EVOLVING DOOR: Bob Laine, CHUM Radio VP – and the guy in charge of the CHUM Radio Network – has announced his retirement. Laine, who began his career with CHUM Toronto as the overnight Jock, worked his way up the corporate ladder managing many of CHUM’s stations including CFRW Winnipeg, CHUM-FM Toronto and who was responsible for CHUM’s other Ontario stations, says the pin is being pulled Oct. 31. He’ll retain an office in the Toronto headquarters, though, since his post-retirement duties will include assembling and updating the CHUM archives… Maritime Broadcasting CEO Merv Russell, 61, has retired. Company Chairman Robert Pace has left the impression in some circles that he will become Maritimes’ CEO, succeeding Russell at the Halifax head office… Johnny Michel has been appointed VP of Programming, Production & Promotion at Channel M Vancouver, while Peter Gillespie become VP, Engineering and Operations at the new Vancouver ethnic TV station…. Former CHFI-FM Toronto Morning co-Host Erin Davis has a daily talk show on W network. Davis began at W this past Monday in the 11-Noon slot… Elizabeth Davis has been promoted to the position of ND at The New RO (CHRO-TV) Ottawa. She was most recently the station’s Senior News Producer. Davis succeeds Steve Winogron who is rejoining CHUM Radio Ottawa as Assistant PD at CFRA… Kirk Lapointe, most recently Sr. VP of news at CTV, has been named Managing Editor of the Vancouver Sun. He starts next Monday…. Kevin Becker is new PD at CKYL/KIX 106 Peace River. Becker, who had been at 100.5 EZ Rock Sault Ste. Marie, takes over his new gig Oct. 20… David Jones, ex of the Standard and former Telemedia Hamilton stations, becomes the CanWest Global GM/PD at the new The Beat 91.5 FM Kitchener-Waterloo. The station is expected to be on-air in January… Karen Seaboyer, who once toiled in Halifax as Promotions Director at Q104/Sun FM/CKDR, is back in the business at CJJR/CKBD Vancouver as their Promotions Director.

LOOKING: Jobs we’ve heard about this week include: CFJC Radio/TV Kamloops – radio News Desker; 94X/The Wolf (CIRX/CJCI) Prince George – network Anchor/Desker; The New RO (CHRO-TV) Ottawa – a 6PM News Co-Anchor; Alliance Atlantis Toronto – Executive Assistant to the CEO and Executive VP/GM, Motion Picture Distribution; The Family Channel, Toronto – Project Manager; ROBTV
Toronto – Traffic Coordinator; CFCN-TV Calgary – a Writer/Producer; CTV Toronto – two Intermediate Systems Administrators, a Senior Project Manager, a Market Research Analyst, and an Executive Producer - Exploration Productions Inc. (Daily Planet) (CTV); CTV News Toronto – Production Accountant; CHAN-TV (BCTV) Vancouver – Senior Engineer; CBC North - Iqaluit, Nunavut – Reporter/Editor; Corus Entertainment Inc. Toronto – Systems Analyst; Country 95.3 FM Toronto/Burlington – Research/Marketing Manager and an Events Crew-Casual; Corus Television Toronto – On-Air Promotions Coordinator; Corus Entertainment, Television Marketing, Toronto – Executive Assistant; TorStar Media Group Television – Broadcast Technician; Canada Newswire Toronto – a Promotions Writer/Producer; and, Rogers Media Sault St. Marie – a Morning Drive Announcer and an Afternoon Drive Announcer.

SIGN-OFFS: Dave Rinn, 55, in Wakefield of a heart attack. For many years, Rinn was a CTV correspondent based in Toronto but who later moved to Ottawa and covered Parliament Hill. He was also an anchor at CJOH-TV Ottawa… Rick Pusiak, 44, in Sudbury. Pusiak had a long journalistic career in radio, TV and newspaper in the Sudbury area. He’s best known by broadcasters for his CBC Radio work.

TV/FILM: CJOH-TV Ottawa ND/Anchor Max Keeping is the 2003 Gemini winner of the Humanitarian of the Year Award. He will receive it in Toronto Sunday, Oct. 19. His $10,000 prize, he says, will be donated to the Children’s Hospital of Eastern Ontario (CHEO)... BCE Inc. plans to apply to the CRTC for another TV broadcast licence. BCE says the key communications product of the future is TV and that it plans to significantly raise its efforts in the area. The company’s Exec VP of regulatory affairs, Lawson Hunter – speaking at a regulatory briefing for reporters – didn’t say when such an application would be made. BCE’s intention comes to light even as its Bell ExpressVu faces slower growth. It has fallen short of expectations this year, signing on 31,000 customers in the first half of 2003, 71% fewer than the 107,000 signed on in the first half of 2002... An Alberta judge has turned down a request by A-Channel Edmonton to restrict picketing by striking staff outside the company’s Jasper Avenue office. A-Channel’s lawyer argued Monday that several rallies have attracted 80 to 150 people since workers left their jobs almost two weeks ago, breaching city bylaws and blocking the sidewalk. He said the protests made it hard for employees to get into the studio. But Court of Queen’s Bench Justice Paul Belzil ruled he didn’t need to act, especially after the Communications, Energy and Paperworkers Union agreed members wouldn’t block A-Channel cameras shooting news events... In Sault Ste. Marie yesterday (Wednesday), an Internet-based TV station was set to launch. Called LTV (Local Television), the idea – since CTV downsized the local station (MCTV) in favour of a regional broadcast from Sudbury – is to return local TV to the Sault market. Doing business as LTVNEWS.COM, the “station” will operate much like conventional TV but, as Manager Craig Huckerby says, all content will range from five- to eight-minutes in length. Three times daily, a mini newscast highlighting the news up to that hour will run. Longer versions of the stories will appear in the content windows alongside the main screen. The LTVNEWS staff is made up of former MCTV employees who will shoot, edit and report the stories... CHUM Ltd. CEO Jay Switzer, speaking at a Quebec City investment conference, said digital TV channels won’t become viable, money-making businesses for another four or five years. He said more than four million homes need to have access to them before there’s a critical mass of viewers that can attract a significant amount of advertising. Currently, about 3.5 million Canadian households can receive digital television signals... The Canadian Broadcast Standards Council says a sex shop ad aired on TVA Montreal did not contravene the CAB’s Code of Ethics. The complete decision may be found HERE... Another CBSC decision involves two VRAK.TV broadcasts in Quebec, one of an episode of Charmed (the French version of the episode titled Dead Man Dating) and the other of a French promotional spot for Godzilla. CBSC’s Quebec Regional Panel
concluded that the episode of *Charmed* breached Article 5.2 of the CAB *Violence Code* regarding viewer advisories. With respect to the *Godzilla* promotion, the Panel found that the broadcaster did not violate either the special children’s programming rules of the *Violence Code*. The full decision may be found [HERE](#).

