publishing a newspaper.

For starters, there are two city councils, one for the city on the Kentucky side and one for its twin in Tennessee. The city that appears to be one is located in two counties, meaning each has a different county governing body.

Then, there are the school systems to cover—three in all, one independent system in Fulton, Ky., and a county system in each state.

Every Kentucky newspaper person knows how difficult it can be to keep up with changes in state laws—and their interpretation—regarding news and advertising. Double that for the folks at the Fulton Leader. They have to keep up on laws for two states and shift their thinking, depending on which state is involved.

Although it doesn't affect the paper as much, Fulton County's western border is the Mississippi River with Missouri on the other side. And at one point, the counties of Hickman, Graves and Fulton all come together, necessitating a myriad of verifications when an accident occurs at the juncture.

Those are not the only reasons the newspaper differs from its KPA colleagues. From its establishment in 1898 until late 1989, it was the Fulton Daily Leader, the smallest daily in Kentucky and Tennessee. Two-and-a-half years ago it switched to once a week publication.

"When we were a daily, we had a lunchtime deadline, and I could get

indigestion and get over it," laughs editor Rita Mitchell. "Now the indigestion is week-long."

She adds that she finds it hard to

"approach a story head on anymore," unless it's on Wednesday (the weekly deadline).

The corner building, constructed in 1959, retains the air of a daily, with spacious work areas and administrative offices.

At first the scaling back was a shock to many long-time subscribers. "Some people were terribly disappointed," Rita says. "Some dropped off, but we're back up to normal now."

The weekly, which employs eight full- and part-time staff members, generally runs between 16 and 18 pages and has a companion shopper that reaches 14,000 people in six counties. The paper's commercial printing business remains brisk. An office supply business, a tradition for many old-time papers, was dropped several years ago.

Like most Kentucky weeklies, the Fulton Leader is heavy with community news, as well as club and church news. "We provide a valuable service," the editor says. "The (daily) Paducah Sun will not run a picture of a local Eagle Scout, for instance. That's our niche."

The paper's strong news coverage and editorial stance have made it a frequent award winner in KPA contests.

Rita and her husband, publisher William Mitchell, a KPA board mem-

▷ ▷ ▷



### The old-fashioned way

Tony Grubbs, who works in the Fulton Leader's commercial printing business, demonstrates an old platen press that's still used occasionally. It sits in a corner of the newspaper building, alongside a Linotype that once churned out the former daily's type.



ber, also make sure the paper is heavily involved in community service. Both are prominent in the local Chamber of Commerce and with the Banana Festival, an event that grew out of the city's position as a railroad hub back when trains stopped here to ice northbound shipments of bananas.

The newspaper staff also assists local schools in publishing student publications and frequently supports local fund-raising activities.

Started at the turn of the century by Mott Ayers and once among Harry Lee Waterfield's extensive holdings, the Leader has been in William Mitchell's family since the 1940s. Waterfield sold the paper in 1948 to William's grandfather, W. Percy Williams of Paris, Tenn.

Vyron Mitchell Sr., William's father and the owner's son-in-law, was named general manager in 1949. He became publisher in 1955, when his wife, Eunice, was named editor. At Vyron's death in 1977, Eunice became editor and publisher, and William and Rita, both Murray State University graduates, joined the staff.

William Mitchell, with Rita's help, took over the operation of the newspaper in 1984. His mother, though retired, is still available to provide information and advice.

The Fulton Leader's advertising sales reflect the two-state market it serves. Ad revenues come from businesses in Fulton and Hickman County in Kentucky, as well as from Union City and Martin, both in Tennessee.

## Databank

### Policing ourselves

The second edition of Edmund Lambeth's *Committed Journalism: An Ethic for the Profession* is available from Indiana University Press. The update includes a look at enterprise journalism and Lambeth's concept of media "stewardship." The author says journalists should police themselves through healthy media criticism, rigorous internal review and self-disclosure where necessary. Quill magazine calls the book "required reading for every journalist, working or wannabe." \$12.95

### Bad rap

America's schools are not in as bad condition as the media reports. So says George R. Kaplan in *Images of Education: The Mass Media Version of America's Schools*, published by Institute for Educational Leadership. The author contends the media tell only part of the story. \$14. (Quill)

### Protect yourself

Employee theft, computer fraud, kickbacks, counterfeiting, insurance fraud - all add up to billions of dollars in losses for businesses each year. Are you vulnerable? The Council of Better Business Bureaus has published a revised edition of *How To Protect Your Business*. The book covers schemes against business and both internal and external crimes that contribute to losses. \$7.95. Call CBBB Publications Department, 703/247-9315.



### Running for the border

Some members of the Fulton Leader staff were in their Kentucky office on a recent Thursday afternoon: from left, Rita Mitchell, Mark Young, Sheila Light, Marsha Goodson and Cathy Turner. Just across the street is Tennessee.

## Items

### Lookin' for a good cigar?

Cuba is the destination of a National Newspaper Association study mission, Nov. 6-15. On the itinerary, subject to government approval, are visits with government officials, meetings with editors of Granma and with Reuters, and visits to tourist sites in Havana and Santiago. Cost is about \$1,250 per person, including airfare from Miami. For details, contact NNA at 202/466-7200 or 800/829-4NNA; fax 202/331-1403.

### Family business, small papers on Inland conference agenda

A conference for family/independently-owned newspapers follows the Inland Press Foundation's 1992 Small Newspaper Conference near Chicago at the end of the month. Small newspaper operators will hear talks on slow or no-growth markets, improving revenue and market position and new ways to serve readers for papers under 15,000 circulation in the May 28-29 meeting. Set for May 29-30, the second conference is aptly titled "Strategic planning for family and independent newspapers" and is cosponsored by Pennsylvania Newspaper Publishers Association. For details, contact Inland's Elaine Lange, 708/696-1140.

### Recognizing the youngsters

American Newspaper Publishers Association Foundation is again offering scholastic journalist award plaques and lapel pins to help papers recognize student journalists in their areas.

Plaques can be engraved with the newspaper name and student winner. They are \$26, and pins are \$2.95 each. Contact Award Crafters, 703/818-0500.

### Recharging your battery

American Newspaper Publishers Association is sponsoring "Supervisory Jump-Start," a workshop for first-line supervisors, on June 7-9 in Cleveland. Delegation, motivation, communication, discipline, diversity, team development and leadership are among topics. For information, call Patricia P. Renfro, 703/620-1869.

### Postal notes

National Newspaper Association has published an eight-page booklet, "Maximizing Second Class Postal Savings," written by publishing's resident postal authority Max Heath. The publication includes a checklist for mail savings. For copies, contact NNA, Suite 400, 1627 K St. NW, Washington, DC 20006-1790; 800/829-4NNA; fax 202/331-1403.

### Trash or treasure?

Coverage of the William Kennedy Smith trial was number one on the list of "Junk Food News Stories" last year, according to compiler Carl Jensen of Sonoma (Cal.) State University. Also making the cut were Elizabeth Taylor's wedding, Donald Trump's affairs; the Gulf War; Pee Wee Herman's movie-going; Magic Johnson's AIDS; Kitty Kelley's Nancy Reagan book; Warren Beatty's baby; Julia Roberts' love life,

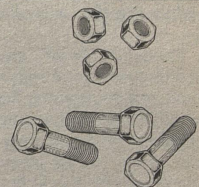
and Mario Cuomo's presidential aspirations or the lack thereof. (Quill)

### MacAd

"Macs in the Advertising Department" is the title of a May 31-June 3 seminar at the University of South Carolina. Sponsored by Southern Newspaper Publishers Association Foundation, the hands-on session will have a track for beginners and one for intermediate-to-advanced Mac users. Contact SNPA's Gladys Barber, Box 28875, Atlanta 30358.

It is a plain fact that we who are a part of this great institution (the press) too often project an image of just not caring what the public thinks about us. We do not bother to tell this public why we do what we do in the way we do it.

-John Seigenthaler, quoted in *presstime*



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# April Fool

By Pam Shingler  
Press Editor

The April foolers were at it again this year.

Folks in several Kentucky counties doubtless did double takes when they looked at the front page of their hometown newspaper on April 1 or 2.

The *Troublesome Creek Times*, for instance, reported that Education Commissioner Thomas Boysen had applied to be superintendent of the county's school system. Readers even saw a picture of noted author James Still showing an 1803 note from Daniel Boone that was purported to have been discovered in the walls of Still's log cabin.

Further, the Hindman paper confirmed a long-standing suspicion that Knott County is the opossum capital of the world. A scientific study, editor Ron "Possum Man" Daley reported, showed that the county has 41.66 opossums per capita.

Up the road a piece, *The Floyd County Times* covered a visit by Thing, star of *The Addams Family* movie. The "dexterous performer" was in town to sign autographs for its new book, *Hired Hand*. The movie star reportedly "pressed the flesh" and recounted its "hand-over-fist rise to stardom."

## Paintsville Hurlled

A photo in the Prestonsburg paper focused on "Alli-Cat," a mutant cross between a tabby cat and an alligator, that was hauled from a New York toxic waste dump to the mountains.

In Paintsville, residents were warned not to lift their toilet lids because a 10-foot, 50-pound python had eluded its owner and slithered into the city sewer system. (The telephone number to report sightings, by the way, was that of the Floyd County Times, which surprised a few staffers there.)

The *Paintsville 'Hurlled'* also reported on election reform legislation that would include requiring Republican candidates for top state offices to sing a flawless version of "My Old Kentucky Home" in six languages before they could file for election.

In south central Kentucky, Not Necessarily the *Clinton County News* recapped the story of an employee who gave birth to triplets in the newspaper stockroom after unloading a delivery truck. Two of her coworkers reportedly assisted in the births.

Briefs at the bottom of the false

front page in the Albany paper noted that the local high school was adding ice hockey to its sports program and that a promoter has proclaimed the county a good spot for dog races.

Parodying the *Courier-Journal's* "Our Towns" series, the *Whitley Republican News Journal's* April Fool's edition ran a story on "That Town," Louisville. The Williamsburg-Corbin paper also featured "bold face lies" about a local man who has opened a landfill in his back yard and the latest plan for I-66, zigzagging the proposed highway through 87 counties to appease all those who want it.

The Williamsburg/Corbin paper used two pages for its April Fool's edition, making the fake front seem even more real.

**News Democrat** 50 Years

It's not difficult to ferret some of an area's real issues in the spoof stories. The lead story in *The News-Democrat*

in Carrollton, for instance, said President George Bush would meet with city council to settle the city's leash law battles.

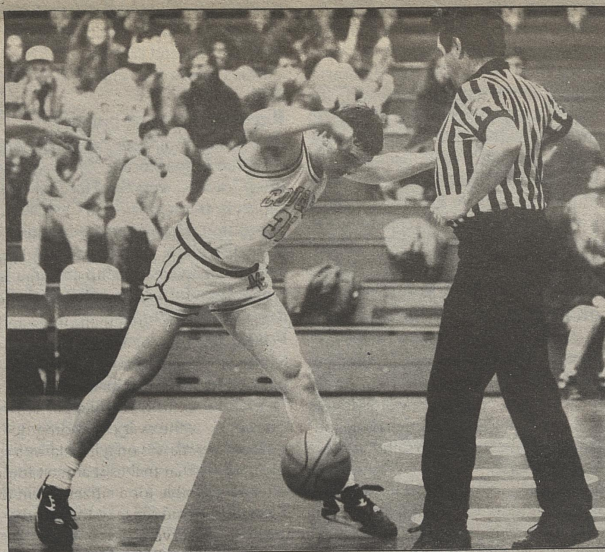
Carroll County residents also learned their town is getting a new courthouse tower clock that "features a luminous glow which is offensive to pigeons . . ."

Though the *Gallatin County News* ran only one fake story on its April 1 front page, Kelley Warnick's ace photography skills were evidenced. Topping a story about a giant mallard who had begun roosting on the roof of Kentucky Utilities' electrical generating plant was a convincing picture of the big bird, dwarfing the utility complex.

## Centennial News

A 4-million-year-old rodent, with teeth the size of elephant tusks, was found by excavators at the new high school construction site, reported the *Sentinel-News* in Shelbyville in its "Centennial News" edition on April Fool's day.

A "Short Stuff" column in the Shelbyville paper informed of an arm wrestling challenge involving the local sheriff and a deputy against Andy Taylor and Barney Fife of "Mayberry, RFD" fame.



The dance

Joe Imel won a first place sports photography award for the *McLean County News* for this stop-motion step in KPA's fall newspaper contest. A whole new card of winners will take the floor at the summer convention in Pikeville when the results of the 1992 Better Newspaper Contest are announced.

Some of the rules have changed.  
If you've got a legal question, call  
KPA's Freedom of Information HotLine, 502/589-5235

Ron Daley of Hindman, who's been at this April-foolery for a dozen years, says he almost didn't publish the bogus page this year, but the fact that April 1 fell on a Wednesday, his regular publication day, made it hard to resist. For his reasons for beginning the April Fool's edition, see his column in the *Kentucky Views* section of *The Kentucky Press*.

## KIPA awards given at Bowling Green

From page 5

**Sports Column:** A - First, Barry Reeves, UK; second, John Kelly, UK; third, Dave Shahoudi, UL. B - first, David Goins, Owensboro; second, Amy Zettel, Bellarmine; third, Donna Hall, Bellarmine.

**Overall Layout:** A - First, Tanya Bricking, WKU; second, Doug Tatum, WKU; third, ECU. B - first, Henderson; second, Owensboro; third, Asbury.

**Front Page Layout:** A - First, Tanya Bricking, WKU; second, Doug Tatum, WKU; third, Terry Sebastian/Clint Riley, ECU. B - first, Henderson; second, Asbury; third, Union.

**Feature Page Layout:** A - First, Jennifer Jenkins, Murray; second, Kelly Witt, ECU. B - first, Ariana Wallace, Henderson; second, Gene Travers, Henderson; third, Veronica Ballard, Union.

**Sports Page Layout:** A - First, Bob Norman, UK; second, Donna Hedgesspeth, UL; third, Omar Tatum, WKU. B - first, Dean Forker, Henderson; second, Amy Callihan, Union; third, Frances Bell, Henderson.

**Best Special Section:** A - First, Tanya Bricking, WKU; second, JRT 397 Class, Murray; third, Tim Wiesenahn/Brian Jent, UK.

**Original Illustrations:** A - First, Patrick Richardson, WKU; second, Tricia Barry, UK; third, George Taylor Jr., UL. B - first, Joshua Wilkes, Paducah; second, Diana Ryan, Bellarmine; third, Randy Major, Hopkinsville.

**Comic Strip or Panel:** A - First, Kenn Minter, UK; second, Brian Orms, UL; third, Patrick Richardson, WKU. B - first, Joshua Wilkes, Paducah.

