

Now In Birmingham, It's Beat The Clock; Easy Loses Memphis, Recent Texas Convert

YOUR FIVE MINUTES ARE UP, Parts 1 & 2: There had been rumors that a.m. driver **Man Mountain Walker** would leave top 40 **WKXX** (X106) Birmingham, Ala., for several weeks, but nobody could anticipate who, or what, he would be replaced by. Until **WKXX** finds a real morning man, a.m. drive is currently being handled by a Radio Shack talking alarm clock. The clock gives timechecks. Real people do news and traffic.

X106's stunt was meant to reinforce its "more music in the morning" image. But it also gives rise to a number of interesting questions. Will the clock start arguing with its morning partners who will retaliate by repeatedly pushing the snooze button? Will it be the first clock to be fired for refusing to follow a morning man? Will the clock lock itself in the booth and play "Ring My Bell" repeatedly? Will this column be forced to change its name to Vox Clox?

Elsewhere on the America's Strangest Home Audio front: Crown Broadcasting's **Tom Gammon**, who has become notorious in recent months for his series of station move-in proposals, is off the board at his former brokerage, Americom Partners. What is unusual about the move is the press release Americom issued to distance itself from Gammon's recent actions, which have been harshly criticized by other broadcasters.

Headlined "Americom Partners Oust Tom Gammon," the release states that the brokerage "felt Tom's actions . . . were not supportive of the asset values that Americom has worked so hard to establish in the radio industry" and that "with the exception of a token severance, Tom Gammon will receive no future financial benefit from Americom."

PROGRAMMING: EZ CONVERT CONVERTS

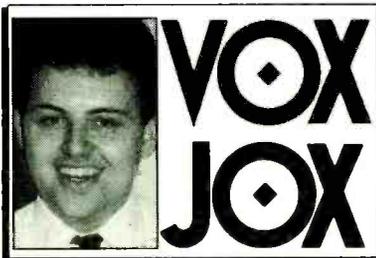
When the old **KMEZ** Dallas became urban **KJMZ** in late 1988, Gilmore's **KDLZ** picked up the calls and easy listening format and became one of the last major-market FMs to do so. Now **KMEZ**, citing the same sales and product availability problems that many of its counterparts have, will switch to Unistar's soft AC Special Blend on Monday (7). Morning man **Tim Kase** is the new PD, taking over from **Ken Loomis**. In addition, **WEZI** Memphis has also begun an easy-to-soft-AC transition.

Despite a strong winter Arbitron, **Beth Fast** is out as PD of AC **WMGK** (Magic 103) Philadelphia; no replacement has been named. Across town, former **WYSP** PD **John Roberts** is the new PD at top 40/dance **WIOQ** (Q102), reporting to **Mark Driscoll**. Roberts, who worked at top 40 **KEGL** Dallas when Driscoll was at rival **KHYI**, will hold on to his consultancy roster of four or five small-market stations.

AC **KESZ** Phoenix PD/morning man **Steve LeBeau** is the new OM at gold/AC combo **WHB/KUDL** Kansas City, Mo., replacing **Don**

Daniels. Potential replacements should send T&R to GM **Jerry Ryan** . . . **Tyler Cox**, last PD of full-service **WBZ** Boston, returns to N/T as the PD of **WWRC** Washington, D.C., replacing **Ken Mellgren**.

A lot of activity at top 40 **WLOL** Minneapolis this week: **Greg Strassel**, previously OM of AC/top 40 combo **WROK/WZOK** Rockford, Ill., is the new PD. **Greg Thunder**, after a brief stint in afternoons at **WPLJ** New York, replaces **Denny Schaffer** in that slot. And **Alan Kabel** returns to the market from **KQKS** Denver



by Sean Ross with
Craig Rosen & Phyllis Stark

for nights, replacing **J.J. Fly**. **WROK** PD **John Ivey** is the new OM in Rockford; **WROK** will replace him as PD shortly.

After two weeks of last-minute contract details, **KMPZ** Memphis GM **Randy Lane** has been officially named OM for news/top 40 combo **WMC-AM-FM** Memphis. Look for FM100 to lose some of its AC edges and become a more mainstream, albeit adult-leaning, top 40 . . . **Don Schaffer**, PD of oldies **WZCL** Norfolk, Va., adds VP/operations stripes.

Classical AM **KYTE** Portland, Ore., becomes easy listening **KESI** . . . **Neil Matthews** is out as OM of easy **KJQI** San Diego . . . Top 40 **KCIL** Houma/New Orleans is now country C107 and needs a PD to replace **Kevin Bonner**.

