



AP Associated Press

the **essential** global news network

OAPB Awards Luncheon



Pictured above left to right: Oklahoma City AP Chief of Bureau Lindel Hutson, Scott Gurian, KGOU, Radio Sweepstakes Winner, Alex Cameron, KWTW, TV Sweepstakes Winner and Bill Perry, OAPB President.

Television station KWTW and radio station KGOU were presented sweepstakes awards Wednesday, June 6, for the annual Oklahoma Associated Press Broadcasters' news excellence competition.

Oklahoma City's KWTW won the sweepstakes award for a second year in a row. Sweepstakes awards were determined from point totals based on the number of prizes won in all categories and included second and third place awards.

KWTW won first-place awards for enterprise reporting, non-spot news photography and best early newscast.

KGOU won first-place awards for best use of sound and best reporter portfolio.

Eight television stations submitted a total of 117 entries in 18 categories, while five radio stations entered in seven categories.



OETA's Charles Kennedy (left), Billie Rodely (center), and Bill Perry (right)



Jerry Bohnen, KTOK (left) and Rachel Hubbard, KOSU (right)



Sam Moore, AP Regional TV Rep (left) and COB Lindel Hutson (right)

For a complete list of winners, log on to: www.ap.org/oklahoma and click on the OAPB link.

McAlester editor's tumor one in a million

By James Beaty, Senior Editor, McAlester News-Capital

An escalating loss of vision which led to brain surgery for McAlester News-Capital Editor Matt Lane has left him seeing the world with new eyes, so to speak. It's also led to an expansion of his vocabulary. Until last April, he had never thought much about the word craniopharyngioma — a disease that about one in a million people suffer from according to some estimates. He certainly never suspected he had developed the condition. It's the presence of a benign tumor close to the pituitary gland, a small gland at the base of the brain.

It started slowly, but Lane knew something had gone wrong. "About four months ago, I noticed I was having trouble reading and seeing in general," he said. At first, Lane tried to solve the problem himself. Maybe his eyes were getting weaker. Maybe stronger reading glasses would help.

With each new pair of glasses, Lane sensed the eyesight loss gaining on him. When more powerful glasses failed to stop the problem, he embarked on a series of doctor visits. Lane went to his family doctor, an optometrist and finally an ophthalmologist who determined Lane had lost 90 percent of the vision in his left eye and from 20 to 30 percent in his right eye.

To Lane's good fortune, his condition was diagnosed as something serious and he was referred to a neurosurgeon at the Neurosurgical Institute at St. John Medical Center in Tulsa. There more tests were conducted, including an MRI. The MRI detected a tumor — one near Lane's pituitary gland, pressing on the optic nerves and causing the vision loss. Lane's best option: brain surgery.

Surgery was performed on April 16 with assistance from the neurosurgical team from St. John Medical Center. It took four hours to complete. "The surgery requires work under high magnification with a microscope to gently remove the tumor away from critical structures, such as the optic nerve," Dr. Partrick Han said. "This meticulous technique is why it takes several hours."

The surgery also requires a craniotomy, or opening the skull to reach the brain. "We made an incision on the scalp and removed a large bone flap with a special saw," Han said. "We removed the tumor which was pressing against both of his optic nerves, causing the visual problems."

Going in, Lane had no guarantee the surgery would be successful or his sight would be restored. Following the surgery, he remembers awakening in the hospital's recovery room. "I opened my eyes and I could see clearly for the first time in months," Lane said. "Probably the most humbling thing I've ever felt was to open my eyes and realize I was the beneficiary of a miracle straight from God." Lane said he smiled and then he saw the nurses in the room smiling too. "I guess they realized I could see," he said.

"Doctors told me before surgery there was a chance I wouldn't get my sight restored fully — but it was, and I'm a blessed man." He realizes just how fortunate he's been to come through the experience. "It was probably the most frightening thing I've ever faced," Lane said.

His job includes paginating, or electronically laying out the newspaper as well as writing editorials, selecting copy, editing stories and cropping photographs. It all requires intense use of his sight. The crisis raised some questions in Lane's mind. "Could I deal with being blind? Was I a strong enough man to deal with that? Frankly, I wasn't sure."