Burnaby-based *Knowledge Network* has scored a win at Ohio’s 51st annual *Columbus International Film and Video Festival*. Details may be found [HERE](#).

**RADIO:** Ontario judge William Schneider has sued Q107 Toronto Morning Host John Derringer, the station and owner Corus Entertainment for $3 million in damages. He claims he was falsely accused of being a “disgrace” to the justice system and society over the sentencing of a man who pleaded guilty to possession and distributing child pornography. In their statement of defence, the defendants say Derringer’s remarks were meant “without actual malice and without gross negligence” and were part of a daily feature called *Tool of the Day*... Broadcasters Tom Cheek and Jerry Howarth will be honoured by *Sports Media Canada* at its annual Achievement Awards luncheon in Toronto Oct. 14. Cheek and Howarth are the radio voices of the *Toronto Blue Jays*, and have been for the past 22 years... *Wired World (CKWR-FM)* Waterloo has CRTC approval to change its contour. The change came about because of a power increase – from 2,400 watts to 15,200. Cambridge and Guelph are the beneficiaries. Further, it will reduce interference from *WKSE Niagara Falls*... CHCD-FM Simcoe has CRTC approval for a change in frequency and a bump in power, from 106.7 to 98.9 and from 3,420 watts to 14,370 watts.

**GENERAL:** Tween and teen radio and TV measurement, not reliable up until now using the diary method, is proving a bonanza for *Arbitron* in its Philadelphia PPM testing. For TV, results have indicated that the as 8-12 group enters their teens, their bedrooms almost catch up to the family living room as the primary viewing location. For radio, the younger group tends to listen to it with their parents, with a much lower tendency to listen alone or with friends. But that’s turned upside down during the teen years, when solitary or peer group listening dominates and listening with parents drops... The *Atlantic Association of Broadcasters* honoured Jack Schoone with its 2003 Broadcaster of the Year honour at last Saturday night’s banquet during the AAB’s annual conference in Halifax. During the course of Schoone’s career, he was involved in the ownership of about 30 stations, most recently in Hamilton and London under the Radiocorp Inc. banner. He sold those stations to Telemedia (and they’re now owned by Standard Radio). Also at the AAB, CJLS Yarmouth received the Public Service Award for Operation Books. CIEZ-FM 96.5 Halifax won the Station Promotion award for Soundtrack of the Sixties, and the first and second place awards in the Commercial Messages category went to the Metro Radio Group Halifax for Baggage and Father Christmas respectively. Steve Murphy, long-time anchor of the *ATV Evening News* in Halifax, delivered the keynote speech at the Saturday night festivities. Photos from the *Atlantic Association of Broadcasters* annual convention in Halifax this past weekend are at the Broadcast Dialogue Web site. Click [HERE](#)... Photos from the *Central Canada Broadcast Engineers* annual convention at Horseshoe Valley, held Sept 19-21 may be found [HERE](#)... The *Canadian Association of Broadcasters* holds its 77th annual convention in Québec City Nov. 9-11. The CAB 2003 Convention theme is *Private Broadcasting: The Voice of the Nation, The Choice of the Nation*. It is the cover story in the October *Broadcast Dialogue* magazine, and it may be accessed now by clicking [HERE](#)... The Manitoba government, in conjunction with the *Broadcasters Association of Manitoba*, has developed a new procedure for emergency alerts. The province will fax or e-mail information to stations, who in turn will relay the information verbatim, day or night. TV stations have agreed to scroll the information across the bottom of screens. Radio stations will have the information read on air, even if it means calling in an employee to interrupt satellite or pre-recorded programs. Until now, the government has relied mainly on news releases which might not be noticed in the overnight hours. The government says its new system will provide more detailed information, telling residents what to do and where to go when disaster strikes.
SIGN-OFFS: Israel (Izzy) Asper, 71, in Winnipeg of what’s reported to be a heart attack. The founder and Chairman of CanWest Global Communications was rushed to St. Boniface Hospital Tuesday morning where he succumbed. His funeral is set for today (Thursday) in Winnipeg. It was early this year that Asper stepped back from the company’s day-to-day affairs, handing over the reins to son, Leonard - now President/CEO. Asper’s broadcast beginnings were with the purchase of a small North Dakota TV station that he helped immigrate to Canada. It become CKND-TV Winnipeg, a $500,000 investment housed in an old southeast Winnipeg Safeway store...

Amarjit Dhanjal, 31, a CHIN Toronto technician after being crushed by his mobile TV studio truck antenna. He had just pulled out of a remote broadcast site location when the telescoping boom on the station vehicle rammed a concrete support... Jack Shapira, 76, in Winnipeg. Shapira was a long-time Winnipeg radio and TV performer, having worked at radio stations CKY Winnipeg and CKRC Winnipeg, as well as having done a number of TV shows for CBC. Farther back in his career, he worked at CKXL Calgary and CFPA Thunder Bay.

