Radio Business Report

Voice Of The Radio Broadcasting Industry®

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AMERICAN URBAN RADIO NETWORKS THE URBAN RADIO LEADER



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CCU adds to its Albom of competitor gripes

Ed Sackley, Market Manager for Cumulus' WRKR-FM/WKFR-FM/WKMI-AM Kalamazoo, MI tells RBR his WKMI-AM has also been affected by market definitions. as defined by Clear Channel (N:CCU). Kalamazoo and Battle Creek are indeed two separate, but adjacent Arbitron markets. However, Sackley's been forbidden to run ABC's Mitch Albom Show because of a Clear Channel arrangement with ABC Radio Networks (see related story, p.6).

Sackley, who used to own the Cumulus stations, explains: "Clear Channel's WBCK-AM (Battle Creek, MI) is in a 4-way tie for 23rd (last) place in the nearby Kalamazoo, MI market (12+ M-F 3-7P). When we inquired about running ABC Talk Radio's "Mitch Albom Show" live M-F from 3-6 p.m., we were told that CCU had insisted on exclusivity in our market. We have been running Mitch's weekend show (Saturday 1-4 p.m.) since it

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debuted. As I understand it, WBCK-AM runs only two hours of Mitch's weekday show on a delayed basis. ABC's **Darren Melito** agrees that it is bad for Mitch Albom, but nevertheless agreed to CCU's exclusivity demands. It's ironic because both WBCK and WKMI run **Rush Limbaugh** live at the same time (Noon-3 p.m.) and Dr. **Laura** (although WBCK splits Laura into two segments in mid-day and PM drive)."

Like KRXS GM Rich Potyka told us previously(RBR 8/20, p.7), just because some stations reach into other markets, it doesn't mean these other markets should be exclusive. Sackley adds: "A lot of syndicators have looked at Arbitron markets as sort of their fences for determining where programming can run. But markets are being defined very, very creatively now. You've got 600 stations with Rush Limbaugh and they are all spilling over into one another. Looking at this Phoenix deal you wrote about, let's take WLS in Chicago, for example, which runs Rush Limbaugh. Well, I can pick up Rush just as well on WLS 130 miles east of Chicago. You get to some point where just like Superstation TBS, you will have radio stations saying, T want exclusivity because I want everybody in my region—and that can be across state boundaries—to listen to it on my radio station, and I'm willing to pay the price'. If it goes that way, then some of the doomsayers who have looked at consolidation of radio where you've got licensees also controlling programming and talent will be right because someone who has been running a program for 10 years loses it because they are moving it to the parent company's station."

Meanwhile, Arbitron has responded to Potyka's claim: "Potyka's claims that Arbitron and Clear Channel are conspiring against him...maybe Clear Channel is conspiring against him, but Arbitron's got nothing to do with this deal. The only thing different in the new deal is that we agreed to create a new reporting service that would allow people to do ratings across market boundaries," Arbitron VP Communications Mocarsky tells RBR. "In no way does it affect any existing market definitions-Metros, DMAs, TSAs are all going to be handled in exactly the same way using exactly the same procedures we've always used."

While Clear Channel Radio CEO Randy Michaels had hailed the agreement with Arbitron as a breakthough, Mocarsky says, "We agreed to develop a new software service that will allow people to compile ratings across markets. If you want to show what you can reach in a bigger geography, you can use the service to do it. It does not compel a syndicator to honor it, it does not compel anybody to do anything with the data other than look at it and go, 'hmmm...looks interesting'. And [also], we're not going to be delivering this until Spring 2002."—CM

Fritts attacks satellite radio's ground hardware

NAB President/CEO Eddie Fritts has called on the FCC to deny the request of XM Satellite Radio (O:XMSR) and Sirius Satellite Radio (O:SIRI) to construct their terrestrial repeater systems to enhance reception in urban areas, and potentially use local inserts over them, as he claims. Fritts says XM's request for 1,100 repeaters (nearly 800 of which would be as power-

ful as 2kw) and Sirius' request for 104 repeaters is tantamount to a terrestrial radio service in most of America's top radio markets. That's not what the licenses were originally issued for.

"If XM and Sirius want to provide traditional over-the-air radio service, they should apply for over-the-air licenses like everyone else," said Fritts in documents he submitted 8/21. "Otherwise, they are making a mockery of FCC rules and regulations. The time for subterfuge by XM Radio and Sirius Radio is over. These companies must come clean with regulators and the American people on their true intentions for making satellite radio a viable business."

The NAB asked the FCC to ensure that satellite terrestrial repeaters "are used only to retransmit the complete signal from the primary station, intended for the consumer satellite receivers, at the time it is transmitted." They fear the repeaters threaten standard broadcast services and could be used to broadcast separate material, allowing XM and Sirius to zone programming material for local use.