"Instead of an answer, I received the blessing of my sight." However, shortly before the operation, Lane felt he could deal with whatever happened. "Just before my surgery, I felt I could," Lane said. "Something moved within me, and I felt I could deal with it and accept it. You could call it being imbued with the spirit," a feeling of peace, he said. "I was hopeful and believe it or not, I was confident that things would work out."



Lane is still in the healing process. "He's doing well, with subjective dramatic improvement in his vision," Han said. Lane will be off work for several more weeks — doctor's orders. He plans to follow his doctor's advice. "Under Dr. Han's orders, there will be no newspapering for me until July 10, which is a hard thing," Lane said. "I'm confident the best newspaper of our size in Oklahoma, which is staffed with the best people of any newspaper in Oklahoma, will do just fine without me."



Member Contributions



The normally tranquil Medicine Creek is shown after torrential rains and the opening of nearby flood gates sent water rushing through the creek. (AP Photo/The Lawton Constitution, Michael D. Pope)

Chris Russell of Tulsa's KOTV provided early word on the death of a 2-year-old boy who was found at a daycare unconscious with his hands and mouth taped. Russell also had the story that 28 state child porn charges were filed against a former Muskogee police officer and owner of a Broken Arrow skating rink who last year pleaded guilty to federal child pornography charges. The story of a pregnant woman hit and killed by a car while she was trying to flag down help after she was involved in a separate accident also came from Chris.

From Enid, the News & Eagle provided a story about the arrest of an Enid couple accused of leaving their two young sons locked alone inside a filthy house.

Kevin King, KTUL in Tulsa, reported the story that one man was killed, one was injured and four were arrested when the victims were hit by a truck after a fight at a Bartlesville bar. Kevin also provided the story of a 14-year-old girl being charged as an adult with murder in the stabbing death of a woman in Cushing.

The Edmond Sun's report of a couple arrested under the city's new "social host" ordinance targeting people who host parties that include underage drinking was used statewide.

The Oklahoman provided a story about arbitrators reinstating eight officers who have been fired over the last decade, including one who had sex with a prostitute and another who lied on a police report. The newspaper also provided a report on the growing use of bracelets that detect alcohol use. Courts are using the devices in cases involving alcohol abuse.

Daniel Karnes of KOKI provided information about police in Okmulgee searching for a missing 12-year-old boy who was reported as a runaway

From Altus, the Times newspaper provided a story about higher-than-normal rainfall filling Lake Altus for the first time in seven years.

The Daily Ardmoreite provided a story about a pediatrician who pleaded guilty to two drug counts.

From KWTU in Oklahoma City, Nathan Elliott provided the story when a man sleeping on railroad tracks in southeast Oklahoma City was hit and killed by a train. **Doug Warner** had the story when an 11-year-old boy in Moore found his grandmother and another woman dead in the grandmother's home. First word of a man being killed by thieves who were stealing his car came from **Nathan Elliott**.

The Lawton Constitution provided a story about a rescue team navigating flooded farmland to save a 70-year-old woman, her dog and a pot of stew the woman had been preparing.

Dave Koester of Oklahoma City's KOCO-TV provided the story of a 73-year-old El Reno man being found by his wife beaten and stabbed to death. He also had the story when an Oklahoma city man was arrested for abusing his girlfriend's dog.



Cowboys on horseback were forced to herd about 140 head of steer through swirling floodwaters to safety on the far bank in northwest Cotton County. (AP Photo/The Lawton Constitution, Jeff Dixon)

Among the stories provided by **the Tulsa World** was one that said Oklahoma trails 48 states in its share of federal funds to provide health care for those without insurance. The newspaper also provided a story about problems that have been created in Oklahoma by proposed changes to Air National Guard units.

The Journal Record of Oklahoma City provided a feature about a company that plans to produce biodiesel from waste vegetable oil.

Bartlesville Examiner-Enterprise provided a story about a bar fight that left one man dead and another in the hospital.

From the Woodward News came a feature about a museum dedicated to windmills, including displays explaining the history and likely future of the devices.



A portion of the exhibits at the Shattuck, OK, Windmill Museum. (AP Photo/Woodward News, Robert Cassidy)

From Tim Granahan of Oklahoma City radio station KTOK came word of a fatal motorcycle crash in southwest Oklahoma City. **Also from KTOK, News Director Jerry Bohnen** provided the story on the death of investigative reporter J.D. Cash, who had written extensively about the Oklahoma City bombing. **Michael Cross** had the story when Oklahoma County Commissioner Brent Rinehart said he returned campaign donations that were the basis of felony charges against him.

