

ShopTalk

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Editor, Lisa O'Donnell Connors, x4-6803

Team Effort Behind Post Coverage

It's the summer of big news events. Scheduled only days apart, the 2004 political conventions and Olympics have generated a slew of bylines and photographs in The Post. Behind the comprehensive coverage is months of planning by dozens of Post staff in departments throughout the newspaper.

Jill Grisco, director of news administration services, is responsible for orchestrating The Post's presence at these historic news events. Grisco's efforts include making sure there is enough power for Post computers and printers in Athens, Greece, to reserving hotel rooms for an army of Post reporters and editors in Boston and New York, to having enough band aids for the occasional paper cut.

"It's breathtaking all the details Jill

handles for the conventions," said **Maralee Schwartz**, deputy national editor/politics. "There are so many logistics for hotel and meeting space, food, computers and moving people around. She is a master of all these details that everyone takes for granted."

According to Grisco, work for the Boston and New York conventions and the summer

Olympics began as soon as the cities were announced. A barrage of contracts had to be thoroughly reviewed by the Legal Department. "The first thing we did in Legal is look at contracts for hotel rooms," explained **Brenda Boykin**, associate counsel. "With a big event like the conventions, you're required to reserve months in advance...it's a lot of paperwork."

Boykin and the Legal Department staff also reviewed the multitude of

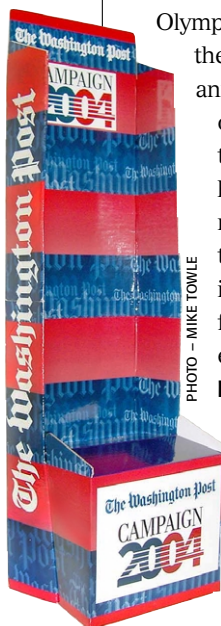


PHOTO - MIKE TOWLE

The Circulation Department's displays for the convention special sections in Boston will soon be on their way to New York.



PHOTO - SHERYL WILSON

On the eve of hectic long hours covering the 2004 summer Olympics, Post staff in Athens gathered for a group shot with a view of the Acropolis in the background. The group includes (front row, l-r) **Tracee Hamilton**, **Amy Shipley**, **Liz Clarke**, **Michael Wise**, **Michael Robinson-Chavez**, (back row, l-r) **Michael Ruane**, **Barry Svrluga**, **Chris White**, **Michael Wilbon**, translator **Margaret Heliotis**, **Jill Grisco**, **Peter Carlson** and **Sally Jenkins**. Not pictured is **Bill Grant** from *Washingtonpost.Newsweek Interactive* and **Craig Whitlock**.

forms needed to have The Post's equipment shipped to Greece and then make it's way through customs. According to Boykin, Legal staff arranged for power of attorney to be given to a customs broker in Greece to accept the shipments, filled out a number of declaration forms and obtained the proper signatures for contacts.

Terry Wilson, director of risk management for The Washington Post Company and **Mary Dimos**, risk man-

agement specialist, have the responsibility for making sure that all The Post's valuable assets including people and equipment are properly insured and make it to their destinations without problems. "We have to show proof of insurance to coordinators at these events," said Wilson. "Without those papers, a lot of them won't let us in."

Dimos also assisted Grisco by providing her with a name

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Post Kids Olympics Quiz

Attention Post Kids: KidsPost has provided another opportunity this summer for Post kids and grandkids to participate in a KidsPost contest. Post kids can join in the fun of Olympic competition by diving in and taking this KidsPost Olympics quiz. It will take some brain gymnastics to get the right answers for these. However, Post kids may be able to race through the quiz if they have been reading Olympics coverage in KidsPost, in the Sports section, on *washingtonpost.com* or on TV.

The deadline for entries



Kyle Voeltz, 12, the son of JoAnn King, IT, got in the Olympic spirit early with his entry in July's Pandamania contest.

is next Wednesday, Aug. 25. Entries with 10 or more correct answers will be entered

in a random drawing to be held on Thursday, Aug. 26. The first five entries picked will receive a cool, limited edition Washington Post Athens Olympics pin and KidsPost T-shirt. Kids and grandkids of Post newspaper employees are eligible to participate. Only one entry per child please. Post parents or grandparents of the winners will be notified by Friday, Aug. 27 and the winners' names may be published in an upcoming issue of ShopTalk. The correct answers will be published in ShopTalk in September and posted on *Intraned*.

