
From: Paul Stevens [stevenspl@live.com]
Sent: Wednesday, October 01, 2014 9:51 AM
To: stevenspl@live.com
Subject: Connecting - October 1, 2014

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Connecting

October 1, 2014

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Colleagues,

Good Wednesday morning - and here's to the start of October!

As professional sports go, there is probably no more pumped-up city this morning than mine - Kansas City - after events of the past two days. The Chiefs blasted the New England Patriots on NFL Monday Night Football, 41-14, before 80,000 fans in a sold-out stadium that set the decibel record for loudest stadium in the world.

And last night, early this morning for some of you, the Royals won their first playoff game in 29 years, defeating the Oakland A's in 12 innings, 9-8, at sold-out Kauffman Stadium, and advance to the next round of the American League playoffs.

It was the Royals first playoff appearance in 29 years, and my wife, daughters Jenny and Molly, and I were at the last one, the 1985 World Series seventh-game victory over the St. Louis Cardinals. (None of us has aged much since this photo, really!)



OK, I started in the news business and the AP as a sports writer, so I will take off that hat now. But not for long...

Here are stories of interest.

Paul

AP Photos: Rush-Hour keeps billions on the move



**BY ADAM SCHRECK
ASSOCIATED PRESS**

On packed subways and crowded highways, billions of people participate in a short-distance population shift twice a day: the rhythmic

ritual of the daily commute to and from work.

More than 300 million people use the United States' transport systems every day, and in 2012 a whopping 76 percent of them got to work by driving alone, a U.S. Department of Transportation report out last week noted. That can make for a lot of gridlock.

Highways clogged with bumper-to-bumper cars may be the go-to image of rush-hour traffic. But peer deeper and you'll find others.

In South Africa, brave commuters risk life and limb by hitching a ride on the front of a train. Sleek elevated metro trains slither past Dubai's futuristic



skyscrapers, their bellies packed with migrant workers who keep the city's fancy hotels, shopping malls and construction sites humming. In Taiwan, some cling to old ways with old bicycles, jostling for road space with hundreds of buzzing scooters.

Associated Press photographers the world over set out to see how workers on five continents endure their morning and evening rush-hour commutes. This collection of 20 photos shows what they found.

Click [here](#) for more images.

Fabiano to lead local broadcast markets for AP

Michael Fabiano, an accomplished digital business executive, will lead local radio and television media sales teams across the United States as director of local broadcast markets, The Associated Press announced today.

Most recently, Fabiano launched Locate Real Estate, a consumer destination website, where he built an industry-leading digital platform and developed strategies to drive traffic and improve customer satisfaction.

Previously, Fabiano worked at NBC News, where he developed business strategy across brands, negotiated partnerships and launched innovative, award-winning digital platforms. He recently served as general manager of NBC Digital Publishing group, creating a new and profitable e-book business venture for the NBC brand.



Fabiano will report to David Gwizdowski, AP's chief revenue officer for the Americas.

"Michael's ability to identify opportunities and manage them to success impressed me greatly, and I'm thrilled he'll be leading our local sales teams at such an important time for our organization," Gwizdowski said. "Bringing new value to our local broadcasters and improving the AP experience is our immediate priority and Michael will lead that effort."

Fabiano's previous positions include chief information officer responsibilities at Cendant Financial Corp. and 10 years consulting for Accenture. He holds a Master of Business Administration degree from Columbia Business School. Fabiano also has undergraduate degrees from Stevens Institute of Technology in English and mechanical engineering.

Connecting mailbox

More unusual newspaper names

[Mike Graczyk](#) - A couple of Texas dailies with noteworthy names:

Hereford Brand (in Texas cattle country)

New Braunfels Herald-Zeitung (in an area settled by German immigrants)

[Sally Hale](#) - Today's Sunbeam in Salem, NJ. It recently was folded into Advance's South Jersey Times.



Connecting wishes Happy Birthday

To

[Steve Graham](#)

Stories of interest

[New York Times Plans Cutbacks in Newsroom Staff](#)

The New York Times plans to eliminate about 100 newsroom jobs, as well as a smaller number of positions from its editorial and business operations, offering buyouts and resorting to layoffs if it cannot get enough people to leave voluntarily, the newspaper announced on Wednesday.

Arthur Sulzberger Jr., the newspaper's publisher, and Mark Thompson, its chief executive, said that in addition to the job cuts, NYT Opinion, a new mobile app dedicated to opinion content, was shutting down because it was not attracting enough subscribers.

The reductions, they said, were intended to safeguard the newspaper's long-term profitability.

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[Fox News dominates cable TV in Q3](#)

The Fox News Channel always outperforms its cable news rivals by a mile, but in the third quarter FNC dominated the entire cable television landscape -- including ratings behemoths USA, ESPN and TNT -- in weekday primetime, a historic win for Roger Ailes' network.

