

Green, Scott

From: Mark Mittelstadt <markmittelstadt@yahoo.com>
Sent: Monday, July 15, 2013 11:55 AM
To: undisclosed recipients:
Subject: CONNECTING: Lumpkin announces TCU retirement; Zimmerman tweeter no longer at AP; survey on AP sports content; Beat of the Week; Best of the States; Fournier book deal; fading sounds of our past

Colleagues,
Some items of interest while Paul Stevens is away.

Mark

-0-

AP: Reporter behind much-publicized Zimmerman Tweet was a "temp," no longer works for us (shared by Scott Charton and Doug Tucker)

<http://www.breitbart.com/Big-Journalism/2013/07/13/AP-Reporter-on-Zimmerman-Verdict-So-We-Can-All-Kill-Teenagers-Now>

-0-

Zimmerman lawyers turn focus to lawsuit against NBC News for edited 911 tape (Charton)

<http://m.washingtonpost.com/blogs/erik-wemple/wp/2013/07/14/zimmerman-lawyer-to-move-asap-against-nbc-news/>

-0-

AP surveys members on sports content

The online survey, which ends today, asks newspaper managing editors and sports editors 17 questions about various aspects of AP's sports products, ranging from the relative value of game stories (including hometown leads,) game previews, recaps, capsules, feature stores, profiles, columns, agate and investigative sports stories. One question asks whether the typical AP game story of 750 words is too long, too short or about right. Another question asks how AP sports content works for the newspapers' various platforms: print, mobile, Internet. "The AP wants to ensure it continues to provide sports content of value to its customers and their customers," AP Sports Editor Terry Taylor says in an intro to the survey. "We're hoping you can complete the survey below to help inform decisions about coverage from AP Sports."

-0-

Asiana Crash: Hoax pilot names read by TV station prompt slander claim (Charton)

<http://www.politico.com/story/2013/07/asiana-slander-94140.html>

-0-

Holder tightens rules for obtaining journalists' data (shared by Latrice Davis on Facebook)

http://www.nytimes.com/2013/07/13/us/holder-to-tighten-rules-for-obtaining-reporters-data.html?_r=0

-0-

John Lumpkin announces retirement from TCU J-school

<http://www.dallasnews.com/news/metro/20130712-tcu-journalism-school-chief-to-retire-next-spring.ece>

-0-

AP Beat of the Week

Of all the attacks on Muslims in Myanmar this year, it may have been the most shocking: More than two dozen students from an Islamic boarding school in Meikhtila were reported killed. Details were sketchy. What happened and how?

It was a story demanding to be told, but a challenge to report, both for words and images. The survivors had left town and dispersed, too afraid to talk. The local community and authorities in

Meikhtila were hostile. Police tailed our reporting team.

Through persistence and trust-building, and with a little subterfuge to lose their watchers, Bangkok bureau chief Todd Pitman, videojournalist Raul Gallego and Yangon photographer Gemunu Amarasinghe pieced together the chilling, untold story of a horrific massacre and how it has been ignored by Myanmar's government ever since -- with no prosecutions of the killers. Others have covered the sectarian violence in Myanmar, but few if any have conveyed so vividly the intensity of the hatred and the frenzy of the mob.

<http://www.utsandiego.com/news/2013/Jul/06/ap-impact-massacre-of-muslims-in-myanmar-ignored/>

They needed to find witnesses, but Muslim leaders were hesitant to reveal where the survivors were. An initial lead didn't pan out. Pitman was eventually directed to a Muslim official at a Malaysian nongovernmental organization in Myanmar, who agreed to meet over iced coffee at a Yangon restaurant.

That contact paid off. Pitman got a list of key Muslim leaders in Mandalay, a two-hour drive from Meikhtila, including one who promised to arrange interviews with half a dozen survivors.

News intervened. Gallego and Amarasinghe were diverted to cover a cyclone approaching Myanmar, so Pitman headed to Mandalay alone.

There he encountered more obstacles. The contact who had promised to arrange interviews took him to see two fathers who insisted on meeting the reporter before allowing their children to be interviewed. There were smiles, tea and lunch -- but in the end no interviews. They were too nervous. The next day, Pitman traveled an hour and a half by car north of Mandalay and met a father who agreed to let Pitman interview his son-- a student called Koko who had been attacked with machetes. They sat for four hours on a foam mat in a mostly empty house. The Muslims were too afraid to meet at their own homes.

The following day, Pitman traveled four more hours to interview other survivors, including a woman who lost her husband. They spoke for six hours. The day after that, Pitman met another witness outside Mandalay.

He still wanted to interview the headmaster of the school to fill in crucial details, but a prominent community leader said the headmaster was too traumatized to speak. Pitman asked if he would just confirm a few details. The community leader had grown to trust Pitman after several meetings and eventually brought the headmaster to Mandalay for an exclusive interview.

Freed from cyclone duty, Gallego and Amarasinghe joined Pitman. They toured the ruins of Meikhtila, where they were trailed by intelligence officers from local police and Myanmar's notorious Special Branch. It was Gallego and Amarasinghe who spotted the bones on the hillside that became the lead of the text story.

