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Where it hurts
Next station to feel sting of FCC's indecency enforcement may be Cox Broadcasting's WOFL-AM Miami. FCC has folded indecency complaints against on-air personality Neil Rogers into review of station's license renewal application. Agency is now awaiting Cox's response to complaints, which were leveled by John Thompson, Coral Gables, Fla., attorney. Among other things, Thompson has alleged that Rogers has played "Candy Wrapper" (most recently on July 12), song heavy with sexual double entendres that made WORO-FM Indianapolis target of FCC action two weeks ago (BROADCASTING, Aug. 28).

Station's principal renewal problem is petition to deny filed by Miami branch of NAACP. Civil rights group has alleged that Rogers made statements on air during race riots in Miami in January 1989 that "would tend to exacerbate and inflame the hostilities." According to transcripts of Rogers's program on Jan. 18, Rogers made references to "young barbarians, animals, they're not human beings" and people "with a chip on one shoulder and ghetto blaster on the other."

D.C. bound
CBS affiliates board is joining move to hold meetings in Washington. Mid-September get-together of board should give members opportunity to pursue legislative agenda, chance to meet new FCC commissioners. Ranked at top of their network concerns is performance of Sajak and CBS This Morning.

Do the right thing
Bipartisan task force assigned to review House ethics plans September hearing on congressional ethics and media coverage. Print and broadcast press were asked to participate. All three television networks were invited; ABC turned invitation down, with task force still waiting to hear from CBS and NBC, according to source. Local television press has been contacted, and CNN is also expected to hear from task force, which is chaired by Vic Fazio (D-Calif.) and Lynn Martin (R-Ill.).

High on list
House Telecommunications Subcommittee, in its continuing interest in high-definition television, hopes to hold another hearing on matter this fall. This time, subcommittee wants specifically to focus on issue of capital for research and development of new technology. There is also possibility subcommittee will follow up with another hearing on European Community media plan that includes program quota aimed at limiting U.S. entry.

Getting to know you
Andrew Barrett checked in at FCC headquarters at 1919 M Street last Friday to look over office where he will serve as third Republican commissioner and to say "Hello" to officials on eighth floor who had not gotten early jump on Labor Day holiday weekend (three of four other commissioners had). Word is he will take up duties earlier than expected. His current plans are to be sworn in on Sept. 8—by federal district court judge James Zagel in Chicago—and be behind desk at FCC on Sept. 11. Barrett's staff is taking shape. He has asked Robert Branson, assistant general counsel, National Association of Broadcasters, to be his senior adviser, and Madalon Kuchera, head of Illinois Commerce Commission's telecommunications staff, to be his common carrier adviser. Barrett believes Branson, who was on vacation last week, will take job, but is uncertain whether he can persuade Kuchera to make move from Springfield, Ill., to Washington. Top priority is to find mass media aide combining engineering and business experience. One certainly is Delores Browder, she will move up from Office of Public Affairs, where she is secretary, to become Barrett's confidential assistant.

PARIS

Homme of the year
Andre Rousselet, chairman of France's highly successful pay TV service, Canal Plus, has been selected first MIPCOM "man of the year." Award, given for Rousselet's role in creating five-year-old movie service, will be presented Oct. 15 at special dinner in Cannes, site of international program fair. Rousselet, past president of France's top ad agency Havas and close associate of French President Francois Mitterand, built Canal Plus into $2.6 million-subscriber channel with $30 million profit last year, and also led its expansion into new ventures in Belgium, West Germany and, most recently, Spain (see "Top of the Week").

MCLEAN, VA

Nest feathering
GTE Spacenet has quietly made its Spacenet satellites into solid niche birds. Latest event is purchase by Telemundo—Spanish-language cable and syndicated TV programmer—of two Spacenet II transponders, one for distribution and one for backhaul. It's believed Univisa also will migrate there soon. In addition to Spanish-language group, satellite educational services, including public TV-based Satellite Educational Resources Consortium, are aggregating on that bird, source said. Move of Home Team Sports to Spacenet III is also making that bird power in cable sports.

HOLLYWOOD

Shape of things to come
When pending Qintex and MGM-UA merger is complete, new television production arm will be called UA Television, and headed by Steve Mills, currently senior executive vice president, programing, Qintex Entertainment. Mills will report to David Evans, currently president, Qintex Entertainment, who moves up to president and chief operating officer, UA. New company will be divided into three divisions—UA Television, UA Theatrical and UA Distribution. All group presidents will report to Evans. Mills said television division will put more emphasis, at outset, on production of network series, "with activity in movies,
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**Dallas**

No estan hablando

Talks between Raycom Sports and Southwest Conference (SWC) to avert breach of contract lawsuit (Broadcasting, Aug. 14) are on hold. Conference agreed not to negotiate with any parties during 90-day period beginning Aug. 15, but, added SWC Commissioner Fred Jacoby, conference is not talking with Raycom out of court either.

And conclusion of cable-broadcast sports showdown in Dallas is anything but foregone. "We haven't signed a contract with anyone," he said, adding that 90-day delay is not major setback, since "we're looking at the tail of 1990 and beyond." Asked if that means he does not agree with Raycom contention that current contract extends through 1991, Jacoby said, "I didn't say that."

**Multimedia**

Dallas ABC affiliate WFAA-TV will introduce "The Spirit of Texas Radio Network" over Labor Day, through which radio stations in ADI will simulcast 6 p.m. news Monday-Friday. Eleven communities, including Athens, Comanche, Mexia, Mineral Wells and Paris, currently signed on, comprising 13 stations, with four-six more expected to start date. Station's 10 o'clock news is currently simulcast in Spanish by KESSAM (Fort Worth.

**New York**

Upgrading updates

Announced move of anchor Deborah Norville from NBC's 'Today' to more prominent spot housing news breaks in 'Stuff' may interest more stations in taking Norville news update NBC provides to local stations at noon. Five-minute insert to local newscasts has been available for several months but is currently meeting with limited interest. While over 100 NBC stations run midday news, less than 20 of them take insert, and only handful of those do are within top 100 markets.

**Reprise**

Palladium Entertainment is looking for one or more partners to revive old off-network show, Sergeant Preston of the Yukon, as first-run weekly syndication program. No deal set yet, but officials of Allarco, based in Edmonton, Alberta, confirm they have had preliminary discussions about taking interest in project. In addition to film and television production interests, Allarco owns independent television station CTV-2 Edmonon, as well as Canaca pay-TV service Super Channel and 50% of Family Channel (no connection with Virginia Beach-based service). Palladium has partnered with MCA TV to bring 'Lassie' back to first-run, debutting weekly of Sept. 18. Palladium also plans to bring 'Love Ranger' to first-run production, although, as with 'Preston project, plans are not yet firm.

**Florida**

Tainted treasure

Televized lottery drawings are considered audience attractions in many markets, but in Florida, stations comprising informal lottery network recently pressured state lottery commission to prematurely end contract. Network members were said to have felt they were paying commission too much in way of cash and on-air promotion relative to audience and revenue they were attracting. Commission then chose to put lottery rights into lottery drawings up for bid on market-by-market basis. But as of last week, they had apparently yet to find willing bidders in Tampa and Jacksonville.

**New Jersey**

New Jersey and them

Topic of discussion at Sept. 24-26 New Jersey Broadcasters Association meeting in Allentown City will be possible class action suit against Arbitron. John Quinn, president of WJXM(AM) Elizabeth, N.J., and chairman of association's advertising subcommittee, said reason for suit would be what he called Arbitron's low sampling efforts in New Jersey. Quinn says low sampling hurts New Jersey stations already overshadowed by New York and Philadelphia markets.

**Fairfax**

Unfree TV?

Community Antenna Television Association plans to launch grassroots campaign by end of month to take issue with claim that over-air television is "free." Trust of promotion is press releases to newspapers as well as ads in local papers asserting that free TV is not really free at all, but costs consumer, on average, $297 per year, computed from total television advertising spending divided by total number of households. Campaign is designed, CATV said, to let editors and publishers know cable's side of "free TV" issue.

**New Orleans**

Name dropping

Gioia Marconi Braga, daughter of Guglielmo Marconi, will be special guest at NAB's Radio 98 convention in New Orleans. At gala dinner party Sept. 16 to announce winners of Marconi Radio Awards (see page 44), Braga will participate in presentation of award to winner in "legendary station" category.
THE FIVE

WHO: Jack Anderson, Bob Fuss, Andy Pollin, Jay Sapir, Barbara Campbell, Pye Chamberlayne, Bill Small, Bob Brill, John Tautges, Kate Murphy, Rob Navias, Ed Kerins, Tom Rivers, Helen Thomas, Diane Burr, Sharon Gotkin

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Beginning with this week's issue, "Where Things Stand" becomes a monthly feature.

Solid box denotes items that have changed since last issue.

**AM-FM Allocations**

At July 13 open meeting, FCC doubled maximum allowable power of Class A FM stations but limited number of stations that will be able to take advantage of new maximum power to boost coverage. Some 500 stations will be able to increase power as of Dec. 1, but it is not clear how many of 1,500 other Class A's will. Some 800 stations, including most of those in Northeast, will have to demonstrate they can meet new mileage separations by relocating antenna or using directional antenna before they will get go-ahead. And many stations along Canadian and Mexican borders may be left out because change in power is not authorized under current international treaties.

At March 30 meeting, FCC created opportunity for as many as 200 new FM stations by opening Class C3 stations. According to FCC, new Class C3 stations with up to 25 kw of power and antennas up to 100 meters above average terrain could go into communities where more powerful Class C2 stations would cause interference and less powerful Class A stations would be "economically infeasible."

In hope of curtailing adjacent-channel interference and improving technical quality of AM radio, FCC voted April 12 to require AM broadcasters to adhere to industry-developed NRSC-2 standard limiting emissions, starting in 1994.

FCC voted Dec. 12, 1988, to give FM broadcasters greater flexibility in choosing antenna sites and plotting coverage by permitting limited "short spacing" of FM stations. National Association of Broadcasters, which believes move will lead to AM-ization of FM band, petitioned FCC to reconsider.

**Cable Regulation**

Cable television industry remains under fire from allegations it is "unregulated monopoly." Bills have surfaced in Senate and House that would reeregulate cable and permit telephone industry to compete in distributing video services.

General Accounting Office released long-awaited survey on cable rate increases over two-year period. According to GAO, there was 29% increase in basic cable rates and 14% increase in overall average subscriber bill. Report was presented at House Telecommunications Subcommittee hearing, at which GAO witness, asked to interpret result, said cable was monopoly in need of deregulation (Broadcasting, Aug. 7).

Meanwhile, group of mayors and elected officials gathered in New York in July and issued resolution calling for restoration of city authority to regulate cable. Led by New York Mayor Ed Koch and Tucson Mayor Tom Volgy, group heard from Senator Howard Metzenbaum (D-Ohio), who says legislation reeregulating cable could pass if mayors actively lobby. Metzenbaum, who chairs Senate Antitrust Subcommittee, convened hearing in April in which broadcasters, wireless cable industry, Consumer Federation of America and city organizations called on Congress to reeregulate cable. Metzenbaum is also pushing for passage of bills he introduced in April. One would restore city authority to regulate rates while other would require cable programs (particularly those in which cable operators have interest) to make their programming available to cable competitors such as wireless cable. It would also restrict horizontal concentration within industry by limiting number of subscribers company can have to 25% of cable subscribers in country.

Also in Senate, Communications Subcommittee took close look at issue of vertical integration within cable industry during series of hearings it convened on concentration of ownership within media (Broadcasting, June 19, 26).

Motion picture industry. National Association of Broadcasters and independent broadcasters are pushing for stricter regulation of cable until there is more competition in delivering cable programming to homes.

National League of Cities and United States Conference of Mayors have adopted resolutions calling on Congress to strengthen cities' regulatory grip on cable and to provide opportunity for telephone companies to offer competitive services. League has assigned action on cable legislation low priority, but group of mayors has scheduled July 31 meeting in New York to plan legislative strategy.

**Children's Television**

Bill that would limit amount of advertising in children's television is on legislative fast track. It was subject of House Telecommunications Subcommittee hearing week of April 3 and passed parent Energy and Commerce Committee following week. In Senate, companion measure (S. 707) was focus of Communications Subcommittee hearing July 13, along with bill offered by Senator Tom Wirth (D-Colo.). Wirth's measure was endorsed by Communications Subcommittee Chairman Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii). Wirth's legislation would require broadcasters to provide programs "specifically designed" for children, as condition for license renewal. Measure is more restrictive than S. 707 and will also be focus of hearing.

Bill that would establish $10 million endowment for children's programming was adopted May 16 by Senate Commerce Committee, and by full Senate Aug. 4.

**Comparative Licensing**

To discourage groups from using renewal process to "extort" money from broadcasters, FCC at March 30 meeting restricted payments broadcasters may make to challengers in settlements of comparative renewal cases and for withdrawals of petitions to deny renewals.

FCC banned all settlement payments in return for withdrawing competing applications prior to initial decision in comparative hearing by administrative law judge and, after decision, limited such payments to "legitimate and prudent expenses." Likewise, limited payments for withdrawal of petitions to deny to expenses.

FCC also required challengers in comparative renewal hearings to make more detailed financial and ownership disclosures and eliminated presumption that successful challenger would be able to acquire incumbent's transmitter site. Apparently because of concerns expressed by Congress, FCC deferred action on revamping renewal expectancy criteria. In separate proceeding, FCC proposed at Jan. 30 meeting replacing comparative hearings with lottery to choose among competing applicants for new radio and full-power television stations. However, proposal has garnered little support in comments.

**Compulsory License**

FCC has voted to recommend to Congress that it abolish 13-year-old compulsory copyright license for local as well as distant signals, saying move would benefit consumers, broadcasters and cable programming ser-
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Crossownership

Telco-cable — FCC tentatively voted 2-1 in July 1988 to recommend that Congress lift ban against telephone companies owning cable systems in their telephone service areas. But former FCC Chairman Dennis Patrick, who pushed for recommendation, was unable to affirm vote in final year of chairmanship because FCC Commissioner James Quello, who provided second vote, had second thoughts.

Commissioner Patricia Diaz Dennis continues to feel ban against telcos controlling programing should be retained, although she believes telcos should be allowed to offer video transmission services as common carriers.

Issue is now in hands of newly constituted commission led by Chairman Alfred Sikes. He says he has open mind on issue. National Telecommunications and Information Administration, while under Sikes’ direction, recommended telcos be allowed to serve as transporters of others’ programing, although not as programers themselves, in telcos’ own service areas (BROADCASTING, June 20, 1988).

Senator Al Gore (D-Tenn.) has introduced bill lifting crossownership prohibition contained in Cable Communications Policy Act of 1984; companion measure was offered in House by Rick Boucher (D-Va.).

Another barrier to Bell Regional Operating Companies’ crossownership is modified final judgment issued by U.S. Judge Harold Greene in his supervision of breakup of AT&T. NTIA has petitioned FCC to preempt Greene’s regulation of BOC’s, arguing that judge is hampering their entry into information services, including cable.

Duopoly, one-to-a-market — FCC voted Oct. 27, 1988, to relax duopoly rules to allow closer spacing of commonly owned AM and FM stations, arguing that impact on diversity would be negligible and that it let some broadcasters reap certain economies of scale.

Using same justification, FCC relaxed policy for waivers to one-to-a-market rules Dec. 12, 1988, saying it would look favorably on waiver requests involving top 25 markets with at least 30 broadcast “voices.” Thus far, it has granted four waivers.

Broadcasting Satellites

- Nationwide Communications has committed “substantial investment” to United States Satellite Broadcasting Co., Hubbard Broadcasting’s proposed high-power direct-to-home satellite TV service.

FCC commissioners on Aug. 2 granted 11 pairs of channels to each of six direct broadcast satellite (DBS) and approved use of that high-power spectrum for services other than direct-to-home TV. Acting on latest (fifth) round of applications, FCC adopted policy of allocating to each applicant and permissive channels at two orbital slots—one in east, from which services can reach all 50 states, and one in western half of continental U.S. (half-conus) can be reached. DBS operators will be allowed to offer full or half-conus services and to use western slots to offer regional TV or, alternatively, regional data, voice or other services. Action asked for comments on, in words of outgoing Chairman Dennis Patrick, how spectrum might “gravitate toward the best use for the public.”

Complex compromise package of grants allotted 11 channels at each slot to Continental Satellite Corp., EchoStar Satellite Corp., Directsat Corp. and Direct Broadcast Satellites. Each permits United States Satellite Broadcasting Co. and Dominion Video Satellite, and 27 channels at each to permissive Hughes Communications Inc. and Advanced Communications Corp., both of which had previously been assigned 32 channels. FCC deferred action pending further inquiry, on petition to deny on antitrust grounds application of Tele-Communications Inc.-owned Tempo Enterprises.

Comments on paired slot proposal last January were mixed, with most accepting channel limitation but some arguing that FCC must allow 32-channel service from single slot to make any DBS service competitive with cable and broadcast TV. Others said consumers will be willing to buy steerable antennas to receive as many as 128 channels from multiple slots.

Permittees and applicants to launch “true” high-power (200 watt) DBS believe Ku-band birds 10 times more powerful than average C-band birds would mean direct-to-home television reception via downlinks of one-tenth size of average C-band dishes. Smaller, more affordable dishes (one meter or smaller in diameter) would then theoretically lead to home satellite market several times size of current two million C-band consumer base. Large and small companies have failed since early 1980’s, however, to get high-power Ku-band DBS off ground.
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High-Definition TV

Richard Wiley, chairman of FCC's advisory committee on advanced television service (ATS), has announced that he will call any testing of transmission system proponents this fall to set testing schedule. Tests are expected to begin in April 1990 at Advanced Television Test Center (ATTC) facility.

One proposal before Congress to allocate additional $50 million to ATTC for HDTV project.

On Sept. 1, 1988, FCC tentatively decided to eliminate from standardization consideration transmission systems with 7.1-11.4 MHz channel, incompatible with NTSC sets. Move eliminates possibility of terrestrial standardization of NHK's MUSE system.

Home Satellite

Giving shot in arm to struggling home satellite industry, 100th Congress passed copyright legislation authorizing transmission of broadcast television signals via satellite to backyard dish owners.

Mergers and Acquisitions

Time Inc. changed its name to Time Warner Inc. upon acquiring 100 million shares of Warner Communications in its $70-per-share tender offer. Time Warner owns 59.3% of Warner on way to absorbing whole company. Close of Time's tender came on July 24, hours after Delaware Supreme Court upheld lower court ruling refusing request of Paramount Communications to block merger of Time and Warner. Time Warner is largest media company in world.

Indecency

Under direction of new chairman, Alfred Sikes, FCC stepped up enforcement of law against broadcast indecency Aug. 24, initiating actions against three radio stations for airing material that FCC found "may violate" indecency law. Stations—KSPR-TV San Jose, Calif.; WBOB-FM Indianapolis, and WPLF(AM) Chicago—have until Sept. 23 to answer charge.

FCC's prompt action may reflect concerns of Congress. At confirmation hearing for Sikes and fellow FCC nominees—Sherrie Marshall and Andrew Barrett—member of Senate Commerce Committee made it clear that regulation of indecent and violent programing should be FCC priority.

FCC house has approved TV violence bill. Bill would create antitrust exemption allowing industry to get together to draft programing code. Senate version targets violent, sexual, or drug-related programing. House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jack Brooks (D-Tex.) and bill's sponsors are committed to keeping measure free from issues other than violence. It is unknown if Senate will insist that House accept sex- and drug-related provisions. Both measures would waive antitrust restrictions to permit broadcasters, cablecasters and programers to get together to self-regulate.

Implementing stringent indecency law signed by President Reagan last fall (Broadcasting, Oct. 3, 1988), FCC had unanimously adopted new policy that prohibits "indecent" broadcasts 24 hours per day. But policy and underlying law are being challenged in courts on First Amendment grounds by coalition of broadcasting and public-interest groups, including such diverse groups as National Association of Broadcasters and Action for Children's Television.

On Jan. 23, three-judge panel of U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington granted request by coalition for stay of Jan. 27 start of 24-hour ban (Broadcasting, Jan. 30).

U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington had affirmed FCC's earlier indecency enforcement policy based on premise that FCC could not ban indecency but could channel it to times when few children are in audience. But court remedied case to commission to justify midnight-to-6 a.m. "safe harbor." In light of congressional action, FCC will not go ahead with its required rulemaking. Meanwhile, opponents of 24-hour ban were encouraged by Supreme Court decision overturning, on First Amendment grounds, statute imposing same kind of around-clock ban on so-called "dia-lo-a-porn" telephone messages.

International

New European transfrontier broadcast service has been sidetracked by opposition from six of 12 members of European Community. EC's Council of Ministers must resolve disputes by early fall or new law will die. Regu- latory plan, essentially completed earlier this spring, would harmonize diverging national regulations and establish framework under which emerging transborder satellite TV services could service European market's $200 million worth of TV receivers.

British Satellite Broadcasting, which postponed launch of service by six months until next spring due to delays in availability of home receiver gear, has been granted additional two channels by UK government, bringing program package to five. And French pay TV service Canal Plus has emerged winner in government allocation of channels on France's direct broadcast satel- lite DBS, with interests in three of five transponders.

Capital Cities/ABC, which owns 25% through ESPN of London-based satellite sports service Screensport and has taken minority share in Munich TV company Tele-Munchen, producer-distributor and majority owner of German satellite service Telies, is negotiating three similar deals on contin- ent, including one in Spain.

Phone company US West has won joint bid for Hong Kong cable system franchise with potential for 1.5 million TV and telephone service customers. Several North American companies—Paramount, Viacom, AT&T and Rogers Cablevision of Canada—were also advising two of four bidding groups.
Sometimes overnight is absolutely, positively too late.

We're not knocking the other guys, but sometimes you need to get it there right away. The very same day. Today, not tomorrow.

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Even as you read this, TWA planes are about to take off. We can make sure your small package is on the next flight out to any one of over 100 U.S. cities. And we'll deliver it door-to-door or airport-to-airport. Same day. Seven days a week.

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For information or immediate pick-up, ask for Agent 183
shareholder of Centel Cable, said it expected after-tax gain of $440 million on sale; minority shareholders in Centel Cable will receive $45.625 per share. On Aug. 23, Centel Cable shareholders approved company’s merger with Centel in transaction leading to closing of individual sales. Sales to ATC, Warner and C-TEC are complete.

Jack Kent Cooke reached definitive agreements in mid-July to sell his 660,000-subscriber cable operations to a consortium of six buyers. Buying group is nearly one owner of $30 million of QVC after merger. QVC said it would receive $19 cash and QVC will own 12.5% of the company.

Kent Cooke also said it would receive $10 million in preferred stock valued at $242 million and also asked for $242 million in the form of an unspecified reprisal. Cooke also said it would receive $242 million in the form of an unspecified reprisal. Cooke also said it would receive $242 million in the form of an unspecified reprisal. Cooke also said it would receive $242 million in the form of an unspecified reprisal. Cooke also said it would receive $242 million in the form of an unspecified reprisal.


CBP Chairman Kenneth Towery asked Congress March 21 to move CBP from Inspector General Act, citing concerns that First Amendment rights of public broadcasters could be threatened by inspector general’s authority to deem programming or other budget items unnecessary. In meantime, however, CBP has appointed IG.

Syndex

FCC put off effective date of its new syndex rules from Aug. 18, 1988, to Jan. 1, 1990, but it otherwise kept rules much as they were when adopted last year. Broadcasters desiring syndex protection had to notify cable system by June 19.

Rules empower broadcasters to enforce exclusivity of programs against cable systems that import duplicative programming on distant broadcast signals.

Real delay in implementation of rules may come as result of court appeals likely to be made by cable operators and satellite carriers who distribute national channels that could be covered by syndex. If court stay rules pending resolution of appeals, implementation of rules may be delayed two or three years. If court finds fault with them, they may never go into effect.

United Video, carrier of superstations with WGN in Chicago, WMTN in New York and KNTV in Dallas, Texas Cable Television Association, United Cable Television and Century Communications have challenged rules in U.S. Court of Appeals. They have also asked FCC to stay rules pending court review. Representative Bill Richardson (D-N.M.) has introduced legislation that would delay implementation of date of FCC’s syndex rule for one year (BROADCASTING, July 3).

TV Marti

Backers of TV Marti—which broadcasts news, information and entertainment to Cuba—are lobbying Congress to establish affiliated television service. Congress last year appropriated $7.5 million in startup funds for proposed service, and in April, House approved legislation authorizing $16 million for operating funds in each of next two years. However, funds could not be appropriated unless President certifies to Congress that test of project—and one is planned for later this year—has demonstrated its feasibility.

Administration plans for TV Marti may have suffered serious setback with Cuba’s decision to begin operating channel 13 in Havana. Channel 13 was frequency on which U.S. intended to operate TV Marti. It was said to be only one on which operation would interfere with service by Cuban or American stations.

Meanwhile, Cuban officials are threatening unspecified reprisals if U.S. proceeds with TV Marti project.
The 1990 NATPE International Conference, *Challenges in the Next Decade* is calling for entries into their prestigious annual awards program, the Iris. Programs first aired between October 1, 1988 thru September 30, 1989 are eligible. Any voting or Educational member company of NATPE may submit no more than one entry per category and a given program may only be entered in one category. Programs whose emphasis rests on local content will weigh heavily with the judges. Spot announcements (public affairs or promotion) are not eligible for any Iris Award.

**Entry Categories:**

- Public Affairs
- Program Segments
- Sports
- Children & Young Adults
- Entertainment
- Information
- Special Event
- All Others

Entries must be received no later than October 9, 1989. Only NTSC standard 3/4" videocassettes accepted. For additional information and eligibility requirements call NATPE International, 10100 Santa Monica Blvd. Suite 300, Los Angeles, CA 90067. (213) 282-8801
This week


Sept. 7—USA Network local ad sales seminar. Ritz-Carleton, Houston. Information: (213) 277-0199.

Sept. 8—USA Network local ad sales seminar. Dallas-Fort Worth. Information: (213) 277-0199.


Also in September


Sept. 12—MTV Networks' local advertising sales workshop. Westin Lenox, Atlanta.


Sept. 13—USA Network affiliate marketing seminar. Embassy Suites-Denver Tech Center, Denver. Information: (212) 408-9100.


Sept. 14—USA Network local ad sales seminar. Embassy Suites-Denver Tech Center, Denver. Information: (212) 408-9100.


Sept. 14—MTV Networks' local advertising sales workshop. Marriott Harbor Beach, Fort Lauderdale, Fla.

Sept. 15—Deadline for entries in International Film and Video Festival sponsored by Women in the Director's Chair. Information: (312) 281-4988.


Sept. 16—Academy of Television Arts and Sciences presentation of non-televised portion of 41st annual prime time Emmy Awards, primarily for creative arts categories. Pasadena exhibition hall, Pasadena, Calif. Information: (818) 763-2975.

Sept. 16—North Jersey Press Club meeting. Fairleigh Dickinson University, Teaneck, N.J. Information: (201) 322-8343.


Sept. 17—41st annual prime time Emmy awards telecast (on Fox television stations), sponsored by Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. Pasadena Civic Auditorium, Pasadena, Calif. Information: (818) 763-2975.

Sept. 17-19—National Association of State Radio Networks fall board meeting and general membership "fly-in." Information: (404) 255-7861.


Sept. 18-20—Association of National Advertisers creative advertising, media strategy and promotion strategy seminar. Stouffer Westchester hotel, White Plains, N.Y.


