

2004 VAB Summer Convention Award Station Winners

The VAB recognized four individuals and 69 stations for outstanding accomplishments during the 2004 VAB Awards Ceremony held Friday, June 24, at the Cavalier Hotel in Virginia Beach. Of the 69 stations participating, 12 stations won more than one award, and nine stations won more than two awards. WAAM/WSVG of Woodstock and WVEC-TV of Norfolk both collected four awards. WFTR-AM of Front Royal, WINC-AM/FM of Winchester, WINA-AM of Charlottesville, WWBT-TV of Richmond, WRXL-FM of Richmond, and WRVA-AM of Richmond all accepted three awards.

The Distinguished Virginian Award was presented to Admiral Harold W. Gehman for his substantial contributions to the well-being of the Nation or the Commonwealth.

Admiral Gehman, who retired in September 2000 as NATO's Supreme Allied Commander-Atlantic and Commander-in-Chief of the United States Joint Forces Command, is a career military man with over 35 years of active duty in the U.S. Navy. He came out of retirement, however, in October 2002 to lead the investigation into the terrorist bombing of the USS Cole. In February 2003, he was tapped to lead a special government commission to investigate the Columbia space shuttle disaster.

The George Bowles Broadcast Journalism Award recognized Ed Hughes, who was known as "The Walter Cronkite of Hampton Roads" for distinguished performance in broadcast news. Hughes, who worked at WTKR in almost every capacity and then as anchor, died June 1, 2004, at age 66, after a battle with cancer. The award was accepted by Hughes' son, Ed Hughes, IV.

The C.T. Lucy Distinguished Service Award was presented to Brad Eure, of Charlottesville to recognize his career in broadcasting and service to the industry and the association. Eure is president and general manager of Eure Communications Inc. in Charlottesville, Virginia. Eure Communications Inc. owns WINA, WQMZ, WWVW radio stations in Charlottesville, and WNBR, Windsor, North Carolina, and is the majority owner of WNBB, New Bern, North Carolina.

The J. Jerry Freeman Engineering Award went to Vernon Baker for excellence in the field of broadcast engineering and his direct support of broadcasting, having been engaged in broadcast engineering work or contract engineering serving Virginia radio stations for decades. In 1958, he constructed the first commercial radio station in Christiansburg, WBCR-AM. In the years that followed, Vernon built 41 radio stations and purchased seven. Today his son, Edward. A. Baker, is involved in the management and engineering of these stations.

The complete list of all station award winners for entries aired in 2003 is as follows:

First Place Winners

Outstanding Newscast Award — 2003

Radio-Small Market

WJMA-FM, Orange

"5 o'clock News 11/19/03"

Radio-Medium Market

WBTM-AM, Danville

"Southside Evening News"

VAB AWARDS CHECKLIST

Radio-Large Market
WRVA-AM, Richmond
“Wednesday Nov. 19, 2003, 8am”

Television-Commercial
WWBT-TV, Richmond
“WWBT 6PM Broadcast”

Outstanding News Series Award — 2003

Radio-Medium Market
WINC-AM/FM, Winchester
“The War in Iraq’s Impact at Home”

Radio-Large Market
WRVA-AM, Richmond
“The Iraq War”

Television-Commercial
WVEC-TV, Norfolk
“When Seconds Count”

Outstanding Sports Coverage Award — 2003

Radio-Small Market
WAGE-AM, Leesburg
“Wage Sports”

Radio-Medium Market
WINA AM, Charlottesville
“From the ACC to UVA to High School Athletics. WINA Covers It All.”

Radio-Large Market
WKDE-FM, Altavista
“William Campbell Football Semi’s”

Television-Commercial
WTKR-TV, Norfolk
“The Locker Room Show”

Best Morning Show Award — 2003

Radio-Medium Market
WWRE-WWRT-FM, Winchester
“Joe Sanchez Morning Show”

Radio-Large Market
WRVA-AM, Richmond
“Richmond’s Morning News with Jimmy Barrett”

VAB AWARDS CHECKLIST

Television-Commercial
WWBT-TV, Richmond
“12 News Today”

Best Station Promotion/Contest Award — 2003

Television-Commercial
WAVY-TV, Portsmouth
“Isabel: In the Dark”

Television-Non-Commercial or Public
WHRO-TV, Norfolk
“Here & Then: Jamestown”

Radio-Large Market
WRXL-FM, Richmond
“Get in the Ring with WWE and New Rock 102.1 the X”

Radio-Medium Market
WINC-FM, Winchester
“WINC-FM Halloween Chicken”

Radio-Small Market
WUSQ-FM, Winchester
“Cash Cow”

Radio-Small Market
WAMM-AM, Woodstock
“Nifty-Fifties”

Best Public Service/Community Event Award — 2003

Radio-Small Market
WUSQ-FM, Winchester
“The Q102 Christmas Wish 2003”

Radio-Medium Market
WINA-AM, Charlottesville
“The WINA Mac McDonald Invitational”

Radio-Large Market
WRXL-FM, Richmond
“Studio B Exposed to Benefit Toys for Tots”

Radio-Small Market
WAMM/WSVG, Woodstock
“Paws in the Park”

