

TALKERS magazine is the leading trade publication serving the talk media industries in America. The term "talk media" includes broadcast talk radio and television, cable news/talk television, as well as the new talk media delivered via the internet, podcasting and satellite radio. On this site you will find brief opening excerpts from the current stories in each monthly print edition.

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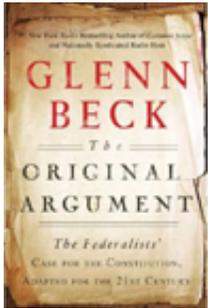
the new talk media delivered via the internet, podcasting and satellite radio.

On this site you will find brief opening excerpts from the current stories in each monthly print edition of *TALKERS* magazine. Plus, you will find free online versions of some of the publication's most popular features including NewsNotes, the Week in Review, the 100 Most Important Radio Talk Show Hosts in America (The Heavy Hundred), the Top Talk Radio Audiences, the Talk Radio Research Project™ and classified advertising.

You will also find coverage of *TALKERS* magazine sponsored industry events such as the annual New Media Seminar and the publication's many seminars and radio rows. Stay tuned to TALKERS.COM for ongoing updates and changes.



GABE HOBBS Moderates NMS Power Panel on TALKERS TV. One of the highlight panels of the recent New Media Seminar 2011 is now posted on TALKERS TV for public viewing. “The State of News/Talk Radio” is moderated by noted programmer and consultant Gabe Hobbs, president, Gabe Hobbs Media. It features an eclectic array of leading broadcasters including (in alphabetical order) Mike Bendixon, program director, Newstalk 1010 CFRB, Toronto; Laurie Cantillo, program director, 77WABC, New York; Alan Colmes, talk show host, Fox News Radio/commentator Fox News Channel; Dave Elswick, program director/talk show host, KARN-AM/FM, Little Rock; Bill Hess, associate program director, WMAL, Washington, DC; Steve Jones, vice president/general manager, ABC News Radio; and Tom Langmyer, vice president/general manager, WGN Radio 720, Chicago. The panel covered a variety of hot topics including exploring new ways to do news/talk in the new era of the genre's expansion to the FM dial. This must-see for all professionals in the talk media industry can be watched on the TALKERS TV screen at the top of this page. (June 24, 2011)



Glenn Beck's Latest Book Debuts at #1 on the NYT Bestseller List. Beck's latest historical analysis, *The Original Argument – The Federalists' Case for the Constitution, Adapted for the 21st Century* (Threshold Editions), is debuting at #1 on the New York Times combined hardcover and paperback non-fiction list on July 3. The book is Beck's seventh NYT #1 bestseller. In a related story, Beck's Mercury Radio Arts and Simon & Schuster are extending and expanding their publishing partnership and the Mercury Ink imprint will publish its first title this August. The young adult fiction title is *Michael Vey: The Prisoner of Cell 25* by Richard Paul Evans. Beck launched the imprint to discover, publish and promote books and authors across a variety of genres about which he is passionate. (June 24, 2011)



Greg
Janoff

Merlin Media Announces Revenue Chief. Expect a pretty steady release of information about new hires for Randy Michaels' Merlin Media over the next few weeks. The latest is the company's announcement of Greg Janoff as executive vice president of revenue. Merlin says Janoff will be "responsible for all revenue generation across all platforms." In a statement, Michaels says, "Greg's superior talent in broadcast, especially within the digital arena, is a valuable asset to our company. With 26 years of experience in our industry, Greg has shown an innate ability to identify and capitalize on emerging opportunities like the digital extension of traditional radio. I look forward to working with Greg and having his track record of innovation put to good use on our team." Janoff comes to Merlin from his position as vice president, branded entertainment sales for My Damn Channel. (June 24, 2011)



**Denny
Schaffer**

Denny Schaffer Takes Over Morning Drive at “Rush Radio” New Orleans. Talk pro Denny Schaffer fills the AM drive slot at WRNO-FM, New Orleans – “Rush Radio” – vacated by Michael Castner and Tasha Carty when Castner joined the Wall Street Journal Radio Network’s new evening show, “The Daily Wrap.” Recently, Schaffer has been hosting the evening program on Salem’s WGKA, Atlanta. On his new gig in the Big Easy, Schaffer says, “I been visiting NOLA for years and I fell in Love with the people and the culture. I can’t wait to get started and to be back working for Clear Channel.” Schaffer worked for Clear Channel’s WGST, Atlanta and WSPD, Toledo as well as CC’s CHR WVKS-FM, Toledo. *(June 24, 2011)*



**Adam
Thomas**

Bonneville Phoenix Media Group Hires Adam Thomas for News Director Post at KTAR-FM. Thomas comes from WCCO, Minneapolis where he served as news director for the past year. Thomas replaces Bob Shomper who, coincidentally, left KTAR-FM to take the program director post at WCCO. Prior to his work at WCCO, Thomas was executive producer at KSL, Salt Lake City for its “Utah’s Morning News” program. Bonneville Phoenix VP of news and sports Ryan Hatch says of Thomas, “Adam is a rising star in this business. His experience at some of the best newsrooms in the country, combined with his creativity and contagious energy, make him the perfect fit for KTAR.” *(June 24, 2011)*



**Chris
Neupert**

WXOS-FM, St. Louis Promotes Neupert to APD. Chris “Hoss” Neupert moves from executive producer and director of St. Louis Rams radio operations to assistant program director at the Hubbard sports talk station. The St. Louis native previously spent 12 years with crosstown KFNS before joining WXOS-FM – 101 ESPN – in 2009. Program director Kent Stirling says, “Hoss did great work during the time period after former PD Jason Barrett accepted his new position with KBWF-FM in San Francisco and before I joined the great broadcast team at 101 ESPN. He embodies the energy and passion needed for 101 ESPN to achieve the lofty level of success we’re striving for. With this new title and responsibilities, Chris will become even more instrumental in the management of our station’s producers and board-ops, as well as overseeing the overall production of Rams Radio on 101 ESPN.” *(June 24, 2011)*

Atlanta Business Talk WAFS Adds Alan Butler to Weekday Lineup. The Salem-owned business talk station brings Atlanta native Alan Butler and co-host Jason Riddle aboard to host the 10:00 am to

12:00 noon program. Butler is an entrepreneur and inventor who holds a degree in international business, finance and real estate from the University of Georgia. Salem Atlanta VP/GM Mike Moran states, “Atlanta’s business community needs its own local show. Alan Butler pulls no punches, tells it like it is, and isn’t afraid to have some fun in the process. His show is perfect for those who follow finance, investing and the economy.” (June 24, 2011)

Red Zebra Broadcasting Names Anthony Verni GSM. Verni comes to Red Zebra’s sports radio stations from the Mid-Atlantic Sports Network cable outfit where he was LSM for the Washington, DC and Baltimore markets. Verni will be responsible for Red Zebra’s Washington, DC market sales. Red Zebra CEO Rick Carmean says, “We are excited to have Anthony on board. Anthony has the unique experience of selling and managing sports, sports play-by-play, television and radio.” (June 24, 2011)

Sporting News Radio Swaps Hosts. The WQXI, Atlanta-based “Two Live Stews” (brothers Doug and Ryan Stewart) are off the network (though remaining at Lincoln Financial Media’s WQXI) and KGOW, Houston talk host Sean Pendergast takes over the 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm ET slot on the network. KGOW is owned by Mission Media, the parent company of Sporting News Radio. (June 24, 2011)

2012 Presidential Election Top News/Talk Story for Week of June 20-24. The field of GOP hopefuls battling to take on President Barack Obama in 2012 was the most-talked-about story on news/talk radio and landed on top of the TALKERS Ten chart for the week of June 20-24. According to ongoing research from TALKERS, coming in at #2 was the Obama Afghanistan drawdown plan. At #3 was the Fed’s weak economic report followed by the rise in jobless claims at #4. The TALKERS Ten is a weekly chart published each Friday at Talkers.com. To view the entire chart, click on the banner below. (June 24, 2011)



TALKERS Weekly Affiliation Roundup. Dial Global’s Michael Smerconish , Stephanie Miller , Neal Boortz , Ed Schultz and Bill Press are all added to the lineup at WREL, Lexington, Virginia....Dial Global’s Clark Howard is picked up by WNIS, Norfolk, Virginia.....Dial Global’s Thom Hartmann adds WKBZ, Muskegon, Michigan.....Tom Gresham’s “Gun Talk” adds KWAN, Memphis; WENI, Corning, New York; WBRP-FM, Baton Rouge; KWTX, Waco, Texas; and KAST, Astoria, Oregon. (June 24, 2011)

Merlin Media Officially Announces Andy Friedman’s Position with the Company. Randy Michaels’ Merlin Media makes official what’s been reported for two days – former Tribune Company and Clear Channel executive Andy Friedman is named vice president of internet initiatives for the company that will take control of WRXP-FM, New York; WKQX-FM, Chicago and WLUP-FM, Chicago soon. Merlin chairman and CEO Randy Michaels says, “Andy has better insight than anyone into how traditional media should use the web. I’ve worked with Andy at three companies and now, at Merlin Media, he will be in an ideal environment to put all of that knowledge to excellent use. We

are a multimedia company where an interactive, one-to-one web and mobile experience is critical to success. Andy is one of the best guys in America to bring it all together.” Friedman served as VP of interactive content at Tribune and was VP of online news, talk and sports at Clear Channel. (June 23, 2011)



Vince
Coakley

Vince Coakley Named PM Drive Host at WBT-AM/FM, Charlotte. Coakley is well-known in the Charlotte market as a longtime WSOC-TV news anchor. Coakley left that position in August of last year and has been subbing on WBT since December. Now, he steps into the 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm show vacated when Tara Servatius’ contract was not renewed by Greater Media and she left the station. Coakley tells the *Charlotte Observer* that although he’s conservative, his tone is not confrontational. “There has been a lot of talk and research about what’s going on even with nationally syndicated shows, and there’s some fatigue with the content. I want to bring a sense of empowerment to people as opposed to just giving information. I want to encourage people to get involved, and talk about what they can do with their lives.” (June 23, 2011)



Warren
McCarty

Mile High Sports Adds Warren McCarty to KCKK, Denver. McCarty’s “MPIF Radio” becomes part of the station’s weekend lineup on July 2 but is expected to transition to a weekday slot in the fall. (MPIF stands for “my passion is football.”) McCarty’s show is unique in that it only discusses football and fighting (mixed martial arts and boxing). Mile High Sports president James Merilatt says, “Warren is going to be a great addition to the Mile High Sports team. On the air, he’s proven to be one of the most engaging and thought-provoking hosts in the business; he’ll bolster our lineup tremendously. Plus, Warren’s ability to contribute content across all our platforms, including our magazine and digital offerings, make him the prototypical MHS personality.” MHS says it also has plans to launch McCarty’s show into national syndication. (June 23, 2011)



Doug
Russell

Morning Host Doug Russell Exits WSSP, Milwaukee. The *Milwaukee Journal-Sentinel* reports Entercom sports talker WSSP cuts ties with morning drive co-host Doug Russell – co-host of the “Doug & Mike Show.” Russell had been with the station since 2007. Program director Tom Parker tells the paper, “It’s a dynamic business. Change is inevitable. We have to try to make the best business decisions and one of the decisions we made is to move in a different direction. And that would be without him. Kind of standard stuff for the business these days.” Producer Chuck Freimund

will take a more active on-air role on the morning show alongside host Mike Wickett. (June 23, 2011)



Randy Jackson

Idol Judge Randy Jackson Pitching TV Talk Show Concept. According to the *Hollywood Reporter's* Lacey Rose, music producer, musician and “American Idol” judge Randy Jackson is pitching a daytime TV talk show concept. Although Jackson’s manager declined to comment and his publicist didn’t respond, Rose reports the show would not be all about music but targeted to a younger, hip demographic. A source is quoted as saying, “He wants to talk about things that will be hip next. He thinks he has his finger on the pulse.” (June 23, 2011)

AdLarge Media to Rep “The Money Pit.” Gary Schonfeld- and Cathy Csukas-led AdLarge Media enters into an agreement with Tom Kraeutler’s Money Pit Media to provide ad sales representation for its radio home improvement show. Csukas states, “Program hosts Tom Kraeutler and Leslie Segrete are true experts on home improvement, products and design and it’s a privilege to be working hand-in-hand with them. Their customizable radio, digital and TV options are all designed to meet the needs of today’s innovative advertisers.” (June 23, 2011)

2012 GOP Field, the Fed’s Weak Economic Report and Obama’s Afghanistan Drawdown Plan Among Top News/Talk Stories Yesterday (6/22). According to ongoing research from *TALKERS* on the most-talked-about stories on news/talk radio across America, the field of GOP candidates for president in 2012, the Fed’s report on the weak American economy and President Obama’s plan for a drawdown on U.S. troop activity in Afghanistan were at the top yesterday. (June 23, 2011)



Randy Michaels

Randy Michaels Back in Radio Biz with Private Equity Group, Emmis and Three Major Market Signals. The man who once ran Clear Channel Radio as president and Tribune Company as CEO has formed Merlin Media in conjunction with the Chicago-based private equity firm GTCR and will take control of WRXP-FM, New York; WKQX-FM, Chicago and WLUP-FM, Chicago in the very near future. Emmis remains a “significant” minority owner of the stations for which Michaels’ group is paying between \$110 million and \$130 million. Various reports in both industry and consumer publications indicate Michaels is assembling his team to operate these stations and one thing we know for sure is that AccuRadio COO John Gehron — who also operates his own consulting company Broadcast Wisdom — is on board to serve as chairman of the company’s advisory board. This appears to be a part-time position as there’s no indication Gehron is dropping his other interests. In New York, it appears Liz Aiello — former SVP of broadcast with Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia — will manage operations at WRXP-FM. As with any radio deal there is a ton of speculation as to staff and possible format changes. It’s being reported that consultant Walter Sabo is in the mix in some capacity but as *TALKERS* investigates this story it finds there is no deal *at this time* between Sabo and Merlin Media. Time Out Chicago’s Robert Feder is reporting that former Clear

Channel corporate manager and former Tribune VP of interactive content Andy Friedman – who was once news director at all-news WBBM, Chicago – is believed to be helping Michaels assemble a news team for a flip to all-news on one of the Chicago signals but there has been no official announcement by Merlin Media on that one. The industry is buzzing with speculation that one of the Chicago signals – and possibly the New York station – will flip to all-news or some talk-type format but at this juncture, *TALKERS* can't confirm any particular format changes. (June 22, 2011)



It Looks Like Spanish Sports for KTRB, San Francisco. The former Pappas sports talk outlet that went into receivership last year is going to be leased by a new company called Deportes Media and operated by David Jacobs of Independent Media and will carry ESPN's Spanish-language sports programming. This gives ESPN a nice major market signal for its ESPN Deportes. ESPN Deportes Radio senior director/GM Oscar Ramos says, "The Hispanic sports fans in San Francisco are passionate about sports and we are excited to bring them the best of sports radio. This is a great accomplishment for our network and our brand as we continue to successfully expand our national presence in the U.S. market." (June 22, 2011)



