

ShopTalk

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Editor, Lisa O'Donnell Connors, x4-6803

Brushes With Fame and Fortune

After two decades of loyally watching Jeopardy! and three tryouts to be a contestant, **Hugh Price**, director of operations planning for the Production Department, recently fulfilled his longtime dream to be quizzed by Alex Trebek.

Price began his quest to be a Jeopardy! contestant in 1987 when he participated in a tryout during a visit to California. The second try-



PHOTO - JEOPARDY! PRODUCTIONS

Director of Operations Planning **Hugh Price** (right) and Jeopardy! host Alex Trebek during Price's appearance on the game show.

out was when the show came to D.C. in 2000 and the third time was the charm when Price returned to Culver City, Calif. last July.

According to Price, the first round of the contestant tryouts is a series of questions presented on a



PHOTO - RYAN FORKENBROCK/COURTESY DCUNITED.COM

Guests at **Milene Purdy's** D.C. United barbecue included (l-r) D.C. United players Nick Rimando and Freddy Adu, friend Sharon Cobb, D.C. United captain Ryan Nelsen, friend Chris DiMascio and hosts Purdy and husband, David Kent.

DVD player. The contestant wannabe has eight seconds to write down the answer to each question. Price passed the written test all three times and moved on to a buzzer test, which is a simulation of the game, and an interview. After that, he was told he was on a list and sent home. After not getting a call back in 1987 or 2000, he received a voicemail in late August from Jeopardy! staff asking if he could travel to California in September for a taping of the show.

Price's national television debut

will be on Wednesday, Dec. 22 when his appearance is scheduled to air. Unfortunately, he is prohibited by the show to say how he did, although he noted, "I didn't embarrass myself."

"I had a great time," said Price. "My family is very excited, we're all big fans of the show and my mom is talking about throwing a party on the air date."

"It felt very eerie when the opening music came on," he added. "I

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Coming Up Soon...

Take note of these important dates and deadlines:



Open Enrollment for Benefits:

The Open Enrollment period begins Monday, Oct. 25. Employees are scheduled to receive their benefit packages in the mail at home during the week of Oct. 18. Look for more information in ShopTalk later this month. If you have any questions, contact the Benefits Department at x4-7171.



The Washington Post's 3rd Annual Music & Dance Scholarship Awards:

This showcase of talented area high school seniors is this Saturday, Oct. 9 at 7 p.m. at the Warner Theatre at 13th & E Streets, N.W. A limited number of tickets will be available at the door and prices are \$27.50 for orchestra, \$19.50 for mid-balcony and \$11.50 for upper balcony. Ticket proceeds will benefit Urban Nation, Inc. and The Washington Post Company Educational Foundation.

Flu Shot Schedule:

The Post's Health Centers are offering flu shots to employees again this year. Employees will pay \$14



directly to the doctor when receiving the shot. Cash or check will be accepted for payment, but no credit cards. Call the appropriate Health Center to make an appointment. The two days at each facility will be the only times scheduled. The schedules and phone extensions are as follows:

College Park Health Center:

- Nov. 4, 9 to 10 p.m.
- Nov. 15, 2 to 3 p.m.

Northwest Health Center:

- Oct. 26, 8:15 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- Nov. 4, 4 to 8 p.m.

Springfield Health Center:

- Nov. 2, 8 to 10 a.m.
- Nov. 4, 1:30 to 3 p.m.



Healthy Kids Fun Run:

The Post is the presenting sponsor of the Marine Corps Marathon Healthy Kids Fun Run on Saturday, Oct. 30. The event, held the day before the Marine Corps Marathon, is a one-mile fun run for kids ages six to 13 held on the marathon course. The entrance fee is a new toy or a \$10 donation for the Marine Corps Toys for Tots program. For more information call **Carrie Morse**, Public Relations, at x4-7972 or go online to www.marine-marathon.com. The Fun Run was also featured in last Friday's (Oct. 1) Weekend Section.



