



## **The Weinberg-Springsteen Rule**

September 27, 2010 by Bob Tarantino

CNN reports that Max Weinberg is not going to be the band leader (or have any other role) on Conan O'Brien's new late-night show. It's a fairly unremarkable story, but it reminds me of this anecdote, told by Weinberg and contained in a *Rolling Stone* article written by David Fricke, which I've always enjoyed (and which might come in handy in contract negotiations):

About 10 years ago, a well-known actress on an NBC sitcom (Weinberg doesn't reveal her name) requested a sabbatical from the series to make a movie. NBC said no. Her agent pointed out that Weinberg was allowed to go off [from the NBC show *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*] for six months at a time to play with Springsteen. "The NBC lawyer thought for a second, then said, 'The next time Bruce Springsteen asks your client to play drums with him, she can do that.'" Weinberg grins, noting that in the NBC legal department, "it is known as the Weinberg-Springsteen Rule."

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