Phil
Tower

Phil Tower Takes Position in Newspaper Business. The former general manager of the Allen Hunt show and longtime PD in Grand Rapids joins Greenville, Michigan-based Stafford Media Solutions as general manager of publications. In the company's *The Daily News*, SMS president Rob Stafford says of Tower, "Phil's a very collaborative and approachable guy. His extensive media background, leadership style and strong sense of community make Phil a great fit to lead our publications group. We are excited to have him on the team." Tower exited the Allen Hunt organization when the program dropped its national syndication effort and reverted back to an Atlanta-only weekend program. (June 22, 2011)



Move America Forward Produces 4th Annual Troopathon on June 23. Radio personality Melanie Morgan's Move America Forward organization is producing the fourth annual Troopathon this Thursday to raise funds to send care packages to U.S. troops serving abroad and she's enlisted some of talk radio's biggest names to assist in the effort. Rush Limbaugh, Sean Hannity, Mark Levin, Rusty Humphries and others will make appearances on the broadcast that will be co-hosted by Morgan, talk host Roger Hedgecock, journalist Andrew Breitbart and author and pundit S.E. Cupp. The event will be staged at the Richard M. Nixon Memorial Library in Yorba Linda, California and is being broadcast on the internet with some radio and TV pickups as well from 4:00 pm to 12:00 midnight ET. To date, Move America Forward has shipped 185 tons of care packages to troops in Iraq and Afghanistan. Celebrities involved include Duke basketball coach Mike Krzyzewski,

Sarah Palin, actor Gary Sinise and actor Matthew Marsden. (June 22, 2011)



Don
Imus

Don Imus Donates Ranch Time to Tuesday's Children Family Organization. Tuesday's Children is a non-profit family organization that has made a long-term commitment to every individual impacted by the events of September 11, 2001 and more recently those who have been impacted by terrorist incidents worldwide. It is partnering with the New York Mets who will help fund "The First Responder Alliance Mentoring Program," a new mentoring program for the First Responders from the September 11 attacks. Also, Don and Deidre Imus are hosting a group of kids from Tuesday's Children at the Imus Ranch. In a statement, they say, "We are pleased to partner with Tuesday's Children on coordinating the selection of children of first responders that we will host at The Imus Ranch in late August, just before the 10th anniversary of 9/11. We're proud that the experience at the Ranch encourages a sense of achievement, responsibility and self-esteem and are grateful to be a part of honoring the heroes of 9/11." (June 22, 2011)

Huntsman Enters GOP Race and Obama Afghanistan Pullout Plan Joined Chart of Top News/Talk Stories Yesterday (6/21). Former Utah Governor Jon Huntsman officially enters the Republican field for president in 2012 and President Obama's plan to begin a drawdown of troops in Afghanistan joined the most-talked-about stories on news/talk radio yesterday according to ongoing research by TALKERS. (June 22, 2011)



Miller, Kaplan, Arase & Co. Power Ratio Report Good for Sports, News and Talk. The 2010 Market Revenue Report Power Ratios published by Miller, Kaplan Arase & Co. is good news for sports, news and news/talk stations. Simply put, the power ratio is how a station – or in this case a format – bills relative to its ratings. A power ratio above 0.0 indicates it bills more than expected based upon its ratings. It turns out all-news is the winner in that category with a 2.0 – billing two times what would be expected based on its ratings. Sports scored a 1.79 power ratio and news/talk/information scored a 1.36. (June 21, 2011)



Comrex Corporation Celebrates Its 50th Anniversary. Comrex Corporation – maker of state-of-the-art broadcast equipment that brings high-quality audio into the studio from remote locations – is celebrating its founding 50 years ago. The Devens, Massachusetts-based company devoted its annual company picnic on June 17 to highlight the milestone of its half century of service to radio and related media. Comrex was launched in 1961 by the late engineering genius John Cheney. At first dedicated to equipment such as wireless microphones and telephone interface systems, Comrex products have evolved over the years to remain on the leading edge of remote broadcast technology and its audio codecs are some of the most widely used in the communications industries. From providing reliable frequency extenders for transmitting audio over standard phone lines to harnessing ISDN for broadcast purposes to the BRIC IP ACCESS codec, Comrex has been a consistent leader in the remote audio business. One could argue that Comrex's persistence in

perfecting this technology has been crucial to moving remote broadcasting in all of its forms into the 21st century. Now, Comrex is developing similar technology for video transmission. Comrex VP/Marketing Chris Crump tells *TALKERS*, “At Comrex we are always in development of new ideas and tools to help broadcasters achieve their needs and goals. Clearly, radio has become much more than radio — it includes an array of multi-media platforms including, of course, video. We are ever-diligent in creating dependable equipment to bring radio forward. It is a non-stop process.” *TALKERS* wishes Comrex a happy 50th birthday and here’s to the next 50 years! (June 21, 2011)



Michael Smerconish Surpasses Goal in 9/11 Fundraising Effort. Dial

Global nationally syndicated talk show host Michael Smerconish opened his Bucks County, Pennsylvania home to listeners for a brunch event designed to pay homage to the fathers lost on September 11, 2001. Smerconish’s goal was to raise \$10,000 to finish the entranceway to the Garden of Reflection in Lower Makefield Township, Pennsylvania – where Flight 93 crashed on 9/11. Smerconish doubled that goal. The Garden of Reflection is a community-inspired memorial to the victims and their families. It was completed and dedicated in 2006 as a result of private efforts and a public grant secured by Congressman Michael Fitzpatrick. Smerconish donated all author proceeds from his first book, *Flying Blind: How Political Correctness Continues to Compromise Airline Safety Post-9/11*, to benefit the memorial. Pictured here at the event are (l-r): Liuba Lashchyk, designer of the Garden of Reflection; Grace Godshalk, who lost son William on 9/11; Michael Smerconish; Lavinia Smerconish; Ellen Saracini, widow of United 175 pilot Victor Saracini; and Melodie Homer, widow of United 93 pilot LeRoy Homer. (June 21, 2011)



ESPN O&O WMVP, Chicago to Get New Street-Level Studio. The new glass-enclosed studio for the Chicago sports talk outlet should be finished sometime in September and will be located on the city’s venerable State Street. The studio will be right next to the company’s WLS-TV which has had a visitor-friendly street-level studio for years. The new facility is being sponsored by Cadillac. WMVP general manager John Cravens says of the new studio, “We are very pleased to partner with Cadillac with what we know will be a long and wonderful partnership. When completed, the one-of-a-kind Cadillac ESPN Chicago State Street Studio will be a great way to showcase the ESPN Chicago family to thousands of Chicagoans daily.” (June 21, 2011)



Neal
Boortz

Dial Global Talk Star Neal Boortz Getting National Attention for “Dead Thugs” Rant.

Atlanta-based Neal Boortz was commenting on a rash of recent carjackings in Atlanta and made the following comments that have media observers talking: “This town is starting to look like a garbage heap. And we got too damn many urban thugs, yo, ruining the quality of life for everybody. And I’ll tell you what it’s gonna take. You people, you are – you need to have a gun. You need to have training. You need to know how to use that gun. You need to get a permit to carry that gun. And you do in fact need to carry that gun and we need to see some dead thugs littering the landscape in Atlanta. We need to see the next guy that tries to carjack you shot dead right where he stands. We need more dead thugs in this city.” The Georgia NAACP is condemning Boortz’s words. (June 20, 2011)



J.T.
the Brick

Sports Talker J.T. the Brick Celebrates 10 Years with Fox Sports Radio.

Ten years ago this month J.T. the Brick became part of what was then the *fledgling* Fox Sports Radio Network hosting the afternoon show. He’s been hosting the overnight show on the network since 2009. On his anniversary, J.T. says, “Thanks to Don Martin, Annie Zidarevich, co-host Tomm Looney and the amazing staff at Fox Sports Radio and Premiere Networks. It’s their support and the loyalty of our listeners across the country that makes this milestone possible.” J.T. began his sports talk career in 1995 when he won Jim Rome’s first annual “Smack-Off” – in which callers compete doing a brief monologue riffing on sports, athletes, regular callers, etc. J.T. left his career as a stock broker to join Sports Fan Radio Network where he hosted the overnight show for six years before moving to Fox. FSRN says J.T.’s show is heard on some 250 affiliates across the country and describes his show stating, “His program is one of sports radio’s most interactive shows as he fields calls every night from listeners across the country. Joined by co-host Tomm Looney, the duo’s outspoken, fast-paced dialogue is second to none as they bring a new attitude to nighttime sports talk radio.” J.T. has also worked for the Oakland Raiders since 1998 on television and radio and currently hosts the weekly TV show, “The Raiders Report,” on Comcast Sports Net. In addition, he has appeared as a guest expert on many network television shows and is a regular sports columnist for MSNBC.com. (June 20, 2011)



Charlie
Meyerson

Charlie Meyerson Out as Director of News at WGN, Chicago.

Time Out Chicago’s Robert Feder reports Charlie Meyerson has been “forced out” of his position at WGN after more than 12 years with the company and the last two as director of news. WGN program director Bill White will

serve in the interim while a search for a replacement is conducted. Meyerson issued this statement, “It’s been a privilege to work with as accomplished a group of broadcast journalists as you’ll find in Chicago.” Feder reports that Meyerson was the one who shared former Tribune CEO Randy Michaels’ infamous memo banning 119 words and phrases from all newscasts. *(June 20, 2011)*



**Bob
Richards**

Bob Richards Named PD at WQXI, Atlanta. Lincoln Financial Media announces radio programmer and digital media expert Bob Richards is the new program director at its sports talk outlet WQXI, Atlanta. In announcing Richards’ hiring, VP/GM Andrew Saltzman says, “Bob’s outstanding track record of success in both programming and promotions is a perfect fit for Sports Radio 790 The Zone. In addition, Bob’s impressive acumen in creating radio sales opportunities and his acute knowledge of social media and digital platforms make him the ideal modern-day PD.” Most recently, Richards has been consulting Tribune’s digital and new media division. *(June 20, 2011)*



**Dave
Ross**

KIRO-FM, Seattle’s Dave Ross Wins National Murrow Awards. Ross, who hosts the 9:00 am to 12:00 noon show on Bonneville’s KIRO-FM, Seattle alongside Luke Burbank, picks up two national Edward R. Murrow awards for news writing in the categories of Large Market Radio and Radio/Network Syndication Services. Bonneville Seattle VP/market manager Carl Gardner says of Ross’ achievement, “Dave is without peer as a writer, reporter, thinker and performer. It’s good to see the rest of America get a taste of the Dave Ross delicacies we enjoy every day here in the Northwest!” *(June 20, 2011)*



Tribune Company Book Promises Interesting Read. The book is by former *Chicago Tribune* managing editor Jim O’Shea and it’s called, *The Deal from Hell: How Moguls and Wall Street Plundered Great American Newspapers* (PublicAffairs 2011). To be released on June 28, the book chronicles the Sam Zell-led acquisition of Tribune, and lays bare the Randy Michaels era of the company that also owns WGN, Chicago. According to Time Out Chicago’s Robert Feder, the book will not disappoint. He cites a passage in which Randy Michaels is allegedly caught by a security staffer receiving oral sex from a young female Tribune employee on a 22nd-floor balcony of the Tribune Tower. Michaels was forced out of his position by the board of directors in October of 2010.

(June 20, 2011)



Ronn
Owens

Garry
Meier

News/Talk from an Independent Position – Part Two. In the current print edition of *TALKERS* magazine, special features correspondent Mike Kinosian writes about the concept of programming issues talk radio that comes from neither a hard-right nor hard-left political slant and what the chances are for success. Two local hosts – Ronn Owens at KGO, San Francisco and Garry Meier at WGN, Chicago – have both followed their own paths over the years to enjoy consistent success. Owens’ midday show at KGO has been part of that station’s success story for years. He says he has to be what he is. “About 10 to 15 years ago, operations director Jack Swanson told me that I could easily go national and make a ton of money but I would have to be on one side or the other. I couldn’t do it because it just is not me. I take each story as it comes along and try to deal with it.” Studies seem to indicate a majority of Americans view things issue-by-issue instead of following a prescribed political orthodoxy. But that doesn’t mean that there aren’t hyper-partisan listeners out there. There are and many news/talk P1s are partisan conservatives. WGN’s Meier says that’s where Limbaugh and Hannity have succeeded so well. “It has been whispered for the last 10 to 15 years that people such as Hannity and Limbaugh will start to fade but they keep motoring through all those naysayers so I would be very hesitant to say it will decline by any great number in the near future.” But there’s room for success without the partisanship and dogged pursuit of political topics as Meier’s success at WGN indicates. “I don’t know if other talk show hosts, for example, would bat around the topic of laughing gas being used in childbirth. I had a good time with it because I am looking for the oddities out there. I like talking and visiting with listeners as far as being real. I don’t claim to be the best-ever talk show host nor is that what I am trying to achieve. This style seems to work for me. You have to be a little different. If not, you are doing the same thing as 10 to 15 other people in the market.” Read Mike Kinosian’s entire piece in the current print edition of *TALKERS* magazine. (June 17, 2011)



New Jersey 101.5 Part of Renewed Photo Copyright Suit. This issue may seem like a technical one but the ramifications are important for parties posting photographs on their websites especially in the wake of WPRO, Providence’s settlement for using an unauthorized photo in a photo caption contest. In fact, we’re probably going to see more of these cases. Several years ago, photographer Peter Murphy took a photo of New Jersey 101.5’s then-PM drive team of Craig Carton and Ray Rossi for a Best of New Jersey spread in *New Jersey Monthly* magazine. The duo then posted the photo on the station website and invited listeners to doctor it for a contest. They neither sought permission nor credited Murphy so he filed suit for violation of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act and lost at the U.S. District Court level when the judge ruled the station’s use fell under the fair use guidelines. Now, according to the *Star-Ledger*, the 3rd Circuit Court of Appeals is ruling the case can go back to court and the District Court Judge got it wrong. Murphy also is suing for damages alleging he was harmed after Carton and Rossi questioned his sexuality. (June 17, 2011)



Dan
McNeil

CBS Radio's WSCR, Chicago and Host Dan McNeil in Contract Talks. Midday talk host Dan McNeil is off the air as he and WSCR are seemingly not close on terms for a contract renewal, according to Time Out Chicago's Robert Feder. McNeil returned to WSCR two years ago after a long stint at crosstown WMVP. Currently, Barry Rozner is sitting in for McNeil alongside Matt Spiegel. Feder notes that in the May PPMs, McNeil was solidly #2 in the market with men 25-54. *(June 17, 2011)*



Dr. Phil

Dr. Phil Supplants Oprah as Top TV Talk Show. With Oprah Winfrey's program gone from first-run syndication and cancelled in many markets, her one-time protégé Dr. Phil takes over the spot as the highest-rated TV talk show. *Broadcasting and Cable* reports that for the week of May 30 through June 5, Dr. Phil averaged 3.4 million viewers. ABC's "Live with Regis & Kelly" came in second with 2.4 million. *(June 17, 2011)*

Weiner Scandal and Resignation Tops TALKERS Ten Chart for Week of June 13-17. The Rep. Anthony Weiner sexting scandal and resignation was the most-talked-about story on news/talk radio this week, according to ongoing research by TALKERS. Following at #2 was the 2012 presidential election, at #3 was criticism of President Obama's job stimulus package and #4 was the news about Ayman al Zawahiri's becoming chief of al Qaeda. The TALKERS Ten is a weekly chart of the top stories and people discussed on news/talk radio across America and is published here each Friday. *(June 17, 2011)*