**Informational Graphics:** A - First, George Taylor Jr., UL; second, Mike Royer, ECU; third, Tyrone Johnston, UK. B - first, Eric Day, Henderson.

**News Photograph:** A - First, David Stephenson, WKU; second, Andy Lyons, WKU; third, John Simpson, WKU. B - first, Chris Walters, Henderson; second, Rob Young, Bellarmine; third, Patty Newcomb, Owensboro.

**Feature Photograph:** A - First, Brian Bohannon, WKU; second, Marc Piscotti, WKU; third, Steve Traynor, WKU. B - first, Jared Peck, Paducah; second, Ariana Wallace, Henderson; third, Jeff Tucker, Henderson.

**Sports Photograph:** A - First, Mark T. Osler, WKU; second, Greg Eans, UK; third, Rick Loomis, WKU. B - first, Scott Byron, Asbury; second, James Moses, Bellarmine; third, Eric Browning, Georgetown.

**Photo Essay:** A - First, Heather Stone, WKU; second, Matt Stockman, WKU; third, Karen Ballard, UK. B - first, Jeff Tucker, Henderson; second, Bob Young, Bellarmine; Anna Koehn, Asbury.

**Advertising Design:** A - First, Tricia Barry, UK; second, Jim Wampler, UL; third, Russ Sproessig, Morehead. B - first, Paula Burba, Georgetown; second, T.J. Pflingston, Henderson; third, Bobbie Bilz, Bellarmine.

**House Ad:** A - First, Mark Thompson, WKU; second, Paul Hohman, UL; third, Kim Norton Baters, UK. B - first, Donna Hall, Bellarmine; second, Gene Travers, Henderson.

**Advertising Art:** A - First, George Taylor Jr., UL; second, Ken Minter, UK; third, Amy Boyanowsky, UK. B - first, Stephanie Cottingham/T.J. Pflingston, Henderson; second, Sata Meuth, Henderson; third, T.J. Pflingston/Jeff Tucker, Henderson.

**Advertising Copy:** A - First, Paul Hohman, UL; second, Michelle Johnson, Morehead; third, Tina Hatfield, UK. B - first, T.J. Pflingston, Henderson; second, Mary Alice Price, Bellarmine.

**Advertising Campaign:** A - First, Tina Hatfield, UK; second, Amy Boyanowsky, UK; third, Andrew Oldham/Shelia White, WKU. B - first, Donna Hall, Bellarmine; second, Leslie McGowan/T.J. Pflingston, Henderson.

**Magazine Story:** A - First, Laura Howard, WKU; second, Chris Poore, WKU; third, Cara Anna, WKU.

**Magazine Photo:** A - First, Amy Deputy, WKU; second, Rick Loomis, WKU; third, Jonathan Adams, ECU.

## Kentucky papers take LCNI awards

Newspapers in the Kentucky stables of Landmark Community Newspapers Inc. fared well in LCNI's version of the Derby.

Awards were handed out at the Shelbyville-based company's annual banquet last month in Louisville.

The *Kentucky Standard*, Bardstown, and *The News-Enterprise*, Elizabethtown, swept the Sweepstakes in their circulation categories, with the *Sentinel-News*, Shelbyville, earning second place, behind its Bardstown sister.

In advertising competition, first place honors went to the following persons/papers: Deborah Hutchins, Bardstown; Roberta Chesser and Debbie Ballard, Shelbyville; *The Lebanon Enterprise*; Joan Hardin/Brenda Noland, Bardstown.

Other advertising award winners were John Bramel/Mary May, Lebanon; Debbie Ballard and Judy James, Shelbyville; Danny Oiler, Debbie Crawford, Lisa Peebles, Carmen Avila, Elizabethtown; Dor-

othy Abernathy and Terry Day, *The Oldham Era*, LaGrange.

*The Lebanon Enterprise* won both first and second place awards for Special Section, Weekly/Semi-weekly, followed by the *Sentinel-News*. Joan Hardin and Brenda Noland of *The Kentucky Standard* took first place among triweeklies and dailies in the same category.

On the editorial side, first place awards were won by Ninie Glasscock (2), *Springfield Sun*; Bob Villanueva, Darrell Bird, Dan Brandenburg and Jonathan Roberts (2), Elizabethtown; John Bramel (2), Lebanon; and Kevin Eigelbach, Shelbyville.

Second and third place winners were Eigelbach; Chris Hamilton, Lebanon; Mickey Patterson, LaGrange; David Greer, Nathan Johnson and Ted L. Jurney, Elizabethtown; and Don White, *Anderson News*, Lawrenceburg.

*The Cynthiana Democrat* won top honors in the Community Service category.



Capitol conference — Bill Straub of *The Kentucky Post* in Covington and Charles Wolfe of Associated Press share comments during the recent legislative session. Both cover the capital. (Photo by Tim Webb)

## Inland revenue study deadline extended

The deadline for the national cost and revenue study for weekly newspapers has been extended to May 29.

The study, administered by Inland Press Association, is cosponsored by National Newspaper Association, 39 state associations and other press groups.

Completed survey forms are

handled in strictest confidence by Inland, which provides comparisons of revenue and expenses in 178 categories. Averages are grouped by circulation and separated by single flag ownership and multiple flag weekly publishers.

For information contact Inland at 708/696-1140; fax 708/696-2463.

When speech is eloquent and the ideas expressed lofty, it is easy to find restrictions on them invalid. But were the First Amendment limited to such discourse, our freedom would be sterile indeed. —Justice William J. Brennan Jr.

## PostScript . . .

Pam Shingler  
Editor, The Kentucky Press

Many of you have probably seen the April edition of *Local Voices*, put out by the Kentucky Local Governance Project.

It has an interesting exercise, by participants in a recent LGP workshop, that might be adapted by newspapers.

From four project counties, Letcher, Morgan, Union and Hickman, the community activists drew two versions of front pages of their local newspapers. One featured headlines of what the participants wanted to be happening in their counties in the year 2012. The other illustrated pages for 1994, showing how the changes began to evolve.

For instance, one paper's 2012 edition projected that jobs were available in the county for new high school graduates. The 1994 edition announced the establishment of a community committee to attract new

jobs to the county.

The exercise has several benefits. It fosters a positive attitude about the future of the state's oft-neglected regions. It helps ordinary citizens dare to hope that they can make changes. It forces people to realize that planning comes before change. And, importantly, it reflects the significant role that newspapers are perceived to have.

LGP's exercise seems to lend itself to projects by KPA members themselves. For instance, you might work with local teachers in designing similar projects for elementary and high school students. Or you could spearhead a similar process in the local Chamber of Commerce, senior citizen group, Rotary Club or other civic group.

Not only would this be good public relations for the newspaper, but it would also show the paper to be an integral part of the commu-

nity and a possible catalyst for progress.

Hey, if you've got some free thinking time, you might even do that with KPA, using this publication. It won't hurt my feelings because, if there's a god, I won't be here in 2012.

\*\*\*

Hard-hearted Hannah would have been moved by Sen. Joe Wright's farewell address in the state senate on April 14. Though I can't claim to know what's in his heart, his words were those of a statesman, delivered with dignity and emotion.

Many of his burly counterparts fought back tears and lost.

Wright, who's retiring from the legislature after 17 years, likened public service to his other vocation, farming. "A farmer can use the land, but never truly own it," he said. "My goal (as a farmer) is to leave the land a little better for my stewardship, a little more fertile for those who follow."

"Both farming and public service are more stewardship than ownership," said the Harned Democrat, one of the state's most influential elected

leaders.

Admitting he has lost "the old fire" for the legislative job, Wright listed some cautions for his colleagues who remain, particularly apt cautions in light of the FBI investigation of some of them.

He warned against the "arrogance of power" that has affected elected officials and against the "creeping professionalism" that leads some lawmakers to think they own their office and that separates them from those who elect them.

Wright added that this attitude results partly from "the ever expanding demands on a legislator's time that makes it almost impossible for a citizen — in the true sense of the word — to serve."

Referring to the cloud of the federal probe, the senator last cautioned that "vigilance against abuse must never falter."

"The moral and ethical fiber of a public institution," he said, "are the strands that hold it together."

His words seemed sincere and free of the political cant we've grown cynically accustomed to.

While sad, they were surprisingly refreshing.

Before accepting a standing ovation, hugs and handshakes, Wright singled out a few senators for praise — Charles Berger of Harlan, Mike Moloney of Lexington, David Karem of Louisville and Eck Rose of Winchester. He even paid tribute to the "members of the minority party (Republicans) who have provided underappreciated dialogue."

His speech was one of the more positive highlights in a General Assembly session that was a tremendous waste of taxpayer money and patience.

How, in these troubled and troubling political times, do you replace someone like him?

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If you can't annoy somebody, there is little point in writing. —Kingsley Amis

\*\*\*

It is not true that life is one damn thing after another — it is one damn thing over and over. —Edna St. Vincent Millay

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When in doubt, duck. —Malcolm Forbes

# Bills strengthen rights of individuals

Ron Bridgeman  
Jessamine Journal

Residents of Kentucky have a stronger right to know what their government is doing now, thanks to the General Assembly.

Gov. Brereton Jones is expected to shortly sign two bills that emphasize the rights of individuals (not newspapers or reporters). (Press note: The bills were signed April 1.)

The two bills, HB 106 and 16, strengthen the state's open meetings and open records laws.

The opponents of the bills - groups who lobbied or testified against - are instructive.

Chief among them were the Kentucky Association of Counties and League of Cities.

The executive director of the Association of Counties blasted the Kentucky Press Association in the group's monthly newsletter for KPA's support of the open meetings and open records bills.

The headline said, "Press Association causing trouble for counties."

What is unusual is the bitter tone. A sampling:

"House Bill 16 and House Bill 106 are typical examples of the callous disregard that KPA has for local taxpayers.

"House Bill 106 mandates that local governments must provide an unlimited supply of copies of records without those newspapers having to even make the effort to come and inspect the records that they request.

"The bill even includes language that prevents local government from charging fees that would include the cost of staff time involved in providing these records to them."

The column begins by saying the counties and cities groups "must defend against noxious proposed legislation that serves to cost local governments more to

operate and add more profit to the coffers of the print media."

Where to start?

It cannot be said enough that open meetings and open records laws are not for the benefit of newspapers - although we certainly are a beneficiary.

The laws are for individual citizens. I have no more right to attend a meeting or obtain a record than any citizen.

Additional cost is a smokescreen. The only cost might be for copies, and government agencies are allowed to charge for the cost of that material. Since public employees are being paid to respond to public requests, citizens should not have to pay twice when they are seeking public records.

The open meetings bill will make changes that broaden access for citizens.

The primary ones are:

- Prohibits public bodies from having closed meetings with less than a quorum present. This is intended to preclude one

or two members of a body gathering for discussions in a series of meetings. This occurs regularly in Jessamine County. Some are quite innocuous, some very deliberate.

- Limits discussion at special meetings to items on the agenda. On occasion, special meetings have been held without an agenda, or without an agenda until the last minute.

- Allows appeals to the attorney general of questions about violations of the law. This offers a simplified, and more economical, way to get a ruling on an alleged violation.

More importantly, the open meetings law establishes in stronger language the philosophy that government should be accessible to those governed.

Government exists for those who are governed, not for the pleasure or convenience of elected or appointed officials.

**Kentucky views**  
Editorials from across the commonwealth

## UK ruling is victory for public

The Daily Independent, Ashland

The people's right to know won a major victory before the Kentucky Supreme Court.

The state's highest court ruled that the University of Kentucky's entire 4,000-page response to charges by the NCAA is a public record that must be available to the people.

The university claimed various exemptions from the open records law, including a provision for confidentiality to prevent invasion of privacy. The Supreme Court said public interest outweighed privacy considerations in this case.

The university paid a Lexington law firm more than \$400,000 to conduct interviews and compile the response to 18

NCAA charges, and the court ruled "the public has a legitimate interest in its contents."

We agree. The investigation involved violations of NCAA rules on academics and recruiting by the UK basketball program. It led to Eddie Sutton's resignation as coach in March 1989 and the banning of two players — Eric Manual, who transferred to Oklahoma City University, and Chris Mills, who transferred to Arizona.

The Wildcat basketball program was put on probation for three years, including a two-year ban on post-season play. The ban ended this year, when Kentucky lost the NCAA East Regional title game to eventual national champion Duke.

The importance of the ruling goes far beyond gaining public access to the response. UK's basketball program has served its probation, the coach and players involved in the investigation have departed, and the response has lost much of its news value.

However, the decision sends an important message that tax-supported government agencies cannot conduct their work in secrecy. The decision is a major victory for access to public records, and that's good news - not just for journalists, but for all Kentuckians. In a democratic society, the interests of the people can only be served when government operates in the open.

## Some days are stranger than others

Kelley Warnick  
Gallatin County News

First it was Aunt Gert.

"I won!" she screamed as she burst through my front door. "I won the lottery and the whole world is gonna be mine."

She looked as bizarre as ever. Her scrawny legs were covered by a pair of skin-tight jeans that had "Hot Stuff" spelled out in rhinestones down each leg. She also wore a baseball cap that said, "Kiss Me, I'm Rich."

"Don't stand there looking like you swallowed a grenade," chuckled Gert. "Didn't you hear me? I'm the richest woman in the state and guess what? I'm going to buy this paper. That's right, honey, I'm your new boss."

"Boy, will there be changes," she warned. "First, the dress code. From now on you'll be wearing fancy cowboy boots, hip-hugging leather pants and colorful Hawaiian shirts. Don't ever let me catch you out of uniform, sweetie, or Auntie Gert will have to spank you."

She then bolted out the door shouting, "Buckle your seatbelt, honey. We're ready for blast off!"

I didn't get time to figure things out. As Gert bounced out, Dancing Eddie bounded in.

"Glad you're home, buckaroo," Dancing Eddie said.

"I've got some really big news. I am going to be on TV. Oprah's doing a show on older men who find themselves pursued by younger women, and I'm the guest of honor."

By this time my head was spinning. A man can only take so much weirdness in one day.

"I guess someone told Oprah about my prowess on the dance floor," Eddie explained. "Besides me, she is having some of the county's most attractive women testify about how desirable I am. To top things off, I even get to do a little Texas Two-Step with Oprah herself."

Dancing Eddie flew out the door saying, "Well, gotta go. Oprah wants me to get a haircut and a new pair of dancing shoes before the big show."

The thought of Dancing Eddie twirling Oprah around the stage was almost too much. However, I didn't have time to dwell on it.

Five minutes after Eddie left, the Owen County Farmer and his five Oriental serving girls waltzed into my living room. I was surprised to see them. Usually this time of year they are sailing around the South Pacific waiting until it's warm enough to put out another rice crop.

"We came up with such a good idea, we had to come home," the Farmer began. "Since the rice business is going so well, we have decided to venture into something new

and exciting. And what could be more exciting than caterpillars?"

