

AP

Continued from Page 4

Normally, AP maintains three regular delivery systems, one over phone lines and two via satellite. On Tuesday morning one satellite path was affected when engineers and programmers attempted to upgrade the satellite's software.

AP then implemented its emergency backup delivery plans. Stations received news text and advisory information by e-mail and fax, and audio services switched to other pathways. The AP Network News main channel was fed over ABC and CBS satellite channels, and the AP All News Radio

feed went out on an ABC satellite channel. Websites were established for audio cuts and billboards, and ISDN dial-up service was made available for All News Radio service.

While similar problems have occurred before on a smaller scale, this latest incident appears to be the worst failure in the history of AP's satellite distribution. (NPR experienced a similar satellite failure several years ago.) According to AP Director/Marketing & Communications Roger Lockhart, all clients have received some level of service. Lockhart estimates that service will be fully restored over the next several days.

LPFM

Continued from Page 4

Capitol Hill legislators and even fellow FCC commissioners in his fight to establish the service. Since late July, when Congress went into its summer recess, Kennard has had free rein to begin establishing LPFM. But when Congress reconvenes next week, there will be several bills on the matter awaiting its action. Among that legislation is the "Radio Broad-

casting Preservation Act of 1999," sponsored by Rep. Mike Oxley with amendments by Rep. John Dingell, which passed 274-110 in the House on April 13. The bill would protect third-adjacent channels from interference but would otherwise permit LPFM licensing. However, a bill introduced in the Senate by Sen. Judd Gregg that seeks to prohibit licensing entirely has already garnered 36 co-sponsors.

Transactions

Continued from Page 6

**FORMAT:** KLTY: Contemporary Christian; KDGE: Alternative  
**COMMENT:** Salem and Sunburst signed a local marketing agreement (LMA) to begin operating the stations Oct. 1. This deal does not involve a signal swap.

**KTUE-AM/Tulla**

**PRICE:** \$165,000  
**TERMS:** Asset sale for cash  
**BUYER:** Vista Media Ministries International. Phone: 806-995-5531  
**SELLER:** Dove Media Inc. Phone: 915-673-5289  
**FREQUENCY:** 1260 kHz

**POWER:** 1kw day/53 watts night  
**FORMAT:** Country

## Washington

**KCLK-AM/Asotin and KCLK-FM & KVAB-FW Clarkston**

**PRICE:** \$1.6 million  
**TERMS:** Asset sale for cash  
**BUYER:** Pacific Empire Holdings Corp. No phone listed.  
**SELLER:** Clarkston Broadcasters Inc. Phone: 509-758-3361  
**FREQUENCY:** 1430 kHz; 94.1 MHz; 102.9 MHz  
**POWER:** 5kw day/1kw night; 100kw at 1,200 feet; 440 watts at 1,171 feet  
**FORMAT:** Sports; Country; Soft AC

## Bloomberg

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Continued from Page 6

dropped from a rollover device at the Space Systems/Loral plant. The \$200 million satellite apparently also bounced several times, which would suggest that there is major damage. Sirius spokeswoman Mindy Kramer told R&R Tuesday that the accident "does not affect anything as long as [Sirius has] successful launches for Sirius-2 [set for Sept. 5] and Sirius-3 [set for October]." She added, "We have an assessment of the repairs necessary and expect to have a new delivery date in about 30 days." Kramer told R&R that all the satellites are fully insured, and, in the case of Sirius-4, "There will be no financial impact on Sirius. Those costs will be assumed by Loral."

## Analysts Initiate Coverage On Entravision

Entravision has won new coverage and a "buy" rating from Donaldson Lufkin & Jenrette's Jeffrey Jones (12-month target: \$26), Salomon Smith Barney's Niraj Gupta (\$25) and Credit Suisse First Boston's Paul Sweeney (\$23). Over at Bear, Stearns & Co., analyst Michele Esposito rated Entravision new "attractive." The new coverage came at the same time Entravision closed on its acquisition of Clear Channel's KACD & KBGD/Los Angeles and flipped the stations' format from Adult Alternative to a simulcast of Spanish Contemporary KSSE/Riverside.

## KPFK Complains Of XLNC Interference

Several months ago noncommercial Classical XLNC/Tijuana-San Diego debuted with a 1kw signal at 90.7 MHz — the same frequency as Pacifica's 110kw KPFK/Los Angeles. Although the stations' towers are 150 miles apart and XLNC's frequency was assigned through the U.S.-Mexico FM Agreement, KPFK GM Mark Schubb tells the *Los Angeles Times* that his station has seen a 20% drop in listening due to signal interference. Schubb filed a complaint with the FCC alleging that XLNC is broadcasting at 30 times its permitted wattage and transmitting illegally across the border. "KPFK has been 40 years alone on that frequency, believing it has the right to cover even Tijuana because there was no one else there," claims XLNC owner Victor Diaz. But Diaz denies he's juiced up his station's power: "That's the first I've heard of it. Maybe Mexican watts are different." The case is under investigation.

