EXCLUSIVE: HEART'S NANCY WILSON RESPONDS TO MCCAIN CAMPAIGN'S USE OF 'BARRACUDA' AT REPUBLICAN CONVENTION

Sep 5, 2008, 01:44 AM | by Whitney Pastorek
Categories: Current Affairs, Music, Music Biz

Thursday afternoon, Heart e-mailed out a statement regarding vice-presidential candidate Sarah "Barracuda" Palin's use of their similarly monikered song at the Republican National Convention: "The Republican campaign did not ask for permission to use the song, nor would they have been granted that permission," it read. "We have asked the Republican campaign publicly not to use our music. We hope our wishes will be honored."

But after McCain finished his speech accepting the GOP's presidential nomination tonight, Palin joined him on stage, and the song was used again: Heart's "Barracuda" played as balloons fell. With that elephant in the room, Heart's Nancy Wilson felt compelled to personally respond. "I think it's completely unfair to be so misrepresented," she said in a phone call to EW.com after the speech. "I feel completely f---ed over." She and sister Ann Wilson then e-mailed the following exclusive statement:

"Sarah Palin's views and values in NO WAY represent us as American women. We ask that our song 'Barracuda' no longer be used to promote her image. The song 'Barracuda' was written in the late 70s as a scathing rant against the soulless, corporate nature of the music business, particularly for women. (The 'barracuda' represented the business.) While Heart did not and would not authorize the use of their song at the RNC, there's irony in Republican strategists' choice to make use of it there."

The Heart-McCain incident isn't the only example of music-related controversy on this year's presidential campaign trail. Click here to read Chris Willman's report about Barack Obama's eyebrow-raising use of Brooks & Dunn's "Only in America" after his nomination-acceptance address last week.

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COMMENTS

aymzer Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:50 AM EST
Don’t they have to give the rights in order for it to be played publicly that way. Did Heart’s record company give Palin/McCain the rights? Shouldn’t EW be able to tell us the legality of this issue?

cam Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:50 AM EST
Kudos to Nancy&Ann Wilson. Heart is awesome. They should have gotten there permission

ummm Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:49 AM EST
@Brian (I mean mindreader) 
"Really!? We’re going to argue about the use of a song as background music? Really!? 6.1% unemployment, soldiers oversees, and you goofballs are worried about this?
Note. "looks around" you are here. Posting.

Spherit Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:49 AM EST
I buy Dixie Chicks... my estimation of Heart just went up too. Time to get a fresh copy of "Dog and Butterfly". Isn’t it just like a Republican to feel entitled to something that isn’t his?

Suzannef Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:48 AM EST
Donald, Sarah Palin didn’t care about special needs children or pregnant teens until she had one of her own, check her record. And I suppose she won’t care about gay people or Jewish people until she actually meets one for herself. She is NOT representative of a typical American woman...we would never advocate burning library books...but, maybe Alaska is like being in the 1950s. She got the same number of votes to be mayor as there are children in my school district. I’m sorry, but I just don’t trust my country to be in the hands of someone who just recently got her passport...maybe this pit bull just needs to show me that she is more than just ONE SINGLE SPEECH that FIRST time I had ever seen her, before I feel comfortable that she can protect my NY home from another attack, instead of just exploiting it. Community organizers are the reasons why women can vote, black people can use the same toilets as whites and why special needs children became a front page issue in the first place

LOL Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:47 AM EST
@Donald
"Are you a patriotic American or not?"
You mean when Bruce Springsteen wrote and sang "Born in the USA?" The irony in this thread knows no limits.

Donald Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:47 AM EST
The Associated Press is not a credible source of information. They’re like the National Inquirer. Try again.

Rick Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:46 AM EST
I really don’t care about this issue, but it does bother me that the liberals on this site are missing hypocrisy about their own side. Before slinging mud about taking away free speech, remember that Pelosi and the Congress are trying to force any shows off the air that they disagree with. They are trying to pass a bill requiring all shows to play the opposing side for 1/3 of their time slot. So, all stations (Christian, Buddhist, Conservative, basically anybody who disagrees with them) can be forced to hand over 1/3 of their time slot they are paying for to somebody approved by them. They haven’t thought through the ramifications of such a bill, since it would encourage lawsuits everytime a primetime show insulted the current government (What? Obama was mocked on SNL, quick let’s sue! EW bashed GWBush, let’s sue!)
Please contact your congressmen and let them know that the market will dictate what’s on the air like always! Lock it up - "Fairness doctrine" Untruthful name, huh?

shields Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:46 AM EST
Mary here says, "Like I said, I admire integrity, truth, honesty... and applaud the likes of Sarah Palin for having the CLASS to stand for what she does believe in! Go Sarah!! Thank God we still have that right!!"
Hey Mary...you’re thanking God for having the right to speak your mind. However, that is not a right the RNC or Sarah Palin protects. Do some research...it’s not hard. Enlighten yourself instead of being ignorant. (e.g. Sarah Palin attempted to force the librarian in her community to censor material in the local library. Way to go Sarah!!) Mary, you say you admire truth. Again, do some research. About 90% of Palin's speech at the RNC was comprised of OUTRIGHT BALDFACED LIES!!! She didn't even prepare her own speech and rather than discussing how she and McSame would govern...she chose to make personal attacks that weren't even based in anything even remotely factual.
Woo Hoo! Yayyyyyyyyy Mary! You backed a winner there!! By the way, Sarah Palin ain't no Hillary Clinton. LOL

Brian Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:45 AM EST
Really!? We’re going to argue about the use of a song as background music? Really!? 6.1% unemployment,
soldiers oversees, and you goofballs are worried about this? Please. No average voter cares about the songs folks. I think it's fine for them to use whatever song they want. If you don't like it, just like the artist...don't listen to it, or in this case...don't vote for it. It certainly seems that liberals are becoming exactly what they decry...myopic in views and exclusive in action.

The RNC must be stupid Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:42 AM EST
Good grief...did they bother listening to the song before playing it?? I remember when Reagan used "Born in the USA" and patriotic Republicans shouted the chorus and danced and clapped. Apparently no one ever bothered to actually listen to the song.
Note to RNC: PLEASE keep playing this song. It only makes you look even MORE ridiculous.

actingup Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:42 AM EST
Good for Nancy and Ann Wilson!!

Donald Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:41 AM EST
Suzanne: I don't know what you're talking about when you say the republicans "trash the person they don't agree with". This is an inherent "democratic" tactic. Why are you sooo persistently defending a rock band? Are you a patriotic American or not? No one's rights were stepped on. Heart stated they don't want to be tied to the RNC. Let it be so. But the song is a good fit. Sorry.