I guess he saw the astonishment on my face. I figured caterpillars were about as exciting as road tar.

"Look at the girls, what do you see?" the Farmer said.

I didn't see anything out of the ordinary. The girls, as usual, looked great in their designer mini-skirts.

"Look at those skirts," the Farmer ordered. "They're made out of the finest Oriental silk and that's why I need the caterpillars."

"We are going into the silk business. We have imported thousands of special caterpillars from Thailand which will produce the thread for us. We plan to distribute the finest lingerie known to man with the material. Besides that, the girls want to be the models for our catalogue and they want you to shoot the pictures."

With that he and the girls rushed out of my house claiming they had to get home because it was caterpillar feeding time.

I finally had time to collect my thoughts. After a few minutes a smile came to my face and I thought to myself how grateful I am. Grateful that April Fool's Day comes just once a year.

# Fooled ya!

**Ron Daley, Troublesome Creek Times, Hindman**  
 Twelve years ago, the Times' front page featured a giant chicken attacking Hindman, "Big Foot" footprints found on Caney Creek and gold discovered in Hollybush. Since April 1, 1981, the Times has let humor and foolishness grace our front page stories during April Fool's week. Our normal, trustworthy, informative front page (or at least we think in those terms) is switched to page three so that we may fool some of our readers or their friends and bring a chuckle to our lives.

We've fooled a lot of people with our stories and doctored photographs. Some of these fooled include governors, doctors, nuclear scientists, school teachers, prominent businesspersons, and perhaps even you. So, if we fooled you, don't be ashamed or embarrassed. We have fooled the best.

We fool people because they have a strong tendency to believe everything they see in print or that is broadcast

on the network news. I'll be one of the first to tell you that you can't believe everything that you read in the newspaper (just ask Rep. Chris Perkins). Journalists, editors and typists make errors. And, as you know, news organizations can have biases. Thus readers of newspapers and watchers/listeners of news broadcasts must be aware that they have a responsibility to sort through the data given them and draw their own conclusions.

In addition to the fun, our April Fool's edition is a reminder of this important lesson about news. If something does not seem right, question it.

I'm not afraid to admit that we make mistakes in our news or advertising operation. Several thousand lines of copy are typed on a weekly basis. Reporters must rely on a variety of sources for information. Some sources may not be truthful, while some sources cannot be located or will not share information. Some issues are very complex — and efforts to simplify them can be misleading. In order

to explain an issue or put it in its proper perspective, the reporter must make editorial judgments on what to emphasize or what to include.

Our newspaper has been fortunate to win more than 250 Kentucky Press awards. More than any of these awards, however, I am pleased that we have won the confidence of our readers. We strive to be courageous and speak out on important issues through stories or editorials. And if we make mistakes or if our readers believe we have strayed from fair reporting, the Times is open to letters or comments of criticism. . .

I almost did not produce the April Fool's edition this year. The only reason I did so was that April Fool's day fell on the day of our regular publication — Wednesday. To those of you who enjoy the special effort — well, as Ed of Bartles and Jaymes' cooler fame said, "Thanks for your support." To those that don't like it — tough, but you will not have to worry about being fooled next year.

## Like giving birth . . .

David Greer

*The News-Enterprise, Elizabethtown*

Today I understand the process of giving birth. Or at least as close as any man is likely to come.

The News-Enterprise today makes a bit of Kentucky newspaper history by offering a radically new product. We're the first paper in the state to offer its readers the electronic equivalent of a daily paper.

Our new service is called The News-Enterprise InfoLink. It's FREE, fun and informative. I emphasize free because no one should confuse this service with the myriad of 900 numbers available these days.

While InfoLink will never put the paper out of business — and isn't designed to — it will become a popular and useful habit in many of your lives. It will also give our newspaper the immediacy previously enjoyed exclusively by the electronic news media.

Think of InfoLink as a very special broadcast radio. This radio has buttons that can summon the specific news or information you want. Now.

In this case the telephone is your radio and the phone's Touchtone buttons allow you to retrieve a wealth of specific information: Time and temperature, lottery numbers, sports scores, local news headlines, local weather forecasts, news from Wall Street, TV listings, movie reviews, stock market quotes, soap opera updates, horoscopes, interactive trivia and arcade games, music reviews, weather forecasts for more than 100 American and 50 foreign cities, jokes, stories, today in history, household hints, coupon news and many more.

Call InfoLink at 765-3331 or 351-3331. First, you'll hear the time and temperature. Then, the InfoLink operator will ask you for a four-digit category number. (Each information category is assigned a unique four-digit number.) The category numbers can be found today in a special pull-out section, which explains how to use InfoLink.

The list of category numbers will be published daily in The News-Enterprise's section C opposite the comics page. InfoLink can be accessed by up to 11 call-

ers simultaneously. More details about the technical side of InfoLink can be found in a story on the front page of today's News-Enterprise.

Why not try InfoLink now? Dial 765-3331 or 351-3331 — depending on where you live. Then, when Dan the operator asks for a four-digit category number, dial 1111. That's the local weather. Then try 1100 for local news and 1200 for local sports. Or 1234 for the Kentucky lottery numbers. Or how about 6973 for the TV Tonight category. Or 6902 for trivia games or 6705 for national news headlines or 6833 for computer news. . .

We're confident you'll find this an amazingly useful service whether you're headed to Kings Island and want to know what the weather's like in Cincinnati (category 6806), follow the New York Islanders hockey team (categories 6768 and 6780) or simply want a daily update on The Young and the Restless (6900).

And, oh, baseball fans, just wait until the season opens and you have those instant scores (6766).

You're gonna love InfoLink.  
*(Press editor's note: We tried it, using the 765 prefix. InfoLink could be habit-forming.)*

## It's the paper's opinion

*Paducah Sun*

Rep. Bill Donnermeyer and his colleagues on the House Business Organizations and Professions Committee know the state has no legal standing to dictate style, policy and practice to Kentucky newspapers.

So, what does the committee expect to accomplish with a bill, which it approved with only a single dissent, to require newspaper editorials to be signed?

This same issue comes up from time to time — often because some official has been offended by some editorial, and he can't determine immediately which individual to be mad at. Suggesting new rules then becomes a way to needle the press.

Rep. Donnermeyer, D-Bellevue, commented that since people who write letters to newspapers ordinarily are required to sign their names, it is only fair that editorialists do the same. So, he would have the legislative concept of journalistic fairness enshrined in the statutes.

Of course, the bill is essentially harmless, except for the time the House committee wasted on it when there must have been more important things to do.

Rep. Donnermeyer and others surely know that editorials customarily

are not signed because they represent the institutional opinion of the newspaper and not merely the personal opinion of the writer. That point is explained every time the question comes up.

### In Memoriam

#### J. Frank Helderman Sr.

J. Frank Helderman Sr., a former owner of *The Ledger-Independent* in Maysville, died March 19 in Gadsden, Ala., apparently as a result of Alzheimer's Disease. He was 80.

While publisher of the Gadsden Times, he purchased *The Daily Independent* and *The Public Ledger* in 1968 and combined them as the present *Ledger-Independent*. He and his daughter, Mrs. Carolyn Caproni, sold their interest in the Maysville paper to Howard Newspapers Inc. in 1980.

After joining the Gadsden paper in 1951, Mr. Helderman formed *The Gadsden Times Publishing Corp.*, which operated newspapers in Kentucky, Tennessee and Alabama.

## Ford's better idea

*Lexington Herald-Leader*

A hand, please, for Sen. Wendell Ford and the good sense he showed on Wednesday (March 25).

Ford is chairman of the Senate Rules Committee. On Wednesday, he led the way in rejecting a request to force two reporters to reveal their sources for stories that told of Anita Hill's allegations against Clarence Thomas.

Joined by Sen. Ted Stevens of Alaska, the panel's senior Republican member, Ford denied a request from Senate special counsel Peter Fleming Jr. Fleming wanted to force testimony from Nina Totenberg of National Public Radio and Timothy Phelps of Newsday. The Senate hired Fleming to find the source of leaks that led to stories about Hill's allegation that Thomas sexually harassed her.

In denying Fleming's request, Ford noted that trying to force reporters to testify about their sources has a chilling effect on the exercise of First Amendment rights. The United States Senate has no business engaging in this sort of bullying, and Ford had the good sense to know that.

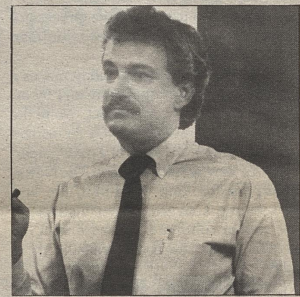
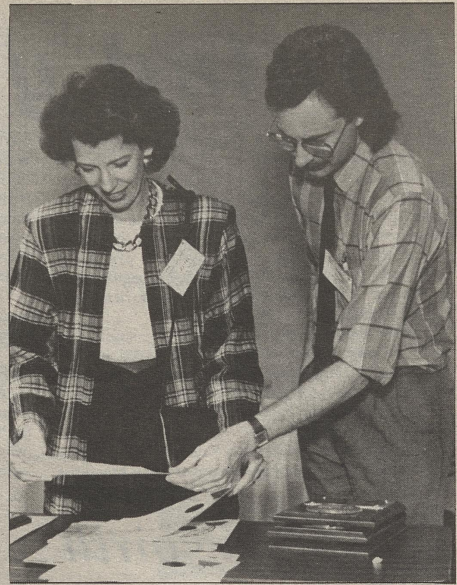
With good sense a precious commodity on Capitol Hill these days, that's occasion for applause.

Plan now to attend  
 KPA's 1992  
 Summer Convention  
 June 25-27 '82  
 Pikeville's Landmark Inn

# Scenes from a seminar



Advertising representatives from newspapers across the state gathered in Bardstown for the spring ad seminar, led by Alabama Bill McCartney. Besides the instructional aspect, ad contest winners were announced at the April 16-17 meeting.



## Voices from the past

Excerpts from the May and June, 1929, editions of The Kentucky Press, Vol. 1, Nos. 4 & 5

KPA's contest committee set forth rules and announced prizes for its summer contest. A silver loving cup, with cash prizes of \$15 for second place and \$10 for third, was to be given to winners in each category.

For the 1929 summer convention in Ashland, KPA struck an interesting deal with Chesapeake & Ohio Railway. A publisher who purchased a round trip ticket to the convention on a C&O line could send the fare receipt to the company's Richmond, Va., office and the company would buy a reciprocal amount of advertising in the publisher's paper.

Newspapers in Kentucky were chastised by Press Editor Victor Portmann for charging too little for subscriptions. Of the 57 weeklies that participated in a University of Kentucky study, the majority,

35, charged \$1.50 for a year's subscription. Four papers had subscription rates of \$1, and 10 got \$2. Advising papers to jump to the \$2 rate, Portmann was miffed that so few papers returned the questionnaires that were sent to 190 publishers by a community journalism class. "This (the response rate) is approximately only 32% which means that 68% of the editors in this state are either asleep or indifferent to the success of an enterprise which was undertaken for their benefit only," he wrote.

Miss Frances Holliday, 20, described as "winsome editor" of the Jackson Times, submitted a short article with her claim of being the youngest newspaper editor in the state. Her father, M.H. Holliday, had owned the paper for nine years and she had worked there after school and during summer break since she was 14. She took over the paper after attending Kentucky Wesleyan and Lees Junior colleges and teaching a year at a

Perry County coal camp. "My duties are to edit or write all news that goes into the paper; including editorials; to sell ads, collect the accounts, watch the outgo and the income, pay off a number of old bills that were passed down to me, order the materials and oversee the plant in general," she wrote. "My assistants are a bookkeeper, a linotype operator, an ad and make-up man and my brother, who helps at most everything. I enjoy newspaper work from the least to the biggest part. It is the profession that I shall probably continue in, though I have considered others."

The Hickman Courier, A. Robbins editor, won an honorable mention in the national NEA Community Service contest. It was cited for "persistent propaganda (that) resulted in 27 miles of hard-surfaced roads in the county, aiding in the adoption of a budget plan in the county, (fighting) for a bridge across the Mississippi River, and aiding

the Red Cross in handling flood refugees during the Mississippi floods."

Besides pictures of the Ashland area to promote the summer convention, the May edition carried a picture of the new building at UK that houses the department of journalism. The department shared the building with sociology, English, math, the University Commons, campus post office and book store. Portmann invited KPA members "to inspect the modern and up-to-date building on your next visit to Lexington."

**People and Papers:** Byron Pumphrey, managing editor of the Hazard Herald, has been appointed assistant editor of Kentucky Progress magazine in Frankfort under the editorship of C. Frank Dunn. . . E.D. Mitendorf, with the Ironton (Ohio) Tribune for the last four years, has purchased the controlling interest in the Russell Times. . . The Hazard Leader, headed by E.T.

Wheeler, president, and J.A. Smith, secretary-treasurer, recently installed a Model 14 Linotype. . . Urey Woodson of Owensboro is on a trip to San Francisco, via Florida, Havana, the Panama Canal and Los Angeles, with a possible sidetrip to Honolulu. . . Half of the common stock of the Danville Messenger has been purchased by J. Sterling Towles who becomes business manager. He has been city editor for about four years. . . William M. Likens, formerly publisher of the Peoples' Tribune at Uniontown, Pa., has started a new paper at Carrollton, with the same name. The paper is Linotype equipped, with 7 point Ionic No. 5. . . The Harlan County Courier is a new weekly at Harlan, the first issue of which consists of 24 pages, printed under the date April 18. Joe J. Heil of Service Printing Company, is editor and publisher.

By Tim Webb

Fresh out of college with wet ears and the ways of the world figured out, I ran into a wall of reality this spring while covering the General Assembly.

My newswriting instructor always told me there was a real world outside those gospelbound textbooks I was studying.

I never realized just how right she was until now.

My first day on the job left me in awe as I walked the marbled halls of the capitol, a place I had not stepped foot in since fifth grade.

Back then, the only thing I understood about the General Assembly was that I was being disruptive by talking out loud beside the House chambers.

After this year's Assembly got into full swing, I found it would take a force much greater than a fifth grader to disturb the "fraternity club" that occupies the House chambers.

Although I suffered a reality shock, the session offered me a little wisdom about the political process gripping this state.

Before I came to Frankfort I thought a lobbyist was a person who sat in the lobby of a hospital and directed people to the maternity ward and elevator.

I soon discovered otherwise.

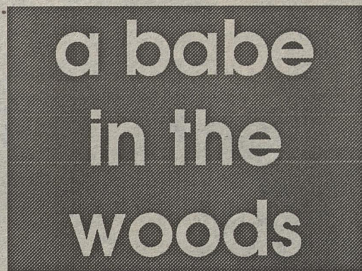
They do sit in a lobby (lobster alley), but instead of directing people to the elevator, they seem to direct the legislative voting arms.

