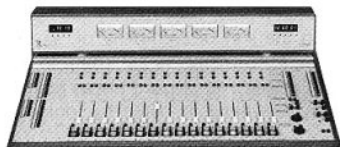


INDUSTRY NEWS

ROGERS-MICROSOFT PLAN: Another step towards the information highway has been taken by Rogers Communications. Rogers has agreed to licence Microsoft's 'Tiger' software for a 2-way interactive TV project to commence in 1996. Unlike the Vidéotron UBI project which uses the TV set for transactional services as well as entertainment, Rogers expects subscribers will use a computer for transactions and that ownership of computers will triple to 70 per cent of homes in Canada over the next few years.

FOX NET TO GAIN 12 AFFILIATES: In a \$500 million deal with New World Communications Group, Fox Broadcasting will add 12 TV stations now affiliated with the 'Big 3' U.S. networks. New World owns TV stations in Atlanta, Cleveland, Detroit, Milwaukee and Tampa, and has options to acquire eight others. Rupert Murdoch, who launched Fox in 1987 with seven TV stations bought for \$2 billion, said it will be the largest affiliation realignment in U.S. TV history. Fox recently took NFL football away from CBS, bidding \$1.56 billion for rights for four years.



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For CBC News, Prime Time will again be 10 pm: CBC's board of directors has approved a repositioning plan which includes the return of *Prime Time News* to the 10 pm slot, as of this fall. Regional news will be reinstated at 11-11:30 pm. Audience for the 9 pm news hour had declined 17 per cent since it replaced *The National/The Journal* in the fall of 1992.

Stations in the news: Two suburban Toronto AM stations are planning frequency changes: **CIAO Brampton** has purchased the 1430 AM facility from Telemedia, which plans to move **CJCL** (The Fan) to 590. If the deals are approved by the CRTC, Country 59 (which as **CKEY** was one of Toronto's top stations for many years) would disappear. CIAO, now on 530, would target the Asian market, broadcasting primarily in Chinese. **CKDX Newmarket**, 1480 AM, has applied to move to 88.5 MHz with 700w ERP; if approved, the move will be completed this summer... **CKUA Radio** has been given transitional funding as it becomes an independent foundation. The Alberta government will provide \$2.6 million in year one, \$1.3 million in year two and \$650,000 in year 3. Public support will be required to continue operation of the Edmonton AM and province-wide FM service.

CHCH-TV Hamilton Marks 40 Years: On March 30, 1953, a TV licence was issued to a consortium consisting of Ken Soble's Maple Leaf Broadcasting (CHML), Wentworth Broadcasting (CKOC) and Southam Press (The Hamilton Spectator); soon after, Theatre Properties Hamilton joined. CHCH, "Lucky Channel 11," went on the air June 7, 1954, at 8 pm with a 2-hour show about Hamilton. Now independent, it began as a CBC-TV affiliate. The station had some interesting features: Its tower was a 540-ft. 'pipe' known as a wavestack antenna. Weatherman John Dickins stood behind a glass window (on which he wrote backwards) instead of the usual blackboard. Production equipment included an "electro-zoom" camera apparatus, the first in Canada, and a special effects generator which split the screen, e.g., to show a newsmen in part of the screen while news film appeared in the rest. CHCH also had the biggest studio in Canada, the Hamilton Forum, which was owned by Ken Soble. The first offices were in a stately 1840s mansion which also housed CJSH-FM, owned by the Specator. A garage at the rear of the mansion became the main studio, then the Kenmore Theatre became the Channel 11 Telecentre. In 1984, a large new high-tech facility brought operations under one roof (BT cover story, January 1985).

The late Ken Soble is recognized as the founder of CHCH-TV; he is remembered by broadcasters as a remarkably successful entrepreneur, and by the public as the host of *The Ken Soble Amateur Hour* — one of the longest-running shows in Canadian history, it began on CHML in 1931 and became a TV show in 1954. A 5-part profile of Ken Soble was broadcast June 6 to 10. CHCH-TV's new owners, WIC, have pledged to renew Ken Soble's dedication to community service. And, if its Second City Comedy Channel application is approved, WIC says CHCH-TV will be the origination centre for the new satellite service.