TALKERS Weekly Affiliation Roundup. Compass Media Networks' "Free Beer and Hot Wings" morning show (pictured at left) is added to the program lineup at WYFM-FM, Youngstown, Ohio and KZRK-FM, Amarillo, Texas.....United Stations Radio Networks' "Lex & Terry," featuring Lex Staley and Terry Jaymes, picks up KBRU-FM, Oklahoma City.....Talk Radio Network weekend show "Watchdog on Wall Street," hosted by Chris Markowski, adds KBSU, Boise and KBAR, Twin Falls, Idaho.....Shannon Rose's Hollywood entertainment news segment, "The Rose Report," is picked up on TRN-FM's syndicated "The Mancow Experience" show. *(June 17, 2011)*



Alex Jones New Media Seminar Speech Video Posted. In response to reader demand, *TALKERS* has posted the keynote address delivered by Genesis Communications Networks syndicated talk host and internet maverick Alex Jones this past Saturday, June 11 at New Media Seminar 2011 on this page in the *TALKERS* TV window. In a powerful speech that ran slightly over half an hour, Jones passionately covered a variety of topics including some of the fascinating history of his phenomenal rise to prominence as talk media's leading internet and cross-platform practitioner. Although he did include the basic tenets of his ongoing warning against what he terms global social engineers' conspiracy to gain control over the population's (and talk radio's) freedom via the internet and how he effectively taps into the public's growing backlash against this, he also predicted a rapid acceleration of the technological and social changes impacting our society and discussed talk radio's unique and powerful position as both an old and new medium in the coming era. *TALKERS* publisher Michael Harrison observes, "Alex Jones gave the industry a sample of his passion for what he sees as the truth and a brief glimpse of his powerful and fiery delivery. It was a riveting presentation with a message that could be taken on a number of levels. I think in his case as a NMS presenter, the medium itself was the message – and that is, it isn't just the position of the host that gathers loyalty and attention, but the delivery, credibility and charisma that the personality brings to the microphone. It could work in just about any genre beyond politics. It was about the power of truth as an attraction unto itself – whatever that truth might be." (June 16, 2011)

New Media Seminar 2011 Coverage: Making Money. Improving revenue was chief among concerns of attendees at the *TALKERS* New Media Seminar in New York City last weekend. The first panel discussion titled, "Monetizing Everything: How Do We Make Money Doing This?" addressed this.



John
Parikhal

Moderator Dan Yorke of WPRO, Providence drilled deep into **John Parikhal** the expertise of each panelist. Joint Communications president John Parikhal told the attendees that digital efforts must be sold in-house as if they are special, not outsourced as commodities. He says smaller operators are being commoditized – they are too small in terms of audience to compete with the bigger operators who themselves are "getting beat up on rate every single day. The minute you want someone else to handle that because it's too complicated, do something else. Just do your broadcast and give up the rest



Ron Hartenbaum because you are going to lose if you don't want to get involved in thinking, 'I'm not a

commodity, what makes me special?” WYD Media Mangement’s Ron Hartenbaum has had great success with premium podcasting with some of his talent. He says a key benefit is not sharing income, “If you sell a premium podcast of some form or another, that’s a wonderful cash revenue source: a) there’s no 15% ad agency commission and b) there’s no commission that goes for ad sales and affiliate sales.” Harrison Strategies senior partner Matthew B. Harrison told the packed auditorium that giving away your online content for free will not help you put a value on your work. “You want



Matthew B.
Harrison

to encourage people to share it and have it go viral so that they can come back to your site and hopefully you can monetize that. But if you don’t have a premium section or some way that you put a definitive value on it, then you’re giving it away. Once it’s out there and has no value, how can you argue that you’re losing money when people are taking it from you?” WGDJ, Albany owner, manager and talk host Paul Vandenburg admits that there are other revenue streams but he chooses



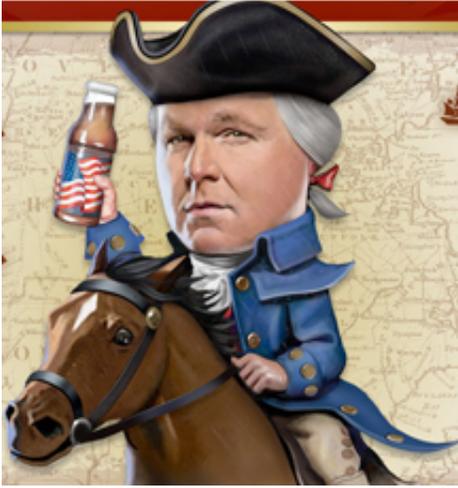
Paul

Vandenburg to focus on his radio products. “I still think the fundamental concepts are how you make money. And it doesn’t start with making money, it starts with putting a product on the air that people will actually listen to. I’m putting live shows on in the morning, live shows on in the afternoon and I’m not making a dime unless those people are driving hard content.” More money-making and content improving ideas are coming in the complete coverage of the New Media Seminar in the July/August print edition of *TALKERS*. (June 16, 2011)



Michael

Smerconish **Dial Global’s Michael Smerconish Snags Plum Clear on WTKK-FM, Boston.** Nationally syndicated talk show host Michael Smerconish’s program has been testing the waters in Boston on Greater Media’s WTKK-FM, Boston since the station canceled Michele McPhee’s evening show in November of 2010. Now the show is officially named to the 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm time slot. Smerconish states, “Having WTKK carry my program in the evenings for the last several months has been an honor, and the results are overwhelming. I think it proves that my independent thinking is well suited for Boston and I am thrilled there is now more permanence to the relationship.” (June 16, 2011)



Rush Limbaugh Debuts New Line of Tea Drinks. Premiere Networks superstar Rush Limbaugh – one of several broadcasters whose program helped make Snapple a national sensation in the early 1990s – is out with his own brand of tea called, “Two If By Tea.” Limbaugh’s message to consumers about his product states, in part, “Two If By Tea represents traditional American values of capitalism and the pursuit of excellence. Each bottle is designed to rise above the sameness and mediocrity that threatens our great nation. Just grab a 12-pack and join the fight to preserve the America we know and love. It’s worth it!” There is a philanthropic angle to the product as well. “Two If By Tea is proud to salute the men and women of our armed forces and their families. Two If By Tea is a proud sponsor of the Marine Corps – Law Enforcement Foundation and will donate a minimum of \$100,000 to MC-LEF beginning in June 2011.” (June 16, 2011)



Alan
Stock

KXNT-AM/FM, Las Vegas Talk Host Alan Stock to Emcee Conservative Leadership Conference. Afternoon drive talk host Alan Stock has been selected to emcee the coming 4th Annual Conservative Leadership Conference in Las Vegas July 9 -10. The event will include a debate with the announced GOP candidates for president. The 2011 Conservative Leadership Conference (CLC) will be held at the M Resort in Las Vegas. This fourth annual event will be co-hosted by Citizen Outreach Foundation and Americans for Tax Reform (ATR). (June 16, 2011)



WTOP-FM, Washington Honored with National Murrow Award. Hubbard Radio’s all-news WTOP-FM, Washington, DC grabbed the coveted National Edward R. Murrow Award for Overall Excellence in radio. Vice president of news and programming Jim Farley says, “WTOP news director Mike McMearty and the entire news team sweat every minute of every day to make WTOP Radio and wtop.com the preferred destination for people who want to know what is happening in the world, the nation, the region and their own neighborhood.” (June 16, 2011)



Fox Sports Radio Develops Weekly Big Ten and PAC 12 Radio Shows. Partnering

with the newly aligned college football conferences, TV partners Fox Sports West and the Big Ten Network, Fox Sports Radio begins offering two new weekly programs this fall. The one-hour shows are: “The Pac-12 Crack Back” hosted by Pac-12 play-by-play voice Steve Physioc and Fox Sports Radio weekday host Petros Papadakis and “Big Ten Football and Beyond” hosted by Big Ten network host Dave Revsine, former NCAA football coach Gerry DiNardo, and Big Ten Network football analyst Chris Martin. *(June 16, 2011)*

Sports USA Develops Joe Morgan Radio Show. Baseball Hall-of-Famer and Emmy Award-winning analyst Joe Morgan joins Sports USA to host a daily one-hour radio talk show beginning in late August. Sports USA has tabbed AdLarge Media to act as sales rep for the show. Sports USA president Larry Kahn says, “Joe is a well-known and respected broadcaster whose opinions and overall knowledge of sports will captivate sports fans nationwide. This platform will allow him to reach and engage other sports enthusiasts.” *(June 16, 2011)*



Hubbard Radio's WXOS-FM, St. Louis Extends Deal with Rams. 101 ESPN announces it has signed a five-year deal with the NFL's St. Louis Rams to continue as the flagship radio station for the team's broadcasts. According to Hubbard, “This year's programming includes an unprecedented nine hours of Rams' football every Sunday during the season. KMOV's sports director Steve Savard has been re-signed as the “Voice of the Rams,” and 101 ESPN afternoon drive host and former Rams defensive tackle D'Marco Farr will continue calling all of the play-by-play action. Executive producer Chris “Hoss” Neupert was also retained as a part of this new Rams radio deal.” *(June 16, 2011)*

CBS Radio Names GSM at KXNT-AM/FM, Las Vegas. CBS Radio Las Vegas announces Dave Sturgeon is the new general sales manager at its news/talk outlet KXNT-AM/FM, Las Vegas. Sturgeon most recently served as market manager for Three Eagles Communications' Mankato, Minnesota cluster. Sturgeon's news/talk experience includes eight years as morning drive host at Rogers Communications' 570 News CKGL in Kitchener/Waterloo, Ontario, and two years as GM/GSM at Wired World Inc's CKWR, also in Ontario. *(June 16, 2011)*

2012 Presidential Race, Wisconsin Public Unions Law Upheld, al-Zawahiri Heads al Qaeda and U.S. Libya Policy Among Top News/Talk Stories Yesterday (6/15). The most-talked-about stories on news/talk radio yesterday included the 2012 presidential race, the Wisconsin public union law is upheld, Ayman al-Zawahiri being named head of al Qaeda and Congress and President Obama face off on the Libya policy according to ongoing research from TALKERS. *(June 16, 2011)*



Doug
Meehan

WTKK-FM, Boston Names Doug Meehan PM Drive Host. Greater Media's WTKK-FM, Boston announces it is replacing dismissed talk show host Jay Severin with Boston media personality Doug Meehan. Severin was let go in early April after comments he made on the air about sleeping with former employees of his own company years ago caused a stir. Meehan served as helicopter traffic reporter for seven years at WFXT-TV, Boston. He has been doing talk radio in the market

since he left that position in 2010, first at Entercom's WRKO and most recently subbing in the afternoon slot at WTKK-FM. Now the station makes his job permanent. Program director Grace Blazer says, "The people of Boston AND New England will get to know a terrific live and local guy with a big commitment to the community. Doug brings to 96.9 FM smart and entertaining talk radio with relevant guests, sharp topics, and the wisdom and wit of a great radio talent. Live, local, and interactive programming now accounts for 100% of WTKK's weekday lineup from 4:30 am to 6:00 pm." (June 15, 2011)



Michael Smerconish News/Talk Radio from an Independent Perspective. *TALKERS* magazine special features correspondent Mike Kinoshian writes in the current print edition of *TALKERS* about talk hosts who are having success without being a hyper-partisan conservative or liberal. Dial Global talk host Michael Smerconish states his only goal is to "offer compelling radio." Smerconish tells *TALKERS*, "It is of little consequence to me whether the issues I highlight — or my take on that material — suit the objective of those at either end of the spectrum. Instead, I focus on saying something that, hopefully, is smart and entertaining. Frankly, I do not think our medium can afford to demand voter registration cards of listeners." The question programmers must consider is whether being too rigid in one's political philosophy limits a given host's appeal to the hard-core P1s and consequently hinders the potential audience growth. Smerconish thinks so, although he's quick to point out that P1s are still his target audience and he has no intention of trying to be all things to all people or change his own views. He says the way he operates his show is simply more welcoming to thoughtful listeners. "I would like to build from that P1 base. The way I do it is to frame an issue, educate on differing opinions, offer my perspective and then lend a good ear to those who agree and disagree with me. The majority of potential listeners are seeking compelling conversation from someone whose viewpoint they respect as thoughtful. Agreement with that perspective is not always required. I will listen to a viewpoint with which I disagree so long as it is well presented and I think radio audiences feel the same way." Read Mike Kinoshian's entire piece in the current print edition of *TALKERS* magazine. (June 15, 2011)



Dial Global Talk Host Michael Smerconish to Host Benefit Brunch.

Philadelphia-based nationally syndicated talk host Michael Smerconish has been very proactive in memorializing the September 11, 2001 crash of Flight 93 in Bucks County, Pennsylvania that took the lives of 44 passengers and crew – 18 of those were residents of Bucks County. Smerconish and his wife Lavinia will open their home for a special Father's Day brunch and fundraiser to 100 people willing to make a minimum \$100 contribution toward the completion of the Garden of Reflection memorial at the site of the crash. Smerconish notes that more than 40 Pennsylvania children lost a parent on that day. "The Garden of Reflection is a special place that not only honors those we lost on 9/11, but serves

as a reminder of those horrific events to future generations tasked with ensuring that they are never repeated. Your contribution will play a meaningful role in this honorable, essential effort.” (June 15, 2011)



Louis
B. Free

WGFT, Youngstown Talk Host Louie B. Free Spared Jail in Tax Evasion Case. Free – real name Louis Wolk will wear a monitoring bracelet for six months, be on probation for two years, perform 200 hours of community service and pay a \$5,000 fine after pleading guilty to not filing income tax returns for three years in 2004, 2005 and 2006. WFMJ-TV, Youngstown reports Wolk’s wife was among those who asked the judge for leniency. Louie B. Free continues to host the 11:00 am to 1:00 pm show on Stop 26 Riverbend’s WGFT. (June 15, 2011)



Journal’s WTMJ, Milwaukee Raises Money for “Honor Flight” Project. The Honor Flight campaign is to raise money for Milwaukee-area World War II veterans to be able to fly to Washington, DC so they can visit the WWII memorial, Iwo Jima memorial, Air Force memorial and Arlington National Cemetery and attend a reception at the Air and Space Museum. Recently, the station raised more than \$50,000 in three hours via a radio and television phone bank led by midday talk host Charlie Sykes. This is the final Honor Flight campaign for the station that has helped raise more than \$455,000 for the project. (June 15, 2011)

2012 Presidential Race, Weiner Scandal, Pakistan Informants Arrested, Obama “Shovel-Ready” Comment Among Top News/Talk Stories Yesterday (6/14). The Republican field of possible candidates in the 2012 presidential election, the status of U.S. Rep. Anthony Weiner, the arrest by Pakistani officials of a number of informants who worked with the CIA to help find Osama bin Laden and President Obama’s light-hearted response to a question about jobs creation and the stimulus package were among the most-talked-about stories on news/talk radio yesterday according to ongoing research from TALKERS. (June 15, 2011)