Errata


In Aug. 14 issue, Farrell Meisel, vice president, programing, wwon- tv New York, was misquoted in story regarding Viacom's possible future marketig of off-network The Cosby Show, Roseanne and A Different World. Meisel actually said Cosby "has had a tremendous residual effect on our overall schedule."

Newport, N.H., FM sold by RadioActive Group Inc. to Mountain View Broadcasting for $2,000,000 ("Changing Hands," Aug. 28) was WXXX-FM.

Information on sales totals provided to Broadcasting for The Ted Hefburn Co. for Aug. 7 Special Report on brokers inadvertently included only sales in 1989. Correct total for 12 months from July 1988 through June 1989 is $60,650,000.

Sept. 21—Cabletelevision Advertising Bureau lobal convention, sponsored by National Cable Television and Broadcast Technology Society, Marriott Los Angeles Hotel, Los Angeles. Information: (513) 752-4400.

Sept. 21—USA Network local ad sales seminars, Omni Inner Harbour, Baltimore. Information: (212) 408-9161.

Sept. 21—Broadcasting, 39th annual Broadcast Symposium, sponsored by Institute of Electronic and Electrical Engineers/Broadcast Technology Society, Marriott Los Angeles Airport, Marriott Los Angeles, Los Angeles. Information: (212) 429-5346.

Sept. 22—Society of Broadcast Engineers, chapter and, central New York, annual regional convention, Convention Center, Sheraton Inn, Syracuse, N.Y.

Sept. 22—Society of Broadcast Engineers, chapter and, New York, annual regional convention, Convention Center, Sheraton Inn, Syracuse, N.Y.


Sept. 23—Cabletelevision Advertising Bureau local advertising workshop, Sheraton-San Francisco Airport, Burlingame, Calif. Information: (212) 751-7770.


Sept. 24—Mass Association of Broadcasters annual convention. Marriott hotel, Portland, Me.


Sept. 27—Cinetex '89, international film and television festival, market, exposition and conference, produced in cooperation with American Film Institute. Bally's hotel, Las Vegas. Information: (618) 907-7788.

Major Meetings

Sept. 13-16—Radio-Television News Directors Association annual convention, Kansas City Convention Center, Kansas City, Mo.


Oct. 1-8—Atlantic Cable Show, Atlantic City Convention Center, Atlantic City, N.J. Information: (609) 848-1000.


Oct. 21-25—Society of Motion Picture & Television Engineers 131st technical conference and equipment exhibit. Los Angeles Convention Center, Los Angeles.


April 20-25, 1990—MIP TV, international television program market, Palais des Festivals, Cannes, France. Information: (212) 750-8899.


June 10-14, 1990—Broadcast Promotion and Marketing Executives and Broadcast Designers Association annual convention. Bally's, Las Vegas.


Pro and con

EDITOR: The President of United Press International takes Linda Ellerbee to task for doing coffee commercials in his Aug. "Monday Memo." Is this the same Paul Steinle who rolled out of a local news director's job to the big time in New York at Financial News Network, the cable financial news service? FNN is owned by Infotecnology. The same company also owns UPI. While Steinle slips Ellerbee on the wrist, maybe a different part of Steinle's anatomy should be kicked for the biggest reporting error-failing to look in his own backyard. It was FNN that created the "infotainment" programs sponsored by a firm promoting its product that were aired as news programs. So much for idealism. I doubt that even the folks in End, Okla., will take the humor-oriented Ellerbee coffee commercials seriously. Ellerbee has to work and make a living and after all, it was FNN that said it accepted "infotainment" programs because it had to make a buck. It's always easy to put down someone with a name. With business disappearing and many layoffs at UPI, maybe Steinle himself will be looking for a product endorsement job soon. But then again, who knows him?—Jim Newman, Newman Economics, Los Angeles.

EDITOR: For your Aug. 14 "Monday Memo," Paul Steinle produced an essay of utmost importance. Since launching this business of television news series syndication in 1975, we have worked with more than 50 producers and aspiring talent, and have been forced to spend too many hours emphasizing the absolute necessity of maintaining a clear distinction between news reports and advocacy releases. I am often surprised at the number of experienced producers who are not aware of the fact that news personalities do not appear in commercials. Sports and entertainment stars do, of course, but news people—never. Paul Steinle provided the reason.

In focusing on a station's financial goals, he used the word "sponsor" while referring to advertisers and adjacent to news strips. Sponsors sponsor programs in whole or in part. News strips are not sponsored. It's no big deal. Everyone knew what he meant, but still.—David Melvin, Mighty Minute Programs, San Francisco.

Making it CLeaR

EDITOR: In your Aug. 14 article, "Un-CLeaR reception," it was stated that "Dr. Billy Melvin, chairman of CLeaR-TV, has
indicated he will solicit free time from religious stations...." You then proceeded to give the response from Tim Robertson, CBN President, who said that he would not give time to CLEaR-TV, but would be willing to sell the time.

I believe that by adding Mr. Robertson's comment, you have given the average reader, as well as the advertisers, a disorted viewpoint of the situation. In your Dec. 26, 1988, issue, Mr. Robertson was quoted as saying, "CBN Family Channel, which is primarily an entertainment programming operation, not a TV ministry." How does that qualify Mr. Robertson as a spokesman for religious TV stations?

Perhaps you might be interested in the opinion of someone who actually operates a religious station. It may come as a shock to you to learn that, not only have we aired the program at no extra charge to CLEaR-TV, but we intend to do so several more times.

Yes, I am one of those narrow-minded "religious broadcasters" who believes that our future generations are being destroyed by the sex and violence on the airwaves. And I intend to do everything I can to stop it, in one way or another. We will all suffer the consequences of it.—Albert O. Cooper, president, KRVP-TV, Roswell, N.M.

Positive position

EDITOR: Will the AM broadcasters please do something positive that justifies positive press? Mr. Joe Tabbeck, in his July 24 "Open Mike" letter, asked for positive news in a generally negative industry. "Trafficking in FCC licenses, or just plain bad management, has sapped the broadcast industry of enthusiasm and its most creative people. Although it would appear that the stations most likely to be considered "revolving doors" get precisely what they deserve, it's time to stop playing the 'musical chairs' and get down to the business that's been sorely neglected in recent years.

Managers, do something innovative and creative so we all benefit. Let positive press be an unintended effect, rather than a goal.—Alan Boritz, Mahaw, N.J.

Free for all

EDITOR: In its effort to grant First Amendment rights to television, radio and cable, the Congress is ignoring the same rights of all other Americans.

When granted to a few thousand broadcasters who, by the licensing system, have an advantage, it gives that small group a shield of protection against other Americans who have been, or feel they have been, maligned over the air and wish to defend themselves.

The press doesn't have that shield and rightfully has First Amendment rights. If a citizen feels he has been mistreated by a media property, it doesn't like its stand, he can do as many have: start another paper.

If First Amendment rights are maintained for broadcasters, shouldn't other Americans be protected by opening the airways to all without governmental interference or licensing?—Mead P. Smith, Media Marketing Associates Inc., Norman, Okla.

Doesn't buy it

EDITOR: In response to Simon Goldman's July 31 letter supporting Richard Arsenault's AM rescue.

If your programing on WWFM (AM) Burlington, Vt., is so "superior," Mr. Goldman, how come no one's listening? AM stereo will go the way of FM quadrophonic. What the AM community constantly fails to recognize is that AM's time has come and gone.

The early FM pioneers got no special consideration or cooperation for the scores of years that they struggled with little or no listener base or advertising. No special committees, no special rules, no pie in the sky technological panacea can or will turn around the decline of AM radio.

AM was dominant for a long time. In fact, when I started in radio 12 years ago the markets I was in were still AM-dominated. But slowly, ever so slowly, FM's shares grew and grew.

I own a Class A FM in a Class B market. I knew what I was getting into from the day I signed the papers. Simply put, permitting AM stations to broadcast even on a low-power FM will give you "unfair advantage" as a combo over Class A stand-alones, and then I'll form a PAC and an advisory board to gather support for all Class A standalones in Class B markets to be permitted to add an additional Class A to their license, at no extra cost, and create a 50,000-watt AM frequency so that I may "keep pace."

This gets pretty silly when you take a long, sobering look at it.—Harry Gregor Jack, president, WCIW-FM, Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

Waiver, no waiver

EDITOR: Your Aug. 28 "Closed Circuit" regarding regulatory problems with NBC's possible shift in the prime time schedule on the West Coast ("PTAR rears its head") was in error. You correctly note that if NBC stations run network programming at 7-10 p.m., plus the Late Night Show starting at 10:30, they will be in violation of the Prime Time Access Rule which limits network programming on the East and West Coasts to three hours from 7 to 11 p.m. However, you are wrong in stating that the "problem could be solved by waiver."

A waiver would be tantamount to declaring that PTAR does not apply to any NBC affiliate on the West Coast, effectively eliminating the access period on those stations. However, even assuming that there was some conceivable public benefit to such a change, it could only be accomplished through waiving of general applicability, such as PTAR, except in interest justification. A waiver cannot be used to make sweeping changes in a rule, such as eliminating its applicability in one-fourth of the entire nation.—Robert M. Gurs, Wilkes, Artis, Hedrick & Lane, Washington, counsel for Program Producers and Distributors Committee.

Editor's note: Attorney Gurs's opinion is not held universally. Among others checked by BROADCAST-ING, last week, Chuck Kent, chief of the FCC Mass Media Bureau enforcement division, said he knows of no reason a group of NBC affiliates could not jointly file for a waiver of PTAR.
It makes no sense for the U.S. to withdraw from the emerging HDTV generation.
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CREATIVE FINANCING We have our own financing experts with Blackburn Capital Markets. We get the top price for your station and we can help structure the best financing package.

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From a creative standpoint, the 1989-90 television season has received some of the lowest marks of any season in recent memory. "Safe," "boring," and "shamefully" lacking in creativity are some of the terms television critics and agency observers have used to describe the upcoming season.

The three networks are coming off what amounts to their worst summer ever. The July-August share level for the big three was a combined 56 share points, the same as last summer. But as one network official noted, last summer's viewing was depressed by political campaign coverage. "If it hadn't been for that, last summer's totals would have been significantly higher," he said.

The networks' "loss has been others' gain. A main beneficiary was the Fox Broadcasting Co.'s hit program, Married...With Children, which broke into the top 20-ranked programs a week ago, placing 17th with a 13.4 rating and a 22 share.

That is not the only FBC program to show growth. Last week, three other FBC programs—Totally Hidden Video, Add Me to the List, Wanted and the critically maligned Open House—all placed in the middle of the ratings pack. A year ago, anyone looking for FBC programs could confine the search to the bottom 20 programs.

The FBC expansion to Monday night, effective Sept. 18, is being watched particularly anxiously at CBS. The network's key aim this season is to use Monday night to develop new comedies that can be moved to other nights as building blocks for the future.

CBS's Monday night schedule contains all six of the network's comedies, including three new ones—Major Dad and The People Next Door (8-9 p.m.) and The Famous Teddy Z at 9:30 p.m. "Monday is a very critical night for us," said David Poltrack, senior vice president, planning and research, CBS. "One of our two main goals is to expand our comedy base,"" said Poltrack. "Comedy remains the strongest single form on network television. We want to fortify our comedy base." The network has struggled, without success, to develop comedies in the first hour of prime time on various nights. But CBS's other main weakness is poor audience tune-in in the first hour across the board in prime time, which has effectively prevented it from nurturing new comedies there, said Poltrack.

Thus, the network is putting all its comedy eggs in the Monday night basket, a strategy Poltrack termed "unique and unprecedented." But it's also the alternate strategy option. Nurturing new comedies across the board would be the first choice. At ABC, recently installed Entertainment President Robert Iger said one of his top priorities is to strengthen ABC's hold on second place. "Demographically, ABC is more competitive with NBC than CBS," said Paul Isacsson, executive vice president, broadcast planning and purchasing, Young & Rubicam. The household race, which still gets most of the press attention, is largely irrelevant from the advertiser's perspective, said Isacsson. "TV time just isn't bought that way anymore..."

ABC has traditionally found success with younger, urban-skewing programs. According to Iger, the network will attempt to "broaden our audience appeal, particularly in certain hours. Obviously Saturday night is a problem." The first two hours of Sunday night also pose an extraordinary challenge for ABC, said Iger.

CBS maintains its leadership position there with 80 Minutes and Murder, She Wrote. NBC is struggling there, although that network's ongoing involvement with Disney probably gives it an upper hand, said Iger. "So at this point, we have a real tough battle on our hands figuring out that time period."

Sundays at 7 p.m., ABC has given the nod to a show called Life Goes On, a family drama featuring a young man with Down syndrome (played by an actor with the syndrome). The early reviews of the program are quite positive, with some critics suggesting it may be ABC's best show. However, the two new comedies that follow it—Free Spirit and Homeroom—have been panned by many as predictable sitcom fare.

Thursday night, Iger acknowledges, also poses a challenge for ABC. The same is true for CBS, with NBC dominant over both its rivals. Second place is up for grabs on the
night. In recent weeks, repeats of CBS's *48 Hours* have performed better than reruns of ABC's now-canceled *A Man Called Hawk* at 8 p.m. At 9 o'clock, CBS's now-canceled *Equalizer* has been beating ABC's *Mission: Impossible*, which moves up an hour to 8 p.m. at the start of the season.

This season, ABC is relying on a new news program to help out on Thursdays at 10 p.m.—*Prime Time Live*. The show debuted last month to mixed reviews, but the ratings have indicated some response from viewers. In its Aug. 24 outing, the program placed second, beating *Knots Landing* on CBS by 4 share points.

As to the new season race, most observers see NBC repeating a strong number one, while ABC holds on to second place and CBS continues to rebuild. But CBS's Poltrack suggests that second place is still up for grabs and will depend on how much progress ABC and CBS make on their weaker nights. "It's not so much the top but the bottom, in terms of relative ratings among the weaker nights, that will determine the outcome of second place," he said.

While Iger admits that ABC could "stand some improvement" on Wednesday, Poltrack believes that night is as critical for ABC as Monday night is for CBS. "That used to be their strongest night," he said, and one where ABC has perhaps the best shot at making significant gains this season.

*Growing Pains*, a proven hit, gives ABC a strong start on Wednesday. But the second half-hour of NBC's *Unsolved Mysteri es* often beats *Head of the Class*, ABC's 8:30 entry. *Anything But Love*, which was nurtured by *Roseanne* last midseason, follows at 9.

The big question for many network followers is whether that show can stand on its own and deliver a solid audience to the new *Doogie Howser, M.D.*, which follows it at 9:30. *Howser* is the first show from producer Stephen Bochco, under his new long-term development deal with ABC. The success of those two shows is deemed essential, if the struggling *China Beach* is to emerge from third place on Wednesdays at 10 p.m.

Meanwhile, NBC has the pat hand and has added just five new programs to its fall schedule. Three of those are hour dramas that are being used to completely rework Friday nights—*Baywatch*, *Hardball* and *Marcy's*, FBI, in that order. Two new comedies complete NBC's new program list, with *Sister Kate* debuting at 8 on Sunday and *Nutt House* at 9:30 on Wednesdays.

A safe season? Yes and no, according to Warren Littlefield, executive vice president of prime time, NBC Entertainment. On the one hand, he said, "no season is safe, although it is popular for the critics to say it's a safe season." On the other, Littlefield contends the networks' top goal, always, is to deliver programming the audience wants to
The networks are feeling the pressure of alternate viewing choices more than ever this season. Among the competitors, Fox, and its independent station affiliates, is perhaps the most significant. But cable networks are also making their presence felt, with dramatic ratings increases due largely to the acquisition of high-profile off-network programming and the development of quality first-run series and long-form programs. Network officials were astounded by TNT’s leap from a 0.6 to a 1.3 prime time rating in the year’s second quarter, while other cable networks also showed impressive prime time gains (USA Network, up 47%; Family Channel, up 40%).

“The competitive entity we recognize most is the Fox network,” said David Poltrack, CBS senior vice president, planning and research. “From a competitive perspective, we still view cable more collectively than individually, with the significant exception of HBO,” which makes its impact felt each month with the debut of high-profile theatrical films. “It’s funny,” said Scott Sassa, executive vice president, TNT.

“If you see a shark coming you can shoot it, but a bunch of ducks can sneak up on you and peck you to death and you can’t do anything about it.” The collective competition is obviously having an impact, he said. “Who would have thought you’d see the day when a major network would have trouble effectively promoting their new schedule on the air? CBS doesn’t have enough gross rating points to [completely] promote to young demographic households.” Poltrack responded that the network would be foolish not to supplement declining on-air reach with increased print and radio promotion.

“The entire strategic perspective of the network has changed over the past few years,” he said. Fox, cable, even prime time syndication specials, are all put into the counterprogramming scheduling mix. “If anything, the competition will become greater in the future. Syndicators are now beginning to develop first-run series for independent stations to compete with in prime time. Two such shows, Dragnet and Adam 12, are being tested on WWDV-TV New York this fall (BROADCASTING, Aug. 28).

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ABC Public Service (ABC)
CBS, NBC, ponder changes to get more sizzle out of summer

Networks, faced with independent and cable inroads, consider ways to increase new programing in dog days

In an effort to restructure the pilot process that Warren Littlefield, executive vice president, prime time programs, NBC, calls "archaic and absurd," and to create more programing for the summer months, both CBS and NBC are considering a number of possible changes to existing production and programing schedules.

NBC, among its options, is considering increasing the number of series episodes produced each year, perhaps to 26 (a typical number is 22), and possibly programing serials, which would have new episodes year-round. For its part, CBS is considering a trimester plan whereby the network will have its pilots produced in intervals, three times a year.

One of the main objectives of the restructuring is to enable the networks to program more original series during the summer, when HUT levels traditionally fall and, more recently, when cable and Indies have gained ground on the networks, which use the summer months for reruns and unused episodes of failed series (Broadcasting, Aug. 21). "Summer shouldn't be the dumping ground for what we don't believe in," said Littlefield. "If we can keep audience levels up (during the summer) we can ask advertisers to adjust their rates."

Of the plan to produce more series episodes, Littlefield said, "If we have enough lead time, we can produce episodes to last well into the summer." Though he said it would be difficult to produce many more episodes of one-hour series, up to 26 episodes of many half-hours could be produced, as well as additional episodes of Unsolved Mysteries, the reality-based hour-long program.

As to the possibility of scheduling serials, Littlefield said being able to produce 52 episodes a year would be a goal to work toward. "We might have to start by trying to produce 30 or 40, eventually getting to the point where we have enough for the entire year, but it's something we have to start looking at," he said. In order to make the plan work, Littlefield said, the series would probably have to be shot on tape, "to speed up the production process." He also said incredible lead time and a very large staff would be necessary to make the project work.

Currently, pilots are scripted and produced from January through April, with networks deciding which of those projects to pick up in May. According to Leslie Mooves, executive vice president, creative affairs, Lorimar Television, one advantage CBS will have by implementing its trimester plan will be the availability of talent that it would normally be in competition for during the January-through-April process. "The idea is to have more talent available in other months, other than in January. The top talent would be more willing to do your pilot in September, for example, than they would in January, when they're offered 15 projects," he said.

Mooves said CBS wants to get "one-third or one-half of its pilots completed before January." In order to make the plan work, CBS intends to cut down the amount of time between receiving the scripts and putting those scripts in pre-production.

During the television critics press tour last month, executives at all three networks hinted that some restructuring of the process is necessary, in order to both cut costs and devise a way to produce more original programing.

Brandon Tartikoff, president, NBC Entertainment, said at the time that his network was considering reducing the number of pilots it bought, but giving series commitments to all of those it did buy. For example, NBC would buy 15 pilots and give series commitments to all 15, using some for the fall schedule, some as midseason replacements, and the rest as original summer series. This year, NBC had more than 30 pilot projects, but only added five new series to its schedule.

Littlefield said the plan discussed during the press tour, while not dead, will probably not be implemented. "I think what you will see, whatever plan is used, is less pilots and more series," he said.

An ABC spokesman said the network has no plans now to dramatically restructure the process, "although some tinkering or refining may be in the works." - SC

Crossing over to Cable
USA Network buys ABC's 'MacGyver'

The USA Network has acquired five seasons' worth of ABC's MacGyver, scheduled to debut on the cable service in the fall of 1990. The exact number of episodes included in the deal was not available at press time, but the multiyear contract will include shows from the forthcoming 1989-90 season. MacGyver, which stars Richard Dean Anderson, premiered on ABC Sept. 29, 1985, and will begin its fifth first-run season on that network this month with a two-part episode, Sept. 18 and 25. This transaction continues the recent trend of high-profile, off-network programs going directly to cable and bypassing the syndication marketplace, such as Lifetime's acquisition of L.A. Law, The Family Channel's purchase of Scarecrow and Mrs. King, and USA's acquisition of The Equalizer.

Cable system buys five Warner shows

Greater Rochester (N.Y.) Cablevision, a system of Warner Cable and American Television & Communications, which has been acquiring syndicated programing for its Flower City Network (Broadcasting, July 31), has added Warner Brothers' ALF, Perfect Strangers, The Hogan Family, Mama's Family and It's a Living to its lineup of off-network series and movies.

The channel, which has been scheduling a combination of public service and sports programming, has been acquiring syndicated programming in preparation for a late September launch of WGRF Channel Five, the service's new name. The new programs join a package of MCA programs including Charles In Charge and Out Of This World.

Although prices paid for the Warner series were unavailable, station sources in the market say the original asking price for both ALF and Perfect Strangers was between $9,000 and $10,000 an episode.
**ABC to produce shows for others, including NBC**

ABC Productions, network's in-house studio, will create programing for other networks and cable services, including two development projects in works for NBC and two for HBO.

ABC's in-house production unit, headed by former ABC Entertainment President Brandon Stoddard, is no longer in house—ABC Productions (formerly ABC Circle Films) will now produce for outside customers as well. Stoddard, president of ABC Productions, announced last week that the production unit is developing two projects for NBC, two additional projects for premium cable service HBO, and is talking with the Lifetime basic cable service about another production deal.

Stoddard, ABC Productions president, hailed the division's entry into full-service production as the opening of "chapter one" of an unprecedented venture, but the action may be interpreted by major studio executives and producers as an effort to shape an industry compromise on eating of the FCC's financial interest and syndication rules. The broadcast networks are currently prohibited from receiving revenues generated by producers and syndicators for off-network syndication programs sold to domestic markets. If the networks develop more in-house programing, however, studios and independent producers may feel a revenue crunch by the shortage of network program orders.

Stoddard said the trend over the next five to seven years will signal "a shift away from the studio system," with the networks emphasizing more in-house productions. He added: "Networks have been trying to control their own destiny. Network profits have fallen below $100 million, with the exception of NBC, which made considerably more than that this year. The costs of programing are skyrocketing."

On the other hand, Stoddard said, the new venture will allow producers to avoid deficit-financing productions [and seeking ancillary revenues] by providing "an outlet for other people's ideas." He said ABC Productions will actively seek more production deals with writers and producers.

"Licensing fees are not reflective of network programing needs," Stoddard said. "A studio might have a program on for four years. The deficit finance it, and lose money at the end. If the show has a longer run, it can make money taking it off-network markets. The license fee system also does not reflect the needs of the producer."

Stoddard says the production unit is developing one mini-series project and regular series programs for NBC—NBC officials were unavailable for comment—with one mini-series and a feature film on the development plate for HBO. According to Stoddard, Lifetime (partially owned by Capcities/ABC) has expressed interest in a future project.

Stoddard added that programing for ABC will have "top priority," followed by any other outside projects. He also said that Executive Producers Eileen Berg and Scott Spiegel have been brought onto the full-time staff to help with the physical production of feature projects. Berg has done ABC Circle made-for and Spiegel has worked previously in the feature division.

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**Gearing up for NATPE**

Producers and distributors line up product for sale in January; of new entries, majority are game shows

At least 43 first-run syndicated programs are being considered by producers and distributors as development projects for the 1990-91 season and beyond, according to industry sources (see chart at left). Heading into the January's NATPE International convention in New Orleans, 24 game show concepts (10 or more have yet to line up distributors) are in the incubation stages among program executives.

One television rep source says the crush of game show proposals will face a tough market with shows like Wheel Of Fortune and Jeopardy dominating access and early fringe dayparts, leaving daytime and late fringe slots with the only possible openings for new entries. A King World Productions spokesman said Monopoly is now in development, but is being considered for possible 1992-93 entry.

Rich Colbert, senior vice president, domestic television, ITC Entertainment, said 92% of all first-run syndicated programing falls early in its run or, much of the time, on the drawing boards. But Colbert added: "Game shows have dominated syndication over the last 10 years. Game shows meet transitional time period needs, cross demographic lines, have strong family appeal, and, most importantly, are advertiser-friendly."

Highlighting the list of other possible
game shows, Richard Dawson (formerly of Family Feud) returns in a revival of You Bet Your Life (originally hosted by Groucho Marx, 1950-61), and a Hollywood production soon says Dick Clark will MC Chal- lengers (distributed by Buena Vista Televi-

Former Blair Television executive Alan Bennett (The Bennett Group) is looking to revive The Price Is Right, joining other syndicated revivals Concentration (LBS Communications), Joker's Wild (Orbis Communications) and Name That Tune (Orion Television Entertainment).

Ten talk shows are being considered, possibly marking the syndication debuts for Jane Fonda (King World Productions), Cristina Ferrare (MCA Television) and former NBC news anchor Linda Ellerbee (Tri-

Shelly Schwartz, executive vice president, MCA TV, told BROADCASTING that a late night talk show strip is being developed for fall 1990. He would only reveal that a “firm commitment” has been given to the half-hour “talk comedy,” and that a celebrity is close to being signed.

Two action/drama adventures have been identified, with MCA TV and MCA TV International handling domestic and foreign distribution of newly revived versions of Adam 12 (NBC, 1968-75) and Dragnet (NBC, 1952-59 and 1967-70). An MCA spokesman said overseas interest in both programs has been strong, and that wwor-

TV New York has U.S. broadcast rights for each show's first 13 episodes. MCA TV will also offer a weekly first-run sitcom titled What A Dummy! Arthur & Co. (pro-

ducers of Adam 12 and Dragnet) will produce 24 weekly installments, but no stars have been announced. The show will be available to stations in September 1990.

Five children’s shows that have firm commitments and one reality-based show (People’s Exchange from MGM/UA Televi-

Radio uncertainty over FCC’s indecency stand

Station group managers, jocks unsure of what to do in wake of commission crackdown

FCC Chairman Alfred Sikes’s sending of certified letters to three radio stations for possible violation of the federal statute pro-

hibiting broadcast indecency (BROADCAST-

ING, Aug. 28) has met with mixed reactions within the radio industry, with several broadcasters declining to comment on the controversial topic.

While there seems to be a consensus that the murky area of what actually constitutes “indecency” must be addressed in some manner, other issues raised by those willing to comment include the optimum role, if any, to be played by the FCC in this area, perceived distortions between radio and TV standards and the broader ethical implications for the industry’s future.

Mel Karmazin, president and chief exec-

utive officer of Infinity Broadcasting, for

whose WXRK(FM) New York so-called “shock jock” Howard Stern works, explained that no broadcaster is looking for ways to break the law, and that the three stations receiving letters—KSIQ(FM) San Jose, Calif.; WLRAM (Chicago), and WBFQ(FM) Indianapolis—were most likely conforming to “their version” of the rules regarding what constitutes indecency.

“We have avoided that the FCC make crystal clear what they mean by indecency,” Karmazin said. “It may not be their responsibility to do so, and maybe ultimately the Supreme Court is going to have to come up with the definition.”