Then they headed to Mandalay in search of even one survivor who would agree to be filmed and photographed. Intelligence officers on motorcycles followed them in Mandalay too, talking to their driver and waiting outside their hotel. They could not get to the frightened survivors with police in tow. They hatched a plan to lose their tail at the main city temple, which had four exits. They had the driver drop them at one exit, then called the community leader and asked him to pick them up in his car at another.

When they found a survivor who would cooperate, Gallego and Amarasinghe soothed his fears and convinced him they could protect his identity by silhouetting his face, showing him on their cameras how it would be done. The interview was a crucial element of the [video story](#).

The AP IMPACT story drew almost 3,400 Facebook "likes," more than 1,350 shares and 2,455 comments on Huffington Post. A common tweet read: "If you only read one thing today, make it this. Horrifying tale by @AP's Todd Pitman of Muslims massacred in Burma."

-0-

AP Best of the States

Rumors had swirled about the firefighter who was the lone survivor of the hotshot team that lost 19 members in the Arizona wildfire. When Brendan McDonough quietly showed up at the memorial for his brethren, it was Las Vegas-based AP photographer Julie Jacobson who came away with the

defining pictures of him hugging family members and staring into space, a vacant expression on his face.

The other news photographers at the event were surprised, like Jacobson, when the crowd was told the lone survivor was present. They initially held back, worried that taking McDonough's picture would seem disrespectful, but Jacobson quietly got into position and discreetly snapped her shots. One attendee at the memorial complimented her for producing such great pictures without disrupting the service.

Jacobson's photos not only were widely used -- including fronting the Arizona Republic -- but they helped drive the story line. With pictures of the lone survivor everywhere, officials were compelled to provide more details about McDonough's role that fateful day. Before the photos, some were questioning whether McDonough had given the victims adequate warning of impending danger. After Jacobson's photos, officials gave a full accounting that cleared his name.

-0-

Open letter to publishers: eliminating professional news photographers is road to mediocrity

<http://jimcolton.com/blog/2013/7/13/technical-knockout>

-0-

National Geographic photographer arrested taking photos of Kansas feedlot (shared by Bob Meyers)

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2013/07/11/george-steinmetz-arrested-feedlot_n_3575593.html

-0-

What's in your trunk? Photojournalists need to be prepared (shared by Bob Daugherty)

<http://www.telegram.com/article/20130710/NEWS/130719963/0/SEARCH>

-0-

McClatchy-Tribune travel writer gets past her stereotypes of Milwaukee

<http://www.jsonline.com/blogs/entertainment/215513901.html>

-0-

In the Netherlands, a magazine experiments with "social distribution"

<http://www.niemanlab.org/2013/07/in-the-netherlands-a-magazine-experiments-with-social-distribution-and-they-dont-mean-retweets/>

-0-

Consultant: tablets one of best hopes for newspapers to re-engage audiences

<http://www.niemanlab.org/2013/07/its-the-engagement-stupid-jim-chisholm-says-newspapers-need-to-do-more-to-earn-attention/>

-0-

Jill Abramson announces leadership changes at The New York Times

<http://www.capitalnewyork.com/article/media/2013/07/8531827/jill-abramson-announces-big-leadership-changes-new-york-times>

-0-

'Big Sis' Janet Napolitano as headlined over the years by Matt Drudge

<http://washingtonexaminer.com/the-12-best-big-sis-drudge-report-banners-featuring-janet-napolitano/article/2532982>

-0-

In Washington, time-honored tradition of embargoes becomes harder to enforce

http://articles.washingtonpost.com/2013-07-11/lifestyle/40514422_1_embargo-news-media-important-news

-0-

More Industry News at apme.com.

-0-

Fournier signs book deal on accepting kids on their own terms (from PoliticoPlaybook)

The former AP Washington chief signs with Crown for "IN THE BALLPARK OF PERFECT : A Father's Journey to Understanding My Son And What is Fair to Expect of Our Kids." The memoir

grows out of Ron's National Journal cover story about his struggle to connect with his mildly autistic son. It will use this story of father-son bonding to explore what it means to accept our kids on their own terms, rather than trying to push them to fit societal norms and expectations. Ron, editorial director of National Journal, will take a book leave starting in August to research and write. His goal is to layer Tyler's story with social science research, as well as stories of other parent-kid relationships, to write a memoir that helps all moms and dads -- not just those of special needs kids -- navigate the modern-day challenges of parenthood. Fournier's book was acquired by Rick Horgan at Crown from Andrew Stuart at The Stuart Agency. Horgan has placed more than 90 titles on the New York Times list. Stuart is also the agent for Carl Cannon, who connected the two.

-0-

And Finally...

The site Mental_Floss offers up a humorous piece ["11 Sounds That Your Kids Have Probably Never Heard."](#) It's a great collection of tones and noises everyone on the Connecting e-mail list likely grew up with but mostly now can be found, or heard, only in humorous online sound or video clips.

Definitely worth a click. To which Paul Stevens added: "I suppose we could add the Teletype to that list, huh?"