DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

RM-9242

From: "Joseph D'Alessandro" <jdman@magpage.com>
To: A4.A4(FCCINFO)
Date: 8/7/98 8:43am
Subject: ?

FCC DOES IT AGAIN SUPPORTS COMMUNITY RADIO:

YOU GOT TO LOVE IT
Mr.D'Alessandro
power 89 fm

When the radio industry began campaigning for further deregulation a few years back, it argued that listeners would benefit through increased format choices. But several small but vocal consumer advocate groups say consolidation has actually resulted in less diverse and more vanilla radio programming, with the industry's major group heads making a claim of more format and programming diversity today than radio has ever known.
"Everybody's really fed up with the state of radio, the repetitiveness," said Jeremy Wilker, who co-founded Americans for Radio Diversity (ARD). "The people who write to us say: 'I'm listening to my CD player all the time now; I can't stand radio anymore'; 'I wish we had a college station'; or 'I wish we had a community station.'"
Gigi Sohn, executive director of the Washington, DC-based Media Access Project, calls this phenomenon the "homogenization" of radio, with everything "sounding the same" from "city to city" -- the same 10 songs, the same formats, etc.

RECEIVED
AUG - 7 1998
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of	)	
	)	RM-9242
Proposal for Creation of the Low Power FM	)	
(LPFM) Broadcast Service	)	

To: FCC / Mass Media Bureau

CONGRESSMAN TAUZIN IS THIS YOUR FREE SPEECH:

COMMUNITY RADIO ITS GREAT
ANOTHER VIOLATION OF THE COMMUNICATIONS ACT BY YOU THE FCC

CAPSTAR BUYS UP TRIATHLON
full story online at Wichita Business Journal

Triathlon Broadcasting Co., owner of six Wichita radio stations, has agreed to an acquisition by Capstar Broadcasting Corp. in a deal valued at $190 million.
"This is the most frustrating thing I think has ever happened to the radio industry," said Bonnie Copp, owner of Copp Media Services, a Wichita media buying firm. "You've got one company that literally controls the business." What Copp fears most are higher advertising rates. She said those rates have already risen dramatically -- specifically at Triathlon stations --

2

within the past few years and she believes they could further increase.
"I don't think it's good for anybody," she said.

ANTITRUST STORM CLOUDS OVER CUMULUS
full story online at Milwaukee Business Journal

Cumulus Media is rolling into Grand Junction, Colo., and station owners there don't think it's fair.
The problem, as they see it, is that the mammoth Milwaukee radio group plans to operate six radio stations in this western Colorado market of about 100,000. The six stations Cumulus has agreed to buy attract an estimated 58 percent of the radio audience in Grand Junction and an estimated 61 percent of the advertising dollars.
"They'll definitely control the market," said Brad Leggett, owner, general manager and morning show host at classic rock station KSTR-FM.
Leggett also worries that Cumulus' takeover of the six stations, as with group takeovers of markets across the country, will mean a loss of "localism." He predicts the cornerstones of small to medium-market radio -- local announcers, community involvement and charity events -- will be eliminated.
"It's really screwing up the radio business," said Leggett.
In at least two of the 34 markets where Cumulus has agreements to buy stations -- Grand Junction and Dubuque, Iowa -- competitors have filed antitrust complaints with the U.S. Justice Department.

Mr.D'Alessandro

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

RM-9242

RECEIVED
AUG - 7 1998
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

From: "Joseph D'Alessandro" <jdman@magpage.com>
To: A4.A4(FCCINFO)
Date: 8/6/98 8:27pm
Subject: ?

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of)
) RM-9242
Proposal for Creation of the Low Power FM)
(LPFM) Broadcast Service)

To: FCC / Mass Media Bureau

CONGRESSMAN TAUZIN IS THIS YOUR FREE SPEECH:

COMMUNITY RADIO ITS GREAT
ANOTHER VIOLATION OF THE COMMUNICATIONS ACT BY YOU THE FCC

CAPSTAR BUYS UP TRIATHLON
full story online at Wichita Business Journal

Triathlon Broadcasting Co., owner of six Wichita radio stations, has agreed to an acquisition by Capstar Broadcasting Corp. in a deal valued at $190 million.
"This is the most frustrating thing I think has ever happened to the radio industry," said Bonnie Copp, owner of Copp Media Services, a Wichita media buying firm. "You've got one company that literally controls the business."
What Copp fears most are higher advertising rates. She said those rates have already risen dramatically -- specifically at Triathlon stations -- within the past few years and she believes they could further increase.
"I don't think it's good for anybody," she said.

