

ShapTalk

Editor
Lisa O'Donnell Connors
Extension 4-6803

News From News IT

The News Information Technology (IT) Department has introduced two new software applications, for instant messaging and writing and editing, that make it easier for Newsroom staff to communicate with each other and produce the newspaper more efficiently.

On June 3, News IT began the process of phasing out the SII Coyote system and phasing in the CCI writing and editing system. The Post has been on the CCI pagination system since 1998. By moving to the CCI writing and editing system, all the functions of creating each page of the newspaper will be streamlined onto one system.

But first, News IT has the daunting task of training approximately 1,000 staff responsible for writing and editing stories. "It is a huge undertaking, like building a boat in the middle of the ocean. We still need to put out the paper every day, while we're training staff," explained **DON PODESTA**,

news information technology editor.

Heading up the transition is **JOHN BENNER**, information technology projects editor. Benner has developed a timeline to make the transition, section by section, by March 2003.

The first section to make the transition to the CCI system was the Food staff, who were trained on June 3, and published the first section created entirely in CCI on Wednesday, June 12. The next section making the transition is Health. The lead trainer for the CCI writing and editing system is **MICHAEL TAYLOR**, who came to The Post in October 2000 after training hundreds of journalists on the CCI system at the Dallas Morning News.

"The Food staff was great to work with," said Taylor.

JOHN BENNER and **ED HOLZINGER**, News Information Technology, are working toward making the Newsroom more efficient.



Food staff writer **WALTER NICHOLLS** (center) receives assistance from News Information Technology staff **MICHAEL TAYLOR** (left) and **FRAN THOMAS** (right) on June 3, the first day of training on The Post's new CCI writing and editing system.

"It's hard for people to make a change to a new system, but they looked at all the benefits of going to CCI."

According to Benner and Taylor, the biggest challenge for staff is getting used to CCI and using their mouse more, versus the Coyote system, which only uses keyboard functions. In addition, the CCI system is Windows based, so writers and editors need to become more comfortable moving in and out of several windows on their computer screen.

The benefits, however, are substantial. According to Benner, CCI will make it easier to write and edit for zoned edi-

tions. Newsroom staff will be able to track the status of a story faster and easier, and to see who was the last editor to work on it. More information will travel with the story, including information about accompanying photographs, who edited the story, and what zone it ran in. If a correction runs about a story, the system will attach the correction to the story in the archives.

One result of the transition to the CCI writing and editing system occurred at the end of May, when the Newsroom staff switched to a new instant

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3

Award Winners and Other Notables

Undaunted by hot, sticky temperatures, Post golfers headed to the Augustine Golf Club in Stafford, Va. on Monday, June 10 for the annual employee tournament. The tournament began with a shotgun start at 8 a.m. and when the dust settled at the end of the day, the following employees and Post vendors received awards:

FIRST PLACE TEAM:

JIMBO HORSEMAN -

Springfield/Production

JOE FIEDLER

- College Park/Production

TOMMY STARKE

- Springfield/Production

SECOND PLACE TEAM:

BILL RHODES - IT

LARRY McALLISTER - IT

John Fowler - Vendor

Gerard Mullen - Vendor

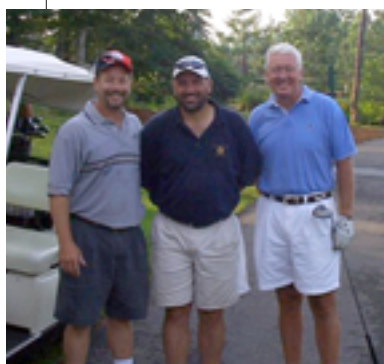


PHOTO - ROYE WEEKS

JIMBO HORSEMAN, Production/Springfield; **JOE FIEDLER**, Production/College Park, and **TOMMY STARKE**, Production/Springfield were members of the first place team at the employee golf tournament.

