

ShopTalk



May 17, 2007, Vol. 33 No. 18

Editor, Mario I. Oña, x4-6803

From the West Bank to the Northwest Building

Jerusalem bureau chief **Scott Wilson** stopped by the Northwest building on May 9 to talk about his reporting experiences in the Andes and the Middle East. Foreign editor **Keith Richburg** introduced Wilson and explained that these recurring forums are meant to be informal and open to discussion and questions.

After Wilson briefly described covering the Israel-Lebanon conflict last year and the challenges of reporting from the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, he took questions ranging from the reliability of sources to getting detained by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia or FARC for almost 24 hours.

"Generally, both sides [Israelis and Palestinians] are very accessible," said Wilson. "They all want to tell their story, but it helps to write for The Post." He added that The Post is regarded as a "very important" publication in the region.

When asked about any reactions to stories he wrote,



*Post foreign correspondent **Scott Wilson** (center, left) answered questions from fellow, longtime correspondents, Middle East editor **Cameron Barr** (second from left) and Europe editor **John Burgess**, and other reporters interested in learning more about becoming foreign correspondents. Foreign editor **Keith Richburg** (center, right) served as moderator.*

Wilson said, "There are always detractors, but about 80 to 85 percent are people that live in D.C., not the people over there caught in the middle of it. They're [Israelis and Palestinians in the region] usually content with dialogue and discussion, regardless of who it favors." Middle East editor **Cameron Barr**, who also served as a Christian Monitor foreign correspondent, added that the reason there hasn't been much backlash from the people in the region is because Wilson is a "master of precision and clarity."

Wilson then discussed the pros and cons of being a foreign correspondent. "It's a

great experience. I haven't been back to D.C. in four years, so that should tell you something," he said. "But the first three months can be difficult. It's a period of adjustment."

Regarding his or his family's safety or the need for any type of security, he said, "I

*Post intern **Catherine Rampell**, an anthropology senior at Princeton University, had a few questions for Wilson, following the foreign desk lunch seminar.*



haven't needed it. Places always seem a lot worse on TV than they really are. I do drive an armored car and if I ever needed any protection, The Post is very generous in providing us with what we need."

Wilson briefly discussed getting detained by the FARC in Colombia. "Nothing can prepare you for that," he said. "It was a terrifying experience—a lot scarier than I thought." He then added some comic relief by sharing that he was comforted by one of the guerrilla's grandmothers who was visiting and saw the distress in his eyes. According to Wilson, she told him, "It's okay. Don't worry about it, you're not even tied up."

Richburg, also a foreign correspondent, closed the seminar by asking Wilson: "Would you recommend being a foreign correspondent?"

"Absolutely. It's such a great adventure. Sometimes I say to myself, 'I can't believe this is my job!'" Wilson concluded. ■

Movers and Shakers



PHOTO - DAVID KENNEDY

Randy Mays and Heather Holland

RANDY MAYS and **HEATHER HOLLAND** are the first quarter Ad Ops Excellence Award winners. They received their awards during a ceremony held on April 25 at the Northwest building auditorium. The award is given to recognize employees that make a significant contribution and take initiative above and beyond their routine daily responsibilities.

JOEL BAREFOOT recently became the Springfield plant mailroom foreman. He works in the materials handling work center along with **Valerie Kenyon Gaffney**. He will be responsible for managing incoming, free-standing inserts and outgoing finished goods. Additionally, Joel will coordinate with Advertising, Circulation and the College Park plant on product deliveries and dispatches. He has been at The Post for 27 years and has spent his entire career in the pressroom as press operator, crew chief and foreman. Since 1998, he's been the assistant superintendent. In a recent announcement, Springfield packaging and distribution

Joel Barefoot



PHOTO - PATTI ALUISE

manager **Kevin O'Neill** wrote: "Moving to the mailroom will allow him to broaden his knowledge and experience across departments and is consistent with the Production department's commitment to providing cross-departmental opportunities whenever possible.

JOHN POMFRET is the new Outlook Editor after distinguishing himself as one of the "great foreign correspondents of his generation," as noted in the announcement that appeared in the Source. Since joining The Post 14 years ago, he's reported from Bosnia, Congo and China. He chronicled some of his experiences in his book "China Lessons." Before taking on his new job, he was the Los Angeles bureau chief.