The Norman Transcript provided a story about a woman who could face up to five years in prison after pleading guilty to making false statements to obtain Hurricane Katrina disaster relief funds.

Television station KTEN's Steve Koriath called with information that an eight-hour standoff in Choctaw County began when a woman was found dead and ended with the arrest of the suspect.

A story about the search for a teenager who was last seen sitting on a dock at Fort Gibson Lake came from the **Muskogee Phoenix**.

From Tulsa's KRMG, Debra Woodall had the story when a man was shot and critically wounded in a drive-by shooting outside a Tulsa convenience store dies.



Rescue personnel stand along I-40 near Canute, OK as a tarp covers the wreckage of a single-vehicle accident in which 7 persons were killed. (AP Photo/Elk City Daily News, Vonnie Kelln)

The Ada Evening News provided a story about a man who is fighting to have his Cherokee heritage recognized by the tribe.

A story about the arrest of a man accused of attempting to offer two children, ages 1 and 5, over the Internet for sex was provided by the **Chickasha Express-Star**.

Charlie Taraboletti of KRIG provided information when members of once nationally known Phillips 66ers AAU basketball team gathered for a reunion in Bartlesville.

Claremore Daily Progress had the story of allegations of misconduct and missing evidence at the Chelsea Police Department.

From the Duncan Banner: a story about an agreement intended to stabilize a joint emergency dispatch service.

The Durant Daily Democrat provided a story about City Council members voting to restart the process to circulate a petition seeking to incorporate Cartwright.

Miami News-Record provided a news feature about destruction of wetlands in Oklahoma.

From Pauls Valley, the Daily Democrat provided a business feature about a successful Mexican restaurant owner.

The Stillwater NewsPress provided a weekend feature about a wildlife park offering guided tours of a 160-acre farm that includes more than 400 animals.

And, from Tahlequah, the Daily Press provided a feature about an artist who makes traditional Cherokee masks.

From the AP Staff



Boland



Hines



Evans



Jenkins



Juozapavicius



Latzke



Murphy



Talley

Newsman Sean Murphy was working the telephones for a story about severe weather during the Memorial Day weekend when he discovered that rising flood waters had trapped 1,500 people in a state park. The story moved nationally. Murphy also had a scoop with a story that Oklahoma's prison system had reached near capacity after 20 years of the Legislature passing laws to increase prison sentences but failing to add prison space.

Sports Writer Jeff Latzke used an open records request for first word on a revenue report for the New Orleans Hornets in the second-year of their temporary stay in Oklahoma City. Unlike the first year of their stay, the financial take did not reach a level that would prompt revenue sharing with the city.

Newsman Tim Talley followed the state Legislature to the final gavel and also found time to report that glass vials of toxic agents once used in chemical warfare training may have been taken home as souvenirs by visitors to a popular crystal-hunting area.

Tulsa Correspondent Justin Juozapavicius's story on the deteriorating condition of many of the motels along Route 66, the historic 2,400-mile road from Chicago to Los Angeles, was a national AP Newsfeature. His report on the fifth anniversary of the Interstate 40 bridge collapse include an exclusive interview with the wife of the riverboat captain whose barges hit and collapsed a section of the bridge.

Capitol Correspondent Ron Jenkins did a two-part story on the power of lobbyists at the state legislature. And, his interview with a woman whose 17-year-old boy was killed provided the key human perspective in a story he wrote about a bill to permit photo buttons of murder victims to be worn during trials.

Newsman Murray Evans had an interesting feature on the opening of an exhibition on Amelia Earhart at the Oklahoma City museum that honors women in aviation.

Newswoman Rochelle Hines had a story about the number of Oklahoma state prisoners exceeding available bed space in state correctional facilities.

Editorial Assistant Judi Boland had a story on the return of a National Guard unit after deployment of Afghanistan, where one of the unit's members was killed by enemy fire.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

in Oklahoma is a cooperative of broadcasters and newspapers sharing news of statewide and national interest. To contribute a news story to the Oklahoma City bureau, call 405-525-2121 or 800-522-3522. You may also fax stories to Oklahoma City at 405-524-7465 or to Tulsa at 918-548-4654 or email: apoklahoma@ap.org.

