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March 01 2014 11:10

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WUHF introduces revamped newscast, new staff

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Abstract:

Mary Chao Staff writer A revamped newscast directed by new management will debut tonight on WUHF-TV (Channel 31) in time for the November ratings sweeps. The local Fox affiliate's owner, Maryland-based Sinclair Broadcasting Co., contracted with local CBS affiliate, WROC-TV (Channel 8), to manage many of its local operations, including the newscasts.

Full text:

Mary Chao

Staff writer

A revamped newscast directed by new management will debut tonight on WUHF-TV (Channel 31) in time for the November ratings sweeps. The local Fox affiliate's owner, Maryland-based Sinclair Broadcasting Co., contracted with local CBS affiliate, WROC-TV (Channel 8), to manage many of its local operations, including the newscasts. The revamped Fox First at Ten will feature WROC's sports director, John Kucko, and chief meteorologist Scott Hetsko as well as new main anchor Lia Lando.

Lando comes to Rochester from a cable news station in Westchester County. Katrina Irwin, a reporter at WROC-TV, will assume weekend anchor duties for the newscast.

"We're excited," said Marc Jaromin, vice president and general manager for WROC. "We're going to change the face of television news in this area."

With the management change, WROC-TV hired 26 employees from WUHF - with most moving from the East Avenue office to WROC's studios on Humboldt Street, said Tim Busch, senior vice president at Nexstar, WROC's parent. The Fox affiliate has not aired a local newscast since August when the management contract was signed.

Some WROC reporters will appear on the WUHF newscast, but will be doing separate stories for both stations, Jaromin said.

WROC also is changing its own lineup. Joining WROC's morning newscast will be former WUHF

anchor Melanie Barnas and weatherman John Stehlin, who moved to Rochester from Los Angeles. Jonathan Myers moved from Elmira to take over weekend meteorologist duties at WROC-TV.

Viewers also can look for changes to the morning newscast at WHAM-TV (Channel 13), the local ABC affiliate. Current reporter Holly Maynard joined the morning team Monday as a co-anchor, mimicking ABC's Good Morning America format. Meteorologist Marty Snyder will join the morning staff in December, arriving from Richmond, Va., said news director Chuck Samuels.

No changes are expected at WHEC-TV (Channel 10), the local NBC affiliate, said news director Adam Bradshaw.

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Subject: Television stations; Television news

Publication title: Rochester Democrat and Chronicle

Pages: D.8

Publication year: 2005

Publication date: Nov 1, 2005

Year: 2005

Section: Business

Publisher: Gannett Co., Inc.

Place of publication: Rochester, N.Y.

Country of publication: United States

Source type: Newspapers

Language of publication: English

Document type: News

ProQuest document ID: 441799457

Document URL: <http://search.proquest.com/docview/441799457?accountid=47680>

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Last updated: 2013-01-02

Database: Gannett Newsstand

Bibliography

Citation style: APA6

Chao, M. (2005, Nov 01). WUHF introduces revamped newscast, new staff. Rochester Democrat and Chronicle. Retrieved from <http://search.proquest.com/docview/441799457?accountid=47680>

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