RADIO: CKOC/CHAM/CKLH-FM Hamilton’s Nevin Grant – after a lifetime as PD there – has a big retirement bash coming up Nov. 2. Details at www.nevingrant.com... That Opie & Anthony sex contest last summer that aired on 13 Viacom stations won the company an FCC reprimand and $357,500 in fines ($27,500 per station). This was the one where listeners were challenged to have sex in public places, including famous New York locales such as St. Patrick’s Cathedral and Rockefeller Center. The FCC said the contest violated US federal indecency standards... LIFE 100.3 Barrie signed-on a second repeater station this past weekend in Peterborough at 89.3. The first repeater was launched last March at Owen Sound... CKOE-FM Moncton’s application to change the authorized contours, increase the power and relocate the transmitter has been denied. The CRTC said “the applicant has not presented compelling evidence of either an economic or technical need for the proposed changes to the CKOE-FM signal”... Similarly, in Thunder Bay, CJUK-FM - another low-power station - was denied a power increase (from 37 watts to 15,000 watts) because “the Commission is of the view that the applicant has not presented compelling evidence of either economic or
technical need for the proposed changes to the signal of CJUK-FM"... CKBZ-FM and CIFM-FM Kamloops have the go-ahead for new transmitters at Sun Peaks. The stations will be low power and aimed at serving the resort village, community and area citizens... CKDVM-FM Prince George also has approval for a new re-broad transmitter at MacKenzie.

TV/FILM: Commercial Alert, a New York watchdog group, says embedded ads are getting out of control. The group’s spokesman, Gary Ruskin, says two separate complaints have been filed, one with the FCC and one with the US Federal Trade Commission. Product placement in TV programming is a growing trend because of digital video recorders that allow the skipping of commercials. The complaint to the FCC cites a survey of 750 media planners that found 18% had negotiated a product placement over the previous six months, with 26% anticipating working on one during the next six months... High-profile Canadian actors Paul Gross (Due South) and Sonja Smits (Street Legal, Traders) are lobbying for more taxpayer money to be spent on Canadian TV shows. Gross says Canadian drama production has collapsed because of uncertainty and that the television production fund has fallen from $100-million to $47-million. Without more cash, he said, the uncertainty will continue. Smits blames the government for removing Canadian content regulations and, as a result, Canadian broadcasters have bought relatively cheap US shows... The Darts and Laurels section of Saturday’s Toronto Star “darted” CFTO-TV Toronto “For a dumb decision: during Thursday’s election coverage, the station abruptly ended its interview with Dalton McGuinty immediately after it began so it could carry ER.”

EVOLVING DOOR: Dayna Bourgoin, ex of Y105 Ottawa, is new MD at CMT Toronto... New MIX 100 Yellowknife PD/MD/Morning Host is Wayne Descover. He succeeds Kent Schumaker who’s moving to Central Island Broadcasting in Nanaimo as Morning Host. He starts Oct. 22...

LOOKING: Telesat Canada seeks a Broadcast Market Planner. See the ad (opposite) and respond by clicking on the Web site address... K-Rock 1057 Kingston – Retail Sales Manager; Alliance Atlantis Toronto – Internal Audit Project Coordinator and a Production Coordinator, Billboards and Sales Projects and a Human Resources Manager; TSN Toronto – Production Assistant; Corus Entertainment Toronto – Contract Manager; Nelvana Toronto – Legal Assistant; Corus Radio Alberta (Calgary) – Interactive Account Manager; The Score Toronto – Senior Reporter; CJJC-TV/CKBZ-FM/CIFM-FM Kamloops – Newsperson; A-Channel Calgary – Production Switcher; CBC Toronto – Senior Writer/Copywriter; and, CKRM Regina – Anchor Reporter.
GENERAL: General Electric, owner of NBC, and Vivendi Universal have signed an agreement to merge the French company's US entertainment assets with NBC to form a new company to be called NBC Universal. NBC will own 80% of the new company, while 20% will remain controlled by Vivendi...

Gold Ribbon Finalists for the 2003 awards to be presented at the Canadian Association of Broadcasters' annual convention (Nov. 9-11) are:

RADIO GOLD RIBBON FINALISTS

BREAKING NEWS:
CJLS-FM Yarmouth - CKNW Vancouver - CKWX Vancouver

LOCAL COMMUNITY SERVICE:

LARGE MARKET
CHFI-FM Toronto - CITE-FM Montréal - CJFM-FM Montréal - CJKR-FM Winnipeg

MEDIUM MARKET
CIOO-FM Halifax - CIZL-FM Regina - CKRM Regina

SMALL MARKET
CHMS-FM Bracebridge - CJLS-FM Yarmouth - CJMM-FM Rouyn-Noranda - CKBI Prince Albert

HUMOUR – ENGLISH:
CFMI-FM Vancouver - CHSU-FM Kelowna - CHSU-FM Kelowna - CKVX-FM Vancouver

HUMOUR – FRENCH:
CJAB-FM Saguenay - CKMF-FM Montréal - CKMF-FM Montréal

INFORMATION PROGRAM:
CHED Edmonton - CKAC Montréal - CKOM Saskatoon

PROMOTION: AUDIENCE BUILDING:
CHSU-FM Kelowna - CHUM-FM Toronto - CKFM-FM Toronto - CKOI-FM Verdun

PROMOTION: IMAGE:
CFMJ Toronto - CHOI-FM Sillery - CHUM Toronto - CISS-FM Toronto

PROMOTION OF CANADIAN TALENT:

WHAT RADIO DOES BEST:
CFRQ-FM Halifax - CHFI-FM Toronto - CKGL Kitchener - CKZZ-FM Richmond