People in the news: Radio-Canada has named Michèle Fortin VP of French TV. Formerly GM of programming for Radio-Canada, she succeeds Guy Gougeon, who joined Cogeco six months ago... CBC President Tony Manera has promoted Michael McEwan to VP, Media. The new post combines two positions, VP, Radio (held by McEwan) and VP, Television (which had been vacant)... John Crispo has resigned from the CBC board of directors. His 3-year term ended six weeks ago. *In memoriam:* Prairie broadcaster George Young, 53, died of cancer on May 6, 1994, in Regina. He started his career at CFAR Flin Flon and worked in Brandon, Swift Current, and Regina, where he was host of *Action Line* on CKCK-TV.

Olympic Aftershock: CBC's successful \$20.75 (U.S.) bid for the Canadian rights to the 1996 Olympic Games in Atlanta has left CTV people "deeply disappointed" according to a Globe and Mail report by Tom McKee. CTV's \$10 million (U.S.) bid was less than half CBC's... At its annual meeting, Atlantis Communications said that this year's production would be 110 hours worth \$100 million, compared to last year's 61 hours and \$66 million. The firm's new president, Kevin Shea, says the target is to increase volume 20% in each of the next five years... A British inventor has patented a wind-up radio that runs without batteries or electricity. The inventor, Trevor Baylis, plans to market the inexpensive radio in Third World countries. BT

Jerry Fairbridge

Canadians gave the news media top marks of all the countries for helping democracy. TV tied at 76% with newspapers. Radio came a close second at 75%. Canadians also were tops in believing TV news gets its facts straight — a 59% vote for accuracy, 33% for inaccuracy (The U.S. ratio was 50-42. Radio wasn't included in this question).

Asked who most threatens freedom of the press, 20% of Canadians questioned said government, 11% said political parties, 8% corporations. The legal system and special interest groups each got six per cent.

For further information, call Andrew Kohut, Robert C. Toth, or Carol Bowman at the Times Mirror Center for The People and The Press, (202) 293-3126.

It's been a time of many deals and rumors of deals, people changes and rumors of changes. Here's a recap: **Roy Hennessy** and CFRB Toronto parted ways, with **Gary Slight** taking over the helm temporarily. . . Shaw Communications bought CUC to become the second biggest cable company in Canada. . . The Okanagan Skeena Group under president **Bryan Edwards** continued to buy up B.C., agreeing to purchase Kootenay Cable. . . There's the spinoff of Rogers' purchase of Maclean Hunter. . . The CRTC approved the sale of CHSJ-TV Saint John to the CBC and of MITV to Canwest Global. . . There was the attempted takeover of WIC Western, over which there could be legal battles to come. . .

Forvest Divests!

Clint Forster did some quick deals in April then took off for a well-deserved two-week vacation in Europe. Some of the deals should be complete by the time you read this. Others may still be under discussion. . . **Bill Gorrie**, GM of CKRC/CKLU-FM Winnipeg, and **Terry O'Rourke**, of the sales department, were buying CKRC from Forvest Broadcasting. They hoped to be out of CKRC's old facility by now. Craig Broadcasting was to take over a share and management of CKLU-FM. . . Many expect **Jack Schoone's** RADIOCORP Inc. of Hamilton to expand eastwards and they may. But RADIOCORP's **Jim MacLeod** was in the West for a fast tour at the end of April and ended up in complicated negotiations to manage, buy or do some of each in Forvest's CJWW/CFQC Saskatoon, CKCK/CKIT-FM Regina and CIRK-FM Edmonton.

To add to the complications, some of those stations have applications before the CRTC. Also, **Bruce Davis** quit as GM of CIRK-FM just before the dealing started, leaving **Des Regiers** in charge. Bruce moved across the road to become GSM at Standard's CFBR, The Bear. **Dave Burdeniuk** had previously left his ND job at CKCK/CKIT-FM to work for Saskatchewan's NDP government.

The Liberals got **Fred Peters**, former ND at CJVR Melfort. **Brent Shepherd** succeeded him at CJVR. **Jim Mattern** resigned as ND of Baton's CFQC-TV; assistant ND **Alan Bell-Chambers** was filling in.

