

## Hot From The Pirate Poop Deck

**T**his week's BIG moves at **Westwood One** and **Pirate Radio** (see Page 1) have spurred some fascinatin' speculation, such as:

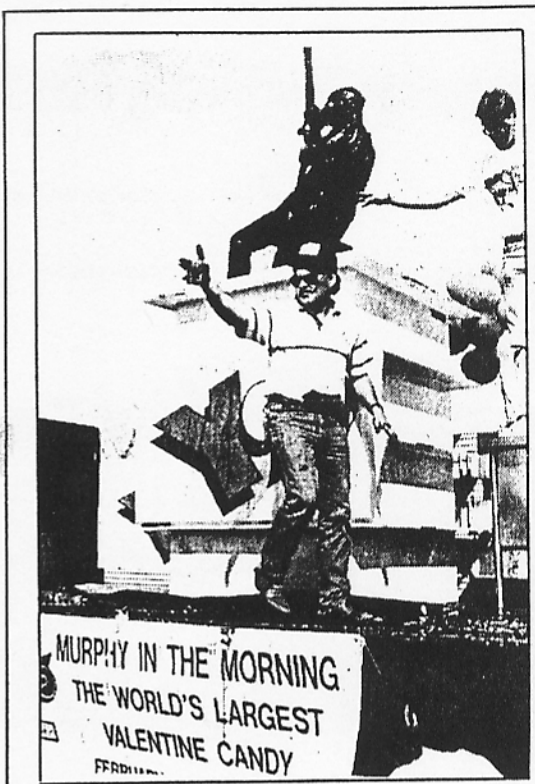
- **Will Scott Shannon make a quick return to Z100/NY?** Not according to insiders, who say too much progress has been made with **Gary Bryan** and the new morning zoo and that Shannon's been out of the market too long to make an immediate impact.

Ah, but couldn't Z100's attitude change if some *other* NY station made Shannon an exceptionally attractive offer? Given that scenario, you can bet your spring promotion budget that **Malrite/Z100 VP/Programming Steve Kingston** would try to bring Shannon back to the fold.

- **Who will program the new Pirate?** The most-frequently mentioned name is current **WLUP-AM & FM/Chicago VP/Station Mgr. Greg Solk**. ST hears Solk has talked with **WWI** . . . but things were still up in the air at presstime.

- **Who will replace Shannon in morning drive?** The first name on a lotta loose lips is none other than **Howard Stern**. Adding fuel to that fire, **WWI Chairman Norm Pattiz** and **Infinity Prez/CEO Mel Karmazin** were spotted dining together Tuesday night (2/12) in L.A. as the story broke. But don't bet on a turn to Stern.

- **What will happen to the Pirate airstaff?** ST has learned that Pirate afternoon **Shadow Steele** will exit. As for the rest o' the Pirate crew, the future is still undetermined.



**CANDYMAN** — Behold Y95/Dallas morning man Jack Murphy (top) precious seconds after he'd been turned into the "World's Largest Living Chocolate Covered Valentine's Candy" by consenting to be dipped in 500 gallons of creamy milk chocolate!

With assistance from morning co-host Scott Reeves (signaling crane) and Y95 staffer David Miller (upper right), the stunt took place live on-air last Saturday (2/9) in a local parking lot. Onlookers were encouraged to purchase \$1 cups of candy sprinkles with which to pelt the chocolate-covered Murphy — all proceeds to the American Red Cross.

## Rumors

- Is **MCA Dir./Nat'l Pop Promo Michael Steele** about to become **Columbia's** new West Coast Dir./Nat'l Promo?
- Is former **KABC/L.A.** morning co-host **Bob Arthur** about to join crosstown Talk rival **KFI**? Arthur reportedly would do mornings with **Bill Smith**, who formerly teamed with **Wink Martindale** at **KABC**.
- Is former **WROR/Boston** PD **Harry Nelson** this close to being named PD at **KWOD/Sacramento**?
- Are former **KBPI/Denver** morning men the **O' Brothers** about to join a West Coast **AOR**?
- Is **Mason Dixon** heading back to Tampa for a slot at **AC WMTX**? (His noncompete with **Edens** expires April 21.)

Barring a last-minute change of heart, it appears that **WHYT/Detroit** PD **Rick Gillette** will *not* be the next PD at **WEGX/Philly**.

Does this put **KKBQ/Houston** morning man **John Lander** in the driver's seat? Or is there *another* heavy name about to walk the plank from Pirate to 'EGX?

By the way, in case you had any doubts that Lander will leave **KKBQ**, ST hears former **Q105/Tampa** morning zoo dude **Cleveland Wheeler** and sidekick **Nancy Alexander** have already inked a deal with **KKBQ** to replace Lander.