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KSJN-FM AND OTHERS

News staffs, stations break

A major exodus of newsoriented personnel is about to occur at KSJN-FM and other stations in the Minnesota Educational Radio network, and a popular morning program hosted by Garrison Keillor will be dropped, several sources confirmed today.

Those who plan to leave the public-radio stations include Al Hulsen, general manager; Paul Grochow, news director; Marvin Granger, national affairs editor; Gail Gendler, traffic manager in the news department; and John Peterson, who has been handling advertising for the stations' new magazine, Preview.

Last month two reporters — Hugh Morgan and Rosemary Dahlen, both of whom had been brought in recently to beef up the news effort—quit the station.

Some of the resignations apparently were prompted by what one source called "a massive internal conflict between those who believe our nearly exclusive interests should be classical music programing and others who see it as a mixture with other kinds of programing. The people who believe we should be exclusively classical have the money," the source said

William Kling, president of the network, denied that all the departures were related or due to dissatisfaction. "Those who thought it was a tough moral program now have decided it will be a great opportunity now for us," he said.

Kling said that Keillor has "for the last six months been asking to get out of the early morning program (called "A Prairie Home Companion") because he wants to continue his writing career. He'll stay on until the end of September." Kling said Keillor, who has written pieces for The New Yorker, will produce specials and probably do a lengthy

Saturday program for the stations.

Hulsen is leaving to become a vice-president of National Public Radio, the parent of the country's educational network. Kling called that move "a great plus for NPR, though it's not a plus for us. His will be the second most important position in public radio."

Kling said Morgan and Ms. Dahlen left because federal money which supported them had been cut by the Nixon administration.

Guys, get yourself together at Robert Hall