NAB also notes that in Boston alone, XM has proposed 66 high-powered repeaters. XM needs more repeaters because its system uses two satellites; Sirius' uses three.

Sirius later responded in an email memo sent to retailers, investors and staffers used the phrase, "Let's Face It, Radio Sucks." And Sirius' response to the NAB's petition: "Sirius has no plans to originate local programming from our repeaters. Our position on this has been consistent from the time we received our FCC license for satellite radio in 1997 and through today."

XM says it is confident the

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Radio News

FCC will approve its request for repeaters, but is unsure whether approval will come in time for the company's 9/12 launch.—CM

CCU, Bonneville settle ticket giveaway suit

According to the *Washington Post*, Clear Channel (N:CCU) ordered Bonneville's WWZZ-FM (Z104) in May to stop giving away tickets to a concert sponsored by Clear Channel Entertainment and KIIS-FM LA. Ironically, at the same time, Clear Channel's WWDC-FM was giving away tickets to a concert sponsored by its rival, Infinity's WHFS-FM.

Mark O'Brien, GM of CHR Z104, chose to give away \$3K worth of tickets to the "Wango Tango," held each summer at Dodger Stadium in LA. Less than two later, O'Brien was notified by CCU attorneys to stop the promotion. The attorneys said only CCU stations were allowed to promote the Wango Tango show or give away tickets to it, unless granted permission. O'Brien was told in a letter that Z104 must stop or face a lawsuit. Two days later, O'Brien tells the Post that "Clear Channel v. Bonneville" was filed in U.S. District Court in Alexandria, VA.

Lawyers for Clear Channel and Bonneville later negotiated and Bonneville eventually backed down and agreed to stop the promotion if Clear Channel would buy back the tickets, which it did, the story read.

"I think the main point here is every radio station in America would be in court for violating this policy, the non-transferable part. Every station is giving away tickets to events on the younger end of the demographics. For years, we've picked out neat concerts in other cities and you fly people there. Clearly, they are trying to change that," O'Brien tells *RBR*.

The *Post* says Bonneville lawyers pointed out during the negotiations that CCU's WWDC-FM Washington (DC101), was guilty of the same thing: giving away tickets in May to the "HFStival" concert, staged by Infinity's WHFS

"I would think they need to be consistent in the way they approach things, and clearly, their stations shouldn't be doing it if they're going to go to such lengthy extremes as doing a lawsuit," says O'Brien.

Did Infinity express any interest in all of this in pursuing Clear Channel? "My understanding was their comments to that was that they were flattered that Clear Channel would give away tickets to their concert," recalls O'Brien.

Clear Channel is currently in an antitrust suit with Denver concert promoter Nobody In Particular Presents (*RBR* 8/13, p.2). Adds O'Brien: "Really, they've got a strategy with this SFX thing. I think they are testing the waters. I think you will see a bunch more [suits] popping up. But it's a tough spot. I mean, who's got the money to sit there in court with them?"

Is that why Bonneville didn't fight Clear Channel over this? "I think we were fiscally responsible, saying, 'Do I as a station want to take this on as an expense?' And the answer to that is no. It's just not worth it. Now I would love Infinity to do it. What I'd really like to see is enough press gets out there that somebody in Congress says, 'You know what, let me take a look into this. Are there any antitrust violations? [Is there] a monopoly?"

Said Clear Channel spokesperson **Pam Taylor** in the story: "There's no question that we play tough. We're a strong competitor. But we play by the rules and we play fair. We're big, and that angers people. So be it. Talk to Wal-Mart; they've dealt with that for years."—CM

LPFM interference tests in the works

Many have said it isn't over until the fat lady sings. **Yogi Berra** famously said it ain't over 'til its over. But when it comes to the effort to eliminate 3rd-adjacency protection for existing radio stations in order to shoehorn in as many low power FMs as possible, it may never be over.

The MITRE Corporation is soliciting information from consulting engineering firms to determine the costs and technical approaches which will be associated with studying LPFM 3rd-adjacency interference. This is part of a bill signed into law by **Bill Clinton** 12/21/00, "Making Appropriations for the Government of the District of Columbia for FY 2001" (HR 4942).

According to a letter to a broadcast engineering firm which has been obtained by *RBR*, such firms are being asked to detail what they think the approach and associated costs should be. Apparently, a firm or firms will be selected at a later date.—DS

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The tangled tendrils of Michigan markets

The state of Michigan has nine Arbitron rated markets. and only two of them are free of stations from other markets encroaching into its territory below-the-line. One would be Traverse City-Petoskey, which from its perch high up on the northeast shore of Lake Michigan is far removed from the action in the state's more southerly markets (it is also free of excessive population at Arbitron rank #199, but that's another story).

