

'Star' fired from radio for sexually explicit raunch

By Regan Toomer
Special to Sentinel-Voice
PHILADELPHIA (NNPA) - Clear Channel Radio has confirmed that Troi "Star" Torain, the controversial host of the "Star and Buc Wild show," has been fired for airing sexually explicit comments about a rival DJ's 4-year-old daughter.

Torain has been the center of controversy, especially in Philadelphia, where a group of concerned Black parents called the Social Action Committee have argued that his material, which aired on Power 99 FM in the mornings, was too raunchy for children's ears.

"Power 99 finds recent remarks broadcast by Troi Torain of the 'Star and Buc Wild Morning Show' to be wholly unacceptable," said Clear Channel Radio's Regional Vice President Manuel Rodriguez in a statement released last week.

"As of late this afternoon, he is no longer with Power 99 or Clear Channel Radio. We sincerely apologize to those who may have been offended by his remarks."

Members of the parent's committee said it's about time.

"I thought it was wonderful news," said member Juvens Charles.

The group has been pressuring Clear Channel Radio to remove the "Star" show for some time.

"It is a blessing," Charles added.

Since October 2005, SAC has been involved in filing petitions with the Federal Communications Commission and has staged two protests against the morning radio show that broadcasts on

"My hope is that this recent firing reverberates throughout media and sends the message that this type of language and messaging, especially if it's targeted towards our youth, will not be tolerated."

—Damon Roberts

Clear Channel Radio's WUSL Power 99 in Philadelphia.

The group has been fired up because of Torain's repeated use of the n-word, bitch and whore during his morning radio slot.

Torain was fired from Clear Channel Radio for making sexual explicit comments about a rival DJ's daughter. Aimed at D.J. Envy, a rival New York radio personality at Hot 97 FM, Torain likened himself to R&B singer R. Kelly, who alleged performed sexual acts to underage girls, saying he wanted to do lewd acts to Envy's 4-year-old daughter.

Torain said the following comments on New York's Power 105.1:

"Yes, I disrespected your seed," he was reported to have said. "If you didn't hear me, I said, I would like to do an R. Kelly on your seed, on your little baby girl. I would like to tinkle on her."

Torain also allegedly offered to pay \$500 to any listener that could provide the location of the child's school and made sexual and racial comments about the DJ's wife, who is Asian and African-American.

"Oh yes, I'll come for your kids," he said. "I will come for your kids. I finally got the information on his slant-eyed whore wife."

Torain's comments are very familiar to his listeners. It is the offensive and indecent material Torain said trig-

gered the parent's action group to circulate a petition against the show in October.

After collecting nearly 600 signatures, the group sent copies to Clear Channel Radio, its advertisers and the FCC where they filed indecency complaints against the show.

The group still has yet to hear from the FCC, but since then two protests have occurred outside of Clear Channel's headquarters in Bala Cynwyd. In the past, Clear Channel has defended the Star show, saying that it believes in free speech.

Damon Roberts said that Torain's termination was a major victory for the parents who organized the protest.

"This is a major victory in our cause, as we have helped to get rid of the most egregious offender of this sort on radio," he said. "However, as we have always said, this is not just about 'Star and Buc Wild.' This is about what they represent in media. Whether it's Clear Channel or Radio One, whether it's MTV or BET, we need responsible media that considers the effect of its message on the community."

"My hope is that this recent firing reverberates throughout media and sends the message that this type of language and messaging, especially if it's targeted towards our youth, will not be tolerated."

Regan Toomer writes for the Philadelphia Tribune.

Cory Booker soars in Newark mayoral

By Glenn Townes
Special to Sentinel-Voice
NEWARK (NNPA) - Change is indeed the buzzword for the city of Newark as Cory Booker was elected mayor of New Jersey's largest city, beating leading opponent Ronald Rice, in a landslide victory. It was a political battle that only remotely compared to the race in 2002, but with two glaring differences — the absence of current mayor Sharpe James and a big win for Booker.

Booker, 37, became the first man who was actually born in Newark to be elected as mayor in more than 50 years. In addition, he unseats James, who decided in March not to run for a post that he has had a lock on for 20 years.

Booker ran well ahead of Rice and other political unknowns, Nancy Rosenstock and David Blount. It was a lead the smooth talking, Yale-trained lawyer and former Newark City Council member would not relinquish as the night wore on and the returns continued to pour in.

By 10:00 p.m., he was declared the winner — with nearly all the district votes, 89 percent tabulated. Booker had 28,671 votes or about 72 percent. His nearest competitor, Sen. Ron Rice had fewer than 10,000 votes. After the final numbers were tallied, Booker ended up with about 32,000 votes, about two-thirds more than Rice.

"I am delighted and thrilled that the people of Newark have chosen me to lead the city into the future," Booker said at a

victory celebration in his central Newark headquarters. "The future of Newark is now."

The Rice camp expressed its disappointment with the outcome of the election and hinted about his concerns for the city of Newark.

"Obviously, we are disappointed with how things turned out, and we remain extremely concerned about the future of Newark," Rice said. "We will work with this new administration."

Rice, 60, was a beat cop in Newark during the 1970s and had worked closely with James. His strategy to ride the 70-year-old coattails of James and rely on name recognition, failed to connect with voters. Some political observers contend that this election would probably be his last cogent effort for a shot at the top spot in Newark politics.

In his platform, Booker has repeatedly vowed to make fighting crime his top priority in returning Newark to "a first class city." That is a daunting task, given the city's long entrenched reputation as a haven for drugs and violence, with high unemployment and, at one time, holding the dubious distinction as the grand theft auto capital of the country.

Booker said he would put at least 200 more cops on the streets of Newark and ultimately triple the size of the Newark Police Departments task force on gangs.

Glenn Townes is a staff writer for the Amsterdam News.

100 Black Women

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Women or NCBW.

Today, it consists of more than 7,000 members representing 63 chapters in 24 states and the District of Columbia.

The mission of the organization is to develop leaders who will help to rebuild their communities and direct the energies of Black youth who live in those communities.

The Las Vegas Chapter of the NCBW was chartered in 2004 by Founder and President Dr. Sandra Mack. She also holds a seat on the national board. Mack founded the San Jose (Silicon Valley) Chapter of NCBW and was elected to the executive board. When she moved to Las Vegas, she informed the organization that she would be unable to attend national meetings since there wasn't a chapter in Las Vegas. She was urged to create one.

Establishing a chapter requires that 25

women who are established in their careers and professions make a commitment.

In the past year, the local chapter has sponsored an HIV/AIDS symposium and invited organizations in the community to offer services for people with HIV/AIDS.

The organization also presented an Economic Development Workshop to help educate women about finances and entrepreneurship.

NCBW partners with other organizations to bring about change.

Prudential Finances presented a series of workshops and seminars in partnership with the NCBW local chapter. Nationally, NCBW has worked with many other organizations and businesses including *Essence* magazine.

For more information or to purchase tickets for the upcoming luncheon, contact Dr. Sandra Mack at (702) 407-0502. The national website is www.ncbw.org.



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