Entries should be sent via regular or internal mail (or hand carry) to:
ShopTalk Olympics Quiz Contest
c/o ShopTalk, Public Relations Department
The Washington Post
Third Floor, L Street Side
1150 15th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20071
(Please DO NOT send to KidsPost!)

Or Fax to (202) 334-4963

Entries will not be returned at the end of the contest. For more information contact **Lisa Connors**, ShopTalk Editor at x4-6803. ■

Child's Name: _____ **Age:** _____

Post Employee's Name: _____

Department: _____ **Extension:** _____

The Ancient Games

1. How did the Olympic Games get their name?

2. What did athletes in the Ancient Games wear?

3. What were the three requirements of those who wanted to compete?

4. What prize did winners receive?

5. What year did the Ancient Games end? _____

The Modern Games

6. How many sports were played in the 1896 Olympics?

7. In what year was the first gold medal awarded? _____

8. Who is the "father" of the modern Olympic Games?

9. What does the Olympic flag symbolize?

10. Women first competed in the Summer Games in 1900 in two events. Name the two sports.

11. Since 1896 the Summer Olympics have not been held three times. In what years were the Games canceled?

12. The first official Olympic mascot was a dachshund named Waldi. What Games did he represent?

13. What is the largest number of gold medals won by one athlete during a single Olympics?

14. How many athletes will compete in the 2004 Games?

15. What are the host cities for the 2006 Winter Games and the 2008 Summer Games?

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of a friend in Greece who was hired to be a translator for the reporters covering the Olympics. Dimos' friend Margaret Heliotis, who received her master's degree from Georgetown University, teaches at the college-level in Greece. According to Grisco, Heliotis got a running start helping out on several stories during the week leading up to the opening ceremony, including Peter Carlson's story "On Their Marks" in Style last Friday, Aug. 13.

Electricity is one of the most basic and vital needs at the conventions and Olympics. Building electrician **Steve Bresnahan** and the electricians planned for plenty of electrical power at the three events. Working with Grisco, Bresnahan did a detailed layout of the designated space and determined where power should go for the workstations and the coffeepots.

Plans for plugging into Greek outlets became compli-

and are expected to make the trip to the 2006 Winter Olympics in Turin, Italy and the 2008 Summer Olympics in Beijing, China.

News IT staff led by Newsroom Technology Editor **Ed Rossi** spent months preparing for any technical contingencies at the events. News IT staff have also been on site in Boston and Athens (and will be in New York) to make sure the technology needed to get the coverage into the paper works smoothly.

"A mammoth amount of work has gone into the logistics and technology required to support these events, said Rossi. "From travel and lodging, to credentials, security, laptops, training, and setup of our workspaces at the venues, virtually every staff member in News Information Technology has played some role in the preparations. It's been a real team effort, and we could



The Post's space outside Boston's FleetCenter described by reporter **Howard Kurtz** as a "cozy little space in an incredibly ugly, two-story white structure outside the arena, next to the elevated subway and near the 20 porta-johns..."

PHOTO - MIKE TOWLE

tions, along with a mountain of other newspapers and magazines, had to be delivered to a holding yard before 3:30 a.m. All the publications were radiated by X-ray and carefully checked by the Secret Service before they could be

delivered inside the convention center.

Later this month, the special sections with coverage of the Republican National Convention will be printed by the publishing subsidiary of the *Bergen (N.J.) Record* for distribution at Madison Square

Vinyard and Bill Brooks in Central IT," Systems manager Chris White e-mailed last week from Athens. "The highspeed network link that connects us to Washington was up and running when I arrived. Within a few hours of hitting the ground our Athens bureau was up and [columnist Michael] Wilbon was e-mailing his fans around the globe. Other news organizations have spent long, hot days untangling computer problems with friendly Greek technicians who don't always share the sense of urgency."