The other market is Detroit, but unlike Traverse City, Detroit stations often penetrate other markets. Indeed, they take the lion's share of listening in nearby Ann Arbor.

In the Fall 2000 survey, Detroit stations also took a meager 0.9 share 12+ out of Saginaw. Does this mean that a Detroit station can bar a particular program from airing in Saginaw on market-exclusivity grounds? Lansing stations take a miniscule 0.6

Radio News

share bite out of Flint—can they shut out a Flint station?

Apparently something like this is happening elsewhere in the state. Battle Creek takes only 1.6 shares out of Kalamazoo, but Battle Creek's WBCK-AM is preventing Mitch Albom from being heard on a station

home to Kalamazoo, see story, page 1.

Below is a chart showing the overlap present in Michigan markets. Reading across shows the ratings breakdown for the market listed on the far left. Reading down from the top line down shows how each market fares in all of the others. Home-to-market listening shares are in bold-face. Additional below-the-line ratings for stations in Toledo, Chicago, South Bend, Milwaukee and certain unrated markets are not included. All data is 12+, MF, 6A-12M from the Arbitron Fall 2000 survey.—DS

	AA	ВС	Det	Flnt	GR	Klz	Lans	Mus	Sag
Ann Arbor	11.2	-	57.9	_	-	-	-	100	-
Battle Creek	+	18.2	_	-	4.4	39.6	10.1	-	-
Detroit	-	_	89.3	-	-	-	-	-	-
Flint	-	-	16.5	55.6	-	_	0.6	-	14.8
Grand Rapids	_	-	-	-	80.5	-	-	2.4	-
Kalamazoo	-	1.6	-	-	19.1	60.6	2.0	-	-
Lansing	-	-	2.5	-	1.8	0.8	72.5	-	1.0
Muskegon	-	-	-	-	40.2	-	-	41.5	_
Saginaw	-	-	0.9	4.2	-	-	-	-	79.5
Source: Arbitror	n, RBR S	ource Gi	<i>iide</i> data	base					

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RBR readers have had such a positive response to "GM Talkback" that we've expanded the concept. With this issue, we begin "PD Talkback"—giving you a chance to hear from front-line professionals about the issues facing today's radio program directors.

Steve Konrad, PD, Clear Channel's WTVN-AM, WFII-AM Columbus



Allan Fee, PD, Infinity's WQAL-FM Cleveland

Leighton Peck, PD, Hubbard Broadcasting's KSTP-FM Minneapolis



Keith Landecker, PD, Brewer Broadcasting's WJTT-FM Chattanooga



What research tools are you using this year? Anything different this year from 2000? Konrad We're Clear Channel—we've got our Critical Mass Media that provides us a great deal of information. We are provided listening levels in Columbus, spe-

PD Talkback

cific callout information from this market. Having only been here for a year, I don't really have a lot of last year to compare it to.

Fee Like any major station, we use the necessary research tools, but to gain the advantage, our staff is keyed into the lifestyle of our audience and has a good understanding of what our listeners are into.

We watch local record sales and concert ticket sales more than ever before. We find ourselves more focused on local trends than national trends. Our staff is constantly out on the streets talking with listeners and staying in touch with the overall vibe of the marketplace. The best research tool is to be as interactive with your audience as possible. Great radio stations don't just plug in the latest research, they get plugged into the overall lifestyle of their listeners.

Peck Weekly callout, auditorium music tests, Mediabase and our consultants. Anything different this year from 2000? Not really. We have always used lots of different sources for information.

Landecker Nothing is different. I'm using the same methods that I've used in the last several years. I have several different research situations I can get my hands on, and then also I'm using BDS and Billboard. And also, in-house research, which is very effective.

How do you keep your morning shows on the edge and still stay within FCC guidelines?

Konrad As a full-service news, weather and traffic morning show, we don't really run up against that. Fee The key to working with morning shows is communication. The program—director needs to be in constant contact with the host and the show's producer. The key to keeping the edge is to stay balanced. If a show crosses the line, it is important to make sure that the showanswers with something not as

controversial. The PD should always have a good idea about what the show is doing the following day.

The PD's job is to constantly give direction and a strong understanding of the station's and morning show's goals.

Peck Know your audience and deliver what your listeners expect from your morning show. Our morning show does a tremendous job of finding clever euphemisms for tender topics. We have a ton of parents listening with their kids and we want to be able to have fun with certain subjects but want to do it with class rather than just dumping it on the air.

Landecker We take one approach. We take the approach that we're very, very community-minded. Anything that we feel is a positive for the community, we stay involved with. We have a lot of people on the show, that come in and talk about different things that are happening in the community. And at the same time. I think the guys find their entertainment and their humor through a lot of the everyday people when they come in. So, as far as keeping them on the edge, yeah they do report some of the things that are hot and happening around town. They don't play into getting involved with the stuff that will just take them so far over the edge that I've got the FCC calling me!