I know the legislators represent the people as a whole, and the lobbyists only represent a small group of select individuals, but I always understood democracy as something based on a majority rather than a minority.

But who am I to doubt the system of minority rule — it seems to have worked in South Africa for years.

I also learned a Bible lesson during my stint with the legislature. I figured out when God was talking about the chosen people he had to be referring to Democrats, because being a Republican in the General

### Notes from



KPA intern looks at the legislative experience

Assembly was the same as being an Egyptian in the Red Sea.

But after the FBI came up during the final hours of the Assembly on rumors of corruption, being a reporter was worse than being a Republican.

In the following days, talk around the capitol was negative toward the press, with some people saying the newspapers had already helped cast a guilty vote in the minds of the people.

Well, first of all, news is news, no matter how you cut it. When the FBI swarms down on the capitol with talks of wiretapping and

exchanges of money it is definitely newsworthy. Besides, I was always told "if the shoe fits, wear it."

Another thing that amazes me is how legislators could shirk their responsibilities at will. The most common of these actions was by simply not voting.

I realize that it is OK to abstain sometimes, but after dealing with the roll call votes daily, I found a pattern of certain legislators not voting on controversial issues.

Gee, I guess they didn't want to make anybody mad by voting wrong. After all, getting re-elected seems to be the foundation of

democracy.

Although not voting seems wimpy to me, at least I can stomach it. But what gags me is the little loophole of wimpiness called "placing it in an unfriendly committee to die."

My life wouldn't be nearly as hard to deal with if I could place all my deadlines and other difficult decisions in an unfriendly committee. Just think, if my editor got to fussing at me I could put her in an unfriendly committee also.

But I can't. So I have to deal with the process of life like every other voter in the state — the hard way.

I know that trying to pass 1,500 bills in 60 days isn't an easy task. I know a lot of wheeling and dealing has to take place before some of the more important bills can pass. And I know that it just takes a few bad apples to ruin the entire bushel.

But when legislators take on the responsibility of representing the people, they are among an elite group of 138 men and women who have won the trust of the state.

I think sometimes they forget who they are here to represent and who put them here. But it only takes a small thing like an FBI investigation to close the gap between the people and their representation.



Tim Webb

### Forecast of the decade

By Bill Kirby  
Gwinnett (Ga.) Daily News

My favorite ever quote from a Falcons quarterback came in the mid-80s when the home team was playing the then-fearsome Dallas Cowboys.

Some big Cowboy bully (it might have been "Too Tall" Jones) smashed into Atlanta quarterback Dave Archer and knocked him to the ground.

To the amazement of everyone, Archer immediately sprang to his feet, stared his antagonist in the chest and said, "Nice hit, (unkind name deleted), but I'm still here."

I think about that quote a lot, and now in particular because it was 10 years ago that Ted Turner predicted newspapers would be out of business within a decade.

(Nice try, Ted, but guess what?)

Oh, it hasn't been easy. Many newspapers, prominent in 1981, have vanished, folded or gone gentle into that good night. And the ones still around have changed. Many of the stories are shorter and made easier to read by clever use of type.

And, while some people bemoan the "good old days" of their hometown paper, the truth is that they'll find more news about their hometown in today's version (You can look it up.) because newspapers saw that local news was what the readers wanted, and what they couldn't find elsewhere (like on Ted's TV stations).

This isn't to say Ted hasn't done so badly for himself.

CNN is journalistic force to be reckoned with these days while the network boys are losing influence. Even his Braves have improved.

But his prediction about newspapers missed the mark.

I'm glad, too.

I'm too old to learn anything else.

(Georgia Press Association Editor's Forum)

Weekly papers have about four readers for every copy, while the typical pass-along rate for dailies is slightly more than two, according to

Kenneth Berents, media analyst for Alex Brown & Sons, Baltimore. (from *SNA Bulletin*)

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# What's in store for the new J-school graduate?

## The market is tight, jobs may be scarce

By Tim Webb  
KPA News Bureau Intern

As the caps and tassels of graduating journalists are thrown in the air in anticipation of entering the work force, some of those caps tend to hit the ground leaving empty hopes and dreams.

Recent economic hard times have given advertising revenues a nosedive, taking new jobs with them.

At a recent Kentucky Intercollegiate Press Association Convention, Merv Aubespain of the Louisville *Courier-Journal* stressed the effects of tightness budgets on newsrooms.

The lack of jobs has increased competition among incoming journalists, Aubespain said, pitting more people for the same jobs.

As placement in the job market becomes more and more grim, the criteria for editorial, advertising and photography positions have been turned up a notch, he added.

During these uncertain times, job placement takes on a whole new meaning to an aspiring journalist. More emphasis is placed on grades, clips and internships, sending the days of a guaranteed job upon graduation out the window.

### Job placement

"This is the toughest year I have ever seen. Jobs are tighter than ever before," said Bob Adams, advisor to the College Heights Herald at Western Kentucky University. "We have good people who can't find jobs. It doesn't matter how good you are if there are no jobs."

As jobs get tighter, universities are looking for better ways to help their future grads land jobs.

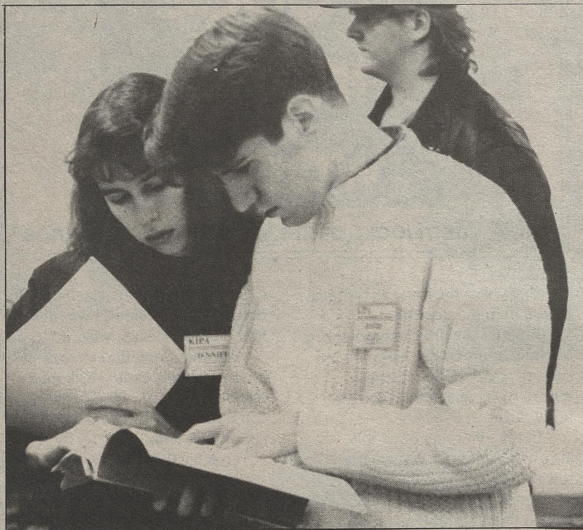
Western's journalism program conducts two to three sessions a year dealing with cover letters, resumes and clips, Adams said.

**Your ego can't cash checks, so you have to take what you can get.**  
— Tom Marshall

"We place a lot of emphasis on resumes because that's a person's calling card."

Along with these sessions, Western's faculty make professional contacts to create internships and opportunities for students.

They guide students to jobs that offer a challenge, Adams said, but, at the same time, are within a student's range of experience.



### Seeking answers

Georgetown College students Jennifer Eads and David Dalton look over winners' list at spring KIPA convention. They, along with students from across the state, heard speakers advise on journalism careers and job preparation. (Photo by Tim Webb)

This is the toughest year I have ever seen. Jobs are tighter than ever before. We have good people who can't find jobs. It doesn't matter how good you are if there are no jobs. — Bob Adams

Located close to several states, students at Murray State University haven't felt the woes of job placement, Dr. Ann Landini, advisor to The Murray State News, said.

"Students at Murray are good about getting out and going anywhere to find a job," she said.

Murray's journalism department works closely with the university's placement office, offering a required one-hour senior seminar class.

An advisory committee works with the class in preparing resumes, writing cover letters, and honing interviewing and job search skills.

However, Murray's most successful placement tool is a self-promoting booklet listing the seniors and their qualifications.

The books are sent out before Christmas to newspapers, public relations agencies, ad agencies and contacts from around the nation, Landini said.

The university usually receives responses from employees wanting interns before the students return from Christmas break.

"A lot of people have gotten jobs over the years because of the booklets," she added.

Students at Morehead State University search for jobs in the Lexington area, Ellen Brown, advisor to The Trailblazer said, because the students there tend to want jobs with fairly large papers.

For those students who grind out their college years working on the

school newspaper and take internships in the summer to prepare for the work force, graduating without a job can be a scary thing.

"I'm really scared, because I don't know where I'll be after I graduate," Tom Marshall of Eastern Kentucky University said.

The lack of jobs has also changed the attitudes of some seniors who were set on working in one particular area of the newspaper field. Getting a foot in the door at any position is becoming the only alternative.

"If it comes down to it, you may have to take something you don't want," Marshall said. "Your ego can't cash checks, so you have to take what you can get."

### Getting experience

Experience.

That one word can be the backbone of any strategy used in getting a job after graduation, with internships as the key component.

College students are finding out the hard way that internships aren't as easy to find among stiff competition.

After sending out several packets of clips, making several phone calls and taking a trip to South Bend, Ind., to interview for a job he didn't get, Marshall said he was relieved to land an internship this summer with Landmark Community Newspapers.

"Ideally we want somebody with at least two previous internships that have provided them some good clips on a variety of subjects," Tom Caudill, assistant managing editor of the *Lexington Herald-Leader*, said.

The *Herald-Leader* offers 18 to 20 internships a year, he said. Included are eight to 10 academic fellowships attracting students from EKU, Uni-

See J-school, page 17



## Need an employee? Who you gonna call?

\*Asbury College  
Mike Longinow 606-858-3511

\*Bellarmine College  
Dr. Gail Henson 502-452-8223

\*Eastern Kentucky University  
Dr. Elizabeth Fraas 606-622-1872

\*Elizabethtown Community College  
Linda Beattie 502-769-2371

\*Georgetown College  
Dr. Rosemary Allen 502-863-8131

\*Henderson Community College  
Tony Strawn 502-827-1867

\*Hopkinsville Community College  
Sandy Cavanah 502-886-3921

\*Somerset Community College  
Alyce Grover 606-679-8501

\*Western Kentucky University  
Robert Adams 502-745-6278

\*University of Kentucky  
Michael Agin 606-257-1900

\*University of Louisville  
Bob Schulman 502-588-6727

\*Morehead State University  
Joan Hall 606-783-2697

\*Murray State University  
Dr. Ann Landini 502-762-4479

\*Northern Kentucky University  
J. Patrick Moynahan 606-572-5260

\*Owensboro Community College  
Marla Jennison 502-686-4436

\*Paducah Community College  
Barry Craig 502-554-9200

\*Union College  
Allan K. Lovelace 606-546-4151

Kentucky Intercollegiate Press Association



## J-school grads need jobs, experience

From page 16

versity of Kentucky and Northwestern University near Chicago.

Caudill believes the economy is getting stronger and papers will probably start filling positions in copy editing, page design and graphics that have been left open for a while.

While waiting for new jobs to open, internships have become an option as popular with graduates as undergraduates.

A trend among graduates at UK is the postgraduate internship, said Michael Agin, advisor to the Kentucky Kernel.

"Many of our graduates are going for internships after they graduate," he said, with small dailies and weeklies offering a variety of experience.

Bobby King, a soon-to-be UK graduate, is an example of someone taking an internship after graduation.

King will have a Pulliam Fellowship in Indianapolis. The program is set up to help graduates needing more experience. The fellowship includes 10 weeks with pay at either the Indianapolis News or Star.

"This internship was a godsend, because I didn't know what I was going to do," King said.

Almost all advisers and employers agree on the importance of working on student publications, even as early as a person's freshman year.

"People who do the hiring almost require it," Agin said.

Ideally we want somebody with at least two previous internships that have provided them some good clips on a variety of subject. — Tom Caudill

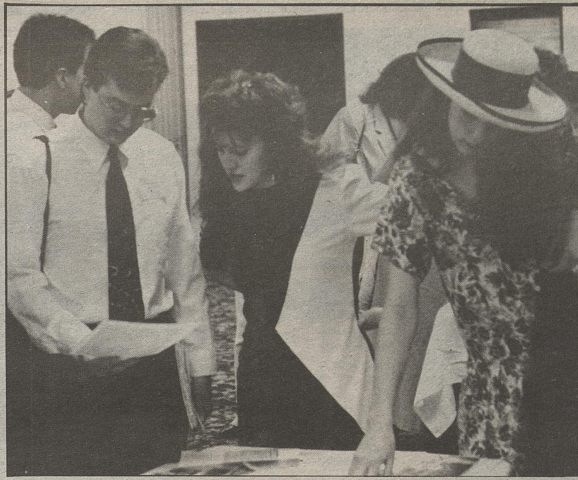
Guy Hatfield, who publishes the weekly *Citizen Voice and Times* in Irvine, offered a little advice: "Interns shouldn't try to be investigative reporters right off the bat."

And besides avoiding the "Woodward and Bernstein syndrome," interns should be more objective, Hatfield said, toward the copy editing of their work.

Showing versatility, working on a student publication and becoming familiar with several subjects such as economics, government and accounting are definitely key factors in getting a job, Caudill said.

"You're probably not in a position to know everything, but you ought to at least know something about everything."

You cannot tamper with the First Amendment. The moment you tamper with it, it falls apart. —Alistair Cooke



The search is on. Members of the Kentucky Intercollegiate Press Association flocked to pick up their awards during the group's recent convention, which also highlighted the looming job search.

(Photo by Tim Webb)

## Report cites reluctance to criticize advertisers

Are newspapers softening their coverage of business when advertising dollars are at stake?

The Wall Street Journal recently ran a story describing a "growing reluctance" by newspapers to criticize advertisers.

Economic tough times and a blurring of the traditional line between the editorial and advertising departments have led newspapers to downplay or kill articles to appease angry advertisers, according to some media critics.

Ron Collins, a law professor at Catholic University in Washington, DC, has written a report for the Center for the Study of Commercialism that examines more than 50 examples of "advertiser favoritism." Collins says the problem is widespread and has worsened with the recession.

Among the Journal story's examples:

• The destruction of tens of thousands of copies of the Portland Oregonian; the issues contained a real estate story on how to buy without a broker. The editor responsible for the story was demoted. The newspaper's managing editor confirmed that the demotion came because of the story. He also said the story appeared just days after the paper's business editor met with real estate agents to soothe hard feelings over past criticism in print.

• The firing of a Bellevue (Wash.) Journal-American editor after a dispute over how much coverage to give to labor problems at Nordstrom, a heavy advertiser. The fired editor wanted more prominent coverage.

• An apology from the Daily Spectrum of St. George, Utah, after car dealers objected to a story telling readers how to haggle when shopping for a car.

• An advertiser's revolt organized

by real estate agents over a Duluth (MN) News-Tribune story on selling a home without a broker. The boycott continued even after the paper apologized and a columnist resigned.

• An auto dealers' boycott of the Hartford (Conn.) Courant because of an article that urged car buyers to be wary.

Advertisers quoted by the Journal see it differently. They say newspaper

editors are becoming more responsive to complaints - even, said one Oregonian advertiser, to the point of toning down bad news stories in later editions at the advertiser's request.

Bud Orme, a spokesman for the National Automobile Dealers Association, told the Journal he sees "mounting evidence" that advertisers can successfully pressure newspapers into more positive coverage.