Tom Brazelton Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:41 AM EST
Didn't McCain get tagged a few weeks ago when Van Halen complained that he didn't seek permission to use "Right Now?" Sounds like a typical "we do what we want, don't get in our way" Republican.

rockguy Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:39 AM EST
Some of the negative comments I've read about Heart, show just how out-of-touch and ignorant some of the Republican party truly is. I saw the irony of this use of song as well, the lines of this song below sum up the Republican party very well IMO!
"If the real thing don't do the trick, you better make up something quick"
LOL They are a desperate party looking to reel in anyone just to do "more of the same" damage that has been done to the middle class over the last 8 years.
As for the comments regarding their music/talent, Barracuda still gets major airplay on the classic rock airwaves. They are not has-beens and are an active touring band. Ann Wilson has one of the best voices in rock (including live performances to this day).
I think they have every right to not be used as poster children for a party and ideals they don't support.
I would have done the same thing....and it is just typical Republican arrogance to ignore their request and use the the song anyway.

SHUT UP & PLAY Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:38 AM EST
I nominate the Wilson sisters to be in the next "Real Women of Genius" commercial. I assume that Ann and Nancy have forgotten about how the Dixie Chicks fans joined together to ceremoniously burn or crush their CDs after they shot off the political big mouths.
I am afraid that they have just condemned their band to the "casino bar tour". At least tickets to their concerts will be cheaper!

Dooley Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:38 AM EST
Ann and Nancy Wilson sound like whining crybabies, just like Eddie and Alex Van Halen, who objected to the McCain/Palin campaign's use of the Van Halen song "Right Now." The only one who looks good in all of this is Sammy Hagar, who did the vocals and co-wrote "Right Now." He gave his approval, and said the Obama campaign was welcome to use it, too. I won't be going to any more Heart or Van Halen shows (unless Sammy's part of it), that's for damn sure.

Agree with the Wilson Sisters Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:38 AM EST
Here's a solution and I hope the Wilson sisters are listening:
Give a free concert/voter registration drive for Obama. Not only would it stop the use of your work...but it would be absolutely HILARIOUS.

the truth about sarah palin Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:38 AM EST
can be read here: http://news.yahoo.com/s/ap/20080904/ap_on_el_pr/cvn_fact_check

70s Hear fan Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:34 AM EST
Get real, America. The reason Ann & Nancy Wilson are furious is that the McCain campaign did not ASK and PAY (ka-ching!) for using the song "Barracuda". Interestingly enough, the Wilson sisters are high on their horses
Exclusive: Heart's Nancy Wilson responds to McCain campaign's use of 'B...ention | Current Affairs, Music, Music Biz | Hollywood Insider | EW.com

explaining the song was originally written as a 'scathing rant against the soulless corporate music business.' Meanwhile, permission and payment were granted for using the song in a 2008 Honda TV commercial! What hypocrisy. I guess promoting a Japanese product is worthy of their precious song and the election process we value as Americans is not.

SHUT UP & PLAY Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:33 AM EST
I nominate the Wilson sisters to be in the next "Real Women of Genius" commercial. I assume that Ann and Nancy have forgotten about how the Dixie Chicks fans joined together to ceremoniously burn or crush their CDs after they shot off the political big mouths. I am afraid that they have just condemned their band to the "casino bar tour". At least tickets to their concerts will be cheaper!

Donald Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:32 AM EST
Indigo: I liked the song "Barracuda". Not Heart. I respect my fellow conservative republicans much more than "Heart". I highly doubt 'you" would know any facts about Palin that would differ with anything already publicized. Obama has "no" record. An "awful" record among the corrupt is better than Obama's "no" record. You're just making things up. Where are your sources?

Hypocrisy Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:30 AM EST
Can't help but notice that there sure are a lot of right wing apologists visiting this magazine site dedicated to the Hollywood entertainment scene. After all, isn't Hollywood the bane of all that is decent, good and Christian?? But, alas, I'm not surprised at the hypocrisy given that the Republican right wing is built upon deception, lies and pandering to our worst fears and instincts. Heart has every right to not want to be associated with their ilk.

neice176 Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:30 AM EST
This is a stupid argument. IF you click on the link then you see the dems did the same thing to Brooks and Dunn and they're not screaming foul and they're song was REALLY linked to the Republican's for years and was performed by them at events then Barrack uses it, without permission. Gimme a break, who cares about a song. Dem or Rep this is a stupid thing to argue about.

James Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:29 AM EST
LOL - MOG - are they REALLY calling her "Saracuda"? HAHAHAHAHAHAHA! That in itself would make me vote for ANYONE else besides her. Give me a break. She's a loud-mothed "hockey mom" who's being pushy - what's so ground breaking about that? Maybe for the Republican party it's earth shattering but in the real world she's just being a woman - period. Real women stand up for themselves all the time - they speak their mind, demand respect and push back when needed. Why is this all of a sudden a shock to the Republican's? Welcome to 2008! If this were happening back in the 50's I could see how they could consider her to be some sort of ground breaking politician, but she's not. There have been many women before her and (hopefully) many after.

Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:28 AM EST
ASCAP does not mean that the RNC has any kind of blanket permission to use any songs they want to. ASCAP provides for certain types of broadcast and use and have rigid guidelines for what can be used, and how it can be used. Heart have every right to demand that a song of their's not be used to support something they do not also support. For those who keeps saying they wish Heart and musicians in general would keep their politics to themselves, I would say that Heart had made no mention of politics in any way until the republicans illegally started using one of their songs to bolster a campaign they do not support. No musician should have to hear their work being used to support something they are against. If you think Charlie Daniels or ted nugent wouldn't have done exactly the same thing had the Dems used one of his songs, you're living in a fantasy world. Thankfully, the Dems have more taste than that

Suzie Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:27 AM EST
Well - I wonder if Ann and Nancy Wilson checked each time someone purchased their music - to make sure they were Democrats and not Republicans. And to think Dreamboat Annie held a special place in my heart as the first album I ever purchased as a child (from my brother for $1.00). Very, very disappointing.