TELEVISION GOLD RIBBON FINALISTS

LOCAL COMMUNITY SERVICE

LARGE MARKET:
CFCF-TV Montréal - CFTM-TV Montréal - CHNU-TV Surrey

MEDIUM MARKET:
CFAP-TV Québec - CFPL-TV London - CICT-TV Calgary

SMALL MARKET:
CHBC-TV Kelowna - CHMI-TV Winnipeg - CKRD-TV Red Deer

DOCUMENTARIES:
CFPL-TV London - CFPL-TV London - CHBC-TV Kelowna - CKND-TV Winnipeg

DRAMA PROGRAMMING:
CFTM-TV Montréal (2 nominations)

ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAMMING:
CFTM-TV Montréal (2 nominations) - CIVI-TV Victoria

MAGAZINE PROGRAMMING:
CHMI-TV Winnipeg - CIVI-TV Victoria - CKMI-TV Ste. Foy

NEWS: BREAKING NEWS:
CFCN-TV Calgary - CFJC-TV Kamloops - CHAN-TV Burnaby - CIVT-TV Vancouver - CKEK-TV Edmonton

NEWS: SPECIAL / SERIES:
CFCF-TV Montréal - CFTM-TV Montréal - CHAN-TV Burnaby - CHOT-TV Hull - CICT-TV Calgary

PROMOTION: BRAND IMAGE:
CFCF-TV Montréal - CHAN-TV Burnaby - CHMI-TV Winnipeg - CKVU Vancouver

PROMOTION: CANADIAN PROGRAM/SERIES:
CFPL-TV London - CHLT-TV Sherbrooke (2 nominations) - CHLT-TV Sherbrooke - CIII-TV Don Mills

PUBLIC AFFAIRS:
CICT-TV Calgary - CKTM-TV Trois-Rivières - CKVR-TV Barrie
SPECIALTY/PAY/PPV GOLD RIBBON FINALISTS

PROGRAMMING: DOCUMENTARIES: CBC Newsworld, Toronto - Discovery Channel, Toronto - HISTORIA, Montréal - History, Toronto
PROGRAMMING: ENTERTAINMENT SPECIAL/SERIES: Fashion Television: The Channel, Toronto - MuchMusic, Toronto - VRAK-TV, Montréal
MAGAZINE PROGRAMMING: CANAL VIE, Montréal - RDI, Montréal - TMN, Toronto - Bravo, Toronto
PROGRAMMING: NEWS SPECIAL/SERIES: CBC Newsworld, Toronto - MuchMusic, Toronto - NEWSNET, Scarborough
PROGRAMMING: NICHE MARKET: Discovery Channel, Toronto - Showcase, Toronto - W, Toronto - Z, Montréal
PUBLIC AFFAIRS: CANAL VIE, Montréal - CBC Newsworld, Toronto - MuchMusic, Toronto
PUBLIC SERVICE: APTN, Winnipeg
PROMOTION: BRAND IMAGE: MuchMusic, Toronto - MuchVibe, Toronto - STAR-TV, Toronto - YTV, Toronto

ALL SECTORS GOLD RIBBON FINALISTS

NEW MEDIA: CFBT-FM Vancouver - TREEHOUSE, Toronto - W, Toronto - YTV, Toronto

The upcoming RTNDA Professional Development seminars in Toronto and Vancouver are coming up. In Toronto Saturday, Oct. 25, there'll be a writing workshop with BN News Editor Ellen Huebert, a "Legal 101" with lawyer Stuart Robertson of O'Donnell, Robertson and Sanfilippo, and a session examining Diversity in our industry among other goodies. Cost is $35 plus GST for RTNDA members and their staff, $50 plus GST for non-members and $20 plus GST for students. The Vancouver seminar is set for Saturday, Nov. 22 at BCIT in Burnaby. Register online by visiting: www.rtndacanada.com.
TV/FILM: A new study supports predictions that PVRs will contribute to the demise of the 30-second spot. Further, says The Yankee Group, the ad industry needs to find fast alternatives. While Personal video recorders may be only in 2% of the American homes now but that number is expected to jump to one-fifth of US TV households, or 20%. With numbers like that, The Yankee Group calculates that $5.5 billion of the $50 billion spent on TV advertising will be wasted, due to PVRs alone. But CBS Exc VP of strategy and research, David Poltrack, isn’t that pessimistic. He says that even with a 50% penetration, network TV would lose only about 14% of its commercial audience level... Meantime, the Broadcast Research Council (BRC), which for many years has provided a forum for presenting the latest trends and issues facing the media industry, meets next Tuesday (Oct. 21) at Toronto’s Four Seasons Hotel. Topic this month is “PVRs - Research from both sides of the border”. Tickets may be obtained from Claire Bryce Meldrum at 416-413-3869... The CRTC has denied an application by Learning and Skills Television of Alberta for a Category 2 specialty licence which was to have been called Zoomer and program to demos 50+. The Commission ruled that Global’s Prime TV already serves that sector... CKCO-TV Kitchener will be turning 50 next year and the station is planning a celebration for early March, 2004. Past employees are asked to get in touch – and to provide their contact information – through 50yearsinfo@ckco.ca... Adult-oriented material broadcast on French-language specialty channel Canal D last year has been found in breach of scheduling and advisory provisions. The Canadian Broadcast Standards Council says the two shows – aired between Noon and 1:00 p.m. – were too explicit. Details and the complete decision may be found at www.cbsc.ca.

GENERAL: Canada’s first on-line service that allows users to download music legally off the Internet was born in Toronto this week. Puretracks was developed by on-line distributor Moontaxi Media, Universal Music, EMI, Standard Broadcasting and ROW CD Plus. The service allows customers to purchase and then download individual songs or entire albums... It appears that the proposed merger of NBC and Vivendi Universal Entertainment won’t get a free pass from US legislators. Two key senators – Mike DeWine (R-OH) and Herb Kohl (D-WI) – say they’re planning to hold hearings on the merger. In a joint
statement, the senators said: “The combination of NBC and Vivendi Universal’s media holdings is the latest example of the increasing consolidation in our media industry, a trend which should concern all of us who care about the diversity of viewpoints available to all Americans. We need to scrutinize this deal closely...”

