

shown at the screening was updated to include current information about Sakharov's hunger strike. But even at the screening, Semyonov expressed hope and confidence about his parents' well being: "This movie does not have an ending because its heroes are alive and unsubdued."

Mayors cast their vote

The U.S. Conference of Mayors' meeting in Philadelphia last Monday (June 18), unanimously endorsed the compromise on H.R. 4103 reached by the National League of Cities, USCM and the National Cable Television Association (BROADCASTING, June 4). The NLC board approved the compromise (24-1) two weeks ago and NCTA officials endorsed the measure June 3. NCTA Chair-

man Ed Allen, president of Western Communications Inc., Walnut Creek, Calif., said last week that his 27-member board unanimously approved the compromise.

Superstation stats

Superstation WTBS(TV) Atlanta claims that for the month of May it had the top five rated regularly scheduled programs on advertiser-supported cable television and eight of the top 10. The top five were *Academy Award Theater* (Sunday, 10:35 a.m.-1:05 p.m.), scoring a 5.0; weekend Braves baseball (various times), 4.8; *World Championship Sports* (Saturday, 6:05-7:35 p.m.), 4.6; prime time Braves baseball, 4.6, and *Sunday Sports* (7:05-8:05 p.m.), 3.9. The second five, according to the TBS analysis, were the USA

Network's *All American Wrestling* (Sunday, noon-1 p.m.), 3.8; *Saturday Afternoon Movies* (Saturday, 12:35-5:05 p.m.), 3.4; *Andy Griffith* (Sunday, 9:35-10:05 a.m.), 3.3; *Good News* (Sunday, 10:05-10:35 a.m.), 3.3, and CBN's *The Monroes* (Saturday, 6-7 p.m.), 3.3. TBS said its analysis was based on Nielsen ratings from the period May 3-30.

Porn posse

Senator Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) introduced S. 2769, the Cable-Porn and Dial-Porn Control Act, that would prohibit "the transmission of obscene, indecent and profane material" by broadcast television, cable television and interstate telephone service. The bill has been referred to the Judiciary Committee.

"Although there are federal criminal penalties for uttering obscene language by radio transmission," said Helms in introducing the bill, "there are no corresponding penalties for transmission of obscene material by cable television."

Helms released letters he received on the matter from the Justice Department and FCC Chairman Mark Fowler. Fowler expressed reservations about the commission's role in policing obscenity on television. He noted that the FCC has already recommended that Congress delete the revocation and forfeiture provisions of the Communications Act concerning obscenity and indecency. "Such a deletion would have left enforcement of the obscenity statute to the Justice Department or to local officials who can make judgments as to local community standards," Fowler wrote.

Helms's bill would also prohibit the distribution of obscene matter. The measure would also raise maximum fines from \$10,000 to \$20,000 for violations. The bill includes a definition of obscene material: "a depiction or description of a human sexual or excretory organ or function; nudity; an ultimate sexual act, normal or perverted, actual or simulated; masturbation; flagellation, torture, or other violence, indicating a sado-masochistic sexual relationship, which under contemporary community standards for radio or television is presented in a patently offensive way."

Growing by leaps and bounds

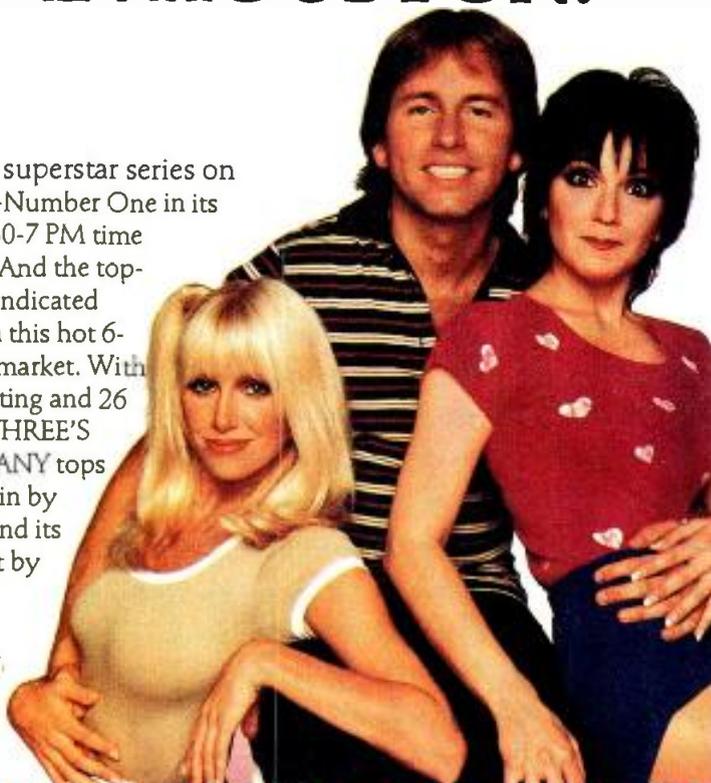
The Movie Channel is on the move with a new promotional campaign called "Dance To The Movies." The campaign, designed to attract new subscribers, kicks off this month and will continue through July, highlighted by a night of musical entertainment on July 22. That evening's lineup includes the pay cable premiere of "Staying Alive," an encore showing of "Flashdance," and new movie music videos such as "Streets of Fire." Dance personalities Michael Peters, choreographer of Michael Jackson's videos; Dean Pitchford, "Footloose" screenwriter and lyricist, and Jeff Hornaday, choreographer of "Flashdance" and "Streets of Fire," will comment during the show.

All new subscribers to The Movie Channel will receive a "Staying Alive" and "Flashdance" double soundtrack album. A similar Showtime/The Movie Channel premium giveaway used to promote "Flashdance" in February resulted in an average per-system increase of more than 10%.

"THREE'S COMPANY" HAULS THE COMPETITION OVER THE COALS IN HOUSTON.

It's the superstar series on KRIV—Number One in its M-F 6:30-7 PM time period. And the top-rated syndicated show in this hot 6-station market. With its 17 rating and 26 share, THREE'S COMPANY tops its lead-in by 30%—and its lead-out by 240%!

SOURCE
ARB REPORT,
FEB. '84



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