

NEWSBLUEZETTE

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MISTAKEN BIG BUTT BOOTY



Defense attorneys for Time-Warner's NY1 continued to rebut claims by Adele Sammarco in her sexual-harassment lawsuit against the cable news station. Last week, Sammarco claimed she was regularly called "BBB" or "Big Butt Booty" by her male colleagues.

Not true, insisted [former NY1 news photog Marvin Hoffman, who testified](#) that staffers were *actually* talking about the backside of news assistant Baron Gullette. "They called him **Big Booty Baron**," said Hoffman. He also claimed Sammarco was racially insensitive, once likening him to Morgan Freeman in the movie "Driving Miss Daisy."

Sammarco shook her head and rolled her eyes during the testimony, finally breaking down and running from the courtroom in tears.

She missed all the good stuff that was to follow. [Former NY1 weekend anchor Gary Anthony Ramsay took the stand](#) to rebut Sammarco's accusation that he had attacked her and forced his tongue down her throat.

According to Ramsay, his leg was in a cast, and his 1996 Nissan Pathfinder had two gear shifters and an armrest, making it impossible for him to pin her down as she described.

As far as the tongue thing, he's a little hazy. "I don't know if it happened or not," Ramsay said. "I can't say for sure whether I shook my best friend's hand the last time I saw him, but it's likely. I don't have a clear recollection of whether I tried to give her a kiss or not."



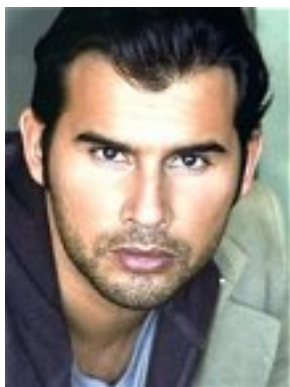
"This lie has done a lot of damage to me and done a lot of damage to my family," he added. "She told this story because she thought that someone would believe it. She's not the first to blame her

problems on a bogeyman and she won't be the last."

The fun continues today in Brooklyn.

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PLAYING BALL WITH MRS. KING



Hector Penate, a Little League baseball coach and aspiring actor, [described to "Entertainment Tonight" how he hosed Larry King's wife](#) while she openly mused about the CNN anchor's demise. "Don't worry, he's gonna die soon," he says Shawn Southwick assured him in 2007.

"We had sex in Larry's bed a lot," said Penate. "I felt like it was my house." Southwick has denied having an affair with Penate.

In a 2008 **"WORLD EXCLUSIVE,"** [the National Enquirer reported](#) that King actually caught Penate and Southwick having sex on his desk, but the Enquirer "chose not to publish the explosive details until they were corroborated by multiple sources."

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Blondiful Fox News cheerleader Megyn Kelly, appearing on Howard Stern's Sirius radio show yesterday, [was asked to play the popular game](#) "Fuck, Marry, Kill" with her fellow Fox News anchors. According to Kelly, she'd fuck Bill O'Reilly, marry Sean Hannity, and kill Glenn Beck.



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As part of the court-approved reorganization of Young Broadcasting [we told you about yesterday](#), the company will be reformed as the "New Young Broadcasting Holding Co.," aka "NewCo." Secured lenders will receive common stock commensurate with their claims totaling \$338 million. Unsecured creditors will split stock worth \$1 million.

As if by magic, [the new company will emerge debt free](#). Vincent Young keeps his job and walks away with three TV stations. Is this a great country, or what?



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Julie Chen and Sara Gilbert, and possibly Lisa Rinna and Bethenny Frankel, are preparing to shoot a pilot for a daytime CBS panel talker aimed at the audience of ABC's "The View." [A CBS source says the test show](#) will be shot in early May.

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Rick Kaplan, the well-traveled former president of CNN (1997-2000), senior VP of ABC News (2003), president of MSNBC (2004-2006), and now executive producer of CBS's last-place "Evening News with Katie Couric," [spoke at his alma mater, the University of Illinois, this week](#) and described CNN as being "*in a freefall.*"



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The Los Angeles Times takes issue with KCBS's misleading "CBS Healthwatch" spots, [that appear to be news reports, but are actually](#) paid 90-second infomercials for the City of Hope Medical Center.

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HOUSTON, WE HAVE A PROBLEM



KyAnn Lewis is leaving as news director of Tribune's struggling KIAH-39-CW in Houston (Market #10) after less than two years to become "VP of lifestyle content" for Fisher Broadcasting. She'll be based in Orlando. Her husband, the immensely talented "[Little Lost Robot](#)" J.L. Watkins, has been hired as "director of digital content" for Fisher.

We're not sure if KyAnn had anything to do with it, but if she did, shame on her.

During Saturday's local news on KIAH-39-CW, bonehead boyfriend Mark Annas walked on to the set, got down on his knee, and [proposed marriage to reporter Leticia Juarez](#), who was anchoring. We propose rusty ice picks be driven into the forehead of the news manager who allowed this to happen on live TV.



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Chris Archer, the news director who found himself in the middle of the controversial "Hawaii Now" shared-services agreement between MCG Capital Corporation's KGMB-9-CBS and Raycom Media's KHNL-8-NBC and KFVE-5-MyTV in Honolulu, has been hired as a "strategic consultant" at SmithGeiger in Los Angeles. He starts at the end of May sweeps.