PHOTO - JULIA EWAN

John Pomfret

ANTHONY FAIOLA, formerly The Post's Northeast Asia bureau chief in Tokyo, recently became The Post's New York bureau chief. He succeeded **Michael Powell**, who recently became Style's political writer. The Source announcement noted, "Tony brings to New York the veteran correspondent's eye for news—combined with the flair of a cultural anthropologist who could easily earn a second living as a trend spotter." He started at The Post's financial desk in 1994, after leaving the Miami Herald. He then became the South America bureau chief in Buenos Aires from 1997 to 2003, before finally taking on his previous assignment in Tokyo, where he also covered North and South Korea (photo not available).

COSTA BUGG, Advertising, has been working at The Post for six years. He recently moved from being the advertising production manager to the prepress technology manager (Ad Ops). Costa earned a BA in studio art at George Mason University (Va.). Costa said that he spent a better part of his teenage years in Athens, Greece (photo not available).

More Events at the Northwest Building

DELA Reception



Eric Grant, Public Relations director, welcomes back the recipients of Distinguished Educational Leadership Awards (DELA) to The Post. Apart from the reception, the twenty principals from 19 area public schools and one private school will also attend a leadership seminar designed to teach them how to interact with the media effectively. The principals are nominated and selected by the local public school systems. It is one of the staple programs started by visionary educator and former Post Vice President, **Vincent E. Reed**.

E-Streeters' Biannual Lunch Meeting



PHOTO - RUBEN RODRIGUEZ

Continuous news senior editor, **Lexie Verdon**, was invited to discuss various aspects of *washingtonpost.com* and the necessity to maintain a continuous news desk in an era where information travels faster and more robustly than ever. The E-Streeters, made up mostly by former Post writers, editors and in some cases their surviving spouses, listened and asked questions about the shift from traditional news to electronic news. Verdon said, "What I loved was their love of the newspaper and their fear that our Web efforts would diminish the print efforts. They seemed comforted by the explanations of how the news-telling operations are evolving." **Ruben Rodriguez**, Public Relations manager and organizer of the event, said, "It was very interesting to witness the E-Streeters ask questions and challenge this new form of telling the news."

The Joint National Government Affairs Advertising Conference

On May 2, The Post in partnership with the American Advertising Federation (AAF), the American Association of Advertising Agencies (AAAA) and the Association of National Advertisers (ANA) held the third Joint National Government Affairs Advertising Conference in the

tions six years ago. The first conference was held in 2003, followed by one in 2005 and Tippet hopes that The Post will host the third one in 2009.

Tippet said, "The purpose of this event is to have a dialogue with elected leaders and opinion leaders concerning the top issues

of the day affecting advertisers. We try to organize a conference early in the congressional year."

He then said, "This event helps reinforce our strong partnership with the three leading advertising industry associations, which are comprised of all of the major advertisers and advertising agencies in the United States."



(Left to right) Wally Snyder, American Advertising Federation (AAF) president and CEO; Congressman John Dingell (D-Mich.); Clark Rector, AAF and **Bo Jones**, Post publisher and CEO stop for a photo after Dingell's arrival.

Northwest building auditorium. Congressman John Dingell (D-Mich.), chairman of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, was a guest speaker, followed by Andrew Kohut, Pew Research Center president, and Deborah Taylor Tate, Federal Communications Commission commissioner. Post political columnist **David Broder** closed out the event by taking questions after a few words and a brief introduction by Post President and General Manager **Steve Hills**. Although AAF started holding similar conferences in 1986, **Rick Tippet**, Post director of national and international advertising, proposed doing something similar in conjunction with the three national advertising organiza-



(Left to right) **Rick Tippet**, Post director of national and international advertising; **Dick O'Brien**, American Association of Advertising Agencies executive vice president and director of government relations; **Steve Hills**, Post president and general manager; **David Broder**, Post political columnist; **Bob Liodice**, Association of National Advertisers president and CEO and Wally Snyder, American Advertising Federation president and CEO at the conclusion of the conference.



Springfield plant manager **Jenny Rymarczuk** (left) and administrative assistant **Martha Yeater** share a laugh, a few weeks before Yeater is due to retire.