Arbitron Announces New Diary Market. Arbitron will begin rating a new market designation beginning in the fall as the Hudson Valley – consisting of four counties north of New York City: Westchester, Rockland, Putnam and Orange – replaces the Newburgh-Middleton market. The new diary market is currently ranked #38 in Arbitron’s 280+ markets. That designation will be reassessed in September as all markets are. Arbitron EVP, service innovation and chief research officer Gregg Lindner says, “The socio-economic and demographic make-up of the Hudson Valley make it an attractive market for advertisers to reach a very unique audience. Radio is an important platform for advertisers to launch localized marketing campaigns and Arbitron recognizes the need for specific information on a marketplace as distinctive as the Hudson Valley.” The new market will receive twice-yearly diary reports. (June 14, 2011)



Neal Boortz Broadcasts from New Hampshire GOP Debate;

Interviews Herman Cain. Dial Global nationally syndicated talk star Neal Boortz broadcast his program live from New Hampshire on June 13 and interviewed GOP candidate – and former WSB, Atlanta talk show host – Herman Cain. Boortz and Cain addressed what Cain calls the establishment’s dismissive attitude toward his candidacy, “They will accept my candidacy when I’m taking my oath as President of the United States.” Like Boortz, Cain is a supporter of the “Fair Tax” proposal and he says people on the campaign trail appreciate his passion and problem-solving abilities as a businessman and that he can “talk about my ideas without tele-prompters. I’ve been developing my ideas for years. Being on the radio helped. Being able to guest host your show helped.” Prior to declaring his intention to run for president, Cain hosted the evening show at WSB, Atlanta where he also guest hosted for Boortz. *(June 14, 2011)*



**Jeff
Ward**

DWI Charges Against KLBJ, Austin’s Jeff Ward Dropped. Just four days after KLBJ, Austin talk show host (and former Longhorns football player) Jeff Ward was pulled over, given a field sobriety test and charged with DWI, the authorities say they will not prosecute after a review of the evidence indicates there is not enough evidence to convict. Ward had strongly defended his sobriety and predicted the case would be dropped. He says he was returning from a station event where he had two beers but was not intoxicated. *(June 14, 2011)*

Former Financial Talker Clifford Robertson Gets 10 Years in Jail. Robertson brokered time on KFXR, Dallas until his arrest in the fall of 2009 on charges of bank fraud and identity theft. He was convicted and will serve eight years on the bank fraud charge and an additional two years for the identity theft conviction. *(June 14, 2011)*

Richmond, Virginia-Area News/Talk Station Adds FM Simulcast. Fifth Estate Broadcasting’s WHAN, Ashland, Virginia is now simulcasting on a translator at 102.9 that should give the news/talk station some presence in the Richmond market to the south. *(June 14, 2011)*



**Jim
Thornton**

KNX, Los Angeles Traffic Reporter Gets “Wheel” Gig. CBS Radio traffic reporter Jim

Thornton is the new announcer for TV's "Wheel of Fortune." The producers of the show announced Thornton's getting the job after an extensive search. Thornton had subbed in the announcer role in the past. LA Radio People's Don Barrett reports Thornton says of his new gig, "I've always wanted to do radio and now I get to move into television." Thornton begins his new position in September. *(June 14, 2011)*



14th Edition of TALKERS New Media Seminar Draws 550+ Industry Pros to New York City. The 2011 New Media Seminar was held Friday and Saturday in New York City and more than 550 people working in the talk media business and affiliated industries attended the annual conference. As the radio and advertising businesses continue to pull out of the morass created by the recent recession, attendees appeared upbeat about the talk media biz and were eager to listen to fellow broadcasters discuss ways of improving their product and methods for enhancing revenue. The conference was highlighted by the annual awards that have become the hallmark of the New Media Seminar – the Freedom of Speech Award, the Woman of the Year award and the Humanitarian of the Year award as well as an electrifying keynote speech by internet and terrestrial talk sensation Alex Jones. In the accompanying photo, attendees watch the popular Talk Rumble in which talk hosts of all political stripes knock around the hot issues of the day in a theatrical, professional wrestling-inspired motif. Taking part in the Rumble this year were: Heidi Harris, KDWN, Las Vegas; Lars Larson, KXL/Compass Media Networks; Stephanie Miller, Dial Global; Lincoln Ware, WDBZ, Cincinnati; Phil Valentine, Westwood One; Martha Zoller, WXKT-FM, Gainesville, Georgia/Georgia State Network; Steve Malzberg, WOR, New York; Brad Krantz, WZTK-FM, Greensboro, North Carolina; Dom Giordano, WPHT, Philadelphia; Jim Bohannon, Westwood One; and Thom Hartmann, Dial Global. There will be much more coverage and analysis of the event both here and in the pages of the next print edition of TALKERS magazine. Below are some of the conference highlights. *(June 13, 2011)*



Three Broadcasters Honored at New Media Seminar. Three talk media broadcasters were honored over the weekend at the TALKERS New Media Seminar. Former NPR correspondent and current Fox News Channel political analyst Juan Williams received the Freedom of Speech Award on Saturday afternoon. Williams recounted his firing from NPR for relating his personal feelings about seeing people who dress and identify themselves first and foremost as Muslims aboard airplanes. In accepting the award, Williams stressed how important it is to American freedom that we as broadcasters never forget the freedom we have and that we exercise it every day. Dial



Global syndicated talk host Neal Boortz presented the Annual State of the First Amendment speech and stated that although the FCC Chairman intends to remove the Fairness Doctrine language from the federal code, the greatest threat talk broadcasters face in the future will be from community advisory panels if those are brought back by the FCC. Dial Global and WYD Media talk star Stephanie Miller – pictured above receiving the award – was honored with the Judy



Jarvis Memorial Award for Outstanding Contributions to Talk Radio by a Woman – also known as the Woman of the Year award – for her career achievements in the talk radio field. WOR, New York and WOR Radio Network talk host Dr. Joy Browne was honored with the Sharon L. Harrison Memorial Award for Outstanding Community Service by a Radio Talk Show Host – also known as the Humanitarian of the Year award. Browne's endless work both domestically and internationally to assist those less fortunate was recognized by the awards committee. In the photo here, Browne is seen receiving the award from WOR, New York program director Scott Lakefield. (June 13, 2011)



Alex Jones Wows Convention-goers with Passionate Keynote Speech. Genesis Communications Network talk show host and internet sensation Alex Jones delivered the Keynote Address at the New Media Seminar on Saturday morning. Jones – whose less-than-mainstream political views are becoming well known through his growing popularity – spoke passionately about growing his media business from the ground up using the internet to gain an international audience of millions. Jones' strong beliefs and dedication to executing his programming in numerous media formats was inspiring to fellow talk show hosts and programmers who witnessed a superb example of his intense passion and headstrong delivery. (June 13, 2011)



First Annual Sports Talk Radio Seminar. 2011 was the first year TALKERS included a sports talk component in the New Media Seminar that included panel discussions and solo presentations. Entercom New England vice president and market manager Julie Kahn (pictured here) delivered a solo presentation outlining the success Entercom has enjoyed with WEEI, Boston and its growing footprint in New England. Voiceover specialist Jim Cutler presented a great mini-seminar on

how to write and produce more effective promotion (and commercial) messages for both sports and traditional talk radio. Two panel discussions that were organized and facilitated in part by sports talk consultant Rick Scott – one from a management/programming standpoint and another from a talent perspective – gave attendees a glimpse inside the minds of those working successfully in what is the fastest growing format in radio. (June 13, 2011)

KLBJ, Austin Talk Host Jeff Ward Arrested for DWI. KLBJ PM drive talk host Ward maintains that he was not intoxicated and believes the charges will be dismissed. According to KTBC-TV, Austin, Ward was pulled over in the early morning of June 10 for speeding and asked to do field sobriety tests. Ward complied with the tests and was booked on charges of DWI. Ward subsequently issued the following statement, “I was stopped last night for exceeding the speed limit. I was asked, and I agreed, to a field sobriety test. I was not intoxicated and I am confident the charge of Driving While Intoxicated will be dismissed.” (June 13, 2011)



The Freedom Walk. KIDO, Boise talk show host Kevin Miller is pictured here speaking at the God Bless Our Troops Rally at the Fallen Soldier Memorial in downtown Boise. Miller, morning drive host at KIDO, recently completed a 140-mile, eight-day walk from Hailey, Idaho to Boise in order to raise awareness of Idaho’s soldiers and the sacrifices they have made. Attending the ceremony were Idaho Governor Butch Otter, First Lady Lori Otter, the commander of the state Guard and others. (June 13, 2011)



Andrew Breitbart Demands Investigation from Sirius XM for Weiner Photo Release. Conservative journalist Andrew Breitbart is still fuming from being duped by Sirius XM’s Opie & Anthony this week. When Breitbart appeared on the duo’s show, he passed around his phone with what he says is an x-rated photo of U.S. Rep. Anthony Weiner that he says he had no intention of making public. According to the *Hollywood Reporter*, Breitbart says he was told there were no cameras in the studio yet an image of his phone was captured by a camera and sent out by O&A. “They right away admitted that they did this behind my back. They used a surveillance camera that’s in the room and did a screen grab of it and put it out there,” he told KFI, Los Angeles hosts John & Ken. There’s no official word from Sirius XM but Anthony Cumia released a statement that read, in part, “I want to make it clear that Andrew Breitbart had no knowledge that this photo was being made public. A phone with the photo was being displayed and a camera in the studio caught it. It was then uploaded to Twitter, again, without Andrew Breitbart’s knowledge. I regret that this occurred.” (June 10, 2011)



Kent
Sterling

WXOS-FM, St. Louis Names Kent Sterling PD. Hubbard Broadcasting announces it is naming Kent Sterling program director of WXOS-FM, St. Louis. Sterling, who takes over for Jason Barrett, most recently programmed Emmis Communications' news/talk WIBC-FM and sports WFNI, Indianapolis. Barrett was the first PD at the station that was flipped from a music format two years ago. He recently left for Entercom's new FM sports talk KBWF-FM, San Francisco. *(June 10, 2011)*



Fox Television to Debut TV Talk Show Featuring Radio Show Content. Dubbed, "Dish Nation," the show will take clips from four urban and CHR radio shows: KPWR-FM, Los Angeles' Felli Fel; WPLJ-FM, New York's Scott Shannon and Todd Pettingill; WHAT-FM, Atlanta's Ricky Smiley; and WDVD-FM, Detroit's Blain Fowler and Allyson Martinek. According to the *Los Angeles Times*, the show will be an "entertainment news program featuring...a fast-paced, unscripted take on pop culture, celebrity scandals and salacious, headline-grabbing conversations." It will see the air on Fox Television O&Os in six major markets. *(June 10, 2011)*



Jim
Durham

ESPN Radio Jim Durham Named to Basketball Hall of Fame. Basketball commentator and play-by-play voice Jim Durham is honored with the 2011 Curt Gowdy Media Award from the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame. The prestigious award is presented annually to members of the print and electronic media whose longtime efforts have made a significant contribution to the game of basketball. ESPN executive vice president, production Norby Williamson says, "Jim is an NBA broadcasting legend and consummate professional. His delivery and passion for the game make every broadcast feel like a big event. We congratulate him on this well-deserved honor." *(June 10, 2011)*

Weiner Twitter Scandal Top News/Talk Story for Week of June 6-10. The controversy and political ramifications of U.S. Rep. Anthony Weiner's tweeting lewd pictures of himself to women was the most-talked-about story on news/talk radio this week according to the TALKERS Ten – a weekly chart based on ongoing research by TALKERS and published at Talkers.com. Coming in at #2 this week was the 2012 presidential race. At #3 was the legal challenge of President Obama's health care reform legislation and the nation's tepid job growth figures came in at #4. *(June 10, 2011)*



Neal
Boortz

TALKERS Weekly Affiliation Roundup. Dial Global's **Neal Boortz** show picks up Clear Channel's KTLK-FM, Minneapolis for the nightly 8:00 to 11:00 time slot..... Westwood One's **"America in the Morning"** with **Jim Bohannon** is added to WSGW-FM, Saginaw, Michigan.....**"The Truth About Money with Ric Edelman"** picks up KTRH, Houston; WPHR, Vero Beach, Florida; WDEL, Wilmington, Delaware; and WKIM-FM, Memphis.....Genesis Communications Network's **"America Tonight"** with **Kate Delaney** picks up affiliates WICC, Bridgeport, Connecticut; WHKT, Virginia Beach; and WTHQ, Paducah, Kentucky.....Westwood One's **"Loveline"** with **Dr. Drew Pinsky** and **"Psycho" Mike Catherwood** is added to Emmis' WRXP-FM, New York.....United Stations Radio Networks announces its AccuWeather service is added to KHOW, Denver.....Westwood One's **Dennis Miller** show is added to the program schedule at KASI, Ames, Iowa. *(June 10, 2011)*



"Talk Radio Day" Takes Place at the United Nations. The United Nations Foundation and TALKERS magazine are presenting the 6th annual "Talk Radio Day at the UN" today. More than 20 talk radio hosts from across the United States will be airing their shows from the United Nations in New York. The hosts will be interviewing UN Ambassadors and officials from the UN and its agencies to offer listeners first-hand accounts about the valuable work of the United Nations. United Nations Foundation president Timothy E. Wirth says, "Whether it is leading the global fight against AIDS, or authorizing the protection of civilians from Cote d'Ivoire to Libya, the UN is in the forefront of the major challenges facing the world today. We are pleased to celebrate the 6th anniversary of this event and to be able to provide the American public the opportunity to learn more about the UN's work by hearing directly from its staff and officials." TALKERS magazine publisher Michael Harrison says, "Talk radio and its dedicated community of listeners represent millions of Americans across the U.S. This is a terrific opportunity for our hosts to bring the work of the men and women of the UN to America's kitchens, drive times and mobile devices." "Talk Radio Day" at the UN is part of the big talk radio weekend in New York City as TALKERS presents the New Media Seminar tomorrow and Saturday at the Concierge Conference Center on Manhattan's East Side during which more than 550 talk media pros will gather. *(June 9, 2011)*



Julius
Genachowski

FCC Chairman Julius Genachowski Supports Removal of Fairness Doctrine Language from Federal Code. FCC Chairman Genachowski responded to U.S. Reps. Fred Upton (R-MI) and Greg Walden (R-OR) stating that he fully supports removing all Fairness Doctrine language from the books. The two congressmen – the House Energy and Commerce Committee chairman and

Communications and Technology Subcommittee chairman, respectively – last week sought Genachowski’s take on the matter since the unenforced edict is still technically part of the U.S. legal code. Genachowski says he plans to begin the process to remove the rules permanently. Now, Upton and Walden are asking how he plans to go about it and how long he expects it to take. There is no official response from Genachowski yet. *(June 9, 2011)*



Opie & Anthony Spread X-Rated Weiner Photo; Breitbart Claims Breach. Journalist Andrew Breitbart claims to have been snookered by Sirius XM talk hosts Opie & Anthony after he appeared on their show and brought with him his prize – the x-rated version of one of U.S. Rep. Anthony Weiner’s photo tweets that have his career in Washington in jeopardy. Breitbart showed the duo the photo and someone at the show did a screen grab and it was tweeted by O&A to a number of news outlets. Breitbart is claiming to be outraged that O&A violated the agreement that the photo would not be made public. However, a skeptic might theorize the conservative journalist saw an appearance on O&A as the perfect way to “accidentally” release the photo and thereby cause Democrat Weiner enough additional trouble to force him out of office. We’re just sayin’... *(June 9, 2011)*