At album **WQMF** Louisville, Ky., VP/GSM **Michael Horlander** is promoted to GM, assuming duties held by owner **John Otting**. Meanwhile, production director **Scott Stanley** is the new PD, as **Terry Medert** leaves radio . . . Jazz **KPRT** Kansas City is changing format to gospel under consultant **Tony Gray** . . . N/T **WTKN** Tampa, Fla., is now a Business Radio Network affiliate under new PD **Gordon Byrd**. So is suburban Pittsburgh outlet **WEDO**, which dropped adult standards this week and is looking for some N/T hosts for other dayparts.

Dave Alexander, PD of top 40 **WIBW** Topeka, Kan., for the last five years, is the new PD at top 40 **KKHT** Springfield, Mo., replacing **J.J. McKay** . . . **Lyman James** is the new PD at oldies **KWKL** Wichita, Kan. James was previously p.m. driver at top 40 **KKRD** Wichita, where he is replaced by **Steve Anthony** from **WRLT** Nashville. Weekender **Liz Cavanaugh** replaces Anthony at **WRLT**. **Sean Phillips** and **Craig Hubbard** join **KKRD** for weekends.

KZTR-AM Oxnard/Ventura,

Calif., currently simulcasting its classic rock FM, will go to Satellite Music Network's Z-Rock in the next few weeks. Also set to add Z-Rock is **WVCC** Erie, Pa. . . . Assistant PD/MD **Mark Feather** is officially upped to PD at top 40 **WQXA** (Hot 105.7) York, Pa., replacing **Mark McKenzie**, which means that **Kip Taylor** is now MD. The station is looking for part-timers . . . Following the close of top 40 **WXXX** Burlington, Vt., to the owners of AC **WVMT**, the latter's GM **Paul Goldman** and OM **Mark Esbjerg** are now overseeing **WXXX**, too.

PEOPLE: BIG DON BECOMES DRIVEJOCK

First there was "flyjock" **Tom Joyner**; now there's another "drivejock." **WAVA** Washington, D.C., p.m. driver **Big Don O'Brien** is now doing afternoons at soft AC **WYST-FM** (92 Star) Baltimore in addition to his **WAVA** duties. O'Brien previously did mornings in Baltimore at top 40 **WBSB** (B104). Elsewhere at **WYST**, **Bernie Lucas** moves to afternoons. **E.J. Foxx** goes to middays. **Ted Douglas** moves to nights.

Urban **WRKS** New York moves night jock **Jeff Foxx** and part-timer **Wendy Williams** into mornings, joining **Ken "Spider" Webb**. Williams had been auditioning in mornings on-and-off in recent weeks; Foxx had done mornings at **WJPC** Chicago and **WJMO** Cleveland. They replace **Mike Love**, who is now doing evenings at Kiss.

Top 40 **WRBQ** (Q105) Tampa fills the first of its on-air openings with **Alicia Kaye**, who joins for p.m. drive from a similar position at top 40/dance **KNRJ** (Energy 96.5) Houston . . . MD **Antoinette Russell** adds APD stripes at urban/AC **KACE** Los Angeles.

Managing editor **Deidra White** is named assistant ND/executive editor at N/T **WBBM** Chicago. Her replacement as ME is **Georgann Herbert-Myers**, who was ND at adult standards/oldies combo **WTAR/WLTY** Norfolk, Va. . . . **WHYT** Detroit overnigher **Sunny Joe Harris** is back on the air. **WHYT** says the Drug Enforcement Agency has dropped its case against Harris, who was arrested on drug charges last month.

Mary Alice joins album **KDKB** Phoenix for afternoons from **KHTY** Santa Barbara, Calif. . . . Urban **WQUE** New Orleans morning man **Lee Cruize** returns to top 40 **KSAQ** (Q96) San Antonio, Texas, as MD, replacing **Cathy Romero**.

Turi Ryder is out of mornings at N/T **KGW** Portland, Ore., where she's replaced by p.m. driver **Bill Gallant** and evening host **Debb James**. The station now has an afternoon opening. Ryder can be reached through the Troutman-Downey Group at 503-239-9871.

At top 40 **KPLZ** Seattle, **Randy Lundquist** joins for afternoons from AC rival **KMGI**, replacing **Eric Funk**, who leaves on a two-year sabbatical from radio . . . Former **KLSX** Los Angeles PD **Tom Yates** is looking to get back into

newslines...

BARRETT HIGH-FIVEO: FCC Commissioner Andrew C. Barrett, confirmed last fall to fill an expired term, has been nominated by the Bush administration for a full five-year term, which would begin this July. The confirmation process this time, according to Capitol Hill insiders, will be procedural and fast. **BILL HOLLAND**

DAVE MILNER has resigned as VP/radio of Great American Broadcasting and has returned to Portland, Ore., as GM of GA's AC **KEX**. That station's GM, **Clint Sly**, becomes the GM of the newly acquired **KBPI** Denver.