THIRD PLACE TEAM:

MICHELLE MARCELLINO

- Springfield/Production

TED JONES

- Springfield/Production

Tim Miller, Vendor

Longest Drive/Men -

Tim Miller, Vendor

Longest Drive/Women -

SHERRY GRYDER,

College Park/Production

Closest to the Pin/Men -
Chris Williams, Vendor

Closest to the Pin/Women -
**VALERIE KENYON-
GAFFNEY**, Springfield/
Production



OMAR TORRANCE and **WILLIE PUGH**, Circulation, took home the first place trophy in the annual "Hoop It Up" tournament held at the beginning of the month.

Circulation service representatives **OMAR TORRANCE** and **WILLIE PUGH** on a team including two of Pugh's cousins from Buffalo, N.Y., took first place in the Adult Division of the annual "Hoop It Up" basketball tournament held at RFK stadium on June 1 and 2. Torrance and Pugh, who both came to The Post last October, and their team called "Who Next" had five wins and only one loss during the weekend long three-on-three tournament.

The "Who Next" team will take their winning ways on the road when they participate in the Gus Macker Basketball Tournament in West Virginia in July.

On Tuesday, June 11, The Post awarded the newspaper's Second Annual

International Teaching Fellowships to nine area Spanish teachers. The teachers were chosen by a panel of four local educators from more than 250 applicants. The fellowships, sponsored in collaboration with the Embassy of Spain, enable teachers to attend an educational program in July at a university in Spain, where they will be immersed in Spanish language and culture. The participating universities are located in Granada, Madrid, Salamanca, and Santiago de Compostela.

Fellowship recipients must be full time teachers of Spanish in an accredited Washington area school, for grades K-12. They must have a working knowledge of Spanish, be assigned to teach the Spanish language and/or Hispanic culture, or wish to increase their knowledge of these subjects.

MIRANDA SPIVACK and **DOROTHY GILLIAM** were honored at the Washington, D.C. Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists' 2002 Dateline Awards Dinner and Hall of Fame ceremony.



PHOTO - DAVID JONES



PHOTO - CARRIE MORSE

The area teachers who were awarded The Post's International Teaching Fellowships on June 11, (l-r): Jill Rodriguez, Northern High School Owings, Md.; José Ben-Kotel, Cesar Chavez Public Charter High School Washington, D.C.; Ann Ben-Abdallah, George Mason Middle School, Falls Church, Va.; Francis Yasharian, Brightwood Elementary School, Washington, D.C.; Eileen Harris, Monocacy Elementary School, Dickerson, Md.; Koura Gibson, Hart Middle School, Washington, D.C.; Leni Bronstein, Williamsburg Middle School, Arlington, Va.; Heather Herrera, Harper's Choice Middle School, Columbia, Md.; Ana Koski-Karell, Barcroft Elementary School, Arlington, Va.

DOROTHY GILLIAM, a 35-year veteran of The Post's Newsroom, was inducted into the Washington, D.C. Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists 2002 Hall of Fame during the chapter's annual awards dinner on Tuesday, June 11. Gilliam has held several positions in the Newsroom, including columnist, and is currently the director of the Young Journalists Development Project. She has also been the national president of the National Association of Black Journalists. Other 2002 inductees included Sam Donaldson from ABC News, James Kilpatrick from Universal Press Syndicate and Barry Schweid, from the Associated.

The Post also received a first place award in the daily business financial category. **DEBBI WILOGREN** and **JACKIE SPINNER** were honored for the two-part series "Urban Rebirth," for "in-depth reporting and research giving



UNNI CHERYAN and **LINDA GORECKI** earned the Marketing Trooper Award in May.

readers clear insight into the exciting resurgence of downtown Washington.”

The staff of the Prince George's Extra received an honorable mention in the weekly general news category for a special issue on June 21, 2001 called “An Issue of Race: Embracing Diversity's Challenges.”

Vice President of Marketing, **MARGARET CROMELIN**, recently announced that **UNNI CHERYAN** and **LINDA GORECKI** were recipients of the Marketing Trooper Award for May. The award is presented every month to non-managers on the Marketing staff that perform above and beyond the call of duty, exceed internal client expectations, or perform well in a challenging situation.