SuzanneF Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:27 AM EST
people died for our freedom of speech...the republican convention is about war heroes who protected this country and it's freedoms...YET, when republicans hear something they don't agree with, they trash the person they don't agree with and threaten to end their careers and boycott them so they can REALLY REALLY hurt the people who were merely expressing their opposing opinion. maybe it's that "screw you, I can do whatever I want" mentality of the republicans that should be more offensive and shocking...Wilson respectfully asked that they not use her band's music and instead of respecting her wishes, she was essentially told to go F*CK themselves...nice...I'm sure there are millions of other tunes out there they could have used but they just HAD to have that song, screw the artist...sounds like a spoiled brat taking what they're not supposed to have just because they have that sense of entitlement.
Sorry, but something tells me that Heart performing live on the "American Idol" finale and having Fergie cover "Barracuda" and release it as a single will do more for Heart than Sarah Palin or the Republican party could ever do. Yes, they had the right to use the song, but as an artist I can see how the Wilson sisters could prefer they not - they know what the intention of the song truly is and they also know what the intentions of the Republican party and Palin in particular are. If they don't want their song tied to them they have the right in America to say it. But of course the Republicans will start a lynch mob - just ask the Dixie Chicks how freedom of speech works in this country.

Wow, the ignorance displayed in a lot of these comments is unbelievable (and unbelievably discouraging). It's utterly irrelevant if Heart is popular now or not, and how exactly is Ms. Wilson pushing liberal opinions on anyone else? She is protesting against the fact that she is the creator of an artistic piece (in this case, a song), and that the piece was used without the proper permission being granted, and in a way that the creator does not agree with. There's nothing wrong with that, and if you've ever created anything yourself, you'd understand not wanting your creation bastardized by someone else. Why not complain about McCain's campaign not following simple rules?

It's their material and if they don't want to be associated with the Republican Party that is their decision. It's obvious they don't care about the money just like it's obvious the RNC directors didn't care about anyone else's wishes. It's sad that this all came down to the fact they probably just couldn't think of a different song. It's also sad that some people automatically want the Wilsons to give in even though their ideology differs from the Reps. On the other hand, maybe this is all for the press anyway. Had they just let it happen, NOBODY would be talking about them. Just like nobody would be talking about McCain if he hadn't picked Palin.

To the phat and psychopathic women who used to be "Heart" - Seems to me, a casual, non-aligned observer, that Nobody "owns" patriotism. You're either a patriot, or you're not. You either support the USA, or you support the rights of terrorists. It's that simple. I'm sorry, I didn't notice a "quippy, condescending, snarky personality" when Sara spoke. Is Obama the only one allowed to go on the attack? I would have no problem with Sara becoming president. Our enemies would much rather see an "organizer" representing us, rather than a women with experience attacking corruption. Hearts "rights" were not violated. Apparently, according to current poles, 45% of Americans would love to be tied to something like the RNC.

This is a line by line response:

Donald... Suzanne... Suzanne... This is a line by line response: No. Heart is not "over". Their music is even featured on a commercial advertising the new Honda van. I humbly "suggest" instructing your kids to be careful with what type of music they choose to love. What about what Heart believes in? Do you know what Heart believes in? According to Heart, the song was a protest "against the soulless, corporate nature of the music business, particularly for women." As a possible vice-president, Sara Palin would be a gleaming example of women shattering the glass ceiling. She believes in the rights of women. Especially those with special needs. She also attacks corporate corruption. Isn't this what the song was about? The "soulless, corporate nature of the music business"? Continued above...

Sarah Palin is under investigation for ethics violations in Alaska. She cut spending for special needs children in
Alaska but now says she's a voice for parents of children with special needs (because her youngest has Down Syndrome). She's a conservative who doesn't believe in pre-marital sex, yet has no problem that her 17 year old unmarried daughter is pregnant. She refuses to believe that polar bears are endangered and supports drilling in the Arctic reserve. I say her using an artist's song without permission is just following a pattern of behavior that Americans should start getting used to: contradictory, hypocritical and wrongheaded. America, think twice before you vote for McCain. This is the person who would step in for him. Is she really the person you want leading your country?

laylagalise Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:10 AM EST
Wow. It's her song she has the right to not want it used to support a candidate whose views don't match her own. Who you support shouldn't factor into the equation. Imagine if someone took your picture and then used it in a political ad for the candidate you don't support. Wouldn't you do everything you could to make sure your image was removed (I'm guessing so since most seem to have VERY strong political views)? That's all she's doing.

Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:07 AM EST
She has every right to voice her opinion, perhaps more. For better or for worse, her song is now linked to the Republican party...as was Paris Hilton and we all saw what she had to say about that.

as americans? Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:07 AM EST
HEART IS FROM CANADA, WHAT IS SHE TALKING ABOOT?!

Dana Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:07 AM EST
"Also, it may generate some business for them. But do they think that way? No, because obviously they are not business savvy, they are only trying to generate more mudd for McCain" -- Perhaps they put their personal values before greed.

Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:06 AM EST
Heart ought to be honored that their music is getting CURRENT air time. They are moth balled on the oldies station and in revival concerts. Too bad they didn't see the wonderful opportunity that the convention gave them!

Informed Voter Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:06 AM EST
As a musician I understand EXACTLY why they did not want their music used for this purpose. When you put your creativity and effort into something you should have the ultimate word for when and how it is used. Essentially this band/musician is standing up for their rights. Something that Republicans don't like... Republicans like to impose will, not respect it.
And, how this pertains to Sarah Palin and her views and how she represents all of womanhood... So you are saying that all women are corrupt, failed executives that are plagued by personal and professional scandal? So you are saying all women are do as I say, and not as I do? You right wing idiots are sheep.. and if you actually elect McCain and Palin as our executive branch, you get EXACTLY what you deserve.

Roger Wilco Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:05 AM EST
LT, that's a great take on theft, that it will help their business and, really, isn't business all that matters?

Reasonable Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:04 AM EST
Heart has always been political. Ann Wilson recently released Hope & Glory-- a totally political album with songs written over 30 years ago. Artist have always used their medium to express their opinions and there will always be an Artist for you to agree with. Toby Keith for instance did his song red, white, and blue and everyone thought he was a gun-toting republican-- republicans love that song... Hmmpf--he's a democrat an anti-war democrat.

A, not THE, Jerk Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 10:00 AM EST
It's amazing how many people claim patriotism and then spit on the constitution. Just use "Counting Bodies Like Sheep" for your theme song McCane.

LT Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:59 AM EST
You know what? They should be thankful that their music was played, because actually I had forgotten all about that band. I am considered a boomer baby also, so I should have thought about them occasionally thru the years, but didn't.
Also, it may generate some business for them.
But do they think that way? No, because obviously they are not business savvy, they are only trying to generate more mudd for McCain, but guess what?
I really think McCain/Palin are a great team and will win.
Heart should look at the positive and not the negative, but again it seems that most liberals in this day and age focus on the negative, and not the positive!
James Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:55 AM EST
Apparently Nancy didn't learn any lessons from the Dixie Chicks. I won't be going to any more Heart concerts or buying their music. Just voicing my opinion with my dollars.