George Ferguson, who manages Telemedia's CFCH North Bay, called BN Satellite Manager **Rina Steuerman** about doing a satellite remote. He talked to Rina about looking out over the lake while drinking his morning coffee and sounded so relaxed that Rina and I are thinking of joining him there.

Regan Gorman has taken charge of Pelmorex's CHNO/CJMX-FM Sudbury; **Denis Bouchard** heads the

Pelmorex French Network. . . **Kim Noel** is now GSM of CHAY-FM Barrie. . . **Chris Allicock** moved up the ladder to manage CING-FM Burlington. . . **Dave Foreman** is now PD of CJXY-FM Hamilton. . . Former ND **Ron Johnston** is PD at Electrohome's CKCO-TV Kitchener. **Al Brooks** went to CFRN-TV Edmonton, also owned by Electrohome, as program manager. **Al Gibson**, BN's general ND for the last five years, filled Ron's old shoes. . . **Barry Close**, formerly of Alberta's public network ACCESS Alberta, moved to promotions manager at CFRN-TV.

Alberta's public radio network, CKUA, continues to fight for its life. It's had no GM since **Jackie Rollans** left, following ACCESS president **Don Thomas**. The government is eliminating interim funding over three years and non-commercial CKUA hopes to keep going with audience support and corporate funding.

BN moved **Brian Kennedy** to Ottawa from Victoria and **Scott Sutherland** to Victoria from Vancouver.

CKNW/CFMI-FM, after 50 years in New Westminster, should be settled by this time next year in downtown Vancouver. They and the Western Information Network are moving from 2,000 square metres at two sites (the talk studios are downtown) to 3,500 square metres on the 20th and 21st floors of the Pacific Centre.

Russ Beerling, former PD and ops manager at CKNL Fort St. John, has gone into business for himself and was succeeded by **Ken Johnson** from CKVH High Prairie.

The legacy of unresolved legal battles is more legal battles. **Chuck Camroux** continues to block the sale of CKDA/CFMS-FM Victoria. . . Talking of the law, thanks to former Supreme Court Judge **Willard Estey** for backing up a comment of mine: He told the Empire Club in Toronto: "The power to ban (publication) must be rethought in some areas because it's unenforceable."

CKDM Dauphin sports director **Garth Forster** and color commentator **Hector Paulhus** spent a week in Kamloops covering the Western Canadian Bantam Championships. That's the sort of support CKDM gives its nearby communities. They were covering the Russell Rangers who'd taken the provincial title home to tiny Russell — population 2,000. CKDM broadcast every game and Russell won the Bronze medal, beating Prince Albert in the final. CKDM GM **Linus Westberg** says: "When the team returned to Russell along with our broadcast crew they were brought in with a police escort, were given a special reception and the team was treated so well they thought they had just won the Stanley Cup."

CFAX Victoria was helping keep friends and family in touch with sailors involved in the U.N. embargo of Haiti. It invited them to tape messages to be sent to the sailors. **Tanya Bickerton** had a special message to send to boyfriend **Sylvain Desroches**: For her, the navy and CFAX set up a direct satellite hookup. While thousands listened to the midday show with **Mike King**, she ended her message by asking: "Will you marry me?" His answer: yes.

How will interactive cable television affect over-the-air broadcasters? To learn more, I went to a talk about UBI by **Pierre Dion**, GM, sales and marketing for Videoway Multimedia, a division of Le Groupe Videotron.

ATLANTIC AIRWAVES

by Sandra Porteous and John Porteous

CBC-TV FINALLY COMES TO N.B., AND CANWEST ARRIVES IN MARITIMES

In one sweeping application approval, the CRTC has changed the ownership face of television in the Maritimes dramatically, as the television properties owned by the Saint John, N.B., Irving family, CHSJ-TV and Maritime Independent Television (MITV) both change hands. The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation acquires CHSJ-TV, with its rebroadcasters covering New Brunswick, while MITV becomes part of CanWest Global Communications, along with numerous re-broadcasters which effectively cover the three Maritime Provinces.

For CBC-TV, the move means an end to almost 40 years of criticism over New Brunswick's position as the only Province or Territory lacking an owned & operated CBC TV station. For decades, politicians as diverse as Louis Rebichaud and Richard Hatfield have castigated the CBC for its treatment of New Brunswick, despite regular attempts by the network to increase the amount of CBC programming carried by its longtime affiliate CHSJ-TV.