MARTHA HAMILTON, News, was named board member of the year for Bell Multicultural High School in the District at the school's annual scholarship gala on Thursday, June 6. Hamilton has been on the school's board



PHOTO - TODD CROSS

MARTHA HAMILTON is honored by Bell Multicultural High School.

for eight years. She was voted for the honor by other board members for her continued support of the school, including creating a journalism program.

BARRY COLEMAN, Manager of Organization Development & Training, was recently named as a professional member of the Alexandria-based National Training Laboratories (NTL). Founded in 1947, NTL offers training for professional and personal success by focusing on the individual as a change agent. It's members are highly regarded, credentialed practitioners with significant experience in organization development and other areas integral to effective business practices in a competitive, global economy.



BARRY COLEMAN joins the National Training Laboratories.

On Monday, June 17, a team effort by the Sports, Circulation, and Production departments and led by Vice President/Business Manager **TED LUTZ** enabled The Post to publish a special edition of the newspaper with late-breaking news of the U.S. soccer team's stunning defeat of Mexico (2-0) at the World Cup in South Korea. The game ended at 4:30 a.m. EST

and the first of the 25,000 copies of the World Cup Final Edition came off the presses at 6 a.m. Special deliveries were made to local restaurants and other places where soccer fans were gathered throughout the metro area.

Hawkers were also given copies of the special edition to sell at major intersections for commuters. The World Cup edition was printed at both the College Park and Springfield plants. The Post is believed to be the only major East Coast newspaper to publish same day coverage of the U.S.-Mexico soccer game.

The front page of Sports in the 25,000 copies of the World Cup Final edition on Monday, June 17.



messaging software system. Although the Newsroom already had instant messaging, there were two problems. It couldn't handle the volume of messaging that occurred in the Newsroom during the hectic days following September 11, and it was a part of the SII Coyote system, which is being phased out. Unfortunately, the new CCI editing system did not have a messaging application that the Newsroom could use either.

“Instant messaging is used widely throughout the Newsroom,” explained Podesta. “The copy desk can tell the layout desk that a story is changing length, or that an assignment editor has decided to combine two stories into one. It's important to get these messages in real time. Since CCI did not have the instant messaging ability, we had to invent it.”

In a span of two weeks, Technology Projects Editor **ED HOLZINGER** created a prototype for a web-based application called MsgPost. After receiving the go ahead from the project team, it took another three weeks to develop MsgPost, which he describes as a “hybrid” of email and instant messaging capabilities. Staff can send and receive messages instantly, see at a glance who is logged on to MsgPost, send a message even if someone isn't logged on, and keep a log of messages sent and received.

According to Holzinger, one of the attributes of using a web-based application is that both PCs and Macs can use it, and in the near future, PDAs. Staff at bureaus or working from home can log on to MsgPost using a web browser and be instantly be in touch with staff in the Newsroom. MsgPost has 1,150 users.

POST SCRIPTS



Prior to buying The Post at auction on June 1, 1933, Eugene Meyer had a lawyer, George Hamilton, Jr., survey the assets of the newspaper. "Hamilton concluded that the ramshackle plant and run-down equipment were worth no more than \$100,000. But the Associated Press franchise, which the paper held, and its historic prestige were assets of considerable value." Hamilton was given instructions to bid no more than \$2 million on behalf of Meyer for the purchase of The Post at the auction. Hamilton was successful in his bidding and Meyer purchased the newspaper for \$825,000.

— Eugene Meyer by
Merlo J. Pusey

Monday, June 17 was the 30th Anniversary of the infamous 1972 "third-rate burglary" of the Democratic National Committee at the Watergate hotel. The Post's coverage of the subsequent Watergate investigation was led by the reporting team of **BOB WOODWARD** and Carl Bernstein. In the end, 40 government officials were indicted, President Nixon resigned, and The Post's coverage earned the newspaper the 1973 Pulitzer Prize for Public Service.

During the six-month celebration of the 125th Anniversary, ShopTalk will take a look back at the events and people that shaped the history of the newspaper.

