

The Radio Wave

"Keeping Radio People in Touch"

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THE RADIO WAVE

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 Radio personality and Presley backup Singer dies

A former radio DJ and bass singer with Elvis Presley's backup quartet the Jordanaires, Hugh Jarrett, died at the age of 78 from injuries he sustained in an auto accident earlier this year.

Jarrett worked in radio in South Carolina and Tennessee before joining the Jordanaires in 1954. When he left the quartet in 1958 he returned to broadcasting as "Big Hugh Baby" at WLAC/Nashville.

He later worked in Atlanta radio and at Country KBBQ/Los Angeles -- also working as an MC at famed L.A. club the Palomino. He moved back to Atlanta for good in 1970.

While continuing his radio career, Jarrett also had some success as an actor, appearing in such TV series as In the Heat of the Night and in TV movies.

Hugh Jarrett most recently hosted a Sunday-morning gospel show on WEV/Cumming, Georgia.

 DJ died after drugs and bondage session - inquest

An inquest heard former BBC Radio 1 breakfast DJ, Kevin Greening died from a drugs overdose after taking part in a homosexual bondage session.

Mr Greening was found dead by police at his boyfriend's home on December 29, the eve of his 45th birthday.

On the day he died, Mr Greening and his partner, Sean Griffin, returned from a central London nightclub in the early hours to Mr Griffin's flat in Wandsworth, south-west

London.

The sex session involved Mr Greening being suspended in a black leather sling from scaffolding in the bedroom.

He was wearing a rubber suit and had cling film and gaffer tape around his torso.

Tests carried out after Mr Greening's death found traces of cocaine, ecstasy and GHB, commonly known as a date rape drug, present in his bloodstream.

Coroner Paul Knapman recorded a verdict of misadventure after hearing details of the sexual encounter, stating that Mr Greening "was found dead having indulged in unorthodox sexual behaviour involving restraint equipment and illegal drugs".

Listeners choose the playlist

Rock station WXMM in Norfolk, Virginia is claiming to be the first radio station in the world to actually allow listeners total control programming the music. Listeners can select from thousands of rock titles on 100.5 MAX-FM.

Max Media president Eric Mastel explained: "We feel it's extremely important to be honest with our fans; when we say we are Hampton Roads' Rock Station, now we really are, programmed by our listeners."

"How can one PD and research based on less than 100 people decide the tastes and musical preferences of an entire market of rockers? They can't! We have hundreds of program directors, selecting from decades of great rock!"

Book at bedtime terrifying listeners

BBC Radio 4's "Book at Bedtime" is meant to help people to relax into a good night's sleep. But far from soothing listeners into a state of peace and tranquility, Book at

Bedtime has been accused of frightening the life out of them.

The 10.45pm show has sparked complaints over the choice of books being read in the late-night slot.

It seems listeners to the long-running programme have been left facing nightmares and feeling 'physically sick' after the 'dark' and 'disturbing' choice of readings.

Ex-employee tries to torch radio station

A former employee of a Korean-language radio station in Duluth, Minnesota injured himself when he firebombed the station.

It seems the former employee, Hong Chae, walked into the building of radio station AM 1080 about 3:30 p.m. and tossed a Molotov cocktail, causing severe to moderate burns to himself and a visitor to the station.

Hong Chae, a former salesman for the station, and the visitor were taken to area hospitals.

Authorities didn't know the motive for the attack. A station reporter, Ju Han Lee, said he remembered the salesman as "a polite, gentle guy."

The fire at the one-story brick building was out when the fire department arrived.

The station went off the air after the incident because authorities were trying to clear smoke from the building.

Smoke gets in your eyes

And the story of another radio station with smoke in the building...this one is Sydney's 2UE (from whence I do my Saturday Night Live show every weekend.)

Old radio hands know what's happening in the studio when

they suddenly hear the long version of the Beatles' Hey Jude followed by Richard Harris' McArthur Park.

Either the announcer has had a dodgy vindaloo for lunch or the station's on fire.

In 2UE's case it was the latter.

Just before 3pm a calm and collected Don Burke, filling in for Tim Webster who is on holidays for a couple of weeks, announced on air, "We have a news flash. We have a fire in the 2UE building."