ANTITRUST STORM CLOUDS OVER CUMULUS
full story online at Milwaukee Business Journal

Cumulus Media is rolling into Grand Junction, Colo., and station owners there don't think it's fair.
The problem, as they see it, is that the mammoth Milwaukee radio group plans to operate six radio stations in this western Colorado market of about 100,000. The six stations Cumulus has agreed to buy attract an estimated 58 percent of the radio audience in Grand Junction and an estimated 61 percent of the advertising dollars.
"They'll definitely control the market," said Brad Leggett, owner, general manager and morning show host at classic rock station KSTR-FM.
Leggett also worries that Cumulus' takeover of the six stations, as with group takeovers of markets across the country, will mean a loss of "localism." He predicts the cornerstones of small to medium-market radio -- local announcers, community involvement and charity events -- will be eliminated.
"It's really screwing up the radio business," said Leggett.

2

In at least two of the 34 markets where Cumulus has agreements to buy stations -- Grand Junction and Dubuque, Iowa -- competitors have filed antitrust complaints with the U.S. Justice Department.

Mr.D'Alessandro

RECEIVED
AUG - 7 1998
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

RM-9242

From: "Joseph D'Alessandro" <jdman@magpage.com>
To: A4.A4(FCCINFO)
Date: 8/7/98 1:56pm
Subject: ?

RICH LEE

FLUNKED CLOWN COLLEGE:

DOES IT AGAIN WITH A GRADE OF O = zerO
Abuses Comminications Act's 1927-1934

Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

RECEIVED
AUG - 7 1998
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In the Matter of	)	
	)	RM-9242
Proposal for Creation of the Low Power FM	)	
(LPFM) Broadcast Service	)	

To: FCC / Mass Media Bureau

What's Local About Local Broadcasting?

A Joint Report of the
Media Access Project &
Benton Foundation

April 1998

Introduction | Background | Methodology | Findings -- National | Findings -- Chicago | Findings -- Phoenix | Findings -- Nashville | Findings -- Spokane | Findings -- Bangor | Research Partners

---

What's local about local broadcasting? An analysis of a two-week period in late February and early March finds that the answer is "not much." Broadcasters in five markets chosen to represent conditions in small towns and big cities around the country are providing almost no programming that addresses local issues in the communities they serve. The numbers are staggering:

*In the five markets combined, 40 commercial broadcasters provided 13,250 total hours of programming -- just 0.35% (46.5 hours) were devoted to local public affairs.

*In three markets -- Nashville, Tennessee, Spokane, Washington, and Bangor, Maine -- not one commercial station aired any local public affairs programming.

*35% of the stations surveyed provide no local news; 25% offer neither local public affairs programming or local news.

2

*A total of two hours of local public affairs programming was available between 6:00pm and midnight, when viewership numbers are highest. Just two stations aired any local public affairs during this time period.

Background

Local programming is the keystone commitment of America's broadcast system and the basis for the licensing scheme under which every broadcaster operates. The nation has hundreds of commercial broadcasters in place not to rebroadcast national programming, but to be responsive to the interests, convenience, and necessity of the communities they serve. This compact between local broadcasters and their communities -- that a broadcaster receives a license to act as a public trustee of the public interest -- is expressed in both court rulings and Federal Communications Commission policy.

Under the Communications Act of 1934, applicants for broadcast licenses must agree to provide program service to the particular community to which they are licensed. This requirement was the basis for the United States Court of Appeals ruling in 1956 that in requiring "a fair, efficient and equitable distribution" of service, Section 307(b) of the Communications Act encompasses "not only the reception of an adequate signal but also community needs for programs of local interest and importance and for organs of local self-expression." The Court affirmed that "the prime factor" in broadcast programming regulation "is the presentation of programs of local interest and importance."(1)

The local basis of its service distinguishes broadcasting from cable and satellite services which consist almost entirely of national programming and (in the case of cable) retransmission of local TV stations. News, public affairs programming and other opportunities for local self-expression are the most important of the 14 specific programming "elements usually necessary to meet the... needs and desires of the community in which the station is located...," as enumerated in the FCC's classic formulation of public interest programming obligations, issued in 1960:

The principal ingredient of such obligation consists of a diligent, positive and continuing effort by the licensee to discover and fulfill the tastes, needs and desires of his service area

Mr.D'Alessandro
POWER 89 FM