RTNDA Canada presents "ProDev 2003" on Saturday, Oct. 25 at the Ramada North (185 Yorkland Blvd.) in Toronto for what’s described as broadcast journalism’s best professional development seminar. Register online at http://www.rtndacanada.com... A collection of more than 12 million historic photographs was published on the Internet Monday. The images dating back to the turn of the 20th century were captured from the archives of British Pathe newsreel, a news service that pre-dated TV, and which is now owned by ITV. A still image has been produced from every second of film, ranging from the earliest flickering monochrome pictures of the Boer War in 19th century Africa to Pathe’s coverage of London in the swinging ‘60s. The collection can be accessed at www.britishpathe.com.

Radio: A National Association of Broadcasters/Zogby International survey has determined that if there is one thing that virtually everyone agrees with, it is that radio is of critical importance in times of crisis. 92.7% say radio is important during events such as a terrorist attack, a mass power outage, or severe weather. Just 5.1% say it’s not important. Even among people who say they “never” listen to radio, 70% find radio to be important in times of crisis. All of the audience segments Zogby broke out gave radio high marks, with almost all at 90% or above... Maritimes Broadcasting stations helped raise more than $1 million dollars towards restoration of Halifax’s Public Gardens, damaged by hurricane Juan. The six-hour radio fundraising drive, which aired on all 26 Maritime stations (Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island), topped out at $1,021,750. Maritime Broadcasting kicked in the first $100-thousand, aiming to unmangle the damage caused to what’s described as “the jewel” of the Halifax park system... The CRTC has approved CKY Winnipeg’s use of 102.3 when it flips to FM. The new station will have power of 70,000 watts. At the time of the original decision approving the flip (Aug. 8), the Commission denied Rogers the use of the then proposed frequency... The US radio industry has unveiled its first national spot radio electronic invoicing and verification system. It’s seen as a development that likely will improve speed and accuracy of spot radio ad buys. It would also reduce the amount of manpower involved. A task force of the American Association of Advertising Agencies and the Radio Advertising Bureau has agreed on and codified a universal set of terms for radio ad negotiations. In itself, the move is seen as a step toward improving the radio buying process for agencies by establishing industry standards... US Talker Rush Limbaugh told his Premiere Radio Networks audience last Friday that he’s taking a 30-day leave of absence to enter a rehab facility. Limbaugh has admitted to being addicted to pain killers... Sound Source, owned by Standard Broadcasting, and Mediabase, a division of Premiere Radio Networks, have instigated what they describe as a “major airplay monitoring expansion into Canada” beginning in January. Over 90 Canadian stations will be added.

Looking: Jobs we’ve heard about this week include: NFB Montreal – Director, Human Resources; MCTV Timmins – Account Executive; CJDV — Dave FM (CJDV) Cambridge – Remote Assistant; Alliance Atlantis Toronto – an Executive Assistant, Marketing, Communications and Creative Services; CKRY-FM/CKIK-FM/CHQR Calgary – Client and Community Relations; Nelvana Toronto – Marketing Co-op; Corus Entertainment Toronto – Editor for iV Post Production; Corus Radio Toronto – National Creative Coordinator; Q107 (CILQ-FM) Toronto – sales; CFMK/CFFX Kingston – part time Newscaster; Movie Central Edmonton – Graphic Designer/Motion Designer; A-Channel Calgary – Graphic Artist; VisionTV Toronto – Freelance Segment Producer-Atlantic Region; and, EZ Rock Sault Ste. Marie – Morning Drive Announcer and an Afternoon Drive Announcer.
TV/FILM: The latest in the battle to fight satellite piracy occurred yesterday (Wednesday) afternoon when Minister of Industry Allan Rock and Heritage Minister Sheila Copps tabled a bill to amend the Radiocommunication Act. The amendments seek to improve Canadian importation control over illegal radiocommunication equipment, increase penalties to act as a more effective deterrent, and strengthen the broadcasting industry’s right to civil action by providing the option of seeking statutory damages. Said Rock, “... we are sending the signal to dealers of illegal direct-to home satellite equipment and services that their days of harming Canadian broadcasting are coming to an end.” Copps said, “If not for direct-to-home satellite piracy, there would be hundreds of millions of additional dollars poured into the Canadian broadcasting system to make Canadian programs, to expand distribution capacity and access to foreign-language services, and to offer new digital, high-definition and interactive services to Canadians”... At CRTC hearings in Gatineau this week, Star Choice, owned by Shaw Communications – appearing for its licence renewal and requesting a delay in carrying more small-market TV signals – faced criticism from intervenors, including the Canadian Association of Broadcasters. CAB, in a written intervention, said Star Choice has “avoided its regulatory and contractual obligations” a number of times. Further, it said, owner Shaw hasn’t sufficiently separated Star Choice from its other operations. The carriage of local signals was a major issue among several interveners. Meantime, Quebecor Inc. CEO Pierre Karl Péladeau accused BCE Inc. of extravagantly financing its Bell ExpressVu satellite service with the prime intention of damaging cable rivals so they won’t be able to compete in local phone service. Péladeau said BCE is “taking the broadcasting system as a hostage.” He also said Bell ExpressVu intentionally operates a system that makes it easy for users to steal satellite signals without paying. Financial losses from satellite signal theft are damaging broadcasters, and hurting Quebec culture in particular, he said. Quebecor also wants BCE to separate Bell ExpressVu from its other operations, so there can be no cross-subsidization... The Canadian Film & Television Production Association (CFTPA), while supporting licence renewals for Star Choice, Bell ExpressVu, Craig Wireless, Look Communications and Image Wireless, says Canadian Content contributions must remain. Guy Mayson, CFTPA’s acting President/CEO, asked the CRTC for clarity on whether a new obligation imposed
on BDU operators to contribute funds to small market TV broadcasters, is to be made at the expense of existing contributions to eligible private funds... **Craig’s Media’s** strikebound **A-Channel Edmonton** won a court victory late last week in its bid to stop striking workers from interfering with news crews working in the field. The court prohibited anyone associated with the strike to come within 15-feet of any A-Channel worker employed in duties outside the station... **Rogers Cable** says it has crossed the threshold of establishing 500,000 digital households. The digital service from Rogers began in June, 1999, and now offers 360 channels. The company says that since the launch of the first group of digital channels, consumer demand has resulted in over 40% year-over-year growth... **CTV** says *The Daily Show with Jon Stewart* will succeed **Mike Bullard** in the network’s late night programming. The US import begins on CTV Nov. 3. Bullard’s show begins next month on **Global Television**.

