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Local Christian radio station wins Dove Award

By ASHLEY COOK
The Lufkin Daily News

Friday, April 27, 2007

Local Christian radio station 90.9 FM KSWP had added a feather to its cap with a national gospel music honor at the 38th Gospel Music Association Dove Awards Wednesday night in Nashville.

The GMA and Christian Music Broadcasters selected the station as the 2007 Small Market Radio Station of the Year,



Contributed photo

(ENLARGE)

Texas singer/songwriter Chris Tomlin took home six Dove Awards Wednesday night, including Artist of the Year. Local Christian radio station 90.9 FM KSWP earned an award for 2007 Small Market Radio Station of the Year.

Al Ross, station operations manager, and wife Michelle Ross, station music director, Dwyan Calvert, general manager, and wife Vera Calvert, office administrative secretary, flew to Nashville to attend the award ceremony, held at the Grand Ole Opry House.

The GMA Dove awards are the highest honor bestowed in gospel music, according to a GMA press release.

Dwyan Calvert crossed the stage to accept the award on behalf of the station.

"We are feeling so overjoyed. It really is hard to describe our feelings, but we hope listeners realize that we share this honor with them," Calvert stated in a station press release. "If it wasn't for their prayer, volunteer hours and financial support, none of this could have happened."

The station has come close to winning before, finishing in the top three in the nation for five out of the past six years, according to Al Ross.

"I can't begin to tell you how excited we are about this. ...We give thanks to God and to our listeners for the opportunity to serve our community for Christ," he stated.

Sister station 91.9 FM KAVX was named the best Christian talk station in the nation, earning Talk Station of the Year in 2004 by the National Religious Broadcasters organization.

Texas singer/songwriter Chris Tomlin took home six Dove Awards Wednesday night, including Artist of the Year. New artist Aaron Shust took home earned three Dove Awards, New Artist and Songwriter of the Year and Song of the Year. Casting Crowns walked away with two Dove Awards for Group of the Year and Pop/Contemporary Song of the Year.

For information on KSWP/KAVX visit online at www.kswp.org or www.kavx.org or call 1-888-909-5797 or 639-5673.

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