

COMPILED BY MICHAEL HAMERSLY FROM MIAMI HERALD STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

PEOPLE

birthdays

Actor **Bradford Dillman** (*Falcon Crest*) is 79. Country singer **Loretta Lynn** is 74. Actress **Julie Christie** is 69. Actor **Brad Garrett** (*Everybody Loves Raymond*) is 49. Actor **Robert Carlyle** (*The Full Monty*) is 48. Actor **Anthony Michael Hall** is 41. Actor **Adrien Brody** (*The Pianist*) is 36. Singer **David Miller** of *Il Divo* is 36. Rapper **Da Brat** is 35. Actor **Antwon Tanner** (*One Tree Hill*) is 34. Actress **Sarah Michelle Gellar** is 32. Actress **Abigail Breslin** (*Little Miss Sunshine*) is 13.



CHRISTIE

TALK RADIO

On WINZ, progressive talk is gone, but DJ still sounding off

BY GLENN GARVIN
ggarvin@MiamiHerald.com

Progressive talk radio may be gone from the Miami airwaves, but its coolest host lives on. **Nicole Sandler**, who from 2007 to 2008 was the only local voice at lefty talker WINZ-AM, is filling in on Air America's noon to 3 p.m. call-in show.

She's got some lively stuff planned, particularly a segment on how President Barack Obama is fighting to retain some of the same prerogatives — in particular, warrantless wiretapping, extrajudicial “renditions” of suspected terrorists to offshore prisons — that he condemned in the Bush administration. Sandler is hoping to line up Glenn Greenwald, who just wrote a withering column on the subject for Salon, as a guest.



SANDLER

Of course, since WINZ dumped Air America and progressive talk earlier this month to go all-sports, you can't hear Sandler on an actual radio. But you can listen at AirAmerica.com. Though Sandler has been working pretty regularly on Air America the last few months, she's not optimistic that the network will return to South Florida airwaves.

“Most of the big radio stations are owned by big broadcast companies, and they have

a more Republican agenda,” she says. “When you have a company with two AM stations, one progressive and one conservative, you'll always find that the conservative station has a better signal, more marketing dollars and a bigger marketing brain trust, and just better resources in every way.”

That was certainly the situation at WINZ, she says.

“WINZ was the ugly stepchild of the [seven-station] Clear Channel cluster,” Sandler recalls. “It had a weak signal — at night, you couldn't really hear it north of I-595 — and they put no resources into marketing. I didn't have a producer or anybody at all — I ran a one-woman show.”

Sandler worked a year as producer on Jim DeFede's WINZ show before taking it over when he departed. But she picked up her interviewing skills as a rock-jock in Los Angeles, chatting with people like Dave Matthews and Ray Davies between records. (You can listen to some of them, as well as download podcasts of her best Air America interviews, on her website Radioor-not.com.) But you might say she was born to do political talk: Ronald Reagan was elected president on her 21st birthday, Barack Obama on her 49th.

She's been doing her Air America shows from a studio in her North Miami Beach home, but wouldn't mind moving to New York if it turns into a permanent gig: “I love working on Air America.”