For the powerful Irving family, the departure from television may well provide a sense of relief. Lyle Kerr, a spokesman for New Brunswick Broadcasting, said MITV has "lost money since it first went on-air in 1987." NBB will receive \$10.5 million for CHSJ-TV, while Global will pay \$11 million for MITV. The CBC, strapped as it is for funding, has made a complex arrangement by which CanWest Global will pay the sum of \$9.6 million for the right to sell advertising on CBC-TV in New Brunswick for the next ten years. In addition, CBC will save \$1.2 million per year, previously paid to NBB to carry CBC programming.

Both CBC and CanWest Global promise substantial new investment in regional programming over the next five years: CBC \$13.5 million; CanWest \$7.5 million.

FRONT SEAT AT RIOT FOR HALIFAX MEDIA

April 29 promised to be uneventful, if not downright boring, for members of the Halifax media. It was to be budget day at the provincial legislature. Little did they know that they'd find themselves in the centre of a major storm of protest directed at the Liberal administration of Premier John Savage.

Both CBC-TV and ATV had set up their mobile units just inside the wrought-iron fence of Province House. Suddenly, several hundred dissident trade union members swarmed onto the grounds and into the building, taking officials by surprise. Reporters were equally taken aback at the stormy demonstration -- some being jostled in the near-riot.

As for the budget, it had to be tabled in written form only. A shaken Premier Savage was escorted from the scene by police officers and was later quoted as saying he was considering hiring a bodyguard. Early in CBHT's coverage of the melee, CBC Newsworld also took the feed, providing live coverage nation-wide.

Campus Radio Conference: The annual conference of Campus Radio Broadcasters will be held June 20-25 in Fredericton. Information from Jeff Whipple, vice-president, and a member of the host station, CHSR at the University of New Brunswick, indicates a lively program of events. The NCRC has held annual conferences since 1980 at various locations across Canada. Further details can be had from Jeff Whipple, CHSR, Box 4400, Fredericton, NB, E3B 5A3, Tel 506-453-4985 or FAX 506-453-4958.

Items for Atlantic Airwaves may be sent to Sandra Porteous (for NS & NF) at 7 Centre St., Bedford, NS, B4A 2B3, Tel 902-835-1485; or John Porteous (for NB & PEI) at 110 Pleasant St., Moncton, NB, E1A 2V2, Tel 506-857-8133 or FAX 852-9564.



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CCBE NEWSLETTER

by Bob Findlay

New Software for Membership List

At the April CCBE Executive meeting **Dave Storey** demonstrated the new CCBE Database membership software. Dave said the software will be upgraded as necessary; it is arranged to extract membership, visitors and foreign participants, which will be very useful. Dave would like to acknowledge the contribution of **John Heij**, CHCH-TV's Data Operations Manager who has written most of the database code.

It was decided to encourage early CCBE Convention registration by having a draw from the list of delegates who register by September 1st. The prize will be a free room for the three nights of the convention.

CJRT's Open College

Doubtless Torontonians and other Ontarians are familiar with Open College. I, however, was not, until **Bill Onn** handed me a small package of material on the subject.

Open College is operated through CJRT-FM Inc. a non-profit cultural and educational radio station. The CJRT-FM signal can be received up to 100 miles from the CN Tower, which houses the transmitter and antenna, and is also available on many Ontario cable systems, fed by satellite.

As a non-profit radio station, CJRT-FM has had the enviable record of operating since 1974 without a deficit. According to Chairman **Mary Alice Stuart**, 1993 was the 18th year of debt-free operation, despite a 5% cut in provincial funding. (Perhaps we should have our governments take lessons on deficit reduction at CJRT.) The lack of deficit in 1993 is attributable to an increase in fee income due to a greater number of students studying in the Open College.

After 25 years in rented premises, CJRT has new facilities at 150 Mutual Street, Toronto, since July 1992. Open College courses are conducted by audio cassette, printed material and seminars at Ryerson Polytechnic University.

Thanks to Bill Onn for supplying the information on CJRT. Bill has been involved in the installation of the new CJRT for the past three years and is presently chief engineer of the station.