(From Florida Press Association Bulletin)

## Awards, etc.

• May 16 is the deadline for this year's **School Bell Awards**, sponsored by Kentucky Education Association. Open to print and broadcast journalists, the awards recognize excellence in reporting and analysis of public education news in Kentucky. This year's entries will cover stories done between June 1, 1991, and May 15, 1992. For information, call Mary Ann Blankenship, 800/755-2889, ext. 317 or 315.

• A free trip to Cuba for a National Newspaper Association **study mission** next fall is waiting for the winner of the Robert Work International Travel Fellowship, given by National Newspaper Foundation. You're eligible to apply if you're under 40, have three years of community journalism experience and intend to pursue a career in community journalism. Due by June 1, applications must include a cover letter, resume and two press clippings. For information, call 202/466-7200 or 800/829-4NNA; fax 202/331-1403.

• The National Press Foundation is offering **fellowships** to 10 journalists to participate in the 1992 resident session of the Graduate School of Banking, Aug. 9-21 at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. To qualify, you must have at least three years of journalism experience. Request application from NPF, 202/662-7350; fax 202/662-1232.

• Audit Bureau of Circulations has established a "Funding your future" **essay contest** to give young professionals in advertising, marketing or publishing the chance to win a \$2,500, \$1,500 or \$1,000 scholarship. Winners can use the cash prizes for courses related to their work and taken through approved industry seminars or other educational organizations. Applicants must write a letter or essay (1,500 word-maximum) on how print advertising fits into today's media marketplace and the role audited circulation and ABC play in media decision making. For details, call 708/605-0909.

• Dust off those zinging editorials. Sigma Delta Chi Foundation is accepting applications for the \$25,000 **Eugene C. Pulliam Fellowship Editorial Writing Award**. Applicants must have at least three years of full-time editorial writing experience and submit (1) personal biography, (2) summary of professional experience, (3) five samples of editorials or editorial series, (4) plans for using the award (study or travel) and (5) letter of endorsement from employer. Send to Pulliam Fellowship, SDC Foundation, Box 77, Greencastle, IN 46135-0077. Deadline is Sept. 1.

• "Outstanding **investigative or interpretive writing** that enhances public understanding of interpersonal violence, its origins and consequences" is rewarded through the Maria Caleel Award, offered by Chicago Osteopathic Health Systems and U. of Missouri J-School. Cash prizes of \$3,500 each will be given to winners from newspapers of more than 100,000 circulation, less than 100,000 and magazines. Publication dates must be between July 1, 1991 and June 30, 1992. Entry deadline is July 6. For details, contact Dr. Robert Logan, Science Journalism Center, School of Journalism, UM, Box 838, Columbia, MO 65205; 314/882-2914.

## Seminars offered on OM/OR Laws

The revised statutes on open meetings and open records take effect July 15 in Kentucky.

They represent some changes in the public's access to local and state governing agencies. And that means changes that affect reporters, editors, publishers and many representatives of KPA Associates.

To explain the major components of the new laws, KPA is sponsoring a seminar in four cities in late May and early June.

Dates and sites are:

—Thursday, May 28, Lexington, Holiday Inn North;

—Friday, May 29, London, Danny's Haymarket Restaurant;

—Thursday, June 11, Madisonville, Day's Inn;

—Friday, June 12, Elizabethtown, Holiday Inn.

Each session is to begin at 10 a.m. and end by 2:30 p.m.

Registration fee, which includes lunch and materials, is \$10 per person.

For more information, call KPA at 800/866-1431.

The complete text of the new laws appears on pages 19 and 20 of this edition of The Kentucky Press.

Numerous politicians have seized absolute power and muzzled the press. Never in history has the press seized absolute power and muzzled the politicians. —David Brinkley

Despotism can no more exist in a nation until the liberty of the press is destroyed, than the night can happen before the sun is set. —Charles Caleb Colton

**A problem with the law?  
Call the KPA FOI Hotline.  
502/589-5235**



Frankfort nights

Despite the doings inside its halls, Kentucky's state capitol is a beautiful place, particularly at night looking head-on from Capitol Avenue in Frankfort. KPA News Bureau Intern Tim Webb couldn't resist the challenge of a night scene minus the seamier pictures often painted of the government seat.

## Learn all about Kentucky's revised Open Meetings and Open Records Laws

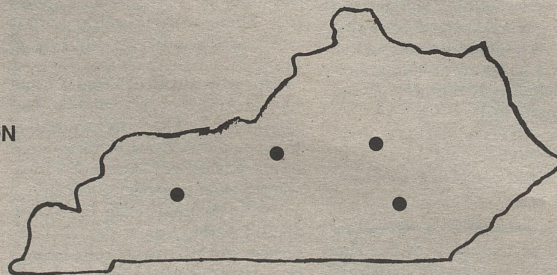
### KPA Seminars

Thursday, May 28 — Holiday Inn North, LEXINGTON

Friday, May 29 — Danny's Haymarket Restaurant, LONDON

Thursday, June 11 — Day's Inn, MADISONVILLE

Friday, June 12 — Holiday Inn, ELIZABETHTOWN



# Open Meetings Law

Effective July 15, 1992

AN ACT relating to open meetings of public agencies.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky:

**SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 61 IS CREATED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:**

The General Assembly finds and declares that the basic policy of KRS 61.805 to 61.850 is that the formation of public policy is public business and shall not be conducted in secret and the exceptions provided for by Section 3 of this Act or otherwise provided for by law shall be strictly construed.

**SECTION 2. KRS 61.805 IS AMENDED TO READ:**

As used in KRS 61.805 to 61.850, unless the context otherwise requires:

(1) "Meeting" means all gatherings of every kind, regardless of where the meeting is held, and whether regular or special and information or casual gatherings, held in anticipation of or in conjunction with a regular or special meetings;

(2) "Public agency" means-

(a) Every state or local government board, commission, and authority;

(b) Every state or local legislative board, commission, and committee;

(c) Every county and city governing body, council, school district board, special district board, and municipal corporation;

(d) Every state or local government agency, including the policy-making board of an institution of education, created by or pursuant to state or local statute, executive order, ordinance, resolution, or other legislative act;

(e) Any body created by or pursuant to state or local statute, executive order, ordinance, resolution, or other legislative act in the legislative or executive branch of government;

(f) Any entity when the majority of its governing body is appointed by a "public agency" as defined in paragraph (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (g), or (h) of this subsection, a member or employee of a "public agency," a state or local officer, or any combination thereof;

(g) Any board, commission, committee, subcommittee, ad hoc committee, advisory committee, council, or agency, except for a committee of a hospital medical staff or a committee formed for the purpose of evaluating the qualifications of public agency employees, established, created, and controlled by a "public agency" as defined in paragraph (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), or (h) of this subsection; and

(h) Any interagency body of two (2) or more public agencies where each "public agency" is defined in paragraph (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), or (g) of this subsection;

(3) "Action taken" means a collective decision, a commitment or promise to make a positive or negative decision, or an actual vote by a majority of the members of the governmental body; and

(4) "Member" means a member of the governing body of the public agency and does not include employees or licensees of the agency.

**SECTION 3. KRS 61.810 IS AMENDED TO READ:**

(1) All meetings of a quorum of the members of any public agency at which any public business is discussed or at which any action is taken by the agency, shall be public meetings, open to the public at all times, except for the following:

(a) Deliberations for decisions of the Kentucky Parole Board;

(b) Deliberations on the future acquisition or sale of real property by a public agency, but only when publicity would be likely to affect the value of a specific piece of property to be acquired for public use or sold by a public agency;

(c) Discussions of proposed or pending litigation against or on behalf of the public agency;

(d) Grand and petit jury sessions;

(e) Collective bargaining negotiations between

public employers and their employees or their representatives;

(f) Discussions or hearings which might lead to the appointment, discipline, or dismissal of an individual employee, member, or student without restricting that employee's, member's, or student's right to a public hearing if requested. This exception shall not be interpreted to permit discussion of general personnel matters in secret;

(g) Discussions between a public agency and a representative of a business entity and discussions concerning a specific proposal, if open discussions would jeopardize the siting, retention, expansion, or upgrading of the business;

(h) State and local cabinet meetings and executive cabinet meetings.

(i) Committees of the General Assembly other than standing committees;

(j) Deliberations of judicial or quasi-judicial bodies regarding individual adjudications or appointments, at which neither the person involved, his representatives, nor any other individual not a member of the agency's governing body or staff is present, but not including any meetings of planning commissions, zoning commissions, or boards of adjustment;

(k) Meetings which federal or state law specifically require to be conducted in privacy; and

(l) Meetings which the Constitution provides shall be held in secret.

(2) Any series of less than quorum meetings, where the members attending one or more of the meetings collectively constitute at least a quorum of the members of the public agency and where the meetings are held for the purpose of avoiding the requirements of subsection (1) of this section, shall be subject to the requirements of subsection (1) of this section. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed to prohibit discussions between individual members where the purpose of the discussions is to educate the members on specific issues.

**SECTION 4. KRS 61.815 IS AMENDED TO READ:**

(1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section, the following requirements shall be met as a condition for conducting closed sessions authorized by KRS 61.810.

(a) Notice shall be given in regular open meeting of the general nature of the business to be discussed in closed session, and the specific provision of Section 3 of this Act authorizing the closed session;

(b) Closed sessions may be held only after a motion is made and carried by a majority vote in open, public session;

(c) No final action may be taken at a closed session; and

(d) No matters may be discussed at a closed session other than those publicly announced prior to convening the closed session.

(2) Public agencies and activities of public agencies identified in paragraphs (a), (c), (d), (e), (f) but only so far as (f) relates to students, (g), (h), (i), (j), (k), and (l) of subsection (1) of Section 3 of this Act shall be excluded from the requirements of subsection (1) of this section.

**SECTION 5. KRS 61.820 IS AMENDED TO READ:**

All meetings of all public agencies of this state, and any committees or subcommittees thereof, shall be held at specified times and places which are convenient to the public, and all public agencies shall provide for a schedule of regular meetings by ordinance, order, resolution, bylaws, or by whatever other means may be required for the conduct of business of that public agency. The schedule of regular meetings shall be made available to the public.

**SECTION 6. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 61.805 TO 61.850 TO READ:**

(1) Except as provided in subsection (5) of this section, special meetings shall be held in accordance with the provisions of subsections (2), (3), and (4) of this section.

(2) The presiding officer or a majority of the members of the public agency may call a special meeting.

(3) The public agency shall provide written notice of the special meeting. The notice shall consist of the date, time, and place of the special meeting and the agenda. Discussions and action at the meeting shall be limited to items listed on the agenda in the notice.

(4)(a) As soon as possible, written notices shall be delivered personally, transmitted by facsimile machine, or mailed to every member of the public agency as well as each media organization which has filed a written request, including a mailing address, to receive notice of special meetings. The notice shall be calculated so that it shall be received at least twenty-four (24) hours before the special meeting. The public agency may periodically, but no more often than once in a calendar year, inform media organizations that they will have to submit a new written request or no longer receive written notice of special meetings until a new written request is filed.

(b) As soon as possible, written notice shall also be posted in a conspicuous place in the building where the special meeting will take place and in a conspicuous place in the building which houses the headquarters of the agency. The notice shall be calculated so that it shall be posted at least twenty-four (24) hours before the special meeting.

(5) In the case of an emergency which prevents compliance with subsections (3) and (4) of this section, this subsection shall govern a public agency's conduct of a special meeting. The special meeting shall be called pursuant to subsection (2) of this section. The public agency shall make a reasonable effort, under emergency circumstances, to notify the members of the agency, media organizations which have filed a written request pursuant to subsection (4) (a) of this section, and the public of the emergency meeting. At the beginning of the emergency meeting, the person chairing the meeting shall briefly describe for the record the emergency circumstances preventing compliance with subsections (3) and (4) of this section. These comments shall appear in the minutes. Discussions and action at the emergency meeting shall be limited to the emergency for which the meeting is called.

**SECTION 7. A NEW SECTION OF KRS 61.805 TO 61.850 IS CREATED TO READ:**

(1) If a person enforces KRS 61.805 to 61.850 pursuant to this section, he shall begin enforcement under this subsection before proceeding to enforcement under subsection (2) of this section. The person shall submit a written complaint to the presiding officer of the public agency suspected of the violation of KRS 61.805 to 61.850. The complaint shall state the circumstances which constitute an alleged violation of KRS 61.805 to 61.850 and shall state what the public agency should do to remedy the alleged violation. The public agency shall determine within three (3) days, excepting Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, after the receipt of the complaint whether to remedy the alleged violation pursuant to the complaint and shall notify in writing the person making the complaint, within the three (3) day period, of its decision. If the public agency makes efforts to remedy the alleged violation pursuant to the complaint, efforts to remedy the alleged violation shall not be admissible as evidence of wrongdoing in an administrative or judicial proceeding. An agency's response denying, in whole or in part, the complainant's requirements for remedying the alleged violation shall include a statement of the specific statute or statutes supporting the public agency's denial and a brief explanation of how the statute or statutes apply. The response shall be issued by the presiding officer, or under his authority, and shall constitute final agency action.

(2) If a complaining party wishes the Attorney General to review a public agency's denial, the complaining party shall forward to the Attorney General a copy of the written complaint and a copy of the written denial within sixty (60) days from receipt by that party of the written denial. If the public agency refuses to provide a written denial, a complaining party shall provide a copy of the written complaint within sixty (60) days from the date the written complaint was submitted to the presiding officer of the public agency. The Attorney General shall review the complaint and denial and issue within ten (10) days, excepting Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, a written decision which states whether the agency violated the provisions of KRS 61.805 to 61.850. In arriving at

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the decision, the Attorney General may request additional documentation from the agency. On the day that the Attorney General renders his decision, he shall mail a copy to the agency and a copy to the person who filed the complaint.

(3) (a) If a public agency agrees to remedy an alleged violation pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, and the person who submitted the written complaint pursuant to subsection (1) of this section believes that the agency's efforts in this regard are inadequate, the person may complain to the Attorney General.

(b) The person shall provide to the Attorney General: 1. The complaint submitted to the public agency; 2. The public agency's response; and 3. A written statement of how the public agency has failed to remedy the alleged violation.

(c) The adjudicatory process set forth in subsection (2) of this section shall govern as if the public agency had denied the original complaint.

(4) (a) A party shall have thirty (30) days from the day that the Attorney General renders his decision to appeal the decision. An appeal within the thirty (30) day time limit shall be treated as if it were an action brought under Section 8 of this Act.

(b) If an appeal is not filed within the thirty (30) day time limit, the Attorney General's decision, as to whether the agency violated the provisions of KRS 61.805 to 61.850, shall have the force and effect of law and shall be enforceable in the Circuit Court of the county where the public agency has its principal place of business or where the alleged violation occurred.

