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A grayscale photograph of the Minnesota State Capitol building, showing its classical architecture with columns and ornate carvings. The image is slightly faded and serves as the background for the title text.

Minnesota Senate
**Capitol Press Corps
Directory 2007**

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Issued 1/8/07

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Minnesota Senate
**Capitol Press Corps
Directory 2007**

Published by:

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Members of the press corps are accredited through:

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Senate Rule 16 Privilege of Reporters

16.1 The Secretary shall provide space for news reporters on the Senate floor in limited numbers, and in the Senate gallery. Because of limited space on the floor, permanent space is limited to those news agencies that regularly cover the legislature, namely: The Associated Press, St. Paul Pioneer Press, St. Paul Legal Ledger, Star Tribune, Duluth News-Tribune, The Forum, Rochester Post-Bulletin, St. Cloud Times, WCCO radio, KSTP radio, Minnesota Public Radio and Minnesota News Network. The Secretary shall provide an additional two spaces to other reporters if space is available. One person from each named agency and one person from the Senate Publications Office may be present at the press table on the Senate floor at any time. Other news media personnel may occupy seats provided in the Senate gallery.

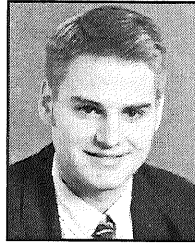
16.2 The Secretary shall compile and distribute to the public a directory of reporters accredited to report from the Senate floor. The directory must include each reporter's picture and news organization and a brief biography.

16.3 The Secretary must issue each accredited reporter an identification badge showing the reporter's name and news organization. The reporter must wear the badge when in the Senate Chamber.

Brian Bakst

Associated Press

Capitol: 651-222-4821
Fax: 651-222-2208
E-mail: bbakst@ap.org



Education: BA, political science/journalism, University of Minnesota.
Experience: Copy editor, Albuquerque Journal; legislative correspondent, Murphy McGinnis Media; legislative reporter, Associated Press, since 1999.

Martiga Lohn

Associated Press

Capitol: 651-222-4821
Fax: 651-222-2208
E-mail: mlohn@ap.org

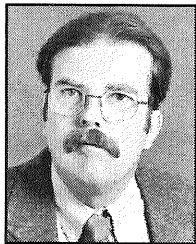


Education: BA, international studies, Macalester College; MS, Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism.
Experience: Associated Press, 2004-present; Bloomberg News (Germany), 2002-04; Duluth News Tribune, 1999-2002; (Minneapolis) Southwest Journal, 1996-99.

Timothy Budig

ECM Publishers, Inc.

Capitol: 651-224-8143
Fax: 651-224-8143
E-mail: tim.budig@ecm-inc.com



Education: BA, University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire.
Experience: Six years, ECM Capitol reporter; previously, ABC Newspapers, Coon Rapids, now part of ECM.

Don Davis

Forum Communications

Capitol: 651-290-0707
Fax: 651-290-2674
E-mail: ddavis@forumcomm.com



Education: Journalism degree, Drake University (Des Moines, Iowa).
Experience: Editor of daily newspapers, mostly in the Midwest, before covering politics in North Dakota and Minnesota. Covered Minnesota government and politics since 1998.

Mike Longaecker

Forum Communications

Capitol: 651-290-0707
Fax: 651-290-2674
E-mail: mlongaecker@forumcomm.com

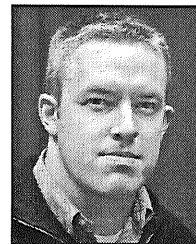


Education: Degree in print journalism, University of Wisconsin-River Falls.
Experience: Covered city government and port authority for two years before taking on school coverage for Red Wing Republican Eagle.

Scott Wente

Forum Communications

Capitol: 651-290-0707
Fax: 651-290-2674
E-mail: swente@forumcomm.com



Education: Degree in print journalism, University of Wisconsin-River Falls.
Experience: Forum Communications' Minnesota Capitol bureau; Red Wing Republican Eagle; Eau Claire, Wis., Leader-Telegram.

