

Brown Bags WVAZ/ Chicago PD Post

Derrick Brown, most recently PD at Radio One's urban WKYS/Washington, has been tapped as PD of Clear Channel's urban AC WVAZ (V-103)/Chicago, effective July 16. He replaces Elroy Smith, who resigned in May.

"The opportunity to return home and program a phenomenal station like V103 is a dream come true," says Brown, who previously worked in the market as AC WLIT midday



Brown

host. Brown has also programmed CBS Radio's jammin' oldies KDJM (Jammin' 92.5)/Denver and Cox's urban AC WHQT (Hot 105)/Miami.—*Darnella Dunham*

Allers Rejoins CC

John Allers is appointed PD for Clear Channel alternative WIRFF (Radio 104.5)/Philadelphia, which signed on May 16. Best-known as OM of the company's San Jose cluster and PD of alternative KCNL (Channel 104-9), Allers recently helped launch CBS Radio's triple A WTGB (94.7 the Globe)/Washington and then-Entercom alternative WSWD (94.9 the Sound)/Cincinnati.

Allers says, "I'm extremely excited to collaborate with [OM] Thea Mitchem, [market manager] Manuel Rodriguez, [senior VP of programming] Gene Romano and the future programming team to create a new, unique aural experience for Philadelphia."—*Keith Berman*

SoundExchange Offers Cap On Minimum Web Royalties

In March, when the Copyright Royalty Board raised per-performance webcast royalties for 2006-2010, it set a minimum fee of \$500 "per channel or station" streamed. On June 29, SoundExchange offered to voluntarily cap those fees at \$2,500 per webcasting service in what it said is an effort to address webcaster concerns.

Digital Media Assn. executive director Jonathan Potter responded to SoundExchange's announcement with a statement saying DiMA would agree to a cap that covered the full term of the CRB ruling, but the offer it has received in writing runs only through 2008.

Webcasters have been arguing that the new royalties will all but bankrupt the industry, and versions of the Internet Radio Equality Act, which would set aside the rate hike and the \$500 minimum fee and set a transitional royalty rate of 7.5% of revenue for 2006-2010, have been introduced in the House and Senate.

The House Small Business Committee on June 28 held a hearing on webcast royalties, with, among others, Tommy Boy Records chairman Tom Silverman and songwriter/producer Cathy Fink testifying in favor of the rate hike, and WOXY.com GM Bryan Miller and Stunning Models on Display Records co-owner Kieran Kelly arguing against the increase.

The new royalties are set to go into effect July 15, with retroactive royalties for 2006 and 2007 due immediately.—*Brida Connolly*

Business Briefing

By Jeffrey Yorke

Radio Revs Off In May

The RAB reports that nonspot radio revenue increased by 10% in May over the previous year, but the downside was that total radio revenue was off by 2%. National revenue did not experience any gains during the same period last year. The combined local and national revenue was also off by 1%.

Small, Western Groups On Buying Sprees

Los Angeles-based private-equity investment firm Frontier Capital Partners has snatched up 16 Clear Channel stations—13 in California and three in Arizona—for an undisclosed price, according to a June 29 FCC filing.

The California outlets include KVEC and KSLY/San Luis Obispo; KSMA, KXFM and KSNI/Santa Maria; KSMY/Lompoc; KSTT/Los Osos-Baywood Park; KURQ/Grover Beach; and KATJ/George. All three of the Arizona stations—KBLU, KQSR and KTTI—are in Yuma.

Meanwhile, Adam Nathanson's Los Angeles-based Mapleton Communications has agreed to buy seven Citadel stations in Spokane for an undisclosed price: country KDRK, adult hits KBBB, adult standards KEYE-AM, oldies KEYE-FM, news/talk KGA, sports KJRB and rock KZBD.

MOVERS

Yahoo Music VP of music programming and label relations Jay Frank joins CMT in the newly created role of senior VP of music strategy in August.

Frank, who reports to CMT executive VP/GM Brian Philips, will oversee CMT's music and talent division and all of the network's on-air and digital music initiatives . . . **John Patrick**, PD of Clear Channel AC WOOD/Grand Rapids, Mich., and WBXX/Battle Creek, Mich., joins Debut Broadcasting Corp. as VP of radio operations. In this newly created position, Patrick is charged with assimilation of radio station acquisitions. DBC recently acquired five stations in the Greenville-Greenwood, Miss., market.



Frank

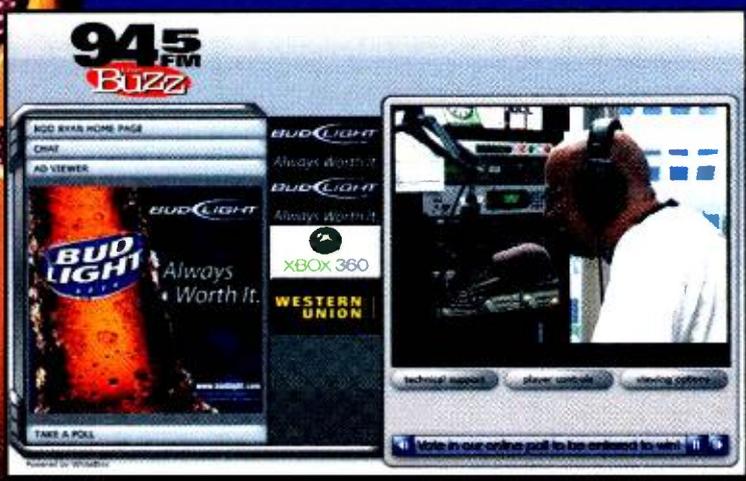
SHAKERS

Glen Brunman is named executive VP/head of creative (U.S.) for Warner/Chappell Music. Brunman is based in Los Angeles and reports to chairman/CEO Dave Johnson. Brunman spent more than three decades at Sony Music, most recently serving as president of the Soundtrax label, which he founded in 1992 . . . **Pam Kraemer** joins broadcast marketing/consulting firm DMR as creative director. Kraemer previously led internal design teams for consumer eyewear company Luxottica Retail . . . **Market veteran Michael Hamer** joins Salem Christian teaching combo WAVA-AM-FM/Washington as sales manager. Hamer, who reports to station manager Tom Moyer, has more than 25 years of local media sales experience, including stops at Bonneville news/talk WTOP and CBS Radio urban WPGC.

5

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