Readers Day at Springfield:

The Public Relations Department is hosting the annual Readers' Day event at the Springfield Plant on Sunday, Nov. 7. Readers' Day is a great opportunity to tour one of The Post's state-of-the-art printing plants and

meet Post colleagues from Production, Circulation and the Newsroom. Ned the Newshound will also be on hand to shake a paw with kids. Space is limited so reservations are a must. For more information, call Public Relations Manager **Lisa Bolton** at x4-7970.



Matching Gifts Deadline:

Employees who are interested in making a matching gifts contribution to a nonprofit organization in 2004 should send their contributions with the matching gifts form to the nonprofit organization/s within the next couple of weeks. Only those requests received from nonprofit

organizations by Saturday, Nov. 27 will be matched this year. Requests received after the deadline will be processed in 2005.

For further information about eligibility requirements and to

obtain forms, please contact **Tito Tolentino**, Public Relations, at x4-6835. Matching gifts forms are also available online on *IntraNED*, under "online forms" on the left side of the home page. ■

felt like I should have been on my couch at home and was suddenly transported into the TV."

D.C. United players Freddy Adu, Nick Rimando and captain Ryan Nelsen were the guests of **Milene Purdy**, Accounting, and her husband David Kent at their home in Woodbridge on Monday, Sept. 27.

Purdy and Kent's friends, Chris DiMascio and Sharon Cobb, were the winners of a Kraft Foods contest to have a backyard barbecue with members of the D.C. United men's soccer team. Knowing that Kent was a huge D.C. United fan, the couple offered



The three soccer players sign photos and memorabilia in Purdy's basement.

PHOTO - MILENE PURDY

Purdy and Kent the opportunity to host the barbecue.

According to Purdy, Kraft and D.C. United staff came to their home that afternoon and set up tents, chairs and food for the 30 guests who came to meet and eat with the three soccer players. A highlight of

the evening was when Purdy's husband beat Adu at a friendly game of pool in the Purdy-Kent basement.

"The players were awesome," said Purdy. "They were very personable. They did a good job of promoting soccer and were especially

great with the kids that were there, talking to them and signing their soccer balls. It was a high energy event, everyone was excited to be there."

Cobb, a graphic artist, created a special D.C. United poster for Kent and Purdy that was signed by the players. It will be framed and have a place of honor in their basement which Purdy describes as being a sports fan's dream. Half of the basement is dedicated to D.C. United and the other half reflects Purdy's loyal support of the Redskins. ■

ISO Your Commuting Tales and Tips

ShopTalk is planning a special commuters issue in the upcoming weeks. The purpose of the issue is to provide Post employees with information that may help you in the daily commute back and forth to work. Or, at least let know you are not alone in your frustration over rising fares, road construction, and slow trains as you traverse the metro area.

Please e-mail ShopTalk Editor **Lisa Connors** at ShopTalk@washpost.com with the following information by Monday, Oct. 11. (and include your name, department and extension):



- Tips on alternative routes/methods to get to and from the Northwest Building, as well as the Springfield and College Park Plants and local bureaus. Do you "slug" to Fairfax County or have a fail-safe plan to get home to Bowie when the Beltway is clogged?
- Do you walk or bike to work?
- A funny thing happened on the Metro bus this morning...or other interesting tales from your commute.
- Do you take more than one form of transportation to get to and from The Post, such as the Metro and the MARC train?
- Do you carpool? Are you interested in having other Post staff join your carpool? Are you interested in joining a carpool? (Provide information on the location and time/s of your carpool.)
- Are you a distance commuter and why? Do you live in West Virginia, Baltimore or an outer county? ■



Williams Leaves Post

Research Editor **Margot Williams** receives a send off from Managing Editor **Steve Coll** during her farewell party in the Newsroom on Wednesday, Sept. 29. Williams began her career at *The Post* in 1990 and is leaving to join the *New York Times*. She is credited with her research on many major stories for *Metro*, as well as what Deputy Assistant Managing Editor for News Administration **Don Podesta** describes as her "passionate work" on terrorism-related stories.

