

Earlier this week, the Conclave confirmed that comic and Syndication One morning host Rickey Smiley will host an interview with BMI music legend Isaac Hayes as part of the Saturday Luncheon (6/28) at the Summer Learning Conference: AT THE CROSSROADS, scheduled for June 26th-29th in Minneapolis. The star-packed luncheon will also include Hayes' writing partner, David Porter, and will honor Edison Media's "30 Under 30". Best known as host of the 2000 season of BET's "ComicView" as well as the Rickey Smiley and Deez Nuts Morning Show, Rickey is also a favorite in the nation's top comedy venues including intimate comedy clubs to sold out crowds at Madison Square Garden, the Universal Amphitheater and the Lincoln Center. In addition, Rickey was a guest presenter on the 2001 NAACP Image Awards as well as joining fellow heavyweight comedians D. L. Hughley, J. Anthony Brown, Bruce Bruce, Earthquake, and Sommore on the Latham Entertainment Presents Tour. The complete agenda for the Conclave: AT THE CROSSROADS can be found online at www.theconclave.com.

lowa is the Saudi Arabia of the Midwest says Clear Channel/Des Moines market manager Joe McCrae. Corn farmers are selling their crops for record prices due to ethanol production. "This is one of those times when agricultural communities are doing really well." Said McCrae. That means even stations having nothing to do with farming or Ag programming benefit. "Farmers are going to go to Main Street and spend some money." McCrae says. That's meant an increase in home improvement, auto and truck dealer spending. Katz Radio's Minneapolis-based agriculture specialist Vic McGill says last years Ag ad revenues were up 25% in the first quarter. Farm companies will put 100% of their budget into one single station that carries Ag news reports but that money will also trickle into the country and sports formats. Some of these small stations are selling \$500,000 worth of ads

to a single Ag ad buyer at a time. The big shift of advertising to online platforms isn't happening among farm marketers, as they prefer traditional media outlets.

Sen. Ken Salazar (D-CO) demands Rush Limbaugh be "reprimanded" by Clear Channel for "incendiary" comments he made about rioting at the Democratic Convention in Denver. Limbaugh, to the tune of "White Christmas," told listeners, "I'm dreaming of riots in Denver." Salazar says those comments are a "clear exhortation that those riots are exactly what he wants to happen." The controversy is gaining steam and Clear Channel NT KOA-AM/Denver has dubbed it "Rushtroversy." Limbaugh's response? "All I was saying was, if it happens, from a political standpoint, the beneficiaries will be Republicans because we don't burn down things at our convention." Salazar says, "Political commentary on our public airwaves should speak to the great strength reflected in the peaceful exercise of democracy at the national conventions."

The Conclave has announced details of the News/Talk Format Symposium at the 2008 Conclave Learning Conference: AT THE CROSSROADS. Part of the Formatics track of learning, "Finding Your Voice" will reveal the secrets of developing your own style or "voice," no matter the format. This unique session will happen Saturday June 28th at 1:30PM at the Marriott City Center/ Minneapolis. There's nothing more powerful than the human voice to connect people. But how do you find a style and make it your own? Regardless of whether your interest is politics, or music, AM, FM, Podcast or Streaming, developing your own style or "voice" is critical. Moderated by Perry Michael Simon of the All Access Music Group, the "Finding Your Voice" faculty includes: Steve Konrad/OM Hubbard Broadcasting - Minneapolis, Bob Davis/KSTP-AM/Minneapolis, TD Mischke/KSTP-AM/ Minneapolis, and Ramona Holloway/WLNK-Charlotte. In addition to the Formatics track, this year's Learning Conference includes tracks addressing the areas of Management and Programming, Technology, Life Skills and Promotions. Attendees are welcome to focus on a specific track or mix and match them to take full advantage of the four-day event. This year's learning conference also includes keynotes from the NAB's David Rehr. author Rita Cosby and talker Ed Shultz as well as legendary guests like Isaac Hayes and luncheons honoring radio's "30 Under 30", as well as the Conclave Scholarship winners and 2008 Rockwell Award recipient, Danno Wolkoff. The complete agenda for the Conclave: AT THE CROSSROADS as well as registration details can be found online at www.theconclave.com.





After cultural awareness and sensitivity training, the Clear Channel Classic Rock KBFX/Anchorage morning team of Greg Wood and Chris Wilcox get a second chance. "Woody and Wilcox" were suspended April 15<sup>th</sup> after Native American listeners protested a racial joke made by the pair. In a letter to listeners GM Gary Donovan said, "I'm confident that when they return, Woody and Wilcox will be different people."