Infinity will abide by whatever rules the FCC imposes, Stern has long told Karmazin told BROADCASTING, but reserves the right to challenge those rules. “If the commission wants to make 50 or 100 dirty words,” he said, “or they want to say you’re not allowed to discuss sex on television or radio, our company would conform until that time when the courts said their action was unconstitutional.” Simultaneous with the commission’s action, however, “we might file suit against it,” said Karmazin.

Howard Stern would not comment, but Karmazin said: “Howard’s not looking to break the law, either. If the commission banned discussion of sex, he would say: ‘OK, we’ll start talking about some other topic; we’ll talk about politics or drugs or Lena Helmsley.’”

Tom Leykis, talk jock for KFRAI: Los Angeles, is bothered by what he sees as inconsistencies in the government’s concept of deregulation. “I find it fascinating,” he said, “that Presidents Reagan and Bush have continued to appoint folks to the FCC who endorse deregulation and the concept of radio and TV stations being loss of pieces on a Monopoly board, yet when it comes to content, [they] have no interest in deregulation whatsoever. If conservatives really believe in the free market, then they should let the free market decide what is on the air and what will go off the air.”

Leykis believes that the free market itself will regulate content. The public and advertising community will ultimately reject a broadcaster if he “consistently broadcasts in bad taste with complete disregard for the public interest,” he said.

“Certainly there are folks who are there strictly to shock and who have no talent,” Leykis said. “If FCC regulations didn’t exist, neither would the term ‘shock jock’; there’d be nothing shocking about the performance of a Howard Stern or a Grease-

man. What makes it shocking is that it’s forbidden.”

Don (the Greaseman) Tracht, who re-

placed Howard Stern as morning host at WWDG(FM) Washington, told BROADCAST-

ING that “I don’t consider myself indecent, and I operate under the full provisions of the FCC. I consider myself a professional broadcaster who doesn’t need to use (indec-

ency) to create a following.”

Asked about the potential change for “shock radio” should the FCC take further steps against alleged indecency, Tracht said: “I’m not afraid. I try to lump me in with these shock jocks and you forget that I’ve been doing this for 20 years.” It is only recently, said Tracht, that “people who have no talent or finesse on the air, seeking to create an image, use shocking things to get a following. They are the people who don’t deserve to weave a tapestry of stories or come up with a unique turn of phrase. I’d call myself a shocked jock.”

“What surprises me,” Clark said, “that radio is being pursued on this issue as opposed to television. Frankly, I would hope that we would ultimately decide our own fate, and that we would have broadcasters who would have an obligation to their audience not to run tasteless material.”

Karmazin also mentioned the radio ver-
sus television issue; albeit in a different context, citing a recent Oprah Winfrey show on fathers who had sex with their daughters. “I’m not suggesting that this was indecent,” he said, “but is the FCC using the pretense that it’s OK to talk about sex in a serious connotation but not in a comedic connotation?”

—Infinity’s Mel Karmazin

Many in the industry agree that until there is an indecency standard there is little point in accusing broadcasters of violating an ambiguous code. “If you want me to go at 55 miles an hour,” said Karmazin, “then post a limit that says 55. Don’t give me a ticket because I don’t know what the speed limit is.”

“I think the FCC is afraid to set an
FCC approves McCaw takeover of LIN

Hostile takeover of New York group owner given green light to proceed; FCC wants to know more about role of TCI’s Malone as McCaw director

McCaw Cellular Communications last week won a battle in its hostile tender offer for LIN Broadcasting Corp. based in New York, but still does not possess a controlling block of the company. The FCC issued an order last Thursday (Aug. 31) approving the transfer of LIN’s broadcast and cellular licenses to McCaw.

The order is effective tomorrow (Sept. 5). However, McCaw said last week it had been tendered 2.3 million shares of LIN Broadcasting, which has more than 50 million shares outstanding. McCaw is extending its $110-per-share tender offer for LIN Broadcast until Sept. 22. According to a LIN spokeswoman, the company intends to “promptly” appeal the decision by the FCC staff.

The FCC conditioned its approval on McCaw’s supplying it with a “description of John Malone’s position and duties as a director of McCaw.”

In addition to being a McCaw director, Malone is president of Tele-Communications Inc., the country’s largest cable operator. LIN had argued that Malone’s presence on McCaw’s board triggers prohibited cable-television crossownership in areas where LIN stations cover TCI cable systems.

Raising a character issue, LIN also said the commission must investigate Malone’s role in a cable renewal proceeding in Jefferson City, Mo., that resulted in a $36 million antitrust judgment against TCI in 1986. The commission said if the additional information it requested does not demonstrate that Malone is “fully insolated, any necessary action can be taken, including submission of a specific refusal statement.”

As for the character qualification issues arising from Malone and the Jefferson City case, the commission said: “If it is determined that Malone did participate in or know of the activities in the Jefferson City proceeding, the commission can take any appropriate action...at such time.”

For sale: two Noble AM-FM combos

Group puts Connecticut and New York stations on block to make way for future major market purchases

Noble Broadcast Group, one of the nation’s largest privately held radio station group owners, is selling its AM-FM combos on Long Island, N.Y., and in New Haven, Conn. The owner of 18 stations expects to get at least $75 million for the stations that the company purchased in 1986 for $43 million.

Noble has retained First Boston Corp. to sell WAVI(AM) New Haven-WKCI(FM) Hamden, Conn., and WBAI(AM) Freeport-WBAB-FM Babylon, N.Y., according to Noble Chairman and majority owner John T. Lynch. The sale will help the company meet its short-term goal of paying down its debt, Lynch said.

He added the company’s longer-term goals are to expand into major markets and to establish a radio network. “We’ve got to be in major markets...We’ll be announcing an acquisition very soon,” he said.

Earlier this year, Noble made a $200 million offer to acquire the United Stations and Transtar radio networks, but was rejected. United Stations and Transtar, which have worked together closely in the past, merged last month (BROADCASTING, Aug. 21).

Noble retained First Boston one month ago to evaluate an unsolicited offer for the entire broadcast group, he said, an offer that was rejected. Noble said: “I’m 42 years old. It’s too early for me to pack it in.”

Lynch said that management at each station was attempting to put together a buyout offer for that combo. The general managers at the New York and Connecticut stations were not available for comment last Friday.

Noble Broadcast Group started in 1978 with XETRA-AM-FM Tijuana, Mexico (San Diego). In 1984 the company started an aggressive and expensive market campaign with the purchase of KOCF(FM) Los Angeles for $18.5 million. Noble sold the station in 1986 to Legacy Broadcasting for $43.5 million, following the death of the company’s original majority shareholder, Edward Noble, who founded the group with Lynch.

Since Lynch took over the group four years ago, Noble has grown to an 18-station group in 10 markets. In addition to the stations in Long Island, New Haven and San Diego, the company owns AM-FM combinations in Kansas City, Mo., Denver, Boston, Houston and Seattle. It owns stand-alone FM’s in St. Louis and Toledo, Ohio.

Earlier this year Noble announced an agreement to sell its two Boston stations for $39 million, but the sale did not go through. In May, the company said it was seeking opportunities to buy stations in the Los Angeles, San Francisco, Chicago and New York markets.

AOR-formatted WBBF-FM had the third highest share among radio stations located in the Nassau/Suffolk counties’ primary metropolitan statistical area this spring, according to Arbitron. The AM station simulcasts the FM along with news and talk programming.

Lynch said that Noble owns “a lot of land and property” that goes along with each of the combos up for sale. “We own all the transmitting sites and a couple of different buildings in New Haven and Long Island,” he said.

Noble’s New Haven FM, which broadcasts adult contemporary hits, was the highest rated station in New Haven this spring, according to Arbitron. The AM has a nostalgia format.

WAVI(AM) is on 1300 kHz with 1 kw full-time, WKCI is on 101.3 mhz with 50 kw and antenna 1,070 feet above average terrain. WBAI(AM) is on 1240 kHz with 1 kw fulltime. WBBF-FM is on 102.3 mhz with 3 kw and antenna 300 feet above average terrain.

Spanish TV the latest to go private

Government authorizes three channels; Italy’s Berlusconi among investors

Europe’s commercial TV explosion has broken down the doors of another nation’s media monopoly—Spain’s.

Three new commercial TV networks, the first nationwide with Spain’s state commercial channels, will now be allowed on the air there following a long-awaited government grant in late August.

The Spanish government moves end a three-decade-long monopoly by the country’s state-supported TV service and is in line with similar deregulatory movements in Italy, France and, most recently, the UK.

Spain, with nearly 11 million TV households, is Europe’s fifth largest TV market and currently has two state-supported national services and five regional commercial channels.

Leading European media companies jumped at the chance to participate in the ventures with Spanish investors. Among those with a stake in the new channels are Silvio Berlusconi of Italy and Canal Plus of France, both of which have been actively looking to expand their European-wide interests.

International media mogul Rupert Murdoch and his News International Corp. was among those turned down. Publishing group Zeta and a group of Catalan entrepreneurs were also involved in losing bids.

The three channels, Tele 5, Antena 3—Television and Canal Plus, will start no later than next February, according to Spanish news agency Efe. Antena 3, an all-news service, could begin as early as October. It is expected to take a number of years before
the channels have a fully national reach. Although commercial freedoms are available for the first time to private broadcasters, the new channels are subject to some programming and ownership restrictions.

The channel's 10-year license, for instance, incorporates a 50% European Community quota on commercial movie broadcasts. Other strictures are that 40% of the channels' programming must be Spanish and 10% must be produced by the channel.

Ownership limits also keep any one group or individual at a 25% ceiling, while foreign investors are also limited to a 25% interest.

Among the principal shareholders of Tele 5 is Silvio Berlusconi's Fininvest holding company, with 25%, publishing group Anaya and the National Organization of the Blind.

Berlusconi, who owns Italy's leading commercial networks, has expanded his European interests widely in recent years, with his holdings including Spain's largest production facility. He is also a partner in France in the commercial channel La Cinc, and in Germany he has holdings in a leading commercial satellite service. Tele 5 will offer a range of entertainment programs, including programs in popular variety show formats. No news service is planned by the channel.

Canal Plus is jointly owned by Prisa, publisher of Spain's leading daily, El Pais, a group of Spanish bankers and Canal Plus of France, with 25%. The French Canal Plus has also been seeking ways to expand on the success in France of its highly profitable pay TV service: for instance, by planning to launch a German-language satellite pay TV service.

Canal Plus will offer films without commercial breaks, as well as sports, cultural, children's and information programming.

The third channel, Antena 3-Television, is backed by Spanish publishing companies and investors from the U.S., France, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands. The service will be 24 hours of news and sports.

Reform of the Spanish television system, which was launched in the mid-1950's under the regime of General Francisco Franco, has been expected since Socialist Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez took office in 1982. A key step came in spring 1988 when the parliament passed the law authorizing the three new private networks. Bids for the channels were accepted late last spring.

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Racism, drugs top network news agendas

Among special programs are ABC's all-black production and NBC's viewer participation show 'The R.A.C.E."

Network television in the final days of summer is focusing on some of the most difficult domestic issues confronting the country—race and drugs.

ABC News last week produced its highly promoted Black in White America, which attracted almost as much attention for how it was produced as for what it said. The hour-long documentary on Aug. 29 was the product almost exclusively of black producers, writers and correspondents. The production was the result of a decision by ABC News President Roone Arledge that a hard look at one of the most enduring issues confronting the country—racism—required the editorial control of black journalists.

The program was basically divided into three segments. One was on wealthy blacks in Los Angeles struggling to maintain their black identity while complaining that their social and economic status is no protection against racism, as well as on a successful black CEO of a $60 million company who said black leaders should emphasize individual initiative. Another was on blacks living in a drug-infested public housing project in Chicago. And the third was on the Tuskegee airmen in World War II who proved the American military wrong about blacks' ability to fly fighter planes by becoming a top fighter-plane outfit. Carole Simpson, Charles Thomas and George Streeter were the correspondents.

The documentary opened with a piece showing the effect on blacks of living in a white society—young black children being shown pictures of children identical but for the color of their skin picked out the white ones as pretty and smart and the blacks as ugly and dirty.

The reviews were mixed. The Washington Post, in a sympathetic piece, said that "Black reminds us of how far we have to go before things truly will be better for most of those who live with being black in white America." The New York Times and The Wall Street Journal criticized the documentary for what the reviews said was careless use of the term "racism."

The documentary was not a major ratings success, according to Nielsen. It averaged a 9.0 rating and 17 share for the hour, trailing NBC's Midnight Caller, with an 11.5/22, and CBS's Tuesday movie (11/3/21).

This week, NBC News makes its own contribution to the study of racism in America, with a two-part prime time special on what the network says will be television's first public-opinion survey on race relations. The R.A.C.E. will be broadcast at 10-11 p.m. ET on Tuesday and Wednesday (Sept. 5 and 6). The Racial Attitudes and Coexistence Studies, which will be anchored by Bryant Gumbel, will be the final presentation of NBC News's summer showcase of prime time specials.

The special will use computer technology and social science to involve viewers at home in four cities—New York, Los Angeles, Milwaukee, and Jackson, Miss. When asked a question about their attitudes toward race-related situations, members of the four groups will punch their replies into hand-held microprocessors. The Quick Tally system, which will be linked to the New York studio by satellite, will permit the responses to be gathered by the National Opinion Research Center, processed and converted into charts and graphs in less than five seconds. Along with the viewers at home, celebrity guests, including film director Spike Lee, author Maya Angelou, journalist Patrick Buchanan and Boston University President John Silber, will take the test and match their scores against national poll results compiled by NORC.

The drug-related project is an NBC News enterprise. A series of pieces under the title Drugs: A Plague Upon the Land began yesterday (Sept. 3), with reports on This Week with David Brinkley and World News Sunday, and to continue throughout the week on World News Tonight, Nightline, Good Morning America, Prime Time Live and other NBC News programs. The series will center on President Bush's speech on the administration's anti-drug program on Tuesday (Sept. 5), beginning at 9 p.m. ET. ABC News anchorman Peter Jennings will anchor the live coverage. And ABC News will poll Americans on their views regarding the drug problem and the President's plan to deal with it. The results will be broadcast on World News Tonight and Prime Time Live.

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Disney to control Muppet purse strings

Acquires Jim Henson Associates, including domestic and foreign product and merchandising rights to characters, excluding 'Sesame Street'; Henson enters long-term production agreement with Disney

The Walt Disney Co. last week arrived at an agreement in principle to acquire Jim Henson Associates Inc., and will enter a long-term exclusive production arrangement (BROADCASTING, Aug. 14) with the man who created the Muppets and other popular children's characters over the last 34 years. Disney Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Michael D. Eisner and Henson, present for the announcement last Monday (Aug. 28) in Lake Buena Vista, Fla., came to terms on a deal providing Disney with nearly all rights to domestic and foreign product produced by Henson Associates.

Hollywood sources and published reports place Disney's investment offer at $150 million for Henson's entire film and TV libraries, including The Muppet Show, Muppet Babies and Fraggle Rock series. Disney will also acquire merchandising, publishing and other rights to Henson's Muppet characters, including Kermit, Miss Piggy, Animal, Fozzie and Gonzo. Henson will continue to hold exclusive rights to all characters he created for the Public Broadcasting Service's Sesame Street.

At the Florida ceremony, Eisner hailed the agreement as "a business association made in heaven." He said: "Jim Henson is an extremely creative man who has successfully translated his art of puppetry into high-quality mass entertainment, bringing enjoyment to people of all ages in every corner of the world." Disney Studios Chairman Jeffrey Katzenberg characterized the possible new union as "the perfect marriage for The Walt Disney Company." In a phone conversation from his London-based Henson International Productions headquarters, Henson told BROADCASTING HIT will fold under the Disney banner, but his Creature Workshop (also in London) will continue to produce projects for outside buyers as well as for Disney. He added that Jim Henson Productions will be formed to produce exclusive productions for Disney and will be opening an office in Los Angeles less than two months from now (in addition to current offices in New York and London), with a remote possibility of it locating at Disney's Burbank, Calif., studios.

"The Creature Shop will maintain its autonomy," emphasized Henson. "Its first priority will be to produce projects of mine, second, to Disney, and third, to outside projects, if we don't keep it busy enough." About Jim Henson Productions, he said: "All work we do, will go to Disney" as part of the exclusive agreement. Henson says he expects licensing revenue will be generated from all product aired on the broadcast networks and The Disney Channel, in addition to any programs distributed by Disney Home Video and the feature film unit.

Richard Nanula, Disney's director of strategic planning, says the agreement will call for Disney to acquire "all of his productions with very few exceptions." Of those "exceptions," Nanula cited possible Creature Workshop productions and Sesame Street. He added: "Disney will handle all the distribution in all the markets [foreign and domestic]."

Henson said the deal evolved out of a meeting last May that he had with Eisner regarding a new Muppets movie venture and grew to the "thought of possibly pulling this into a bigger deal and folding us into the company." On the timing of the

New York moves

WWOR-TV New York's test of two new first-run prime time dramas this fall (BROADCASTING, Aug. 28), is just one part of the station's strategy to challenge perennial independent market leader WWOR-TV. WWOR-TV is adding another high-profile off-network comedy this season, Who's the Boss?, in three other new comedies to expand a comedy block launched last year with The Cosby Show and Kate & Allie. The expanded block will run from 5 to 8 p.m., and comprises Boss, The New Leave it to Beaver, McHale's Navy, Silver Spoons, Cosby and Kate & Allie. Also for prime time, the station has acquired the first-run Mystery Wheel of Adventure, a package of 10 original movies, that will air Sundays at 8 p.m.

For daytime, the station will launch a new three-hour live, locally produced newstalk-entertainment show this month called Nine Broadcast Plaza, scheduled for 10 a.m.-1 p.m. (BROADCASTING, Aug. 21).

In late night, the station moved Arenallo Hall to 11:30 p.m. to compete directly with The Tonight Show, beating it in the first sweep period there (July) by 20%, and capturing first place in the period. For the new season, WWOR-TV has scheduled Orion's new Crimewatch Tonight as Hall's lead-in at 9 p.m.

Once considered the also-ran in the New York independent market, WWOR-TV now has a solid hold on second place among indices.
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move, Henson added: "It was not a calculated thing at all. It came out of a conversation a few months ago and escalated into a major deal."

"I originally had an exploratory conversation with Ron Miller [former president of then-titled Walt Disney Productions Inc.] to work as a possible creative force in the company. It was an idea that occurred to me a number of years ago. I have always been a fan of this company. When asked if Disney was just trying to absorb a competitor with the acquisition, Henson replied: "If I thought that was their aim, I wouldn't have made the deal. I don't think that is true. If I thought they were going to put us on the back shelf, I wouldn't have done it."

From the Disney side of the fence, Nanula says Henson "will be allowed a great deal of autonomy." Nanula added: "It makes a lot of strategic sense for both parties. Michael [Eisner] and Jim [Henson] have known each other over the last 20 years. All it took was some studying and negotiating. We're shooting to have the deal completed in the next couple of months." He also said Henson will be able to maintain his current commitments, including his fall 1989 series The Ghost of Faffner Hall for HBO. Henson says the show has a 13-episode commitment and that he will honor any other renewals of the program.

"In terms of what Michael has said, I will have a good deal of creative control," Henson said. "I feel very comfortable working with Michael and Jeffrey Katzenberg. Both men work collaboratively—this is the way I have always worked—I look forward to working with these guys. A great deal of time is talking and making deals. As far as I'm concerned, it feels like I will be able to spend more time working creatively than I have in the past."

Disney is also using the new association as an additional draw to its theme parks with special Muppet attractions and rides. Construction has already begun on a state-of-the-art three-dimensional Muppet theater at the Florida Disney-MGM Studios Theme Park. The theater will feature a high-tech audio-animatronics display (to be co-produced by Henson and Walt Disney Imagining), in what Henson says will partially resemble the "Captain EO" video-effects attraction at Disney's theme parks. The project is slated to be completed by May 1 to compete against the same-day opening of Universal Studios Florida, which will feature Hanna-Barbera cartoon characters.

Henson added that Muppet characters will mix with Disney characters during the theme park parade, but video and film renditions of each company's properties will "in all probability remain separate entities. He also said there had been no discussions of any Henson-animated programming joining the ranks of Disney's Buena Vista Television syndicated block of cartoons."

Jane Wallace to host Lifetime talk show

Lifetime Television, the cable service that last month announced plans to present 15 world premiere movies beginning in April 1990, continued the expansion of its original programming schedule with the signing of journalist Jane Wallace for her first cable venture, an hour-long, weekday talk show.

The Jane Wallace Show will be seen Monday through Friday at 1 p.m., ET, beginning October 23, and will be taped be-

Syndication Marketplace

Harmony Gold said it has acquired the rights to several documentaries from Tokyo Broadcasting Systems, which Harmony said it would distribute to the worldwide television marketplace. Domestically, Harmony said the shows would probably be licensed to cable. The company also has optioned the rights to several series from the Japanese network. "We hope that this will be just the beginning of an extensive relationship that will lead to further acquisitions and co-productions" with Tokyo Broadcasting Systems, said Norman Siderow, vice president of acquisitions and development, Harmony Gold.

Select Media has tapped Frank Deford, the editor-in-chief of the new all-sports daily, The National, to provide commentary for InSport, the program distributor's new weekly sports magazine show debuting Sept. 9. The show has cleared 85% of the country on 112 markets, including all the top 30 markets. Select said.

King World's Inside Edition has created a Los Angeles bureau and named Bill Walker Bureau chief. The program has also tapped former Entertainment Tonight correspondent Scott Osborne, former ABC-TV anchor Cynthia Allison, and producer David Niven Jr., as correspondents for the bureau. Inside Edition reporter Steve McPartlin will transfer there from New York. The bureau will have 20 staffers. That word came one week after KWP announced the opening of a Washington bureau for the program, to be headed by former ABC News producer Cherie Simon. Av Westin, senior vice president, KWP, said that bureau would, in effect, attempt to turn tips from Washington sources into investigative pieces of national scope.

The upcoming new program, Inside Video This Week, has cleared 80% of the country on 92 stations. The show, which will provide a weekly look at goings-on in the home video market, premieres Sept. 22. The barter program is being produced by Bluebonnet Productions, distributed to stations by M.G. Perin, and sold to advertisers by All American Television.

Raymond Horn Syndication said its program America's Block Forum, has been renewed for a 12th year by stations covering 70% of the country. New stations carrying the show include: WABC-TV New York, WXIX-TV Detroit and WTVJ-TV Miami. The new season premiere is Oct. 1.

The Byron Allen Show, Genesis Entertainment's foray into weekend late fringe, has cleared 149 stations and achieved 94.9% coverage nationwide. Genesis says 135 of the stations carrying the show are either network-owned or affiliated stations. The one-hour weekly variety show will premiere Sept. 9.

In other news, Genesis reports that The Best of the National Geographic has added 17 stations to its carriage list. Among new clients are CBS stations WTVI-TV Tampa, WCPX-TV Orlando and KTVN-TV Kansas City; NBC stations WXYZ-TV Cleveland, KCNC-TV Denver and WAGZ-TV Buffalo; and ABC stations WVTM-TV Indianapolis, WISH-TV Milwaukee and KTVX-TV Salt Lake City.

The Mystery Wheel of Adventure, DLT Entertainment Ltd.'s series of 10 two-hour movies premiering in first-run syndication October 9, has been cleared in over 75% of the country, including 90 stations and 30 of the top 30 markets. The Starz movies, starring Simon Dutton, will feature guest appearances by Pamela Sue Martin, Morgan Brittany, Gayle Hunnicut, John Astin and Vince Edwards. Patrick Macnee and Lloyd Bochner will guest star in The Dick Francis Mysteries, featuring Ian McShane as David Cleveland.
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Prime Network signs senior baseball

Prime Network has amended its claims that it does not seek to compete head on with national cable sports programmers ESPN and SportsChannel America (SCA). Announcing that it has landed exclusive rights to a sports product with formidable national appeal, the newly formed Senior Professional Baseball Association, announces the terms of the year-long agreement were announced.

Denver-based Prime, a consortium of regional channels, said it will air 30 or 72 regular season SPBA games, two each week at 7:30 p.m. ET Fridays and noon ET Sundays, as well as the league's Jan. 21 all-star game and early February postseason next year. All eight teams will field former major league baseball players over 35 years old—including, this year, potential Hall of Famers Craig Nettles, Luis Tiant and Steve Yeager—and will be based in Florida cities where Prime Network affiliate Sunshine Network will originate coverage. Prime said it will uplink the games from Houston, via GE Americom satellite Satcom F10, to a national audience of more than 18 million.

A self-described "programming partnership," Prime Network comprises four Affiliated Regional Communications regional cable sports channels owned by Tele-Communications Inc. and Bill Daniels & Associates, Sunshine Network, Home Sports Entertainment (Dallas), Prime Sports Network (Denver) and Prime Sports Network-Midwest (launching this fall in Indianapolis). Daniels-owned Prime Ticket (Los Angeles) will also telecast the SPBA season. Channels in Pittsburgh, San Francisco and Seattle are planned, and informal program-sharing agreements exist with regions based in Washington, New York and Detroit.

Prime Network President Ed Frazier had said last month that Prime is "not looking at competing with SCA or ESPN as national programmers" (Broadcasting, Aug. 14). But, according to Daniels, Frazier now "hopes to expand Prime Network's national programming, including SPBA games, by establishing regional sports networks in other major television markets, management agreements with existing regional sports networks (and) providing sports programming to cable operators in other markets... and to the TVRO industry." Frazier could not be reached for comment.

Week 49 goes to NBC, Fox's 'Married' moves into top-20 ranking

NBC won week 49 (ended Aug. 27) with an 11.4/21 over ABC's 9.7/18.1 and CBS's 9.6/18. Last year the numbers were NBC, 12.2/23; CBS, 9.7/17.8; and ABC, 8.9/16.3.

In the evening news race, CBS took the week with a 9.7/21 over ABC's 8.5/19 and NBC's 8.0/18. A year ago it was ABC on top with 8.9/20, CBS second with a 9.0/20 and NBC last with an 8.6/18.

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time-replacement. |
| 2. | 19.0/34 | N |
| 3. | 17.0/32 | Different Wave |
| 4. | 16.4/32 | Cosby Show |
| 5. | 16.4/32 | N |
| 6. | 16.4/32 | Dear John |
| 7. | 16.4/32 | Good Times |
| 8. | 14.7/38 | Who's the Boss? |
| 9. | 14.7/38 | N |
| 10. | 14.7/38 | NBC Monday Movie |
| 11. | 14.2/38 | McBride |
| 12. | 14.0/38 | N |
| 13. | 14.0/38 | Night Court |
| 14. | 14.0/38 | A
terrestrial |
| 15. | 13.9/38 | Perfect Strangers |
| 16. | 13.0/38 | CBS Sunday Movie |
| 17. | 13.0/38 | C|
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Fox's "Married... With Children" grabbed its best rating to date (12.4/22) and pushed the network's programing into the top-20 category. Married had its next best night during week 45, when it scored an 11.2/20.

For the book of days, NBC won Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday. ABC won Tuesday and Friday, which left CBS with a Sunday-night win.