ISO Marine Corps Marathoners

ShopTalk is looking for Post employees who are running in this year's Marine Corps Marathon on Sunday, Oct. 31. Please call ShopTalk Editor **Lisa Connors** at x4-6803, or send an e-mail to ShopTalk@washpost.com.



Post photos available for purchase through the online store include this photo of the World War II state towers at sunset taken by **Bill O'Leary**.

Discount for Online Photo Store

Post employees are eligible to receive a 20 percent discount on purchases of photos taken by Washington Post photographers. The Post's online photo store can be accessed through www.washingtonpost.com/buyphotos or by clicking on the online photo store link on washingtonpost.com home page (located at the bottom of the page on the right). There is also a link on the *Intranet* home page. The employee discount code "emp927" is entered by clicking on "Validate Coupon" in the left bar of the order pages during the order process. Enter the code in the pop-window.



Eric Grant, director of public relations and contributions briefed the superintendents on *The Post's* education programs at the luncheon.

Superintendents Meet at Post

Twenty-two area school superintendent and education leaders gathered at *The Post* on Friday, Oct. 1 for the first monthly luncheon of the 2004-2005 school year.

Coordinated by the Public Relations Department, the luncheons are hosted by the newspaper to provide the school leaders with the opportunity to network and share challenges and ideas. Assistant Secretary of Education **Raymond Simon** was the featured speaker for last week's luncheon.



PHOTO - RUBEN RODRIGUEZ

Publisher **Bo Jones** accepts a donation of \$15,000 on Thursday, Sept. 30 for *The Post's* Newspaper in Education (NIE) Program from **Austin Kiplinger**, chairman of the Washington International Horse Show. The Horse Show, a nonprofit event, has been a supporting partner of the NIE program since 2000. The funding enables the NIE program to provide free newspapers to area schools, as well as instructional materials for teachers.

Marketplace

FOR SALE: Wicker bedroom set w/queen-size headboard, 2 nightstands and one 3-drawer chest of drawers, all sturdy white wicker and in nearly new condition. Purchased in 1997 for \$900 total; seeking \$450/OBO. Also, maple student desk for \$25. Call Kay at x4-7667 or (703) 799-3062.

FOR SALE: 1993 Toyota Corolla, good condition, five-speed stick, blue, new brakes and generator, 98,000 miles, VA inspected, price \$2,150, CD player and upgraded speaker system. Call Jim at (703) 256-7128.

FOR SALE: 1994 Oldsmobile Cutlass with AM/FM radio, air conditioning, four new tires and brakes, good condition. Best offer accepted. Call Bob at x6-2220, Monday-Friday, 3 to 10 p.m.

FOR SALE: '92 Honda Civic EX, sunroof, original owner, great in-town car, 141k miles, \$1,800. Call Marty at x4-7384 or (301) 871-8640.

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: Ladies clothing, never worn, or in perfect condition, sizes 8-14, dresses, suits, blazers, e-mail photo available. Prices \$5-\$30. Call Angela at x4-4848 or preferably (410) 998-9840; e-mail Astamay@aol.com.

ISO REDSKINS TICKETS: I need two or four tickets to the Redskins/Green Bay game on Oct. 31. Contact Mark at the College Park plant evenings, Tues.- Sat., 9 p.m. to 3 a.m. at x6-1297, or call any day after 1 p.m. at (301) 373-3442.

FOR RENT: Single family home, 3BR, 2BA, fireplace, new CAC, new hot water heater, gas heat, carport, large storage shed. Three miles from Springfield plant, walk to Accotink Park. No smoking/pets. \$1,350 month. Call Thoi Tran at (703) 425-3523.

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.