counsel, Harry M. (Chip) Shooshan, are also still on the convention program, as is Senator Hartke.

NAB professed not to understand the complaint. A spokesman for the association said last week it has more blacks on the convention program than ever before, although he conceded that most are from within broadcasting. He said that NAB has given waivers for a group of about 30 black students and others interested in entering the business—most from the Chicago area—to attend the Chicago gathering, adding that Plutia Marshall’s name is included in the list of 30. NAB President Vincent Wasilewski said the association has made no changes in its policy governing minority participation in the convention.

Blacks to try different route in Houston

A group of Houston blacks, who say Houston stations KHOU-TV, KPRC-TV and KTRK-TV discriminate against blacks in programming and in employment, who are disenfranchised with the FCC, are planning to take their grievances to court. Thomas Wright, associate publisher of Forward Times, a black-oriented newspaper in Houston, and a spokesman for the Black Communicators Association, said petitions to deny that Houston blacks filed against area stations in 1971 and 1974 were rejected by the FCC. It was not clear what procedural route the blacks would follow in gaining a court hearing on their complaint. But Mr. Wright said the suit was being prepared along the lines of Brown vs. Board of Education—the suit that led to the Supreme Court’s historic school desegregation order of 1954. He said experts in various disciplines have begun to research papers on the impact of television on blacks. He expects the suit to be ready for filing in a U.S. district court in six months.

NAACP chapter challenges renewal of WVAN-TV

“Consistently ignoring the needs and interests of the substantial black population” was one among several reasons given by the Savannah (Ga.) chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People for a petition to deny renewal of WVAN-TV there. Others: that the station’s licensee, the Georgia State Board of Education’s Television Network, is unable “to directly control its responsibility to the public” since hiring is handled through the merit system of the State of Georgia; that the station has not properly ascertained the community’s needs and interests; that none among the board of directors is from the Savannah area, and that the station has an “abysmal” record in hiring blacks and women. The NAACP also said WVAN-TV had “exhibited a racist-elitist policy of scheduling a few hours at best of adult black-oriented programming weekly, none of it local.”

WGBH-FM wins a point

A year-old petition to deny the license renewal of noncommercial WGBH-FM Boston has been dismissed by the FCC. The petition was filed by the Committee for Community Access and charged the station with discrimination against blacks when the station stopped its jazz programming (Broadcasting, March 10, 1975). Commissioner Glen O. Robinson said the petition should be rejected, not only for patent want of merit, but as scurrilous, defamatory and abusive of our processes.”

In addition, the commission answered the committee’s allegation that the station misrepresented proposed and actual programming saying, “We believe the station exhibited resourcefulness and concern, not disregard, for its representations made to the commission.”

Be sure to ask Bernie Strachota, WRIT, Milwaukee, about the excitement of running an all news and information station.

Sheridan acquires 49% share of MBN

Paul Yates to step in as president-chief executive

Sheridan Broadcasting Corp., black-owned group broadcaster based in Pittsburgh, Pa., has bought 49% of the Mutual Black Network for a price understood to exceed