Thank You and Farewell

ShopTalk friend and Springfield plant administrative assistant **Martha Yeater** will be retiring on May 31. During her 19 year run at The Post, she's been the right-hand woman to four plant managers: **Mike Clurman**, **Gary Lucke**, **Jim Coley** and currently **Jenny Rymarczuk**. According to Springfield plant manager **Roddy MacPherson**, Yeater was "too polite" to admit which plant manager was her favorite, but she did say that they were all "generous" and then said, "They let me take on anything I felt I could handle, which made me feel like an important member of the Springfield management team." Yeater, who started at The Post in March 1988, and her husband Joe, who is also retiring on May 31, plan to sell their home in Springfield and move to her hometown of Elyria, Ohio, where she has six brothers and sisters living there. They also plan on taking a road trip west to see the Grand Canyon.

Editor's Note: *Martha was also instrumental in providing photos and keeping ShopTalk informed of new folks, newly promoted folks and events at the Springfield plant. Thank you and best of luck on your new adventures.*

ShopTalk Moving from Thursdays to Fridays

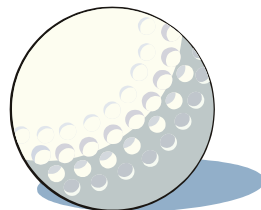
ShopTalk will return on Friday, June 8, and will then begin being published on Fridays instead of Thursdays. ShopTalk will not run on May 24 and May 31.

Get The Scoop

The Post is debuting The Scoop, an orientation and "onboarding" program for new employees, on June 11. The Scoop is a high-energy program packed with activities designed to help new employees get off on the right foot. Read all about it in the June 7 edition of ShopTalk. For information, contact **BJ Johnston** at extension x4-5135.

Post Employee Golf Tourney Registration Deadline: May 25

The annual Washington Post Employee Golf Tournament will take place at Augustine Golf Club in Stafford, Va. on June 11. The cost, which includes breakfast, greens fee, cart, use of practice facilities, lunch and player's gift, is \$85 per person. The registration form is available on Intranet. Register and pay entrance fee by May 25. For more information, contact **Rich Martin** at x4-7531 (Northwest building), **Bill Rhodes** at x6-1943 (Springfield plant) or **Sherry Gryder** at x6-1115 (College Park plant).



Recognize Your Employees or Colleagues in ShopTalk

ShopTalk can be a tool for any Post manager or supervisor to highlight the achievements of an employee or a colleague. Please submit the name of anyone who has been pro-

moted or achieved something important in their job or community. Send an email to shoptalk@washpost.com or onam@washpost.com. Include: person's name, department, job title and what they accomplished.

Events Calendar

May 24 – June 3: Shakespeare Free for All – 10 free performances

June 2: Susan G. Komen National Race for the Cure*

June 3: Frederick Festival of Arts*

June 9: Freddie Mac's Hoops for the Homeless*

June 15, 22 and 29: Weekend's Weekends Summer Concert Series

June 26: American Red Cross Blood Drive at The Post*

For more information and additional events visit Intranet.



* denotes PostPoints earning event (usually 25 points for participation)

Marketplace

FOR SALE: Moving sale: Sleeper sofa in great condition only \$250 and comfortable reading chair only \$50. Dining room table with four matching chairs only \$100. Prices are negotiable. Contact Jennifer at 703-201-8106.

FOR SALE: Toshiba 20-in. diagonal standard TV with grey exterior. Excellent condition and seldom used! Front AV input accommodates camcorder, cable or gaming consoles. Also has rear AV connections. Great for small spaces or children! Only \$50 or best offer. Contact Derik at x4-5156.

FOR HIRE: Special occasion makeover specialist. For weddings, graduation, bar mitz-vah/bat mitz-vah, black tie event or any occasion you want to have a special look. Call me to see how I can use my 14 years of make-up application experience to make your day even more special. Contact Christine at 571-243-1089.

FOR SALE: Want to get free pizzas and help Rwandan widows restore their lives? Twenty "buy one, get one free" Papa John's pizza specials are available for only \$10 each. All proceeds will go towards purchasing a laptop to support Rwandan small business projects for the women of Inyakurama, Rwanda. Contact Stacey at x4-6675.

NEW MARKETPLACE DEADLINE: Noon THURSDAYS. Please include your name, extension and phone number. Ads are for Post employees only. Send ads to ShopTalk, seventh floor, or call x4-6803. To send ads via fax dial x4-4963 or to email send to shoptalk@washpost.com or onam@washpost.com. Ads run for two issues unless otherwise requested. One ad per employee. ShopTalk reserves the right to publish and edit all ads.