Bob Findlay is publicity chairman for CCBE, the Association of Central Canada Broadcast Engineers, Technologists & Technicians Inc. He may be contacted at (514) 352-4038 or FAX 354-7514.



WABE NEWSLETTER

by John Bruins

Information Highway Leads to Winnipeg!

Several months ago I started to pursue a clear definition of "the Electronic Information Highway" we seem to hear so much about these days. I'm still waiting. Everyone seems to have a different story — they even call it by different names, although the word "highway" is always in there somewhere.

That certainly isn't slowing down construction, though — there are signs all over the place, and the way things are going, it may be like some cities and always be "under construction"! If you want to stretch that an inch farther — our highway may already be in use. And yet some days it seems like a jungle of telephone systems, cellular, television, cable systems, data services, and so on, all connected with bridges of satellites, radio waves, fiber optics and cables of all sorts, without much direction... Sounds like something the government should get involved in. (Just joking!)

One thing for sure, a lot of data on that super highway is bound for Winnipeg in November. In fact, please mark the dates on your calendar for the CAB/WABE Joint Convention and National Trade Show: **Sunday, November 6 to Wednesday November 9** at the Winnipeg Convention Centre.

Jack Hoepfner is planning an excellent papers agenda; **Terry Horbatiuk** is marshalling the trade show participants and we all look forward to the best social program in the country, orchestrated by **Sheila East!**

Watch the mail for your complete registration package and make your plans to attend.

A Salute to Q Radio: It's always a pleasure to visit Drumheller — and it's great to see the Q Radio Group doing so well and playing such a large part in the community. **Jim Fisher**, who has been a part of Drumheller Radio since day one, refreshed my memory with a few stories from days past, and I'll just bet he could fill the pages of a best seller with true stories from the valley. **Jim Blundell** provides the leadership in Drumheller from his general manager's chair. **Barry Mandziak** keeps it all running from his engineering shop.

Don't forget the **Honours List** at our Convention. The Honours List is growing — we try to make one or two awards a year, with a preference, if possible, for deserving nominees from the region in which the convention is being held. This makes it easier for the recipients and spouses to attend our Awards Luncheon, and it's always nice for recipients to receive the award in their home territory. Awards are for "Engineering Excellence, Personal Achievement of the Highest Order, and Contributions to the Continuing Success of the Broadcast Industry." If you wish to make a nomination, please send details to either **Bob Lamb**, **Tak Negoro** at BCTV in Vancouver, **Bob Hall** at CKND-TV in Winnipeg, or myself. All nominations will be considered by the Honours List committee.

If you have news for the WABE Newsletter, please send it along to: John Bruins, 93 Malvern Cres. NE, Calgary, AB, T2A 5P3.

THE PHIL STONE REPORT

Around The World with Peter Kent

If his son Peter was going to be a journalist, then Parker Kent, himself a leading newspaperman, wanted him to go into the print media.

But Peter Kent chose to find his career in the electronic media, where he became a major international TV news figure.

It began, Peter told us in a recent interview in Global TV's Toronto headquarters, when "I chose broadcasting and started on the west coast with CJOR as operator for Pat Burns' talk show. I did that for about a year, then got into the newsroom." One of his first assignments was when the Beatles came to town: "None of the other fellows wanted to go out on the street amid screaming kids. The upshot was that I found myself with my Urei amongst screaming teenage girls and then going to a concert and turning in my first reports for on-air."

A year later, Peter went to work "for the rock station C-FUN. I was there for about 12 months until CJOR talked me into coming back." Then there were problems with The Board of Broadcast Governors, predecessor of the CRTC, "because of some of the things the talk show host was saying on the air, things unacceptable 30 years ago."

Peter went to Calgary to look for work and found a position with CFCN radio/TV. Since then, Peter has been a total newsmen. Does he believe in the expression "A nose for news?"

"I think so," he said. "In my case, part of it could be conditioning because Dad worked for the Calgary Herald when I was in high school, so there were always newspapers and magazines around. Being out west, where television was a little slower to arrive and was considered a bit more exotic when it did get there, I was fascinated by that development. As well, radio of the '60's was a really interesting time in terms of international as well as Canadian news. So I think there is a little truth in having 'a nose for news'. But I think conditioning through my father really got me started in the world of news. He always regretted that I didn't work in print. Actually my closest relationship to print was as a newspaper boy 'way back."