Dana
Mills

TRN and the Washington Times Name News Pro Dana Mills “America’s Morning News” Co-Ancor. Talk Radio Network Entertainment and the *Washington Times* announce Dana Mills is the new co-anchor alongside John McCaslin on its “America’s Morning News” program. Mills is a large and major market news pro having spent much of her career working in the Denver and Detroit markets. TRN CEO Mark Masters says, “Dana Mills is an excellent addition to our co-anchored news team. Working together, we’ve developed the next generation news programming that is rapidly gaining national audience share with over 120 affiliates secured to date and in 15 of the top 30 markets.” Talk Radio Network Entertainment director of programming Phil Boyce says of Mills, “I have had the privilege of working with Dana at two great radio stations. She is really one of the best news anchors I have ever heard on the air. She is a true professional with great journalistic integrity. She also has a great personality that fits this format to a tee. She will be great doing mornings with John McCaslin on AMN.” *(June 9, 2011)*



Eric
Deters

Eric Deters Back on the Air in Cincinnati. Attorney and talk show host Eric Deters – famously fired by Clear Channel’s WLW, Cincinnati recently for making a racial joke – is going to surface at crosstown WQRT – “Real Talk 1160” – on Monday, June 13 in the 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm

time slot. According to the *Cincinnati Enquirer's* John Kiesewetter, the plan is for Deters to eventually move to the 9:00 am to 12:00 noon slot. Deters says of his new gig, "It will be a full-time gig and I have a great financial package. It will also allow me to continue my full-time law practice. I'll begin Monday...my first guest will be Chris Smitherman, president of the Cincinnati NAACP. 1160 Real Talk is a great opportunity for me to not only expand my radio work, but I believe will be a platform for my dream of a national show. They do not have the watts of 700 WLW, but in this deal, smaller is better for me." Deters was let go from WLW after a video blog in which he joked, "If you want to conquer an African nation, send white women and pot," accidentally went online. Deters apologized for the incident and his apology was accepted by Smitherman. *(June 9, 2011)*



Richard Dreyfus Joins WPHT, Philadelphia's Dom Giordano for Special Broadcast.

Academy Award-winning actor Richard Dreyfus participated in a live broadcast on WPHT, Philadelphia last night (6/8) from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm from the National Constitution Center at Independence Mall in Philadelphia. The broadcast came about as part of The Dreyfus Initiative, in which the actor is calling for a cross-curricular study of civics in our public schools that incorporates history, logic, reason and critical thinking. Dreyfus believes that too many citizens don't realize the power they hold in a democracy. He says the solution is to change the way students learn about civics, the study of the rights and duties of citizenship. Giordano and he discussed important issues and why Dreyfus believes we must prepare our nation's next generation to be effective and engaged citizens. *(June 9, 2011)*

Filling in This Week. KFAB, Omaha talk show host Tom Becka is sitting in for Dial Global nationally syndicated talk host Michael Smerconish today and tomorrow. *(June 9, 2011)*



Molly
Paige

America's Radio News Network Announces Daily Wrap Up Co-Ancor. In a powerful series of blockbuster additions, the expansion of the ARNN anchor juggernaut continues as the industry looks on with attentive awe. The network welcomes Molly Paige as co-anchor of the 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm news block. Among her accomplishments, Paige served as news director or news anchor on great radio stations like KRLA in Los Angeles, and WAOI in San Antonio where she received the Regional Radio Television News Directors Association Award for the "Best Radio Newscast" in the Southern United States. ARNN EVP of news and programming John McCaslin says, "Our growing family of ARNN affiliates in the West and Southwest already know of Molly Paige's unparalleled reputation for fair and balanced news reporting. She's done it all in the world of broadcasting, gathering her many years of news experience with some of the top broadcast networks in the country. Now she brings her wealth of knowledge to the nation's capital, and we will all – politicians included – be better informed for it." ARNN offers three, three-hour news blocks which, combined with Talk Radio Network's "America's Morning News," makes 12 hours of all-news programming offered by TRN and ARNN. *(June 8, 2011)*



Red Zebra's WTEM, Washington Delays Podcasts to Encourage Radio Listening.

That's what Red Zebra programmer Chuck Sapienza tells the *Washington Post's* Dan Steinberg. Steinberg contacted Sapienza after fans of Tony Kornheiser complained to him about a new 24-hour delay on the availability of Kornheiser's podcasts. Sapienza told the *Post*, in part, "We're delaying the podcasts 24 hours for all of our shows. I know this hurts people who listen out of town, but we're trying to get people to listen on the radio. We're in the radio business and we're trying to get people to listen on the radio. And the more people who download podcasts, the fewer people who listen on the radio...The radio show generates the revenue so we have a podcast. If we don't have a radio show or a radio station, there is no podcast. We need to worry about the radio station first... all we're trying to do is get people to listen to his show when it's offered because that's how we get rated. In some way, we have to follow the rules of the company that rates us. If we got credit for everybody who downloaded our show, it would be a different story." (June 8, 2011)



Anthony
Cutaia

Another Financial Talk Host in Legal Hot Water. An all-too-frequent occurrence these days on local radio is the weekend financial talk host being implicated in bilking investors recruited, at least in part, via the radio program. The latest to be accused of wrongdoing is South Florida's Anthony Cutaia. He bought time on Beasley's financial talker WSBR, Boca Raton on which he promoted investment in his CMG Property Investment Group – a commercial real investment fund that promised an 8% quarterly return. But authorities accuse Cutaia of using investors' money in that to pay off the promises to prior investors and, hence, the Ponzi scheme charges. (June 8, 2011)



Andy
Furman

Andy Furman and Mike North to Do Trial Show for Fox Sports Radio. Cincinnati-based talk host Andy Furman – who hosts the 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm Sunday show on Fox Sports Radio – is scheduled to do a two-week trial show with former WSCR, Chicago sports talker Mike North. The show will air from 3:00 pm to 7:00 pm from June 20 through July 1. Furman – who also hosts the 7:00 am to 9:00 am show on WQRT, Cincinnati – says he likes his weekend work with Fox Sports Radio and hopes he can capitalize on new opportunities with the network. (June 8, 2011)

WCAP, Lowell, Massachusetts Celebrates 60 Years on Air. Merrimack Valley Radio Partners announces WCAP, Lowell is celebrating its 60th year broadcasting on June 10. WCAP was put on the air in 1951 by Ike and Maurice Cohen. Merrimack Valley Radio Partners – owned by principles Clark Smidt and Sam Poulten – purchased the station in 2007 and airs an oldies/talk hybrid. (June 8, 2011)

ObamaCare, Weiner Scandal, Middle East Turmoil and John Edwards Case Among Top News/Talk Stories Yesterday (6/7). A report that one in three employers will consider ending employee health care benefits in 2014 brought ObamaCare back into discussion on news/talk radio yesterday along with the ongoing Weiner scandal, Middle East turmoil and the John Edwards case according to research from TALKERS. *(June 8, 2011)*



Matt Patrick

Filling in This Week: Matt Patrick – heard daily on Federated Media’s WTRC-FM, South Bend, Indiana in morning drive – fills in for Compass Media Networks talk host Lars Larson’s nationally syndicated show today through Friday. Patrick also is heard regularly on weekends on Clear Channel’s WLW, Cincinnati and WTAM, Cleveland. *(June 8, 2011)*



Glenn Beck

Glenn Beck Announces Subscription Model for Internet Video Program. When Glenn Beck’s new two-hour daily video program debuts in September, it’ll cost fans \$4.95 per month to view the show. *The New York Times* reports on Beck’s announcement that his Mercury Radio Arts is developing all sorts of programming for the web and Beck says he hopes to have “an array of scripted and unscripted shows” alongside his eponymous program that will officially debut on September 12. Mercury is hoping more people begin to view web content through video game consoles and set-top boxes – the way many people already use their Wii consoles to view Netflix offerings – on their TVs. Beck states, “I think we might be a little early. But I’d rather be ahead of the pack than part of it.” Beck’s Fox News Channel show will officially end on June 30. *(June 7, 2011)*



Ernie Brown

Amy Holmes

America’s Radio News Network Announces PM Drive Hosts. America’s Radio News Network is building its programming and now boasts nine hours of all-news programming daily – 12 hours in total including the Talk Radio Network-affiliated “America’s Morning News.” News pros Amy Holmes and Ernie Brown are co-anchoring the 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm ET news block. Amy Holmes is a CNN political contributor and popular commentator. She appears regularly on “The Situation Room” and in the prime-time lineup, including “Anderson Cooper 360.” She began her career on television as a Fox News Channel contributor and was later a commentator for MSNBC. She has guest hosted on ABC’s “The View” and appears regularly on HBO’s “Real Time with Bill Maher.” Holmes has also appeared on the NBC Nightly News, CBS Early Morning Show, PBS’s “To the Contrary,” “The Montel Williams Show” and she co-hosted PBS’s “Millennium 2000” broadcast.

Ernie Brown is a true veteran broadcaster with more than 32 years experience in radio broadcasting in many major markets in the U.S. including: Seattle, Houston, Dallas, Austin, Cleveland, and Las Vegas. Before joining ARNN, Brown was a newscaster CBS Radio's KRLD, Dallas. CEO Mark Masters says of ARNN's programming, "Stations tell us they love ARNN's long-form, all-news blocks so much they are asking for more to be offered — and sooner rather than later. We have been stunned by the high demand!" (June 7, 2011)



**Lisa
Baden**

WMAL, Washington Brings Traffic Pro Lisa Baden Aboard. Longtime Washington, DC traffic information personality Lisa Baden joins WMAL's morning drive program as the station launches "WMAL Traffic & Transit Team," co-anchored by Lisa Baden and Jamee Whitten. WMAL assistant program director Bill Hess says, "This plan results in an amazingly strong brand for credible traffic information in morning drivetime. It's another exciting step as we strengthen WMAL for today and position the station for the future." (June 7, 2011)



**Dennis
Miller**

Dennis Miller Show to Pay Homage to "Saturday Night Live." Westwood One syndicated talk show host Dennis Miller is exploring his roots and one of America's iconic television programs as he hosts former personalities from "Saturday Night Live" plus creator Lorne Michaels from June 6 through 17. The show is set to include conversations with stars of SNL throughout its 36 year history, from original cast member Garrett Morris to Andy Samberg and Jason Sudekis of today's cast, from Billy Crystal and Martin Short to Dana Carvey, Chris Rock, Kevin Nealon, Molly Shannon, and more. And, of course, creator and executive producer Lorne Michaels. Miller spent six seasons as part of the cast during the mid-1980s. (June 7, 2011)



Dial Global and The Weather Channel Strike Ad Sales and Distribution Deal.

Dial Global brings The Weather Channel into the fold with a deal that will have Dial Global handle ad sales for its programming and distribution of its content. Triton Radio Networks CEO Spencer Brown says, "We are excited to add The Weather Channel's stellar brand to the lineup of programs and services that Dial Global offers its 6,000 plus station affiliates. And we are proud to be their exclusive network radio advertising sales representative." (June 7, 2011)



KFWB Begins New Community Broadcast Series; June 24 Broadcast from Long Beach. CBS Radio's KFWB, Los Angeles is doing a series of broadcasts live from communities across the

Southern California region titled “On Your Corner.” The first such event is taking place on June 24 when the station broadcasts its local program from Long Beach. From 5:00 am to 11:00 am, KFVB’s broadcast will emanate from Legends Sports Bar in Belmont Shore. “L.A.’s Morning News with Penny Griego & Phil Hulett” will be on from 5:00 am to 9:00 am and consumer guru Bob McCormick will host “Money 101” from 9:00 am to 11:00 am. Legends will open its doors early and offer a special 98¢ breakfast buffet and drink specials. The afternoon broadcast will shift to Legends of Aviation restaurant at Long Beach Airport where renowned life coach Les Brown will broadcast live from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm and “L.A.’s Afternoon News with Maggie McKay & Michael Shappee” will be on from 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm. *(June 7, 2011)*

New York and PA Non-Coms to Buy New Jersey Network Radio Stations. As part of an effort to get the state’s budget under control, New Jersey Governor Chris Christie is selling the state-owned New Jersey Network’s non-com TV and radio stations. In a deal announced on June 6, WNYC will buy four signals in Northern New Jersey (WNJY-FM, Netcong; WNJP-FM, Sussex; WNJT-FM, Trenton and WNJO-FM, Toms River) for \$2.8 million in cash and in-kind contributions while Philadelphia’s WHYY will buy five Southern New Jersey (WNJS-FM, Berlin; WNJB-FM, Bridgeton; WNJN-FM, Atlantic City; WNJZ-FM, Cape May and WNJM-FM, Manahawkin) signals for \$1.5 million in cash and in-kind contributions, according to the Associated Press. *(June 7, 2011)*



Clear Channel’s KTLK-FM, Minneapolis Debuts New AM Drive Show. KTLK-FM’s new morning drive show debuts today (6/6) with Bob Davis and Tom Emmer behind the mics –pictured here are Emmer (l) and Davis (r). Davis is a longtime Twin Cities radio personality, having worked for years at crosstown KSTP. Tom Emmer is the former Republican state representative who lost the gubernatorial election to Democrat Mark Dayton in 2010. Former morning drive host Chris Baker exited the station in early February (he resurfaced at KSEV, Houston) and Davis began hosting the AM drive show while the station considered its long-term plan. KTLK-FM program director Andrew Lee says, “Davis and Emmer have two very different personalities, but combined they will bring a truly unique and compelling perspective to daily issues. They will bring a stellar combination of wit and insight to KTLK’s strong stable of radio entertainers.” *(June 6, 2011)*



Entercom’s KBWF-FM, San Francisco Adds Host and Producer to Staff. Entercom debuted “SportsRadio 95.7 FM” back on April 15 in the Bay Area. Now, program director Jason Barrett announces the station has added Bay Area sports personality Dan Dibley and producer Jeremiah Crowe to its staff. Dibley comes from crosstown sports talker KNBR where he served as executive producer for the “Murph and Mac” show as well as handling sports update anchor duties. Barrett says, “Dan is an entertaining personality with quick wit, high energy and great passion. He’s a tireless worker and social media dynamo who’s earned the trust and respect from Bay Area sports fans. Plus, he’s already on Twitter leading the charge that sports sounds better on FM!”