JOHNNY ANDREWS, VP/GM of **WWL** New Orleans, adds GM duties for co-owned **WLMG**, replacing **Don DeLaHoussaye**, who is now GSM of **WWL-TV**.

DAVID KELLEY has been named to the newly created station manager position at album **KSHE** St. Louis. He was GSM there.

PAZDERNIK PAKZ UP: After four years as GM of **WKQI** (Q95) Detroit, GM **Betty Pazdernik** has resigned for "a new nonbroadcast venture." No replacement has been named.

JAY CHILDRESS, GM at **WQQK** Nashville, has left radio and joined the Spector Group. Owner **Sam Howard** is handling those duties.

TOM KLEIN, VP/GM of **WPIC/WYFM** Youngstown, Ohio, has been named VP/chief operating officer for the parent Regional Broadcast Group.

STATION SALES: **KJQY** San Diego from **Robert Sillerman** and **Carl Brazzell's** Command Communications to **Sillerman** and **Carl Hirsch's** LBI Holdings for \$20 million; **KHFI** Austin, Texas, from **Encore Communications** to **Don Kuykendall** for \$4.8 million; **KQFX** Austin and **WTRG** Raleigh, N.C., from **Capitol Broadcasting** to **Joyner Communications** for approximately \$9 million.

programming in the West or Southwest and will consider a smaller, high-quality-of-life market. Call 213-827-7719.

Former **WOGL** Philadelphia morning man **Steve O'Brien**, displaced by **Don Cannon** several weeks ago, is now doing mornings at oldies **KWFM** Tucson, Ariz. . . . **Karen Peterson** joins AC **WNSR** (Mix 105) New York as programming assistant from Manhattan Cable Television . . . Overnigher **Norm Visger** is named to the newly created assistant MD job at country **KWDJ** Riverside, Calif.

WJMK Chicago night jock **Dick Biondi** celebrated his 30th anniversary in Chicago radio May 2 by taking calls from former co-workers and playing only songs from 1960. Meanwhile, **WAXY** Miami's **Rick Shaw** will celebrate his 30th year in the market with a sock hop featuring **Peter Noone** on May 18.

Look for **WQYK** Tampa morning man **Dan Stevens** in the audience on an upcoming "Geraldo" episode scheduled to air sometime during the week of Monday (7). Stevens is part of a Q&A discussion with people who claim to have had exorcisms . . . Former **WSRZ** Sarasota, Fla., PD **Tom Evans** has completed his migration to Seattle, where he is establishing an independent promotion company. Evans can be reached at 206-546-0290 or at 758 N. 161st Place, Seattle, Wash. 98133.

EVENTS: CROCKER ROASTED

WBL New York p.m. driver **Frankie Crocker** will be the target of a special T.J. Martell Foundation roast/luncheon to be held June 7 at New York's Columns. Contact Columbia's **Ruben Rodriguez** at 212-445-4692. Meanwhile, the label's **Kid Leo** is your contact for the **Jeff Wyatt Martell** roast to

be held two days later. As for **Martell's KHJ** Los Angeles Boss Jocks reunion, which takes place Wednesday (9) in Los Angeles, call **Jeff Leonard** at 818-348-3162.

Top 40 **WXKS-FM** (Kiss 108) Boston has announced the first acts for this year's Kiss Concert. Acts so far include **Bell Biv DeVoe**, **Technotronic**, **Michel'le**, **Sweet Sensation**, **Seduction**, **Smokley Robinson**, **Eddie Money**, **Donna Summer**, **Herbie Hancock**, **Jeffrey Osborne**, and **Louie Louie**. Also on the bill is **Donny Osmond**, who will host his portion of the Children's Miracle Network telethon live from the Kiss party.

Elsewhere on the station party scene, **KQLZ** (Pirate Radio) Los Angeles, responding to alleged rumors in the Hispanic community about morning man **Scott Shannon** resembling the devil, has scheduled a "Cuatro de Mayo" remote broadcast, one day before the usual **Cinco de Mayo** festivities, called "The Weekend Blast-Off Fiesta And Free Diablo Telethon."

When new **KFMB-FM** (B100) San Diego morning team **Jeff & Jer** debuted on April 25, they did so by offering \$100 to anybody who could call them from another station's control room. Staffers at oldies **KCBQ-FM** and adult alternative **KIFM** allowed contestants to call B100. Not surprisingly, nobody called from rival AC **KKYY** (Y95), the team's former employer.

Burkhart/Douglas & Associates is looking for PDs who are fluent in foreign languages and want to work with foreign broadcasters in their Radio Ambassador Program. Call **Val Garris** at 404-955-1550 . . . The National Assn. of Broadcasters is looking for nominees for the 1990 Marconi Radio Awards. For more info, call **Robert Marking**, 202-429-5422.