In fact the fire was in a storeroom of the Dick Smith electronics store next door, producing enough smoke to set off the fire alarms in the 2UE headquarters. About 150 people had to evacuate the building.

Radio journalist, Matthew de Groot who found himself the subject of a news story he was covering, told radioinfo, "Funny thing is, we had just finished a fire drill when the real fire happened five minutes later. With all the smoke, some people thought it was a more realistic drill."

No one was hurt and everyone was allowed back in after about 20 minutes.

Matthew said: "We had about an hour's love songs up our sleeves".

(Story thanks to RadioInfo.com)

Presenters apologise for gay comments

Another 2UE story...

Two of the station's presenters have agreed to publicly apologise for comments they made on air in 2003 about a gay couple who appeared on the reality television program The Block.

In 2004 the NSW Administrative Decisions Tribunal ruled that comments made by **John Laws and Steve Price** on 2UE radio were capable of inciting severe ridicule of gay men.

The radio station and the two presenters appealed against the decision but now they have agreed to the apology as part of a settlement to end the case.

2UE has also agreed to donate \$10,000 to the HIV-AIDS charity the Bobby Goldsmith Foundation.

Radio shrink back with more plagiarism charges

In the UK, radio host and TV psychiatrist **Dr. Raj Persaud** is about to face the General Medical Council to answer plagiarism charges.

The good doctor, who hosts "All In The Mind" on BBC Radio 4, is accused of having lifted unattributed passages from other works for a book he wrote.

Back in 2006, Dr. Persaud withdrew two articles over plagiarism charges and left the radio show at that time, only to return in 2007.

Increased listening by U.S. youngsters

Paragon Media Strategies report the 14-to-24 age bracket is spending more time listening to radio than was the case last year.

The study indicates that the percentage of this group that reports never listening to the radio has dropped from 8% to 2%, and the percentage who tune in for seven to 10 hours per week got an increase, from 8% to 12%.

Radio station director knocks off a million and half

The former financial director of Heart 104.9FM in **Cape Town**,

Mario Roos, has been effectively jailed for 12 years on 118 counts of theft and fraud, involving R12,5-million.

(around US\$ 1,568,272.43)

A gambling addict, he not only stole from Heart Radio but, about five years earlier, stole from the Foschini Group as well, as the group's then financial controller - first R8 000, then R55 684.

The Foschini Group had agreed not to prosecute him for the thefts, provided he paid back the money, but he failed to do so fully, which led to the group pursuing the case.

Roos fled to the UK, but later surrendered to the police.

Western Cape Deputy Director of Public Prosecutions Malini Govender called for minimum sentences of 15 years on each of three counts on which he stole R1,5-million.

Commercial crime court magistrate Amrith Chabilall said the thefts were planned and premeditated, and the fact that they were from his employer was a serious aggravating factor. He ruled that Roos's gambling addiction, and the fact that he had returned to "face the music", justified a less severe sentence.

Imus in trouble again: says he was being sarcastic

New York breakfast host Don Imus sparked a new controversy in an on-air discussion on WABC with sportscaster Warner Wolf about Dallas Cowboys cornerback Adam "Pacman" Jones.

Wolf mentioned that Jones has been arrested six times since being drafted by Tennessee in 2005. Imus asked, "What color is he?" to which Wolf responded, "He's African American." Imus said, "Well, there you go. Now we know."

Imus released a statement to the Associated Press through his spokesman that said, "I meant that he was being picked on because he's black."

The next morning he called the furor over his comments "ridiculous," and that he was making a "sarcastic point" with his remark.

"What people should be outraged about," said Imus, "is that they arrest blacks for no reason. I mean, there's no reason to arrest this kid six times. Maybe he did something once, but everyone does something once."

Imus was fired last year after calling members of the Rutgers University women's basketball team "nappy-headed hos" on the air.

Sitcom throwback throws up

You may remember the adorable youngest Brady, Cindy, on the 70's sitcom "The Brady Bunch".

She was played by Susan Olsen who has just made a fool of herself during an interview on a Colorado Springs radio station.

The 46-year-old actress nearly vomited in the studio of an oldies radio station from a vicious hangover she was nursing.

Olsen showed up at the Darren and Coba show at Jet 107.9 and answered several questions before admitting she had to leave the studio and throw up.

Which she did.

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