Crowe comes to KBWF-FM from ESPN in Bristol, Connecticut where he produced the nationally syndicated Doug Gottlieb show. He also worked with Mike & Mike, Colin Cowherd and many other ESPN programs. Of Crowe, Barrett says, "Jeremiah is our secret weapon because he has the unmatched ability to get the best out of high-profile talent. We're adding a higher quality of off-air personnel than any other station in the Bay Area and Jeremiah is a key part of that plan. He absolutely has what it takes to win." (June 6, 2011)

CC Atlanta OM Dan Persigehl Exits After Nine Months. Persigehl joined Clear Channel's Atlanta cluster nine months ago as operations manager and program director of the cluster's country station WUBL-FM. *Atlanta Journal Constitution* writer Rodney Ho confirms Persigehl's exits after attempting to contact the station for an interview. As operations manager, Persigehl also oversaw news/talk WGST. (June 6, 2011)



Ian Freeman
and Mark Edge

"Free Talk Live" Hits the 100-Affiliate Mark. The New Hampshire-based talk show co-hosted by Ian Freeman and Mark Edge tops the 100-affiliate mark after signing up WAVH, Mobile, Alabama to carry the Saturday evening show. The show also brings WKZO-AM/FM, Kalamazoo, Michigan aboard as affiliate number 101. Ian Freeman tells *TALKERS*, "Big thanks to the early adopter radio affiliates who made this milestone possible for FTL. They took a risk, and we made that easier by not having a control-freak affiliate agreement. Of course, thanks to *TALKERS* for encouraging the talk industry to take a risk and expand beyond the dull world of Republican/Democrat talk shows as well as encouraging the migration of talk to the FM band, which is where Free Talk Live was born in 2002. It's been lots of fun thus far and I look forward to FTL being a part of the future expansion of the talk radio business." (June 6, 2011)



Katie
Couric

Katie Couric to Announce Deal with ABC Today. According to Bill Carter at *The New York Times*, Katie Couric and ABC will announce the deal that will bring the news and talk star into the ABC fold. The deal is expected to include development and syndication of an afternoon TV talk show set for debut in the fall of 2012 plus a role in ABC's news division. According to the *Times*, Couric's negotiations to stay with CBS fell apart because she wished to continue to have a role in the CBS news division – something the company could not guarantee – and negotiations with NBC did not develop into a deal because NBC was unwilling to free up the 4:00 pm time slot for her show on its O&O stations. According to the story, ABC is not planning to force O&Os to free up the 4:00 pm hour for Couric's show and that Couric's people believe the show will succeed on its own merit. (June 6, 2011)



WWRL, New York Broadcasts Interactive Health Show on June 11. Access.1's WWRL, New York is presenting, "Win the Future: A Conversation on Health and Wellness," from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm on Saturday, June 11 from its studios in New York. The event is being hosted by WWRL talent Mark Riley and Professor Ron Daniels. Joining Riley and Daniels is a host of New York-area medical professionals to discuss health and related issues. WWRL general manager Adriane Gaines says, "WWRL has long been a leader in sharing health information with its culturally diverse audience. With healthcare continuing to take center stage on the national front, we feel it is particularly important to expand the conversation and provide a platform for the community to share their views and learn valuable information." The event is being streamed at wwrl1600.com. (June 6, 2011)



"Papa Joe"
Chevalier

Sports Talk Host "Papa Joe" Chevalier Passes at 62. Armand "Papa Joe" Chevalier died on June 3 in Las Vegas two months after suffering a stroke that left him partially paralyzed. Chevalier had hosted nationally syndicated sport talk shows for the Sports Fan Radio Network and Sporting News Radio. His most recent project was a program heard on Lifestyle TalkRadio Network. Chevalier's brother tells the *Las Vegas Review Journal* that Chevalier had grown despondent over the long rehab journey that lay ahead of him even though his voice and speaking ability was not affected by the stroke. (June 6, 2011)



Entercom Names Jeff Brown VP/Market Manager for Boston. Brown joins Entercom New England market manager Julie Kahn as VP/market manager for the Boston cluster, replacing Tim Murphy who recently left to take the corporate post of VP of digital strategies and enterprise platforms for Entercom. Kahn states, "Jeff Brown is going to be a terrific addition to Entercom Boston. He will make our entire team stronger as we continue to deliver real results for our clients. He is a rising star who radiates intelligence, energy, and a get it done attitude. I couldn't be more excited to work with my new partner going forward. Entercom Boston is stronger today with Jeff Brown on board." Entercom's Boston cluster includes news/talk WRKO and sports WEEI. (June 3, 2011)



Glenn
Beck

Glenn Beck's FNC Show to End June 30. According to Mediaite, the last edition of the 5:00 pm ET Glenn Beck show on Fox News Channel will be June 30. There is no indication what will take

the place of Beck's show on the network after that. As reported here earlier, Beck's Mercury Radio Arts company is already making plans to take his video content to the web having sought trademarks for "GBTV," and related components as well as acquiring the GBTV.com domain. *(June 3, 2011)*



WECK, Buffalo Undergoing Programming Changes. The *Buffalo News* reports that Dick Greene-owned talk station WECK has let morning show co-host Lorraine O'Donnell go from the station on May 31. This comes less than a week after Bill O'Loughlin left his 9:00 am to 12:00 noon show, citing issues he had with some of the other hosts on the station. Dick Greene tells the paper O'Loughlin had moral and ethical issues with some of the things that were said on the air by some of the other talent and had asked Greene to resolve those issues. Program director Brad Riter is quoted saying the exit of these personalities is not being taken lightly and the station is still dedicated to providing the market with quality local talk show hosts. *(June 3, 2011)*



Bruce
Jacobs

Talk pro Bruce Jacobs Returns to Phoenix Sports Talk Scene. Phoenix market talk radio pro Bruce Jacobs returns to the sports scene to host the 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm talk show on Tempe Radio's KDUS – "The Fan." Jacobs hosted an issues talk show for seven years on Clear Channel's crosstown KFYL. He has also done a sports talk show at CC's KGME and currently hosts a weekend show on Fox Sports Radio which he will continue to do. Jacobs replaces Kevin McCabe who exits the daily show but retains a weekend program on the station. *(June 3, 2011)*



Vivian
Schiller

Schiller to Take Executive Role at NBC News. NBC is confirming that former NPR president Vivian Schiller is the new chief digital officer for NBC News. Schiller left her high-profile post with NPR after the video sting became public in which Ron Schiller (no relation) was heard making disparaging remarks about conservatives while wooing potential donors over dinner. Schiller was also in charge of NPR during the firing of Juan Williams, though an internal investigation cleared her of direct responsibility for mishandling Williams' dismissal. *(June 3, 2011)*



Pittsburgh Mayor Addresses to Air on KDKA. Pittsburgh Mayor Luke Ravenstahl is recording weekly addresses that will air on CBS Radio's KDKA, Pittsburgh Friday, Saturday and Sunday evenings at 7:06. Program director Marshall Adams says of the new programming, "We at KDKA are so proud to be able to give the mayor the chance to directly address the people of

Pittsburgh each week in a very unique way and without filters. It's another way for us to connect our audience and tell the story of Pittsburgh." *(June 3, 2011)*

2012 Presidential Election Top News/Talk Story for Week of May 30 – June 3. According to ongoing research by TALKERS, the 2012 presidential election and the field of potential GOP candidates was #1 on the TALKERS Ten chart of the week's most-talked-about stories on news/talk radio. Coming in at #2 was the U.S. Af-Pak policy. At #3 was Middle East turmoil and at #4 was U.S.-Israel relations. *(June 3, 2011)*

TALKERS Weekly Affiliation Roundup. Fisher Entertainment's **John & Jeff** show – hosted by **John Boyle** and **Jeff Carroll** – is added to the lineup at Greater Media's WTKK-FM, Boston.....United Stations Radio Networks adds the weekend **"Real Estate Today"** with **Gil Gross** to WRKO, Boston; WRVA, Richmond; and WNYM, New York.....USRN's **"Peter Greenberg Worldwide"** joins the lineup at KGEO, Bakersfield; WXXM-FM, Madison; and WPNW, Lansing. *(June 3, 2011)*

WHYN

NewsTalk 560 **Springfield Tornado Shakes Up TALKERS Deadline Evening.** The devastating tornados that ripped through Western Massachusetts yesterday roared within blocks of the Springfield headquarters of TALKERS magazine just as the staff was putting the final touches on the June issue scheduled for distribution at next week's New Media Seminar 2011. Although there was widespread destruction, the entire TALKERS crew, their homes and company headquarters escaped harm. According to TALKERS VP/managing editor Kevin Casey, "Seeing one of these events up close and experiencing its impact on the surrounding community really brings home the reality of the human condition. It gave us a first-hand look at the importance of radio under such extreme circumstances and the amazing dedication of broadcasters when faced with such a challenge. We must salute the fine team on the scene last night and this morning by Clear Channel Springfield under the supervision of veteran news director and local broadcasting legend John Baibak who worked tirelessly to bring order and information to the public during and in the aftermath of the chaos as well as give deserved praise to the folks at the local Saga and Citadel stations who rose to the occasion as well." *(June 2, 2011)*



CBS Radio Names Steve Swenson SVP/Market Manager for Washington, DC Cluster. Swenson comes from a news programming background beginning at KFWB, Los Angeles in 1980. He has served as news director and executive editor and program director at WINS, New York and VP/GM of WTOP, Washington. He has been VP/GM of the company's WCBS, New York since 1998. Now he'll head up the Washington cluster that includes sports WJFK-FM and news/talk WHFS. President and CEO Dan Mason says, "He has incredible major-market experience in New York, Los Angeles and Washington, D.C. and is well regarded in the industry for his business acumen and on-air programming judgment. Quite simply, we're fortunate to have someone of his caliber on our team who can capitalize on the stations' heritage positions in the market." *(June 2, 2011)*



**Eric
Deters**

Clear Channel Cincinnati Fires Talk Host Eric Deters. Deters is an attorney who was a fill-in and weekend talk host at WLW, Cincinnati. He became a local news story after posting a video blog to Facebook in which he joked, "If you want to conquer an African nation, send white women and pot." Deters said the wrong version of his video blog got posted but also said it was part of his comedy routine and he thinks some people made too much of it. He apologized to the NAACP and his apology was accepted. But Deters tells the *Cincinnati Enquirer's* John Kiesewetter, "I will no longer be doing any weekend or back up hosting on 700 WLW radio. Backing up Willie has been a blast. I want to publicly thank Willie for being on the radio in the first place. It evolved with me being a caller reporting on the jail battle to being a host. I never planned it. I never expected it. It's been a wonderful experience. Not doing it anymore is not the end of the world either." Interestingly, Deters also tells Kiesewetter he was not paid by CC for hosting the 9:00 pm to 12:00 midnight shift for three months last fall although he was paid \$10 per hour from January through March of this year for his work but has not been paid since then. (June 2, 2011)



KSFO, San Francisco Raises \$135,000 for Fisher House Foundation. What began as a goal of raising \$10,000 over the Memorial Day weekend ended up netting more than \$135,000 for the foundation that provides no-cost housing and other amenities for families of military personnel so they can be near their loved ones while they recover from injuries and treatments. The campaign began with a live broadcast of Brian Sussman's morning show live from a Fisher House in Palo Alto. KSFO hit its original goal before that broadcast so it upped the goal to \$15,000 and then to \$25,000 shortly thereafter. General manager Deidre Lieberman says, "We are overwhelmed with the amount of money the KSFO listeners contributed to this cause. 'Thank you' may be simply stated, but it is deeply felt." (June 2, 2011)



**Bill
Tucker**

USRN Names New Executive Producer for Lou Dobbs. United Stations Radio Networks announces Bill Tucker is the new executive producer for the company's Lou Dobbs program. Tucker worked for 12 years at CNN holding positions including show producer, deputy managing editor and eventually became CNN/fn's vice-president of production and operations. USRN states, "He was also a regular contributor to 'Lou Dobbs Tonight' on CNN from 2003 through 2010, and his work on that program earned him multiple Emmy nominations and one Emmy Award for the show series titled 'Exporting America.'" (June 2, 2011)



CBS TV's "The Talk" Loses Executive Producer After One Week.

According to *Broadcasting & Cable*, Susan Winston has left the daytime TV talk show after just a week on the job. CBS has no comment on Winston's departure. She was slated to take over for Brad Bessey, who left the program in April after helping get the show off the ground. Cast member Sarah Gilbert is the creator of the show and serves as an executive producer remains with the show that features female-targeted talk by a roundtable of hosts Julie Chen, Gilbert, Leah Remini, Holly Robinson Peete and Sharon Osbourne. (June 2, 2011)

David Sarosi Named Executive Producer for Keith Olbermann's New Show. The new version of "Countdown" debuting on the Current TV cable channel on June 20 names former MSNBC producer David Sirosi as executive producer for the show. According to *Deadline.com*, Sirosi worked with Olbermann at MSNBC producer the opening segment and the "worst person" segment of the show. (June 2, 2011)



Bryan Nehman Mary Katharine Ham Brian Wilson

Citadel's WMAL, Washington Debuts New AM Drive Show.

Bryan Nehman, who's been co-hosting the morning show for some time, remains and is joined by two new personalities on the newly titled "Morning Majority": 25-year Washington market veteran Brian Wilson and longtime news media pro Mary Katharine Ham. Wilson has been an anchor /reporter for Fox News Channel as well as at local Fox TV O&O WTTG-TV. Ham comes to WMAL from Tucker Carlson's Daily Caller. She's also written for the *Weekly Standard*, the *Washington Examiner* and served as managing editor for *Townhall.com*. She is and continues to serve as a Fox News Channel contributor. The station calls the new show "a fast-paced set-up of the day's most important news stories and background details. The program will continue to feature top-name guests and inside information, along with traffic and weather every ten minutes and business updates from the Wall Street Journal." Former co-host Fred Grandy exited earlier this year. (June 1, 2011)



Bill Hoffman

Cox Media Group Names Bill Hoffman Executive Vice President. Taking over for Bob Neil is Bill Hoffman who comes from Cox's WSB-TV where he's served as vice president and general manager. Cox Media Group president Doug Franklin says in a statement, "Bill is a broadcast

industry veteran whose proven leadership abilities will help CMG continue to perform at the top of its game. He is well respected in many industry circles, and I'm delighted that we can tap into his talents to drive our future success." (June 1, 2011)

TRIBUNE

Tribune Broadcasting Eliminates President Position; Kersting Out. Former Clear Channel executive vice president Jerry Kersting became part of the Tribune Company as part of the Randy Michaels regime. Now, Tribune does away with the president of the broadcasting division title and names Nils Larsen to the new CEO of Tribune Broadcasting post. (June 1, 2011)

KPAM ^{am} 860

KPAM, Portland Adds New PM Drive Show; Local Lineup Complete. Program director Dennis Glasgow announces the completion of KPAM's all live-and-local lineup with the addition of "The Afternoon Download" with PM drive hosts Pat Boyle and Charlie Maxton. According to the station, the show will center on local news and daily content, which will include topical guests, feature stories, lifestyle and pop-culture segments, along with breaking news, weather, sports and real-time traffic. The Afternoon Download will also be very active with social networking on Facebook and Twitter, along with listener interaction, giving the opportunity to sound off on the top stories of the day. Glasgow says, "The Afternoon Download will complete our plan to have compelling local news in afternoon drive, something that our listeners have been asking about for a long time, and we're extremely happy to meet their demands." Glasgow goes on to say, "This move now makes AM 860 the only station and a leader in this market that is live and local with the most news, weather and traffic from 5a to 9p, as the true Voice of Portland." TRN's Michael Savage moves to Pamplin's sister KKOV, Portland. (June 1, 2011)



