

ShopTalk

Editor
Christine Swerda
Extension 6803

Gold Medal Teamwork



Many members of The Washington Post's Prize Gold Medal Team of 15 editors, reporters, researchers and designers—and some special fans—squeezed together for this photo. The team includes, from left: JACKSON DYKMAN, JEFF LEEN, SARI HORWITZ, Horwitz's daughter, Rachel, Rick Atkinson, JO CRAVEN, ALICE CRITES, MARGOT WILLIAMS, MARILYN THOMPSON, and Thompson's sons Andrew and Cory.

On Monday afternoon, just before 3 p.m., the glass walls of investigations editor JEFF LEEN's office seemed almost to bulge. Inside the office, the shoulder-to-shoulder crowd appeared transfixed by a glowing computer screen. Then the wire service story appeared announcing this year's Pulitzer Prize winners.

On April 12, 1999, The Washington Post won the Pulitzer Prize Gold Medal for public service for its investigation of shootings by the D.C. police department—twenty-six years to the day after The Post won the same award for coverage of Watergate.

As flashes from several photographers' cameras went

off, and members of the prize-winning team strained to read the wire story on the computer screen, executive editor LEONARD DOWNIE, JR., delivered the good news throughout the newsroom via the story conference intercom system and asked news staffers to gather near the North Wall. It took a while for the winners to wend their way from Investigative to the News Desk, what with all the hugging and congratulating along the way.

"This definitely was a team

effort for several different staffs to make a series that really matters," Downie said. He mentioned Metro staff writer JO CRAVEN's hunch that FBI records contained information on shootings by D.C. police officers—and how her Freedom of Information Act requests ultimately pried loose statistics on fatal shootings that the D.C. police department had declined to supply. Craven and director of computer-assisted reporting, IRA CHINOY did more digging and learned, Downie said, "The D.C. police had, by far, the highest incidence of fatal shootings in the country, no matter how you measured it." Research editor MARGOT WILLIAMS and researcher ALICE CRITES



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Executive editor LEONARD DOWNIE, JR., displays The Post's first Pulitzer Gold Medal for Community Service, presented in 1973 for coverage of Watergate as he announces the 1999 prize.

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A Race Against Time

Watch the clock for three minutes. In that time, a woman in the United States is diagnosed with breast cancer. Watch the clock for 12 minutes. In that time, a woman in the United States has died from breast cancer. Now, watch the clock again and consider how to lengthen the intervals or eliminate the need to watch the clock.

Three Post employees—**POLLY BOYLE, MILENE PURDY** and **GAYLE (Donaldson) GIGER**—are leading this year's fundraising efforts against breast cancer and hope other employees and their families will join them as they organize a team for the

National Race for the Cure. Formed in 1989 by the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, the National Race for the Cure 5K event, held on and around the Washington Monument grounds, is the world's largest. In 1998 more than \$1.8 million was raised and donated by the Race for the Cure to local breast health programs and to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation National Grant Program.

The Post began the "Pledge for the Cure" fund drive last year, whereby anyone unable to participate in the race, or wishing to donate additional money for breast cancer research above and beyond their race registration fee, could do so. This effort raised more than \$170,000. Donations received this year through the "Pledge for the Cure" will benefit the Nina Hyde Center for Breast Cancer Research at Georgetown University's Lombardi Cancer Center. Established in memory of The Post's longtime fashion editor who died from breast cancer in 1990, the



GAYLE (Donaldson) GIGER, MILENE PURDY and **POLLY BOYLE** hold signs with an unmistakable message.

Nina Hyde Center received all funds raised by The Post through the eight years of Super Sale. Purdy and Giger were among the first volunteers to sign up to help, with Boyle coming on board shortly afterward. Little did they realize that in 1996, both Giger and Boyle would be diagnosed with breast cancer. However, three years after surgery and subsequent chemotherapy, Giger is cancer-free. Boyle, who chose surgery and radiation, also remains free of cancer. Purdy's mother died from breast cancer about 12 years ago. Although Purdy has beat the statistical odds thus far, she, too, is vigilant about getting an

annual mammogram.