Urban radio is just all community-oriented, and we just pride ourselves...we know we have the entire family listening, so we kind of keep that in mind.

How did you get into radio? Konrad I paid my \$10 a month and got to do a weekly radio show. The YMCA by my house in St. Louis has a radio station. You paid there like swim lessons. You got a couple of air shifts, you toted your vinyl records in a milk crate up there, and you had a microphone, two turntables and

a collection of old Lite AC carts that they stole from a station that changed formats. You played your own records and you got to be Mr. Microphone. It's non-commercial at 120 watts.

By Carl Marcucci

Fee I got into radio at 16 doing sports at KGMI/KISM radio in Bellingham, Washington. Over time, I moved up to full time on air and later PD of CHR KISM.

Peck I was attending school to be an architect, woke up one day, was bored out of my mind and decided to take the leap into radio. It was funny, I was scared to death at the thought of having to talk to people through a microphone. That is why small market radio is vital to the industry. You need to be able to make your mistakes and learn what to do and not do. As smaller markets become more and more cyber-jocked the talent pool is going to become nonexistent.

Landecker I started out in Frankfort, KY. I was at school at Kentucky State and they we're looking for a jock at WFKY. I went and auditioned for the job—at that time, you could audition! I was called back three different times and then they actually put me on the air, which was a lot of fun. That's where I really started, and then I moved from there to Louisville. and I worked with some of the best and biggest radio people. I felt they were so instrumental in my career—I got a chance to see people like Gary Burbank and Bob Moody, who was my PD at WAKY in Louisville. Those were the two things that really molded me from the beginning.

Being in Louisville, you had WHAS there too. You were around a lot of great radio and great radio personalities. I was so fortunate to hear radio in its heyday, when it came down to personalities. Gary Burbank was my hero; **Dude Walker**, all of those guys back in the WAKY heyday. If elt very honored to be able to walk through those halls.

8/27/01 RBR

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The NAB Radio Show: what's noteworthy in 'Nawlins

The NAB Radio Show makes its return to The Big Easy 9/ 5-9/7. The event marks the debut of the NAB's new "XStream," which covers webcasting, Internet technologies, products, and content strategy. XStream's keynote speech (9/6 4:15PM) is being delivered by RIAA President Hilary Rosen. In RBR's upcoming show issue (9/3), we interview Rosen on many of the issues that have brought the RIAA into the radio industry spotlight as of late—namely streaming copyright fees. Rosen says much of her speech will discuss the new opportunities presented by streaming and the challenges faced by copyright holders. Here, some of other highlights to look for at the show:



Hilary Rosen

Lessons from legends

Chuck Blore, Bobby Rich and Gary Stevens will be featured in a session entitle "Radio Legends" which will take place Friday. Blore and Rich come out of the programming ranks; Blore was a Top 40 and 24-hour-a-day pioneer; Rich was the originator of the Hot AC format. Stevens, who began in the

NAB Preview

business as an air talent, is now known in the industry for his media brokerage firm.

IBOC on the lunch menu



Eddie Fritts

NAB President/CEO Eddie Fritts and iBiquity Digital President/CEO Bob Struble will speak at the NAB Luncheon held Friday in the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center. Fritts will address the association's ongoing interactions with Congress, the FCC and the courts. Struble will address the progress his company is making toward turing digital radio into a reality.

Awards dinner catered to by McDonald's?

That's right, folks. McDonald's band will be on hand with its leader, ex-Doobie Brother Michael McDonald. This year's Marconi Awards will be distributed at the Friday evening event.

The sound of advertisers sounding off

Representatives from Sears, Pfizer, McDonald's and Procter & Gamble will take the stage in a session called "Top Advertisers Sound Off." Radio's strengths and weaknesses will be discussed from

the panel's unique vantage point. The session is scheduled for Thursday.

Consultants on tap for Thursday session

Your chance to pepper consultants with questions-for free-will come on Thursday at a session entitled, "The Meter is Not Running: Talk to the Programming Experts." On the panel will be Fred Jacobs of Jacobs Media, Warren Kurtzman of Coleman, Mike McVay of McVav Media, Larry Rosin of Edison Media Research, Rusty Walker of Rusty Walker Programming and Guy Zapoleon of Zapoleon Media Strategies.

NAB Career Fair

9/5; 10:00AM - 1:00PM. Looking for a job opportunity? The Radio Show/Xstream Career Fair provides interviews with recruiters and hiring managers from radio stations and related industries. No pre-registration is required.

NAB Radio Show and NAB Xstream Joint Keynote

9/5; 3:30PM - 4:45PM. Walter Mossberg, technology columnist for *The Wall Street Journal*, shares his insights on consumer tastes and emerging trends for the digital age. Mossberg is the author and creator of the weekly "Personal Technology" column in WSJ.