About AP

What's New



For the second consecutive year, the AP board has voted not to increase the rates for most AP services, AP CEO Tom Curley announced at the May 7 annual meeting.

There will be no general assessment increase for 2008, although some premium services will have rate hikes. In addition, AP management later this year will present the board with options that by 2009 would introduce greater choice in services and pricing for member newspapers, Curley said.

Those changes are enabled by AP's new technology infrastructure, he said. Existing services were built on technical limits of how AP could deliver content and were designed for single-purpose use by a traditional daily newspaper.

In addition, AP is developing an infrastructure to create a central database of member content that can handle member-to-member sharing of local content.

An audiocast of AP's May 7 annual meeting in New York, along with the text of Curley's speech, is posted at <http://www.ap.org/annual07/>

The top military commander in Iraq, U.S. Army Gen. David Petraeus, was interviewed by satellite at the start of the program. AP Board Chairman Burl Osborne moderated a panel discussion titled "What America Needs," featuring New York Gov. Eliot Spitzer and former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee.



AP Money & Markets

The Today module of AP Money & Markets is now available. Today brings together key M&M tools in one concise package for easy use on your Web site. Markets, economy and company news are updated throughout the day with explanatory, analytic coverage. Easy-to-use tools, including stock and mutual fund quote look-up boxes, give readers a quick way to check their favorite stocks.

For more information about AP Money & Markets, a new print and online markets service featuring analytic, explanatory and forward-looking financial data, check out www.ap.org/markets, or contact your chief of bureau.

Markets News Video

Stocks Mixed in Afternoon Trading

4:33 PM EDT
NEW YORK (AP) Stocks were barely mixed in light trading Friday after a report showed consumer sentiment drooping and Dell Inc. posted sharply lower second quarter profits. Technology stocks moved lower after Dell reported second-quarter profit fell 51 percent as sales growth slowed to the lowest rate in three years. More negative earnings news from Gap Inc. and announced production cuts by Ford Motor Co. also prevented the markets...

Quote

Market Index

DJIA 2:34 PM (EST)

11,476
11,452
11,429
11,405
11,381

20 Minute Updates

	Chg	%Chg	Value
▲ Morningstar	17	0.5	3,170
▲ DJIA	85	0.7	11,466
▲ Nasdaq	7	0.3	2,191
▲ S&P 500	6	0.5	1,310

Investing

Stocks: [Quickrank](#) | [Market Movers](#) | [A-Z List](#) | [52 Week High/Low](#) | [Index Performance](#)

Mutual Funds: [Quickrank](#) | [Market Movers](#) | [A-Z List](#)

ETFs: [A-Z List](#)

Local : [Stocks](#) | [Mutual Funds](#) | [Industries](#) ▼

Newspapers Online

State News Online keeps your Web site local and fresh

AP State News Online gives your Web site the full range of AP's state news reports: politics, legislative and government news, business, sports, features and more.

With State News Online, breaking news from your state appears as it happens, and is updated quickly and accurately 24/7. Headline packages with up to 10 top items linked to a state's top stories are updated six times an hour to provide readers with the most up-to-date news at a glance.

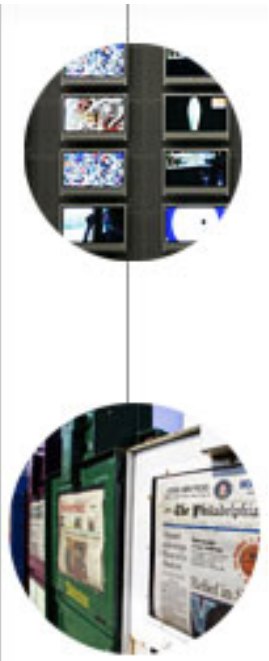
Multimedia Interactive News Reports enrich your online offerings

Enrich your Web report with interactives that give readers the variety and depth of information they seek on the Web, with AP's Multimedia Interactive News Reports. AP's interactives broadens your site's content base with a variety of compelling photos, sharp graphics, timely audio and rich video from around the world. This rich content helps build traffic on your Web site.

Our package includes: Ten to 12 news interactives and photo/audio interactives each week, geared to the day's news; daily photo galleries, a weekly photo gallery recapping the week in news; Sports-Week gallery of six to 12 photos compiled from the AP's extensive sports photo coverage.