Circulation staff were also on site in Boston and will soon be traveling to New York. In Boston, **Andy Denault, Mike Towle, Bill Benner** and recent retiree **Diane Prather** (a veteran of several conventions) could be found as early as 4 a.m. checking the 22 convention hotels to make sure they received copies of The Post's daily convention coverage special sections. The sections were delivered to the rooms of District, Maryland and Virginia delegates and to pop-up displays in lobbies.

Denault made arrangements for the *Boston Herald*, where he worked more than two decades ago, to print the daily special sections which were transmitted electronically from The Post. Every day, The Post's special sec-

Garden and New York hotels.

There are a number of other departments that worked with Grisco to ensure The Post's success this summer, including the Northwest Health Center, Purchasing, the carpenters, Building Services, Security, and The Washington Post Company subsidiary Washingtonpost. Newsweek Interactive.

"When we look at the paper, we know we've done our job," said Grisco. ■



A look inside The Post's Athens-based newsroom. Pictured left to right are **Amy Shipley, Michael Robinson-Chavez, Michael Wise, Craig Whitlock (couch), Peter Carlson, Mike Ruane, Sally Jenkins and Tracee Hamilton.**

PHOTO - CHRIS WHITE

cated because the country's electrical plugs are a different configuration than the standard U.S. plug. After a thorough search on the Web, Bresnahan was able to locate universal plug adapters that are now being used in Greece

not have managed it without the help we got from our colleagues in Central IT and at WPNI."

"From the technical side, things have gone incredibly well thanks to all the leg work by the News IT staff, and **Mark**

PHOTO - MIKE TOWLE

Circulation's Corporate and Retail Sales Manager **Andy Denault** with the daughter of a Boston Herald employee who was "hawking" the Herald and The Post's Democratic National Convention special sections in Boston.

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Plan Ahead – No ShopTalk Sept. 2

Please note that ShopTalk will not be published on Thursday, Sept. 2 due to the Labor Day weekend. The deadline for Marketplace ads for the Aug. 26 issue is tomorrow, Friday, Aug. 20 at noon. The deadline for ads for the Sept. 9 issue is Aug. 27 at noon. E-mail your ad to ShopTalk@washpost.com. Please include complete information, along with your extension and/or home phone number. For more information, call **Lisa Connors** at x4-6803.

Free Tickets to Loudoun Summer Music Fest

The Public Relations Department has a limited number of free tickets available to employees to attend the Loudoun Summer Music Fest, a series of live outdoor concerts at the Belmont Country Club in Ashburn, Va. Up to two free tickets are available for each of the

concerts. The family-oriented series also includes KidsFest. The gates open at 5 p.m. and the concerts start at 6 p.m. The next three concerts scheduled feature:

**The Drifters and the Coasters*
- Aug. 22

The Little River Band - Aug. 29

The Wailers - Sept. 5

For more information on the concert series go to www.washpost.com/community. To request your free tickets, e-mail **Lisa Bolton** at Boltonlm@washpost.com.

**Free tickets are gone for this concert. They can be purchased at the gate for \$10.*

A Healthy Attitude

APS Healthcare, Inc., which administers The Post's Employee Assistance Program (EAP) provides the following tips on maintaining a positive and healthy attitude. The Post's EAP can be a helpful resource to employees who are looking for assistance on managing stress. The EAP is free and confi-

dential and available 24 hours a day at 1-800-765-0770.

Eight Ways to Simplify Life and Stay Positive

- **Set Goals:** This helps us to prioritize what is important. Take inventory, write them down, read them daily and don't be afraid to fall short. Work toward achieving goals and ongoing improvement. Goals are meant to help us focus, not imprison us.
- **Make Exercise a Priority:** Exercising is like taking a mini-vacation. The physical and emotional benefits of regular exercise are well documented.
- **Go Outside:** Take a walk and get into nature. Enjoy trees, flowers, birds, the stars. This helps slow us down and appreciate what we have.
- **Make a List:** Write down things to be thankful for: health, family, friends, the freedom to move about. We tend to take these for granted.
- **Stop Negative Self-Talk:** Make positive statements and affirmations to yourself. An example includes "I am a capable person".
- **Avoid Debt like the Plague:** Constant thinking of financial problems saps energy. Next time you are about to buy something ask yourself, "Do I really need this?"
- **Stop the Noise:** Noise is a source of stress. Find a few moments each day to sit in silence without the clutter from radio, television or traffic.
- **Laugh:** Find humor in things that might be upsetting to you. After all, some day you may be recounting an unpleasant event and laughing about it. If you can laugh about it in a few years, why not laugh about it now.