**RADIO:** **ClwV-FM Hamilton/Burlington** has **CRTC** approval to hike power from 3,600 to 11,390 watts, change the contour and to increase antenna height. The change is geared toward improving signal coverage in the western and northern parts of the amalgamated City of Hamilton... **Corus Radio** has rights to the 2003 **Grey Cup** championship game. So far, the Nov. 16 spectacle - this year in Regina - will be carried on **CKNW Vancouver, CHED Edmonton, CHQr Calgary, CJOB Winnipeg** and **CHML Hamilton**... A US Court of Appeals has upheld the finding that local radio stations streaming music over the Internet are subject to copyright fees that would be payable to record companies and performing artists – over and above the more than $300 million that American broadcasters pay each year to music licensing organizations. The **National Association of Broadcasters** says it disagrees with the Philadelphia court opinion, that the decision “serves to stifle efforts by hometown radio stations to better serve listeners.” The court said a rule adopted by the US Copyright Office, under the Digital Performance Right in Sound Recordings Act of 1995, “... [exemptions] afforded to radio broadcasters were specifically intended to protect only traditional radio broadcasting, and did not contemplate protecting AM/FM webcasting.”

**REVOLVING DOOR:** Former New Brunswick Premier **Frank McKenna** has become the interim Chairman of **CanWest Global Communications**. He succeeds the late **Izzy Asper**. McKenna has been a CanWest director since 1999. He was the Premier of New Brunswick from 1987 through 1997... He’s been doing it ever since **Greg Campbell** moved to **Global Calgary** a couple of months back but now **Stan Schmidt** has officially been named Station Manager at **Global Regina**. Schmidt continues as GM/GSM at **Global Saskatoon**... **Tom Tompkins**, most recently the Country PD at **Iceberg Media**, is new PD at **820 CHAM/Oldies 1150 CKOC Hamilton**. He takes on the new job Nov. 1 from **Nevin Grant**, who retires at month’s end... **TSN’s Paul McLean** has been promoted to Executive Producer of Events, effective immediately. He was most recently the Senior Producer of TSN’s CFL and Curling coverage... New Director of Marketing at **APTN (Aboriginal Peoples Television Network)** is **Tim Kist**. He’ll be based at the APTN Winnipeg Head Office. Kist has worked for **MTS Communications Inc., Craig Wireless International Inc.** and **Videon CableSystems Inc.**... **Andy Ross**, ex of **CHUM’s BOB-FM London**, becomes new PD at **Jack-FM Vancouver**, effective Nov. 13...

**SIGN-OFF:** **Bob Hall**, 73, in Salmon Arm, BC of a heart attack. Hall brought local radio to Salmon Arm, Revelstoke and Golden, BC but began his broadcast career in 1949 at **CJAV Port Alberni**. From the station in Salmon Arm, with studios in Revelstoke and a repeater in Golden, the “Big R” network became known as the “**First Voice West of the Rockies**”. Later, in partnership with **Walter Gray**, now mayor of Kelowna, **Hall-Gray Broadcasting** launched **CKIQ Kelowna**. He also went on to co-found stations in Trail, Nelson and Creston.

**LOOKING:** Jobs we’ve heard about this week include: **CJOH-TV Ottawa** – Maintenance Technician; **Global Television Calgary** – Managing Editor; **Alliance Atlantis Toronto** – Intermediate Broadcast Designer - Manager, Photography - Associate Producer - Packaging Producer - and a Production Coordinator; **CTV News Toronto** – Update Promo Producer and a News Writer; **CTV Toronto** – Technical Director, On-Air Master Control - two ENG (Leitch) Editors - and, a Sales Coordinator; **TSN Toronto** – Media Analyst; **Canwest Media Sales Toronto** – Senior Research Analyst; **CHAN-TV Vancouver** – Technical Director-Computer Graphic Arts; **Nelvana** – Manager, 3rd Party Reporting; **CFLG-FM/CJSS-FM/CJUL-AM**
GENERAL: Being inducted into the Canadian Association of Broadcasters' Broadcast Hall of Fame this year at the CAB’s annual convention in Quebec City are: Pierre Bruneau, Anchor at the TVA Network; Nan-b de Gaspé Beaubien, Télémedia; Claire Lamarche, TVA; Beverley Oda, CTV; Ginette Reno, Recording Artist; Jim Scarrow, Rawlco Radio, Prince Albert; Jack Schoone, RadioCorp.; Gord Sinclair, CJAD Montreal; Jack Stark, Q Broadcasting, Vancouver; and, Tony Viner, Rogers Media, Toronto. For their biographies, click here: http://cab-acr.ca/english/media/news/03/nr_oct1703.pdf...

The Radio-Television News Directors Association of Canada has its ProDev 2003 - an educational and networking opportunity - coming up this Saturday (Oct. 25) in Toronto. It begins at 9:00 a.m. at the Ramada Hotel, 185 Yorkland Blvd., Toronto (near Sheppard Ave. East and the Don Valley Parkway). Registration opens at 8:00 a.m... Thanks to the RTNDA’s weekly newsletter for this timely advice: The disasters of 2003 - floods, fires, blackouts and hurricanes - have reminded us of the importance of emergency plans in our newsrooms and stations. The following is a memo from Ken Hauschildt, the head of engineering for Global Maritimes - reprinted with permission. Hauschildt calls it “Lessons Learned or Re-Learned in Hurricane Juan.”