(5) A public agency shall notify the Attorney General of any actions filed against that agency in Circuit Court regarding enforcement of KRS 61.805 to 61.850.

**SECTION 8. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 61.805 TO 61.850 IS CREATED TO READ:**

(1) The Circuit Court of the county where the public agency has its principal place of business or where the alleged violation occurred shall have jurisdiction to enforce the provisions of KRS 61.805 to 61.850, as they pertain to that public agency, by injunction or other appropriate order on application of any person.

(2) A person alleging a violation of the provisions of KRS 61.805 to 61.850 shall not have to exhaust his remedies under Section 7 of this Act before filing suit in a Circuit Court. However, he shall file suit within sixty (60) days from his receipt of the written denial referred to in subsections (1) and (2) of Section 7 of this Act or, if the public agency refuses to provide a written denial, within sixty (60) days from the date the written complaint was submitted to the presiding officer of the public agency.

(3) In an appeal of an Attorney General's decision, where the appeals properly filed pursuant to subsection (4)(a) of Section 7 of this Act, the court shall determine the matter de novo.

(4) Except as otherwise provided by law or rule of court, proceedings arising under this section take precedence on the docket over all other causes and shall be assigned for hearing and trial at the earliest practicable date.

(5) Any rule, resolution, regulation, ordinance, or other formal action of a public agency without substantial compliance with the requirements of KRS 61.810, 61.815, 61.820, and Section 6 of this Act shall be voidable by a court of competent jurisdiction.

(6) Any person who prevails against any agency in any action in the courts regarding a violation of KRS 61.805 to 61.850, where the violation is found to be willful, may be awarded costs, including reasonable attorneys' fees, incurred in connection with the legal action. In addition, it shall be within the discretion of the court to award the person an amount not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100.00) for each instance in which the court finds a violation. Attorneys' fees, costs, and awards under this subsection shall be paid by the agency responsible for the violation.

**SECTION 9. THE FOLLOWING KRS ARE REPEALED:**  
61.825 Requirements for holding special meetings.  
61.830 Action voidable for noncompliance.  
61.845 Enforcement.

# Open Records Law

Effective July 15, 1992

AN ACT relating to open records of public agencies.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky: SECTION 1. A NEW SECTION OF KRS CHAPTER 61 IS CREATED TO READ:

The General Assembly finds and declares that the basic policy of KRS 61.870 to 61.884 is that free and open examination of public records is in the public interest and the exceptions provided for by Section 5 of this Act or otherwise provided by law shall be strictly construed, even though such examination may cause inconvenience or embarrassment to public officials or others.

SECTION 2. KRS 61.870 IS AMENDED TO READ:

As used in KRS 61.872 to 61.884, unless the context requires otherwise:

- (1) "Public agency" means:
  - (a) Every state or local government officer; (b) Every state or local government department, division, bureau, board, commission and authority; (c) Every state or local legislative board, commission, committee, and officer; (d) Every county and city governing body, council, school district board, special district board, and municipal corporation; (e) Every state or local court or judicial agency; (f) Every state or local government agency, including the policy-making board of an institution of education, created by or pursuant to state or local statute, executive order, ordinance, resolution, or other legislative act; (g) Any body created by state or local authority in any branch of government; (h) Any body which derives at least twenty-five percent (25%) of its funds expended by it in the Commonwealth of Kentucky from state or local authority funds; (i) Any entity where the majority of its governing body is appointed by a public agency as defined in paragraph (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (j) or (k) of this subsection; by a member of employee of such a public agency, or by any combination thereof; (j) Any board, commission, committee, subcommittee, ad hoc committee, advisory committee, council, or agency, except for a committee of a hospital medical staff, established, created, and controlled by a public agency as defined in paragraph (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (i), or (k) of this subsection; and (k) Any interagency body of two (2) or more public agencies where each public agency is defined in paragraph (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), (j), or (i) of this subsection;
  - (2) "Public record" means all books, papers, maps, photographs, cards, tapes, discs, diskettes, recordings or other documentary materials regardless of physical form or characteristics, which are prepared, owned, used, in the possession of or retained by a public agency. "Public record" shall not include any records owned or maintained by or for a body referred to in subsection (1)(h) of this section that are not related to functions, activities, programs or operations funded by state or local authority;
  - (3) "Official custodian" means the chief administrative officer or any other officer or employee of a public agency who is responsible for the maintenance, care and keeping of public records, regardless of whether such records are in his actual personal custody and control; and
  - (4) "Custodian" means the official custodian or any authorized person having personal custody and control of public records.

SECTION 3. KRS 61.872 IS AMENDED TO READ:

- (1) All public records shall be open for inspection by any person, except as otherwise provided by KRS 61.870 to 61.884, and suitable facilities shall be made available by each public agency for the exercise of this right. No person shall remove original copies of public records from the offices of any public agency without the written permission of the official custodian of the record.
- (2) Any person shall have the right to inspect public records. The official custodian may require written application, signed by the applicant and with his name printed legibly on the application, describing the records to be inspected. The application shall be hand delivered, mailed, or sent via facsimile to the public agency.
- (3) A person may inspect the public records: (a) During the regular office hours of the public agency; or (b) By receiving copies of the public records from the public agency through the mail. The public agency shall mail copies of the public records to a person whose residence or principal place of business is outside the county in which the public records are located after he precisely describes the public records which are readily available within the public agency.
- (4) If the person to whom the application is directed does not have custody or control of the public record requested, such person shall so notify the applicant and shall furnish the name and location of the custodian of the public record, if such facts are known to him.
- (5) If the public record is in active use, in storage or not otherwise available, the official custodian shall immediately so notify the applicant and shall designate a place, time and date, for inspection of the public records, not to exceed three (3) days from receipt of the application, unless a detailed explanation of the cause is given for further delay and the place, time and earliest date on which the public record will be available for inspection.
- (6) If the application places an unreasonable burden in producing public records or if the custodian has reason to believe that repeated requests are intended to disrupt other essential functions of the public agency, the official custodian may refuse to permit inspection of the public records or mail copies thereof. However, refusal under this section shall be

sustained by clear and convincing evidence.

SECTION 4. KRS 61.874 IS AMENDED TO READ:

(1) Upon inspection, the applicant shall have the right to make abstracts of the public records and memoranda thereof, and to obtain copies of all written public records. When copies are requested, the custodian may require a written request and advance payment of the prescribed fee, including postage where appropriate. If the applicant desires copies of public records other than written records, the custodian of the records shall permit the applicant to duplicate the records; however, the custodian may ensure that such duplication does not damage or alter the records.

(2) The public agency may prescribe a reasonable fee for making copies of public records which shall not exceed the actual cost not including the cost of staff required.

SECTION 5. KRS 61.878 IS AMENDED TO READ:

(1) The following public records are excluded from the application of KRS 61.870 to 61.884 and shall be subject to inspection only upon order of a court of competent jurisdiction, except that no court shall authorize inspection by any party of any materials pertaining to civil litigation beyond that which is provided by the Rules of Civil Procedure governing pretrial discovery:

- (a) Public records containing information of a personal nature where the public disclosure thereof would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy; (b) Records confidentially disclosed to an agency and compiled and maintained for scientific research. This exemption shall not, however, apply to records the disclosure or publication of which is directed by another statute; (c) 1. Records confidentially disclosed to an agency, generally recognized as confidential or proprietary, which if openly disclosed would permit an unfair commercial advantage to competitors of the entity that disclosed the records, and which are compiled and maintained: (aa) In conjunction with an application for a loan; (bb) In conjunction with the regulation of commercial enterprise, including mineral exploration records, unpatented, secret commercially valuable plans, appliances, formulae, or processes, which are used for the making, preparing, compounding, treating, or processing of articles or materials which are trade commodities obtained from a person; or (cc) For the grant or review of a license to do business. 2. The exemptions provided for in subparagraph 1. of this paragraph shall not apply to records the disclosure or publication of which is directed by another statute; (d) Public records pertaining to a prospective location of a business or industry where no previous public disclosure has been made of the business' or industry's interest in locating in, relocating within or expanding within the Commonwealth. This exemption shall not include those records pertaining to application to agencies for permits or licenses necessary to do business or to expand business operations within the state, except as provided in paragraph (c) of this subsection; (e) The contents of real estate appraisals, engineering or feasibility estimates and evaluations made by or for a public agency relative to acquisition of property, until such time as all of the property has been acquired. The law of eminent domain shall not be affected by this provision; (f) Test questions, scoring keys and other examination data used to administer a licensing examination, examination for employment or academic examination before the exam is given or if it is to be given again; (g) Records of law enforcement agencies or agencies involved in administrative adjudication that were compiled in the process of detecting and investigating statutory or regulatory violations if the disclosure of the information would harm the agency by revealing the identity of informants not otherwise known or by premature release of information to be used in a prospective law enforcement action or administrative adjudication. Unless exempted by other provisions of KRS 61.870 to 61.884, public records exempted under this provision shall be open after enforcement action is completed or a decision is made to take no action; however, records or information compiled and maintained by county attorneys or Commonwealth's attorneys pertaining to criminal investigations or criminal litigation shall be exempted from the provisions of KRS 61.870 to 61.884 and shall remain exempted after enforcement action, including litigation, is completed or a decision is made to take no action. The exemptions provided by this subsection shall not be used by the custodian of the records to delay or impede the exercise of rights granted by KRS 61.870 to 61.884; (h) Preliminary drafts, notes, correspondence with private individuals, other than correspondence which is intended to give notice of final action of a public agency; (i) Preliminary recommendations, and preliminary memoranda in which opinions are expressed or policies formulated or recommended; (j) All public records or information the disclosure of which is prohibited by federal law or regulations; and (k) Public records or information the disclosure of which is prohibited or restricted or otherwise made confidential by enactment of the General Assembly.

(2) No exemption in this section shall be construed to prohibit disclosure of statistical information not descriptive of any readily identifiable person.

(3) No exemption in this section shall be construed to deny, abridge or impede the right of a public agency employee, including university employees, an applicant for employment, or an eligible on a register to inspect and to copy any record including preliminary and other supporting documentation that relates to him. The records shall include, but not be limited to, work plans, job performance, demotions, evaluations, promotions, compensation, classification, reallocation, transfers, layoffs, disciplinary actions, examination scores and preliminary and other supporting documentation. A public agency employee, including university employees, applicant or eligible shall not have the right to inspect or to copy any examination or any documents relating to ongoing criminal or administrative investigations by an agency.

(4) If any public record contains material which is not excepted under this section, the public agency shall separate the excepted and make the nonexcepted materials available for examination.

(5) The provisions of this section shall in no way prohibit or limit the exchange of public records or the sharing of information between public agencies when the exchange is serving a legitimate governmental need or is necessary in the performance of a legitimate government function.

SECTION 6. KRS 61.880 IS AMENDED TO READ:

(1) If a person enforces KRS 61.870 to 61.884 pursuant to this section, he shall begin enforcement under this subsection before proceeding to enforcement under subsection (2) of this section. Each public agency, upon any request for records made under KRS 61.870 to 61.884, shall determine within three (3) days, excepting Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, after the receipt of any such request whether to comply with the request and shall notify in writing the person making the request, within the three (3) day period, of its decision. An agency response denying, in whole or in part, inspection of any record shall include a statement of the specific exception authorizing the withholding of the record and a brief explanation of how the exception applies to the record withheld. The response shall be issued by the official custodian or under his authority, and it shall constitute final agency action.

(2) If a complaining party wishes the Attorney General to review a public agency's denial of a request to inspect a public record, the complaining party shall forward to the Attorney General a copy of the written request and a copy of the written response denying inspection. If the public agency refuses to provide a written response, a complaining party shall provide a copy of the written request. The Attorney General shall review the request and denial and issue within ten (10) days, excepting Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays, a written decision stating whether the agency violated provisions of KRS 61.870 to 61.884. On the day that the Attorney General renders his decision, he shall mail a copy to the agency and a copy to the person who requested the record in question. The burden of proof in sustaining the action shall rest with the agency, and the Attorney General may request additional documentation from the agency for substantiation. The Attorney General may also request a copy of the records involved but they shall not be disclosed.

(3) Each agency shall notify the Attorney General of any actions filed against that agency in Circuit Court regarding the enforcement of KRS 61.870 to 61.884.

(4) In the event a person feels the intent of KRS 61.870 to 61.884 is being subverted by an agency short of denial of inspection, including but not limited to the imposition of excessive fees or the misdirection of the applicant, the person may complain in writing to the Attorney General, and the complaint shall be subject to the same adjudicatory process as if the record had been denied.

(5)(a) A party shall have thirty (30) days from the day that the Attorney General renders his decision to appeal the decision. An appeal within the thirty (30) day time limit shall be treated as if it were an action brought under Section 7 of this Act. (b) If an appeal is not filed within the thirty (30) day time limit, the Attorney General's decision shall have the force and effect of law and shall be enforceable in the Circuit Court of the county where the public agency has its principal place of business or the Circuit Court of the county where the public record is maintained.

SECTION 7. KRS 61.882 IS AMENDED TO READ:

(1) The Circuit Court of the county where the public agency has its principal place of business or the Circuit Court of the county where the public record is maintained shall have jurisdiction to enforce the provisions of KRS 61.870 to 61.884, by injunction or other appropriate order on application of any person.

(2) A person alleging a violation of the provisions of KRS 61.870 to 61.884 shall not have to exhaust his remedies under Section 6 of this Act before filing suit in a Circuit Court.

(3) In an appeal of an Attorney General's decision, where the appeal is properly filed pursuant to subsection (5) (a) of Section 6 of this Act, the court shall determine the matter de novo. In an original action or an appeal of an Attorney General's decision, where the appeal is properly filed pursuant to subsection (5) (a) of Section 6 of this Act, the burden of proof shall be on the public agency. The court on its own motion, or on motion of either of the parties, may view the records in controversy in camera before reaching a decision. Any noncompliance with the order of the court may be punished as contempt of court.

(4) Except as otherwise provided by law or rule of court, proceedings arising under this section take precedence on the docket over all other causes and shall be assigned for hearing and trial at the earliest practicable date.

(5) Any person who prevails against any agency in any action in the courts regarding a violation of KRS 61.870 to 61.884 may, upon a finding that the records were willfully withheld in violation of KRS 61.870 to 61.884, be awarded costs, including reasonable attorney's fees, incurred in connection with the legal action. If such person prevails in part, the court may in its discretion award him costs or an appropriate portion thereof. In addition, it shall be within the discretion of the court to award the person an amount not to exceed twenty-five dollars (\$25) for each day that he was denied the right to inspect or copy said public record. Attorney's fees, costs, and awards under this subsection shall be paid by the agency that the court determines is responsible for the violation.