Peter said that when he got the job of reading *The National* in 1976, "Dad still had the attitude 'When are you going to get a real job?' He'd watch a lot of television news, like the Watergate hearings and the big space launches and so forth, but he still felt that the senior journalistic was print."

After service with CFCN News, Peter became a free-lancer and travelled to Vietnam. The bulk of my material went to 'CN. I also put together a half-hour show which went to Toronto, where Charles Templeton was news director of CTV. By that time, 1967, we were getting close to Expo and



Newsman Peter Kent

Canada's Centennial – the network needed more reporters, so I was brought back to work for CTV."

Peter's aptitude in news flows from a desire to find out "What makes stories, why are they happening – the who, what, where, why and when. Also, he was inspired by the big-name American and Canadian news people. "When I was growing up, Dad always made sure we read books by people like Edward R. Morrow and Matthew Halton. Stories by the great journalists in Britain. Stories of the Second World War. And the New York Times was always around."

All this background meant that Peter "had a real feeling for story-telling. It was enriched by people like Norman DePoe and the other early-day CBC newsreaders. I remember being on a camping vacation with my father and leaving the tent to listen to the radio reports on the Korean War. I think that shared family interest in news interested me in what was going on around the world."

Peter's work for CTV, while partially in Toronto was mostly in Quebec. He was based in Montreal where he learned French. "I was there during the kidnapping and murder of Pierre Laporte. Then still moving, I went back to Calgary and CFCN. I worked in the television newsroom for exactly a year before CTV brought me back to work on W5 as a producer, then a reporter. Then CTV sent me back to Montreal and then to London. I was based there for about 12 months, covering the Middle East."

When Bill Cunningham (who Peter had worked with at W5) became Global's news director, "he wooed me back to Canada. He said it was a new place with new challenges."

Peter said he felt no kind of culture shock working broadcasting in such diverse places as Asia, Britain and Canada. "I don't know why there wasn't. Maybe it was because I was so young I wasn't smart enough to know the difference. But really it was just a matter of dealing with different currencies, different time zones and slightly different customs. But wherever news was basic news, that I was feeding to Canada."

Three months after Peter came back to Canada, Global TV went into receivership. "I decided it was time to move on. I went to CBC and they put me on *News Magazine* as a producer. Then Vietnam came along and I was sent back there and also covered Northern Ireland and Cambodia and some Middle East nations. The CBC decided that since Lloyd Robertson was moving to CTV, they wanted me to host *News Magazine* and also to replace him on *The National*."

A couple of years later there was a dispute over the licensing of CBC; "I made an intervention protesting that

– continued on page 25

there had been interference with the Corporation management. It was considered inappropriate that I should continue as *The National* anchor and I was sent to cover Rhodesia, South Africa and Libya. After I was there for almost two years, NBC came along and said, "We want you to work for us in southern Africa."

Peter was with NBC for about two years, "And then," he said, "The *Journal* started up and I was invited to come back to Toronto and work for that program. I spent a year off the air and 2 1/2 on the air; then NBC called again and said, 'We want you to do what you did in Africa, in Central America.' So I was based in Miami for three years, and went to London for three years next. Our daughter Trilby was growing up and I realized I was away too much. And so the decision was to leave NBC and find something more stable. To do that, I went to work for World Monitor in Boston, which mostly consisted of ex-CBS and ex-NBC people I had worked with before. We were working on a television program aired through the Discovery channel. Later they started their own channel, but because of a division in the church over whether the founder of the church had included

television and radio in addition to their newspaper (Christian Science Monitor) as their prime missionary role, they shut down the broadcasting arm."

Peter looked again for this next posting, but very quickly Global came along and today the tall, handsome, much-travelled communicator is happily ensconced as co-host with Jane Gilbert for 6 pm and 11 pm major newscasts, while also participating in specials and documentaries.

Son of newspaper man and brother of two established broadcasters, Arthur Kent and Norma Kent, Peter is not sure if he'll be succeeded by his 11-year-old daughter who has already written for *Global's Kid's Beat*. Like father, like daughter? Perhaps.