WEEKEND'S WEEKENDS

Weekend's Weekends, the Weekend Section and Public Relations department's popular series of free summer concerts at the Carter Barron Amphitheatre begins June 28. Gates open for the concerts at 7 p.m., with performances beginning at 7:30 p.m. Up to four free tickets will be available to employees. You can pick them up in the Public Relations Department, or from **JOYCE JONES**, Weekend Editor, on the day of the performance only. Please note that there are no scheduled rain dates. For more information, contact the Public Relations department at x4-7969.

The Weekend's Weekends schedule of performances and performers:

June 28 - Rock Night:

Juniper Lane, Army of Me (formerly Cactus Patch), and Canyon.

July 5 - Latin Night:

Duende Camaron, Young & Rollins, and Daniel Alexander & the Peligro Orchestra.

July 12 - Doo-Wop Night:

The Velons, the Jewels, and the Orioles.

July 19 - Soul Groove Night:

Zwei, W. Ellington Felton, and Basehead.



Weekend's
Weekends

MARKETPLACE

FOR SALE: New, never used red, white and blue Haas-Jordan umbrellas with steel and leather seat. Ideal for golf tournaments or other outdoor sporting events. Best offer. Call Jim at (703) 914-4561.

FOR RENT: 1BR condo with balc., Arlington, Rosslyn Metro, River Place, Iwo Jima view, swimming pool, exercise spa, \$1,250 include utilities. Parking available. Call Jim at (703) 914-4561.

FOR SALE: Beautiful 4 story, 3 BR, 2 BA Townhouse. Lovely hardwood flrs., new w/w carpet, finished bsmt., 1 car gar. & deck. Close to Metro & Beltway. See www.dniproproductions.com/home for more info. Call Marc or Curtis at x4-7071 or call (571) 220-1616.

FOR SALE: 1 NEXTEL i1000 plus (10 months old with original charger) leather "see thru" case, extra travel charger, headset, package deal for \$125. Call Marc or Curtis at x4-7071 or call (571) 220-1616.

FOR SALE: Nordic Track Pro w/monitor. Great cond. Features a patented fly-wheel, adjustable elevation for variable slope, adjust. indep. resistance controls, a heart/mileage monitor/computer, sideboards and skis, and durable molded footpads. Folds up and rolls away for easy storage. Sold new for over \$1,200, willing to let it go for \$250/OBO, contact Diane at x4-5968.

RIDESHARE: Available to Michigan in August via Pennsylvania and Ohio turnpikes, thru Detroit area, to Traverse City in the NW lower peninsula. Contact photographer Gerald Martineau at x4-4838 or (703) 931-0628.

FOR SALE: File cabinet, 5-drawer lateral. Almond color, 42" wide, 64" high, 18" deep. \$1,000+ when new, asking \$250. Call Barbara at x4-6143 or (703) 359-9898.

SAVE \$600! Beautiful Beach House in Corolla, N.C. (OuterBanks) half block from beach, sleeps 10, located in Corolla Light Resort. Many resort activities. Near Currituck Club championship golf. Rent by the week June 23-29, July 6-27 and August 10-17. (Save \$\$\$ in June and early July) Call Larry Fox, x4-6552 or (301) 946-0249.

FOR SALE: Electric guitar and amplifier. As new, Paul Reed Smith McCarty Hollowbody. Sunburst with birds. \$1,600. Original Orange, 2-12, combo. 120 watts, mint. \$1,500. Call Tracy at (703) 443-6919 or email, woodwardt@washpost.com.

FREE! FREE! Ads in marketplace are free to employees of The Washington Post. Join thousands of satisfied customers who have bought and sold through Marketplace. The deadline is Friday at noon for the next Thursday's issue of ShopTalk. Send your ad with your extension and home phone number via e-mail to ShopTalk, or fax to x4963.

MARKETPLACE DEADLINE: Noon Fridays. Please include your name, extension and home phone number. **ADS ARE FOR POST EMPLOYEES ONLY.** Send ads to ShopTalk, 7th floor, or call x6803. To send ads via fax dial x4963; via e-mail send to shoptalk. Ads run two issues unless otherwise requested. One ad per employee, please.

THIS NEWSLETTER
IS PRINTED ON
RECYCLED PAPER