Syndication Scorecard

(Week ending August 20)

1. 11.6 Wheel of Fortune, syn. 226 99
2. 10.7 Jeopardy! 213 99
3. 9.4 Cosby Show 198 98
4. 8.6 Oprah Winfrey Show 212 98
5. 7.8 Wheel of Fortune, whnd. 201 89
6. 7.2 Star Trek 203 97
7. 7.1 Current Affair 120 91
8. 6.8 Entertainment Tonight 175 96
9. 6.5 Portmex Heartburn 89 67
10. 5.9 Unwed Dad, sit-com 91 66
11. 5.6 Mamas Family, syn. 192 93
12. 5.5 Donahue 227 99
13. 5.3 General Hospital 198 98
14. 5.2 People's Court 186 91
15. 5.1 Family Feud, syn. 129 86

The following programs are included, but not ranked.

5.5 Wrestling Network 159 91
11.5 World Wrestling Fed. 256 97
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London
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Radio '89: All that jazz, country and MOR...

Among highlights of four-day annual NAB gathering are more than 70 panel sessions, engineering conference and star-studded awards ceremony.

The National Association of Broadcasters Radio '89 promises to be all things to all people. That is how NAB is plugging the convention, which opens next week (Sept. 13-16) at the New Orleans convention center. The four-day show offers more than 70 panel sessions, a packed exhibit hall, a two-day engineering conference, a gala awards ceremony, and a chance to exchange information and ideas.

Registration for the radio show is already up 17% over last year (some 6,500 attended the conference in Washington in 1988). Some 170 exhibitors will fill the more than 40,000 square feet of the exhibit hall, and nearly 100 suites are reserved at the Hilton Westin and Doubletree hotels (a third hotel was needed to accommodate the overflow). The exhibit hall is open Sept. 14-16.

The speakers list alone should appeal to all segments of the radio industry. For station managers, the Friday management luncheon (Sept. 15) features D. Wayne Calloway, PepsiCo board chairman and chief executive officer. In the sales arena, Red Auerbach, who has been coach, general manager and president of the Boston Celtics basketball team, appears Saturday morning (Sept. 16) to discuss how to "build a winning team."

Jack Trout, president of Trout & Ries Inc., a New York-based marketing firm, will share his promotion and marketing tips at a Friday morning session. And for program directors, Thursday afternoon (Sept. 14) speaker Patricia Zigarmi, co-author of Leadership and the One Minute Manager, tackles the subject of dealing with difficult talent.

NAB is putting a greater emphasis on programing in this year's convention agenda. Indeed, the Marconi Radio Awards ceremony Saturday night is intended to highlight the industry's star power (see box, page 45). The black tie ceremony is being promoted as radio's version of the Emmy Awards.

The Crystal Radio Awards, which recognize 10 stations for their community service, will be presented at a Thursday luncheon. Hosting that ceremony is John Gambling of WOR(AM) and Wendell Goler, White House correspondent for the Associated Press. NAB's national radio award recipient is Ray Livesay, chairman of the J.R. Livesay Radio Group and long-time daytime-radio advocate. He will be honored at the Friday luncheon.

Some 18 format rooms are scheduled, and a programming production showcase will be held Friday afternoon (4-6 p.m.) in the exhibit hall. Some 40 companies are expected to participate, and free pizza will be served by Pizza Hut. The Broadcast Industry Council to Improve American Productivity and Pizza Hut are co-sponsoring "Reader's Day," a public service campaign aimed at fighting illiteracy, for which they hope to enlist radio station support.

Several activities are planned for the exhibit hall. Thursday afternoon from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. the floor comes to life with a carnival-like atmosphere with free food and hundreds of prizes to be given away. And on Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., a walk-around lunch in the exhibit hall featuring Cajun cuisine is slated.

Program directors have a variety of sessions from which to choose. On Thursday morning, "Morals vs. Mornings" is likely to draw a crowd as panelists discuss the controversial programing that has been targeted by religious groups and others as indecent. Carolyn Fox, WHYY(AM) Providence, R.I., will be joined by Bob Larson, International Broadcasting Network, and Ed McAteer, Religious Roundtable.

The "Diary Debate" is a Saturday afternoon session that examines the debate surrounding the redesigned Arbitron diary. Radio programers can also hear panelists discuss how to recruit and train on-the-air talent during a Saturday morning workshop.

From a management viewpoint, Thursday's "Five Factors in Buying a Station" could provide new insight. That same day, Bill Moyes, from The Research Group, will unveil the results of a special report called "MegaSales: How America's Most Successful Radio Sales People Do It." A Friday afternoon session on women managers—their "attitudes, actions and achievements"—is yet another convention highlight.

From a marketing standpoint, Thursday afternoon, radio operators can listen to panelists discuss how to develop a marketing plan with Bill Figenshau of Viacom. Rob Balom of The Benchmark Co., Austin, Tex., is conducting a session on developing sales strategies for the 1990's on Friday.

"Why I Don't Buy Your Radio Station" is directed toward sales directors looking for advice on how to "respond to media buyers who choose to advertise on TV." That discussion occurs Friday afternoon.

On Saturday, "Promotions: Selling Your Soul" will explore how stations can 'strike a balance between programing promotions and sales promotions." Also in the promotion category, conventionees can hear firsthand about events marketing to their "attitudes, actions and achievements" budget manpower and resources, recruit volunteers and obtain sponsorship—at a Friday afternoon panel.

As for legislative and regulatory issues concerning radio, several congressmen are slated to attend the convention. For example, on Friday morning Representatives Billy Tauzin (D-La.), Howard Coble (R-N.C.), and Hamilton Fish Jr. (R-N.Y.) will share their views on grassroots lobbying and its importance. On Saturday, "Radio Only: Prospects for License and Technical Reform in the 101st Congress" features Congressmen Matthew Rinaldo (R-N.J.) and Jim Slattery (D-Kan.).

On Radio
Arbitron revisions

The Arbitron Radio Advisory Council has passed two resolutions. The first said that the Arbitron Co. will increase its sample size by 33% in no more than a three-year period at no additional costs to subscribers while maintaining the same number of published reports in each market. The second, in response to the FCC's relaxations of its one-to-a-market rule, revised Arbitron's simulcast definitions to include an addition to their current policy—"two or more stations home to the same metro."

Radio '89 schedules four days for medium's technical side

Radio engineering sessions have been scheduled every day during Radio '89. Topics will include AM and FM technical improvement, digital radio stations, remote control of transmission facilities, AM directional antennas, shortwave broadcasting and expanded use of personal computers at radio stations.

An AM session set for Saturday morning (Sept. 16) will focus mainly on how the newly FCC-mandated National Radio Systems Committee (NRSC) standard. Bill Ammons of Circuit Research Labs, Tempe, Ariz., will describe the procedures necessary to conform to the standard, while Almon Clegg of Denon Inc., Parsippany N.J., will talk about the changes that can be expected in consumer AM radios as stations convert to NRSC. John Bisset of Delta Electronics, Alexandria, Va., will describe how to use a spaliner monitor to measure whether a station's emissions conform to the NRSC limit of 10 kHz.

Nearly a year to the day after another AM event, a demonstration of stereo music simulcast over WNOE-AM-FM New Orleans. The purpose of the demonstration is to provide a quality comparison of the state of the art of both AM and FM stereo today. If technical complications involving interference-causing factors in the convention center can be solved, the demonstration will be held at the NAB booth in the exhibit hall.

FM topics, to be covered on Friday afternoon, will be more varied. Robert A. Surrette of Shively Laboratories, Bridgton, Maine, will discuss the design and performance of directional antennas, which have recently been organized for wider use in the FM band by the FCC. Another recent commission action has been to allow a majority of Class A FM stations to double their power from 3 kw to 6 kw. Those upgrades will be discussed by Wes Whiddon of Group W, Houston. Also to be covered will be the NRSC-sponsored field testing of multipath distortions on FM.

An all-day seminar on digital radio stations will be held on Wednesday. Topics will include digital audio storage, CD player maintenance, digital transmission, post-production techniques and transmission. The seminar luncheon speaker will be Steve Lyman, senior technical officer, Canadian Broadcasting Corp., whose talk is entitled "Practical Problems Encountered in Building a Digital Audio Suite."

Back from the USSR

In spirit of glasnost, Washington, New York and Seattle stations broadcast live from Moscow, other Soviet cities

During a turbulent year in the Communist world, the Soviet Union has chosen to continue its glasnost policy and further open its society to Western influences—including rock and roll music. This summer, American radio stations have been invited to Russia by the Soviet government to broadcast live back to the U.S.

American rock stations going to the Soviet Union appears to be becoming a trend. "Shortly after we did our broadcast, the Soviets informed me that they were being deluged with requests from American radio stations to broadcast from their facilities," said Andy Beaubien, program director for Legacy Broadcasting's WCXR-FM Woodbridge, Va. (Washington), which went to Moscow in June.

"Glasnost is creating the possibility of broadcasting live from Moscow and I think a lot of stations are going to take advantage of it," said Ted Utz, station manager for Legacy's WNEW-FM New York, who returned from a Soviet trip last month. "How long it will last, I don't think anybody knows. The Soviet Union has a long way to go when it comes to catching up with the rest of the world" as far as patience with free speech, he said.

The first radio station to go over was Shamrock Broadcasting's KKKX-FM Seattle, which visited the Soviet Union as part of a two-week tour in late May that also included visits to cities in other parts of Europe. The station traveled to three Soviet cities, Moscow, Leningrad and Tashkent, a city near the Soviet Union's borders with Afghanistan and China, which has been designated as Seattle's "sister city." The station broadcast four hours a day to Seattle, except during the stay in Leningrad, when technical problems arose. Programing included the station's usual adult contemporary rock music and interviews with Soviet people.

WCXR-FM broadcast its morning show, Harris in the Morning, from the headquarters of Gosteleradio, the Soviet radio and TV agency, in Moscow during the week of June 26. Along with its regular format of classic rock music, the station presented several live and taped interviews with people in the city. Many of the interviews were with individuals involved in the arts and the media. Beaubien said, but the station was not restricted to those subjects. Other interviewees ranged from high school students to government officials.

"We never felt that we were prevented from talking to people and people were extremely open, frank and honest about things," Beaubien said, adding that Soviet officials were asked beforehand if there were topics that should not be discussed, and the station was given the freedom to talk about anything.

Access to people on the streets was also easy for album rock station WNEW-FM, according to morning host Dave Herman. Most of its interviews were with Moscow youth. A happy coincidence for the station Marconi Radio Awards

NAB is going for glamour and glitz at this year's radio convention, when it presents for the first time at a gala black tie dinner, its Marconi Radio Awards. The ceremony on Saturday night (Sept. 16) brings the four-day conference to a close. The awards cover 23 categories including station of the year, personality of the year, and legendary station, among others. Hosted by Dick Clark, the event includes top entertainers: Donna Summer, Paul Shaffer and the World's Most Dangerous Band; John Candy; Mack & Jamie, and Jeff Altman. Moreover, the awards, which NAB says will be radio's version of the Emmy's, will be presented by industry personalities, including Rick Dees, kris-FM Los Angeles; Larry King, Mutual Broadcasting; Bob Kingsley, Watermark, Los Angeles; Sally Jessy Raphael, ABC Talkradio, New York; Dick Purran, WCYY-FM Detroit; Wolfman Jack, and Bob & Tom, WOR-FM Indianapolis.
was that its planned dates for the Soviet trip coincided with the "Moscow Peace Festival" concert held on Aug. 13. Herman's show originated from Lenin Stadium, the concert site, during the station's week-long stay.

Heavy metal rock was played at the concert, featuring groups including Bon Jovi, Motley Crue, the Scorpions, Skid Row, Cinderella and a Russian band, Gorky Park. Herman was somewhat surprised that the Soviet government "allowed a heavy metal, headbanging music festival.... This is rock and roll that some American cities don't allow to be performed."

In contrast, Beaubien said he found little evidence that many of the Russian people were familiar with WCRX-FM's playlist of 1960's and 1970's rock. "They know who the Beatles and The Rolling Stones and Elton John are, but that type of music is not readily available to them," he said.

None of the stations broadcast their shows live to audiences in the Soviet Union. The signals were broadcast live in the U.S. only. However, both WCRX-FM and WNEW-FM provided Radio Moscow with taped highlights of their broadcasts which were played back later to Russian audiences. Beaubien, who heard the one-hour highlights on short wave after returning to Washington, claimed that it was the first U.S. radio show to be broadcast on Radio Moscow.

Both of the Legacy stations said that they got the idea to go to Russia while looking for ways to do something new with their morning shows. WNEW-FM's case, there was an effort to cover what it considered was a breaking music news story—the growth of rock in the Soviet Union, or "Rocknost," as Herman called it. Part of the appeal of a trip to Moscow for WCRX-FM was the "capital to capital" radio bridge between the cities angle, Beaubien said. "Washington is a special town in terms of the audience. The audience is really very internationally minded."

All three stations gained permission to enter the Soviet Union by first getting authorization from Gosteleradio. That step turned out to be the most difficult for WCRX-FM, and for them to find straight contact at Gosteleradio, Beaubien said. After that, however, the Soviet government was very receptive to the idea. "Had they been cool to it, it never would have happened. But the mood of the country being what it is, with glasnost and cultural exchanges, it led them to be very open to the idea and to get their message across," Beaubien said.

WNEW-FM avoided the early difficulties of contacting the correct Soviet officials by working through Belka International, a firm specializing in liaisons between the Soviet government and U.S. media organizations. But there were some complications after the stations arrived in Moscow.

The station had originally informed the Soviets that it would be broadcasting out of Gosteleradio in Moscow, as WCRX-FM did. But just before leaving, WNEW-FM learned that Westwood One had already set up studio and uplink equipment at Lenin Stadium for the Moscow Peace Festival. Westwood lent the facilities to the station during the week which resulted in considerable cost savings for WNEW-FM. Although Soviet officials at first objected to the new plans, they eventually agreed. "We feel quite certain that the reason they wanted us so badly to be in their own studios would be that they would really have more control over the broadcasts," Herman said. "They had no idea of what we were going to say or do and once we got to Lenin Stadium, there wasn't even a single plug they could pull on us."

As for the technical arrangements, WNEW-FM and WCRX-FM completed their trips with almost no flaws. Satellite communications from Moscow turned out to be as easy as setting up an uplink in any Western city because of a permanent link that has been established there by IDB Communications. But when WCRX left Moscow it ran into several difficulties. Transmissions outside of the capital had to be coordinated with the telephone and telegraph officials. "They didn't want to cooperate. They made everything difficult. They dragged on authorizing anything until the day we left (the U.S.)," said KXXR engineer Don Winget. Those difficulties prevented the planned broadcast from Leningrad.

Winget also complained that Soviet authorities monitored all of the station's transmissions and that part of one broadcast was "clipped" by Soviet engineers, although he could not be certain that it was done purposely. Like Herman, he suspects that there may have been attempts to censor the radio shows. But Winget had only praise for Gosteleradio, which provided studio space for KXXR in all three locations.

The stations said that it is too early to analyze whether the Soviet trips increased their popularity in their markets. But they were impressed with the general reaction of people they met on the streets. "You get in a cab and they find you’re from WNEW and they say, 'How was Russia?','" said Uzr.

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**Boston news executives resign over use of Barney Frank interview**

WEEI AM managing editor and acting news director quit when dub of interview requested for station's board is sent, instead, to Republican state committee

The major story that has blown up around Massachusetts Representative Barney Frank's acknowledgment of his involvement in same-sex marital arrangements is that it cost the Democratic congressman his job. But it did lead last week to the resignations of two top managers of Boston's all-news WEEI AM.

Managing editor Chris Ingram and acting news director Rosemary Lappin quit on Tuesday (Aug. 29) in a dispute with management over the use made of a tape of an interview with Frank. A dub of the interview the staff had been told was for the use of the station's board of directors was said to have been sent, instead, to the Republican state committee, which the staff was told requested it.

Ingram indicated he and Lappin were concerned about a perception problem. "We're not in the business of doing interviews that could be perceived as having been done for a special interest," he said. His problem, he added, was not with the Republican party, but, rather, with management. "It misrepresented the purpose of the request for the dub of the interview as an organ for the Republican party," and Lappin told the Boston Herald: "I believe there is no question this tape was being used for partisan considerations, and we at EEL were being used and our ethics violated."

Ingram said the incident was not an isolated one. The owners of the station, Mike and Helen Valerio, are active members of the Republican party. And Ingram said that over the years they have attempted to use the station to further Republican causes. He said that during the presidential campaign last year, Mike Valerio asked the staff to attempt to find "diet" on Democratic presidential candidate Michael Dukakis. Ingram said that project was abandoned after the news director at the time, John Rodman, objected, saying that kind of investigation could be done only if both campaigns were targeted. Rodman was fired six weeks ago.

The station issued a statement Tuesday saying only that management has "never interfered with the content of news" at WEEI AM.

The 12-minute live interview had been conducted, by telephone, beginning at 6:41 a.m. on Friday (Aug. 25). The station, like most of the rest of the media in the U.S., had been eager to talk to Frank after the Washington Times broke the story in its Friday editions that the congressman had hired—and later fired—a male prostitute as a personal aide. Lappin has said that at about 8 a.m., the secretary of WEEI General Manager Mike Wheeler asked her for a dub of the interview and that Wheeler later told her it was for the board. The dub was sent by courier to the headquarters of a restaurant owned by the Valerios—Pappa Gino's—in suburban Dedham—where the board was meeting. Ingram said that "someone at a high level" told Lappin he was at the board meeting when the request for the tape was received from state Republican officials.

GOP spokesman Ted Frier said he was present at the meeting when the tape was delivered by a staffer but that he did not know the source. Frier said the executive secretary of the party, Alexander Tennant, wanted to play the tape at a press conference to be held that morning calling on Frank to resign.

But there was an ironic twist to the story. The tape was played at the conference and the sound quality was very poor. Besides, he said, there was nothing on the tape "that wasn't known from the newspapers by 10 o'clock that morning." Frier said he told Tennant "there's no point" to running it. Calls to General Manager Wheeler were not returned. He was later said to have gone on vacation.

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Roy Stewart: FCC veteran gets top Mass Media post

Since joining commission in 1965, Stewart has gained appreciation of marketplace forces in regulation; receives high marks for overseeing ‘thousands’ of TV applications

On his last day as FCC chairman (Aug. 4), Dennis Patrick sent longtime FCC staffer Roy Stewart a blue and gold FCC seal for his office wall. On the back was the handwritten inscription: “To my favorite semi-reformed liberal.”

Stewart, then chief of the Mass Media Bureau's video services division and now designated by newly appointed Chairman Alfred Sikes to succeed Lex Felker as chief of the bureau on Oct. 1, readily acknowledges that Patrick’s characterization of him is more or less on the mark. “I grew up at the FCC in an era when regulation was the key,” says Stewart, who joined the agency in 1965 with a law degree from Cornell (1963) and the liberal Democratic point of view that was in vogue at the time. “The public interest was determined by the rules and regulations and policies, and Heaven help you if you missed applying one of those.”

But, he says, after he was appointed chief of the assignment and transfer branch of the FCC in 1974 by then Chairman Richard Wiley, he, along with the rest of the commission, began undergoing a gradual change in “regulatory attitude” that has continued to today.

“While it still says Democrat, I think I have grown to a better understanding that the marketplace, the competitive aspects of the marketplace, can suffice for extensive regulation,” he says.

Stewart says he recognized his own transformation several years ago when he found himself on a panel at a conference with several academics who argued that the public interest should be determined by rules and regulation. “I tried to explain that we should allow the public to play a greater role in determining the public interest and strip away some of the superficial regulations and let the public decide what they wanted to listen to and see.”

Asked if he feels Patrick or his predecessor Mark Fowler took the marketplace-for-regulation concept too far in that area, Stewart balks at first. But later he says, “I think the FCC has some responsibility in the area of children’s programming, not necessarily in program content, because there are difficult First Amendment problems, but perhaps in the area of commercialization.” Under Fowler, the FCC did away with limits on commercials in children’s programming.

Stewart begs off all questions having to do with FCC policy, saying he wants to wait until he is settled in his new job and has had a chance to talk things over at length with Sikes and become familiar with his agenda.

But Stewart says he has a nonpolicy agenda of his own. At the top of it is to make the processing of applications by the video and audio services branches as efficient as possible.

That goal is made difficult because federal budget-cutting over the past few years has led to a hiring freeze and attrition among key employees, especially in the FM branch of the audio services, which has been swamped with new station applications, Stewart says.

Stewart plans to fill the engineering and clerical slots as the budget allows as quickly as possible and look for ways to better use existing staff. And to reduce the “significant backlogs” in the FM branch, he says, he will work with Audio Services Division Chief Larry Eads and, he hopes, with the Federal Communications Bar Association in order to streamline the processes.

In any event, Stewart says, he will not sacrifice quality to cope with the quantity. “There is a tendency when you are dealing with volume to attempt to get the volume out” and forsake quality, he says.

Stewart also says he will urge the FCC to come down hard on applicants who misrepresent their qualifications or other information on applications. Harshness is needed because the FCC, as part of its deregulatory move, has substituted certification for documentation on applications. To maintain the integrity of the process, he says, the FCC has to be able to rely on
Sikes taps Pettit, Solheim

FCC Chairman Alfred Sikes was on vacation last week, riding the rapids of the Salmon River in Idaho. But before he left, he made two other key appointments: Robert Pettit as general counsel and Linda Townsend Solheim as director of the Office of Legislative Affairs. And, according to FCC sources, he plans to name Richard Firestone as chief of the Common Carrier Bureau.

Pettit, 37, who will succeed Diane Killory Oct. 5, a communications attorney with the Washington law firm of Wiley, Rein & Fielding, has plenty of FCC experience. He was introduced to the FCC as a summer intern in the office of Richard Wiley, then FCC chairman and now a partner with Wiley, Rein. Upon receiving his law degree from Duke University (1977), he went to work at the agency as staff attorney in the FCC's Broadcast Bureau (now Mass Media Bureau). In 1982, he joined the staff of FCC Commissioner Mimi Weyforth Dawson and served four years as her senior legal adviser before leaving government service in 1986 for Wiley, Rein.

Pettit rejoined Dawson, then at the Department of Transportation, in the waning months of the Reagan Administration. Dawson was deputy secretary, Pettit, associate deputy secretary. After that, he returned to Wiley, Rein until being tapped for FCC general counsel by Sikes. Pettit has a BA from the University of Missouri and a JD from Duke University. He, his wife, Jane, and their two children live in Washington.

Firestone and Solheim worked with Sikes when he was head of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration. Both served as chief counsel.

Solheim, 36, was NTIA's chief counsel for three years starting in 1985. In 1988, she became deputy general counsel of the Department of Commerce—NTIA is an arm of Commerce—and served in that capacity until the end of the Reagan Administration. Since February 1989, she has been counsel to the chairman of the U.S. International Trade Commission. Her experience on Capitol Hill includes stints as counsel to the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs and minority counsel to the Senate Judiciary Committee. She has a BA (1972) and a JD (1976) from the University of South Carolina. She, her husband, John, and daughter live in Arlington, Va. After six years as an assistant attorney general in Ohio, Firestone went to work at NTIA in the Office of Policy Analysis and Development in 1979 and three years later transferred to the chief counsel's office where he served as assistant chief and later deputy chief. After stints as acting chief, he was made chief in 1979. Firestone, 41, received a BA (1970) and JD (1973) from the University of Michigan. He lives with his wife, Bonnie, and three children in Annandale, Va.
bureaucracy, would seem to qualify him for a highly paid job with a communications law firm. But Stewart says he is not interested. "There have been times when I talked to law firms, but I very much like the jobs I've had here," he says. "I've had some impact on the policy that affects broadcasting. The people I've worked with have been outstanding. And...I always had in the back of my mind, wouldn't it be nice if I could rise to the level of chief of the Mass Media Bureau someday?" —HAJ

**FCC says 16 more stations ripe for indecency action**

Complaints have made prima facie cases, but will be reviewed by chairman and commissioners for decision on whether to send letters to stations involved.

The FCC's latest crackdown on broadcast indecency may not stop with the actions initiated against three radio stations two weeks ago (Broadcasting, Aug. 28).

According to FCC sources, the FCC Mass Media Bureau's enforcement division has identified 16 other radio stations as potential targets for immediate action. In each case, the sources said, complainants have made what FCC lawyers, in theory, able to send out the letters on its own authority, the FCC has adopted a policy of not taking action on any indecency complaints without the go-ahead of the chairman and a consensus of the other commissioners and the general counsel.

The FCC is being careful about which complaints it acts on and which it dismisses, since each action further defines for broadcasters what is acceptable and what is not. What it finds indecent in one case, it has said, it will find indecent in another.

During the 28 months of Dennis Patrick's just-ended chairmanship, the FCC acted against just one station—KZKTV (TV) Kansas City, Mo.—for broadcasting indecent programming. (The FCC was later forced to vacate the $2,000 fine it imposed on the station due to a related court action.) The Patrick commission also dismissed complaints against five stations in April 1988. However, Patrick's successor, Alfred Sikes, signaled his intention to be far more aggressive in enforcing the anti-indecency statute by initiating action against three stations just three weeks after taking office. FCC Commissioners James Quello and Sherric Marshall support a strong anti-indecency effort.

Each year, the FCC receives thousands of complaints about indecency and obscenity on radio and television. According to Roger Holberg, of the complaints and investigations branch of the Mass Media Bureau's enforcement division, the agency received 3,482 indecency complaints (2,424 by mail, 1,058 by telephone) during the year ending July 31, 1989. And that was an unusually light load, Holberg said. In prior years, he says, they have come in at the rate of about 6,000 per year.

However, over the past two years, the FCC complaints staff has found complaints against only 102 stations that possess the supporting documentation the agency has said it needs to pursue enforcement actions. The necessary documentation includes audio or videotapes or "substantial" transcripts of the allegedly objectionable programming and the time and date it was aired.

Because of a federal appeals court ruling, the FCC is currently blocked from taking enforcement actions against stations for programming aired at night. But it is, according to FCC lawyers, still free to act against daytime broadcasts.

Due to the daytime-only restriction, the FCC has set aside pending further legal action complaints against about 65 stations (mostly television) because the alleged violations occurred after 8 p.m.

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nearby 40 stations for daytime broadcast, the FCC sources said, the Mass Media Bureau's enforcement division found 19 stations that it believed may have violated the law and should be subject to enforcement actions. The three stations to which the FCC sent inquiry letters Aug. 24—KXIO(FM) San Jose, Calif., WPBS(AM) Indianapolis and WLUP(AM) Chicago—were culled from the 19.

The FCC complaints branch declines to identify the 16 stations that could draw its anti-indecency fire, but it is willing to open its files containing the documented complaints against the 102 stations. They're in a small office of the FCC official who keeps and initially reviews them, senior investigator Thomas Winkler.

The complaints in Winkler's office, which fill a file cabinet, a table top and several boxes, come from individuals and anti-indecency groups like Decency in Broadcasting, Morality in Media of Minnesota, National Federation of Decency and Donald Wildmon's American Family Association.

The following are some examples of the nearly 40 documented daytime complaints from which were drawn the three indecency actions, and from which will come nearly 40 documented daytime complaints from which were drawn the three indecency actions, and from which will come nearly 40 documented daytime complaints from which were drawn the three indecency actions, and from which will come the 16 potential new ones.

Many of the complaints involving daytime broadcasts are aimed at so-called shock jocks on radio stations. In a May 23, 1989, letter, Wildmon complained of the following morning broadcast: "Suddenly, they found that women were coming in and expressing...they wanted men who were big...More, they discovered that size did make a difference to the vaginal opening, to their clitoral stimulation."

A New Jersey woman complained of hearing the following on Dec. 16, 1988: "We'll be right back after this with a hypnizzato Bo and the guy who plays the piano with his penis...[and] more gay Christmas songs." Another morning show was cited for: "How old were you when you first touched a man's beehonkus?"