Triton Media Group bought Waitt Radio Networks which adds to its existing operation made up of the 24 hour networks it bought from Westwood One two years ago to create Dial Global Digital 24/7 formats reaching 925 stations. No purchase price released but rumor has it Triton is paying Waitt parent NRG Media \$5 million. Global is excited to get its hands on Waitt's "Storq Delivery System" which allows for greater localization and customization. Dial Global has been selling Waitt's networking inventory for the last year. After several years of declining revenue, Dial Global was quickly able to turn a profit. Waitt GM Kurt Luchs says, "Thanks to what Global Media has done on the ad sales side, this is already our best year ever." The consolidation leaves only three players in the 24-hour arena. Dial Global will compete Jones Radio Networks and ABC Radio Networks.

**Citadel** NT WLS-AM/Chicago GM **John Gallagher** exits. Sister WZZN/Chicago's **Mike Fowler** handles duties in the interim.

SBS Spanish WLEY/Chicago GM Terry Hardin exits.

Condolences to the family of Illinois morning man **John "JB" Bohwer** who passed away after battling lung and brain cancer. Bohwer had been hosting wake-ups for **Withers Broadcasting's** WSDR-AM/Sterling.

The NAB warns that rather than increasing broadcasting's ties to the community, the new requirements in the FCC's localism docket would "produce the opposite effect, resulting in a broadcasting industry less able to serve the public interest." "Today with the media market changing rapidly and fresh competition from multiple digital sources increasing continuously, there is no reason to maintain the current level of regulation on broadcasters, let alone increase regulation on an industry that remains the most heavily-regulated in the market." Comments criticizing the new rules also came from Disney/ABC; NBC and CBS; a group of TV stations owned by Barrington, Bonten, Dispatch, Paxton, Post-Newsweek and Raycom; Christian

Broadcasting System; The Livingston Radio Co.; Intercollegiate Broadcasting System and Harvard Radio; Lesea Broadcasting; Four Seasons Media; Christian Family Network TV; a group of 34 small radio broadcasters represented by attorney A. Wray Fitch III; and a large number of individuals.

The NAB's "Local Radio Freedom Act" gains support in the US House of Representatives. The resolution denounces the notion of levying any fee on local radio broadcasters for music airplay. "Congress should not impose any new performance fee, tax, royalty or other charge relating to the public performance of sound recordings on a local radio station for broadcasting sound recordings over-the-air, or on any business for such public performance of sound recordings," reads House Concurrent Resolution 244. The U.S. remains one of the few countries in the world not imposing a performance royalty on broadcasters. Major record labels support the royalty as a new source of revenue. Want to know more about this incendiary topic? Check out "Radio vs. Royalties: The Debate" at the 2008 Conclave Learning Conference, Friday 6/27 at 5:30PM – part of this year's Conclave College, presented in part by The All Access Music Group!

A letter from **Sen. Pat Roberts** (R-KS) and 22 other lawmakers to FCC Chairman Kevin Martin, voices concerns that the proposed localism and ascertainment rules would cause hardships for broadcasters and might be unconstitutional. The letter says it's "wholly unwarranted to force all licensees to adhere to a blanket regulatory regime that does not account for the diverse needs and challenges of communities across the nation, and the measures that many broadcasters are already taking in this regard." The letter also says that the imposition of public service requirements raises "the specter of government-regulated content." A similar letter was sent by 120 members of the House a week ago. ABC also filed objections to the new rule, focusing on the requirement of providing affiliates with screeners of network shows before they air, noting that some shows, particularly reality shows, are finished just a few hours before airtime and that it already provides affiliates with pre-airing notice of potentially controversial content.

## **President Bush**

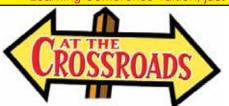


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Tim Kelly, Conclave Board Chair

Women are managing 1/3 of sales departments according to the annual "Sales Manager Gender Analysis Study" released by the Mentoring and Inspiring Women in Radio (MIW). In the top 100 markets, the numbers are even higher. "This slow, but steady increase in the number of women sales managers in the radio industry has been very encouraging over the past five years," said MIW Spokesperson Heidi Raphael. "It is our hope that this consistent gain portends more women General Managers in the near future, as GM's so frequently come from the sales manager ranks." Commentary: We echo Heidi's hope for more female GM's to join the increased number of SM's. But we won't stop there. The industry needs far more female programmers that it currently enjoys. We find it ironic (and a bit sad) that so many formats target women in some way, shape, or form - and yet these same stations do so with males at the helm. Not to disparage the men who...uh, man...the programming, but our lack of feminine PD's might have just a little to do with audience declines we've seen evidence of in the past. - TK

The Hate Hurts America Community and Interfaith Coalition (HHA) announces that Motel 6 has stopped advertising or refuses to place their ads on **Michael Savage's** "Savage Nation" show. HHA, a group of religious and civic organizations seeking to challenge hate speech on talk radio, was formed because of Savage's attacks on religious and ethnic minorities.

