

of key affiliates threatened not to carry it. The network ended up paying DLT a settlement fee of around \$8 million, sources said at the time. The show is being offered for cash and one minute of barter in syndication.

According to a survey released Friday (July 16), **talk radio is dominated by a "vocal minority in American politics"** that is "much more critical of Bill Clinton and his policies than is the average American." The survey, by the Times Mirror Center for the People and the Press, finds that conservatives are twice as likely to be regular talk radio listeners as are liberals.

Unistar Radio Networks' syndicated **Imus in the Morning**, starring New York morning man Don Imus, **will debut in Washington** today (July 19) on WTEM(AM), an all-sports station.

In a further effort to get back into first-run syndication business, **Worldvision Enterprises last week named Karen Miller to the newly created position of senior VP of programing** (development). Miller comes from CBS Television Stations, where as VP of programing she was responsible for program development and acquisition for seven O&O's. Earlier this season, Miller was actively involved in CBS's co-production of the syndicated *Cristina* [Saralegui] with Columbia Pictures Television Distribution in a limited test that was terminated last winter.

**The Community Antenna Television Association board last week voted to "chart a new strategic plan" and come up with a new name** by its next meeting in October. CATA says these changes are a reflection of changes within the industry. "As the industry evolves, it's the board's hope to fully define CATA's role in the new environment, and to identify ways through which we

can fulfill our mission," said CATA President Steve Effros. The CATA board also endorsed the efforts of a new organization, the Small Cable Business Association, that will lobby the FCC on behalf of small cable operators who want relief from cable rate regulations.

**The NAB asked the FCC last week to act against state and local laws** that prevent broadcasters from building transmission towers, or prevent consumers from using roof-top antennas to receive radio and TV signals. NAB urged the FCC to adopt a new and stronger federal pre-emption policy to aid broadcasters in dealing with state and local restrictions on towers and antennas. NAB says such restrictions will impede introduction of new technologies such as HDTV and digital radio.

**ABC News is airing a preview of its new prime time news magazine, *Turning Point***, Tuesday, July 27, at 10 p.m. Barbara Walters will host the show and interview switched-at-birth 14-year-old Kimberly Mays, now the subject of a notorious custody battle. The series will premiere on a weekly basis early next year. No word yet on Walters's continuing involvement. In development, the show had the working title *Moment of Crisis*. Phyllis McGrady is the executive producer.

The title of the new NBC News magazine is now set: **Now with Tom Brokaw and Katie Couric**. Producers had to cut a deal with a Florida-based producer for rights to the *Now* title, and had considered going with *Here & Now with Tom Brokaw and Katie Couric*. The show is set to debut on Aug. 18.

Direct-broadcast satellite service **DirecTv has signed a deal with Turner Broadcasting System** allowing the DBS service to offer CNN International and Turner Classic

Movies. DirecTv, scheduled to launch in first-quarter 1994, now has signed deals with 18 basic cable networks.

**Perry Simon, executive vice president, prime time programs, NBC Entertainment is leaving the department to pursue independent production**, confirming Hollywood speculation of the past few months. Simon, who joined the network in 1980, will remain at NBC under a non-exclusive production agreement. Under his new deal Simon will oversee the launch of NBC's *Great Escapes*, a series of six-hour romance/adventure miniseries. "The *Great Escapes* franchise, which Perry conceived and guided since its inception, represents the kind of innovative thinking that is critical to the future of network television, and Perry's vision is ideally suited for this task," said Don Ohlmeyer, president, NBC West Coast.

Direct-to-home satellite company **TVN has created the TVN Satellite Store**, an unscrambled shopping channel featuring movies, sports and star-related merchandise. It will also offer computers and other consumer electronics gear.

**VH-1 is teaming up with PolyGram Diversified Entertainment to promote the Aug. 7 Pete Townsend *Psychoderelict* PPV event.** VH-1 will conduct an on-air promotional campaign to build viewer awareness. The network is also distributing promos to local affiliates.

**E! Entertainment Television has also announced a new program to help cable operators promote PPV events.** Falcon Cable TV and C-TEC Cable Systems have signed up to use E! programing to promote PPV on local origination channels. E! said it is working with the systems to use its programing to increase awareness and build buy rates.

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