IndigoChild7 Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:51 AM EST
Honestly, I have no idea how people could have been a fan of Heart and be a Republican... let alone want to vote for Palin. Have you guys done your fact-checking before opening your mouths? I bet not. You just heard what the Republicans are force-feeding you and took it at face-value. I respect Heart 10 times more than I did before, and they've gained more fans than they've lost over this, believe me. By the way - Palin stands for everything that, as a woman, you should be ashamed to even support her. Honestly. Perhaps you all should check your facts on her - the REAL facts. People in the town she used to govern have even come out and stated how horrible she was when she was in charge. Left a town, that was debt-free to begin with, in 22 million dollars worth of debt. She has an AWFUL record. If you all want to hurt America, go ahead. But just keep in mind that the Democrats will surely make you remember who you voted for when she screws things up.

bob Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:49 AM EST
Uh, It's Nancy Wilson, not Nancy "Heart", and by the way Sharon, thanks for clearly demonstrating that there are still loyal Bush followers out there who would like to see freedom of speech thrown out the window.

paul94611 Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:48 AM EST
The republicans respect for personal property rights is in full view. The republicans hate the fact that someone other than then actually owns property and has the strength to so "NO" to them and their abuse of an individuals personal property. Just one more example of how the republicans are the do as I say, not as I do party.

Florida Voter Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:45 AM EST
Grow up Heart, like you would influence anyone to vote for Obama. You and your left wing nut jobs do nothing to help this country, just divide us. I will no longer listen to Heart. I believe Heart is finished now. BTW, Palin is more of a women than you both will ever be. She DOES represent American Women, unlike your warped sense that women are all liberal huggers like you two are.

Dave Stephenson Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:44 AM EST
Besides, lighten up, folks. I disagree with 90% of what Ted Nugent says, but I love him anyway! I've been a fan since I was 10 years old, and still go see him when he plays. I wish he would talk less and play more, but hey that's Uncle Ted! If you're a Heart fan, and are mad at the Wilson's, that's fine, but don't deprive yourself of their music. "Mistral Wind" is good enough for you to overlook these things, right?

Tom T Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:42 AM EST
Nancy Wilson and Heart have lost me as a fan. I'm sick and tired of these far left liberal singers and actors running their mouths! Nancy Wilson is a has been, yet she runs her mouth as if she were relevant in today's music business. She's one of these people that hates America, thinks America is the root of all evil. Nancy, why don't you just pack your bags and move to Iraq or Iran, maybe then you would find out what a truly great country the USA is. OH! and you can take your song with you!

Sharon Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:41 AM EST
Nancy Heart should get a life. She sucked in the 70's and she sucks worse now. How can we put a cease and desist on her. What a loser she is. You are a hasbeen Nancy is this the only way you can get attention because the rest of you sucks.

kim Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:41 AM EST
I will no longer listen to Heart! I am sick of the Hollywood liberals pushing thier views on others! They are being stupid!

Kelli Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:39 AM EST
I listened to Heart while I was growing up in the 80's and I always liked the music but as an adult I am not influenced by singers and I don't care to hear about their self rightous views, political or other wise. Entertainment is not real life. When I heard the song I didn't think twice about Nancy and Ann...I was to busy cheering for McCain.

Mike Morton Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:35 AM EST
Continued.. They are thoughtful people and I count them my friends. I am an Independent, not because I am undecided, but because I vote for the right person for the job - NOT THE PARTY. I like McCain/Palin for what I have seen. If Obama had shown me the substance I was looking for in his character, I would have voted for him. Make you decision - not on what Nancy Wilson said, or Bill O'Reily, but DO THE REAL RESEARCH yourself and...
make you educated decision. I am just too sick of artist and actors giving me their opinions. Shut up and act, shut up and sing - you have the right to your opinion in this country - just don't think that I care about it and use it to get your name on TV again.

MRL Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:32 AM EST
That's it. It's over. I will no longer buy another CD,DVD or attend concerts that Heart or any of the band members put out in the future. This is a typical knee jerk liberal response from a rock star and I'm sick and tired of it. I've listened and supported Heart since 1985. I will no longer do so. Ann & Nancy Wilson wants to make a political statement, I will too. This also proves that the feminist movement has a double standard as well. People like Ann and Nancy have fought and will for the woman's plight but only if those women match "their values". Absurd. Why don't you just go ahead and serve the former war hero, like their father once was, with a great big lawsuit? Go ahead. Why stop now? Is about the F-in music Nancy? Done.

Kevin Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:32 AM EST
I can't believe people actually like Sarah Palin. Her sarcastic, demeaning attitude during her speech offended me to my core...I can't even look at her. She's filth.

Phil Carter Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:32 AM EST
I have been a Heart fan since the late 70's when I went to a concert in Toronto but I am sick and tired of entertainers who think their political opinions are something we should pay attention to. This could be a big plus for their dead careers if they had half a brain. Also I question whether they have a legal right to demand that the Reps cease and desist!!

Garry Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:31 AM EST
Hey Abdul, you dunce-- Nancy isn't the "corpulent" one--and she and her sister Ann are doing quite well with their career, thank you. What exactly is the species of bug that seems inserted in your butt? And any woman WITH a brain would find Sarah Palin's views utterly repulsive.

v-la Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:31 AM EST
It is a very desperate on the Wilson sisters to rise from their dormant state. I like the song and I like Palin.

Dave Stephenson Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:31 AM EST
Mike, your point about the song being "overheard" might be the case. The blanket license, however, is only for live performances (like a cover band in a bar, for example) or broadcast of the music only (such as playing satellite radio as background music in the supermarket). If the video feeds had all gone black after the speech, I wouldn't have even brought it up, but the RNC knew it was being broadcast with a picture. I'm not an entertainment lawyer, but have worked with a national touring tribute act that shot a concert special for PBS a few years ago, but only ran locally where it was shot, and sync rights are why it stalled and was never picked up by the network. The blanket license covered the bands touring for 20+ years, but not the television broadcast. But again, your "overheard" situation might cover this. Personally, I just laughed when I heard the song playing, and thought that just like "Born in the USA", no one bothered to check the lyric sheet.