Phil Stone is a well-known broadcaster, educator and writer, whose Phil Stone Report is a regular feature of BT magazine.

Note: Please update your mailing lists! Phil Stone's new address is: 1 Clark Avenue West, Apt. 1703, Thornhill, ON, L4J 7Y6.



BROADCAST BEAT by Phil Stone

While we were away snow-birding in Florida, there was a great deal happening: **Steve Harris**, whom we had profiled in BT's October issue, resigned as president of CHCH-TV Hamilton and was succeeded by **James B. Macdonald**... *The Know Show* made its debut on several Ontario cable companies... **Terry Coles** left CUC to succeed **Kevin Shea** at YTV... FCC Commissioner **Ervin Duggan** became president of PBS... *Milestones*: Personalities who celebrated birthdays included: **Oprah Winfrey**, 40; **Hugh Downs**, 73; **Johnny Cash**, 62; **'Fats' Domino**, 66; **Alan Thicke**, 47; **Harry Belafonte**, 67; **Steve Allen**, 72; **Andy Rooney**, 75; **Moe Koffman**, 67; **Frank Sinatra**, 78; **Mary Tyler Moore**, 57; **Phil Donahue** 58; **Lesly Stahl** of *60 Minutes*, 52; **Dionne Warwick**, 52; and **Diane Sawyer**, 48... It was sad to note the passing of **Bert Cannings**, **Bill Baker** and **Jay Nelson**... In TV's early days, **Betty Furness** became celebrated opening refrigerator doors for Westinghouse; cancer took her at age 78... **Don Ameche** (born Dominic Amici), who spent his early days acting in radio, died at 85. We once interviewed him and it was obvious that he loved to be on-mic... **Ron Poulton**, who many of us knew as a TV columnist for the *Toronto Telegram*, died at 77... When **Garry Moore** left TV in the 1970s, it was because of throat cancer and emphysema; he conquered the cancer, but the latter took his life at age 78...

Fox TV delayed the launch of FX, the new U.S. cable channel whose programming includes 'golden oldies', until June 1st... **Bryn Matthews**, an experienced producer, was appointed to the board of directors of FUND... Appointments at TvB: **Wendy Miles**, senior VP; **Andrew Adams**, VP for local business development; and **Juliana Look**, research manager... **Guy Crevier** became president/CEO of TVA/ Télé-Métropole... **Ron Marshal** wrote to say that he is leaving radio after 14 years,

latterly with CHOO Ajax, for a new career in music distribution... New Books: The latest by **Peter Arnett** of CNN is *Live From the Battlefield*, and football broadcaster **Frank Gifford's** is titled *The Whole Ten Yards*... In France, radio stations are considered to be breaking the law if more than 4 out of every 10 selections are of non-French origin... **Sydney M. Cohen** was appointed executive producer of new program development at CTV... In Florida, we actually saw a featured TV weatherman named **Flip Spiceland**... Of all syndicated series, *SeaQuest DSV* is the most expensive to produce: each episode costs \$1.5 - \$1.8 million... PBS newsmen **Robert MacNeil**, a former Canadian, was named winner of the **David Brinkley Award** for Excellence in Communications... **'Pip' Wedge** retired as Senior VP, programming/marketing at CTV and was succeeded by **Paul Robertson**... Did you know? NHL star **Scott Mellanby** is the son of broadcast exec **Ralph Mellanby**... The director of *Wheel of Fortune* is **Dick Carson**, brother of **Johnny Carson**... The voices of **Andrea Martin** and **Howie Mandell** are among those featured in the animated 2-hour production of *David Copperfield*... So that he can host TVO's *Saturday Night at the Movies*, **Elwy Yost** flies from Vancouver to Toronto for three days of frenetic taping... Torontonian **Ingrid Rogers** had a featured part in the **Al Pacino** film, *Carlito's Way*... Like father, like daughter: **Elaine Loring**, daughter of Rex, and **Sue Sgambati**, daughter of the late Fred, are both outstanding broadcasters... Among those who learned their craft at Humber College: **John Hinnen**, **Scott Parsons**, **Evelyn Macko** and **Danny Nicholson**, all of Rogers Radio; also **Bob Conway** who's with CFRB in news.

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