

Syndicated morning show comes to V-108

Special to Sentinel-Voice

Las Vegas' own Hip Hop and R&B station, V-108, will be showcasing a nationally-broadcast morning show to beef up its pre-dawn lineup of entertainment.

The Tom Joyner Morning Show, which has been in syndication for more than eight years and is heard on at least 110 stations, will be airing live, weekdays from 3 a.m. to 6 a.m., beginning Nov. 12. The Doug Banks Morning Show, which currently airs from 5 a.m. until 9 a.m., will begin one hour later, at 6 a.m., and end at 10 a.m.

"This will be the best 'one-two punch' in morning radio in

America," said Vic Clemons, Operations Director for Desert Sky Media. "Tom provides entertainment and information in the morning. He links the urban communities across the country through humor, music and information."

The Joyner crew includes celebrity comedian J. Anthony Brown; comedienne, Myra J. and Ms. Dupree; co-host Sybil Wilkes, and syndicated commentator Tavis Smiley.

"When we began the project of building two new radio stations to serve Las Vegas, we promised to bring exciting high-profile personalities to the market, and team them with the best air personalities we

could find in the market for our formats," said Frank Woodbeck, general manager of Desert Sky Media. "These incredibly gifted morning show hosts form the foundation of our morning programming"

Joyner's show includes the radio soap opera, "Its Your World," and "Express Yourself," an open comment line for listeners to air their views on a topic of the day. "Tips for the Single Mom," "Real Fathers, Real Men," the "Entertainment Report," and "The Smiley Report" are just some features of the pre-dawn show, promoted as wanting to provide the best urban morning entertainment and information to the Las Vegas Valley.

Death Penalty

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istry added that some people say justice should be "an eye for an eye" - but Jesus used that phrase to describe what shouldn't happen.

Attorney JoNell Thomas, who has represented numerous death row inmates, said Nevada has the nation's highest per capita rate of condemned prisoners.

Thomas also said Nevada law provides for more than a dozen aggravating circumstances that can be used to determine penalties in murder cases. She and other witnesses said the "aggravators" are so broad that almost any mur-

der case could be a capital case.

The study panel is chaired by Assemblywoman Sheila Leslie, D-Reno, who tried unsuccessfully during the 2001 legislative session to ban death sentences for anyone with an IQ of 70 or below.

Leslie's measure was one of several dealing with death sentences that failed to win approval in the Legislature earlier this year.

Her study panel plans a wide-ranging review that will include debate on executions of the mentally retarded, young defendants, racial and economic discrimination in capital cases, DNA testing and related issues.

Blackout

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taping public demonstrations unless a crime is underway.

A uniformed TARU officer used a 35mm camera to photograph antiwar activists at the demonstrations on Oct. 8 and Oct. 27.

Shortly after 2 p.m. on Oct. 27, some 2,000 protestors at Times Square began marching from 42nd Street down to 14th Street, as traffic at the city's busiest midtown intersections slowed to a crawl and curious onlookers gathered at street corners. Some pedestrians yelled their support and applauded while others screamed their disapproval at the marchers.

One irate man walking along side a row of some 30 officers pointed to the marchers and yelled, "They all should have been the ones in the World Trade Center." An officer, patrolling near the man, smiled and winked.

Most onlookers appeared surprised as they watched the caravan of police riot wagons, motorcycles and a sea of some 2,000 rather orderly protestors. But for those New Yorkers watching the news that evening-if they blinked, they would have missed it. Fox News aired a brief 30-second coverage of the mass protest. Most media outlets simply ignored the protest action altogether-as if it never happened.

"I'm beyond wonder at the refusal of mainstream media to cover dissent from U.S. government policy or from popular belief and attitude," said Allen James, a public health educator at the Brooklyn-based HIV-AIDS Technical Institute. "I accept the lack of coverage as a fact of life."

James, 56, joined the protest rally shortly after 1:30 p.m. and brought along his own video camera to document the history for himself. "I think the media will continue to ignore dissent, until something dreadful and bloody enough to feed the fascination with the bizarre happens," said James.

After thousands of anti-war activists gathered in Washington, D.C. on Sept. 29, The New York Times ran a 10-sentence story. The article reported a "few hundred protestors" were at the rally even though the official police estimate, as reported by The Washington Post, was 7,000. The Times then upgraded its estimate to "thousands" in a later edition.

"In retrospect, it would have been wiser not to put the smaller estimate into the early edition," wrote Times senior editor Bill Borders in a response letter to criticism from the media watchdog Fairness and Accuracy in Reporting, Inc. "But the reporter did not know the crowd would grow so much," wrote Borders.

Allen James, who said officers at Times Square discouraged photographers from taking pictures at the Oct. 27 protest, presumably in order to keep the sidewalks clear for pedestrians, said that the blind-spot in media coverage has disturbing implications for African Americans who rely heavily on mainstream media for their views and information.

"The most troubling thing to me is the absence of thoughtful discussion [about the war] in the African Diaspora and Latino communities," said James, who lives in Harlem. "I'm listening in the checkout lines, waiting rooms, barber shops and subway platforms and all

I hear is confusion-people who don't have any idea what's really going on, or agreement," said James, who finds that few Blacks show "skepticism or alternative ideas" regarding the war.

"When there are a bunch of Black faces and Spanish accents present with all those White people in street demonstrations, you can bet the media will start to pay attention-for dubious reasons-but they'll pay attention," said James.

John Prices for the New York Amsterdam News



Just think: Your son is bright, healthy and headed for college one day. You love the direction your career has taken. You're doing a lot of the things you planned and even a few you didn't. Living life to the fullest is easy when you have family behind you. American Family Mutual Insurance. Call and talk to one of our helpful, friendly agents. You'll find out why we're consistently rated A+ (Superior) by A.M. Best, the insurance rating authority. Then, go on. Dream. Plan. What you do next is up to you and we'll be here to help you.

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