Ed
Schultz

WZFG, Fargo Fills Afternoon Slot with Ed Schultz. A little more than a week after parting company with local talk show host Scott Hennen in the 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm time slot, Great Plains Integrated Marketing announces Dial Global's Ed Schulz – a native whose radio career began in North Dakota – fills that part of its programming schedule. On the return to Fargo, Schultz says, "I'm excited to have our show back on in the Fargo-Moorhead market. I'm really impressed with the ownership and management of the "The Flag" along with its talented team. The show will originate from New York but I'll be back in the area often. I'm looking forward to a long relationship with the station." Program director Bruce Kelly says, "The addition of Ed to our lineup now puts The Flag in the sole position of providing the total spectrum of political dialogue occurring in our country that's quickly heating up as we enter the 2012 election cycle. From Rush to Ed...that says it all." (June 1, 2011)



**Michelle
McKormick**

Michelle McKormick Returns to the Air in West Michigan. The talk show host who co-hosted the “Mouth 2 Mouth” show with Scott Winters on WOOD, Grand Rapids until November of last year, returns to the airwaves on WJRW, Grand Rapids. McKormick hosts “The Buzz with Michelle McKormick” from 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm. McKormick tells the *Grand Rapids Press*, “I’m just happy to be back on air, talking with West Michigan, and I’m looking forward to giving Grand Rapids a female-based talk show that belongs to our city.” (June 1, 2011)



**Rick
Buckley**

Buckley Radio CEO Rick Buckley Named to NYSBA 2011 Hall of Fame. The New York State Broadcasters Association announced the 2011 class of inductees to its Hall of Fame and among the six is Buckley Broadcasting CEO Rick Buckley. The lifelong media pro succeeded his father as chief of Buckley Broadcasting in 1972. Buckley operates WOR, New York, the WOR Radio Network and 16 other local radio stations. Buckley will be inducted, along with the others (Regis Philbin, the late William B. Williams, Joseph A. Reilly, Rod Wood and Carrie Lazarus, and Arnold Klinsky) at the NYSBA annual conference on June 27. (June 1, 2011)



**Nicole
Sandler**

Charges Dropped Against Nicole Sandler. The radio personality and progressive talk show host was arrested on April 26 at a town meeting held by newly elected U.S. Rep. Allen West (R-FL) in Fort Lauderdale on charges of trespass after warning. Video of Sandler’s arrest at the event was circulated via the internet. In it, Sandler is being asked to leave the event after being deemed disruptive and as she was being escorted out of the building by police, she is notified she’s being arrested after allegedly becoming combative. Now, those charges are being dropped. (June 1, 2011)

Sheryl Collison Named Market Manager for Clear Channel Savannah/Hilton Head. Sheryl Collison has been the general sales manager for Clear Channel’s Savannah/Hilton Head cluster for the past nine years. Now she’s promoted to market manager for the group of stations that includes news/talk WTKS, Savannah. (June 1, 2011)



Not So Fast... Yesterday TALKERS erroneously reported that Brian Baldinger would be replacing Tony Bruno on Greater Media’s WPEN-FM, Philadelphia alongside Harry Mayes for

the 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm show. Baldinger currently hosts the 10:00 am to 12:00 noon show with Mayes but PD Matt Nahigian says no decision has been made yet on who will fill Bruno's shoes as he steps back from his full-time role with "The Fanatic." That decision could come within a week or so. (June 1, 2011)

2012 GOP Hopefuls, Af-Pak Policy and Gas Prices Among Top News/Talk Stories Yesterday (5/31).

The field of potential GOP challengers for President Obama in 2012, the Obama Administration's Af-Pak Policy and the economics and effects of surging oil prices were among the most-talked-about stories on news/talk radio yesterday according to ongoing research from TALKERS. (June 1, 2011)



Tony
Bruno

Tony Bruno Exits Full-Time Position with WPEN-FM, Philadelphia. Tony Bruno had been co-hosting the midday show from 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm with Harry Mayes at Greater Media's WPEN-FM, Philadelphia in addition to his nationally syndicated "Into the Night" show on Fox Sports Radio. Time constraints are forcing Bruno to pull back on his commitment to WPEN-FM. Bruno leaves this message for WPEN-FM listeners, "To all of my great friends who have been listening to 97.5 the Fanatic the last year and a half, I want you to know this has nothing to do with money or any other factor or perception, other than scheduling and my crazy daily grind. Doing the radio show was fun every day with Harry, Nick, T Mac and all of the great people at the Fanatic. I will remain a big part of the station and don't want anyone to "blame" the station or anyone for MY decision to cut back. You can listen to the options and still realize that 97.5 sounds better, even without my regular daily 2 hour appearances. You will still hear and see me around all of the time, so just relax and enjoy life like I try to do every day. Love you guys!" Bruno's syndicated show continues. WPEN-FM program director Matt Nahigian has no immediate replacement for Bruno. (May 31, 2011)



KERN, Bakersfield Lays Off Two News Anchors; Severs Ties with Host Inga Barks. *The Californian* reports KERN, Bakersfield program director Brett Reckamp is confirming news anchors Danielle Sullivan and Bill Curtis have been let go in a move that is budget related. Reckamp tells the paper news in the afternoons and evenings is taking a backseat to the station's morning show. "Less people are listening in the nighttime than during the day...It was just the best way to move forward. I didn't want to affect our morning show, which is the most critical to our station." As for talk host Inga Barks, she still hosts a program on KMJ, Fresno but hasn't hosted a talk show at KERN since April of 2010. In August of 2010, she filed a suit against KERN talk host Scott Cox for alleged sexual harassment and against station owner American General Media for allegedly ignoring her complaints about Cox's behavior. She had still been contributing a daily feature for the station for which she was paid. (May 31, 2011)



Eric
Deters

WLW, Cincinnati Talk Host Eric Deters Rankles NAACP with Racial Joke. Attorney and talk show host Deters has the attention of the Cincinnati-area NAACP after a video blog he was producing that contained a “joke he took too far” was posted on the internet. Deters says he was producing the video blog and stated, “If you want to conquer an African nation, send white women and pot.” He told the producer assisting him not to post that version but it got posted anyway. Deters says the joke was from his comedy act, he is not a racist and he takes responsibility for the mistake. According to Cincinnati’s Fox 19, the NAACP is in contact with Clear Channel Cincinnati. Deters says, “I’ve learned a big lesson here, as a white person I can’t tell black jokes and I’m never going to tell one again.” (May 31, 2011)



CBS Radio’s WSCR, Chicago Begins “Pepsi Max Score Search” Contest. The winner of this station contest will take on the role of sports blogger for “The Score” and CBSChicago.com. The contest began yesterday and runs through July 16. The station is conducting this year’s “Pepsi Max Score Search” through a series of live auditions showcasing on-the-spot writing skills and video presence at various local venues for the opportunity to win the coveted digital position. The contest is in its third year. The winner in 2009, Connor McKnight, won a sports reporting position with the station and 2010 winner Maya Gavin is a weekend talk host on the station. WSCR program director Mitch Rosen says, “As we enter the competition for the third year of Score Search this year is positioned to be the best yet. I predict the amount of people that audition will surpass our high water mark of last year.” (May 31, 2011)



Dr. Ellen
Kenner

Psychologist and Talk Show Host Ellen Kenner Publishes New Book. Clinical psychologist Dr. Ellen Kenner – who hosts the nationally syndicated weekend talk show “The Rational Basis of Happiness” – publishes her new book, *The Selfish Path to Romance: How to Love with Passion and Reason* (Platform Press 2011), along with co-author Dr. Edwin Locke. Dr. Kenner’s book is based on the ideas of author Ayn Rand. Her weekly radio program is heard on more than 30 stations across the country. She can be booked for radio interviews via selfishromance.com. (May 31, 2011)

Journal Broadcast Group VP/Programming Tom Land Dies from Cancer. Land passed away at age 51 on Thursday, May 26 after a nine-month battle with cancer. Land grew up in a small Missouri town and worked at a local station there while still in high school. He joined Journal Broadcast Group in 2000 and worked his way up to corporate vice president of programming. He leaves behind his wife Glenda. (May 31, 2011)

WLS, Chicago Talk Host Tom Roeser Passes. The 82-year-old weekend talk show host at WLS,

Chicago had just resigned his position at the station due to health issues that had him hospitalized. Roeser was a conservative Catholic with a long history of activism and charity work in the Chicago area. Roeser held a number of positions during his career including VP of government relations for Quaker Oats, author, teacher, and op-ed columnist for several newspapers including the *Chicago Sun-Times*. Most recently he has served as publisher and editor-in-chief for the online Chicago Daily Observer. (May 31, 2011)

Memorial Day Holiday, 2012 GOP Contenders and Obama in Joplin Among Top News/Talk Stories Yesterday (5/30). Memorial Day observances honoring fallen American troops, the field of 2012 GOP contenders and President Obama's visit to the Joplin, Missouri area were among the most-talked-about stories on news/talk radio yesterday according to ongoing research from TALKERS. (May 31, 2011)



ESPN to Celebrate Opening New Bristol Studios with Special Broadcasts. With new state-of-the-art studios opening on "Audio Ave." at ESPN's Bristol, Connecticut headquarters, the content provider is hosting a big celebration on June 1 that includes live broadcasts from Bristol of some of the local shows heard on its four O&Os plus, a dozen local hosts/shows that broadcast on affiliate stations from around the country. ESPN announces, "Highlighting afternoon activities, recognizing all that ESPN Radio has become, will be the ribbon-cutting ceremony signifying the opening of new customized facilities featuring talk studios, dedicated control rooms and *SportsCenter* booths." ESPN Radio Network SVP and general manager Mo Davenport says, "ESPN Radio consumers are no longer simply radio listeners. The June 1 festivities will celebrate our commitment to ensure that fans not only get their ESPN Radio content how they want it, but also when they want it, and where they want it." (May 27, 2011)



Sports Talk Radio Conference a Featured Component of New Media Seminar 2011. The TALKERS New Media Seminar 2011 – taking place June 10-11 at the Concierge Conference Center in New York City – is featuring a big sports talk component this year. RSA Sports International president Rick Scott is moderating a panel titled, "Sports Talk Radio from the Perspective of Programming and Management." He spoke with *TALKERS* special feature correspondent Mike Kinoshian about the conference for the current print edition of *TALKERS* magazine. Scott says of the panel he's moderating, "Without trying to sound smug about this, we will



Rick
Scott

illustrate what talk programmers can learn from sports. It is pretty significant how successful sports stations approach things with their on-air talent. These panelists will offer some very

good insights.” Scott says that being entertaining and fun to listen to is job #1 for any sports talk host. “In many ways, sports stations also fill a talk niche for males. It is like walking into a sports bar — you are there to be a part of having fun. Successful sports stations appeal to more than just the hardcore sports fan. These stations are fun to listen to and their audience embraces what they do.” There’s still time to register for the New Media Seminar, call 413-565-5413. For the up-to-the-minute agenda, click [here](#). (May 27, 2011)



Tara
Servatius

Greater Media’s WBT-AM/FM, Charlotte Cuts PM Drive Host Tara Servatius. The journalist-turned-talk-show-host was told after her show yesterday (5/26) that the station would not be renewing her contract and her show would end immediately. Tara Servatius moved into the PM drive slot in December of 2008 after the station let talk host Jeff Katz go. Servatius became the regular late-night host at WBT in 2007 after serving as a fill-in host for a period of time. Servatius, who is a contributing writer for the alt-weekly *Creative Loafing*, tells the *Charlotte Observer*, “It was a great five years at WBT. I met some wonderful people. Greater Media is a business and they made a business decision. I wish them the best.” WBT has not indicated its plans for replacing Servatius. (May 27, 2011)



Phil
Redo

Phil Redo Named Managing Director of News and Culture for WGBH-FM, Boston. Redo joins the non-com after working for it as an independent consultant and was involved in WGBH’s purchase of classical WCRB-FM, Boston in 2010. Redo was market manager for Greater Media’s Boston stations that includes news/talk WTKK-FM. He left that post in 2008. WGBH states Redo’s role will be to guide the overall strategy of the station as well as be involved in its editorial partnership with Public Radio International. (May 27, 2011)



Harry
Teinowitz

WMPV, Chicago Talk Host Harry Teinowitz Pleads Guilty to DUI. And the “ESPN 1000” host tells the judge that being picked up for DUI was “probably the best thing that ever happened to me.” After his March arrest, Teinowitz went into rehab before returning to his position co-hosting the ironically named “Afternoon Saloon” show with Carmen DeFalco and John Jurkovic. Teinowitz was given 18 months of conditional discharge, 240 hours of community service plus payment of court fees and a fine. (May 27, 2011)



**Brian
Sussman**

KSFO, San Francisco Raises Funds for Fisher House; Holiday Weekend Goal of \$25,000.

KSFO morning drive talk host Brian Sussman is broadcasting live from the Palo Alto Fisher House location this morning (5/27) in order to drum up support for the charity that builds “comfort homes” near military hospitals so that families of military personnel being treated have a comfortable place to stay while being near their loved ones. KSFO director of marketing Anthony Licciardi says the station’s original goal over the holiday weekend was \$10,000 but it has already surpassed it with more than \$15,000 already pledged. (May 27, 2011)



**Erin
Burnett**

CNN to Replace “John King USA” with Show Featuring Erin Burnett.

The *New York Post* is reporting what’s been rumored for several weeks – that CNN is going to cancel the 7:00 pm ET “John King USA” program and fill the lead-in slot to “Spitzer” with a program hosted by Erin Burnett. She recently left long-time employer CNBC where she hosted “Squawk on the Street” and “Street Signs” in addition to appearances other NBC shows such as “Meet the Press.” (May 27, 2011)

President Obama’s Europe Trip Top News/Talk Story for Week of May 23-27. The president’s trip to Europe was the top news/talk story on the TALKERS Ten chart of the most-talked-about issues of the week. Coming in at #2 was Netanyahu’s address before Congress/U.S.-Israel relations. At #3 was the Joplin Tornado and at #4 was the 2012 GOP field of presidential candidates. The TALKERS Ten is the result of ongoing, in-house research by TALKERS that is published weekly at Talkers.com. Click the banner below to view the entire chart. (May 27, 2011)



WFAN, New York Begins “Fantasy Phenom” Contest for Talk Show on the Station.