**CBS** News WBBM-AM and CBS O&O WBBM-TV/Chicago will simulcast a special "town hall meeting" about the city's recent crime wave on May 10<sup>th</sup> at 10p CT. WBBM-TV anchor **Rob Johnson** and WBBM-AM morning anchor **Felicia Middlebrooks** will co-host "Speaking Truth: A Town Hall Meeting on Violence."

Chicago Blackhawks hockey moves from CBS Sports WSCR-AM/Chicago to crosstown Tribune Talk WGN-AM in a new three year deal. The Hawks were on WSCR-AM for eight years but the team is overhauling its broadcast presence and will for the first time televise all regular season games after televising some home games for the first time this past season.

Radio for Milwaukee non-com WYMS/Milwaukee has invited area residents to record personal thank you's to family members or friends who are veterans or are currently serving our country in the armed services. The messages will air during the Memorial Day weekend.

Congratulations to **Milwaukee Radio Alliance** AC WLDB/ Milwaukee on the success of their "B93.3 Soft Rock Collection Vol. 1" CD. All proceeds - \$15,558.37 – benefit the **Penfield Children's Center** dedicated to helping infants and young children with special needs through special education, family support services and therapy programs.

Longtime Boise State University football and basketball radio voice **Paul J. Schneider** will be honored by the naming of the press area at the new Stuckele Sky Club addition to the school's football stadium after him. Schneider, whose 35 years as the Voice of the Broncos came to an end with the move of the team's games to **Peak Broadcasting's** Talk KIDO-AM/Boise. The school is also endowing a scholarship in Schneider's name and he will be given lifetime seats in the new section of the stadium. Schneider is an employee of the Broncos' former home, **Citadel** Talk KBOI-AM, where he is morning co-host.

Sirius VP/Music Programming and Midwest native Gregg Steele adds PD duties of Alternative channel Alt Nation/21 and Maximum Radio PD Rob Cross adds PD duties of Alternative Indie Rock channel Left of Center/26. They replace Sirius/Alt Nation & Left of Center PD Rich McLaughlin, who exited to Fordham University noncom WFUV/New York.

## **Don't Burst Our Buble!**



Reprise recording artist Michael Buble stopped by Saga's KLTI prior to his sold-out show later that night in Des Moines. L-R: Jay Wells (afternoons), Chris Beck (promotion director), Buble, Tim White (Mornings), & Scott Allen (PD).



Capitol Records VP/Alternative & Rock Promotion Scott Burton segues to Caroline/Astralwerks promotion team, joining Dave Lombardi based in NYC, David Barbis in LA. Burton remains in Chicago and can be reached at (847) 755-0498 or scott.burton@capitolmusic.com.

**Leighton** Top 40 KCLD/St. Cloud welcomes back **Mike Shaffer** for MD/Afternoons. Mike was recently doing late-nights/swing before leaving for Myrtle Beach, SC for a non-radio job.

New Rushmore Radio/Rapid City, SD Dir./Programming and Operations — and Conclave Agenda Committee member - Dan Larkin announces the following promotions: Kurt Summers as PD of AC KKMK, Spanky as PD of Top 40 KCRS, Jayden McKay as APD of Top 40 KCRS, Jay Davis as APD of Classic Rock KFXS, Kara McKenzie to mid-days at AC KKMK.

Former Clear Channel Urban WPHH/Hartford APD/night host Spank Buda segues to Clear Channel Urban WGCI/Chicago. Buda worked in The Windy City from 1998-2000 at Clear Channel Urban AC WVAZ.

**CBS** Sports WSCR-AM/Chicago ups midday Producer **Chris Collins** to Sports Director.

**Denver Radio Company** names **Rob lafrate** Dir./Sales for One-FM and 101.5 Martini Radio. lafrate previously owned and consulted **Denver Business Connections**, replaces **Blake Mendenhall** who was promoted to GM last month.

**Envision Radio Networks'** "The Tour Bus Quickie" picks up KLKK/Mason City, IA as its newest affiliate. "The Tour Bus Quickie," hosted by **Ralph Sutton** and **Stacey X**, is daily dose of interviews with people like Slash and former Skid Row frontman Sebastian Bach.

**Ringtone Countdown** with **Dave Ryan** adds CBS Top 40 WBZW/ Pittsburgh and Cumulus Top 40 KCDD/Abilene. For more info on the show, contact <u>Stefan@nineballradio.com</u>.

Radio loses another legend with the sudden death of **CBS** Oldies WOGL/Philadelphia afternoon personality '**Big Ron**' O'Brien due to complications from pneumonia. Ron's other career stops include; KUDL-AM/Kansas City, KTLK-AM/Denver, WQXI-AM/Atlanta, WCFL-AM/Chicago, WXLO/New York, WNBC-AM/New York, WPGC/Washington, DC, WOKY-AM/Milwaukee, KWK/St.

Louis, KFI-AM, KIIS-FM and KKBT/Los Angeles. Ron was 56 years old.

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