CREDIT - APS HEALTHCARE INC.

Marketplace

FOR RENT: Silver Spring Leisure World senior community for 55 & older. Cute 2 bedrm, 1.5 bath, walk-in closet. Brand new hardwood & ceramic floors. New stove, refrig, dishwasher, washer & dryer. Freshly painted. Top floor of elevator building, very private setting. No smokers/no pets. \$1,100. Call Ling x4-5381 or Bev (240) 604-6300.

FOR SALE: Rubber Maid vertical (upright) storage chest: #3746; 52 cu feet; approx. 52" x 32" x 77". Perfect for indoors or outdoors. Holds lots of "stuff," like new, asking \$150. Call Ellen at x4-6627.

FOR RENT: Large one bedroom condo w/view of Rock Creek Park. Top floor at Gateway Georgetown condo, 2500 Q St., NW. 24-hour secretarial service, a/c, utilities incl. \$1600/mo. Available Sept. 1. Call Francis at x4-7886 or at home (301) 229-1159.

FOR SALE: Baby-Lock sewing machine, Never used, with cabinet and chair. Model BL 1556. Book included, \$275. Call Patricia at x4-1285 or (301) 627-0677.

FOR RENT: Condo in Alexandria, 2BR, 2 BA w/balc, \$1,250 utilities included. Avail. Sept. 1. Contact Patryce Howard at (301) 429-9647.

FOR SALE: U.S. Open tennis tickets, 4 tickets-\$60 each, for Tuesday Sept. 7 (Tuesday after Labor Day). Call Enrique Villagomez at x4-7488 or (202) 288-9013.

FOR SALE: Washington Post t-shirts, sweatshirts, caps, umbrellas, bags, mugs, books and more! Shop online at: www.washingtonpost.com/store. Enter POST in coupon code during checkout for 10% discount.

FOR SALE: Relatively new five-drawer crib with accessories (five piece crib set). This crib converts into a toddler bed. Paid \$700, asking for \$200. Call Carolyn at x4-7058 or (240) 604-4461.

FOR SALE: 2-two seater Murry go-carts w/ rollcages, in great shape, kept in garage. 1 5hp, 1-6 hp. Both for \$600, or will sell sep., 5-hp-\$250, 6-hp-\$350. Can deliver to College Park Plant. Both need tires and chains. Have dealer number for parts, cheap. Call for more details, Mark at x6-1285, nights or (301) 373-3442, days after 1:00 p.m.

FOR RENT: Condo rental in Virginia Beach for the week of Sept. 18-25. Ocean front, 1 BR, roll out sofa, sleeps four, kitchen, rooftop tennis, two pools and sauna, gym and other amenities. Asking \$500 for the week. Interested, call Denise at x4-7137 or (301) 445-5208.

FOR RENT: N.W, 2440 16th St., #320, Park Tower Condo, avail. Oct. 15, beautifully managed, secure & quiet building. 24 hr. front desk security. 1BR/1BA w/great sunlight, CAC, W/D, cable ready, no smk'g/no pets allowed. \$1,250 + utils. Refs needed. Credit checked. \$650 deposit required. Call Victoria at x4-5759.

FOR SALE: 1995 Mazda MX-6, 90,000 miles, 5-speed, manual transmission, 2-door, good condition \$2,000/OBO. Call Carolyn at x4-7058 or (240) 432-0390.

MARKETPLACE DEADLINE: Noon Fridays. Please include your name, extension and home phone number. Ads are for Post Employees only. Send ads to Shop Talk, 7th floor, or call x4-6803. To send ads via fax dial x4-4963; via e-mail send to shoptalk. Ads run two issues unless otherwise requested. One ad per employee, please.