Since there are no plans to continue Super Sale, so Purdy, Giger and Boyle altered their course and are devoting their considerable powers of persuasion to increasing support for the Race for the Cure, scheduled for Sat., June 5. Registration forms are available for the TWP team from Boyle, Giger and Purdy or from Public Relations, x7969, and must be submitted (either to Boyle, Giger, Purdy or Public Relations) no later than May 14 to be included in the team packet pick-up at the Northwest Plant—arranged by The Post for all Race for the Cure teams.



Public Relations manager **LINDA ERDOS** welcomed more than 100 National Race for the Cure team captains to a planning meeting hosted by The Post.

Notebook

The President's Exceptional Service Award was presented to Centrex Operator **MAE HAWKINS** and Personnel records Manager **BARBARA COHEN**.



Centrex operator **MAE HAWKINS**.

Hawkins joined The Post in 1996 and from the start has displayed outstanding departmental support, whether by her willingness to switch shifts or volunteering to take a colleague's shift during an emergency, or by her calm in the face of an advertiser storm.

Cohen joined The Post in 1969 and has been the person-



Personnel Records manager **BARBARA COHEN**.

nel records guardian ever since. If her records are incorrect, somebody might not get paid. But, as was stated at the awards ceremony, "Barbara's numbers are always correct."

WALTER LAVALLEY is the most recent recipient of the "I Caught The Big One" Award. The award was instituted by the Zero Defects Committee to recognize employees who avert potentially serious problems in advertising or in production. LaValley caught an error on a preprinted advertising insert made by an outside printer. Apparently,

did additional work, "including the building of a database of civil lawsuits against the police and the city," Downie added.

He explained how investigations editor **JEFF LEEN**, former investigations reporter Dave Jackson (who recently left The Post) and Metro staff writer **SARI HORWITZ** then began investigating "a large pattern of alleged brutality by D.C. police and deficiencies in training and discipline that underlay the fatal shootings."

The reporters' detective work included ride-alongs with the D.C. police and going to the police firing range to shoot Glock pistols (the type of pistol most frequently carried by D.C. police). Downie praised, "the quality that this published series carries with it. Go back and read it, months after the smoke has cleared—it just shines!"



The computer screen in Jeff Leen's office was a focal point as the Pulitzer Prize winners announcement was released.

Congratulations to AME/Investigative **MARILYN THOMPSON**, investigations editor Jeff Leen, former AME/Investigative Rick Atkinson (who left The Post to write a three-volume history of World War II), director of computer-assisted reporting Ira Chinoy, staff writers Jo Craven, Sari Horwitz and former staff writer David Jackson, researcher Alice Crites, research editor Margot Williams, copy editor **JEFF BARON**, and staff photographer **RICK BOWMER**. Downie praised Bowmer's "up-to-the-moment pictures [taken] out on the streets." He also commended "**JACKSON DYKMAN**, **LAURA STANTON**, **LEN TWEETEN** and **NICOLE WERBECK**, [who] created the extraordinary graphics that helped explain and dramatize the information in the series."

Managing editor **STEVE COLL** praised The Post's five Pulitzer Prize finalists, the largest number of finalists in the newspaper's history. "They reflect not just a great year by a bunch of great journalists, but



IRA CHINOY, director of computer-assisted reporting, holds daughter Molly Hope Chinoy in the hallway outside Leen's crowded office.

also a clearly led path to our future as journalists."