NAB Radio Show Keynote

9/6; 9:00AM - 10:15AM. This year, The NAB Radio Show presents keynote speaker, best-selling author of "In Search of Excellence," and management expert, **Tom Peters**. Known as

By Dave Seyler and Carl Marcucci

business' "best friend and worst nightmare" by *Business Week*, Peters urges his audience to reject powerlessness and to "live life fully." The LA Times called him "the father of the post-modern corporation," and *Fortune* magazine said, "We live in a Tom Peters world." Opening remarks will be given by Eddie Fritts.

Group of group heads meet with group of attendees

Thursday's schedule will feature a super session which will include five honchos from some of radio's largest station groups. Participating in the session will be **Lew Dickey** of Cumulus, **Joan Gerberding** of Nassau, **Alfred Liggins** of Radio One, **Randall Mays** of Clear Channel and **Bob Neil** of Cox.



Lew Dickey Jr.

FCC Policymakers' Breakfast

9/7; 7:30AM - 8:45AM. Three new Commissioners joined the FCC this Summer: The Honorable Kathleen Abernathy, Michael Copps and Kevin Martin.

Join them for breakfast; meet and greet. What's at the top of their agenda; what's their views on the radio industry? Hear special remarks from each Commissioner followed by a question and answer period. The event is hosted by Eddie Fritts and moderated by Virginia "Ginny" Morris, Hubbard Radio, St. Paul, MN.



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No shows at NAB Radio Show

The list of no-shows and cancellations at the NAB Radio Show keeps growing. Many of NAB's typical exhibitors like Filmhouse, Arrakis Systems and BuySellBid.com won't be in New Orleans, with booths at least. Other companies, like Broadcast Software International (BSI), have decided to have their booth on a riverboat cruise, drawing attendees away from the show. Of course, many of the dot-coms are either gone, like BroadcastAmerica.com and Disclockey.com, or have been tightly managing their spending, like Hiwire, Lightningcast and Coollink.

Originally scheduled to be at the show, Telos and Klotz Digital say they cancelled because the show doesn't seem to have the draw has had in previous years. With the recent pull-outs of Infinity, CBS and others from the NAB, less attendees will be around, as well as fewer exhibitors. "Attendance has been decreasing over the last few shows. This has been a topic of conversation for three years now," says Marty Sachs, National Sales Director, Cleveland based Telos Systems. "It's purely a business decision. The number of attendees just don't justify our presence. It's a dollars and cents thing-how many people are there and what you get out of it."

"It's the timing. That's our biggest issue. NAB is good and all that sort of thing, it's just the timing for doing that show is not good. It's the week of Labor Day," Klotz Digital Managing Director **Ray Esparolini** tells *RBR*. "Typically shows around that time are not so good. The one in Orlando was Inot too good]. We have done every other NAB show since we started Klotz Digital America."

Blame it on the economic downturn as well. Broadcasters—especially the big groups, can save a lot of bottom-line money by not funding three days of expenses, hotel rooms and show passes for hundreds of staffers and managers.

NAB Preview

Other regional shows like ARMA are also taking people away from this year's NAB Radio Show, says Sachs.—CM

Powergold 2002 to be demonstrated

Micropower Corporation will show off the release of its latest scheduling software, Powergold 2002. Powergold 2002 is 32-bit Windows software which seamlessly exports to and automatically reconciles with major digital players like Prophet Systems, Scott

Studios, BSI Wavestation, and others. Along with scheduling music, rotating notes, liners, and tempo-matched jingles, Powergold 2002 is capable of importing commercial schedules from all popular traffic and billing systems.

vTrails exhibits peer-to-peer webcasting technology

vTrails will exhibit its live streaming technology at NAB's XStream 2001, showcasing how the product offers a costeffective media delivery solution that leverages managed peer-to-peer networking, smart-routing, and edge network capabilities. The vTrails system uses managed peerto-peer networking, smart routing and edge network capabilities. The vTrails System delivers high quality streaming content to large audiences while reducing bandwidth consumption by up to 90%. By serving only a fraction of the end-users directly and turning them into edge stations, bandwidth is saved and network bottlenecks are reduced. Booth #1249.

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Due to a printing error in the Kalil ad in last week's issue, we would like to apologize for any confusion or inconvenience that happened as a result of that misprint.

NextMedia BCF surges in Q2

NextMedia has released its Q2 '01 earnings. The broadcast group said its broadcast cash flow more than doubled in Q2, from \$3.1M to \$6.3M. The company's net revenue also increased 91%, from \$9M to \$17.2M. Operating expenses increased from \$5.9M to \$11 million. On a pro forma basis, net revenue rose 5.8%, to \$22M. However BCF decreased 3.4%, to \$8.5M.