John Croman

KARE-TV 11

Capitol: 651-292-8988
Newsroom: 763-797-7290
Fax: 651-227-1488
E-mail: jcroman@kare11.com

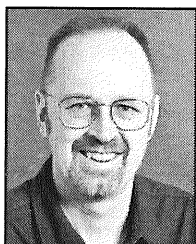


Education: BS, journalism, University of Kansas, 1980.
Experience: KARE-TV, 1997-present. Previously at KNXV, Phoenix; KETV, Omaha; Cable 6, Lawrence, Kan.; KSAL-AM, Salina, Kan.; Audio Reader Network, Lawrence, Kan.; KGGF-AM, Coffeyville, Kan.

Aethan Hart

KARE-TV 11

Capitol: 651-292-8988
Newsroom: 763-797-7290 (St. Paul)
 763-797-7215 (Main)
Fax: 651-227-1488 (Capitol) / 763-546-8606 (Main)
E-mail: ahart@kare11.com



Education: Duluth Central High School; College of St. Scholastica; BA, art/art history, University of Minnesota-Duluth.
Experience: KDAL-TV, KSTP-TV, KTCA-TV, KARE-TV.

David Allan Pundt

KLKS Radio

Newsroom: 218-562-4844 / 800-450-5557
Fax: 218-562-4058
E-mail: klksnews@yahoo.com



Education: BA, mass communication, St. Cloud State University; MA, mass communication, University of South Dakota.
Experience: Twenty-six years of various broadcasting, mostly radio. KLKS news director, 2001-present.

Dan "Ox" Ochsner

KNSI-AM 1450 (St. Cloud)

Newsroom: 320-203-4853
Fax: 320-251-8952
E-mail: ochsnews@yahoo.com

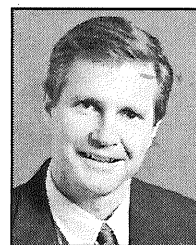


Education: AAS, broadcasting, Brown College.
Experience: Program director/talk show host, KNSI-AM 1450 (St. Cloud), 2001-present; weekly news/interview show host, TV 3 (Detroit Lakes), 1998-2001; news director, KDLM/KBOT (Detroit Lakes), 1998-2001; AM/FM announcer and sales, KBRF/KZCR (Fergus Falls), 1991-93.

Tom Hauser

KSTP-TV 5

Capitol: 651-642-4327
Newsroom: 651-642-4455
Fax: 651-642-4409

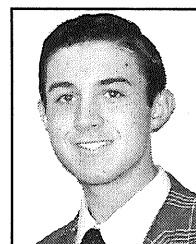


Education: BA, journalism and political science, University of St. Thomas; MA, journalism and mass communications, Drake University.
Experience: KAAL-TV, Austin, Minn.; WINK-TV, Fort Myers, Fla.; WHO-TV, Des Moines, Iowa; KSTP-TV, Minneapolis-St. Paul.

Ron Miller

KUOM-AM/FM (Radio K)

Capitol: 952-454-8823
Newsroom: 612-624-1604
Fax: 612-625-2112
E-mail: mill2875@umn.edu



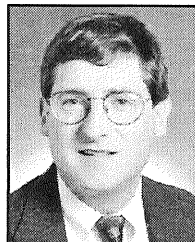
Education: University of Minnesota, current student, marketing and mass communications.
Experience: KUOM Radio K News, reporter and morning news updates, 2004-present.

Mark Fischenich

Mankato Free Press

Newsroom: 507-344-6321
Fax: 507-388-4355
E-mail: mfischenich@mankatofreepress.com

Education: University of Minnesota, journalism.

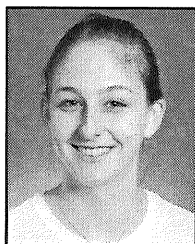


Danielle Cabot

Mesabi Daily News

Capitol: 651-296-0114
Fax: 218-741-1005 / 651-846-5139
E-mail: danielle.cabot@mx3.com

Education: BA, global studies and print journalism, University of Minnesota.
Experience: Pioneer Press intern.

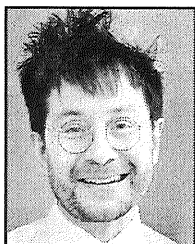


Bill Werner

Minnesota News Network

Capitol: 651-224-0355
Newsroom: 612-321-7211
E-mail: bwerner@mnradio.com

Education: BA, political science and economics, Macalester College, 1987.
Experience: Legislative reporter, Minnesota News Network since 1993. Prior: reporter/anchor, Radio City Network News, Minneapolis; news director, KANO Radio, Anoka.