**Seminar on Open Meetings & Open Records Laws**  
 May 28, Holiday Inn, North, Lexington  
 May 29, Danny's Haymarket, London  
 June 11, Day's Inn, Madisonville  
 June 12, Holiday Inn, Elizabethtown

## Legalese

### Recent legal issues involving Kentucky press:

• A Corbin attorney has filed a lawsuit seeking disclosure of the settlement between the Whitley Whiz and Times-Tribune relating to legal advertising in Whitley County. David O. Smith contends the details of the agreement should be open because public funds and taxpayers money are involved. The three-year battle between the two newspapers ended in March with the terms sealed. (*Times-Tribune*)

• In a commendable move, the Knox County Board of Education has agreed to distribute agendas of its monthly meetings and back-up materials to the audience at those meetings and to discontinue "white-outs" in meeting minutes. It also announced it will release copies of a tentative agenda to the press, staff and board members at least a week before each meeting. The openness results from an eight-month review of the system's administration by a state management assistance team. (*Mt. Advocate*)

• When the Lincoln County Fiscal Court announced at a March meeting that it was going into closed session to discuss "personnel policies," the move was challenged by two reporters and the county attorney. The judge-executive then countered that the proposed discussion concerned two road department employees, an allowable reason for closed meetings. However, the *Interior Journal* reported that "after meeting out of public view, the magistrates resumed their regular meeting without taking any action on the personnel matters." (*Interior Journal*)

• A Cumberland city councilman has filed suit against the Tri-City News and the author of a letter which appeared on the paper's editorial pages in late January. In the suit, Carl Hatfield claims the letter written by Sharon Kennedy had false statements and did economic and personal damages to him. Hatfield is seeking compensatory and punitive damages. The Harlan Daily Enterprise, in the same county, reportedly refused to run the letter when it was submitted. (*Harlan Daily Enterprise*)

### And elsewhere:

• The Michigan Court of Appeals in January found the University of Michigan regents guilty of violating the state's open meetings law during a presidential search. Reversing a lower court opinion, the appellate court said the regents did hold meetings with fewer than a quorum present and closed meetings to avoid public access to its deliberations in the search. The Ann Arbor News had sued the governing body in 1988. (*Publishers' Auxiliary*)

• The 5th US Circuit Court of Appeals told a Mississippi county board of supervisors that withholding even one legal advertisement from a newspaper in retaliation for negative publicity violates the First Amendment. The DeSoto County board must now prove that it did not hold back advertising from the North Mississippi Times. (*Publishers' Auxiliary*)

• The New Jersey Superior Court ruled in February that a newspaper does not have to tell a libel plaintiff the identity of the author of a letter to the editor. A judge said the state's shield law applies to all aspects of the publishing process, including letters. (*Publishers' Auxiliary*)

• A Michigan judge threw out a lawsuit against the Detroit Free Press and Detroit News because the plaintiff did not show up for a hearing. The case apparently wasn't in the stars for James Blakely who was suing the papers on the contention that their horoscope columns had ruined his marriage. He had demanded that the columns be dropped or the papers pay him \$9 million.

### Peak selling months for selected goods

Consumer goods have selling cycles like other kinds of businesses. From Newspaper Advertising Bureau, reprinted in *The Inlander*, here are goods that historically sell well in the following months:

**January:** Piece goods, televisions, radios, white sales.

**February:** Spring fashions, home furnishings, fabrics.

**March:** Gardening supplies, women's fashions, piece goods.

**April:** Women's fashions, housewares, hardware, shoes, autos.

**May:** Men's fashions, major appliances, home furnishings, jewelry, tires.

**June:** Men's fashions, major appliances, jewelry and silver, clocks, tires, bathing suits.

**July:** Piece goods, bathing suits, major appliances, boy's and girl's wear, furniture, freezers.

**August:** Piece goods, small appliances, furniture & bedding, back to school fashions, major appliances.

**September:** Children's & women's apparel, fashion accessories, all appliances, home furnishing, sporting goods.

**October:** Women's apparel, small appliances, radios, televisions, home furnishings, cosmetics, jewelry, window coverings, cooking ranges, closet & bath items.

**November:** Infants' apparel, children's wear, piece goods, women's & men's apparel, small appliances, radios, televisions, home furnishings.

**December:** Toys, sporting goods, books, cameras, apparel, piece goods, radios, televisions, home furnishings.

Need state government information? Call KPA News Bureau, 1-800-866-1431.

## Idea exchange

### Tiny Miss Little whatever

With small communities being bombarded by profit-making beauty contests with umpteen categories, it's not surprising that the El Campo (Texas) Leader-News now charges for running pictures of "pay to enter" beauty contest winners. Might not be a bad idea to copy. (*Texas Press Assn. Messenger*)

### Promoting reading

The St. Louis Post-Dispatch last fall collected 32,000 used children's books for distribution to area literacy agencies, homeless shelters and other organizations through its Books Offer Opportunities for Kids (BOOK) project. McDonald's restaurants served as collection points and then served lunch to volunteers from the newspaper staff who sorted and packaged the books. Public relations manager Lynne Moeller, 314/622-7238. (*NIE and Literacy Update*)

### Fish wrapper par excellence

"Tall Tales Fishing Edition" is an annual feature of the Mt. Vernon (Ill.) Register-News at the start of fishing season. The special section features the winners of the paper's tall tale contest, in which readers submit their best fishing yarns. Advertisers buy space and/or contribute prizes. Ad manager Sarah Sledge, 618/242-0113. (*Plus Business*)

### Readers writing

The Vancouver (Wash.) *Columbian* has cut costs while increasing reader participation with several ideas. For instance, the paper invited readers to write their own country song; 850 did, and the winning song was played on the paper's audiotex system. Other reader written responses have come from a "Gimme a Break" contest in which single parents wrote why they needed a few hours away from the kids to win a night on the town; with local restaurants as sponsors, a Valentine writing contest on "How I met my spouse"; and invitations to readers to comment on places they've visited that are tied to the paper's travel page. The paper has also used advertising trade-outs to have a water quality tester test water purity at several city locations. (*ASNE Bulletin*)

### Service & revenue boosters

From Suburban Newspaper Association come these ideas generated at SNA's winter publishers conference: • Give advertisers a tour of your production area so they can see how an ad gets created and printed. • Organize reader and advertiser advisory boards to find out what you're doing right — and wrong, and cover the meetings for the paper. • Survey advertisers to make sure they're happy with your product and services. • Include room for comments on the subscription renewal form. • Offer a "speak out" telephone answering machine to receive anonymous

complaints — and praise. • Hook up a fire bell to your telephones that sound off after four unanswered rings. • Use a local author and/or illustrator to help publish "young readers" pages. • Get phone/voice mail to improve customer service from ad reps. • Use "free" interns to gather local sports results. • Publish a newsletter for your advertisers. • Cross-train employees to answer phones and do the jobs of others. • Give a bonus to the artist for designing a spec ad that sells.

### Ideas from Inland

Reprinted from *The Inlander*, publication of the Inland Press Association, April 10, 1992.

#### Getting the vote

The Kenosha (Wis.) News got backing from the local county clerk's office to produce "Voters' Guide '91," a section containing sample ballots, listing of polling places and instructions for voting machines. Publisher Howard Brown, 414/657-1000.

#### Tuning in

The Monticello (Ind.) Herald Journal sold its entire TV magazine to one client, the local cable company, on a 52-week contract. The paper retained control of the product and saved money with no commissions to pay and no ad juggling. General manager Don Hurd, 219/583-5121.

#### From Ken Bronson, Inland President:

**Sections:** "Cooking Out" on summer barbecues and picnics; A "Homecoming" section featuring all local high school (or college) classes that are having summer reunions, use filler from old yearbooks, call on advertisers who have been in business a long time.

**Agriculture story ideas:** (1) Use county farm statistics to build interpretative stories; i.e., decrease in per-acre production and what it means, farmers who have outside jobs — make the statistics understandable. (2) What's replaced the old barn cat for rodent control? Talk to farmers about rodent problems and how they deal with them.

### June promotions

Month-long promos: American Rivers, Dairy, June is for Turkey Lovers, Nat'l Adopt-A-Cat, Nat'l Drivesafe, Nat'l Fresh Fruit & Vegetable, Nat'l Accordion Awareness, Nat'l Papaya, Nat'l Pest Control, Nat'l Rose, Nat'l Tennis, Nat'l Zoo & Aquarium month.

June 1: Int'l Volunteers Week; KY bicentennial  
June 7: Int'l Mothers Peace Day, Nat'l Safeboating Wk., Nat'l Scleroderma Awareness Wk., Int'l PBX Telecommunications Wk., Teacher Thank You Wk.  
June 8: Nat'l Little League Baseball Wk., Nat'l Shampoo Wk.

June 14: Flag Day, Nat'l Flag Wk.

June 20: First Day of summer

June 21: Father's Day, Carpenter Ant Awareness Wk.

June 22: Amateur Radio Wk.

June 23: Nat'l Columnist's Day

June 30: Leap Second Adjustment Time

MTAC Meeting Report

# Form 3541 generates spirited discussion

By Max Heath

The biggest and best news out of MTAC was National Newspaper Association's success at getting this March 15 implementation of the completion of Form 3541 postponed.

Bob Brinkman gets most of the credit. His appeal directly to Dick Strasser, assistant PMG/Marketing and Customer Service Group, convinced Strasser and Don Dillman to postpone until March 1993 the enforcement of a DMM requirement for mailers to complete all portions of all lines of the 3541.

Mailers will now have time to shop sensibly for software and scales, rather than scurry around hastily.

### 2C Subcommittee

A spirited discussion over the March 15 requirement to complete all lines of the 3541 second class mailing statement involved multiple concerns, including newspapers, magazines, and printing plants. Yours truly voiced the feeling this was a "solution that lacked a problem," but we were given rather pat answers from Classification's Leo Raymond.

He said the requirement to complete the 3541 was already in the DMM and that mailers of other classes completed them. My answer to that was, "If this was such a good idea, what took you so long?"

Leo stepped off into deep water with an idea that somewhere in the regs it said the bottom line on a mailing statement shouldn't be recomputed if it was within one percent accurate.

Ernie Collins of Classification, Leo's boss, thought perhaps that applied to weight, not postage. In my experience, postmasters will recompute over virtually any amount.

I tried to explain that the big problem for most small publishers was lack of adequate scales to weigh the paper accurately, forcing postmasters to redo our computations unless we used postal scales (which is allowed, Leo has said).

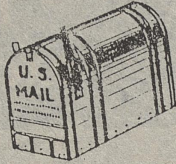
Other mailers have problems with forms submitted from far-off offices to post offices near printing plants, with weights unavailable until the last minute. Yet others had problems with delay and return, or confirmation copies, or a need for time waivers due to mail entry at night and offices not open until the next day or the first of the week for Friday-Saturday entries.

Leo said exceptions could be obtained through the regional Rates & Classifications Centers (RCCs). Who needs more bureaucracy?

### Focus Groups & Service

There is concern about USPS increasing the minimum presort discount number from six to 10. This is still just talk, we were assured, but the handwriting is on the wall. The 2C flats automation rules require shift from 6- to 10-piece minimum, and USPS clearly wants one set of rules for processing mail.

Harry Stanley told me privately that the six minimum in 2C probably stems from greater bulk of pieces in 2C, and on that basis we may be able to argue for retention in non-automated mail.



Cary Baer of Reader's Digest said changing the requirement has never been discussed in the flats automation ad hoc group, and final rules on that must be finished soon to meet a June 60-day comment Federal Register deadline.

Again, we heard what we already know: Publication Watches are not working. It was suggested that an ad hoc committee could be set up to look at this, although skepticism exists that no good could result. Another committee spent two years on the changes that aren't working.

### Consistent Rule Interpretations

Ernie Collins explained that RCCs were sharing rulings and trying to gain consistency to keep mailers from "shopping" for ideal rulings. Use of double postcards has been an area of inconsistent rulings, said Peter Moore.

### MTAC General Session

Mike Coughlin, Deputy PMG, assured us that his hands are firm upon the wheel during the hiatus between PMGs. Tony Frank left March 9 and search for a replacement is bogged down.

Peter Zeranski, executive director of the Competitive Delivery Task Force, explained how participants will be working

in three groups: (1) Prices, (2) Products and Services and (3) Account Support Services. The mission is to improve the quality of postal services and satisfaction of customers of all classes, but especially where customers have choices.

The task force will identify business reasons that cause customers to seek alternative choices to satisfy their business needs, identify barriers to customers choosing USPS services, and review current services and the environment in which they are offered. Finally, the task force will identify actions which USPS can take to increase customer satisfaction, as well as volume and revenue, by enhancing its appeal as the delivery carrier of choice.

Meetings were set for April 6-9, May 11-13 and June 15-17.

### Financial Report

Income is \$955 million vs \$1 billion planned. Volume is off. First class is down 2.8% when plan called for a 1.6% drop. Second class is 3.6% over plan, but 3.1% below same period last year. Third class is down 2.5%. Fourth class is up 11.1%, a success story, while Express Mail is down 11.7%.

Total volume is down 2.5%, close to the 2.6% projected. But the mix is toward more prebarcoded and presorted mail at lower rates than thought. Mailers are taking

advantage of these available discounts to cut costs.

The bad news is that since the Post Office lags the economy by about six months, volume and revenue gains projected for later this year will not be realized, making the year's financial outlook worse than projected.

Richard Porras, assistant PMG/controller, drew these conclusions: The economic recovery impact will move to FY 1993. The impact of the rate increase on volume and profits is continuing. There is a major shift to lower workload categories of mail. There is a potential additional shortfall of \$575 million in revenue totaling \$800 million for the year.

### Rate Outlook for 1992

Frank Heselton, assistant PMG for rates, explained postal economic theory and policy as may apply to automated flats, small parcels, palletized mail.

I'm gonna leave well enough alone since his remarks won't apply immediately to newspaper mail, and since he assured Bob privately that our carrier route presort rate is not in harm's way.

We also heard reports from government relations about scheduled Congressional hearings on postal, from Pam Gilbert about the creation of Postal Business Centers to help medium and small mailers (\$100,000 or less postage a year) learn about shifting to automation, and from James Bruns about the National Postal Museum opening this summer near Union Station in the old Post Office building. NNA's Government Affairs Conference should be able to visit it next year.

## Boomer, Push, Tiger were once the news

Dick Burdette  
Lexington Herald-Leader

It's Lincoln green with gold letters and it turned up on the 25-cent shelf at a Goodwill thrift shop, along with an abundance of Reader's Digest condensed books and 30-year-old texts and novels so obscure nobody ever heard of them.

The introduction says it was published to help advertisers. But nearly a century later, Edward P. Remington's *Newspaper Directory 1898* serves a much more worthy purpose.

Scan its pages and you will find a listing of every newspaper — every newspaper — published in every state nearly a century ago.

