LETTERS

Radio's No. 2 Problem: Lack Of Good People

Dear R&R:

There has never been a greater opportunity for new broadcasters in this field than now. Not because there are more jobs, but because there are so few really good folks out there.

A person can sound good on the air but not be a good employee. [Good employees have to] show up on time, follow through on directions, take the time for details that make or break a production piece, and have the inner drive that makes them take the extra time to be good. Even after it's time to go home.

In small market radio, our biggest headache, next to sales, is people. I talk to fellow station owners and, if they are old enough to remember the days of [Ted] Storz and [Gordon] McLendon, they're appalled by the quality of today's entry-level broadcaster.

There are old-time broadcasters who sign up for satellite (programmed) not to save money, but to avoid dealing with people. They would much rather be live, but they don't need the bullshit from people who don't want to put in the extra effort to learn their craft and become good at it.

—Bill Taylor
Owner, KGSS/FM/Miami, AZ

Defending Recycled Humor

Dear R&R:

I disagree with Dan O'Day's column (11/12) regarding his [negative] opinion of compilation morning shows.

The biggest complaint working people have today is that they don't have enough time. I'm sure that includes watching TV and reading magazines.

A jock who might not have great humor skills, but does have a sense for what's hot, could put together an adult morning show that's a daily keep-in-touch guide.

—Letterman's Top Ten, jokes from Leno's and Hannity's monologues, and the top entertainment news of the day packed into one hour, can be packaged for easy aural digestion between songs and service.

This is a great approach for a station that targets the busy "at work" listener.

—Mark Elliott
Program Director
WSLi/Greenville, SC

Music Biz Coalition, ACLU File Suit Over 'Erotic Music' Law

A music industry coalition consisting of several top labels, the RIAA, and the ACLU have asked a Washington court to throw out that state's so-called "erotic music" law. The statute, which took effect last month, adds sound recordings to a list of goods that can be found "erotic" (i.e., obscene) under the state's obscenity law. Recordings deemed obscene by a state hearing judge cannot be sold to minors and must carry an "Adults Only" label.

The coalition believes the new law will have a chilling effect on labels and artists. The group's lawyers also claim the statute does not sufficiently protect the rights of those accused of selling obscene record-ings. For example, the law gives record labels and retailers just five days to respond to charges that a recording is obscene.

Plantiffs in the coalition's suit include the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA), A&M, Atlantic, BMG, Capitol-EMI, C/Z Records, Elektra/Los Angeles, Epic Records Group, ERS Records, Geffen, Global Pacifice, GRP, Joey Records, MCA, Priority, Profile, Sony, Sire Music, and Warner Bros.

Washington-based artists who have joined the complaint include Selene Vigil and Diane Schuur; Chris Novakoski of Nirvana; Pearl Jam; Queen; Kinks; Jeff Beck; Howlin' Wolf; Ann Wilson, and Nancy Wilson of Heart; Sir Mix-A-Lot; Kid Sensa-tion; Soundgarden; and Alice In Chains.

Naylor Nails KDFE PD Post

KDGE/Dallas APD/PM driver Wendy Naylor has been promoted to PD at the Allison Broadcast Group New Rock outlet. She replaces Larry Nielsen, who remains at the station in a consulting capacity.

KDFE GM Steve Allison told R&R, "Wendy has been heavily in-volved in the programming all along. She and Larry shared a lot of the same philosophies because they've worked together for years."

Naylor said, "Larry gave me a lot of freedom to grow and prepare for this role. My goal is to be a step ahead of the other guys. It will be a real team effort."

Prior to joining KDGE three years ago, Naylor had previous stints at Phoenix stations KSTM, KTUX, and KXIE, as well as WCXR/Washington.

In other station news, KDFE has hired Fest Edalle Copley from cross-town KEGI, for mornings, replacing Jerry Lenz.

Jameson PD At WXF/Indianapolis

Veteran AOR programmer Scott Jameson is the new PD at Classic Rock WXF (The Fox) Indianapolis. Scott was recently fired from his job at WJXR/Indianapo-lis, where he had been the WIN Communications outlet. Discussing Jameson's appointment, WXF VP/GM Pam Phillips said, "Scott and I have known each other for years. He is a smart, passionate guy who under-stands the balance between strategic planning and creative market- ing."

Best known from his years at KYIS/Kansas City, Jameson has also programmed KZAP/Sacra-mento, KAZY/Denver, and KOMP/Las Vegas.