Laura McCallum

Minnesota Public Radio

Capitol: 651-291-1035
Newsroom: 651-290-1478
Fax: 651-227-5238
E-mail: lmccallum@mpr.org

Education: BA, University of North Dakota.
Experience: Reporter, MPR, 1993-present; news director, KDSU-FM, Fargo, 1990-93; reporter/anchor, Prairie Public Radio, Bismarck, 1989-90.



Tim Pugmire

Minnesota Public Radio

Capitol: 651-291-1035
Newsroom: 651-290-1424
Fax: 651-227-5238
E-mail: tpugmire@mpr.org

Education: BS, St. Cloud State University.
Experience: Minnesota Public Radio, 1990-present.



Tom Scheck

Minnesota Public Radio

Capitol: 651-291-1035
Newsroom: 651-290-1424
Fax: 651-227-5238
E-mail: tscheck@mpr.org

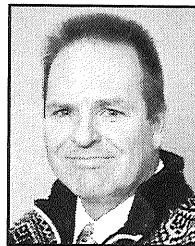
Education: Degrees in Broadcast journalism and English, Syracuse University.
Experience: Reporter/producer, Minnesota Public Radio, 2000-present; reporter/producer, Indiana Public Radio, 1996-2000.



Jay Johnson

Rochester Post-Bulletin

Capitol: 507-398-3271
Newsroom: 507-285-7619
Fax: 507-285-7772
E-mail: jayjohnson@postbulletin.com



Education: BS, MA, University of North Dakota.
Experience: At Post-Bulletin since 2002.

Matthew Stolle

Rochester Post-Bulletin

Capitol: 507-259-0488
Newsroom: 507-281-7415
Fax: 507-285-7772
E-mail: mstolle@postbulletin.com



Education: U.S. Army journalist.
Experience: At Post-Bulletin since 2000. Three years at Winona Daily News.

Lawrence Schumacher

St. Cloud Times

Capitol: 651-224-4937
Newsroom: 320-259-3680
Fax: 651-846-5139
E-mail: lschumacher@stcloudtimes.com

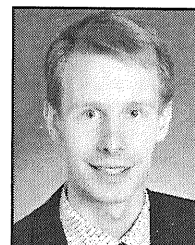


Education: BA, political science, Carleton College, 1993.
Experience: Community, government and politics reporter, St. Cloud Times, 1999-present; community, government and politics reporter, Fergus Falls Daily Journal, 1997-99.

Charley Shaw

St. Paul Legal Ledger

Newsroom: 651-602-0578
Fax: 651-222-2640
E-mail: charley.shaw@legal-ledger.com



Education: BA, history, Lawrence University.
Experience: Ogle County (Ill.) Newspapers, 1999; Stevens Point (Wis.) Journal, 1999-2001; St. Paul Legal Ledger, October 2004-present.

Megan Boldt

St. Paul Pioneer Press

Newsroom: 651-228-5495
Fax: 651-228-5528
E-mail: mboldt@pioneerpress.com

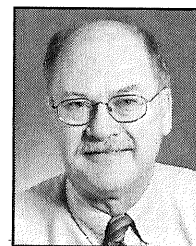


Education: BA, journalism, University of Minnesota.
Experience: Pioneer Press, 2003-present; Associated Press, Bismarck, N.D., 2002-03; Murphy-McGinnis Newspapers, legislative correspondent, 2001-02.

Dennis Lien

St. Paul Pioneer Press

Newsroom: (651) 228-5588
Fax: (651) 228-5528
E-mail: dlien@pioneerpress.com



Education: BA, University of Minnesota.

Jeremy Olson

St. Paul Pioneer Press

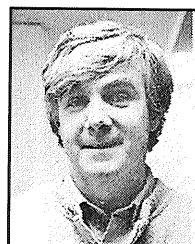


Newsroom: 651-228-5583
Fax: 651-228-5500
E-mail: jolson@pioneerpress.com

Education: BA, print journalism and English, University of St. Thomas.
Experience: Medical reporter, St. Paul Pioneer Press, April 2005-present; reporter, Omaha World-Herald, Jan. 1999-April 2005; reporter, The (Aurora, Ill.) Beacon News, April 1996-Dec. 1998.

