

# Sun-Sentinel

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## Radio sex, drug scandal broadens

By BUDDY NEVINS  
Miami Bureau Chief

Police investigating two Power 96 disc jockeys arrested in a sex and drug scandal are looking into allegations that a homosexual pedophile ring was operated out of several South Florida radio stations.

Detectives are checking reports that members of the ring may have used personal appearances for their sta-

tions to pick up boys for sex. They also are investigating whether members of the ring had contact with homosexual pedophile groups in Asia and Europe.

"This is a very big investigation. These guys worked at many other stations and know other station personnel. We are running down all leads," said Hollywood Police Detective Curtiss Navarro.

The investigation was sparked by the arrest last month of veteran disc

jockeys Bill Tanner on drug charges and G. Michael McKay on charges of sodomizing a boy he had drugged. Both have pleaded innocent.

The investigation has since widened to include other personnel at AM and FM stations in the area, according to detectives in Hollywood and Plantation.

More than 20 people — both children and radio station personnel — have been questioned. Police have

combed Power 96 personnel records to establish relationships between various broadcasters, said Greg Reed, general manager of WPOW-FM.

Four broadcasters, who asked that their names not be used, told the *Sun-Sentinel* that the existence of a homosexual pedophile ring among radio personnel has been known within the industry for years.

SEE SCANDAL /23A

## GROUNDED HOPES



## Soviets dissolve U.S.S.R.

### Eleven republics unite in new commonwealth

By FRANCIS X. CLINES  
The New York Times

ALMA-ATA, Kazakhstan — Eleven republics formally dissolved the Soviet Union on Saturday and united as the Commonwealth of Independent States, dedicated to reversing their slide toward economic and political chaos.

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FROM PAGE 1A

## Sex, drug scandal rocks radio scene in South Florida

Police also are looking into persistent industry rumors that overseas pedophile groups supplied the local ring with boys.

"I think you'll find this is a lot bigger than anyone ever thought," said Steve Kane, program director of WFTL-AM and a veteran South Florida talk show host.

The investigation began in October after a boy told Hollywood police he had attended a homosexual orgy in September at WPOW-FM broadcaster McKay's east Hollywood house. The boy said WPOW program director Tanner was there, too.

According to police reports, the boy said the orgy involved disc jockeys and other men having sex with boys. The reports state that the boys were given drugs and, when they were incapacitated, the disc jockeys and others had sex with them.

At least one other boy told detectives that sex parties occurred at McKay's house, the police reports state.

McKay, 40, whose real name is Gary Hopfmann, was charged on Nov. 26 with sexual battery on an

incapacitated victim and indecent assault. His resignation from Power 96 was announced in early December.

An investigation resulting from the Hollywood police report prompted a drug raid on Tanner's Plantation home on Nov. 19. Tanner, 47, was then arrested on charges of possession of LSD, cocaine and marijuana. His resignation from Power 96 was announced at the same time.

Last week police were back at Tanner's home to confiscate photographs and home video tapes.

At Power 96, which also was rocked last week by the drunken driving arrest of disc jockey Don Cox, the mood is sullen.

"Any family has tragedies and gets over them," said Greg Reed, vice president and general manager. "Power 96 is a very deep, very solid and very stable radio station and we will continue."

Tanner had been program director at Y-100 (WHYI-FM) and Hot 105 (WHQT-FM) before he joined Power 96 in 1986. McKay worked at those stations, too.

The possibility that the scandal will spread to other stations could not come at a worse time for South Florida radio, whose \$100 million in annual advertising billings is being hit hard by the recession.

"Revenues for the marketplace are already soft. It won't help

some stations," said Bill Stedman, program director of Majic 102 (WMXJ-FM).

David Ross, president of Y-100 and of the South Florida Radio Broadcasters Association, took an optimistic view, saying, "One bad apple doesn't spoil the bunch."

Ross also is talking about the need for stations to clean up their acts, enforce stricter hiring standards and impose mandatory drug testing.

"We are [federal broadcast] licensees, and we have to be very, very careful," he said. "We're out there in the public, and we need an exemplary image."

Fans of Power 96, the top-rated South Florida teen-oriented dance music station, said they were shocked by the scandal.

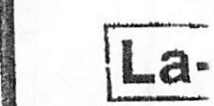
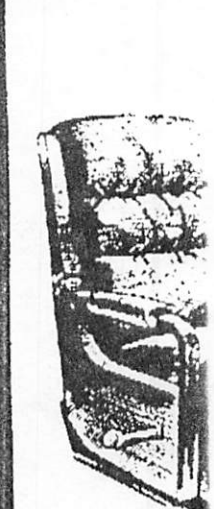
"I looked up to these people, and they let me down," said Jon Levine, 18, a senior at Piper High School and a rap music disc jockey on its 3000-watt WKPX-FM.

Arlene Martinez, 17, a junior at Hallandale High School, said: "I was very surprised and hurt. But I'll still listen to Power 96. I like the music."

Said Joanne Boggus, the journalism teacher who runs Piper's station: "The students were extremely disappointed in them. But the practical ones said there will be a lot of job openings at Power 96."



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## PAN AM

FROM PAGE 1A

## Pan Am's failure costs family 2 jobs; house could be next

ing with the closing of Pan Am on Dec. 6.

For the Pembroke Pines family, it has meant two decades that included layoffs, terrorist bombings, company takeovers, promotions, and people — the kind you serve, and the kind who become friends. In between, two children: Jason and Cara, 15.

"Some people may wonder why we both continued to work for the airline considering it was not making a profit," said Tommy Lopez, who earned \$25,000 a year as an airplane mechanic. "But we had so much time invested."

Charla Lopez, who earned \$28,000 as a lead word processor, said it went deeper: "It is the

"My full-time job is finding a job," said Charla, who has set up an office in her den.

The Lopez family, like others, blames President Bush and the deregulated, credit-happy attitude of the 1980s.

"The president keeps saying the recession is over," said Tommy Lopez, 42. "I want him to tell us where. I want to go there so I can get a job."

The jobs, however, could be far away. It is a situation that worries their 15-year-old daughter, now caught up in shopping malls and high school friends.

"It is going to be hard when you go into a new school," Cara Lopez said. "The groups are tight-knit and everybody has known each other forever. It takes a while for them to accept somebody new."

Charla reassures her daughter, telling her to avoid negative thoughts. It is something she told herself the day Pan Am told her

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