Some of the complaints were directed at the broadcast of records rather than the people who play them: Lou Reed's "Dirty Boulevard," for example. The song contains the lines: "The TV whores are calling the cops out for a suck" and "Give me your tired, your poor. I'll piss on 'em."

News programming is not immune to complaints, as was the case with the airing of a portion of tape from a police wiretap: "Listen, I called your fucking house five times yesterday," according to a transcript of the broadcast on the wiretap recording. "Now if you want [unintelligible] fuck [unintelligible]. Now if you want to disregard my fucking phone calls, I'll blow you and the fucking house up."

—HAJ

### Markey loses right-hand man

**House telecomsubcom chief counsel moves to private sector; will likely keep hand in telco matters**

The FCC doesn't have the only revolving door in Washington. There's one on Capitol Hill, too. Larry Sidman twirls through it this week.

Until last month, Sidman was chief counsel and staff director of the House Telecommunications and Finance Subcommittee. Now he's joining the Washington law firm of Verner, Liipfert Bernhard, McPherson & Hand (Broadcasting, July 10). It's a familiar career path, taken in the past by William Diefenderfer (a former chief counsel for the Senate Commerce Committee, who formed his own lobbying firm, Wunder & Diefenderfer, and then returned this year to a post at the Office of Management and Budget), Tom Ryan (who was chief counsel to House Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman John Dingell and is now a lobbyist with Wunder, Ryan, Cannon & Thelen), Paul Smith (former minority chief counsel and staff director for the House Energy and Commerce Committee, now with the law firm of Wiley, Rein & Fielding), and Mark MacCarthy (another Dingell aide who is now a Washington vice president for Capital Cities/ABC).

Sidman is not likely to fade from the telecommunications policymaking scene. He is reluctant to discuss who his future clients might be, although Verner, Liipfert already represents Bell Atlantic and Nynex.

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But he admits there is a "strong probability" that he will become involved in the debate concerning the modified final judgment that bars the Bell operating companies from offering information services and from manufacturing equipment.

He returns to the private sector after spending the last four and a half years in government. Since 1987, he has run the Telecommunications Subcommittee, overseeing a staff of 17, handling hearings, drafting legislation and furthering the interests of its chairman, Massachusetts Democrat Ed Markey.

"This committee has been the beneficiary of his hard work," said Markey, who singled out his long-time friend and em-
ployee at a subcommittee hearing held just prior to Sidman's departure. New Jersey Congressman Matthew Rinaldi, the ranking Republican on the subcommittee, was equally complimentary, praising Sidman for his sense of fair play.

According to communications lobbyists, Sidman was tough but fair and always willing to listen. Dedicated and smart, some sources think he will be a tough act to follow.

The 40-year-old Massachusetts native has known Markey since their law school days together (Markey was a year ahead of Sidman at Boston College); he also worked in the congressman's first campaign for a seat in the Massachusetts Legislature. It is a close bond, indeed, says one source; Sidman knew instinctively what Markey wanted to accomplish.

Prior to his Capitol Hill experiences, he worked in the Washington office of Fried, Frank, Shriver &amp; Kampelman, (from 1974-1985) specializing in government contracts and litigation. In 1985, when Markey assumed the chairmanship of what was then the House Subcommittee on Energy Conservation and Power, he asked Sidman to serve as chief counsel and staff director. Two years later, when the lawmaker took over Telecommunications, he again wanted Sidman at his side.

He is "Mr. Insider," says Preston Pad- den, president of the Association of Independent Television Stations, who says Sidman deserves credit for skillfully negotiating a consensus between broadcasters and Action for Children's Television on the children's TV advertising bill Congress passed last year but which was vetoed by President Reagan. The Insider Trading and Securities Fraud Enforcement Act of 1988 is another example of Sidman's handiwork. Sidman relished the challenges brought before the subcommittee. He liked the idea of "developing a compromise which could bring people as diverse as [NAB President] Eddie Fritts and [ACT President] Peggy Charren together on a package which they could both support." Even when the child-
dren's bill encountered trouble in the Sen-
ate, Sidman was not discouraged. He be-
lieves that "if legislation doesn't have a few rocks on the road then it is not good legislation."

-KM

Syracuse Peace Council, others, petition Supreme Court for review of FCC's fairness doctrine decision

Petitioners assert that commission's striking of doctrine, upheld by appeals court, subverts public trustee model of broadcasting

Supporters of the fairness doctrine have told the Supreme Court that the FCC's decision in 1987 to repeal the doctrine does nothing less than subvert the public trustee model of broadcast regulation established by the Communications Act of 1934, and substitute for it a print model. The groups say they cannot conceive of a case "of greater importance" to the regulation of broadcasting, asserting that it reopens fundamental issues that had been regarded as settled by the Supreme Court in cases dating back to 1943.

The Syracuse Peace Council, which had initiated the case with a fairness complaint against Meredith Corp. and its WVTI-TV Syracuse, and a number of allies, made the argument in petitioning the Supreme Court to review the decision of the U.S. Court of Appeals affirming the commission's 1987 order repealing the doctrine that had been a staple of broadcast regulation since 1949.

But while the commission said the doctrine—requiring a balanced treatment of controversial issues of public importance—"chills" speech and thus violates the First Amendment, the appeals court's three-judge panel did not reach the constitutional issue. It said only that the commission's conclusion that the doctrine no longer serves the public interest is a policy judgment which the court owes "great deference." And with one judge dissenting, the panel also upheld as reasonable the first prong of the doctrine, which requires broadcasters to present controversial issues of public importance. With the "chilling" effect of the second prong removed, the majority held, broadcasters would not be

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reluctant to provide an adequate amount of such programming.

Both the commission and the appeals court held, in effect, that the scarcity argument on which the regulation was based was obsolete. They cited the increase in the number of electronic media as supporting the elimination of the doctrine. But the petitioners argue that the commission and the court had ignored the "continuing 'allocational' scarcity"—there are many more individuals interested in broadcasting than there are available frequencies.

The petitioners contend that neither the commission nor the appeals court considered the statutory scheme they say grows out of the concept of allocational scarcity. "Even more serious," they add, "is that in the final analysis the commission and the court below simply opt for the print regulatory model as preferable policy, and ignore the congressional policy." They say that "to protect the First Amendment rights" of those without direct access to radio frequencies, Congress mandated that the broadcasters receive only a short-term license and "serve the public in its administration of the frequency—to be a 'fiduciary' for its community." But that, the petitioners say, is changed under the commission's new approach, as affirmed by the appeals court. "The station is no longer a 'public trust'; it can be operated at the whim of the owner."

In addition, the petitioners argue, if the doctrine can be jettisoned because it imposes "substantial burdens" on broadcasters' editorial discretion, then other requirements imposed on the public trustee scheme, including equal time requirements for political candidates and reasonable access for candidates for federal office.

The petitioners also challenge the commission's authority to repeal the doctrine. The commission based its authority on a 1987 decision of the U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington holding that the doctrine is not categorically required. But the petitioners contend that a number of previous court decisions held that Congress, in a 1959 amendment to the Communications Act, "codified the doctrine." The amendment—designed to liberalize the equal-time requirement—says that broadcasters are not relieved of the obligation imposed upon them under this Act to operate in the public interest and to afford reasonable opportunity for the discussion of conflicting views on issues of public importance.

The petitioners say it may not be necessary for the Supreme Court to consider their petition. They note that the House Energy and Commerce Committee has included legislation in the budget reconciliation bill now moving through Congress that would write the fairness doctrine into law. The measure will be ready for the President's signature in early October. If the fairness provision survives the journey through Congress, the petitioners say, the legislation would render moot the need to consider their petition. Accordingly, they suggest that the court not consider the matter until mid-October. But if the legislation is not enacted, the petitioners say, "it would leave this most important legal issue solely for resolution by this court."
WOFM/FM Moyock, N.C. (Chesapeake, Va.) sold by American Eagle Communications Inc. to Broomfield Communications Co. for $3,075,000 ("In Brief," Aug. 28). Seller is headed by Joseph Kennedy, Michael Kromis, James Hunt and James Reese, who have no other broadcast interests. Buyer is John Broomfield, former broadcaster. This is his first acquisition. WOFM is on 92.1 mhz with 1.7 kw and antenna 421 feet above average terrain. Broker: Hickman Associates.

WMGR(AM)-WJAD-FM Bainbridge, Ga. sold by Guardian Communications Inc. to Wadron Partners, Ltd. for $3,000,000. Seller is headed by Leon A. Dunn Jr. Guardian also owns WMRX-AM Aiken. S.C. Buyer is headed by H. Patrick Swygert and is also purchasing KXK-AM-FM Shreveport, La., and KSRM-FM Edinburg, Tex. By: James Hunt and James Reese, who have no obligations," appeared "In Brief," Aug. 28.

said, "are pursuing every avenue including efforts to make Sonrise live up to its contract obligations," including commitments to pay applicant legal fees. Nietert said that she had declined to represent other Sonrise-formed partnerships, but not because any of them appeared illegitimate.

Arthur Belendiuk, whose law firm represents 35 applicants that have or will compete with Sonrise-formed applicants for new FM stations, praised the Mass Media Bureau's actions as "absolutely" serving to streamline an appropriate, and inevitable, process. If the bureau were not adding the issue, he said, attorneys for competing applicants "would have to come in and raise these issues" themselves. "All they [Mass Media Bureau staff] are saying is that 'This issue has been raised in 10 cases by, say, eight different judges.' It is established practice at the FCC," he said, to raise a character or other issue in individual proceedings once it has been raised at an applicant in another proceeding.

The addition of the Sonrise real-party-in-interest issue in each pending case is also necessary, he said, because the FCC's separate investigation into allegations of abuse of process by Sonrise "only takes care of cases already dismissed." Although the results of that investigation could be turned over to the Justice Department for criminal prosecution of Sonrise, he said, the FCC would not have authority to use the results to "decide pending applications."

As for the innocence of Sonrise-formed...
applicants, said Belendiuk, “You can’t cheat an honest man. Were these people duped? They were promised 15-to-one return (and) were looking to get something for nothing from the government and sell it. They knew, or should have known, what they were getting into. To the extent that they are innocent, let them collect from Sonrise.”

Prosecution of Sonrise on securities fraud charges may prove one forum through which such collection might be made. A North Carolina securities official said that its investigation—now “in its latter stages”—of how Sonrise has marketed FM radio partnerships had actually begun in February 1988, based not on investor complaints but on tips from competing applicants. Only “several” complaints had been received before Root’s July 13 plane crash (BROADCASTING, July 17), after which complaints “increased dramatically.” Keeping an investigation open without consumer complaints was “unusual,” he said.

North Carolina, with an estimated 800 Sonrise investors raising more than $7 million, accounts for “about 50%” of $16 million raised by Sonrise overall, and also for about half the complaints received by 26 North Carolina securities officials which such collection might not cause problems for cable in Washington.)

Hewitt maintained that cable programers were placing the satellite industry at a dis- advantage when, as per his example, TCI was paying $1 per subscriber for Headline News for TVRO customers, but only 25 cents for Headline for cable subscribers. That forces the retail price of TVRO programming up, skewing the marketplace, said

The relationship between the DBS and cable industries came into focus at the Community Antenna Television Association open forum at the Eastern Cable Show last week, where Chuck Hewitt, president of the Satellite Broadcasting & Communications Association, criticized the cable industry for anticompetitive programing practices, while backing the industry on such issues as telco entry and cable deregulation. (Hewitt’s appearance was partially timed to coincide with what he and CATA President Steve Effros anticipated might be an announcement by several major operators who are putting together plans for a Ku-band package of services. and Hewitt mentioned two dates, July 15 and Aug. 1, as possible announcement dates for the service.

If such a package came to pass, it would provide a strong link between the satellite and cable industries, which up to now have had strained relations. Effros, for his part, said if such an MSO plan was announced, it would “create all sorts of havoc on Capitol Hill.” Such a plan could be seen as circumventing copyright payments and syndex requirements for those signals, which would be bound to antagonize some on the Hill and at the Motion Picture Association of America, said Effros. An MSO source involved in the negotiations said there was never any timetable to announce such a service. The source said negotiations continued, but he said, if the service, if it comes to pass, could be explained in a way that would not cause problems for cable in Washington.)

Hewitt challenged that by saying the seller of a service has the right to set the price and the buyer can choose to accept or reject it.

Hewitt said that although there are satellite movie packagers, they are at a disadvantage in the marketplace because of the name recognition of HBO and Showtime. But Effros said the reason for that name recognition is a result of the cable industries' efforts to create those trademarks. Effros also pointed out that despite the arguments on wholesale prices, the Stardust TVRO movie service's yearly fee is half that of Showtime.

Still, said Hewitt, “the perception is the cable industry is preventing the TVRO industry from growing because of the high pricing.” And as cable draws increasing Capitol Hill scrutiny, programming availabili-

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Eastern Cable highlights issues from DBS to syndex

Show includes debate between TVRO and cable over pricing differences; agreement between two over telco entry

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The official said, adding criminal and/or civil charges could be brought against Sonrise in state or federal court. "The focus is Sonrise," the official said, "although he [Root] is certainly part of the investigation." Root concurred with Belendiuk on the apparent inevitability of the case-by-case approach to the real-party issue. "I can't see, based on what we have experienced, that [the success of Nietert's attempts to halt the bureau's addition of issues] would clear the way to any substantial degree. That doesn't mean," he said, "that it is not the best idea anybody has come up with." —PDL
Ciphers shipped.

Hewitt, which is five to six years of programming costs. That consumer, he said, is one of the 500,000 he estimated will never accept paying a monthly fee for programming. The other 1.5 million dish owners would pay for programming, he believes.

The answer is not the creation of a technically pirate-proof system, he said, but one that will make it uneconomical for pirating to take place. If the piracy issue is solved, Hewitt said, "we would like to see Ku-band develop." He estimated that the per-home Ku-band cost would be between $700 and $800 per system.

And high-power C-band will be here in 18 months, he said, capable of delivering programing to five-foot dishes at a cost of $1,600 to $1,700, a sharp reduc-

MSO heads urge rate restraint, better customer service

The presidents of three large MSO's used a CEO forum at the Eastern Show to urge cable operators to clean up their act at a critical juncture in the history of the industry, where there is increased government scrutiny.

Jim Robbins, president of Cox Cable, said: "We've got to get our own house in order," specifically mentioning restraint on rate increases and improving customer service. The industry also "needs to provide its own image of where it's going to," he said, and pointed to the telephone companies that are now getting involved in education and health care issues. "We must come up with a vision rooted in our past that we can share with local opinion leaders and Congress," said Robbins. Cable also needs to "continue to work on exploding the telco myth," he added. He called their rhetoric and lobbying in Florida and California "stick-in-the-rate-base" planning, where the consumer will ultimately pay for expensive fiber plant.

Robert Miron, president of Newhouse Broadcasting and chairman of the NCTA, reiterated many of Robbins' comments. "We must practice moderation when it comes to rates," he said, and "we have to make quality customer service a top priority." Miron said corporate headquarters must allow the systems to spend the money. "We can't hide behind decentralization," he said. And cable needs to "continually practice the art of communication. We have to remind customers of the value of our service and publicize what we do in the community."

But, said Miron, cable needs to address customer service issues before any sort of national image campaign can be contemplated. "I don't believe we can paper over the poor customer service we provide," he said, with any national image campaign. As George Gillett told the Cable Television Administration and Marketing Society convention two weeks ago (BROADCASTING,
Aug. 28), Miron said, cable has to recognize and fix its customer service problem, then it can promote the fact that the problem has been fixed. Robbins added that for any campaign to work, “90% of it has got to be local.”

Miron called spiraling sports rights “one of the most explosive issues” for the industry, as cable operators get caught in the middle between “greedy sports owners” and competing programmers, some of whom act “irresponsibly.” When wholesale rates are pushed up, it is reflected in the retail rates, he said.

On HDTV, TeleCable President Richard Roberts urged cable operators to assess their HDTV position and actively communicate those views to NCTA. Roberts said he returned from a recent trip to Japan and did not find evidence that there was a strong push among Japanese TV set manufacturers to flood the U.S. market with HDTV sets, an event many in the industry have anticipated.

MTV is now out in front in pushing for second set hookups for cable operators, and while some, including TCI, make free second set hookups standard operating procedure, other MSO’s are reluctant to give up that revenue stream. Miron said it was a matter for each operator to decide. Roberts said he was not sure cable was creating value “by giving anything away.”

On lifeline service, both Miron and Robbins said there is greater discussion than in the past on offering such services. Robbins said a Cox task force is looking into lifeline, and said it was “a fabulous opportunity to crack the nonsubs.”

Debating two sides of syndex
The Eastern Cable Show’s panel on syndex didn’t come up with any easy answers for cable operators, or broadcasters for that matter, but both sides got to hear first hand the problems and concerns each has on the issue.

John Serrao, Association of Independent Television Stations chairman and vice president and general manager of WATL Atlanta, told the cable operators how important exclusive programming is to his operation. Serrao said 40% to 60% of an independent’s program costs go to programming. He said his group has turned around WATL, but not without a cost. He bought $22 million worth of programming on top of the $43 million worth that was already on the books when he purchased the station. He said the station’s Sunday sign-on to sign-off numbers are second only to the market’s CBS affiliate. Despite the strong showing, he said the station will lose $4.5 million this year. Serrao said that although some say a broadcast station is a license to make money, it is also a “license to lose in many ways. A TV license is no guarantee you won’t lose your shirt.”

Serrao said one share point can mean $2.25 million to a broadcast station, thus making syndex an important issue.

Serrao said he has good relations with Atlanta area cable operators and he has provided air time for local cable GM’s to explain syndex to their customers. He said he would recommend to INTV that it ask other INTV members to do the same.

CATA President Steve Effros rebutted Serrao on many points. As he and panel moderator Paul Glist, an attorney with Cole, Raywid & Braverman, pointed out, syndex is a logistical nightmare for cable operators. Glist went so far as to point out several specific syndex situations that the FCC had not addressed in the rules.

Effros acknowledged the degree broadcasters pay for programming, but he countered that the delivery technology—the broadcast spectrum—is given to the broadcaster free of charge. If cable had not the need to invest in plant, it would be paying the same percentage of revenue on programming, he said. Effros also agreed that simultaneous carriage of the same programming could hurt broadcasters, but he said there is no evidence that the same program aired at 7 and 11 p.m. pulls any audience from one to another.

Effros also said broadcasters stand to lose on syndex, not only if regional stations are dropped, thus hurting the reach they have gained through cable, but also by what operators would put on instead—programming in which they would sell local ad avail.

The CATA president said the syndex case in the courts has a 50-50 chance of going through. “Do not assume there will be a stay or an elimination of the rules,” he told operators. Effros said CATA had asked for a stay, but a stay that would give cable an additional four months before final implementation, no matter which direction the court decides. There is not a high likelihood of success for that specific type of stay request, Effros said.

Some of the frustration operators felt was evidenced by a comment from the audience. A cable operator said he was going to put the number of the local broadcaster requesting syndex up on the screen when programming had to be blacked out. Effros said he did not recommend that as a long-term solution.

NAB Reorganization
NAB is revamping its membership recruitment efforts by replacing five regional managers who visited prospects with a nine-person telemarketing office based at NAB Washington headquarters. The plan also includes a commitment by NAB’s board members and staff to attend more meetings of state and regional broadcast associations. The NAB had announced earlier the firing of the regional managers. In other association news, NAB’s executive committee authorized NAB President Eddie Fritts to review its standing committees to see which could be eliminated or consolidated and investigate assigning specific issues to ad hoc “task forces.”

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Rupert Murdoch, whose launch of four satellite TV channels in the UK last February doubled viewer choice there overnight, used a speech at the annual Television Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland, in late August to attack the British system of television duopoly, defend the American TV model and espouse his vision of a market-driven media industry.

Murdoch also denied charges by rivals that his News International Corp., whose British newspapers capture 24% of UK readership, was building its publishing and TV interests into his own media monopoly.

The media mogul challenged the supposition that Britain's TV system, with its publically funded noncommercial monopoly BBC and protected commercial monopoly Independent TV, produced high quality TV. "Much of what is claimed to be quality television here is no more than the parading of the prejudices and interests of the like-minded people who currently control British television," said Murdoch.

He added: "The troughs of British television, such as much of the variety, situation comedies, sporting coverage and other popular fare, are not particularly special by international standards.... The British top 10 is dominated by several mundane, low-budget soaps, both home-made and imported."

Murdoch praised a recent move in Britain toward a more commercially competitive media model. "We began this decade with television in the hands of two powerful groups which shared the same values and objectives: we start the new decade with the possibility of enormous diversity, with monopoly control blown apart by market forces."

He cited the American TV system as the best example of a market-led television system, offering choice and diversity at a reasonable price, with its most-watched programs in the U.S. "far more impressive" than the most-watched shows in Britain. "I watch television regularly on both sides of the Atlantic. When there were only four channels on this side [the UK], I was regularly frustrated by the lack of choice, and given the quality of much of the prime time programing, it was always difficult to believe that I was tuning in to a cultural citadel which had to be preserved at all costs," he said.

But Murdoch explained that the British model did not have to be changed completely. "In a market-led system there is still room for a public service element to provide programing that the market might not provide," said the executive. "What I am arguing for is a move from the current system of public broadcasting, in which market considerations are marginal, to a market system in which public broadcasting would be part of the market mix but in no way dominate the output the way it does at present."

In defending his own growing media empire, Murdoch told the audience: "We see ourselves as destroyers of monopoly power and as creators of choice." He noted that "even by the time Sky is in several million British homes and becomes a commercial success, it has no prospect of dominating the medium."

In fact, said Murdoch, Sky has "paved the way" for competitors in new media by investing in the building of a UK satellite viewership. "We are opening the door for other organizations to seize the opportunities to become national broadcasters at a fraction of our cost."
New Alfa Loma division product to be distributed in-house to broadcasters abroad; domestic distribution will come later

Alfa Loma Productions, the 14-month-old production arm of Playboy Enterprises, is getting into international broadcast television distribution. The company, formed to move Playboy into the television production business, will distribute overseas Playboy Late Night (20 episodes, 90-minute half-hour late fringe strip cur- rently distributed and taped by Worldvision which is a partner in After the Law, a program based on the life rights the life of a lawman in the middle west) and Playboy Video Entertainment. Alfa Loma, being produced for

Playboy TV goes after foreign market

1990, is strictly a cash sale, as will be

Playboy Goes To... -

Playboy Goes To...

The second project, for which a pilot is being developed, is expected to get its launch at MIPCOM in April. The half-hour series will travel to popular cities and show viewers interesting areas and nightspots. "This show will have

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Program producer and distributor Reeves Communications Corp. has launched its third television program, "Distant Signals," with a $100 million buyout bid from British broadcaster and producer Thames. Reeves President, Merrill Grant, said, "There have been discussions going on... We're really in a position where we can't comment." Reeves, who has cleared "Distant Signals" on 113 stations, and makes its debut on Sept. 18.

Following up the production of "After Hours," which attracted a lot of station attention at NATPE, Schwartz said the company's focus is now developing three more shows for syndication. One is a late-night talk show strip that Schwartz described as a "four-hour hour" show. Schwartz also said the company is looking to get into the movie arena, producing for pay-per-view, home video, cable, overseas and syndication.

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Proxy statement details sale of MGM/UA

According to a proxy filing, Fox almost bought 20th Century Fox, according to an agreement filed by MGM/UA Communication Co., according to the company's proxy filing this month. To its shareholders meeting later this month, Fox, a subsidiary of News Corp., announced its plan to complete the purchase of MGM/UA by September. MGM/UA's television production operation and library, which were put on the market before the auction for the film operations, are still up for sale. The proxy disclosed.

In other news about Qinetix, acquisition of Qinetix with Fox was not completed. Fox was negotiating with $500 million and some of the company's stock to raise $500 million in cash. Investor Mark Z. Benyuk, the other investor, wanted to raise $500 million in the same amount. The investor, who is the founder of Qinetix, is not participating in the purchase. The Qinetix acquisition is expected to be completed early in the third quarter.
comment and Kushner-Locke officials declined to reveal the size of the group investment or who else in the group invested in the publicly held company.

Hersch will join the Los Angeles-based company's board of directors as Co-Chairman Donald Kushner 'will help our company expand our production and distribution activities,' according to reports originally published in The Wall Street Journal. Certain mutual fund managers who bought debt securities of holding company SCI Holdings from Drexel Burnham Lambert may have bought warrants for personal accounts in an equivalent of kickback, according to sources. Forty percent of warrants once owned by Hersch's group may have gone to minor children of Michael Milken, Drexel junk bond chief at time. Profits for warrant buyers were large, according to sources. Calling leaks "unfair and irresponsible," Milken spokesperson said, "the facts will show that Michael Milken has done absolutely nothing wrong." Storer was MSO and TV group owner.

Resolution. Capital Cities/ABC signed contract agreement with National Association of Broadcast Employers and Technicians ending six-month negotiations. Four-year contract, which took effect last Aug. 26, provides for first-year ratification bonus of 6.1%-7%; 3% raises in second and third years, and 4% increase in fourth year. Company said agreement, covering roughly 2,500 employees, provides "an enhanced ability to acquire and originate live and taped sports, news and entertainment programming, broader and more flexible daily employment rights, increased electronic newsroom capabilities, the elimination of operational jurisdiction at the company's radio stations and radio networks, increased flexibility to overcome a number of restrictive work rules and practices and medical plan cost containment."
As compiled by Broadcasting from Aug. 24 through Aug. 30 and based on filings, authorizations and other FCC actions.

Abbreviations: AFC—Antenna For Communications; ALJ—Administrative Law Judge; alt.—alternate; ann.—announced; ant—aerial; aux.—auxiliary; ch.—channel; Cl.—critical hours; chg.—change; CP—construction permit; D—day; DA—directional antenna; Doc.—Document; ERP—effective radiated power; Freq.—frequency; HAAT—height above average terrain; Hav.—horizontal and vertical; kHz—kilohertz; kw—kilowatts; lic.—license; m.—meters; mhz—megahertz; mi.—miles; MP—modification permit; mod.—modification; N.—night; pet.—petition; rec.—reconsideration; PARS—prescriptive service authority; PRT—power; RC—remote control; SC—Scientific Atlanta; SH—specified hours; SL—studio location; TL—transmitter location; trans.—transmitter; TPO—transmit power output; U or ul.—unlimited hours; vis.—visual; w.—watts; n.—noncommercial. Six groups of numbers at end of facilities changes items refer to map coordinates. One meter equals 3.28 feet.

Ownership Changes

WACT-AM-FM Tuscaloosa, Al. (AM: BTC890807ED: 1420 kHz: 5 kw-D; FM: BTC880807EE: 105.3 mhz: 1.5 kw; ant. 400 ft.—Seeks assignment of license from New South Radio Inc. to Taylor Broadcasting to account for $2,250.000 ("Changing Hands, Aug. 14). Seller is headed by Clyde Price, and has no other broadcast interests. Buyer is headed by Stephen J. Taylor, and also owns WIKS(FM) New Bern, S.C., and WTLZ(FM) Saginaw, MI. Filed Aug. 7.

