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Radio & Television at News / Sports / Horse Racing

25 Fascinating Factoids About My Career In Broadcasting

1) My first "on air" gig was as a sportscaster on **San Diego State University's** college radio station **KCR**. 2) One of my fellow **KCR** peeps (pardon the pun) was **Ted Giannoulas**, aka **The Famous Chicken**. 3) I interned as a writer for the well-known **Boss Radio** newsman **Brent Seltzer** in 1976 at **KDEO AM** on Fletcher Parkway in La Mesa. 4) My first paid job in broadcasting was at **KDEO**. I wrote news for the morning show and helped out the morning man, the legendary Top 25 DJ **Neilson Ross**. 5) I was fired for the first time in broadcasting at **KDEO** by **Jess Bullet** when he took over as PD. 6) I did stats and between-period interviews for **Jerry Trupiano** on **Houston Aeros** World Hockey Association broadcasts when the Aeros were in San Diego to play the Mariners. 7) I became good friends with and helped out two **San Diego Mariners** broadcasters, the late **Ron Oakes** and **Roy Storey**, on their home broadcasts at the **San Diego Sports Arena**. 8) I was the play-by-play announcer for the first game in the short history of the **San Francisco Shamrocks** of the Pacific Hockey League, at the historic **Cow Palace**, filling in for **Roy Storey** when he was ill. 9) I broadcast a total of four **San Francisco Shamrocks** games, the only professional hockey broadcasts I ever did in my career. 10) My commentary partner on one game was the late **Rory Markas**, who announced major league baseball games in Southern California for the **Anaheim Angels** until his sudden death in January 2010. 11) I was hired as a news reporter at **KERO-TV23 Bakersfield** after I worked a day "on audition" during an emergency situation in which the station was severely short-handed. 12) I became sports director at **KERO-TV23** and I worked with Kern County broadcasting icon **Burleigh Smith** nightly on the set. 13) I covered the first two title fights of **Bakersfield** featherweight boxer **Ruben Castillo** against the ring legends **Alexis Arguello** and **Salvador Sanchez** in **Tucson, AZ**. 14) I was the ring announcer at Bakersfield's **Strongbow Stadium** for the colorful boxing promoter **Harry Kabakoff**, aka "Hula Harry," nee Melville Himmelfarb. 15) I once interviewed wrestling legend **Freddie Blassie** and drew his ire for suggesting that his "sport" was not on the up and up! 16) As radio results announcer at **Hollywood Park**, I learned to call thoroughbred horse races under the guidance of the late great **Harry Henson**. 17) I taught Broadcast Journalism classes at my alma mater **San Diego State University** in the early 80s. My "star pupils" include **Artie Ojeda** (KNSD), **Louis Weiner** (KFMB), **Gregg Rawdin** (KUSI), and **Faith Sidlow** (KSEE Fresno), all still working in the business! 18) I accepted a sports anchor/reporter job at **KTUU-TV2 Anchorage** without ever visiting the city or the station beforehand. 19) I met my wife **Shari Johnson** (who worked in the production department) at **KTUU-TV** in 1985. 20) I hired a 24-year-old sports intern by the name of **Sarah Heath** in 1987. She went on to become **Sarah Heath Palin**, former Governor of Alaska and **John McCain's** 2008 Vice Presidential running mate. 21) I did a documentary and a series of reports on an Anchorage Youth Hockey League team's travels to **Leningrad**, **Helsinki**, **Stockholm**, and **Copenhagen** in 1986. 22) I covered two **International Olympic Committee** Winter Olympics site selection meetings ... 1986 in **Lausanne, Switzerland** and 1988 in **Calgary, Canada**. 23) I was hired by **Tom McKinley** at **The Mighty 690 (XTRA Sports)**, San Diego's legendary sports station in 1993 to host the station's first thoroughbred horse racing show. 24) I hosted a thoroughbred racing talk show on the Internet for three years on San Diego-based **World Talk Radio**. 25) I have covered three **Belmont Stakes** in this decade (2003, 2004, and 2008) hoping to see the first Triple Crown winner since **Affirmed** in 1978. But, no Triple Crown heroics at The Big Sandy for **Funny Cide**, **Smarty Jones**, or **Big Brown**!

Executive Feedback

"For what it's worth, your resume is one of the better presented I've seen. I especially liked the "25 Fascinating Factoids."

--Tom Bier, Station Manager, WISC-TV

"You've done good work (notwithstanding your taste in interns). I'll keep you in mind."

--Con Psarras, VP/ND, KSL-TV

Immediate Goal

I am an older, experienced radio/television veteran searching for a challenging opportunity in the **broadcasting** and/or **horse racing** industries. I am confident my wealth of professional experience can contribute significantly to the success and the improvement of a new or existing business operation.

I can easily relocate into any area of the **United States**. My past experience will allow me to quickly settle and assimilate into any situation or city in the country.

John Larson

John Larson, former NBC Dateline correspondent, was my news director at KTUU-TV2 Anchorage. He hired me to be his weekend sportscaster, but soon promoted me to be the main sports anchor and sports director.