Television-Commercial
WAVY-TV, Portsmouth
“Operation School Supplies”

VAB AWARDS CHECKLIST

Best Documentary or Public Affairs Program Award — 2003

Radio-Small Market
WAMM-AM, Woodstock
“Nifty-Fifties in England”

Radio-Small Market
WFTR-AM, Front Royal
“The Valley Today”

Radio-Medium Market
WFLS-FM, Fredericksburg
“Focus: Gangs”

Radio-Large Market
WJOI-AM, Chesapeake
“Hampton Roads Focus” with Father D’Agostino

Radio-Non-Commercial or Public
WHRV-FM, Norfolk
“Hear Say-Birding”

Television-Commercial
WVEC-TV, Norfolk
“Hurricane Isabel”

Television-Non-Commercial or Public
WHRO-TV, Norfolk
“Best of Virginia Farms”

Best Commercial Award — 2003

Radio-Small Market
WFTR-AM, Front Royal
“Weasel Creek Outfitters/Royal Oak Computers”

Radio-Medium Market
WWRE-WWRT-FM, Winchester
“The Guest Room: Christmas Gifts”

Radio-Large Market
WAFX-FM, Chesapeake
“Production off Road”

Television-Commercial
WSET-TV, Lynchburg
“Dustin Flowers: Lynchburg Jet Setter”

Best Editorial Award — 2003

VAB AWARDS CHECKLIST

Radio-Medium Market
WWV-FM, Charlottesville
“3WV’s Friday Freakout”

Television-Commercial
WAZT-TV, Woodstock
“Veteran’s Day”

Outstanding Feature Reporting Award — 2003

Radio-Small Market
WJMA-FM, Orange
“Crane Obituary (7/15/03)”

Television-Commercial
WSLS-TV, Roanoke
“Mad Mailman”

*NEW: Outstanding Website — 2003

Radio-Medium Market
WMXH-FM, Harrisonburg
www.Stardust1057.com

Radio-Large Market
WPYA-FM, Norfolk
www.bob-fm.com

Television-Commercial
WSET-TV, Lynchburg
www.wset.com

2004 VAB Summer Convention Station Award Winners
Second Place Winners

Outstanding Newscast Award — 2003

Radio-Small Market
WFTR-AM, Front Royal
“The News at Noon”

Radio-Medium Market
WINC AM/FM, Winchester
“WINC-Delivering News That Counts”

Television-Commercial
WSLS-TV, Roanoke
“Newschannel Ten at Six”

VAB AWARDS CHECKLIST

Outstanding News Series Award — 2003

Radio-Medium Market
WINA AM 1070, Charlottesville
“WINA’s Exclusive Coverage of Decision 2003”

Television-Commercial
WWBT-TV, Richmond
“Con Artist Jailed”

Outstanding Sports Coverage Award — 2003

Radio-Small Market
WAMM/WSVG, Woodstock
“Valley League Finals”

Radio-Medium Market
WSVA-AM, Harrisonburg
“TA/Sherando Baseball”

Television-Commercial
WVEC-TV, Norfolk
“13 News Sports”

Best Morning Show Award — 2003

Radio-Medium Market
WBQB-FM, Fredericksburg
“B101.5 Breakfast Flakes”

Radio-Large Market
WNOR-AM, Chesapeake
“Tommy and Rumble”

Television-Commercial
WSLS-TV, Roanoke
“Newschannel 10 Today”

Best Station Promotion/Contest Award — 2003

Radio-Large Market
WAFX-FM, Chesapeake
“Classic Hits ‘A’ to ‘Z’ w/\$106 for Request”

Radio-Medium Market
WZBB-FM, Rocky Mount
“Fun-Day Promo”

Television-Commercial
WCYB-TV, Bristol
“Amazing HDTV”

VAB AWARDS CHECKLIST

Best Public Service/Community Event Award — 2003

Radio-Medium Market
WBTM-AM, Danville
“Cash Back for Schools”

Radio-Large Market
WRXL-FM, Richmond
“The Virginia Bikers for Babies Ride With The March of Dimes”

Television-Commercial
WCYB-TV, Bristol
“Tapestry of VHS”

Best Documentary or Public Affairs Program Award — 2003

Radio-Medium Market
WZRZ-FM, Front Royal
“The Valley Today”

Television-Commercial
WAZT-TV, Woodstock
“Citizen Soldier”

Best Commercial Award — 2003

Radio-Small Market
WAGE-AM, Leesburg
“High Closet Stress”

Radio-Medium Market
WBQB-FM, Fredericksburg
“Autobility: If You’re Alive, You Drive”

Radio-Large Market
WNIS-AM, Norfolk
“Presto Espresso”

Television-Commercial
WUPV-TV, Richmond
“Richmond Fire”

Outstanding Feature Reporting Award — 2003

Television-Commercial
WVEC-TV, Norfolk
“Two Rows Back”

VAB AWARDS CHECKLIST

*NEW: Outstanding Website — 2003

Radio-Medium Market
WQMZ-FM, Charlottesville
www.Z95.net

Radio-Large Market
WROX-FM, Norfolk
www.96x.fm