

Gov. Whitman To Name 'Stern' Rest Stop; WESC DJ Cleared Of Molestation Counts

YOU CAN'T SAY New Jersey Gov. **Christine Todd Whitman** doesn't keep her campaign promises. In the fall of 1993, while trailing incumbent **Jim Florio**, Whitman picked up an endorsement from **WXRK** (K-Rock) New York's **Howard Stern**, and agreed that if elected she'd name a highway rest stop after the morning man. The *Trenton Times* reported Jan. 27 that Gov. Whitman unveiled plans to dedicate a stop in Springfield Township (along I-295) to Stern, complete with a plaque depicting the jock in an outhouse.

Not surprisingly, representatives from women's groups, longtime opponents of Stern and his brand of humor, were not pleased with the state's honor. One state Democratic legislator bemoaned the whole thing as a "cheap publicity stunt."

In other news, a Greenville, S.C., jury found longtime **WESC** morning man **Bob Hooper** not guilty on two charges of performing a lewd act on a minor (*Billboard*, May 18, 1994). The jury took less than two hours to reach its verdict, according to local press reports.

WESC VP/GM **Allen Power** told the local press that "there was never any doubt in my mind about his innocence, but now you ask, Where does a man go to regain his good name?"

Two minors had charged that Hooper pulled them on his lap and fondled them in the station van during a remote broadcast. The station has since changed its policies and no longer allows listeners inside its vehicles.

PROGRAMMING: HAMLIN TO W4

Mark Hamlin is tapped as the new PD at **WWWW** Detroit. Hamlin, who arrives from the PD job at **WBEB** Philadelphia, replaces **Alan Sledge**, who is now at sister stations **KNEW/KSAN** San Francisco.

WYLD-FM New Orleans PD **Skip Dillard** exits to program **WMXD** Detroit beginning Feb. 13. Dillard succeeds **Kris McClendon**, now at **WALR** Atlanta.

KDMX Dallas PD **Rob Roberts** exits, while the station seeks a replacement.

KIKK-FM Houston PD **Carl Geisler** relinquishes his programming duties and moves to mornings, replacing **Country Jones**, who exits. OM **Rick Candea** is accepting T&Rs for a new PD.

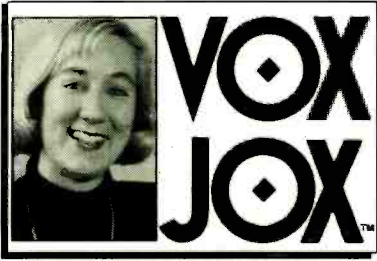
KMJQ Houston flips from mainstream R&B to R&B adult. Also, cross-

town **KHYS** flips from R&B adult to jazz, while sister station **KYOK** flips from "Urban Gold" and talk to black gospel and talk.

Former **KKSN-FM** Portland, Ore., PD **Phil West** joins **KRWM** Seattle for the same duties, replacing **Ross Block**, who exits.

KESZ Phoenix midday host **Carla Foxx** joins crosstown **KZRX** for PD duties, replacing **Tim Andrews**, who exits.

KFAN-AM Minneapolis executive



by *Phyllis Stark*
with reporting by *Eric Boehlert*
and *Brett Atwood*

producer **Tim Spence** joins the new all-sports **KKFN** Denver for PD duties, replacing **Chuck St. John**, who exits.

KINK-AM Portland, Ore., flips from a simulcast of the FM to a syndicated all-talk format with the new calls **KOTK** and slogan "Super Talk 620." **Trevor Oliver** has been named PD. He previously programmed **KERN-AM** and **KGEO** Bakersfield, Calif.

New modern rock station **KCXX** Riverside, Calif. (formerly **KABE**), names former **KRAB** Bakersfield PD **Steve Hoffman** as OM for both **KCXX** and sister station **KCKC**. **XHRM** San Diego afternoon host **Chuck Summers** joins **KCXX** for PD duties. Both Hoffman and Summers are expected to hold on-air slots when the station signs on with a live air staff Feb. 13.

Joe Dawson, formerly PD at **KLYV** Dubuque, Iowa, is the new programmer at **WWKX** Providence, R.I., replacing **Scotty Snipes**. Scuttling persistent format change rumors, **WWKX** GM **Gene Lombardi** says the station will remain top 40/rhythm.

Tom Holt takes over as PD at **WWLI** Providence, R.I., replacing former OM **Bill George**, now at **WSSH-FM** Boston. Holt arrives from **WMAS-AM-FM** Springfield, Mass., where he was PD.

WAHC Columbus, Ohio, flips from top 40 to '70s oldies. Departed PD **Pete Dillon** will not be replaced, although his morning duties are now handled by **Fred Tomlinson**, who arrives from **WMMX** Dayton, Ohio. Also, **WAHC** night jock **Mike Duran** exits.