An average of 1,705,000 viewers watched Fox News between 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. in the third quarter, giving the network its first number-one rating in extended primetime since its launch in 1996. FNC also ranked number one from 8 p.m.-11 p.m. for the first time in over 10 years, with an average of 1,777,000 total viewers. Both "On the Record with Greta Van Susteren" and "The O'Reilly Factor" ranked number one in total viewers among all of basic cable during their timeslots.

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[Reporter: White House Aide Told Me Not To Talk To Crowd At Michelle Obama Campaign Event](#) (Mark Mittelstadt)

HUDSON, Wis. (CBSDC/AP) - Wisconsin's tense race for governor got some political star power Monday, with New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie urging Republicans to step up their support for a potential presidential rival, Scott Walker. First lady Michelle Obama, meanwhile, campaigned for former state commerce secretary Mary Burke.

Christie and Walker sidestepped any talk of a 2016 nomination fight against each other.

"He would do good at any executive position he wanted to pursue," Christie said of Walker. "I know this much - because I've spoken to him about it - he's not interested in anything beyond November 4th and neither am I. Whatever happens beyond November 4th will be decisions that he'll make about his future and anyone else considering it will make about theirs."

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[The Graham era officially ends at the Washington Post. It's worth remembering](#)

Today (Tuesday) is Katharine Weymouth's last day as the publisher of the Washington Post. When she walks out the door tonight, it will be the first time in more than eight decades that no one in the Graham(or Meyer) family will be affiliated with the organization in a managerial role. That's a remarkable sentence to type and an idea I couldn't even conceive of when I started working at the Post almost a decade ago.

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[The Source of Bad Writing](#)

Why is so much writing so bad? Why is it so hard to understand a government form, or an academic article or the instructions for setting

up a wireless home network?

The most popular explanation is that opaque prose is a deliberate choice. Bureaucrats insist on gibberish to cover their anatomy. Plaid-clad tech writers get their revenge on the jocks who kicked sand in their faces and the girls who turned them down for dates. Pseudo-intellectuals spout obscure verbiage to hide the fact that they have nothing to say, hoping to bamboozle their audiences with highfalutin gobbledygook.

But the bamboozlement theory makes it too easy to demonize other people while letting ourselves off the hook. In explaining any human shortcoming, the first tool I reach for is Hanlon's Razor: Never attribute to malice that which is adequately explained by stupidity. The kind of stupidity I have in mind has nothing to do with ignorance or low IQ; in fact, it's often the brightest and best informed who suffer the most from it.

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[Brace yourself for the corporate journalism wave](#)

Corporations are tempted to take over journalism with increasingly better content. For the profession, this carries both dangers and hopes for new revenue streams.

Those who fear native advertising or branded content will dread the unavoidable rise of corporate journalism. At first glance, associating the two words sounds like of an oxymoron of the worst possible taste, an offense punishable by tarring and feathering. But, as I will now explain, the idea deserves a careful look.

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[How Being a Journalist Takes Over Our Normal Life](#)

Being a journalist is a 24/7 job whether we like it or not. The aspects of the news world takes over/interferes with what we like to call our "normal life." We strive to work hard and often work crazy long hours. Yet, even when we are not working, the ways of the journalism world seem to leak over into our everyday life.



1. We follow police cars, ambulances and any emergency vehicle.

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[Piers Morgan joins Daily Mail Online](#) (Bob Daugherty)

Piers Morgan, the former CNN anchor, has joined the UK-based Daily Mail Online as Editor-at-Large for the United States, where he will write commentary "several times each week" on major news stories.

"As Editor-at-Large (US) I plan on breaking down the biggest stories that matter to Americans and analyzing them in a way that will generate discussion and create debate," Morgan, 49, said in a statement.

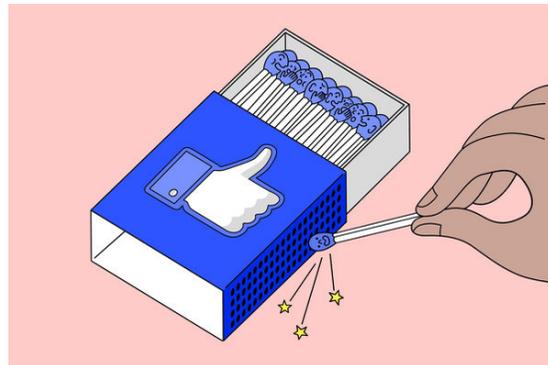
This is Morgan's first major news role since he ended his primetime CNN program in March amid poor ratings. Morgan has essentially been a free agent since then, though his contract with the network officially ended in September.

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The Last Word

Why Rumors Outrace the Truth Online

It's no surprise that interesting and unusual claims are often the most widely circulated articles on social media. Who wants to share boring stuff?



The problem, however, is that the spread of rumors, misinformation and unverified claims can overwhelm any effort to set the record straight, as we've seen during controversies over events like the Boston Marathon bombings and the conspiracy theory that the Obama administration manipulated unemployment statistics.

Everyone knows there is dubious information online, of course, but estimating the magnitude of the problem has been difficult until now.

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