NextMedia owns 56 radio stations in 14 markets and 4,000 bulletin and poster displays across the country. Investors include Thomas Weisel Capital Partners, Alta Communicators, Weston Presidio Capital and Goldman Sachs Capital Partners as well as senior management. NextMedia was founded by radio vets Carl Hirsch, Executive Chairman and Steve Dinetz, President and CEO.—CM

Media Markets & Money

Emmis lowers the net

"The economy has not improved as most people originally predicted, and our guidance needed to reflect that." Those are the word of Emmis Communications (O:EMMS) Chairman & CEO Jeff Smulyan as he announced lowered expectations for the remainder of 2001.

(in millions except ATCF)

Radio broadcast cash flow

TV broadcast cash flow

Publishing net revenue

Publishing cash flow

Radio net revenue

TV net revenue

ATCF per share

The company reported that Q2 radio net revenue are expected to be down 4-6%, with radio cash flow dropping 9-11%. The story for its television properties is worse, with net revenue dropping 6-8% and cash flow slipping by 11-13%.

The following chart shows Emmis's revised targets for the rest of the year:

rest of the year.					
Q3	Q4	2002			
74.0	61.1	271.9			
36.7	22.0	123.6			
55.1	51.3	212.0			
18.7	16.3	71.0			
20.4	16.8	72.9			
4.0	1.6	8.5			

0.26

1.58

by Dave Seyler

The revisions come a month and a half after Emmis issued a similar report, albeit with higher numbers plugged in for the remainder of the year. The earlier prediction for radio revenue called for \$77.2M Q3, \$62.2M Q4 and \$277.4 for the year. Radio cash flow has also been revised down, from \$39.2M Q3, \$27.0M Q4 and \$133.0M for the year.

Emmis is sticking to its guns when it comes to managing expenses. A strategy of aggressive promotion and sales force hiring and training remains in place. "We think it's inappropriate at this point to sacrifice long-term benefits for short term fixes," said Smulyan.

As to the tough revenue year, the main (though not only) culprit is national business, which is down 23% so far, compared to a mere 2% drop in local. Emmis's local/national split, which used to be about 70/30, is running closer to 80/20 these days. As for business categories, Emmis said that automotive, particularly imports, is doing well, as are department stores and movies. Down categories include telecommunications and other forms of entertainment, particularly TV and cable.

The oft-mentioned split of Emmis radio and television properties is still on the table. "We are now actively exploring a taxable spin-off of our Television Division which we believe can be completed without significant tax consequences to Emmis or our shareholders."

Circuit socking it out of the park

Audio manufacturer Circuit Research Labs Inc./Orban (O:CRLI) is enjoying a tremendous year. YTD through May, the company is 28% ahead of its 2000 pace, and with \$1,215,871 profit in the bank, is on pace to hit its \$3M target for the year. Gross sales already total over \$8M, compared to last year's

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\$6.3M. That is not last year's total for the same time period, that is last year's total, period.

"We are more than pleased with our operational performance these two months [April and May], especially following a recordbreaking first quarter," said VP/CFO Robert McMartin.

The company credits a strong product line for its success, coupled with organizational efficiences realized by combining CRL and Orban operations.

President/CEO Jay Brentlinger said, "The goal of making this a \$20M a year company is within reach. Our acquisition of Avocet will begin enhancing our sales position by year's end. And we will introduce three new products this year."

HBC doubles down in Vegas

In Las Vegas, Hispanic Broadcasting Corp. (N:HSP) holds one of the rarer items in radio today: an AM-FM combo. That will change, however, when the keys to KPXC-FM are turned over to **McHenry Tichenor**'s outfit. HBC is plunking down \$16M cash to owner **Claire Benezra** for what can now only be considered a stick in the rapidly growing market.

The station is no factor whatsoever in the market at the moment. It is licensed to Indian Springs, about 40 miles northwest of the Strip, with 100 watts and a negative HAAT. You'd be hard pressed to fit a single juvenile ant into its coverage contour as drawn on engineering consulting firm duTreil, Lundin & Rackley's map.

That will all change. The station holds a CP to bring it up to full Class C status, with coverage north and west of the metro area. If HBC is successful modifying the CP, the station will blanket the metro from a more advantageous transmitter location. Broker: Kalil & Co. (seller)

Tudek twofer adds up to \$7M

Robert Tudek's TeleMedia is selling four Albany-area stations to two different buyers for a total of \$7M. A breakdown of price per deal is not yet available.

The first deal will send WCPT-FM Albany and WKBE-FM Warrensburg to **James Morrell**'s Pamal Broadcasting. Pamal already has two AMs and four FMs in the vicinity.