1. Fast access to up-to-date phone and cell numbers for staff; bldg. Tenants; a contact person, rather than just a number for a company, utilities and other building or emergencies service providers;
2. Don't rely on computers, or PDAs (have a late hard copies of this contact info in your briefcase (so you can make speedy calls from home or the car), and in your office desk drawer;
3. Up-date / or confirm your speed dialer directories more than once a year;
4. Make sure others have updated contact information for a local power utility, cable company, person at the transmitter and microwave sites whenever possible. The 1-800 is almost useless, and has clumsy procedures and long waiting times. Again if possible know someone by name and keep his cell phone number if you ever get it!
5. Have your account numbers for various services and suppliers, for diesel fuel, power, propane, cable company, telephone company. Their computer systems often require this info, for speedy help;
6. Stress that SAFETY to person and property must come first;
7. Access to Yellow Pages for other towns, villages than your own (roofer, electrician);
8. Assign staff to specific tasks to avoid duplication of effort;
9. Keep other managers in the loop. Provide up-dated status reports. Consider who needs what information to react to their departmental operational needs; In other words keep communicating the often-fast changing information!
10. Try to Look at several options to address a specific situation before implementing one.

SUPPLYLINES: Leitch Technology Corp., which designs, develops and distributes digital audio and video equipment, postponed its annual meeting this week because of a dissident-shareholder group's bid to oust the company's CEO, its Chief Technical Director and its Directors. New tentative date is Dec. 8. The dissident shareholders, led by former senior Leitch Execs Fred Godard and Richard Kupnicki, say Leitch has “deteriorated” into a money-losing company over the past several years. Leitch says it was forced to delay the AGM so as to allow shareholders time “to receive full information.” Leitch Director/Interim CEO Stan Kabala said the last-minute filing of the dissidents' proposal “deprived Leitch shareholders of the opportunity to make a fully informed decision on what has become a contested election for directors.” The company posted a loss of $5.1 million in its first fiscal quarter, which ended July 31.

Connecting Our Industry!
GENERAL: The Standing Joint Committee for the Scrutiny of Regulations has confirmed that the broadcasting industry paid $81.7-million too much in user fees – and the Canadian Association of Broadcasters has called on Finance Minister John Manley to freeze fees at current levels. “... Quite clearly the Committee demonstrated that $81.7 million of the Part II fees collected from broadcasters and distributors went directly to the government’s general revenues. With the evidence before them, we expected the Committee to come out and unequivocally state that Part II fees are an unfair tax,” said CAB President/CEO Glenn O’Farrell. “Nonetheless,” he continued, “the Committee’s findings demonstrate that this overpayment is unfair and must be addressed immediately.”

Part I fees ($23 million in 2002-03) cover the operating costs of the CRTC. Of the $92 million (2002-03) collecting in Part II fees, some $10.3 million are said to represent the cost to Industry Canada of managing the radio frequency spectrum, leaving a total of 81.7 million in general revenues that go into the Consolidated Revenue Fund. Since 2001 broadcasters have been paying the Part II fees under protest...

CBC CEO Robert Rabinovitch told the House of Commons heritage committee this week that the Corporation will have to cut programming and other costs by $43-million next year because of employee pension-plan payments. Rabinovitch said CBC has been able to enjoy a holiday from pension-plan commitments since January, 2000 because interest rates were low and the stock market’s performance had been strong. But the holiday is set to end this January when CBC will be forced to endure the latest in a series of cuts since its budget peaked at $1.07-billion in 1995. He and other executives were asked to speak to the committee about a lesser cut of $10-million, which CBC is making in response to the federal government’s $1-billion reallocation plan. CBC is also being affected by Ottawa’s $50-million cut over the next two years to the Canadian Television Fund, a move that Rabinovitch says will eliminate about 100 hours of original Canadian programming...

Markham-based Nielsen Media Research has launched Broadcast Creative Services in Western Canada. The company says it will donate 10% of its sales revenues to the National...
Advertising Benevolent Society, West (NABS, West)... CanWest Interactive has announced a reformation of its local news and information online operations. The existing canada.com site will be the first level of access for breaking news and headlines from the CanWest TV, radio and newspaper newsrooms. Charges kick in at the second tier, reserved for CanWest newspaper subscribers. The third tier will provide customers access to the full electronic edition of CanWest dailies. The service when launched Nov. 3 will also allows for single edition purchases. The fourth tier, expected in 2004, will comprise all the news, information and entertainment content from Global Television, the CanWest dailies and online sources, presented on a single, interactive, digital platform... A study analyzing the saturation coverage of the Toronto SARS outbreak in five leading Canadian and US newspapers fueled the impression the outbreak was more serious than it actually was. Daniel Drache, associate director of York University’s Robarts Centre for Canadian Studies, says “the cumulative effect of the reporting was as important as the quality. It did create the impression that the crisis in Toronto was much more severe than it actually was.” Drache and colleagues didn’t study TV, radio, Internet or news agency coverage, but said they believed their general findings would probably have carried through to those media as well. The authors did take exception to the tenor of some of the American coverage of the Toronto outbreak, suggesting the US papers’ habit of lumping Toronto in with Asian centres also battling SARS helped to create the misconception that Toronto was in full-crisis mode... CHUM Limited sprang back from last year’s fourth-quarter loss with an over 80% earnings increase. CHUM says its profit for the three months ended August 31st totalled $2 million, or 16 cents a share. That compares with a year-earlier loss of $4 million, or 35 cents a share. For its fiscal 2003 year, CHUM made more than $25 million, up from $14.1 million the year before. The TV division was the big earner, mostly due to a comeback to those media as well. BC broadcast journalists, including Lifetime Achievement Award recipient Rafe Mair, were honored last Thursday night at the 17th annual Jack Webster Awards in Vancouver. Best Reporting of the Year - Television – Julia Foy, Michele Brunoro, Mike Chisholm of CTV British Columbia; Best Reporting of the Year - Radio: Trevor Metz, Angela Iacobucci, Jim Harrison, Bob Price; CHNL Kamloops; Best Feature - Television: Eve Savory: CBC Television; Best Feature - Radio: Kelly Ryan and Sandra Bartlett: CBC Radio; and, the Jack Webster Award for Science & Technology: Linda Aylesworth: Global Television.