Mike Morton Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:30 AM EST
I want to make it clear. I am not condemning Heart for their views. I am upset at the way they are taking to the public. The GOP was well within their rights to use the song (see earlier post) - But, they brought the song out on Wednesday night - Heart got upset about it and contacted someone on Wednesday night or Thursday morning. Who knows who they contacted and whether the message arrived at the proper place on time, but they are making a huge thing of it and making like the GOP used it blatantly. Now, if they continue to use it next week, maybe she has a gripe. But, she is using a divisive manor to try and make people think that something was done against them. It just isn't that way. I am so tired of the far left loons (notice I didn't say Democrats) pushing their negative agenda. The Democrats that I know are very well read and spoken. They make their decisions based on their own heart (no pun intended) and not the far left garbage factory that we see in the media.

Vlad Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:30 AM EST
Rips Biden from afar but wont face the press. Some experienced maverick.
RetiredGrunt Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:25 AM EST
Who cares what these dumbass artist think! I like the song, I like Sarah Palin. Why do these dumbass artist want to divide their paying public? I have the CD, and when I see Sarah up on the podium ripping Biden up like a step child I will be playing BARACUDA!
hehehehehehehehe

Abdul Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:22 AM EST
If this corpulent has - been had half a brain in her head, she would realize this is the best thing that ever happened to her to revive her moribund career.

Donald Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:21 AM EST
I'm 46 and always "loved" the song Barracuda. I will now turn it off whenever I hear it because we didn't have "permission". Heart does NOT represent the women of our country, only those in the music business. They're just jealous because Sara Palin is a true barracuda and will bite the head off of corruption. This is NOT their cause and does NOT represent the views and opinions of Heart.

Suzannef Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:21 AM EST
I don't know what you people are talking about, Heart isn't over and they're probably rolling in the dough since "Barracuda" was used on Guitar Hero video game. My kids have a new found love for classic rock. Regarding the trashing of Heart...you people who are attacking them for standing up for what they believe are the same people who claim that you own patriotism...if you were truly patriotic, you would support their freedom to voice their opinion, even if you disagree. I'm glad they said what they think of Sarah...you people all seem to be more impressed by her quip(s), condescending, snarky personality and her recipe for moose stew than you are with her credentials. I think we should all remember that this woman could possibly be the leader of the free world at some point...let's put this into perspective, respect Heart's right to have their music represented the way THEY want it represented...if I was Heart, I'd feel the same way, who wants to be tied to something like the RNC?

Dennis Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:16 AM EST
candyman: awesome point. there's no way to say it any better. I've had enough of these artists offending the people who pay for their mansions. Newsflash: Republicans like music too.

Julia Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:16 AM EST
As an artist Nancy Wilson has a right to express her personal political views in regards to the use of her music. Whether she legally has any backing to defend that isn't the point. If she thinks Sarah Palin and the Republican Party disgrace what she stands for - then she has a right to say so! This is America right?! Rock on Nancy!!!

future_primate Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:15 AM EST
This discussion has turned really dumb on behalf of the Palin supporters. BMI, ASCAP and SESAC are licenses for royalties for fair use and do not automatically grant permission for use of material. Artists can stop use. They CAN sue. And they CAN win. Boycott Heart all you want to. Start now. They are a well paid working band with a 30 year history. A controversy over this is worth more than the royalty check. News flash. The Dixie Chicks boycotted tour grossed $64 MILLION dollars. They gained two internet fans for every slow bus, mouth breathing right winger they lost.

Reasonable Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:14 AM EST
Heart should have been a snarky as Mrs. Palin and stated at least this time the Republicans are being honest: You lying so low in the weeds
I bet you gonna ambush me
You'd have me down down down down on my knees
Now would't you, barracuda?

candyman Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:13 AM EST
As a republican, I have loved music from Heart for over 20 years. It is a sad day when musicians do this because they forget that when a listener buy music, we don't say - OK - they're democrats - don't buy their music.

Mike Morton Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:13 AM EST
After just a few minutes of research I located the document I was looking for: "Blanket license" is a license which allows the music user to perform any or all of over 8.5 million songs in the ASCAP repertoire as much or as little as they like. Licensees pay an annual fee for the license. The blanket license saves music users the paperwork, trouble and expense of finding and negotiating licenses with all of the copyright owners of the works that might be used during a year and helps prevent the user from even inadvertently infringing on the copyrights of ASCAP's members and the many foreign writers whose music is licensed by ASCAP in the U.S.
That is what the GOP uses and it means that they are in COMPLETE COMPLIANCE with the law - Even
Copyright law Jennifer Z. Imagine that, a Dem choosing to jump on the GOP for doing it right!

Anitamargarita Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:12 AM EST
You people are all nuts. Your ridiculous bickering is why so many Americans say "f--- all" and don't bother voting.

frank Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:12 AM EST
musicians, actors, artists- i am completely convinced they are so far out of touch with the average american that they might as well be from another planet. they have become irrelevant to me. any involvement on their part supporting a political party by utilizing their celebrity standing makes me sick to my stomach...

Bob Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:05 AM EST
Jennifer Z- intelligent comment there.
I love all the women who say Palin "doesn't speak for them." As if Republicans aren't really women. I'm sure you realize there are tens of MILLIONS of women in the U.S. who are Republicans. Not everyone agrees with you. If you were smart, you would realize abortion has nothing to do with women's rights. Abortion is a political issue that revolves around money and getting votes from gullible women.

Jennifer Z Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:03 AM EST
Just another example of Republicans disregarding the law, as usual. This time, it's copyright law.

Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:01 AM EST
Why Not? Palin's nickname is the Barracuda............

Jennifer Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 08:56 AM EST
Obama is an empty suit, and hopefully we will see the last of him November 4. I am astounded how many people in America are fooled by him and his blowhard sidekick, Biden.
Heart signed their songs over to ASCAP - they get NO say in who licenses them, all they get is royalty checks. If they wanted to retain control of their songs, they should not have sold the rights to ASCAP! DUH!

Mike Morton Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 08:56 AM EST
Dave, good point, but it was not used for a TV broadcast. The TV coverage was not the sole purpose for the song's play. If it had been, they would have had to pay sync, but because it was "overheard" it is not part of the sync situation. Legally, the venue just has to play the ASCAP fees for public airing.

Snsetblaze Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 08:55 AM EST
I entirely agree with Heart. I'm not defending what the Republicans did with the song but I do wonder if they paid a licensing fee for the song - which I would think doesn't directly involve contacting the artist but rather goes through a music publishing company or something like that. If the party did not pay this fee, they should be required to, just like a restaurant or store or what is played on the speakers before a concert. A national political party convention is not the same thing as the local charity putting on a boombox at a public event.
But I also think that before a party steals an artist's song, they should ask the artist directly for permission.