Jim Ragsdale

St. Paul Pioneer Press

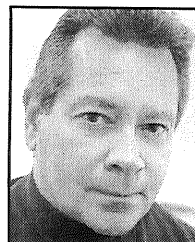


Capitol: 651-228-5529
Newsroom: 651-228-5491
Fax: 651-228-5528
E-mail: jragdale@pioneerpress.com

Education: BA, University of California-Santa Barbara, 1972.
Experience: Pioneer Press, 1984-present, editorial writer, 2006-present; MPR, 1982-84; Star Tribune, 1981-82; Charleston (W.V.) Gazette, 1977-81; United Press International, Los Angeles and San Francisco, 1972-76.

Rubén Rosario

St. Paul Pioneer Press

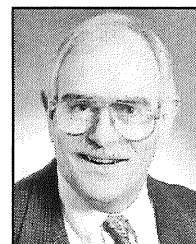


Newsroom: 651-228-5454
Fax: 651-228-5500
E-mail: rrosario@pioneerpress.com

Education: BA, communications, Fordham University (Bronx, N.Y.); multicultural management fellowship, University of Missouri.
Experience: Metro columnist, St. Paul Pioneer Press, 1997-present; city editor/public safety team leader, St. Paul Pioneer Press, 1992-96; staff writer, New York Daily News, 1980-91.

Bill Salisbury

St. Paul Pioneer Press



Capitol: 651-228-5538
Newsroom: 651-228-5490
Fax: 651-228-5528
E-mail: bsalisbury@pioneerpress.com

Education: BA, history, University of Minnesota, Morris.
Experience: Reporter, St. Paul Pioneer Press, 1977-present; reporter, Rochester Post-Bulletin, 1972-77; reporter, Fairmont Sentinel, 1971-72.

Rachel Stassen-Berger

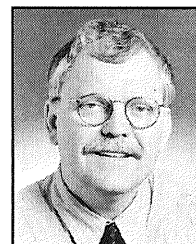
St. Paul Pioneer Press



Capitol: 651-228-5445
Home: 612-378-7570
Fax: 651-228-5528
E-mail: rstassen-berger@pioneerpress.com

David Brewster

Star Tribune



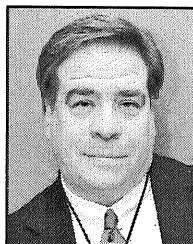
Capitol: 651-222-1095
Newsroom: 612-673-7071
E-mail: dbrewster@startribune.com

Education: University of Minnesota, photojournalism specialization program.
Experience: Star Tribune, 1980-present.

Mark Brunswick

Star Tribune

Capitol: 651-222-1636
Newsroom: 612-673-4434
Fax: 651-222-0101
E-mail: mbrunswick@startribune.com



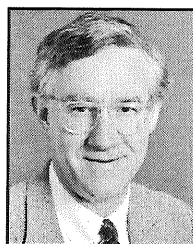
Education: BSJ, Ohio University.

Experience: Star Tribune, 1986-present; Dayton Daily News; Associated Press, Cincinnati and Helena, Mont.

Conrad Defiebre

Star Tribune

Capitol: 651-222-1673
Newsroom: 612-673-4456
Fax: 651-222-0101
E-mail: cdefiebre@startribune.com



Education: BA, College of St. Thomas; MS, Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism.

Experience: Thirty-three years at Star Tribune, past 11 at State Capitol bureau.

Norman Draper

Star Tribune

Newsroom: 612-673-4547
Cellular: 612-418-1230
Fax: 612-673-4359
E-mail: ndraper@startribune.com



Education: BA, journalism, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.

Experience: Star Tribune, 1986-present; (Denver) Rocky Mountain News, 1981-85; (Jackson, Miss.) Clarion Ledger, 1978-79; (Colorado Springs) Sun, 1974-78 and 1980-81.

Jean Hopfensperger

Star Tribune

Newsroom: 612-673-4511
Fax: 612-673-4359
E-mail: hopfen@startribune.com



Education: BA, journalism, University of Wisconsin-Madison; MA, political science, University of Minnesota.

