

## Garrison Keillor set to return to radio

By KATHLEEN MACLAY  
SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — No longer woebegone are those longing for a fresh dip in Lake Wobegon.

Garrison Keillor, the folksy humorist and best-selling author whose radio program "A Prairie Home Companion" warmed audiences for 13 years, announced Thursday he will be back on the radio come fall after a two-year absence.

The fictional Minnesota town of Lake Wobegon will be back in his new show, Keillor said at a news conference following his address to a public radio conference, but the "town that time forgot" has undergone changes.

"A lot of things have happened to Lake Wobegon ... it's hard to make them into humor," he said. "Times have been hard back there, as they have been all across the Midwest."

His new, two-hour "American Radio Company of the Air" will be produced by Minnesota Public Radio and distributed by American

### Fox says reporters came for revenge

ARLINGTON, Va. (AP) — Michael J. Fox says some of the tabloid reporters who were frozen out of his wedding last summer took spoil-sport revenge by portraying him and his bride as paranoid.

"The reporters couldn't very

Public Radio. It will feature Keillor sketches, monologues and a mixture of American music.

Keillor, 46, said the music will include Fats Waller, Aaron Copland, Leonard Bernstein, old hymns and "all the great things that every American ought to hear at least twice."

His new program will be performed before theater audiences in New York, St. Paul, Minn., and other cities in 12-show series in the fall of 1989 and spring 1990. It will be broadcast live Saturday nights starting Sept. 30.

Despite estimates that his show had a following of more than 4 million, Keillor said he has about 13,000 true fans while others "talk about buttermilk biscuits and the 'Home on the Prairie Show.'"

Minnesota Public Radio spokeswoman Susan Jensen in St. Paul declined to comment about the differences or similarities between "Prairie Home" and the new show. Minnesota Public Radio produced his old show, which was broadcast from St. Paul.

Asked what his new show will be like, Keillor replied, "I can't wait to find out."

Keillor joked that he and Minnesota Public Radio officials talked about doing a new show "as a joke, and it was one of those jokes that got out of hand."

But he said that when he envisions himself back on stage, "it's



Garrison Keillor, popular raconteur whose "A Prairie Home Companion" stories about mythical Lake Wobegon warmed radio audiences for 13 years, will be back on radio this fall. (AP photo)

nothing but wonderful."

Two years ago he announced he was leaving his fictional hometown of Lake Wobegon in order to "resume the life of a shy person."

He abandoned Sheila the Christian Jungle Girl, Norwegian bachelor farmers and other Lake Wobegon inhabitants in an attempt to leave an increasing frustration with notoriety and resentment that accompanied his fame and fortune.

Keillor also criticized the media for intruding on his privacy by interviewing his neighbors, photo-

graphing his house and printing his address.

"I've always been pleased if people come up and I expect them to, and I get upset if they don't," he said Thursday, adding, "there's a fine line that a person has to defend. Otherwise your life becomes weird."

After his last broadcast in June 1987, Keillor took up residence in wife Ulla Skaerved's native Denmark. But he found it hard to work there.

"I suppose that was kind of embarrassing, too, to have failed so

publicly, to have planted your flag so publicly and having to pull it out," he said.

Now he calls Minnesota home again, but has a place in Manhattan and plans to retain his Copenhagen apartment.

"Home is a spiritual place," he said Thursday, "and in some ways I feel closer to Minnesota and Lake Wobegon" living in New York and Copenhagen.

"That's how you get to know your family," he quipped. "By moving away to a desirable place."