Bob Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 08:55 AM EST
Another great example of what kind of people Democrats are. Heart and Jackson Browne saying don't use my song... wah wah. Oprah won't put Sarah Palin on her show, etc. These people are such scum. What are they so afraid of? Don't you Dems ever get it? Normal people vote Republican, no matter how much you try to suppress their opinions.

JP Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 08:54 AM EST
I can't believe so many Republicans read EW.com! I thought they surfed FoxNews.com all day whilst denying US citizens their human rights and telling anyone who will listen that they you have to be a Republican to be a Christian!
Elephants go home! Only hot pieces of A-- allowed!

Mike Morton Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 08:53 AM EST
The comment below about ASCAP is ABSOLUTELY RIGHT. If they belong to ASCAP, then they have already given their consent to use their music but ANYONE who pays the licensing fees. The GOP was well within their legal right to use the song. Nuff said on that. GO McCain/Palin!

al Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 08:49 AM EST
HEY NANCY JUST BE GLAD YOUR OUTDATED MUSIC IS BEING PLAYED SOMEWHERE

Dave Stephenson Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 08:47 AM EST
It's not just a question of getting performance rights through ASCAP. Since it was used for a television broadcast, there is something called "sync rights" involved when the sound is put to a visual medium. The owner of the song

has more say in the matter when sync rights are involved.

LisaMama Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 08:46 AM EST
Heart has the right to voice an opinion about the use of their song. If the Republicans did pay for it, then, yes, they can play it. But Heart doesn't have to like it. I wouldn't like it either. Women for Obama need to unite -- he's the only one talking about equal pay for equal work, protecting women's rights, and improving our kids' education and healthcare.

John Dunn Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 08:43 AM EST
Palin's use of this song reminded me of how much I liked it. I was considering tracking down a copy of the CD and adding it to my Ipod. Heart's response has changed all that. This song hasn't gotten much airplay in what? 10 years? 20? Well, they're (former) rockstars, not geniuses. They should take a lesson from Chrissie Hynde and the Pretenders, who have their song "My City was Gone" played daily by Rush Limbaugh for about 20 years now. Free advertisement is the best. What exactly has Heart done lately that compares to Barracuda? Conservatives like Rock & Roll, too. And conservatives have more extra cash to spend on frivolous things like CDs.

Terri Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 08:38 AM EST
They are the only concert I've ever walked out on in Memphis, TN. That song reminded me why I bought a ticket. But they were the worst band I've ever seen in person. Sure don't have any use for you now. Last time I checked we were a free country, but nuts are working hard to change that everyday!!

Dawgtroop Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 08:37 AM EST
Screw Heart. Who the hell do they think ran the music business in the 70s, Republicans? Please. These twits deserve the boycott they will get.

Kelly Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 08:30 AM EST
Leave it to the republicans to completely disregard requests made by women. This action proves what they REALLY think of us.
ROCK ON ANN & NANCY, WE'VE GOT YOUR BACK!

Mario Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 08:30 AM EST
It's interesting to read so many supportive comments from women in favor of McCain/Palin considering a vote for these two people would be a loss in women's rights, if they are able to overturn roe vs wade.

future_primitive Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 09:26 AM EST
People blasting Heart for this, please grow up. Pop music has become ever more closely associated with candidates since the Kennedy-Sinatra hookup in 1960. And, notably Al Gore with "Call me Al" and Clinton with "Don't Stop Believing." If the Wilsons don't want their music associated with GOP agitprop, it's their call totally. The knee jerk Heart boycott needs to get wise.
Palin's record as a mayor and governor reveal two salient facts.
One. She is a ruthless, self serving "barracuda" who will not hesitate to marginalize, drive out, and punish all who oppose her politically, even to the point of abusing her powers of office.
Two. She is an old school, hard line, social conservative, who holds positions that a large portion of the US population would consider unreasonable or even fringe right wing. This is not "Ronald Reagan in heels." This is Dick Cheney in a dress.

Greg Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 08:25 AM EST
I dont care what any musician thinks about politics... none of them. If they could learn to keep their big mouths shut things would be better for them. I lump Heart into the Dixie Chicks pile of has been's. I lumped up listening to Heart and loved their music. But THEY made the decision to bust on Sarah Palin, not me... so I made the decision not to listen to or buy their CD's. It is funny how Heart's website has a message board that removes any negative remark about them from their site in about 3 or 4 minutes. Can't take the heat ladies? Why not let Ann and Nancy know how people really feel about them now? Why not get out of the glass house they have been living in.

Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 08:19 AM EST
What everyone should keep in mind is the possibility that Sarah Palin doesn't even believe everything that was in her own speech. McCain campaign manager Rick Davis said last week that they had to rewrite the VP's nomination speech because it was too masculine sounding. They wrote the speech before the nominee was even chosen. Politics is a machine that is much bigger than one person, and Palin said what the Republican party told her to say. I'm not condoning what she said because I don't agree with it, but you have to realize that maybe she doesn't agree with it all either. That's the price you pay when you decide to run for public office. I'm more interested in interviews than speeches, because interviews are unscripted. THAT is when the true candidates come out. I'd like to see how she answers the hard questions when that teleprompter isn't scrolling in front of her face.
Heart's song "Barracuda" is listed in the ASCAP repertoire, so as long as the RNC purchased a broadcast license through ASCAP they would have all the permission needed, AFAIK. The Wilson sisters evidently joined ASCAP, allow them to license their broadcast rights, and I'll bet they cash their royalty checks.

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@Lost-in-Seattle: It is not Nancy Wilson's job to mend America by letting anyone who wants to use her music. And while I don't particularly like that the media does stuff like talk about people's kids she's not being treated any differently than any other famous person.

Well that's the point Kirwan, they have to PAY for it. If a small coffee shop has to buy the rights to play music for their customers certainly an event as large as this would need permission as well.

This seems to happen every presidential election. It just goes to show that the candidates feel like the law doesn't apply to them. Penalties for copyright infringement are for us little people.

I wish the RIAA would go after them but they won't because they need politicians to pass laws increasing the penalties against the rest of us.

To all the women who are supporting Sarah Palin, especially those who are "ex"-Hillary supporters... don't you realize that this woman would like to see Roe vs. Wade overturned and, she thinks it's ok for people to have assault weapons? and, that she attends an-antisemite church? and, that she cut funding for special needs children in alaska 62%? jesus, wake up... a snide, mean, sarcastic reading of a teleprompter shouldn't make you abandon your values in favor of a political neophyte with $1000 glasses....

I want listen to your damn songs anymore. Nancy your gay fat ass.