The second deal will ship WABY-AM Albany and WKLI-FM Ravena to **EdLevine**'s Galaxy Communications. Galaxy is no stranger to upstate New York with clusters in Syracuse and Utica. However, this deal will mark its first foray into the capital area. <u>Broker</u>: **Frank Boyle**, Frank Boyle & Co.

Clear Channel builds in Beaumont

Ralph McBride is sending his Contempory Christian outlet KTFA-FM to Clear Channel (N:CCU) for \$4.5M cash. CCU already has an AM and three FMs in the market. KTFA may provide the edge CCU needs to sew up the top slot for the time being. It is locked in a neck and neck race for first place with Cumulus (O:CMLS) in Arbitron market #130,

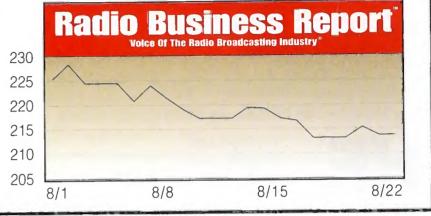
which operates in the shadow of nearby top ten market Houston.

Concord deal is on the up and upstate

It is not at all unusual to see the names Clear Channel (N:CCU) and Concord on either end of a station sale contract. The only question is who is selling to whom? In this case, a pair of combos in upstate New York are going to Clear Channel for \$4.3M.

The Radio Index™

The Radio Index™ moved down 3.511 for the week to close 8/22 at 213.802



Larry Wilson, Chairman, of **Citadel Communications**

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Transaction Digest

by Dave Seyler & Jack Messmer

The deals listed below were taken from recent FCC filings.

RBR's Transaction Digest reports on all deals that involve assignment of a station license (FCC Form 314) and substantial transfers of control of a licensee via a stock sale (FCC Form 315), but not internal corporate restructurings (FCC Form 316). All deals are listed in descending order of sales price. Broker credits are based on contracts filed with the FCC.

\$4,500,000 KTFA-FM Beaumont-Port Arthur (Groves TX) from Voice of the Wilderness Broadcasting Inc (Ralph H. McBride) to Clear Channel Broadcasting Licenses (Lowry Mays), a subsidiary of Clear Channel Communications (N:CCU). Cash. **Superduopoly** with KYKR-FM, KIOC-FM, KKMY-FM, KLVI-AM. Additional overlap with KTRH-AM from neighboring Houston market. LMA since 7/30. Broker: Jody McCoy, McCoy Broadcast Brokerage (seller).

\$4,300,000 WHUC-AM & WZCR-FM, WCKL-AM & WCTW-FM Albany-Schenectady-Troy/ Poughkeepsie (Hudson NY, Catskill NY) from Concord Media Group Inc. (Mark Jorgenson) to Clear Channel Broadcasting Licenses (Lowry Mays), a subsidiary of Clear Channel Communications (N:CCU). Cash. Superduopoly with WGY-AM Schenectady, WOFX-FM Troy, WTRY-FM Rotterdam, WRVE-FM Schenectady, WHRL-FM Albany, WPYX-FM Albany, WGHQ-AM Kingston & WRKW-FM Saugerties, forming four distinct markets. The four stations being sold are between the Albany and Poughkeepsie Arbitron markets. WHUC, WZCR and WCKL share more overlapping contour with CCU's Albany stations; WCTW shares more with CCU's Poughkeepsie stations. CCU has waiver through 2004 for common ownership of WXXA-TV Albany.

\$3,861,175 WMGG-FM <u>Tampa-St. Peters-burg</u> (Dade City FL) from Mega Communications of Dade City Licensee LLC (Alfredo

Alonso) to TAMA Group LC (Charles W. Cherry II, Glen W. Cherry). \$100K escrow, balance in cash at closing. Combo with WTMP-AM. Note: Buyer must change call letters. Brokers: Hadden & Assocs., Minority Media Telecommunications Council (both for seller).

\$2,000,000 WAAM-AM Ann Arbor MI from Whitehall Enterprioses Inc. (Lloyd R. Johnson) to Clear Channel Broadcasting Licenses (Lowry Mays), a subsidiary of Clear Channel Communications (N:CCU). Cash. Includes a non-compete. Superduopoly with WTKA-AM, WYBN-AM, WQKL-FM, AND WWWW-FM in the Ann Arbor market. Additional overlap with numerous stations in the adjacent Detroit market, forming five distinct contour overlap markets.