Joel Burke has been named PD at Keymarket Communications' **WJCE-AM/WRVR** Memphis, replacing **Jim Kirkland**, who is now OM at Keymarket's Greenville, S.C., stations. Burke previously programmed **KJCE/KKMJ/KPTY** Austin, Texas.

WRLG Nashville drops Major Networks' "The Exxit" format and picks up the Underground Network (formerly the **WDRE** Radio Network) for overnights and some weekend shifts.

Ken Brooks has been named PD at

WOW-FM Omaha, Neb. Brooks is upped from MD, and replaces **Scott Parker**, who recently passed away. Afternoon jock **Tom Scott** adds MD duties.

Monterey, Calif., gets a new jazz station as new outlet **KJMY** signs on at 103.9.

KEXX Stockton, Calif., flips from oldies to country. Known simply as "Country 101.9," the station is expected to announce new call letters in the coming weeks. PD **Ken Carr** remains as APD/afternoon host, while the search is on for a new PD.

Steve Wilson is upped from APD to PD at **WKCI** New Haven, Conn. Wilson had been acting PD since **Kid Kelly** left last fall. **WPLJ** New York PD **Scott Shannon** signs on as **WKCI** adviser. Also, **Flyin' Brian**, P/T jock from **WKSS** Hartford, Conn., is the new **WKCI** night jock, replacing **Mark McCarthy**, who moves to overnights.

Consultant **Harry Lyles** inks new client **WIZF** Cincinnati.

Chris Atkins is the new PD at **WFRG** Utica, N.Y., replacing **Buck Waters**, who exits. Atkins arrives from **WXTA** Erie, Pa.

Comedian **Bob Newhart** has purchased country **KKSB** Santa Barbara, Calif., from **Guy and Joyce Erway** for \$299,000. He is expected to flip the format to adult standards and change the calls to **KZBN**.

NETWORK NEWS

SW Networks launches two new weekly shows the weekend of Feb. 11. The two-hour hard rock show "Pure Concrete" is hosted by **WAXQ** New York PD **Bob Elliot**. **WAXQ** and **WLLZ** Detroit are among the 40 affiliates. The longform show "Country's Most Wanted" is hosted by **WSIX** Nashville's **Carl P. Mayfield**. The 46 affiliates for this program include **WSIX** and **WRBQ-FM** Tampa, Fla.

Former Connecticut Gov. **Lowell Weicker** is set to debut a new, conservative call-in talk show, "America Speaks With Lowell Weicker." The show will originate from Washington, D.C., and will be syndicated by **CRN International**.

PEOPLE: VARGAS UPPED AT KISS

KISS San Antonio, Texas, night host **Kevin Vargas** is named APD. Part-time host **Jason Lee Tipton** is upped to nights.

KZKL Albuquerque, N.M., overnight host **Amy O'Brien** joins crosstown **KZRQ** for MD duties, replacing **Bryan Curry**, who exits.

KMJX Little Rock, Ark., MD **David Allen Ross** exits radio.

Rich E. Cunningham is the new APD/night jock at **WXLK** (K92) Roanoke, Va., replacing **Air Jordon**, who exits. Cunningham arrives from **WKRZ** Scranton, Pa. Also, **Suanna** from **WFKS** Daytona Beach, Fla., takes over middays at K92, replacing **Melissa Morgan**, who exits.

WHYZ (Z100) New York overnight man **Freddy Vedder** moves to nights, swapping slots with **Chio the Hitman**.

Media strategist **Jay Severin**, who had been filling in afternoons at **WOR** New York and the **WOR** Radio Network since **Gene Burns'** departure, has

newslines...

ROBERT PAQUETTE is upped from GSM to VP/GM at **WQCD** (CD101.9) New York. Paquette replaces **Maureen Lesourd**, now with **ABC-TV**.

BOB TURNER has been tapped to run the Interep Radio Store's new **Shamrock** Radio Sales rep firm. Turner had been senior VP/GSM at Interep's Group **W Radio Sales**.

STATION SALES: **WWRX** Providence, R.I., from **Westerly Broadcasting Co.** to **Radio Equity Partners**, owner of crosstown **WWBB**, for \$10 million; **WSTP/WRDX** Charlotte, N.C., from **WSTP Inc.** to the **Dalton Group**, owner of crosstown **WWMG**, for \$3 million. Dalton begins operating the stations immediately under a local marketing agreement. **WWMG** VP/GM **Richard Harlow** adds those duties at the new stations. Elsewhere, eight stations formerly owned by **H&D Broadcasting** have been put up for sale by court-appointed receiver **Charles Giddens**. The stations are **WBSM/WFHN** New Bedford, Mass., **WKRS/WXLC** Waukegan, Ill., **WFPG-AM-FM** Atlantic City, N.J., and **WSUB/WQGN** New London, Conn.

GULFSTAR COMMUNICATIONS is acquiring **KKMY** Beaumont, Texas, from **UNO Broadcasting Co.** for an undisclosed price. **GulfStar** continues to own local stations **KLVI/KYKR**, but will sell **KLTN** Beaumont.