## Salem Gets KLTY-FM/Dallas In Exchange For KDGE-FM

Christian-oriented Salem Broadcasting said on Tuesday that it would exchange Alternative KDGE-FM/Dallas, which it recently acquired as part of its eight-station purchase from Clear Channel, for Sunburst Media's top-rated Christian Contemporary KLTY-FM/Dallas. The two groups exchanged LMAs and expect to begin operating the stations Oct. 1 and to close the deal during the fourth quarter.

Salem also reported that it had completed its \$29.5 million sale of KLTX/Los Angeles to HI-Favor Broadcasting two days before it closed on its acquisitions from Clear Channel, including KEZY & KXMX/Los Angeles. Salem President/CEO Edward Atsinger notes that the timing of the closings constituted a 1031 like-kind exchange, giving the company a substantial tax benefit and reducing the cost of financing the Clear Channel deal. Besides KEZY and KXMX (which Salem switched to KFSH), Salem also owns KIEV & KKLA in Los Angeles.

## CD101's Offer For Tower Swap Mixed

For several years Alternative WWCD (CD101)/Columbus, OH has wanted the downtown tower that's home to the Columbus Public Schools' noncommercial WCBE. Last week CD101 owner Roger Vaughan increased his two-year-old offer of \$1 million for a tower swap by another \$1 million. But the offer was rejected by school board members, the *Columbus Dispatch* reports. Three of four board members argued that CD101's Grove City, OH signal — even with an upgrade from 14kw to 50kw, which Vaughan would pay for — still wouldn't cover significant portions of the market. By obtaining a downtown tower, CD101 would gain instant access to the growing northern portion of Franklin County.

## KHTT/Tulsa Loses Injunction Request

Renda Broadcasting, owner of KHTT (K-Hits)/Tulsa, sued Clear Channel, which owns crosstown CHR competitor KIZS (Kiss), after discovering that Kiss was using the phrase "today's best music" on the air. According to a report in the *Tulsa World* newspaper, Renda said K-Hits has been using the phrase since August 1998 and even received a certificate of trademark registration from the Oklahoma Secretary of State in October 1999. But a U.S. district judge has now ruled that "federal law, public policy and common sense" dictate that a court can't give one organization the exclusive right to claim it is the best in the field. "Today's best music" is used by Clear Channel's "Kiss" stations nationwide, and evidence in the case indicated that at least 83 other U.S. radio stations use the words.

## Sept. 1 Deadline For RF Emissions Compliance

Station transmitters and other facilities must file Environmental Assessments by Sept. 1 to ensure compliance with FCC guidelines on radio frequency exposure. After that date the commission will consider noncompliance a violation of FCC rules that may result in fines, forfeiture or other penalties. The commission plans to conduct field spot-checks.

## Infinity's TDI Unveils Multimedia Billboard

Weighing in at over 30 tons and mounted outside a building on 42nd Street in New York City's Times Square, Infinity's TDI has unveiled its newest billboard, a display that is said to be the largest multimedia board in the world. Part of the two-story-high structure revolves to show three different billboard pictures, and its electronic lettering can post news and advertising messages over 100 feet long.

## Arbitron Advisory Council Election In Motion

Arbitron will send Radio Advisory Council eligibility certification forms to its station clients on Sept. 1, marking the first step in the election process for four representatives whose three-year terms will begin Jan. 1, 2001. The formats up for election are CHR/Pop, Country and News/Talk in continuous markets and MOR in all markets. Arbitron subscribers who are GMs or higher and who are involved in day-to-day station operations can declare their candidacy by returning completed forms by Sept. 18. Ballots will be sent to client stations on Oct. 16.

## CBC Awards Harris FM Transmitter Contracts

Harris Corp. has been awarded a contract to supply 12 Z Series transmitters in power levels ranging from 3.5kw to 20kw to the Canadian Broadcasting Corp.'s four national radio networks. The order is valued at about \$1 million Canadian.

**Reserve Now!**  
**OCTOBER 18**  
**Bayliss Media Roast**  
"Dis" honoring  
**Larry Wilson, Citadel Comm.**  
**MC: Bill Stakelin, Regent Comm.**  
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Richard Ferguson, Cox Radio  
Frank Kalil, Kalil & Co., Inc.  
Bob Proffitt, Citadel Comm.

**The Pierre**  
New York City  
Contact 881.824.1536  
or roast@baylissfoundation.org  
Proceeds benefit the Radio Scholarship Fund.

