

INSIDE RADIO

by Tom Taylor

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NEWS

Page 3 of 6

board said he helped put the company back on track. Disney's 2004 earnings jumped 60%. Also a factor for the compensation committee is Eisner's \$1M salary — relatively low compared to other CEOs of multinational media conglomerates. In fact Disney president/COO Bob Iger makes more than Eisner. For 2004, Iger earned a base salary of \$1.5M plus a bonus of \$6.5M. That's up from his 2003 bonus of \$1.4M. And CFO Thomas Staggs earned a base of \$930,385 plus a bonus of \$1.5M — a \$500,000 boost from the previous year's bonus. We spotted this familiar name in Disney documents filed with the SEC — former Cap Cities/ABC chairman Tom Murphy. Turns out Disney continues to maintain an office for Murphy and to pay for his car and driver. Those "bennies" cost the company \$253,057 in 2004.

TM Century hooks up with the Bitman comedy and prep service. Dallas-based TM Century picks up sales representation and marketing rights to the David Evjen-owned Bitman service from Joel Folger's Folger Entertainment Company. TM Century's David Graupner says he's "been wanting to add a paper prep service to our prep service catalog" — and Evjen's service is it. Folger's worked with Bitman the last 2-1/2 years and says he'll now concentrate on the syndicated "DM Live" and the "Bob" musical format.

Duke Wright's Midwest Communications heads south for a pair in Terre Haute. Midwest already has stations in Wisconsin, Michigan and Minnesota. Now it motors south to Indiana to pay Marvin Frank's Bright Tower Communications \$3.39M for two FMs in Terre Haute. The properties are CHR "100.7 Mix-FM" WMGI (100.7) and hot AC "Y-96 Energy Radio" WWSY, Seelyville, IN (95.9). Broker in the deal — Greg Guy of Patrick Communications.

Paragon Communications buys two stations in western Oklahoma. Blake Brewer's Paragon already owns country KECO (96.5), Christian "The Rock" KXOO (94.3) and "ESPN 1240" KADS in Elk City, OK — and now he's looking north to buy country KWFX (93.5) and Pure Rock 102.3 KWDQ. They're both licensed to Woodward, OK. KWFX is a Class A with a construction permit to relocate to 106.3 FM and boost to Class C1. KWDQ will keep its current 102.3 dial position. But it's holding a CP to upgrade from a Class A to a C1.

Al Dame closes on his \$8 million sale of Johnstown and State College, PA stations to Nick Galli. Buyer Nick Galli's doing this deal as 2510 Associates (December 1 *Inside Radio*). Stations include oldies "Cool 101.7" WCCL in Johnstown and classic rock "Bus" WBUS in State College. Broker: Mike Bergner.

People Moves — Tom Rivers, the well-known country PD, jock and manager who died last March, lives on through the Country Radio Broadcasters' new radio humanitarian award — named for him. . . **Larry Patrick** will accept the Broadcast Education Association's Distinguished Service Award next month at NAB2005 in Las Vegas. Patrick's the broker, station owner and college prof who was previously president of the BEA. . . **Erwin Krasnow**, veteran communications attorney and NAB executive, gets a promotion to "owner", and chair of the Communications and Media Law Group at law firm Garvey Schubert Barer. — *The 4As — American Association of Advertising Agencies — expects 1200 people at its annual conference that starts today in New Orleans. We're there to watch the news and trends for you.*

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