\$1,865,000 WZRZ-FM CP Flint MI (Frankenmuth MI) from The Frankenmuth Radio Co. Inc. (Thomas J. Beauvais, Gregory P. Theokas) to Regent Broadcasting of Grand Rapids Inc. (Terry Jacobs, Bill Stakelin), a subsidiary of Regent Communications (O:RGCI). \$125K escrow returned to seller, 15,724 shares of Regent Common stock placed in escow, additional 164,276 shares of Regent Common stock for total of 180,000 shares with estimated value of \$1.296M; \$569K cash for tower, transmitter and other properties. Total price is RBR estimate. Superduopoly with WFNT-AM, WCRZ-FM & WWBN-FM. Station is currently operating pursuant to a program test authority. CP is for 93.7 mHz with 3.5 kw @ 436'.



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The deal includes WHUC-AM/WZCH-FM out of Hudson and WCKL-FM/WCTW-FM out of Catskill. The foursome splits the difference between the Albany-Schenectady-Troy and Poughkeepsie Arbitron markets, each of which features an existing Clear Channel superduopoly cluster. Six Albany stations and two from Poughkeepsie share at least some territory with the stations to be acquired, forming four distinct contour overlap markets.

Clear Channel also has WXAA-TV Albany in the mix, which the FCC has already cleared it to operate through 2004.

Safe harbor in Ann Arbor?

Clear Channel (N:CCU) is cornering the market in Ann Arbor MI. It has struck a \$2M cash deal with **Lloyd Johnson**'s Whitehall Enterprises to acquire WAAM-AM. The News-Talker will give Clear Channel four out of four stations considered home to the market by Arbitron, and five out of six listed there in the *RBR Source Guide & Directory*. The cluster will be comprised of three AMs and two FMs.

RBR observation: Before Gloria Tristani writes another objection to a deal which will end the chances of competition within a given market, let us point out that the sum and total of the 12+ ratings garnered by these four stations during the Fall 2000 survey was 11.2 shares. This is less than the total amassed by one leading station in many similarly-sized markets (Ann Arbor is ranked #146).

While these stations were snagging their 11.2, Detroit stations were walking off with 57.9 shares of the Ann Arbor ear pool. Even a Toledo station made off with 1.0. In short, Ann Arbor, abutting the southern border of the Detroit market, is not a full-fledged market and cannot be fairly judged in terms of owners home to the market.

Similar situations exist in Sussex NJ, where CCU has all four

above-the-line stations, and Morristown NJ, where Greater Media has agreed to purchase all of the above-the-line stations in the market—both of them.

Banc of America still banking on radio

It has come as no surprise to the Street-types at Banc of America that most of the radio properties it covers have lowered expectations for Q3. That group, which includes Clear Channel (N:CCU), Beasley (O:BBGI), Cox (N:CXR), Cumulus (O:CMLS), Emmis (O:EMMS), Entercom (N:ETM), HBC (N:HSP), Radio One (O:ROIA) and (although it is a billboard rather than a radio company) Lamar (O:LAMR), has produced a 57% gain in stock price so far this year, blowing the S&P 500 (-10%) and NASDAO (-20%) out of the water.

However, the group has gone down 3% over the last four weeks while the rest of the radio universe was flat.

BAS's Radio Broadcasting Monthly predicts that Q3 may well be the bottom of the current revenue slump. While they expect continued pressure on stock prices, they also suggest that this may be a good spot for those interested in radio to do some careful bargain shopping.

CCU parks in Parkersburg/Marietta

The **Daugherty** family is sending WBRJ-AM to Clear Channel (N:CCU) for \$450K. The Sports outlet will mark the sixth station and second AM for the radio giant in this small market with stations in both West Virginia and Ohio straddling the Ohio River.

Working at La Crosse purposes in Wisco?

Faith Sound is getting into the radio business with a \$1.5M deal to buy a combo from Riverview Communications. WKBH-AM Holmen and WFBZ-FM Trempeleau are both part of the La Crosse WI market. La Crosse was once an Arbitron market but has not been measured for over two years.

There is one potential snag which could cause this deal to fall apart. although it would replace it with another. Mississippi Valley Broadcasters, which bought WKBH-FM West Salem from Riverview last year for \$2,335,500 (RBR 11/13/00, p.14), has been running WKBH-AM/WFBZ-FM in an LMA and has 30 days in which to exercise its right of first refusal to buy the stations itself.



Recent Transactions!

SOLD!
WPEZ-FM, Macon, GA, \$55.0 Million

CLOSED!

KOYN, KBUS & KPLT-AM/FM, Paris, TX,
\$2.575 Million

CLOSED!

KFTZ-FM, KOSZ-FM, KLCE-FM, KCVI-FM, KECN-AM & KICN-AM, Idaho Falls - Blackfoot, ID, \$13.0 Million Cash

CLOSED!

WKQB-FM, Southern Pines-Fayetteville, NC, \$6.15 Million Cash

CLOSED!

KPCR-AM/FM, Bowling Green, MO, \$725,000

CLOSED!

WYPA-AM, Chicago, IL, \$10.5 Million Cash

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