Including the following, all in Kentucky: The Barbourville Push, Cynthia Log Cabin, Eddyville Tale of Two Cities, Grayson Bugle, Harlan Mountain Boomer, Kuttawa Kuttawan, Jackson Hustler, New Haven Echo, Richmond Climax, Cadiz Telephone, Franklin Favorite (It's still here, Dick.), Midway Clipper, Shepherdsville Tiger, Sadieville Signal, Scottsville Baptist Helper, Harrodsburg Sayings.

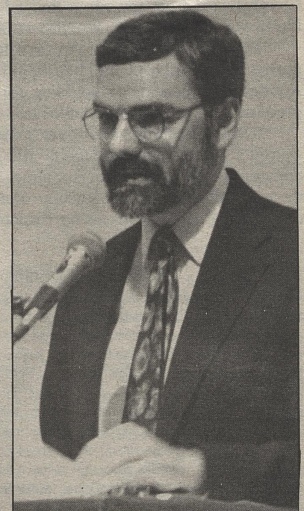
And last, and perhaps least, the Waddy Normalite.

Waddy Normalite?

## Opening competition's mail

Stricter rules governing the release of information from competitor's mailing statements went into effect in March. The ever-vigilant Max Heath explains the procedure.

1. Request release of the desired mailing statement, either second or third class, from your local postmaster.
2. He/she will notify the mailer in writing that a request has been made, without identifying the requester, and give the mailer an opportunity to object to the release.
3. If the mailer does not respond in a reasonable time (about 10 days), the postmaster can assume there is no objection.
4. If the mailer objects, he must give reasons why the information should not be released, such as why and how the submitter might be harmed by the release.
5. If a local postal official rules against release, the local decision can be appealed to Postal Service Assistant General Counsel Charles Hawley at Postal headquarters. He will then weigh the quality of the mailer's objection and render a final decision.



Listen, students  
Tom Caudill of the Lexington Herald-Leader was one of the main speakers during the Bowling Green annual meeting of Kentucky Intercollegiate Press Association on April 3-4. (Photo by Tim Webb)



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Most newspaper people don't have the time to play around with their Mac to find out what these miraculous machines can do.

Thanks to Virginia's Press, the twice monthly newsletter of Virginia Press Association, we got a look at some of the possibilities.

Some we already knew -- from experimentation -- but the use of Zapf Dingbats is news.

Regular keyboard commands

- Option - 1 = j
- Option - 2 = ™
- Option - 3 = £
- Option - 4 = €
- Option - 5 = ∞
- Option - 6 = §
- Option - 7 = ¶
- Option - 8 = •
- Option - 9 = ¢
- Option - 0 = º
- Option - - = -
- Option - = = =
- Option - q = œ
- Option - w = ∑
- Option - e = "
- Option - r = ®
- Option - t = †
- Option - y = ¥
- Option - u = ¯
- Option - i = ^
- Option - o = ø
- Option - p = π
- Option - [ = "
- Option - ] = '
- Option - a = á
- Option - s = ß
- Option - d = ð
- Option - f = f
- Option - g = ©
- Option - h = ¨
- Option - j = Δ
- Option - k = ¢
- Option - l = ¬
- Option - ; = ...
- Option - ' = æ
- Option - z = Ω
- Option - x = ∑
- Option - c = ç
- Option - v = √
- Option - b = ]
- Option - n = ~
- Option - m = μ
- Option - , = ≤
- Option - . = ≥
- Option - / = +
- Option - \ = <

Now go back over the keyboard; this time using capital letters. Hold down the **option and the shift** keys.

- Option - Shift - ! = /
- Option - Shift - @ = □
- Option - Shift - # = °
- Option - Shift - \$ = >
- Option - Shift - % = fi
- Option - Shift - ^ = fl
- Option - Shift - & = †
- Option - Shift - \* = °
- Option - Shift - ( = "
- Option - Shift - ) = '
- Option - Shift - \_ = -
- Option - Shift - + = ±
- Option - Shift - Q = €
- Option - Shift - W = "
- Option - Shift - E = %
- Option - Shift - R = Á
- Option - Shift - T = È
- Option - Shift - Y = Á
- Option - Shift - U = È
- Option - Shift - I = È
- Option - Shift - O = Ø
- Option - Shift - P = Π
- Option - Shift - { = "
- Option - Shift - } = '
- Option - Shift - A = Á
- Option - Shift - S = Í
- Option - Shift - D = Ì
- Option - Shift - F = Í
- Option - Shift - G = Ì
- Option - Shift - H = Ó
- Option - Shift - J = Ö
- Option - Shift - K = Å
- Option - Shift - ; = Û
- Option - Shift - " = Æ
- Option - Shift - Z = Û
- Option - Shift - X = Ü
- Option - Shift - C = Ç
- Option - Shift - V = 0
- Option - Shift - B = 1
- Option - Shift - N = "
- Option - Shift - M = "
- Option - Shift - < = -
- Option - Shift - ? = ¿
- Option - Shift - ! = »

Now for a whole new experience, switch your font style to Zapf Dingbats, and marvel at the options.

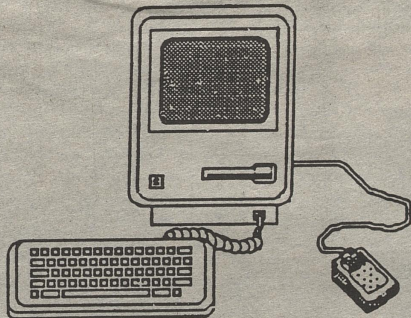
- 1 = ☺
- 2 = ☻
- 3 = ✓
- 4 = ✓
- 5 = X
- 6 = \*
- 7 = X
- 8 = X
- 9 = +
- 0 = ☺
- = ☺
- = = †
- q = □
- w = ▸
- e = \*
- r = □
- t = ▽
- y = !
- u = ◆
- i = \*
- o = □
- p = □
- [ = \*
- l = \*
- a = \*
- s = ▲
- d = \*
- f = \*
- g = \*
- h = \*
- j = \*
- k = \*
- l = ●
- ; = +
- ' = ☺
- z = !
- x = l
- c = \*
- v = ☺
- b = ☺
- n = ■
- m = ○
- , = \*
- / = ☺
- Shift - 1 = ☺
- Shift - 2 = \*
- Shift - 3 = ☺
- Shift - 4 = ☺
- Shift - 5 = ☺
- Shift - 6 = \*
- Shift - 7 = ☺
- Shift - 8 = ☺
- Shift - 9 = ☺
- Shift - 0 = ☺
- Shift - - = ☺
- Shift - = = \*
- Shift - q = \*
- Shift - w = \*
- Shift - e = \*
- Shift - r = \*
- Shift - t = \*
- Shift - y = \*
- Shift - u = \*
- Shift - i = \*
- Shift - o = \*
- Shift - p = \*
- Shift - [ = \*
- Shift - a = \*
- Shift - s = \*
- Shift - d = \*
- Shift - f = \*
- Shift - g = \*
- Shift - h = \*
- Shift - j = \*
- Shift - k = \*
- Shift - l = \*
- Shift - ; = \*
- Shift - ' = \*
- Shift - z = \*
- Shift - x = \*
- Shift - v = \*
- Shift - b = \*
- Shift - n = \*
- Shift - m = \*
- Shift - , = \*
- Shift - / = \*
- Shift - \ = \*

Now, still under Zapf Dingbats, use the **Option** key in conjunction with the other keys for more goodies.

- Option - 1 = ☺
- Option - 2 = ♥
- Option - 3 = ♥
- Option - 4 = ♥
- Option - 5 = ♥
- Option - 6 = ♥
- Option - 7 = ♥
- Option - 8 = ♥
- Option - 9 = ♥
- Option - 0 = ♥
- Option - - = ♥
- Option - = = ♥
- Option - q = ♥
- Option - w = ♥
- Option - e = ♥
- Option - r = ♥
- Option - t = ♥
- Option - y = ♥
- Option - u = ♥
- Option - i = ♥
- Option - o = ♥
- Option - p = ♥
- Option - [ = ♥
- Option - ] = ♥
- Option - a = l
- Option - s = ♥
- Option - d = ♥
- Option - f = ♥
- Option - g = ♥
- Option - h = ♥
- Option - j = ♥
- Option - k = ♥
- Option - l = ♥
- Option - ; = ♥
- Option - ' = ♥
- Option - z = ♥
- Option - x = ♥
- Option - c = l
- Option - v = ♥
- Option - b = ♥
- Option - n = ♥
- Option - m = ♥
- Option - , = ♥
- Option - . = ♥
- Option - / = ♥
- Option - \ = ♥

There's more. Using Zapf Dingbats, hold down **Option and Shift** and hit the desired key.

- Option - shift - 1 = ♥
- Option - shift - 2 = ♥
- Option - shift - 3 = ♥
- Option - shift - 4 = ♥
- Option - shift - 5 = ♥
- Option - shift - 6 = ♥
- Option - shift - 7 = ♥
- Option - shift - 8 = ♥
- Option - shift - 9 = ♥
- Option - shift - 0 = ♥
- Option - shift - - = ♥
- Option - shift - = = ♥
- Option - shift - q = ♥
- Option - shift - w = ♥
- Option - shift - e = ♥
- Option - shift - r = ♥
- Option - shift - t = ♥
- Option - shift - y = ♥
- Option - shift - u = ♥
- Option - shift - i = ♥
- Option - shift - o = ♥
- Option - shift - p = ♥
- Option - shift - [ = ♥
- Option - shift - ] = ♥
- Option - shift - a = ♥
- Option - shift - s = ♥
- Option - shift - d = ♥
- Option - shift - f = ♥
- Option - shift - g = ♥
- Option - shift - h = ♥
- Option - shift - j = ♥
- Option - shift - k = ♥
- Option - shift - l = ♥
- Option - shift - ; = ♥
- Option - shift - ' = ♥
- Option - shift - z = ♥
- Option - shift - x = ♥
- Option - shift - c = l
- Option - shift - v = ♥
- Option - shift - b = ♥
- Option - shift - n = ♥
- Option - shift - m = ♥
- Option - shift - , = ♥
- Option - shift - . = ♥
- Option - shift - / = ♥
- Option - shift - \ = ♥



Use the Frankfort connection

- Now, your newsroom has a bureau in the state capital. Use it to:
- ✓ Cover hearings and other events that affect your area.
- ✓ Gather information to round out your locally based story.
- ✓ Cut through the bureaucracy.
- ✓ Shorten the time it takes to file open records requests.
- ✓ Other assignments you can dream up.

KPA News Bureau

101 Consumer Lane, Frankfort, KY 40601  
1-800-866-1431

Still life

A child's concentrated attempt to have her face painted helped earn a first place in KPA's fall contest for Teresa Bragg, *The Kentucky Standard*, Bardstown.





**Governor to press: 'Gotcha'**

There was no champagne, but just about everybody managed to get in the picture when Gov. Brereton Jones signed the bills improving the state's Open Meetings and Open Records laws. KPA representatives and legislators who played a key role in the passage of HB 16 and 106 gathered on April 1 for the signing. The date of the signing was particularly significant. Hearts raced and

faces dropped as the governor at first announced he could not support the measures because "the media have failed to hold themselves to the same standard as they expect from the public." Explaining for a couple of minutes his intent not to sign, he finally burst into a grin and shouted "April Fool!" The text of the bills appears in this issue of The Kentucky Press. (Photo by Tim Webb)

### Awards presented during advertising seminar in Bardstown, from page one

and Teresa Revlett are cited.

Greensburg's award winners are the work of Walt Gorin. Responsible for Shelbyville's awards are Troy S. McCracken, Debbie Ballard, Roberta Chesser, Judy James and Patti Gaston.

At Henderson, credit for the winning designs is given to Debra Fritz, Nancy Pippin, Shannon Burns,

Janet Morgan, Nancy Hamilton and "staff".

Roping in the awards for Owensboro are Maggie Price, John Laswell, Shelley Bruck, Mike Garant, Linda Ludlum, Faye Murry, Janie Sims, Steve Castle, Julie Haydon, Gordon Wilkerson, Sharon Coomes, Teri Kenitzer, Craig O'Bryan, Mike Weafer

and "staff".

Other newspapers winning at least one award were *Tri-City News*, *Hickman County Gazette*, *Kenton County Recorder*, *Fulton Leader*, *Adair Progress*, *Carrollton News-Democrat*, *Campbell County Recorder*, *Tompkinsville News*, *LaRue County Herald News*, *Central Record*, *Falmouth Outlook*, *Grant County News*, *Pulaski Week*, *Appalachian News-Express*, *Paintsville Herald*, *Oldham Era*, *Benton Tribune Courier*.

Also, *Wayne County Outlook*, *Lebanon Enterprise*, *Franklin Favorite*,

*Harrodsburg Herald*, *Anderson News*, *Boone County Recorder*, *Cynthiana Democrat*, *Central Kentucky News Journal*, *Meade County Messenger*, *Somerset Commonwealth-Journal*, *Harlan Daily Enterprise*, *Murray Ledger & Times*, *Madisonville Messenger*, *Middlesboro Daily News*, *Winchester Sun*, *Frankfort State Journal*, *Bowling Green Daily News* and *Lexington Herald-Leader*.

A publication of winners, produced by KPA executive director David Thompson, was distributed at the awards luncheon.

### First word on FBI probe

In the April 6 edition of *AP log*, Charles Wolfe of The Associated Press recounts his discovery of the FBI's investigation of Kentucky legislators.

"The Kentucky Senate was taking a breather March 31, the next-to-last day of its 1992 sessions, so I settled down in the empty chamber with a laptop computer to write some briefs.

"Moments later, a puzzled freshman senator came over to me and asked if I knew why FBI agents would be 'looking for legislators' next door in the Capitol's annex.

"I didn't, but I hurried to the House chamber to tell Frankfort correspondent Mark Chellgren. The agent hunt began.

"Most of the FBI agents didn't fit the stereotype. Four were wearing jeans and sneakers. Only two that we could identify were in dark suits that allowed them to blend in with the

lobbyists who traditionally line the basement halls outside the legislative offices.

"Helping in our search were Louisville newsman Bruce Schreiner and news clerk Steve Bailey, both on temporary duty at the Capitol for the final days of the General Assembly.

"The hunt produced a story containing on-the-record comments from legislators who had been interviewed or subpoenaed. The agents were seeking campaign finance records to give to a grand jury in what appeared to be an investigation of political corruption in Kentucky.

"Subpoenas were issued to the General Assembly Board of Ethics for records of at least 13 current or former legislators.

"The AP story, the first account available, formed the basis for the most morning news reports about the investigation."



**Unadulterated awe** — Margaret Metz, *Bath County News-Outlook*, Owingsville, got the thrill of a lifetime when she met President George Bush during the National Newspaper Association's Government Affairs Conference in March. (Photo courtesy of Max Heath)