Now in its second year, the “Fantasy Phenom” contest will give up to 500 people the chance to become the lucky person to get a sports talk show on WFAN for up to a year. The winner of the 2010 contest was Gregg Sussman who does a Friday overnight program on the station. Live auditions are tied into promotional events at locations around the Tri-State area with final competition taking place around Labor Day. (May 27, 2011)

TALKERS Weekly Affiliation Roundup. Dial Global’s **Clark Howard** is added to the schedule at WELE, Daytona Beach.....“Free Talk Live” featuring **Ian Freeman** and **Mark Edge** is added to the daily program schedule at WGMD-FM, Rehoboth Beach, Delaware.....Dial Global’s **Stephanie Miller** and **Midnight Radio** add KGFR, Malmstrom AFB/Great Falls, Montana to their rosters.....Dial Global’s “**Jill on Money**” featuring **Jill Schlesinger** picks up WTIC, Hartford and WRSC, State College, Pennsylvania.....“**Motley Fool Money**” adds new affiliates WBZS, Providence; WXXM-FM,

Madison; and WNRP, Pensacola, Florida. (May 27, 2011)



Ed
Schultz

Ed Schultz's Attack on Laura Ingraham Nets Week Suspension from MSNBC. The cable news/talk channel is levying a one-week unpaid suspension on "The Ed Show" host Ed Schultz for calling Talk Radio Network talk show host Laura Ingraham a "right wing slut" and a "talk slut" on his Dial Global radio show. Schultz was lashing out at Ingraham for her criticism of President Obama not cancelling his European trip and going to Joplin, Missouri. MSNBC's statement on the issue Wednesday was: "MSNBC management met with Ed Schultz this afternoon and accepted his offer to take one week of unpaid leave for the remarks he made yesterday on his radio program. Ed will address these remarks on his show tonight and immediately following begin his leave. Remarks of this nature are unacceptable and will not be tolerated." Schultz went on the air and apologized to his audience, his staff and family and said he's tried to contact Ingraham to apologize but was unable to connect with her. No word if Dial Global plans to take any action. Ingraham posted the following comment on her Facebook page: "Re. the crude comments made about me by Ed Schultz on his radio program: First, I was surprised to learn that Ed Schultz actually hosted a radio show. Is it only available online? Second, I have to get back to recording the audio edition of my new book "Of Thee I Zing." Now I'm tempted to insert one additional zing — about men who preach civility but practice misogyny." (May 26, 2011)



Broadcasters Join in Aid Effort for Joplin, Missouri. Enough can't be said about the tremendous staff at Zimmer Broadcasting's six Joplin, Missouri stations (including news/talk KZRG) as they continue to serve the tornado-devastated city even as a number of staffers are without homes themselves. Coverage of these folks' courage and dedication is all over the consumer press – as it should be – and is a textbook illustration of the value radio stations that are truly connected to their community bring in times of need. Check out the piece in the *Los Angeles Times* [here](#). Other broadcasters are organizing drives to provide assistance to the stricken community. Emmis' KFTK-FM, St. Louis is holding a supply drive today (5/26) to collect toiletries, baby supplies, bottled water, canned good, etc. for delivery to Joplin. PD Jeff Allen says, "Our goal is to fill the 18-wheeler up. We are dedicating our entire on-air, online and air talent to this effort because we know there is a community in need and we know that St. Louisans care and will help whenever asked." (May 26, 2011)



Glenn Beck Prepares to Take Video Content to the Web. According to TVNewser, Glenn

Beck's Mercury Radio Arts company is developing an online video service called GBTV. It acquired the GBTV.com domain earlier this year and applied for a trademark for the tagline: "The Truth Lives Here," as well as for ancillary GBTV products including DVDs, podcasts and mobile apps plus the logo seen here. TVNewser reports sources close to Beck say the company and former Fox News executive Joel Cheatwood, who joined Beck's company earlier this year, are working on developing content for the service. There is no known debut date but it probably won't happen until his regular Fox News Channel show officially ends. *(May 26, 2011)*



Chuck
Armstrong

Citadel New York Promotes Chuck Armstrong. Armstrong serves as director of digital operations for the New York Citadel cluster. Now, he adds assistant program director of news/talk 77WABC and web program director for WABCRadio.com to his duties. Armstrong takes over for Laura Smith who remains with the company hosting the "Living Better" program on WABC. *(May 26, 2011)*



Al
Gardner

WBT-AM/FM, Charlotte AM Drive Host Al Gardner to Have Cancer Surgery Today (5/26). WBT morning drive co-host Al Gardner is having surgery today for his locally advanced, high-risk prostate cancer. The 64-year-old radio personality admits to having not followed up on earlier tests that showed a possible problem until the disease had progressed. But now he's using a physical exercise regimen that includes boxing, running and golf to help fight the disease. In a feature report by WBTV-TV, Charlotte, Gardner credits the exercise regimen for helping combat the digestive issues common with radiation treatment. *(May 26, 2011)*



Another Non-Com Goes News and Talk. WDUQ-FM, Pittsburgh is dropping the jazz and going news and talk after Essential Public Media closed on the purchase of the station formerly owned by Duquesne University. The jazz will move online and to an HD-2 channel and the station will increase the NPR-produced news and talk programming that it airs. The purchase price for the station was \$6 million. *(May 26, 2011)*



Chris
Salcedo

Salcedo to Co-Anchor ARNN's Midday Broadcast. America's Radio News Network

Announces former KRLD, Dallas and KLIF, Dallas news anchor Chris Salcedo is the co-anchor of its 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm ET news block alongside Lori Lundin. ARNN EVP of news and programming John McCaslin says Salcedo is “the consummate professional in every aspect of news broadcasting with an impressive career anchoring news on both television and on the radio.” (May 26, 2011)



Lori
Lundin

America’s Radio News Network Offering 9 Hours of News Programming; News Pro Lori Lundin Joins Staff. TRN CEO Mark Masters announces that the all-news programming provided by his America’s Radio News Network now consists of three three-hour blocks for a total of nine hours daily. Masters notes that when combined with the “America’s Morning News” program offered by TRN and the *Washington Times*, his companies offer 12 hours of news programming daily. ARNN provides news programming from 12:00 noon to 9:00 pm ET. The TRN companies also announce former Fox News Radio and KFBK, Sacramento news veteran Lori Lundin is co-anchoring the 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm news block. Speaking of Lundin, Masters states, “She is a veteran radio news anchor bringing years of experience, reporting breaking news stories and events, to our all-news syndicated radio network. The news block format allows Lundin to cover 10 to 12 stories with 4 to 6 audio actualities every 15 minutes – meaning the perfect PPM solution for our A.D.D. world.” ARNN plans to add a fourth three-hour block of news programming before the year’s end, presumably in the 9:00 am to 12:00 noon daypart. (May 25, 2011)



Clear Channel

Clear Channel Promotes Three Women Execs to Market Managers. After moving three of its market managers into regional SVP roles, Clear Channel announces three promotions to fill the vacant market manager roles: Operations manager Thea Mitchem becomes market manager for the Washington/Baltimore markets; Austin market manager Pam McKay adds market manager duties for San Antonio; and Boston director of sales Mary Menna becomes the market manager for the company’s Providence and Boston stations. (May 25, 2011)



Jorge
Sedano

WAXY, Miami Signs Jorge Sedano to Two-Year Contract Extension. Lincoln Financial Media sports outlet WAXY, Miami announces morning drive host Jorge Sedano is signed to a contract extension keeping him with the station through 2013. Sedano has hosted the morning show since 2009. WAXY program director Marc Hochman says, “We’re thrilled to know that Jorge will remain part of our lineup for the foreseeable future. The station prides itself on being able to provide entertaining, knowledgeable hosts and Jorge embodies that. He grew up in Miami and really is a part of the fabric of the community. He’s a very important part of the success of this radio station.” Prior

to joining WAXY in 2007 Sedano worked at Fox Sports Radio Network. (May 25, 2011)



Ed
Baxter

Jon
Bristow

KGO, San Francisco Morning Anchor Ed Baxter to Retire; Jon Bristow to Assume AM Drive Duties. Ed Baxter has been with KGO, San Francisco for the past 35 years and he's been co-anchoring the morning drive daypart for the past 11 and he indicates he's ready to end the tough schedule of getting up early. Of the changes, KGO general manager Deidre Lieberman says in a statement, "We're looking forward to the fresh new sound of the 'KGO Morning News with Jon and Jennifer.' Jon is known and loved by the KGO audience and I know he'll be an outstanding fit." (May 25, 2011)



Radio America Begins Syndication of Daily Motivational Feature. Dubbed, "Your Daily High with Andy Greenberg," the feature is being offered nationally after Greenberg's success with a similar feature that's been a part of KFAB, Omaha programming. Radio America COO Mike Paradiso states, "Andy's daily, one-minute motivational vignettes provide listeners with uplifting insights for growing personally and professionally. We look forward to replicating the tremendous success he has had on Omaha's 1110 AM KFAB on Radio America stations across the country." (May 25, 2011)



New Media Seminar to Feature Walter Sabo on Talk and the PPM. The TALKERS New Media Seminar 2011 is fast approaching – June 10-11 at the Concierge Conference Center in New York City – and event organizers are promising a do-not-miss presentation by Sabo Media president Walter Sabo on talk and Arbitron's PPM. Sabo is a fan of the PPM and finds it "silly" that some broadcasters are saying talk radio is not a "PPM format." Sabo has always contended that "talk" is not a format but a means of communicating. "If targeted and paced correctly an all-talk station could be a dominant #1 radio [outlet among] teens. There are talk stations today that have huge, dominant cumes," he tells *TALKERS* in the current print edition. Sabo says talk stations have to be programmed correctly in order to succeed in a PPM market. "If someone tunes into a talk station at seven minutes past the hour and it takes the host until 22 minutes after the hour to mention his name, topic, phone number and get to the damn point — son of a gun — you are going to have a low-cuming station." Sabo says this requires hands-on programming, "You have to sit down and negotiate the creative process with your talent. It means you have to be a program director and a boss. You actually have to do it." Hear Walter Sabo speak at the NMS 2011 on Saturday, June 11 at 2:40 pm immediately following the Freedom of Speech Award ceremony. For the entire NMS agenda

click [here](#). (May 24, 2011)



Meredith

Atwell Baker **Congressman Issa Looking into Baker's Jump to Comcast/NBC Universal.** House Oversight Committee Chairman Darrell Issa (R-CA) says publicly that it does not appear FCC commissioner Meredith Atwell Baker violated any legal or ethical tenets when she decided to leave the commission for the government relations post with Comcast/NBC Universal just four months after voting to approve the controversial merger. But Issa is taking a closer look at Baker's decision and the timeline of events, according to Politico. Baker recently issued a statement clarifying the timeline and her thought process as well as her due diligence in seeking legal and ethical advice throughout the process. Time will tell if Issa sees anything worth pursuing. (May 24, 2011)



Scott

Hennen **Talk Show Host Scott Hennen Exits WZFG, Fargo.** Scott Hennen, a former officer with WZFG, Fargo parent company Great Plains Integrated Marketing, has broadcast his last live show with the station. The company decided it no longer wished to air the show in the 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm slot or be in the business of seeking affiliate stations for the program. The two sides agreed Friday, May 27 would be his last show. According to what Hennen told the *Fargo Forum*, he wanted to announce his departure on Monday but the station wanted him to do it on Friday and explain it was his idea to leave. When Hennen began his announcement on Monday anyway, the company pulled the plug on him and began airing "best-of" shows as it will through Friday. The station counters the two sides had not agreed on all parts of the exit and that's why it yanked the show. As for Hennen, he says his company has built an online audience for the show that is larger than the radio audience. "We have plans to expand our media network to every community in a three-state region seeking radio, television and newspaper partners. That effort, along with plans for a nationwide book tour [promoting Hennen's new book, *Grassroots: A Commonsense Action Agenda for America* (Threshold Editions 2011)] begins today!" WZFG has not announced what will air in the place of Hennen's show. (May 24, 2011)



Bill

Pasha **Entercom VP of Programming Bill Pasha Exits.** Pasha leaves Entercom on good terms and with praise for the company. Pasha is joining former CBS and American Radio Systems exec David Pearlman in forming a new consulting company called MultiBrand Media International. The company's website says it "supports forward thinking principals and managers. We craft winning

strategies, generate and represent unparalleled content, and improve programming. MBMI creates exponential value for our client partners by ensuring that every step of every process, from Finance to Final Product, receives laserlike focus and detailed follow-through from its team of experts.” (May 24, 2011)



Alpha Broadcasting to Move Portland, Oregon Sports Talk to AM Signal. Alpha Broadcasting programmer Brian Jennings went on WXTG-FM, Portland’s John Canzano program on May 20 to talk about the company’s plan to move “The Game” to sister news/talk KXL’s 750 AM frequency (ending the simulcast and leaving KXL only on 101.1 FM). The change takes place this Wednesday, May 25. Jennings told listeners it frees up 95.5 for the company to do something else with the frequency, “...and opens up a whole new revenue stream for this company. It’s a huge financial move. Frankly, sports does well on AM across America...KXL 750 is the strongest signal in the market, it reaches 3.4 million people.” Jennings states that although there are some great FM sports stations, the biggest markets in America have a great sports talk station on AM. (May 23, 2011)



John
Brown

John Brown Exits KTRS, St. Louis to Take TV Job. John Brown, host of the “John Brown’s Mindset” early afternoon show on KTRS, St. Louis, leaves the station (and his other position as reporter/anchor at KTVI-TV, St. Louis) to become the AM drive host at Fox O&O WOFL-TV, Orlando. KTRS will move JC Corcoran and Trish Gazall to the 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm slot but there’s no official word on what will air in the 10:00 am to 12:00 noon slot. (May 23, 2011)



John
Cigna

Legendary KDKA, Pittsburgh Talk Host John Cigna Dies at 74. Cigna held down mornings at KDKA, Pittsburgh for 18 years before retiring from the station in 2001. Prior to his AM drive gig, Cigna did the evening show at KDKA for 10 years. Cigna was a Brooklyn, New York native who found himself in Pittsburgh after working radio jobs in Ohio, Indiana and West Virginia. Upon retiring from KDKA he summed up his talk career saying, “I talked and told it like it is. A lot of times, put both feet in my mouth, but it was great.” (May 23, 2011)

WLS, Chicago’s Tom Roeser Retires. TOC Chicago’s Robert Feder reports WLS, Chicago weekend talk show host Tom Roeser — a part of the WLS lineup for the past 17 years — is retiring from his position with the station. The 82-year old host had missed a couple of his weekend shows in recent weeks and is currently hospitalized with an undisclosed ailment. Roeser held a number of positions during his career including VP of government relations for Quaker Oats, author, teacher, and op-ed columnist for several newspapers including the *Chicago Sun-Times*. Most recently he has served as

publisher and editor-in-chief for the online Chicago Daily Observer. (May 23, 2011)



Gregory Peppers

AP Hires WAMU-FM, Washington, DC's Peppers for Executive Producer Post. The Associated Press announces WAMU-FM, Washington senior editor Gregory Peppers joins the news service as executive producer, radio and audio. AP vice president and director of U.S. broadcast news Kevin Roach says Peppers' position entails managing all aspects of AP Radio's newscasts, special programming and daily audio cut feeds out of AP's Broadcast News Center in Washington. "We are delighted to have someone of Greg's caliber and character join the AP team. He's been a customer of AP Radio for many years, so he starts off with a thorough knowledge of our products." (May 23, 2011)



Jim Roberts

ESPN Promotes Jim Roberts; Adds Senior Director of ESPN Deportes Dallas to Duties. Roberts holds the title of senior director of affiliate sales for ESPN Radio and ESPN Deportes. He maintains those responsibilities but adds senior director of Deportes Dallas to his business card. Roberts is responsible for the day-to-day operations of KZMP, Dallas including sales, marketing and programming. (May 23, 2011)



Scott Anderson

Talk Show Host Scott Anderson Dies After Battle with Cancer. Anderson, who had been hosting the "Mesa Talking" program on Channel 11 in the Phoenix area, died on May 18 after a nine-month battle with cancer. Anderson hosted the late-morning show on KLIF, Dallas in the early 2000s before returning to his adopted hometown of Mesa, Arizona. (May 23, 2011)

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