RCIN(AM) Victoriaville and KATJ(FM) George, both California (AM: BAL890807ED: 1590 kHz: 500 w-D; FM: BAPFHM890807EG: 100.7 mhz: 0.085 kw; ant. 472 ft.—Seeks assignment of license from Sid King and Cromwell Broadcasting to Victory Media Corporation for $1,360,000 ("Changing Hands, Aug. 21). Seller is headed by Sid King, who has no other broadcast interests. Buyer is headed by Kenneth John, his partner, and John Binsfield. They have no other broadcast interests. Filed Aug. 7.

WPQX-TV Panama City, Fl. (TEMP890811h: ch. 28: 501 kV-V; ant. 439 ft.—Seeks assignment of license from WMJZ-TV Inc. to New South Panama City Inc. for $950,000. Seller is headed by Raymond James Brokerage House. Buyer is headed by Timothy S. Brumlik, who has interest in WTSF-AM Albany, GA. Filed Aug. 7.

WMGRAIN-WJAD-FM Bainbridge, GA (AM: BAL890809GH: 930 kHz: 5 kw-D, 500 w-N; FM: BAL890809HG: 97.5 mhz: 100 kw; ant. 850 ft.—Seeks assignment of license from Guardian Communications Inc. to Waldron Partners LP for $3,000,000. Seller is headed by Leon A. Dunn Jr. Guardian also owns WRXX-AM-FM Aiken, S.C. Buyer is headed by H. Patrick Swygen, and is also purchasing KVKI-AM Shreveport, La. and KBFM-FM Edmond, TX. Swygen, officer, director and sole voting shareholder of Waldron Broadcasting Co., is executive vice president of Temple University of Commonwealth System of Higher Education, licensee of non-commercial educational FM station WRTI Philadelphia, PA, and permittee of non-commercial educational FM station WUPC Summerdale, PA.

WSUJ-FM New Orleans, La. (ITEM890801h: ch. 6 ch.: 880 kV-V; ant. 930 ft.—Seeks assignment of license from Cosmos Broadcasting Corp. to Politer Broadcasting Co. for $46,800,000 ("In Brief," July 31). Seller is headed by James Seltzer. Cosmos also owns KAIT-FM-Jonesboro, AR; WFEV-FM Evansville, Ind.; WAVE-TV Louisville, KY; KPLC-TV Lake Charles, La.; WTDI-TV Toledo, OH; and WIS-TV Columbus, SC. Buyer is headed by Joseph Politzer Jr., and owns KIAR(AM) and KKLJ(FM) Phoenix, AZ; WLYK-TV Louisville, KY; KETV(TV) Omaha, NE; WCAD-TV Albuquerque; SELT(AM) Salem, OR; WTTW(AM) Chicago, IL; WJZ(AM)-WBAL(AM) Baltimore, MD; WCCH(AM)-WQCS(AM) Richmond, VA; NC; WVAL-AM Lancaster, PA; and WYFF-TV Greenville, SC. Filed Aug. 11.

KTRG(AM)-KCMQ(FM) Columbia, Mo. (AM: BAJ890801ED: 1580 kHz: 250 w-D; FM: BAL890801EB: 96.7 kHz: 3 kw; ant. 155 ft.—Seeks assignment of license from Donald W. Boyles, licensee to Design Broadcasting Co. for $2,500,000 ("Changing Hands," Aug. 21). Seller has no other broadcast interests. Buyer is headed by Harvey L. Desnick. Desnick Broadcasting Co. is licensee of WCCY(AM)-WHUH(FM) Houghton, MI. Harvey Desnick and Susan Destick, principals of assignee, are husband and wife. Filed Aug. 11.

WXRR-FM Newport, NH (BAL890801GL: 101.7 mhz: 3 kw; ant. 2,006 ft.—Seeks assignment of license from The Radioactive Group Inc. to Mountain View Broadcasting Inc. for $2,000,000 ("Changing Hands," Aug. 28). Seller is headed by Bruce Lyons, and owns one AM and three FM's and has CP for WNSQ-FM Danville, VT. Buyer is headed by Robert C. Frisch, former VP and general manager of WCB(AM) Falmouth, MA. He has no other broadcast interests. Filed Aug. 10.

WGMF(AM) Watkins Glen, Ny. (AM: BAL890725EB: 1500 kHz: 1 kw-D; ant.—Seeks assignment of license from Twin Towers Communications Corp. to Northeastern Broadcast Inc. for $400,000 ("Changing Hands," Aug. 7). Seller is headed by Thomas and Marion Hight (husband and wife), and has no other broadcast interests. Buyer is owned by Edward M. Velesta and Edward G. Nichols, who have no other broadcast interests. Filed July 25.


KFRD-AM-FM Rosenberg, TX. (AM: BTC890808EC: 980 kHz: 1 kw-D; FM: BTC890808ED: 104.9 mhz: 3 kw; ant. 230 ft.—Seeks assignment of license from Fort Bend Broadcasting Co. to Spanish Aural Services Co. for $65,000. Seller is headed by Jean E. Janker, who has no other broadcast interests. Buyer is headed by Roy E. Henderson, Spanish Aural Services Co. is permittee of CP for new FM at South Padre Island, TX. Roy E. Henderson is permittee of CP for new FM in Caldwell, TX. Filed Aug. 8.

WBTO-FM Buckhannon, Wv. (BAL890801GM: 93.5 mhz: 3 kw; ant. 218 ft.—Seeks assignment of license from Cat Radio Inc. to Hartlyn Inc. for no financial consideration. Seller is headed by Richard R. Gress, who also owns WBUC(AM) Buckhannon, is headed by Art Rogers and Mary Aletto, who have no other broadcast interests. Filed Aug. 10.

Actions

KCTT(FM) Yellville, Ar. (BAL890930HL: 97.7 mhz: 2.4 kw; ant. 328 ft.—Granted app. of assignment of license from Scott Miller to A & J Broadcasting Co. for forgiveness of debt. Seller is owned by Scott Miller who also owns KCTT(AM). Buyer is headed by Jessica F. Adams and John C. Adams, who have no other broadcast interests. Oral agreement between Miller and Jesse Miller is that Miller is voluntarily transferring KCTT-FM license to Jesse and John Adams in consideration of Miller's equipment debt existing from previous business interests. Action Aug. 15.

KLZZ Los Osos-Baywood Par, Ca. (BAL890309HO: 101.3 mhz: 4.7 kw; ant. 1,506 ft.—Granted app. of assignment of license from Southern California Broadcasting Co. to Stratosphere Broadcasting Inc. for $1,300,000. Seller is owned by Eduardo Diaz, who has no other broadcast interests. Buyer is owned by Stratosphere Broadcasting Corp., general partner 1%; Clifford Bonim, limited partner, 49.5%; and Peter Menchin, limited partner 49.5%. Action Aug. 11.

WPBF-TV Tequesta, Fl. (BSTC890826EK: ch. 25: 5000 kw; 1,420 ft.—Granted app. of assignment of license from Brenda Skipper and Silvia Salinas to Alan Potamkin for $5,000. Brenda Skipper and Silvia Salinas...
"Please be assured," Farren wrote, that "the Department of Commerce considers these allegations serious." "France Telecom's obstruction of PAS's attempts to provide video service from the United States to France would appear to violate the terms and conditions to which the French initially committed and would seem to constitute a barrier to market access," Murphy wrote.

Both letters were made public by PAS's Washington attorney, Henry Goldberg, of Goldberg and Specter.

Within days, France Telecom's Washington counsel, William L. Fishman, of Sullivan & Worcester, had written to U.S. Trade Representative Carla Hills, and made a copy available to the press. "France Telecom is not now, and never has been 'hostile' to PAS," said Fishman. "France Telecom merely desires to enter arrangements with PAS which are similar to its arrangements with other international partners, and to assure that once an Operating Agreement is signed the actual provision of service to customers will be smooth and efficient." He also said that, contrary to a PAS assertion, "the French telecommunications market is open to U.S. industry."

Fishman's letter was in response to the letter Goldberg wrote to five government agencies—including Commerce and USTR—on Aug. 4. He had urged the Bush administration to pressure France in an effort to persuade it to abandon what PAS considered a policy designed to bar PAS entry into the French satellite-services market. Goldberg complained that France Telecom "has been actively discouraging potential users of the PAS system and otherwise doing all that it can, both officially and unofficially, to keep PAS out of France" (Broadcasting, Aug. 14).

Last week, Goldberg's partner, Philip Spector, was not impressed by the France Telecom response. "What we told the government [in the Aug. 4 letter] still stands," he said. "France Telecom is not responding to specific allegations. They say only they are willing to work with PAS. We question that, given their past performance. We're happy when they talk about a willingness to work with us on getting an agreement. But they said that a year ago."

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Playboy TV goes after foreign market

New Alta Loma division product to be distributed in-house to broadcasters abroad; domestic distribution will come later

Alta Loma Productions, the 14-month-old production arm of Playboy Enterprises, is getting into international broadcast television distribution. The company, formed to move Playboy into the television production business, will distribute overseas Playboy Late Night (26-episode, best-of compilation of Playboy Channel and Playboy Goes To... (the working title of the show, now in development). A third program, After Hours, a half-hour late fringe strip currently in syndication, is already distributed domestically and abroad by Worldvision Enterprises, which is a partner in After Hours and has distribution rights for the life of the show.

According to Allan Schwartz, executive vice president, Playboy Video Entertainment Group, who oversees Alta Loma, Playboy Late Night, being produced for 1990, is strictly a cash sale, as will be Playboy Goes To....

Schwartz says domestic broadcast distribution is still in the future. "We're not concentrating on that [domestic distribution]. Eventually, yes. Right now, we're gearing up for foreign."

The motivation for getting into the distribution business, he says, "is 40 cents on the dollar," adding a distributor usually takes somewhere between 25 cents and 40 cents of each dollar of revenue a show makes.

Playboy Late Night consists of 26 one-hour episodes. Schwartz said Susan Eaton, senior vice president, international, Playboy Video Entertainment Group, who handles all the overseas home-video deals for Playboy Enterprises, will now also distribute product for broadcast outlets.

The second project, Playboy Goes To..., for which a pilot is being developed, is expected to get its launch at MIPSOM in April. The half-hour series will travel to popular cities and show viewers interesting areas and nightspots. "This show will have

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a lot of opportunities, because the material will have the look and feel of a Playboy production, in the way of production values, but it won't be R-rated material," said Schwartz. He also said the show could make its way into domestic syndication, and acknowledged that if it does, it would be a good companion for After Hours, which Loma's first production, which has cleared on 113 stations, and makes its debut on Sept. 18.

Following up the production of After Hours, which attracted a lot of station attention at NATPE, Schwartz said the company is now developing three more shows for syndication. One is a late night half-hour strip that Schwartz described as a dance show. Another, also a half-hour strip, but for access, is a fast-paced comedy, with more elements than a typical stand-up comic series. Schwartz said the third show is only in the idea stage.

Schwartz also said the company is looking to eventually get into the movie arena, producing for pay per view, home video, cable, overseas and syndication.

**Distant Signals**

Program producer and distributor Reeves Communications Corp. has received a reported $100 million buyout bid from British broadcaster and producer Thames TV. Asked how Reeves would respond, Reeves President Merrill Grant said: "There have been discussions going on.... We're really in a position where we can't comment." Thames also confirmed the discussions.

The buyout would presumably help Thames diversify its base in the face of complex regulatory changes in British television that will force commercial broadcasters to bid competitively for, and perhaps lose, their regional broadcast franchises.

Reeves produces a range of network, syndicated and cable shows, although for the nine months ended March 31, it reported a net loss of $2.8 million, compared to a profit of $4.4 million in the first nine months of the previous fiscal year. Revenue was $50.3 million, down 14% from the corresponding period one year earlier.

Among Reeves' shows are The Home Show for ABC, executive produced by Woody Fraser, who has produced other reality-based programming in association with Reeves, including Incredible Sunday. Other Reeves shows include the sitcom Doctor, Doctor, which appeared on CBS this summer and has been given a 13-episode offer by the network for this season. Reeves also has a go-ahead to produce a pilot for Nickelodeon, Wild and Crazy Kids, according to Grant. Reeves will be producing 13 half-hours of a reality-based adventure show, Witness to Survival, for international distribution with the advertising support of the Mars candy company, he said. Reeves-produced shows now in syndication include Gimme A Break and Kate & Allie.

**Proxy statement details sale of MGM/UA to Qintex**

According to filing, Fox almost bought film operations; television production operation and library are still on block

Twentieth Century Fox came close to buying the motion picture operations of MGM/UA Communications Co., according to the proxy statement filed by MGM/UA for its shareholder meeting later this month. Fox, a subsidiary of News Corp., was narrowly beaten out by the Qintex Group, another Australia-based media empire, which plans to complete the purchase of MGM/UA by September. MGM/UA's television production operation and television library, which were put on the market before the auction for the film operations, are still up for sale, the proxy disclosed.

In other news about Qintex's planned acquisition of MGM/UA, Qintex said that it was negotiating with approximately 10 investors to raise $500 million in equity for the purchase.

With Fox and Qintex, two other submitted final bids for film assets, which the company market in January. One was a J by investor Marvin Davis and firm C. Itoh & Co. The other venture of MCA and Gulf-Shore Paramount Communications and the other two studios international Pictures. MGM/UA in the bid to Fox and Qintex chose Qintex over Fox, part of fewer conditions attached deal and because it foresaw possible antitrust objections in a merger with another Hollywood major.

Merrill Lynch, the company that MGM/UA hired to conduct the sale, contacted 54 individuals and corporations it deemed to be potentially interested in the motion picture assets. Of these, 32 were from the U.S., 15 were from European countries and seven were from Pacific Rim countries. Thirty-five of these parties expressed interest in the company.

Qintex will be acquiring MGM/UA's motion picture production and marketing operations, its distribution operations for motion pictures, television and home video, the 1,000-film United Artists library and the right to use the United Artists name and logos.

Kirk Kerkorian, holder of 81.6% of MGM/UA, will retain control of MGM/UA's television library, TV production operations and the MGM name. Merrill Lynch has been retained to sell those TV operations.

Qintex, which said it would be raising about $600 million in cash for the MGM/UA acquisition, said in April that it expected half of that money to be in the form of debt and half in equity. The company said last month the majority share of the funds would come through the private placement of common and preferred stock. One source said most of the possible investors that the company was talking to were from either Europe or Japan.

Qintex also said last month that it was changing the structure of the proposed acquisition. Under the new plans, MGM/UA will merge with a wholly owned subsidiary of the Australian publicly traded company Qintex Australia Ltd., or QAL. MGM/UA will change its name to Qintex America Inc., and its entertainment subsidiary will do business as United Artists. Subsequently, Qintex America will merge with U.S.-based, publicly traded Qintex Entertainment Inc. (of which QAL owns 45%). Originally, it was planned that MGM/UA would merge directly into Qintex Entertainment.

For the nine months ended May 31, MGM/UA showed a net loss of $61.3 million from revenue of $680 million. The company had operating income of $11.8 million.

**Investors to buy minority interest in Kushner-Locke**

Group is led by former King World COO Stuart Hersch, who is expected to help with Wall Street relations, acquisitions, domestic distribution

A group of investors led by former King World Productions Inc. Chief Financial Officer and COO Stuart Hersch has reached an agreement in principle to purchase a minority interest of The Kushner-Locke Co., with the option to increase ownership at a future date. Hersch was unavailable for...
own 100 shares of licence between them. Pursuant to joint stock purchase option agreement, they have granted buyers option to purchase 4 shares. By this way they are granting buyers an option to purchase their remaining 4 shares for total of $5,000, and forgiveness of all liabilities. In conjunction with the money advanced by corporation to fund operating and construction costs. Alan Potterman owns 25% of New Age Broadcasting Inc. and is associated with Tel-Vision Homeat. FL. He also owns 40% of Indy Radio Inc. Applicant for FM on ch. 242, Indianaapolis. Action Aug. 5.

WAFS(M) Atlanta. GA (BAL900929EC: 920 km: 95 kw:D-120 kw—Grant of assignment to Buyer Perley W. Johnson of Family Broadcasting to Network to Bible Moody Libraries for Chicago of $2.300. Seller is headed by James Dobson. Dobson purchased station from Jackson Broadcasting for $2.300. However, the price. More Institute of Chicago is license of following non-commercial educational broadcasting stations: WMBI-AM-FM Chicago, WMBI-FM-AM-WMBB-WMB-SW-WMBY-KWAF-KWAF-WMBB-KWAF. Seller is license of and owner of 33.1% stock of KSCAM Sioux City. IA. Action Aug. 16.

WHIR(M)-WMGE(F) Danville, KY: Programm.(2) BT900940U1: 120 km: 1 kw-D: $72.000. Grant of assignment of license from Perley Inc. to Alex. B. Talbott for $120.000. Owner is Wayne D. Perkel who has other broadcast interests. Action Aug. 15.

WETT(M) Ocean City, MD: and WWTR(FM) Bethany Beach, DE: (AM: BAL981219AM: 1590 km: 1 kw-D: 500 km w-N: FM: BAL8909214H: 95.9 km: 3 kw: ant. 300 ft.)—Dismissed. Grant of assignment of license from Perley Inc. to Alex. E. Talbott for $120.000. Seller is Wayne D. Perkel who has other broadcast interests. Action Aug. 15.


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22AA (92.7 mhz). Tuscaloosa, AL, for reconsideration of Report and Order allowing channel 223A (92.5 mhz) to Trinity since commission, in separate proceeding, has amended WTUG to upgrade. (MM dock 86-35, by MO&O [DA 89-979] adopted August 3 by chief. Policy and Rules Division. Mass Media Bureau.)


Smyrna, DE. Granted application of Kent County Radio Limited Partnership for new FM station at Smyrna and denied four competing applications. (MM dock 87-65, by Decision [RRK-31] adopted August 4 by Review Board.)

Winston-Salem, NC. and Moneta, VA. Designated for hearing application of Michael B. Glinter for new AM station on 1880 kHz at Winston-Salem, together with mutual exclusive application of Smith Mountain Lake Radio for new AM station at Moneta. (MM dock 89-356 by Order [DA 89-930] adopted August 1 by chief. Audio Services Division.)

Yadkinville and Greensboro, NC. Designated for hearing application of Childrens Radio Company to modify facilities of WYDK to specify operation on 1470 kHz, together with mutually exclusive application of Parkwood Broadcasting, Inc. for new AM station at Greensboro. (MM dock 89-357 by Order [DA 89-929] adopted August 1 by chief. Audio Services Division.)

Crossville, TN. Denied Mark A. Perry’s application of AJL John M. Fryziak’s Order dismissing his application for a new FM station on channel 237A (102.5 mhz) at Crossville. (MM dock 89-379 by MO&O [FCC 89-46] adopted July 17 by Review Board.)

**Allocations**

| Datebook continues from page 11 |

**September 24-26** New Jersey Broadcasters Association 43rd annual convention, Bally’s Grand Casino Hotel, Atlantic City, N.J. Information: (212) 247-3333.


**September 26** National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences engineering Emmy Awards, Shera- ton Hotel, New York. Information: (212) 586-8424.

**September 26** Cabletelevision Advertising Bureau local advertising workshop. O’Hare Hilton, Chicago. Information: (212) 751-7770.


**September 26** National Academy of Cable Programming fourth annual forum, Waldorf Astoria, New York. Information: (202) 775-3611.

**September 26-30** 10th anniversary conference of Midwest Radio Theater Workshop, Columbia, Mo. Information: (314) 874-1139.

**September 27** Walter Keit Foundation annual awards dinner, this year honoring J. Richard Munro, chairman and CEO, Time Inc. New York Hilton and Towers, New York.

**September 27** International Radio and Television Society newsmaker luncheon. Speaker FCC Chairman Alfred Sikes, Waldorf-Astoria, New York. Information: (212) 867-6650.

**September 27** Women in Cable, New York chapter, cable course, “Beyond the Basic.” Viacom Conference Center, New York. Information: (212) 532-5680.

**September 27** National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, New York chapter, drop-in luncheon. Speaker: David Niles, president, 1125 Productions, Regency Plaza hotel, New York. Information: (212) 768-7050.


**September 28** Southern California Broadcasters Association business development seminar. Hyatt on Sunset, Los Angeles. Information: (213) 466-4481.

**September 28** Cabletelevision Advertising Bureau local advertising workshop. Airport Marriott, Kansas City, Mo.

**September 29** Deadline for entries for Ohio State Awards program award honoring excellence in educational, informational and public affairs broadcasting, sponsored by Institute for Education by Radio and Television, Ohio State University. Information: Phyllis Madry, (614) 292-0185.

**October**

**October 1-3** Illinois Broadcasters Association annual convention. The Abbey, Fontenac, Wis.


**October 3** Cabletelevision Advertising Bureau local advertising workshop. Colony Square hotel, Atlanta. Information: (212) 751-7770.

**October 3-5** Atlantic Cable Show, Atlantic City Convention Center, Atlantic City, N.J. Information: (609) 848-1000.


**October 4**-**5** National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences, New York chapter, drop-in luncheon. Speaker: Charles Aaron, VP-television, WNYC Communications Group, Copacabana, New York, Information: (212) 768-7050.


**October 4-6** National Broadcast Association for Community Affairs annual convention, Edorado hotel, Santa Fe, N.M. Information: (505) 764-2592.

**October 4-6** Cabletelevision Advertising Bureau local advertising workshop, Governors’ Inn, Raleigh, N.C. Information: (212) 751-7770.


**October 5-6** Society of Broadcast Engineers fourth annual convention, Kansas City. Call for papers: John Battison, (415) 994-3649. Convention information: 1-800-225-8183.

**October 6-7** National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences local Emmy Awards chairperson meeting, Keystone, Colo. Information: Trudy Wilson, (212) 586-8424.

**October 6** Cabletelevision Advertising Bureau local sales workshop. Sloufter Orlando Resort, Orland, Fla. Information: (407) 351-5555.

**October 6-7** International Television Association region eight conference. Baltimore Exhibition Hall, Kansas City, Mo. Information: (816) 932-2792.

**October 7-8** National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences presidents’ annual meeting, Key- stone, Colo. (212) 586-8424.

**October 10** Cabletelevision Advertising Bureau local ad sales seminar. Hilton at Desert Place, Duida, Mass. Information: (617) 329-7500.

**October 10-14** Southern Educational Communications Association conference. Hyatt Regency Crown Center, Kansas City, Mo.

**October 11** Women in Cable, New York chapter, cable course, “Beyond the Basic.” Viacom Conference Center, New York. Information: (212) 392-6680.


**October 11-12** “Improving Our Schools: Can It Be Done?” conference for journalists sponsored by Washington Journalism Center. Watergate hotel, Washington.

**October 11-14** Southern Educational Communications Association conference. Hyatt Regency Crown Center, Kansas City, Information: (803) 799-5517.


**October 12** Cabletelevision Advertising Bureau local ad sales workshop. Adam’s Mark hotel, Phil- adelphia. Information: (215) 766-8895.

**October 12-16** Minnesota Broadcasters Association 40th anniversary convention, Radisson Plaza, Min- neapolis. Information: Laura Ntini, (612) 926-8273.

**October 12-16** MIPCOM, international film and program market for TV, video, cable and satellite. Palais des Festivals, Cannes. Information: Perard Associates, (212) 967-7800.

**October 13** Minnesota Association of Cable Tele-


Oct. 16-18—United States Telephone Association 92nd annual convention. Hilton hotel at Union Square, San Francisco.


Oct. 17—Canadian Cable Television Association Atlantic region meeting. Hotel Newfoundland, St. John's, Newfoundland. Information: (613) 232-2831.


Oct. 17-19—Mid-America Cable TV Association show. Kansas City, Mo. Information: (913) 841-9241.


Oct. 24—Canadian Cable Television Association Midwest/Northwest Territory regional meet- ing. Port O'Call Inn, Calgary, Alberta. Information: (613) 239-6161.

Oct. 25—"USA Network local ad sales seminar. Sheraton Plaza, Orlando, Fla.


Oct. 25-26—Ohio Association of Broadcasters fall convention, Hyatt on Capitol Square, Columbus, Ohio.


Oct. 26-—"USA Network local ad sales seminar. Grand Bay hotel, Pensacola, Fla.

Oct. 27-28—Missouri Broadcasters Association fall meeting, Holiday Inn Executive Center, Colum- bia, Mo. Information: (314) 636-6692.

Oct. 27-28—"Writing Television Sitcoms," semi- nar co-sponsored by American Film Institute and Los Colinas Studios, Dallas. Information: (800) 999-4A4.


November


Nov. 2—Presentation of Gabriel Awards, spon- sored by Unda-USA, National Catholic Associa- tion for Broadcasters and Communications, for "programs which serve viewers and listeners through the positive, creative treatment of issues of concern to humankind." Omni inner Harbor hot- tel, Baltimore.


Nov. 5-8—Second annual LPTV conference and exposition, sponsored by Community Broadcasters Association. Riviera hotel, Las Vegas. Information: (800) 225-8183.


Nov. 8-10—"TV commercials' festival of Interna- tional Film & TV Festival of New York, Sheraton Center, New York. Information: (914) 238-4481.


Nov. 9-10—Communications law seminar spon- sored by Practicing Law Institute, Sheraton Cen- ter hotel, New York. Information: (212) 765-5700.

Nov. 9—National Association of Farm Broadcasters annual meeting. Crowne Plaza, Kansas City, Mo.

Nov. 9-11—Arizona Broadcasters Association fall convention and annual meeting. Sunburst Resort hotel, Scottsdale, Ariz.


Nov. 29-Dec. 1—Seventh annual Private Cable Show. Caesars Tahoe, Lake Tahoe, Nev. Informa- tion: (713) 342-9655.

December


January, 1990

Jan. 10-12—TV programming festival of Internation- al Film & TV Festival of New York, Sheraton Center, New York. Information: (914) 238-4481.


Jan. 18-21—Radio Advertising Bureau annual Managing Sales Conference. Loews Anatole, Dall- as.

HELP WANTED MANAGEMENT

Multi-stations Northeast group operator looking for GM's and Sales Manager and motivator with good promotion ideas and are bottom line oriented, send resume to: Personnel Director, PO Box 1703, Poughkeepsie, NY 12602. Applicants will be given equal opportunity. Equal opportunity employer;

Sales career opportunity: One of America's fastest growing medium radio stations is in a growing market group. Must manage sales staff in an increasingly competitive market. Excellent compensation and benefits. Box 138. EOE.

HELP WANTED SALES

Top 100 North Carolina AC sales account executive. Minimum 1 year experience. Group owned. Looking for career minded team player with commitment and desire for success. Cover letter, resume, references to: Box 123.

HELP WANTED TECHNICAL

Chief engineer, maintenance oriented, for Oklahoma City Class C radio station. EOE. Send resume with salary history to Box J-2.

WANTED: Program director for powerful start-up AM in top 50 Sunbelt market. Unique opportunity to program a high-impact AM station. Experience with two all-news AM and belief in the potential of AM radio a must. Knowledge of 50s and 60s era music. College degree required. EOE. Reply to Box J-2.


Account executive who can also do play by play sports. Resume to: David H. Kromm/MG, PO Box 1779, Pampa, TX 79065. EOE.

WANTED: Morning host wanted for Full-Service morning show. Warm and friendly a must. Great with phones! Must truly love people! Salary requirements, picture, plus T & R. WHBP, PO Box 1230, Huntsville, AL 35807. EOE.

Full Service/Country music legend seeks team players for future openings. All days. Warmth and a must. Country experience encouraged, but not necessary. Salary requirements, picture, plus T & R. WHBP, PO Box 1230, Huntsville, AL 35807. EOE.

KFLC-FM, Aiburn's Adult Rock station. Seeks a highly topical and creative individual to replace our legendary morning team. Tapes and resumes to Mark Proctor, PO Box 9337, Aiburn, ID 83602. EOE.