SALE CLOSINGS: **WRMA** Miami, from **EZ Communications** to the **Seventies Broadcasting Corp.**, for \$21.25 million; **KKCD** Omaha, Neb., from **Vantage Communications Inc.** to **WTMJ Inc.**, owner of crosstown **KEZO-AM-FM**, for an undisclosed price.

landed the gig permanently.

KFRG San Bernardino, Calif., midday host **Cathi Parrish** joins **KTWV** Los Angeles for nights, replacing **Paul Crosswhite**, who is now in mornings.

Former **WQHT** (Hot 97) New York night jock **Baltazar** joins **WJMN** Boston for mornings. He replaces **Johnny "J.R." Edwards**, now at **KDMX** Dallas.

XTRA-FM San Diego morning man **Brian Jones** joins crosstown **XHRM** for the same duties, replacing **Big Wave Dave** and **Bruce Wayne**, who exit. **KHOP** Modesto, Calif. afternoon host **Bill Bauman** joins **XHRM** for the same duties, replacing **Chuck Summers**.

Andy Savage is the new morning man at **KEGE-FM** Minneapolis, replacing **Peter Johns**, who moves to overnights. Former overnight jock **Mike Stapleton** exits. Savage arrives from mornings at **WFMF** Baton Rouge, La.

Skip Herman and **Jim McBean**, formerly paired at **WSHE** Miami and **WCXR** Washington, D.C., join **KTCJ/KTCZ** (Cities 97) for mornings, replacing **Gregg Ellsworth**, who exits along with midday host **Joanell**. Cities 97's new slogan is "Progressive Rock for the Twin Cities."

WCCO Minneapolis afternoon host **Ruth Koscielak** shifts to middays, replacing **Karen Grace**, who exits. Part-timer **Steve Cannon** is upped to afternoons.

KNIX Phoenix morning hosts **John Michaels**, **Bobby Lewis**, and **Carolyn Coffey** will keep that air shift. They had been handling the job on an interim basis for several months since the departure of **Hawk Harrison** and **Marty Hunter**.

WRCY Washington, D.C., morning host **PJ Cruse** joins **KQKS** Denver for middays, replacing **Mary Chavez**, who exited.

WYGY Cincinnati night jock **J.J. Gerard** moves to afternoons and picks up assistant MD duties. "Wild Bill" **Dunaway** joins the station for nights from **WBZX** Columbus, Ohio. Former intern **Chris Thomas** takes overnights, while P/T jock **Ron James** becomes

promotion director.

Former **KRAK** Sacramento, Calif., morning host **Joey Mitchell** joins crosstown **KHYL** for the same duties, replacing **Mark Lennartz**, who exits.

KXOA-AM Sacramento morning host **Dusty Morgan** exits, as the oldesties station now is all automated.

KRTY San Jose, Calif., night host **Tony Michaels** segues to afternoons, replacing **Randy Chase**, who exits. Part-timer **Tony Roberts** is upped to nights.

KBZN Salt Lake City morning host **Chere Wood** joins crosstown **KSFI** for middays, replacing **Jeff Bordner**, who exited.

Jay Baker returns to **WFBQ** Indianapolis, where he takes over middays. Baker was last at crosstown **WZPL**. **WNOE** New Orleans picks up the syndicated overnight show "After Mid-Nite With Blair Garner."

WCCC Hartford, Conn., morning man **Sebastian** heads across town to **WZMX**, where he replaces the exiting **Kenny Walker**. **WCCC** PD **Todd Heft** is accepting T&Rs.

Rappers **Pete Rock** and **Marley Marl** join **WQHT** (Hot 97) New York for a new Sunday night show, "Future Flavas."

Paul Swanson has been promoted to national promotion director at **Jeff McClusky & Associates**. Swanson had been director of secondaries.

Laurie Gail is upped from production assistant to assistant MD at **WFNX** Boston.

Tori Lynn Robinson joins **WMGK** Philadelphia as programming assistant. She previously was programming and promotions coordinator at crosstown **WBEB**.

John Matthewz is upped from P/T jock to middays at **WKZL** Greensboro, N.C. Also, **Trip Durham** joins **WKZL** as promotion director. He previously held that position with the **Winston-Salem** (N.C.) **Spirits** minor league baseball club.

WPGC Washington, D.C., OM **Jay Stevens** is accepting resumés for a research director.

NETWORKS

(Continued from preceding page)

songwriter chatted with fans on **CyberTalk**, **Warner Bros.'** interactive interview program on **America Online**.

Former New York Islander **Dennis Potvin** becomes host of **Prime Sports Radio's** NHL recap show "Slap Shot," which begins airing three times on Mondays the first week of February.

WNYE New York picked up the children's science, music, and humor show "Kinetic City Super Crew," which debuted in November on 25 stations, including 22 affiliates of **Children's Broadcasting Corp's** "Radio AAHS."