

Babylon 5, the latest PTEN addition from Warner Bros., was the number-one syndicated action hour in the week ending Jan. 30—the show's debut week. *Babylon 5* recorded a 6.8 rating/10 share in NSI overnight markets. PTEN reaches 93% of the country. Separately, Warner Bros. Domestic Television Distribution named Scott Rowe manager of publicity. Rowe was previously a publicist at Fox.

Rupert Murdoch, CEO of News Corp., is selling the **Boston Herald** to publisher Partick J. Purcell, leaving the door open to reacquire Fox affiliate WFXT(TV) Boston from the Boston Celtics. After its sale in 1990 to bypass a crossownership conflict, News Corp. bought options in the station that could be converted to ownership, leading many to speculate on the sale of the newspaper.

Michael Jay Solomon, president, Warner Bros. International Television Distribution, is leaving April 1 to create an international telecommunications company.

DIC Entertainment is changing the name of its new live-action series *Powerboy* to *Superhuman Samurai Syber-Squad*! Although Saban Entertainment had reportedly threatened legal action over the *Powerboy* title's similarity to its *Mighty Morphin Power Rangers*, which airs on the Fox Children's Network, DIC said the name change came only in response to a request by Fox Children's Network President Margaret Loesch. DIC also has changed the name of its lead character Zack Jason—which combined the names of two Power Rangers.

Now that **Infinity Broadcasting** has been cleared by the FCC to purchase KRTH(FM) Los Angeles (see page 47), it **must turn its attention to**

Lurie buys majority share of GGP

Former San Francisco Giants owner Robert Lurie has acquired a majority stake in GGP—the entertainment and distribution company that specializes in sports programming.

Lurie bought out GGP founder David Peterson, and the two said that Corey Busch, former executive vice president of the Giants and a onetime press secretary to the late San Francisco mayor George Moscone, will be chairman and CEO of GGP.

Peterson last year turned the presidency of the company over to Robert Horowitz. Lurie and Peterson will have no involvement in the day-to-day operations of GGP but will sit on the management committee.

Lurie and Busch first approached GGP roughly four months ago, according to Horowitz, who says this will bring added resources to the privately held company. The two also bring many contacts in the TV and sports business that also should be of value to GGP.

"What's important for the company is to continue to diversify. We started off in sports syndication and production, now are into network TV, and at the same time we have grown with a stable of shows that are non-sports," says Horowitz.



Corey Busch

—JF

its proposed purchase of WPC-AM-FM Washington. The NAACP has protested the transfer on several grounds, including its claim that Infinity does not provide a positive work environment for minorities. That assertion is based on the fact that *The Howard Stern Show* is broadcast on some of the Infinity stations' public address systems, according to the NAACP's lawyer, David Honig. The NAACP claims that Stern's show is often racially offensive. Minority employees are compelled to listen to programming that "any reasonable person would find to be offensive," said Honig.

The Southeastern Conference is talking to CBS and others about a new television football package separate from the SEC's participation

in the College Football Association. No deal yet, but sources said that in addition to CBS, conference officials are talking to the Turner Broadcasting System regarding a possible alliance. TBS distributed a syndicated package of SEC football games for roughly six years in the 1980s. A separate SEC deal would be another blow to the CFA, which already has suffered defections by the Big 10 and Pac 10 conferences, both of which have deals with ABC. CFA also is tied to ABC through 1995.

Renaissance Communications said it completed an offering of 6.3 million shares at \$19 each. The six-TV-station group owner said both the size of the offering and price of shares were increased from what was initially planned. Proceeds will be

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