Florida group seeks morning person/program director. Must be great on air and in administration. Foreground Country formats. Send resume with experience and great place to live. T & R. J. Cave. WCCW/WRAA, PO Box 387, Luray, VA 22835. EOE.

Need announcer for production & general announcing duties. Small mist near St. Louis. Talk with Mgr. Only 314-586-1875. 9am to 3 pm. EOE.

WANTED: Program director: Program director for powerful start-up AM in top 50 Sunbelt market. Unique opportunity to program a high-impact AM station. Experience with two all-news AM and belief in the potential of AM radio a must. Knowledge of 50s and 60s era music. College degree required. EOE. Reply to Box J-2.

KOH-LFM Riverside/San Bernardino. CA. GSA/ESOM seeks GM post strong programming and sales. Rate. 911 to #3-25-54. 2 books during a bankruptcy. Incessant sales. Call Gerry. 714-925-313.

Station owners, have programmed, managed, been VP of two chains and an owner/operator over the past 16 years. Let's plan our future together. Jay Martin, 503-218-2395.


Sales manager. Top ten AM market. Job opening..... Call Mr. John Waterman, 586-8577 9am to 5pm. EOE.

WANTED: Program director for powerful start-up AM in top 50 Sunbelt market. Unique opportunity to program a high-impact AM station. Experience with two all-news AM and belief in the potential of AM radio a must. Knowledge of 50s and 60s era music. College degree required. EOE. Reply to Box J-2.

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Broadcasting Sep 4 1989

68
HELP WANTED NEWS

HELP WANTED SALES

General sales manager needed for WCBD-TV, Charleston, SC. Solid local sales and major market rep experience. Selling creative, dynamic, creative sales person to manage nine person sales staff. Minimum 5 years experience in local, regional sales, data processing, credit and finance. Major group owner that offers great opportunity for growth. Send resume to: General Manager, PO Box 879, Charleston, SC 29402. EOE. WFMG is an equal opportunity employer.

HELP WANTED TECHNICAL

Maintenance engineer. Immediate opening for two broadcast maintenance technicians experienced in all phases of broadcast equipment to the component level: includes hill, three-quarter, one, and two inch video tape, Grass 300, ACO-1000, Chyron VU, MIC and router, microwave, satellite. Apply to Richard Cushman, WMVW-TV, PO Box 8, Auburn, ME 04210. An EOE.

Assistant chief technician. Top rated NBC affiliate needs an experienced assistant chief technician. Applicants must have 3-5 years experience in production, news and weather studio, microwave, ENG and LVPF equipment. Good benefit package. Call or write Handsome Harvey, 1725 Market St., Philadelphia, PA 19103. EOE.

HELP WANTED MANAGEMENT

National sales manager. Midwest medium sized affiliate is looking for an experienced national rep or national sales manager. The position involves traveling throughout the Midwest and East. Must be able to coordinate the activities of the group stations. Send resume ASAP to General Sales Manager, WQIE, Box 342.

Group broadcaster seeks national sales manager for its owned stations. Location NYC, TV reps or TV station national sales experience a must. Organized person with good presentation skills and has great opportunity to grow. Box 1-38, EOE.

National sales manager: Top affiliate in the country is seeking an associate sales manager to work closely with TeleRep offices and managing sports and specials sales. Extremely hands-on agency environment. Must travel so great opportunity to travel and see the country. Box 102, EOE.

Microwave: satellite. Apply to: Robert B. Doherty, GM, WKNY-TV, PO Box 22222, Oakland, CA 94622. EOE. WFMG is an equal opportunity employer.

Business manager for NE NBC affiliate. Degree account-ant with minimum 5 years experience in A/P, A/R, payroll, GL and financial statements. Individual must poss-ess supervisory, data processing, credit and finance experience. Send resume to: General Manager, PO Box 382, Franklin St., Wilkes-Barre, PA 18773. EOE.

General manager needed to run well established South-eastern UHF affiliate must have solid management background in sales, programming and news. Group owner, opportuni-ties possible for equity and advancement for right candi-date. More details in letter. Equal opportunity employer: Box J-9.

National sales manager: Fox affiliate in top 50 market. Ideal candidate has 3-5 years experience or prior NSF experience. Independent background extremely helpful. Excellent opportunity for growth with major television group. Contact: Tom Hunsry, KFRG-TV, 6218 NW 160, Suite 410, San Antonio, TX 78238. EOE.

HELP WANTED NEWS

Anchor: KCRA-TV is looking for a special anchor. We don't want just a face. We want a broadcast journalist with strong writing and production skills. Must have at least five years of experience to expand your unique opportunity for a hard working, in-volved career in a growing market. Send resume to: Len Smith, Chief Engineer, WOTV-TV, Box 999, Steubenville, OH 43952. EOE. M/F.

Chief engineer: Northeast UHF affiliate seeking an indi-vidual for a highly skilled and proven administrative abilities. Applicant should have comprehensive knowledge, leadership abilities and experience in all areas of commercial broadcast engineering. NBC affili-ate, small to medium market experience a must. Box 1-24, EOE.

TV engineer: Need broadcast maintenance engineer. 3 years experience preferred. SBE certification helpful. Color or camera shading. Expanding C-Band uplink and studio facilities. Send resume to: Dan DeGaspe, Chyron Corp., Verita Leys, PO Box 19999, Dallas, TX 75381-9999. EOE.

Chief engineer: WULG-TV, Long Island, NY, seeks experi-enced chief engineer. Complete knowledge of UHF trans-mitter and studio equipment required for this hands-on position. Exceptional technical skills and benefits appreciated. Ideally opening: Call or write Marvin Chauvin, GM, WULG-TV, 300 Crossways Park Dr., Woodbury, NY 11797, 516-364-1500. EOE.

Videotape editor: KCET, a public broadcasting station in Los Angeles, has a unique opportunity for a videotape editor to be the key player in the expansion including documentary style editing, promotion and segment materials. Must have on-line and off-line editing and list management. Can work in any format. More than five years of fine editing experience on the CMX system 3000 series. Along with excellent salary and benefits, must have thorough knowledge of B/W707, Betas-S, BVU 800 3/4inch, BVU-2000, RCA 1100, and 1-inch tape ma-chines. Must have experience with Chyron and other character generator. Must be willing to join the union IATSE 695. Qualified applicants may submit their resumes, along with salary history to: Videotape Editor, Human Resources Department. KCET, 4401 Sun Set Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90036 EOE.

Television maintenance manager: Accountable for techni-cal services for university. Requires Bachelor's or equivalent degree. Knowledge of the Triton Weather System and computer graph-ics desired. Minimum 3 years experience and degree preferred. Position offers excellent salary and benefits. Send resume and tape to: News Director, KLST-TV, 2600 Armstrong, San Angelo, TX 76903. EOE. M/F. Excellent opportunity for career growth.

Regional sales manager: Midwest. Market is the key. Looking for hands-on manager. Must have at least five years of major market experience as a news director. We want only the best. Send resume to: Wally Haag, Broadcast Division, A.B.C. Corporation, 606 Young St., Dal-лас, TX 75202-4160. EOE.

Meteorologist: KCRA TV is looking for a meteorologist with an AMS Seal. We offer state of the art graphical equipment and all the resources needed for a top-notch presentation. Our plans for expansion offer a unique opportunity for an accomplished and ambitious professional to expand his commercial, on-camera experience. Required. If you're ready for a real challenge and want to be one of the best newsrooms in America, send a non-returnable tape and resume to: Bob Jordan, News Director, KCRA-TV, 3 Television CI., Sacramento, CA 95814-0794. Please, no calls. EOE. M/F.

Producer: KCRA-TV's early morning news draws a bigger audience than the competition 5 o'clock news! We need an experienced producer who can build on that founda-tion. Top writing and organizational skills, plus savvy news judgement a must. If you're a NewStar literate, at the better. Send a non-returnable tape and resume to: Bob Jordan. News Director, KCRA-TV, 3 Television CI., Sacramento, CA 95814-0794. Please, no calls. EOE. M/F.

Reporter: Applicants must be creative and possess strong writing skills. Send tape and resume to: Dave Tisney, KOTV, 40th & Falson, Stillwater, OK 74074. Please, no calls. EOE.

Sports researcher: WABC-TV Eyewitness News seeks a sports researcher. Candidate should have a sports enthusi-asm and be able to handle multiple assignments and tight deadlines. Send resume to: Henry Florshiem, As-sistant News Director, WABC-TV, 7 Lincoln Sq., New York, NY 10023. No phone calls. We are an equal opportunity employer.

Assistant news director: SNG experience a plus. Strong growth opportunity. Women and minorities encouraged to apply. Send resume to: Walter Ward, Chief Engineer, KDBC-TV, 10023. No phone calls. EOE.

WMTN-TV, PO Box 5860, Harrisburg, PA 17110. EOE.

Assistant news director. Northwestern UHF affiliate seeks a sports director who will also anchor the Morning news. Sports director must have more than scores to offer. If your highlights, we value creativity and hard work on and off the air. We also want to see sports serious journalism. No beginners. Send resume and tape to: Ron Putera, GM, WBRE TV, 6218 Loop Rd., Scranton, PA 18701. EOE.

Reporters/photographers: Midwest network affiliate look-ing for highly motivated individuals. If you're excited by a challenge, rejoin hard work, and have good writing and photography skills. Send resume to: Box 1-39, EOE. No tapes.

Videographer for number 1 news station in Hamptons, PA. Two years experience minimum. Looking for creative individual with strong story-telling technique ready to join award-winning staff who care. WTHM-TV, PO Box 5860, Harrisburg, PA 17110. EOE.

General sales manager for West Coast UHF affiliate. Our market is one of the best in country. We offer state of the art graphical equipment and all the resources needed for a top-notch presentation. Our plans for expansion offer a unique opportunity for an accomplished and ambitious professional to expand his commercial, on-camera experience. Required. If you're ready for a real challenge and want to be one of the best newsrooms in America, send a non-returnable tape and resume to: Bob Jordan, News Director, KCRA-TV, 3 Television CI., Sacramento, CA 95814-0794. Please, no calls. EOE. M/F.

Enjoy working in a challenging environment with state-of-the-art technology? If so, please apply to: Deborah Johnson, Executive Producer, WFSB-TV, 3 Constitution Plaza, Hartford, CT 06103. EOE.

Assignment editor. Our is one of the best in the business, and he's going to network. We are the number one news station in a tough, fast market. We offer an aggressive, seasoned staff and enjoy it, write to: Byllie Gavitt, KTVT, PO Box 11459, Oklahoma City, OK 73121. EOE.
International television news agency seeks satellite feed producer for Asia regional centre. Successful applicant will have writing and video producing skills, ability to work under tight deadlines, experience in daily television news production and familiarity with all aspects of daily satellite television news production. Send resume to: News Director, NBC Newsroom, Tokyo, Japan 105 EOE.

Announcement: Available with northern California ABC TV station for associate producer with strong writing and producing skills and experience in satellite news production. Responsibilities include writing and editing stories for delivery on national and international television news agencies. Excellent starting salary, benefits and opportunities for advancement. Send resume to: TV News Director, ABC San Francisco, 1710 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94102 EOE.

Manager of television services: The successful candidate will present evidence of three to five years television production management experience (preferably in a unique environment). Additional skills include management of facilities, personnel and budget, and the capacity to lead and nurture a team of creative, innovative and distinctive products. Master's degree in Communications or related field is also required, as well as strong written and verbal communication and interpersonal skills with a minimum of five years experience. Television Services is housed in a new 20,000 square foot facility. Among its resources are a new BetaCam SP editing suite, truck and two production studios. In addition to these facilities, the manager of television services will coordinate the efforts of the entire studio staff, including the new application, resume and names, addresses and phone numbers of three professional references. Send resume to: Tom Brock, Associate Director for Broadcast Services, Campus Box 57, Wichita State University, Wichita, KS 67208-0571. Final applicants will be asked to provide a portfolio tape for review. Wichita State University is an equal opportunity affirmative action employer.

Senior television producer/director: Oklahoma State University is seeking a person to produce and anchor a daily agriculture television show for a state-wide network. Eligibility includes at least a five-year experience and 3 years of experience in television, including on-camera reporting and production experience. The successful candidate must have written and produced programming and be able to select the appropriate format and style for each show. Writing and editing skills are also required. Send resume, references, and resume videotape to: Personnel Director, WCAG-TV, PO Box 7127, Lincoln, NE 68504-7127 EOE.

Senior television producer/director: Oklahoma State University is seeking a person to produce and anchor a daily agriculture television show for a state-wide network. Eligibility includes at least a five-year experience and 3 years of experience in television, including on-camera reporting and production experience. The successful candidate must have written and produced programming and be able to select the appropriate format and style for each show. Writing and editing skills are also required. Send resume, references, and resume videotape to: Personnel Director, WCAG-TV, PO Box 7127, Lincoln, NE 68504-7127 EOE.

Broadcaster: ABC San Francisco, (no EOE). 

Help Wanted:

PRODUCTION & OTHERS

Producer: Major market station wants organized, creative leader to produce top-rated weekly news magazine program covering urban and minority issues. Must have charge of all aspects of production, including story development, service, writing, editing and final assembly. Must have experience with a major network or network affiliate and the ability to work with directors, talent, writers, editors and camera operators. Contact Michael Casco, WPVI-TV, 4100 City Line Ave., Suite 400, Philadelphia, PA 19131 EOE.

ACT III Broadcasting in Nashville has an opening for a talented producer/director with an impressive resume: Must handle production from scripting to post production. We have the toys and a new state-of-the-art facility waiting for the right person. Send resume to WZTV, 631 Main Street, Nashville, TN 37226 EOE.

Promotion position: Creative, strong writing skills required. Has experience in all aspects of television production. Prefer 3-5 years experience as commercial television producer. Company offers competitive base salary, excellent benefits and opportunities for advancement. Interested applicants, please apply, top 35 market. Tapes, resumes, salary requirements and personnel to Personnel Coordinator, WDSU-TV, 320 Royal St., New Orleans, LA 70130-3401 EOE.

Promotion writer/editor: Join a great team in a great city. San Antonio NBC affiliate is looking for an innovative hands-on writer/editor to make our on-air product shine. Experience in continuing MELV, KVTV Box 2641, San Antonio, TX 78299 EOE.

Manager of television services: The successful candidate will present evidence of three to five years television production management experience (preferably in a unique environment). Additional skills include management of facilities, personnel and budget, and the capacity to lead and nurture a team of creative, innovative and distinctive products. Master's degree in Communications or related field is also required, as well as strong written and verbal communication and interpersonal skills with a minimum of five years experience. Television Services is housed in a new 20,000 square foot facility. Among its resources are a new BetaCam SP editing suite, truck and two production studios. In addition to these facilities, the manager of television services will coordinate the efforts of the entire studio staff, including the new application, resume and names, addresses and phone numbers of three professional references. Send resume to: Tom Brock, Associate Director for Broadcast Services, Campus Box 57, Wichita State University, Wichita, KS 67208-0571. Final applicants will be asked to provide a portfolio tape for review. Wichita State University is an equal opportunity affirmative action employer.

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Technical director: For Italian language news broadcast. Experience with Grass Valley 1600 switcher with E-M. Apsens A42 still store, NEC SYSTEM 10 DVE and Chyron RGS 5.1 Editor. Must provide own travel and per diem. Good benefits. Send resume and references to B. Gal- lagher, PO Box 2462, Wakefield, MA 01880-0414 EOE.

Newscast producer: Person for top 40 affiliate. Minimum three years experience directing news, supervisory experience. Creative, motivated leader to take our newscasts to the top. Experience, salary, resume and references to: Brian Trauring, News Director, WMWT, 590 West Maple, Kalamazoo, MI 49008 EOE.

TV director/producer: Top 30 RBS affiliate seeks a staff, staff member to direct multi and single camera projects and the production of simple television programs, related duties include: preproduction, production, implementation of new program productions, the supervision of production staff, assigned to the television programming area. Position requires a Bachelor's degree in Television Production or related field. The successful candidate must have a Bachelor's degree in Broadcast. Radio, Television and related fields and two plus years of progressively responsible occupational experience in television direction of production, editing and experience in the performing arts, investigative reporting and/or documenting programs is desirable; any or combination of training and experience which provides the necessary skills and abilities. We offer: health, hospital, long term disability, life, and dental insurance; paid vacations, 12 paid holidays, 15 sick days, a paid retirement plan, and a salary range of $1,093 to $1,401 biweekly. To apply for the position, call 414-225-1800 for a job description and application. This company is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer.

SITUATIONS WANTED

Broadcast CED: National/international level. Outstanding record of achievement in top leadership roles of administration, sales, finance, organization, strategic planning with results in difficult markets. Seeking a career with a company that can provide a challenging environment to maximize my talents. Write for details - be surprised! Box I-37.

SITUATIONS WANTED

Experienced, excellent sportscaster with knowledge of news broadcasting as well, looking for an outstanding station which it will be a pleasure to join.

Anchor/reporter/assignment editor. Experienced, hard-working journalist seeking to settle in medium or major market committed to quality news. Tape will demonstrate writing, delivery, and management skills. 504-927-3017.

Psychologist, network experienced, excellent writer, producer, director. Send Contact Box 76477, Los Angeles, CA 90076 for tape.

Roy Lee, executive video director, Tampa, FL. #10, AVS Seal of Approval, 30 years on-air, seeks to relocate. Personally developed many of the most progressive, advanced, and award winning Reporters in the nation. Desires complete package. Salary negotiable. MFL, 925 S. MacClure, PO Box 133-118. Tampa, FL. 33629.


MISCELLANEOUS

Primo People: The news director's best friend! We can deliver in a crunch. Call Steve Porricelli or Fred Landau at 203-637-3653. Box 116, Old Greenwich, CT 06870.

Music video library, 2,200 + titles Mastered on 1", Will sell for price of tape. 800-333-2152.

Broadcasting Sep 4 1989 70
Help Wanted Management Continued

NATIONAL SALES MANAGER

The CBN Radio Network, located in Virginia Beach, Virginia, has an immediate opening for a National Sales Manager. Candidates should have 1 to 3 years experience in broadcast sales dealing with national advertising agencies. We offer an excellent salary with a high commission. Be a part of this energetic team and growing Christian radio network. Send your resume to:

CBN Employment Office
Box A9
CBN Center
Virginia Beach, VA 23463

Situations Wanted Management

TOP 75 MARKETS
GENERAL MANAGER
AVAILABLE

Substantial experience as General Manager in medium to major markets. 10 years with current company. Love turn-arounds and builds. Excellent background and references. Unusual circumstance creates availability. Relocate anywhere for quality opportunity.

Deane Johnson
503-472-1221

Successful AM/FM Sold to Owner/Operator. Successful GM Needs Job. Impeccable credentials and references, past and present.

Ron Brandon
615-586-9696 (w) 615-587-6856 (h)

Help Wanted Programing Production & Others Continued

Senior Design Engineer

If you are experienced in the design and engineering of sophisticated teleproduction facilities and if your experience includes major market broadcast or network design responsibility, we would like to meet with you to discuss this key position in our Engineering Department.

Please address your resume to: Robert Hensman, Director of Technical Operations, Lake Systems Corporation, 287 Grove Street, Newton, MA 02166.

TELEVISION

PRODUCER/DIRECTOR

Motivated, hands-on individual, to be responsible for research, writing, producing, directing and editing programs for college cable TV channel and various instructional programs. Must be creative, have good editorial judgement and an eye for detail. Qualifications include a minimum 3 years experience + degree. Salary to high teens. Send tape, cover letter and resume by September 16th to:

MERCER COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE Personnel Services Dept. TB
P.O. Box B, Trenton, NJ 08690
Affirmative Action Equal Opportunity Employer, M/F

HELP WANTED

The Christian Broadcasting Network, Inc. is accepting applications for the following positions:

PROMOTIONS PRODUCER

Candidate must be able to produce, write, and edit for televison and promotional material. Position is based in Virginia Beach, VA but will work with the Middle East Television Department. Requirements include 2 to 3 years in television promotion production. Send resume to the address below using Box A-6.

REMOTE CAMERA OPERATOR

Candidate should have 3 years operating experience and ability to perform audio and lighting for routine field production and edit remote features. Send resume to the address below using Box A-7.

TV MAINTENANCE ENGINEER

Candidate should have experience in the installation, maintenance and repair of all TV equipment, including, but not limited to: TV transmitters, studio equipment, microwave and communications equipment. Minimum 3 to 5 years in broadcast experience. Send resume to the address below using Box A-8.

Send resumes to:

CBN Employment Office
Box
CBN Center
Virginia Beach, VA 23463

Help Wanted Programing Production & Others

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Totally unique, witty, warm, thoughtful, inoffensively controversial, irreverent but clean, "funniest morning man in NY" seeks to regain lost sleep. Does music, talk, etc with class, not crass. Radio or TV

Box J-14

HELP WANTED

ENTERTAINMENT GROUP INC. is currently hiring executive positions for the following divisions:

PRESIDENT

SYS RADIO PROGRAMING

This individual seeks to bring our radio division to the top markets in the country. Applicant must have at least 5 years of experience in radio broadcast operations.

PRESIDENT

SYS TELEVISION PROGRAMING

This position supervises the operation and management of our television division. Responsibilities include the development of our television properties. Applicant must have at least 10 years of experience in the development and syndication of television programing.

Send resume in confidence to:

Dennis Richard
SYS ENTERTAINMENT GROUP, INC.
300 International Pkwy
Heathrow, FL 32746
Equal Opportunity Employer
MAINTENANCE ENGINEER

Seeking second half of team to maintain the finest 48 production truck on the road. Successful candidate will possess maintenance experience with Swytz cameras, 1st machines, VTRs, GVG-1680, Yamaha mixing board, Chyron and Abekas A-53, A-42.

ALSO NEEDED:
Two experienced uplink engineers

SPECIALIZED REPAIRS

Send resume: John Lewis
SST&T
12450 Harmen Rd
New Springfield, OH 44443

NEWS OPERATIONS MANAGER

Operations and Engineering Department

Position is responsible for the administration and supervision of news gathering personnel and news technical facilities at WBBM-TV.

Applicant must have 5 years experience in major market news gathering operations, including operational and maintenance experience with cameras, recorders, microwave and remote location facilities, plus 2-3 years supervisory experience. Strong interpersonal skills are essential.

Please send resume to:
David G. Haworth
Associate Director,
Operations & Engineering Department
WBBM-TV
630 North McClurg Court
Chicago, IL 60611

WBBM-TV is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Help Wanted Technical

VP & GENERAL MANAGER
Top 50 Network Affiliate

This is one of those rare opportunities to join a progressive broadcast company and manage a fine TV station.

Tell us in your first letter about your experience as a successful TV manager and why you would be the best person for this position. Include salary history and references. All replies will be held in strictest confidence.

Reply to Box J-8
Equal Opportunity Employer

When responding to a blind box ad, address your reply as:

Box (the letter and number as shown in the ad)
Broadcasting
1795 DeSales St., NW
Washington, DC 20036

Do NOT send tapes or oversized material.

Help Wanted Management

Director

News and Public Affairs Programming

PBS

We are seeking a seasoned television professional to direct the work of PBS's News and Public Affairs Programming Department. Responsibilities include staff management, initiation, development, and funding of major new projects, maintenance of relationships with ongoing series, and representing PBS programming externally. Qualifications: Bachelor's degree or equivalent with graduate degree in Journalism, Broadcasting, or related field preferred. Minimum of 8-10 years in a high-profile decision-making capacity; public television station experience preferred. Must have excellent program and news judgement; the ability to operate as a member of a team; timely and courteous in decision-making; and powerful written and oral expression. PBS offers a salary commensurate with experience and an excellent benefits package. Please submit letter of interest, resume and salary requirements to:

PBS
Attn: Carla A. Gibson
1228 Braddock Place
Alexandria, VA 22314

PBS is an equal opportunity employer

Help Wanted Sales

Denver’s largest full-service video production company is seeking an innovative, aggressive sales manager. Successful candidate will develop marketing strategies, develop proposals and supervise a three-person sales force. Position requires extensive sales management experience and a thorough understanding of video production and post-production techniques. Position also requires extensive client contact and strong writing skills.

Send resume and references to:

General Manager
HSN Telelaman
7700 E. Iliff, Suite H
Denver, Colorado 80232
No phone calls, please. EOE.

Help Wanted News

AUGUST 1989

WBBM-AM, Chicago

WPAS-FM, Dallas

WFSU-TV, Tallahassee

WPRT-TV, Dayton

KOKI-AM, Spokane, WA

KREX-TV, Medford, OR

KXSN-AM, Joplin, MO

KGRA-AM, Garden City, KS

WRTC-FM, Greensboro, NC

Help Wanted Technical

VP & GENERAL MANAGER
Top 50 Network Affiliate

This is one of those rare opportunities to join a progressive broadcast company and manage a fine TV station.

Tell us in your first letter about your experience as a successful TV manager and why you would be the best person for this position. Include salary history and references. All replies will be held in strictest confidence.

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Equal Opportunity Employer

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10,000 RADIO and TV JOBS!
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Evelyn Mendez, director of finance, radio division, Caprices/ABC, New York, named VP of finance.


Robert F. Flint, president and general manager, KTVV(TV) Oklahoma City, joins WPRI-TV Providence, R.I., as VP, general manager. Michael Silleck, director of business affairs, KTVV, joins WPRI-TV as director of finance.

Appointments at Cox Cable Communications include: John Litvack, producer, MTM, Studio City, Calif., joins Walt Disney Television as senior VP, Magical World of Disney, Burbank, Calif.

Marketing

Donna Zapata, VP and general manager, WDKR-TV Spokane, Wash., joins WWOH-TV Secaucus, N.J. (New York), as senior VP, sales and marketing.

Jon Barocvik, account executive, TV Horizons, New York, named VP, advertiser sales.

Judith Lipnick, regional manager, affiliate sales and marketing, HBO, Chicago, named regional director. Dave Hanson, account manager, affiliate sales and marketing, HBO, Chicago, succeeds Lipnick.

Appointments at The Comedy Channel, HBO, New York: David McCoy, sales manager, program development and special projects, CNN, to VP, national sales manager; Joe Poletto, account executive, Arts & Entertainment, New York, to director of sales, East Coast; Heather Weir, manager of sales planning, to manager, sales development; Scoot MacPherson, director, consumer promotion, to director, sales promotion; Vinnie Favale, traffic manager, Arts & Entertainment, New York, to director, traffic; Karen Schmeichel, sales representative, Money magazine, Chicago, to account executive there; Jim D'Antoni, Eastern regional sales manager, Executive Channel, New York, to account executive.

Mark Mersky, director, marketing and media research, Group W Satellite Communications, New York, joins Arts & Entertainment there as director, local advertising sales.

Craig Miller, general sales manager, WKRC-TV Cincinnati, joins Great American Broadcasting there as VP, television sales.

Sally Altrocchi, account executive, KSBW(TV) Salinas, Calif., named regional marketing and sales manager. Chuck Bolcomb, account executive, KSBW named local marketing and sales manager.

Sherman Baldwin, director of new business development, F. Scott Kimmich & Co., South Norwalk, Conn-based ad agency, joins Praxis Media Inc., South Norwalk-based communications consulting and production company, as manager of marketing and sales.

Peter Connell, consultant, Edelman Public Relations, New York, joins G/R Public Relations, Watertown, Mass., as executive VP.