Jane Asher

Jane Asher has always been very comfortable calling on me whenever she has required a conversational interview subject for her public affairs programs.

Jay Privman

Jay Privman has been a valued and respected colleague in horse racing and radio broadcasting since 1981.

Radio & Television



Selected On Camera Clips

Professional Accomplishments

- **Racing Analyst/Commentator at Prairie Meadows / Altoona, IA**
- **Racing Analyst/Commentator at American Quarter Horse Association**
- **Sports Anchor/Sports Director at KTUU-TV2 (NBC) Anchorage, AK**
- **Sports Anchor/Sports Director at KERO-TV 23 (NBC) Bakersfield, CA**
- **Radio Announcer at Santa Anita, Hollywood Park, and Del Mar**
- **Talk Show Host at XTRA Sports 690, KORG-AM1150, and World Talk Radio**

I am a veteran broadcasting professional with more than **three decades of experience** at the microphone, on the board, in front of the camera, and behind the scenes.

I am currently working as a horse racing analyst/commentator at **Prairie Meadows Racetrack & Casino** in Altoona, IA and for the **American Quarter Horse Association**.

I was a two-time NSSA Alaska Sportscaster Of The Year as **Sports Anchor/Sports Director** at **KTUU-TV2 (NBC)** in **Anchorage, AK**. My position and reputation allowed me to cover events and stories in many foreign countries, including the **U.S.S.R** and **Canada**, where I reported on the **1988 Winter Olympic Games**.

During my stay at **KTUU**, I hired a young sports intern by the name of **Sarah Heath**. Today, she is **Sarah Heath Palin**, former Governor of Alaska and the 2008 Republican Vice Presidential candidate. Sarah mentions me by name on Page 47 and Page 410 of her new bestseller **Going Rogue!**

I have also worked in the specialized field of **thoroughbred horse racing**. I was "on-the-air" as the **radio results announcer** for all three major Southern California thoroughbred tracks: **Del Mar**, **Hollywood Park**, and **Santa Anita**.

In 1993, San Diego's legendary radio giant **XTRA Sports 690** noted my broadcasting and horse racing expertise in its decision to hire me as the host of the station's first thoroughbred racing talk show.

In 2008 and 2009, I was at the microphone as guest host on the Southern California-based thoroughbred racing program **Inside Racing**, which airs on KLAC AM570 Los Angeles.

Apr 2010 - Present Racing Analyst/Commentator

Prairie Meadows

I am serving as a racing analyst/commentator for **Prairie Meadows Racetrack & Casino** in Iowa. I provide commentary on the track's video feed, support the marketing department with promotional activities, and post articles, audio, and full-card handicaps online.

Oct 2010 - Present Racing Analyst/Commentator

American Quarter Horse Association

I visit various race tracks as a racing analyst/commentator for the **American Quarter Horse Association**. I provide pre- and post-race commentary for track video signals and promote the AQHA to the fans in attendance. I have been on assignment to Will Rogers Downs in OK, The Fair Grounds in LA, Hialeah Park in FL, and Sunland Park in NM.

2000 - 2010

CEO

Thoroughbred Connection

I have owned my thoroughbred racing business **Thoroughbred Connection** since 2000. Its primary purpose is as the flagship company for racing talk shows, including terrestrial broadcasts on ESPN Radio 800 in San Diego and on the Internet-based World Talk Radio in San Diego.

1995 - 2000

Senior Instructional Designer

IVID Communications

At **IVID Communications**, I applied my journalism and writing skills to an "outside the box" experience as a senior instructional designer. I designed and wrote computer-based and instructor-led training courses for major corporate clients such as Ford Motor Company, Ford Credit, NCR, and DataQuick Information Services.

1989 - 1995

Marketing & Media Assistant

Del Mar Thoroughbred Club

I was "on-the-air" and in front of the public on a daily basis as Marketing & Media Assistant for the **Del Mar Thoroughbred Club** for many seasons. My role included broadcasting race results on radio stations, hosting public handicapping seminars, and providing interview opportunities to members of the local news media.

1984 - 1988

Sports Director/Anchor

KTUU-TV2 (NBC)

My position and my reputation as the hardest working sportscaster in town allowed me to cover events and stories in many foreign countries, including the **U.S.S.R** and **Canada**. I was the only broadcast journalist in Alaska to travel to Indianapolis, IN to report live on the **U.S. Olympic Committee** selection of Anchorage as a Winter Olympics candidate city.

1979 - 1981

Sports Director/Anchor

KERO-TV23 (NBC)

I made coverage of local college and high school sports a priority, often venturing "beyond the call of duty" to do so. My persistence allowed me to cover a variety of high-profile events such as **two world championship fights**, the **Major League All-Star Game**, and the **National Hockey League All-Star Game**.

1972 - 1977

BA

San Diego State University - College of Professional Studies And Fine Arts

Radio Talk Show Hosting

Audio Editing

Video Shooting And Editing