DAVID HOFFMAN, a finalist for international reporting for his reporting on the military and environmental deterioration of post-Cold War Russia, is, Coll said, "one of the finest correspondents that we have the pleasure to have on this paper." **ERIC WEE**, a finalist for feature writing for his Style profile of a man who collects postcards from Holiday Inns, "sat still inside the story and found an exquisitely structured, emotional story," Coll said. Wee's Pulitzer entry was submitted by his editor, separately from the entries selected by the newsroom. Coll, whose

1990 Pulitzer-winning entry with **DAVID VISE** also was submitted independently, said, "This is the second instance that I know of where the Newsroom doesn't always know who to nominate for the Pulitzer."

HENRY ALLEN, a finalist for criticism, for his year of critical essays about photography, "is the most admired writer in the room," Coll said, "and one day the [Pulitzer] Board is going to come to its senses and give him the Pulitzer that he deserves." Coll added, "I feel similarly about **BART GELLMAN**." Gellman, a finalist for beat reporting for his stories on the hunt for weapons of mass destruction in Iraq, demonstrated "really rigorous reporting and independence of mind," Coll said, "in the face of dissembling and outright lying." He added, "The Clinton administration was quite rattled by his reporting." Editorial writer **FRED HIATT** was a finalist for his year of editorials on human rights around the world. "I know we aren't supposed to have opinions [on the news side]," Coll said, "But if I had opinions, I would imagine that I would enormously value the clarity and force [of the collection of editorials] contained in that package."

Notebook



WALTER LaVALLEY (center, holding t-shirt) drew a large crowd of congratulators for the "I Caught The Big One" surprise award presentation.

an incorrect plate was used by the insert printer and the error was overlooked by the ad-

vertiser. LaValley's quick action allowed time for reprinting and redelivery of the inserts, well before the scheduled insertion date.

The Reliable Source team of **ANNIE GROER** and **ANN GERHART** is ending. Groer will join Home and Gerhart will remain in Style as a staff writer.

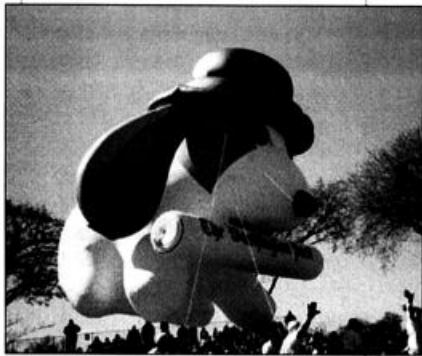


Style's dynamic Reliable Source duo, **ANNIE GROER** and **ANN GERHART**, share a parting hug.

POST SCRIPTS

NED VISITS CHERRY BLOSSOMS

Unlike other animals recently reported visiting Washington's famed cherry trees, Ned the Newshound was his usual buoyant, well-behaved self as he floated over, rather than beaverishly chewing down, the blooming trees lining last week's Cherry Blossom Parade route.



Ned the Newshound passes up an opportunity to chomp on cherry trees during Saturday's Cherry Blossom Parade.

MEDICAL CLAIM FILING DEADLINE

Employees with medical or dental claims outstanding from 1998 and covered by Prudential Healthcare should submit the claims to Prudential as soon as possible.

CLAIMS RECEIVED BY PRUDENTIAL AFTER JUNE 30, 1999, WILL NOT BE PROCESSED.

The Benefits department suggests employees notify their health care provider(s) of the June 30, 1999 submission deadline for any 1998 claims to Prudential Health Care. Prudential claim forms are available in the Benefits department, or call x7171 to receive forms or mailing addresses

for Prudential medical and dental claim submissions.



Romi Seyoum now offers frosty, blended fruit smoothies from her specialty coffee stand in the Northwest Plant cafeteria.

JUST IN TIME FOR SPRING

At "Le Petit Cafe" in the Northwest Plant cafeteria, Romi Seyoum has added several blended fruit "smoothie" drinks to her repertoire. Now, in addition to cappuccino, espresso, latte and other specialty coffee drinks, Seyoum's menu includes a cool drink for Spring's warmer weather.