I've been a lifelong Heart fan from Seattle and I've lost some respect from them after this. If the song is about the soulless corporate nature of music, especially for women, you would think that the Wilson sisters would feel some solidarity with Mrs. Palin. This women has been viciously attacked by the corporate media the past week, not only for her political views, but also for the choices she's made as a woman. Also, is this an example of what we can expect from the new call from the left? The desire to mend bridges and to once again come together as Americans? Sending out cease and desist letters does nothing to build that unity. And judging from Nancy Wilson's comments, she wants nothing to do with unity anyway. I had always had immense respect for the Heart sisters. They have been staples of the music community here in the Pacific Northwest. I had assumed that they must be very open minded since they've worked with so many bands. But apparently I was wrong.

Go Wilson sisters, it's your music!!

Thank god for the Wilsons! I've loved them and their music since I was a kid. Sarah Palin's extreme conservatism scares the crap out of me, as I'm sure it does the Wilson sisters. Go Nancy and Ann!

Good for Heart, the mockery of our values by the Republicans is shameful

Another vote of support for Heart. I was shocked when I heard that song being played.

Good for heart, and to those of you who wont buy their song on itunes now, I think they'll be ok I'm sure they have done well for themselves. Republicans are the worst

Does this mean after years of listening to rock music, I can only play music after I get the artists to approve to my political and life agenda.

How smug, they were just playing the tune over the sound system for the event. I go to business conventions and sports events all the time and they do the same, they pay for it. It's not like Heart showed up and sang, or they played it everytime Gov Palin showed up. I have never thought that cool and the gang supported my football team or my opponents because I hear their music at the stadium.

It is offensive to women, feminism, that in their version of feminism women aren't allowed choice to be whatever they want. So thank you Ms. Wilson, you won't have to worry about this women buying your music, any of it.

Marc Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 07:36 AM EST
Im gonna make sure to make a stop to buy all Heart album on my way back from work tonight! Those women are smart; not like that Palin chick

Jay Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 07:31 AM EST
Go, Heart! If I didn't think the Wilson sisters rocked before, I sure do now.

Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 07:30 AM EST
Good for Heart for speaking up! John Mellencamp did the same thing when the Bush camp tried to use his music. I hope Earth Wind & Fire tell them off for using "September" too.

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"Come, come, my conservative friend, wipe the dew off your spectacles, and see that the world is moving." - Elizabeth Cady Stanton

Alysse Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 07:23 AM EST
I was buying Hearts song, too but forget it now. I didn't see what the roar was. I didn't think that unless the band shows up toe play it itself, no on sees it as an endorsement. We're not that silly. GOP used it as background music at the end, not heralding her as Palin walked on stage. What really peeves me is liberal women being irritated at what they perceive as a being lumped in with a person they don't believe in. When liberal women have been dumping all women in the same pot for years. And liberal women talk to women who don't line up with their agenda ignorant, subservient to men and unable to do anything but stay at home with their kids (like that is bad). As an educated, working designer, mother of four, with a strong marriage. I should not be left out of the female gene pool because I believe in pro-choice, that's correct the ability for a woman to choose to be whatever, whomever she wants. That is the essence of feminism.

27mjade Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 07:20 AM EST
Nancy Wilson has every right to ask that her music not be used. As an artist, she may be more concerned with the integrity of her art than money or notoriety. Maybe that is hard for some of you to understand. Legally, it may be a non-issue, but she has just as much right to express her feelings about this as Palin has to make empty, sarcastic (and apparently frighteningly effective on many of you) comments about her opponents.

It's a similar situation to Bruce Springsteen being upset over the use of "Born in the USA" by Reagan. Ironically, Reagan's team totally misread the meaning of that song too.

queen of disrepair Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 07:19 AM EST
Frankly, I loathe the song "Barracuda" but I like Heart. The Wilsons are real musicians who are committed to their passion. Disrespecting their wishes (and violating a reasonable request with disdain) is just bad form. Regardless of how you feel about either party, if someone was using your lawnmower without permission AND you asked them to stop it AND they didn't, you'd have every right to seek legal intervention. Why should any public official feel above the law or above personal property protection?

Mike Morton Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 07:14 AM EST
Wow! I used to have respect for the Wilsons. Now I realize that they are just another incarnation of the "Ditzy Twits" - I was the same as the writer above who would have made the purchase of a forgotten Heart album today. Didn't realize they were still around as we haven't heard anything from them in quite some time. Now, I guess I will place my money elsewhere. Perhaps a donation to the GOP. Another vote for McCain/Palin.

Michael Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 07:08 AM EST
Okay flip-it to the opposite party: If it were your song, & you held the rights AND personally your political leanings did not fall to the right...how would you feel if Barack had taken a song of yours and taken it without permission? If McCain can steamroll over a corporation (Heart's published music/rights)...he will do what he pleases with anything he wants. Another 4 yrs of the Republicans? Think hard. Think about your personal situation or your friend/family, jobs/health care. Are you happy/secure with what the last 8 yrs have brought?
Truly,
A Canadian who loves Americans and their pride.

L Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 07:07 AM EST
Oh, Amanda, she's still VERY MUCH a relevant rock star. You've obviously never seen them in concert. You shouldn't talk about people you know NOTHING about. And it's very shallow and simple minded to insult someone personally because she doesn't agree with your views politically.

Jillo Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 07:05 AM EST
The second I heard "Barracuda" at the convention I KNEW it was unauthorized; Ann and Nancy are pacifist and pro-choice, with open hearts and minds: certainly not GOP material! I'm glad they made a public statement and told McPalin to back off. They have another band called the "Lovemongers" – "nuff said. Rock on, ladies, you're the best!

Jay Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 07:04 AM EST
I've been a Heart fan since 1977. They must be getting bitter in their old age. Sarah is HOT!

Amanda Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 07:01 AM EST
Honestly who gives a sh!t about Nancy Wilson? She's an old washed up guitar player. Once again, a (former) rock star celebrity trying to make a political statement with her stance here. WHO CARES! ROCK ON SARAH PALIN! Former Hillary voter voting for McCain/Palin! Yeah!

Jane Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 07:00 AM EST
Um, Mary? You don't see the incredible hypocrisy in Palin bragging about her daughter's "choice" about her own baby, meanwhile pushing an agenda that would END that same choice for every woman in America? I also think it's interesting she spent most of her speech bashing Barak or stroking McCain, yet barely spoke of her own agenda or beliefs. This whole Barracuda fiasco (note that they used the song AGAIN after being asked publicly NOT to, by the artists!) is yet another example of how the GOP just doesn't get it. It would be funny if it wasn't so pathetic.