Experience: Social policy and social issues reporter, Star Tribune, 15 years; Capitol correspondent, The Milwaukee Journal, 1985-86; Central America correspondent for national newspapers, 1980-84; press aide, Wisconsin Governor's Office.

Patricia Lopez

Star Tribune

Capitol: 651-222-1288
Newsroom: 612-673-4414
Fax: 651-222-0101
E-mail: plopez@startribune.com



Education: California State University, Los Angeles.

Experience: Star Tribune, City Hall reporter, 1992-94, politics and government reporter, 1994-present; Cincinnati Enquirer, education reporter; Roanoke Times and World News, education reporter; Orange County Register, immigration and projects reporter; Los Angeles Times, cities reporter.

Dane Smith

Star Tribune

Capitol: 651-292-0164
Newsroom: 612-673-4791
Cellular: 612-518-1845
Fax: 651-222-0101
E-mail: rdsmith@startribune.com



Education: BA, journalism, University of St. Thomas; Cordova High School, Cordova, Alaska.

Experience: Star Tribune Capitol bureau, 1986-present; St. Paul Pioneer Press, 1980-1986; Minneapolis Star, 1977-1980; Catholic Bulletin, 1975-1977; US Navy, 1969-1973.

Lori Sturdevant

Star Tribune

Capitol: 651-222-6126
Newsroom: 612-673-4505
Fax: 651-222-0101
E-mail: lsturdevant@startribune.com



Education: BA, Coe College (Cedar Rapids, Iowa); graduate work, University of Minnesota.

Experience: Reporter, assistant city editor, editorial writer and columnist for Star Tribune since 1975; involved in state Capitol coverage since 1979.

Richard Bowring II

Twin Cities Public Television

Capitol: 651-221-1937
Newsroom: 651-229-1421
E-mail: rbowring@tpt.org



Education: BA, journalism (radio/television/film), University of Wisconsin-Madison, 1985.

Experience: Photojournalist: TPT-TV, 1990-present; WTMJ, Milwaukee, Wis., 1988-90; WHA-TV, Madison, Wis., 1985-88. Primary photojournalist covering the Capitol since 1992.

Mary Lahammer

Twin Cities Public Television

Capitol: 651-221-1937
Newsroom: 651-229-1388
Cellular: 651-402-8848
E-mail: mlahammer@tpt.org



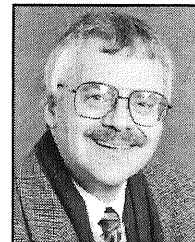
Education: University of Minnesota; major: journalism and mass communications; minor: constitutional law and history; honors: summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa.

Experience: Host, *Almanac at the Capitol*; reporter, *Almanac*; anchor/reporter, WQOW-TV, Eau Claire, Wis.; anchor/reporter, KUMV-TV, Williston, N.D.; winner of several Emmys and other awards for hosting, reporting, producing and photography.

Eric Eskola

WCCO Radio

Capitol: 651-222-7806
Newsroom: 612-370-0691
Fax: 651-290-0913
E-mail: eeskola@cbs.com, eeskola@aol.com



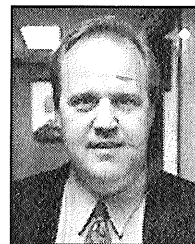
Education: BA, University of Minnesota-Duluth.

Experience: WCCO Radio, 1980-present, Capitol correspondent, 1985-present; KDAL Radio, Duluth, 1971-80. Co-host, *Almanac*, Twin Cities Public Television, 1986-present.

Pat Kessler

WCCO-TV 4

Capitol: 651-224-7051
Newsroom: 612-330-2509
Fax: 651-224-8072
E-mail: pjessler@wcco.cbs.com



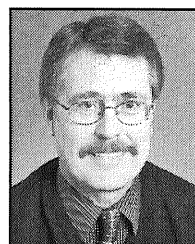
Education: Macalester College, English/journalism.

Experience: WCCO-TV; Minnesota Public Radio.

Gordy Leach

WCCO-TV 4

Capitol: 651-224-7051



Education: BA, broadcast journalism, University of Minnesota.

Experience: TV news photographer, 30 years, including 15 years as producer/photographer.

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