RADIO: This morning (Thursday), between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. and this afternoon between 4 p.m. and 6 p.m., Bob Laine, VP/GM of the CHUM Radio Network and VP of Special Projects, CHUM Group Radio goes back on-air. After 45 years with CHUM, Laine is retiring. In his honour, today has been designated Bob Laine Day on 1050 CHUM. Laine joins Tom Rivers and Nanci Krant on the morning show and, later, Gord James on the drive home. He started at CHUM in 1958, becoming one of the great all-night men in rock radio before moving to his daytime slot in 1968. In 1970, Laine became PD at CHUM-FM Toronto, then GM of a number of CHUM Group stations across the country... CHQT Edmonton, once ID’ed as COOL 880, is now 880 JOE AM. The Corus station’s slogan is “Playing anything we feel like.” The Corus station in Cambridge is ID’ed as Dave-FM. The distinction with JOE is that it’s AM and concentrates on music from the ’70s “in glorious mono”... BOB-FM/Q-94 Winnipeg Ops Mgr/PD Howard Kroeger is consulting KHUI FM Honolulu. The Hawaii station made the flip to 99.5 BOB FM last month... A Solutions Research Group Consultants survey shows Universal Music and retailers such as A&B Sound and The Future Shop are on the right track by proposing to lower music CD prices by as much as 30%. Two-in-five Canadians (42%) surveyed say they are more likely to buy music CDs as a result of recent pricing announcements. Lower CD prices, shows the survey, hold even stronger appeal among those who are currently frequent users of file sharing services such as KaZaa – 57% of frequent downloaders say they are more likely to buy CDs at retail if the prices are lower. Among those who are currently active buyers of music CDs, 56% say the same thing.
TV/FILM: Statistics Canada says growth in satellite TV and wireless cable services has slowed sharply. The number of subscribers jumped by 25% last year from 2001. The year before, however, it was a 66% jump. In 2000, it was 74%. StatsCan says more than two million people paid for satellite or wireless cable service last year. Cable subscriptions peaked in 1999 and has been eroding since. Last year’s 3.1% drop in cable subs was the most severe decline in the industry's history. Wireless operators served 21% of the multi-channel video service market last year, up 17% from 2001... An Alberta judge has ruled that striking workers at A-Channel Edmonton are free to continue asking companies to suspend advertising. A-Channel has asked the court to slap an injunction on the union's action. The judge said A-Channel didn’t prove that the union action would cause financial harm. Adrian Pearce, spokesman for the Communications, Energy and Paperworkers union local, says A-Channel management walked out of mediation after the union made concessions on job security and wages. A-Channel officials weren’t available for comment. Employees have been off the job since Sept. 17 over wages and contracting out... The US Federal Appeals Court has ruled that all but the smallest new TV sets must be able to receive digital TV signals by July 2007. Makers of TVs, VCRs and DVD players tried to block the FCC rule because they said it would make sets more expensive and was unnecessary because cable and satellite viewers don't need the tuners. The FCC said the rule was needed because the industry wasn’t moving quickly enough to make tuners available. The United States Congress has set a goal of moving from analogue to digital by December 2006. The rule was adopted by the FCC last year as a way to ensure that anyone who buys a TV after July 2007 can simply plug it in and receive local stations without the necessity of subscribing to a cable service or buying an extra tuner box.

SIGN-OFF: Ray Dagg, 70, at the Richmond Hospital of cancer. Dagg headed the regional network operations at Corus/Vancouver until his retirement five years ago. Prior to joining the WIC radio operations (now owned by Corus), Dagg ran Vancouver-based Target Media. He was also a VP of Expo 86 and a Director of the BC Lions CFL team.

LOOKING: CHUM’s The New PL (CFPL TV) London is looking for a News Assignment Supervisor. See the ad in this edition, then click News Director Cal Johnstone’s e-mail address to apply... Country 94.1/The Wave Saint John seeks a Program Director. See the ad in this edition, then click on GM Jim MacMullin’s e-mail address to apply... Job opportunities are also regularly posted at the Broadcast Dialogue Web site (www.broadcastdialogue.com). Click on the Classified link... Other jobs we’ve heard about include: CJOH-TV Ottawa -- Account Executive; CHUM Television Toronto -- On-Air Promotion Producer/Writer and EFP Editor; Foxy 88.5 Toronto -- Advertising Sales Representative; The Peak 107.3/CHQR Calgary -- Intermediate Account Executive; TVOntario Toronto -- Membership Revenue Administrator; Global Montreal -- TV Reporter/Anchor; CHAN-TV Vancouver -- Producer; CBC North - Rankin Inlet -- Announcer/Operator/Host; Corus Radio Edmonton -- Client Services Director; Alliance Atlantis Toronto -- Production Accountant, Broadcast Finance and a Human Resources Manager; CTV Winnipeg -- part time Reporter; and, CTV Toronto -- IT Business Systems Analyst.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The November edition of Broadcast Dialogue is in the mail. Cover story this edition is the building of Channel M Vancouver. The feature article – which I believe will be an eye-opener for many – focuses on “one of the best technological playgrounds in the world” – our very own Government of Canada Communications Research Centre (CRC). Be sure to devour this one!