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Darcy Pohland, the wheelchair-bound reporter for CBS-owned WCCO-4 in Minneapolis (Market #15) who died in her sleep March 5, bled to death from a ruptured artery related to a stomach ulcer, [according to the Hennepin County Medical Examiner](#). Her death was ruled natural.

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Former NBA bad boy-turned-cable hoops analyst Charles Barkley called his co-anchors "*assholes*" during last night's TNT halftime show.

The Enterprise Report has '[EXCLUSIVE BREAKING](#)' coverage, calling Barkley a "former *NBC* all-star" and misspelling "Los *Angeles* Lakers." And that was just in the first sentence.



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ESPN has [extended Chris Berman's contract](#). Do not ask us why.

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Little-known factoid: President Obama has played golf 32 times since being elected, eight rounds more than George W. Bush played in his entire two terms.

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Blondiful [Lauren Dorsett](#), who anchors the noon and 5:00 p.m. news for Calkins Media-owned WTXL-27-ABC in Tallahassee (Market #106), is out the door after five years, [reports Florida News Center](#).

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Fox-owned WOFL-35 in Orlando (Market #19) has [expanded its morning news hole](#) and is now producing unwatchable TV from 4:30 a.m. until 10:00 a.m.

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PROBING DIANE



You'll have to excuse our long-standing love affair with everything Diane Sawyer. We'll even endure ["10 Questions" in Time Magazine](#). Our favorites:

Question: What is the weirdest thing you ever had to do for a story?

Sawyer. I made my way into the Russian White House in the middle of a coup attempt when [Boris] Yeltsin was President. No one was being allowed in the building. I went up, and the guard said *women* would not be allowed in the building. And I said, "I'm not a *woman*. I'm an American journalist." There was a momentary perplexed look on his face, and he said, "O.K." It worked. Sometimes a non sequitur is as good as strategy.

Question: If you weren't a journalist today, what would you be doing?

Sawyer. I would probably be auditioning for some sad-song piano bar, since I have a very bizarre and eccentric attachment to really sad songs. Leonard Cohen and Tom Waits are a little too happy and sunny for me.

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DeWayne Wickham, [who knew Oprah back in the day](#), says Kitty Kelley's tell-all bio is "a bad read" and "the two chapters Kelley devotes to Oprah's time in Baltimore are more the product of exaggeration, insinuation and error than a search for truth."



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Liz Mathis, former news anchor at KWWL-7-NBC and KCRG-9-ABC in Cedar Rapids (Market #88), and her husband, former KWWL assistant general manager Mark Mathis, [have been stranded in the Czech Republic this week](#) by the Iceland volcano.

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DISASTER AVERTED

Our Mrs. B came *thisclose* to biting the big one over North Carolina yesterday.



She was on U.S. Airways Flight #1511 from Charlotte to Phoenix when one of the aircraft's two Pratt & Whitney PW6000 jet engines went to chunks.

"It was the loudest sound you could imagine," she told us later. "A terrible vibration. The airplane shook like it was coming apart. People were crying, but you could barely hear them above the engine noise."

The Airbus A320, with 182 passengers aboard, declared an emergency and headed for

nearby Nashville. This is the same type aircraft that ditched in the Hudson River in January 2009 after an engine failure.

"I had bought a bag of M&Ms in the Charlotte airport," Mrs. B recalls. "I decided, 'Hey, I've had a good life. I'm going to enjoy the final minutes.'" She slowly ate the candy, relishing the chocolate. She offered M&Ms to other passengers, many of whom were in tears.

Then the vibration stopped.

The captain came on the intercom and explained that the aircraft had "encountered engine problems" and had been shut down. He assured everyone there would be no problem reaching the "alternate destination." He warned that "you might see a lot of emergency vehicles along the runway" but not to fear. "This aircraft can fly just fine on one engine."



He was right. U.S. Airways Flight #1511 made a straight-in emergency approach to Nashville International Airport, shortly after 2:30 p.m. local time, and touched down smoothly to raucous applause. "It was like New Years, except I was awake," said Mrs. B.

The pilot and first officer, "two men in their sixties," stood by the cockpit door and accepted hearty congratulations as the passengers disembarked.

After a four-hour delay, our Grammar Queen was booked on a connecting flight to Phoenix.

U.S. Air gave her a \$10 food certificate and put her up for the night at Phoenix Sky Harbor International Airport. She will continue to her final destination later today.

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MRS. BLUEZETTE'S GRAMMAR YAMMER

"A PBS mind in an MTV world." MrsB_@NewsBlues.com

Mrs. B answers a question from an Atlanta reader:

What is the difference between "good" and "well," i.e., "How are you today?" I know the correct response is "I'm doing well," but why is it "well" instead of "good"?

We all do it... use good when we should use well. For example:

I just got my car tuned, and it's running "good."

The correct version is:

~I just got my car tuned, and it's running well.

It's fine to use the adjective **good** with linking verbs such as "be," "seem," "look," and "appear" as well as with "taste," unless you're describing an ability to taste.

~The rundown for the 11 is looking good.

~Pizza from there always tastes good.

But..

~After the accident, it took her awhile to taste well again.

Be careful when using **good** and **well** after "feel."

~"I feel good" usually refers to mood.

~"I feel well" is about health.

Mrs. B feels **good** and **well** and hopes you do too.

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