Programing

John Litvack, producer, MTM, Studio City, Calif., joins Walt Disney Television as senior VP, Magical World of Disney, Burbank, Calif.
as senior VP, production, movies and mini-series.

Rosemary Krupa, international program sales manager, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, London, joins Television New Zealand as general manager.

Donald Prijatel, president, Prijatel Productions, Columbus, Ohio, joins King World Productions, Los Angeles, as director of development.

Jim Wailey, director of resource development, HBO, New York, to director of research, The Comedy Channel; HBO, New York; Galen Jones, director of competitive analysis, financial planning and budgeting, HBO, to director, sales development, The Comedy Channel.

Appointments at Barris program sales: Rachel Wells, VP of research, Los Angeles, to VP of research and development; Patricia Domina, assistant, station relations, New York, to director of creative services, East Coast; Mary Jester, sales assistant, West Coast, Los Angeles, to director of creative services, West Coast.

Joanne Brough, executive producer, CBS’s Falcon Crest, and VP, creative affairs, Lorimar, Los Angeles, joins Republic Pictures there as executive producer in exclusive production deal. Brough will continue as consultant for Falcon Crest during new season.

John M. Baird, national field sales manager, Alberto Culver Toiletries Division, Atlanta, joins Showtime Networks there as regional VP, Southeast region.

Betsy Cohen, senior producer, Arthur Andersen & Co., Chicago, joins The Broadcast Center, Washington-based production and distribution company, as VP and director.

News and Public Affairs

Marcy McGinnis, senior producer, CBS Newsnet, New York, named executive producer.


John Woodlin, news director, WHNT-TV Huntsville, Ala., joins WFRV-TV Providence, R.I., in same capacity.

C.J. Beutlen, managing editor, WRCB-TV Chattanooga, joins WIE-TV Evansville, Ind., as news director.

Appointments in news department of WISC-TV Madison, Wis.: Joe Champ, bureau chief, Rock County, to reporter; David Moser, bureau reporter, KELO-TV Sioux Falls, S.D., to reporter; Kaye Sai, morning news anchor and general assignment reporter, WHBF-TV Rock Island, Ill., to weekend anchor-reporter.

Andy Field, general assignment reporter and fill-in anchor, WJZ-TV Baltimore, joins Newsfeed, Group W, Washington, as national correspondent.


Carolyn Burns, sports reporter, KGO-AM-TV San Francisco, joins SportsCenter, ESPN, Bristol, Conn., as anchor-reporter.

Mike Horvath, sports producer, WPLC-TV Miami, joins WCIX-TV there in same capacity.

Dan LeVerton, news producer, WPLC, joins WCIX-TV as senior writer.

Appointments in news department, WTOL-TV Toledo: Terese Roberts, reporter, WSPD(AM) Toledo, to 11 p.m. producer; Chris Slawinski, graduate, University of Toledo, to news editor; Mike Thomesen, part-time sports assistant, adds duties of news editor; Jim Parker, weekend assignment editor, to weekend news producer; Michael Baugh, news photographer, adds duties of weekend assignment editor.

Technology


Tim Wening, news photographer, WNWO-TV Toledo, joins WTOL-TV there as news engineer.

Promotion and PR

Jodie C. Hughes, VP, Tracy-Locke/Pharr, Public Relations, Dallas, joins A.H. Belo Corp., Dallas-based group owner of five TV's, as director of corporate communications.

Dennis Petrosky, manager, corporate communications, Fox Inc., Los Angeles, named director, corporate communications.

Pamela R. Thorne, senior executive of public relations, Macy's department stores, Houston, joins Warner Cable's Metro Houston system there as director of community relations.

Susan Polakoff, media and public relations director, U.S. Gymnastics Federation, Indianapolis, joins Turner Broadcasting System, Atlanta, as Goodwill Games publicist.

Michael K. Mobley, writer and editor, sports information department, University of Georgia, Athens, joins Turner Broadcasting System as Goodwill Games publicity coordinator.

Barry Layne, manager, music marketing/creative services, CBS Records, New York, joins LBS Communications Inc. there as director of creative services.

Steve Johnson, producer-writer, WCCO-TV Minneapolis, joins WFRU-TV Providence.

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(Please describe)
James J. Popham has been named to the new position of VP and general counsel of the Association of Independent Television Stations (INTV), Washington. Popham was on the staff of the National Association of Broadcasters from 1972 to 1982, serving in various capacities including assistant general counsel, deputy general counsel and VP for congressional liaison. "It's a marriage made in heaven," said Erwin Krausnow, attorney with Verner, Liipertz, Bernhard, McPherson & Hand, Washington, who was general counsel at NAB when Popham was there. "He has devoted his career to many of the issues that concern INTV, such as must carry, copyright and syndex."

Since his work with NAB, Popham has been in New Orleans as a partner with Fawer, Brian, Hardy and Zatkins from 1982 to 1986, and with Hardy and Popham from 1986 until February of this year. He has been in private practice since February and he has also been editing and writing for The Line Monitor, a legal newsletter for radio and television published by his wife, Jo.

"I am delighted, excited and couldn't be happier," said Popham. "I know the pace there is very fast and I plan to hit the ground running. Since the people and issues are basically the same as when I was at the NAB, this will help me get into the job quickly."

Popham will be in his new position by Oct. 1.

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R.I., as promotion manager.

John S. Mason, director of programming and operations, WNOL-TV New Orleans, named director of programming, promotion and operations.

Joe Kozlowski, promotion producer, KTUL-TV Tulsa, Okla., joins KHOU-TV Houston as news promotion producer.

Judy Keller, editor, university publications and assistant director of gifts, University of Miami, Coral Gables, joins noncommercial KANUFM Lawrence, Kan., as development director.

Allied Fields

Tyrone Brown, former FCC commissioner and partner, Steptoe & Johnson, Washington-based law firm, takes one-year leave of absence to serve as president of District Cablevision, which holds Washington franchise, and District Cable Ads there.

Edward J. Colman, acting director, policy development and planning, Corporation for Public Broadcasting, Washington, named director.


Elected members, Association of Independent Television Stations, Washington; William Frank, president and general manager, KOPOP-TV Los Angeles; Edward Karrick, VP and general manager, WTCI-TV Hartford.

WVJS cable channel 2 and Owensboro Cablevision, which are all owned by Century Communications Corp. Wettstein joined traffic department of WVJSAM in 1956. He was named director of traffic year later. He was named station manager of station in 1969 and to same capacity at WVJS one year later. In 1972, Owensboro-On-The-Air became involved in cable, and Wettstein was named assistant general manager of group. He was named to his current position in 1983. He was on board of Kentucky Cable Television Association and member of Kentucky Broadcasters Association. He is survived by his mother.

William C. McReynolds, 62, former president, Meredith Broadcasting Group, Des Moines, Iowa-based group owner of seven TV's, died Aug. 27 of cancer at Iowa Methodist Medical Center there. McReynolds was president of Meredith when, in 1985, group challenged FCC's long-standing fairness doctrine, final resolution of which was doctrine's repeal in August 1987.

McReynolds began his 35-year career with Meredith in 1954 as reporter for KCMO-AM-TV Kansas City, Mo. He moved into sales in 1958 as account executive for radio station; two years later became local sales manager and, in 1964, was named program director. He was named assistant to vice president and general manager of both stations in 1966. He was named general manager of Meredith's WNEM-TV Bay City in 1972. He then moved to KPHT-TV Phoenix, Ariz., as vice president and general manager. Six years later he was named vice president of Meredith Broadcasting Group and, in 1983, became president. He served in this capacity until July of this year when, following major surgery, he stepped down, but remained with company as senior vice president. He was past vice president and president of Metropolitan Phoenix Broadcasters Association; former board member and president of Arizona Broadcasters Association, board member of TVB, treasurer and member of executive committee of Association of Independent Television Stations, and board member, International Radio and Television Foundation. He is survived by his wife, Helen, one daughter, Kathryn, and three sons, William, Steven and Andrew.

Christopher States, 37, creative consultant for WNHTV Concord, N.H., and Flately Group, Boston, died of cancer Aug. 10 at St. Elizabeth's Hospital, Boston. States began his broadcasting career in 1979 as producer and air personality at noncommercial WGTE-FM Toledo, Ohio, position he held until 1983. While working at WGTE-FM he was also with WTVG-TV as on-air promotion manager, position he held for two years. He worked as freelance direction and consultant from 1987 until his death. He is survived by his parents.
Tom Freston: The sound business of music

Tom Freston has been a fan of rock and roll since “day one,” long before music videos redefined the television landscape. As chairman and chief executive officer of MTV Networks, he sees no reason to change his tune. At the age of 43, Freston is guiding MTV and its physical expansion of what is fast becoming an international entertainment empire, fueled not only by Music Television, but by Video Hits-1, Nickelodeon, Nick-at-Nite, and the forthcoming “HA” comedy channel.

Not bad for a guy who seven years ago spent his time convincing viewers and cable operators that they wanted their MTV.

Freston, the sole remaining member of the original MTV development team put together by Bob Pittman (who left the company in January 1986), says no one involved was surprised when the fledgling video jukebox began to attain popularity with youth, kids and adults, and the music industry. “There was never a doubt in anyone’s mind that this would be successful. They were on a mission, they wanted to win, and knew this was a business.” If there was any element of surprise, Freston says, it was at the rate of MTV’s success.

“MTV is catching on faster than anybody,” says Freston, who at the time was director of marketing, MTV. “I would go out and spend weeks in little towns where we first launched [in 1981] and see the impact that MTV would have. It was amazing.”

Helping to give MTV more of a wide-spread appeal was the innovative “I Want My MTV” campaign, begun in late 1982 and supervised by Freston. “We had to get a lot of distribution very quickly,” he says, “and the only way we thought we could convince cable operators to add us was to try and force ourselves on the shelf with a consumer demand campaign.”

Freston and staff also decided to use “artists of the highest caliber who brought tremendous legitimacy to the concept,” and to advertise on broadcast television. “By being there,” Freston says, “you’re sending a signal about yourself: that you’re playing in the big time.”

Before Freston entered the cable industry in 1980 as director of marketing, Eastern region, for Warner Amex Satellite Entertainment Company (MTV Networks’ predecessor company), he had already established and left behind two careers. After receiving his undergraduate degree in 1967 from St. Michael’s College, an MBA in 1969 from NYU, and a year of travel, Freston took “his first grown-up job,” as account manager at Benton & Bowles.

Freston spent two years working on such accounts as Hasbro and G.I. Joe, but wanderlust set in once again and he spent the better part of 1972 traveling around the world, “visiting 40 to 50 countries.” On his return, Freston began looking for a way to spend more time in Asia, with whose lifestyle he had become fascinated. He began his own import business, Hindukush.

Freston and his partner ran Hindukush from 1973 until 1979. Although it turned into a profitable enterprise, and allowed Freston to live abroad six to eight months a year, importing “began to wear on me,” he says. So he embarked on a “methodical career search, trying to figure out what I’d like to do next.”

At the same time he began looking at the cable and home video industries, Freston read an article by Warner Amex executive John Lack, “the guy who invented MTV,” discussing the as yet unrealized idea for a video music station. “So I called him up, got an interview, and was hired.” Six months later he was recruited by Pittman to help form MTV. Freston had found his niche.

The energetic executive has worked hard and risen steadily during his tenure with the company, accumulating 11 job titles in nine years. Today, at the top. Freston keeps himself busy making sure the entertainment franchises he helped create continue to “push the edge of the envelope.”

MTV, which experienced a “period of stagnation” brought on by corporate change, has been reinvigorated, according to Freston, by the increased attention to original, more varied programming. “We now do more traditional types of programming in terms of form,” he says, “such as game shows, a magazine show, a movie show, etc.

“I think the audience understood it as a natural evolutionary step. At the same time, MTV’s basic heritage is music and the pop culture. We don’t want to veer away too much from our original mission.” Freston and staff are currently developing a rock and roll soap opera, as well as MTV’s first two original films, one featuring an “old hippy” named Randy, the other a rap movie. MTV’s current subscriber base is 47.2 million.

Freston refers to VH-1, launched in 1985 and now seen by 32.4 million subscribers, as a “work in progress. We’re working with four basic elements: nostalgia, comedy, music, and entertainment lifestyle information, and trying to give a personality, as we’ve been able to do pretty successfully with MTV and Nickelodeon.”

Nickelodeon, the cable network for children, was launched in 1979 and has 47.3 million subscribers. This month it will launch a show called Eureka’s Castle, a puppet-driven, value-based show which Freston calls “the most ambitious preschool programing since Sesame Street.” Nickelodeon will jump to its “next level,” says Freston, with the opening next June in Orlando, Fla., of an entertainment facility housing two full-scale television studios. He says we can expect more original programing as well from the popular Nick-At-Nite, which launched in 1985.

Freston is spending a great deal of time these days preparing for the April launch of “HA,” MTV Networks’ comedy channel. “We think we’re very well positioned to do this,” he says. “It’s a logical extension of the businesses we’ve already been in.”

Freston describes his 1972 trip around the world as “one of the most basic experiences of my life in terms of shaping; it tends to give you perspective on the world and your place in it.” Seventeen years later, that perspective has placed him in charge of a thriving entertainment company which includes what he calls “the world’s first real TV network, in the sense that we’re on five continents, in 28 countries. Half of the homes that see MTV are outside the U.S.

“There’s a global generation developing out there, as the world continues to get smaller. For our networks, the future’s barely been scratched.”
WUTV(TV) Buffalo, N.Y., was sold by Citadel Communications Co. to Act III Broadcasting for $46 million. Seller is group owner headed by Phillip J. Lombardo that also owns WBNY(TV) Burlington, Vt.; WMOC-TV Binghamton, N.Y.; WHBF-TV Rock Island, Ill.; KCAN-TV Sioux City, Iowa, and KCAN-TV) Albia, Neb. Buyer is group owner headed by Bert Ellis that also owns WURF(TV) Rochester, N.Y.; WTTG(TV) Nashville; WNRW(TV) Winston-Salem, N.C.; WVAH(TV) Charleston, W.Va.; WRLH-TV Richmond, Va.; WTAH-TV Charleston, S.C., and WRGT-TV Dayton, Ohio. WUTV(TV) is Fox affiliate on ch. 29 with 1,050 kw visual, 105 kw aural and antenna 959 feet above average terrain. Brokers: Frank Boyle & Co. and Sender Media Group.

McDonnell Douglas successfully launched British Satellite Broadcasting bird Sunday, Aug. 27, marking first successful commercial satellite launch by U.S. company, and key step forward for troubled UK direct broadcast TV project. Following launch on Delta rocket, Hughes HS376 bird, dubbed Marcopolo I, last week successfully fired apogee kick motor and was in drift phase toward assigned orbital slot of 31 degrees west. Satellite’s antenna and solar panel were to deploy late last week. Privately funded five-channel satellite venture was forced earlier this year to delay program launch by six months until next spring, primarily because of holdup in final design of descrambling chips for its D2-MAC transmission system. Broadcaster also has not yet reached agreement with manufacturers of square home receiver aerial.

Movement against broadcast indecency may have cost Cleveland radio personality his job. WWWE/AM Cleveland announced last week it had “reached agreement to part company” with afternoon drive talk jock Gary Dee just three weeks after indecency complaint against station at FCC for allegedly indecent content of Dee’s call-in show. In press release, station acknowledged that it took Dee off air Aug. 18—three days after complaint was filed—to gather facts relating to indecency complaint. But, station said, Dee’s departure was not due to complaint, but to station’s desire to expand news and information in afternoon drive and “take our afternoon talk programming along a different course.” Dee, whose real name is Gary Gilbert, told Cleveland News-Herald that FCC complaint “wasn’t the real cause” of his dismissal. “They had every reason to fire me because I didn’t follow directions. It’s my fatal flaw. The bottom line is that it got to the point where they could not rely on Gary Dee,” he said. Complaint was filed by Washington lawyer Thomas Keller on behalf of Greater Cleveland Broadcasting Corp. Keller declined to reveal officers or shareholders of Greater Cleveland.

Fox Television Stations last week named Thomas R. Herwitz, VP/general manager of Fox’s WTTG(TV) Washington. Herwitz, who has been VP of corporate and legal affairs for Fox in Washington, succeeds late Betty Endicott (BROADCASTING, Aug. 28). Herwitz, 32, joined company in 1986 after serving as legal assistant to former FCC Chairman Mark Fowler for three years. Previously (1981-83) he was with Washington law firm of Hogan & Hartson. In addition to legal responsibilities, Herwitz was involved in development of Fox’s hit program, America’s Most Wanted, and has been executive in charge of it. “Mr. Herwitz’s background will allow us to continue using WTTG as a source of program development,” said Robert Kreeck, president/CEO for Fox Television Stations.

No news is big news

A U.S. district court judge in Des Moines, Iowa, last week ordered the Polk County attorney to return a videotape of a fatal street fight to the freelance photographer who had made it and who has a contract to sell it to WWHO-Des Moines. Judge Harold D. Vistor said two police officers who had taken the tape from the photographer, Don Lombard, violated his constitutional rights to freedom of speech and press and to be free of unreasonable seizure of his property.

Lombard came upon the fight early on the morning of Aug. 1 while touring the downtown loop area with his video camera. He was searching for newsworthy material to tape and, possibly, sell to WWHO or any other buyer. Lombard summoned police when he saw the victim—who was later found to have been stabbed—bleeding badly. He turned his tape over to the officers after, he said, he was told police would make a copy and return it. The police said they had only told Lombard they were taking the tape.

Vistor, in granting a preliminary injunction ordering the return of a copy of the tape, said that even the police version indicates that Lombard’s rights were violated. Vistor said a court trying the case on the merits would consider a situation in which Lombard was confronted by two policemen at night at the scene of a violent crime as one of “implied duress or coercion resulting in delivery of the tape to the police.” From that, Vistor said, findings would show that Lombard’s property was taken without due process and that Lombard’s First Amendment right to display the videotape was violated.

The more you know. NBC said last week it has tapped President George Bush to appear in an upcoming public service campaign that will encourage viewers to volunteer at their local schools. Bush taped a spot in which he says: “If you’ve been out of school for 10, 20, even 50 years, it is time you went back. The more you know, the more our schools need you. So find out what you can do, and then do it.” NBC has shot 18 spots for the “The More You Know” campaign, which will air in daytime and prime time this fall.
munications stock cannot proceed without Chris-Craft's approval of financial terms. Chris-Craft is holder of all of Warner Series B preferred stock.

Trial of PTL founder and president Jim Bakker in Charlotte, N.C., was suspended last week by Federal District Judge Robert Potter, who ordered Bakker to be taken to Federal Correctional Institute in Butner, N.C., for psychiatric evaluation after his defense lawyer said Bakker had been hallucinating and conceiving in a false position in the lawyer's office. Earlier last week, former PTL executive Steve Nelson testified that Bakker had ordered that sales of hotel partnerships be underreported during telephones, apparently to perpetuate donation enticements that in reality had been used up. Later, Nelson collapsed during cross-examination.

Media groups seeking to have FCC rule banning indecent broadcasts on 24-hour basis overturned last week filed opposition to commission's request that U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington remand case for further consideration. FCC said it would use remand to collect data to support 24-hour rule. Commission said relief is seeking is same as that request by media groups. But petitioners said remand is in conflict with ruling they are seeking—to have Helms amendment, which mandated rule, declared unconstitutional, and then to require commission to hold proceeding to determine appropriate safe harbor for broadcast of indecent material. Media groups also say delay commission is seeking would "seriously harm" them. Even though court has stayed effectiveness of rule, petitioners say "very pendency of the Helms amendment has an inhibiting effect on petitioners' First Amendment rights.”

GE Americom has signed contract with The Sci-Fi Channel for one transponder on Satcom C-4, to be launched in Septem-

Service recognition. Three television stations were presented with Emmy Awards for excellence in community service programming and PSA's for 1988 by the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. Two stations, KPIX-TV San Francisco and KOMO-TV Seattle, tied for first place, the first time that has happened. KPIX was honored for its "Getting in Touch" campaign on breast cancer, and KOMO-TV for its "AIDS Lifeline" campaign. The third winner was WCCO-TV Minneapolis for its "Project Quit" campaign. Shown above are Toby Pate (l.), KPIX marketing director, and Carolyn Wean, KPIX VP and general manager.

NTIA set to study spectrum

The National Telecommunications and Information Administration has announced plans for a study of the use and management of radio frequencies in the U.S. The aim, NTIA said, is to encourage the most effective and fair use of the radio spectrum.

The new head of NTIA, Janice Obuchowski, said the policy review—the first of its kind since the agency was established in 1978—will be prompted by the recent changes in spectrum-related technology. "The changes, she said, require the development and fostering of policies that will encourage the most effective, efficient and fair use of spectrum.”

Rise of commercial competitor PanAmSat is not all bad news for Intelsat. Last week, international satellite transmission service BrightStar Communications leased third full-time transponder on Intelsat 332.5 satellite over Atlantic Ocean. BrightStar, which has been competing with both international carriers, adds ability to uplink in C-band from U.S. and downlink in Ku-band to 2- to 3-meter dishes in Europe.

Joe Indelli, president, MTM Television Distribution Group, is leaving company, effective immediately, following decision by MTM Chairman Arthur Price not to renew Indelli's contract. Price said Indelli's contract ran out two or three months ago, and he had been working without new one. According to Price, company is talking to number of candidates, but until replacement is hired, Price will oversee distribution division. It was also announced that Greg Phillips will take over as VP/director of international sales for MTM's newly formed MTM International sales office in London. Phillips, who had been at CBS International in London for four years, will report to Price and MTM executive Tim Buxton (recently appointed from parent company Television South of Britain) in Los Angeles.

Robert Schakne, 63, former CBS News correspondent, died of cancer Aug. 31 at Sibley Memorial Hospital, Washington. "For decades Bob Schakne set the highest standards in our profession," said David Burke, president, CBS News. Schakne began his 33-year career with CBS News in New York bureau in 1958 as writer. He was then named reporter-assignment editor, position he held for five years. He was named CBS News correspondent in 1961 and moved to Los Angeles bureau after one year. From August 1963 to January 1964 he was West Coast bureau manager and then became Latin American correspondent, position he held until 1966. He then returned to New York, where he was based for 10 years. Schakne moved to Washington bureau in 1976 where he remained until his retirement in July 1988. He is survived by his wife, Toshifie, and daughter, Miye.
Conduct unbecoming

Apparently, the three indecency actions the FCC initiated last week may only be the tip of a cumbersome, content-chilling iceberg. Word from the commission last week was that there were at least 16 more complaints that had passed FCC staffers' litmus test for indecency, and only awaited approval by the commissioners to be translated into official station notifications.

Given that an indecency violation represents a scarlet letter on a station's record, and thus should not be entered into lightly; given that each finding adds a new piece to the puzzle of what is indecent, determining what will be deemed so in subsequent rulings, and given the difficulty in determining what is too little or too much of what, the FCC may have time for little else if it chooses to put itself at the disposal of the growing pack of morality watchdogs.

The intimidating tactics of Donald Wildmon et al. and the intimidating congressional tactics of an unconstitutional “around the clock” ban buried in an unvetoable budget bill are symptomatic of a disturbing wave of censorship whose active agent the FCC has become (BROADCASTING, Aug. 28, et seq.). It is a wave that has been building at least since another censorship commission, that of former Attorney General Edwin Meese, appointed itself arbiter of national taste. It has been aided in part by the extreme religious right and abetted by legislators—and in turn regulators—who would rather risk trampling constitutional protections than be branded soft on smut by their constituents. It is a misguided course, and one from which we urge the new FCC to turn away.

A succinct summation of the fatal flaw in content regulation came recently from an unlikely source: Tim Robertson, head of CBN Family Channel and son of religious broadcaster Pat Robertson. Tim Robertson, who has indicated he will not donate time to the programming of boycotter Billy Melvin, leader of Christian Leaders for Responsible Television, said this of the issue: “One person’s freedom is someone else’s indecency.” Amen, and copy to 1919 M.

Forward to the past

Fans of the late fairness doctrine have asked the Supreme Court to review an appeals court’s affirmation of the FCC’s striking of the doctrine. They argue that the commission’s decision was an attempt to move the Fifth Estate closer to the print model of First Amendment protection. We couldn’t agree more. The petitioners also could find no case of greater importance to the regulation of broadcasting. Again, we are on the same page, but here the roads diverge.

Having recognized the importance of the decision, and its weight toward squaring the regulatory book with the constitutional imperative of a free press, the petitioners proceed to argue against it. They either fail to see, or choose to ignore, the light of truth that illuminated the FCC decision: Scarcity is not a valid argument for deeding the government control over the content of broadcast media (although it has historically been a convenient excuse for those who wish to control it). The basic realities missed by the petitioners, but fortunately not by the FCC, are that there is no real scarcity of media outlets—the appeals court upholding the FCC decision agreed—and that the Constitution demands that the press (and it is ludicrous to deny broadcast newsgatherers that status in full) be free of intrusive government control. That means the freedom—though surely not the obliga-

Out of this world

It is by now a truism that the Fifth Estate has helped make the miraculous commonplace, or at least seem deceptively so. People the world over have been recently treated to a comet’s eye view of Neptune and its celestial family—including several new additions: just-discovered moons and rings, ice volcanoes and a flood of other new information. Those pictures, the attainability of which once would have been the far-fetched fictional province of Verne and Wells, have been fetched from afar—some three billion miles away—by NASA’s Voyager 2, courtesy of satellite relays by GE Americom and Alascom and the matter-of-fact magic of Fifth Estate technology. Even in an age accustomed to men playing golf on the moon and roaming the sea floor, these hauntingly beautiful—and amazingly sharp—images from several worlds away still inspire awe in their beauty and pride in their accomplishment.

Vanishing breed

If the Fifth Estate had a flag, it would be at half-staff this week for William C. McReynolds, the former president of Meredith Broadcasting, who died Aug. 27 of cancer. His was not a household name in radio and television, but it should have been. Bill McReynolds was the broadcaster who stood up to the federal government in opposing the fairness doctrine, and won. Not just for his station group but for all broadcasters everywhere—if not for all time.

Whether that victory will last much longer is in doubt. The broadcasting establishment has made a calculated decision not to fight the John Dingells and Ernest Hollings of the world, determined to keep the broadcast media under their thumb. It’s yet to be seen whether President Bush will stand as steady as did Ronald Reagan in holding off a rampaging Congress. In the final analysis, the greatest hope remains with the Supreme Court, which may ultimately save the day.

If, in the end, broadcasters remain freed to be free, Bill McReynolds will have been largely responsible. If, in the end, broadcasters are returned to their cages, the whole Fifth Estate will bear the blame.

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MA*RT™, Impact Resources' unsurpassed market measurement system is one of the most valuable ways Dr. Weitz, author of two college textbooks and over 30 academic papers on marketing strategies, has found to prepare his retailing students. It is also one of the most valuable ways for any company or business to learn about their customers. With a sample size ranging from 5,000 to 18,000 per market, MA*RT provides a wide range of information on consumers, including lifestyle, hobbies, shopping patterns, and media habits.

"We use the MA*RT data for Atlanta, which includes responses from 7000 active consumers," Dr. Weitz says. "By using MA*RT, my colleagues and students are better able to solve or gain insight into complicated retailing issues. Because the sample size is so large, we know we're always getting an accurate picture of the market. And I know they're better prepared for the complex retail challenges facing them."

And you'll be better prepared for the retail challenges facing you today—because MA*RT provides you with the largest sample and most accurate measurement of consumer behavior available. Call 1-800-733-MART today to learn more about MA*RT and Impact Resources.

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