REC ASSOCIATION

GRAND BAHAMA TRAVEL PACKAGE

Special offer for Rec Association members—Six-hour cruise from Ft. Lauderdale to Grand Bahama Island, three nights hotel accommodation at the Bahama Princess Resort & Casino in Freeport, six-hour moonlight dinner cruise back to Ft. Lauderdale. The cost, \$279 per person (double occupancy), includes port taxes and services fees, and meals on ship (one breakfast, one lunch, and dinner on return cruise). A \$165 deposit is necessary—the deadline for deposits is April 30. This price is good for travel through March 2000. Some restrictions apply. For more information or to make reservations, call **VERNON HENERY**, x6520.



MARKETPLACE

POTS & PANS—Set of RevereWare: 8" fry pan, 5 various sized sauce pans, double boiler, and 5 lids. (12 pieces) New cond. \$30. also Cast iron skillet set of 3. Good cond. \$12 for set. We are merging households and getting rid of duplicate items. Call x6437 or (301) 589-5381.

FOR SALE—Early 1940's Philco console radio. \$475. 1930's child's schooldesk. Nice ironwork on side. \$100. Call (301) 498-3389 after 7pm or leave message.

FOR RENT—Waterfront, Pasadena, Md., 3 BR, 1 BA, shed, deck, great view. \$950/mo. + security. Call (410) 437-3494.

FOR SALE—Two tickets, Cleveland Cavaliers vs. Washington Wizards, Thurs., April 29, 7 p.m. \$40 each. Call Steve, x7260, or (703) 742-9536.

FOR SALE—96' Ford Taurus auto, p/w, very clean, burgundy, am/fm, low miles, must sell!! Excel cond. \$13,500/obo Call x7066 or 703-494-1888

VACATION RENTAL—Charming restored stone barn, Dordogne, France. Two bedrooms, two baths, perfect for two couples. One and a half hours from Bordeaux. Beautiful countryside, maid service, available month of May and from August 14 through the end of September. \$850/week. Call (212) 445-4832 (w) or (212) 688-1974 (h).

FOR SALE—1985 Jeep Cherokee, new exhaust system, interior very good condition, AM/FM cassette, automatic, 4WD, body good condition, Michelin mud & snow tires, excellent condition. Needs major engine work. \$900/obo. (301) 855-7613.

WANTED—Anybody have any good leads for a reliable used car with relatively low mileage? Am looking for a two to five-year-old Honda Accord, Toyota Camry, Subaru Legacy or the like. Manual transmission is OK. Sporty extras a plus. Must appeal to 50-year-old dad and 15-year-old son. Call Michael, x7885 or (301) 589-6412.

RACE FOR THE CURE—Employees and their family members are forming a team to participate in Race for the Cure, the largest 5K walk/run fundraiser for breast cancer research in the United States. Team participants will be able to pay the registration fee and pick up the race packet (t-shirt and runner number) here at The Post rather than at the event. Last year, Race for the Cure had more than 50,000 participants. Employees wishing to join the team may call POLLY BOYLE, x2208, MILENE PURDY, x5945, GAYLE GIGER, x7743, or the Public Relations department, x7969.

FREE TICKETS to see John Anderson with special guest Heather Myles at the Patriot Center on Saturday April 17, 8:00 pm. Call Judith, x7753, or (301) 350-7618.

FREE CAT—Affectionate, adorable 3 yr. old long haired black cat. I can not take care of Fred properly since I am out of town considerably. Fred has been neutered, declawed and had all of his shots. Fred is free to a good home, preferably one with another cat to play with. Call Mr. Hillary for details x7053 or (H) 703-222-6076.

FOR SALE—1994 Bridgestone XO-5 hybrid bike, 48-cm (18.9-in.) frame, 18 gears, quick-release wheels (upgraded with Continental touring tires), new pedals with toe clips, includes frame-mounted air pump, Kryptonite lock, water-bottle cage, seat bag. \$225. Call Rob, x6394, (703) 812-4862, or e-mail rob@twp.com.

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 x6803. To send ads via fax dial x5609; 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