Check out Online Newspaper services at new Web site page

For information about AP's online newspaper services, check out www.ap.org/newspapers. Find out about online services, see links to sites using the services, and find links and contact information to the Online Newspaper team.



Register for this year's APME conference

Join print, online and photo editors from around the country for the annual conference of the Associated Press Managing Editors and AP Photo Managers. Engaging discussions on reaching new audiences and retaining journalists of color, great ideas you can take back to your newsroom, and a visit to the Freedom Forum's brand

new Newseum will highlight APME's first conference ever in the nation's capital.

To register for the conference go to <https://www.123signup.com/register?id=qknd> Or to learn more go to: <https://www.123signup.com/event?id=qknd>

To take advantage of APME's discounted rate at the JW Marriott go to <http://marriott.com/property/propertypage/wasjw?groupCode=apmapma&app=resvlink>

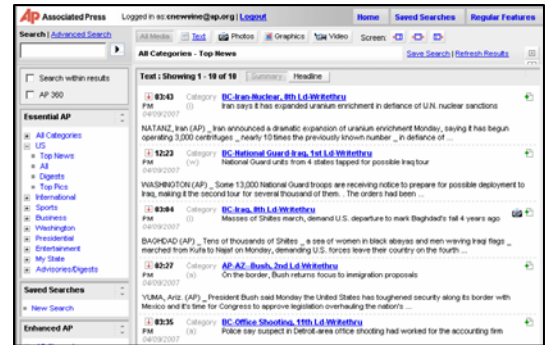
Special Editions
The Special Edition package for June, available June 5, is Weddings/Winter Brides.
Members with questions about Special Editions stories should contact
Julia Rubin at jrubin@ap.org or (212) 621-7199.

Get your staff trained on AP Exchange before YourAP is phased out

AP plans to phase out YourAP this year and replace the service with AP Exchange, the new web-based view of all your AP content.

Now is the time to contact AP to book training on AP Exchange for your newsroom. Simply email talkback@ap.org to book a 60-minute online training session. This session will provide editors and reporters with all they need to know to become AP Exchange experts. They'll be able to search for locally relevant news in the new AP database and build custom feeds that will deliver relevant news in less time.

Don't forget School of Search online training which takes place every Thursday at 11 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. ET. RSVP for these sessions at talkback@ap.org



AP's Oded Balilty wins Pulitzer Prize for breaking news photography

Associated Press photographer Oded Balilty has won The Pulitzer Prize for breaking news photography for his picture of a lone Jewish woman defying Israeli security forces in the West Bank. It's the 49th Pulitzer for the world's oldest and largest news cooperative and the 30th awarded for AP photos.

More details and a link to the winning image available on AP.org: http://www.ap.org/pages/about/pressreleases/pr_041607d.html

Associated Press honors memory of David Halberstam

In honor of the late David Halberstam, The Associated Press has released the foreword to its forthcoming book, "Breaking News: How the Associated Press Has Covered War, Peace and Everything Else," which was written by the Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist.

In the foreword to the book, Halberstam, who covered the Vietnam War for the New York Times, details his first-hand experiences with AP's Saigon bureau during the Vietnam War.

To read the complete foreword: http://www.ap.org/pages/about/pressreleases/pr_042607a.html



Nairobi staffer Anthony Mitchell killed in plane crash

Nairobi staffer Anthony Mitchell died in the May 5th crash of a Kenyan Airways flight in Cameroon. Officials say there were no survivors. Mitchell, 39, had been on assignment in the Central African Republic for about a week working on stories on endangered species.

Mitchell joined AP in 2001 as a reporter in Ethiopia. Last January, he was expelled for writing stories that the government deemed too critical. AP protested that action. Anthony moved to the Nairobi bureau in August. Just last month, he and four colleagues won the AP Beat of the Week contest.

Anthony was a "brilliant, intrepid journalist, who was committed to Africa," says his wife, Catherine. "He developed a real passion for Ethiopia, where he worked for several years, before his persistent exposures of the government's abuse of human rights resulted in him being expelled by the government and we moved to Kenya. But wherever he has worked in the world he has made new friends and earned respect for acts of personal kindness and his professional integrity."