Iou Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 06:58 AM EST
Oh please Nancy Wilson - get over yourself. It's a song. There are more important things to worry about in this world.

roger Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 06:56 AM EST
Hopefully, the GOP will have Heart onstage playing that song when they win. (Like Fleetwood Mac playing Don't Stop for them Clintons). Let's rock this country!

Jen Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 06:55 AM EST
Well I "WAS" going to download this song and others from Heart this morning on iTunes. Thanks for making that decision for me Nancy Wilson NOT to be sending any $$$ your way. She hardly needs your song to make any statements anyways, she's doing that just fine on her own.

Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 06:54 AM EST
mary-cant the wilsons feel like palin doesn't represent them, even though you feel like she represents you? after all it was their song she chose to use. maybe you should write a song that she can use and then she wont have to steal music from those who dont like what she stands for, which we guess includes stealing others material for her own use.

thomas Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 06:53 AM EST
Keep jamming that tune! I'm voting for McCain.

L Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 06:53 AM EST
For those of you who are uninformed as to the likes of Heart, a lot of people know who they are. They have been releasing albums for a very long time, and are still doing so today. Ann Wilson released a solo album last year, they are currently on tour with Journey and Cheap Trick, are releasing yet another album next year, and will be touring the globe to promote that album as well. Heart doesn't "need to be happy that anyone is playing their music," because A LOT of people are playing their music. JC, the point of the article was to say that McCain and Palin didn't fairly get the rights to use the song. The rights cannot be handed over for anyone's use if the songwriters have not given that permission. Obviously, Heart DIDN'T give that permission. Mary, what Nancy was saying was that Palin's views don't represent THEM (Ann and Nancy) as American women. In fact, I know a great deal of women whose views she does not represent. Fighting with a Republican is like talking to a brick wall.

Anne Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 06:52 AM EST
Oh please. She should be happy their music is getting played to such a nationwide audience. I never hear Heart
songs on the radio anymore. Get over Nancy Wilson, PALIN ROCKS!

FredHeadBill Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 06:51 AM EST
I would have thought this would be good for Wilson. Remind’s me of relative getting rid of his Haliburton stock because of his support of Kerry. Then watched it rise from 18 to 82. These people should use their heads instead of their heart. Sarah will improve their value.

Dada Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 06:48 AM EST
This Wilson chick says she feels f___k’ed over...naw...she's only f___k’ed up!

nunnya Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 06:43 AM EST
Ugh. I've always loved Heart. I'm sad that they weren't honored to be associated with Sara. I think she's awesome.

R Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 06:26 AM EST
So Mary, YOU know what represents Ann and Nancy's views and values better than they do themselves? You are an idiot.

Rowena Cherry Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 06:22 AM EST
It's no wonder the public is confused about copyright when copyright isn't respected in the highest office of our land.
The law is clear about public performances. It's a sad day for the world when the incumbent of the Oval Office sets an example that it is OK to steal.

Rebecca Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 05:57 AM EST
Pahlesze! It's a sexy tune and it DOES describe Sarah role... Like someone said before....HEART BE GLAD ANYONE IS LISTENING TO YOUR SONG. I was going to go out and buy it but now that I know your views.... I can't.... I plan on doing what Mc Cain has always done....the right thing.

CC Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 05:36 AM EST
What's sad Mary, is that you opted to insult other female politicians on their appearances and their attitudes and little else. Someone doesn't have integrity just because you agree with their views. Someone lacks it sorely when they ask for privacy in the press regarding their daughter's CHOICE while running on a platform that plans to remove everyone else's same right to choose. She should be scrutinized and questioned about the decision if she wants to take abortion rights away from even rape victims. Hypocritical republican moron (that'd be Palin).
That choice you were talking to Lucy about... better pay a little more attention to the party and people you support before they rip it away from you.

Mary Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 04:50 AM EST
Uh... Lucy? Hey, as long as I have a choice, I will speak my mind and the truth, and not be silenced by the likes of those who are NOT fully enlightened!! I believe in a woman's right to be fully informed about the facts and make a choice she can live with the rest of her life!! I believe I have a "right" to speak my mind and convictions without being told to shut up!! Like I said, I admire integrity, truth, honesty... and applaud the likes of Sarah Palin for having the CLASS to stand for what she does believe in!! Go Sarah!! Thank GOD we still have that right!!

JC Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 04:25 AM EST
Wow it's nice to see EW actually covering SOMETHING from the RNC convention. It's not like EW spent all of last week giving free buzz anf puff pieces to the DNC convention or anything..........oh wait.....
On another note, who actually knew Barracuda had any meaning? I always thought it was a subpar song about fish. Who knew.
Frankly, these Heart ladies need to grow up. People don't care about you or your song that was written like 30 years ago. They sure as hell don't care about the meaning of the song. If someone fairly gets the rights to use a song, tough beans.

Lucy Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 04:13 AM EST
Yet another reminder of how freaking awesome the Wilson sisters are. I've always admired them, and I am so glad to see them taking a stand here!
Oh, and Mary, for those of us American women who believe in things like choice, evolution, and global warming, Sarah Palin does NOT represent our views or values. So glad you discovered the genius of Heart; now shut the hell up.

Jessica Fri, Sep 5, 2008 at 04:08 AM EST
That's a bit redic don't cha think! Palin is awesome!!
Get over it!

Heart should be happy just to have their music played...anywhere!

Well shucks!! I just spend the last hour+ listening to Heart and enjoying what I was hearing... because I WAS watching the RNC...and heard your music playing. After it was over, I went on a search for the song I heard (knowing it was Heart) and eventually found this statement. I'm floored!! I totally disagree with your statement above: "Sarah Palin's views and values in NO WAY represent us as American women." On the contrary, I believe they DO!!! I was so proud to see a fully rounded and grounded woman stand on that stage declaring truth and her heart and soul for all to see!! I didn't see an angry, hardened politician. I didn't see a frumpy, masculinized, sell out shell of a woman, but saw instead, a beautifully radiant, feminine woman who steps up to the plate, speaks her heart and mind and walks in integrity!! WOW what a concept!! She's awesome!! Go Sarah!!! Go McCain/Palin!!! You made the women of AMERICA proud tonight!

Thank God for the Wilson sisters!

Nancy Wilson, Tell it like it is!

The Wilsons should sue for royalties plus damages from the GOP -- and then donate the funds to the Obama campaign.

I "Hate" my Yellow Teeth
The Secrets Dentists don't want you to know about Teeth Whitening!

Apple® Student Discount
Get a discount on a Mac plus a free iPod touch. Hurry offer ends 9/15.

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