

commenting on Thursday.

Young Broadcasting reported a 1% drop in fourth-quarter revenues to \$72.3 million, although broadcast cash flow was up 6% to \$37.2 million. Analysts say the results weren't bad, considering that Young's flagship station, KCAL-TV Los Angeles, suffered an 18% drop in revenues in the fourth quarter, due primarily to the lack of NBA games. Company Chairman Vincent Young said the station made up almost all of the \$2 million broadcast cash flow that was lost without the NBA. By March, he said, sales for the NBA should be back on track. Helping to offset last year's NBA and General Motors losses was strong political advertising, which totaled \$13.7 million, and advertising from new clients, which totaled \$12 million in 1998.

The Federal Trade Commission last week approved DirecTV's purchase of Primestar. That resolves the antitrust considerations. Now the FCC must approve the transfer of TCI Satellite Entertainment's license, which consists of 11 channels at 119 degrees west longitude. The stockholders of both companies also must give the transaction their thumbs-up.

The U.S. Court of Appeals will not relieve satellite TV broadcasters of royalty fee increases, the three-judge panel ruled late last month. To reverse the Librarian of Congress's fall 1997 finding that the fees

should be raised, the Satellite Broadcasting and Communications Association would have had to prove that the Librarian's decision was arbitrary. The court found that SBCA failed to prove this, although the court admits that this standard is "exceptionally deferential," and thus hard to prove. SBCA is not likely to appeal the decision, SBCA senior VP Andy Paul said.

Rep. Michael Oxley (R-Ohio) introduced legislation that would eliminate the FCC ban

against broadcasters owning both TV or radio stations and a newspaper in the same market. Reps. Cliff Stearns (R-Fla.) and Ralph Hall (D-Texas) cosponsored the bill.

Fox Broadcasting has renewed Beverly Hills 90210 for the 1999-2000 season.

The renewal for a 10th season comes after Fox announced last week that another long-running Spelling Entertainment drama, *Melrose Place*, would not be returning.

Clarification: The article "KKYK Makes Virtual Switch," (Feb. 8) may have had a misleading deck. It read "Little Rock station jumps from Discreet Logic/Devlin to Orad; retains Frost graphics." Discreet Logic/Devlin refers to a Discreet Logic virtual set system that utilizes Devlin Design Group set design. KKYK has since switched to an Orad virtual set system and retained Devlin Design Group as the designer of the new set.

Saluting Stanton

Frank Stanton, for 26 years the president of CBS Inc., was acknowledged by his peers last week as "the greatest executive in the history of the television business" as well as "the conscience of the broadcasting industry." He was honored by two fronts: the New York Academy of Television Arts & Sciences on Tuesday (Feb. 9) and the Deadline Club on Wednesday. Both presented him with awards for lifetime achievement. In response, he admonished the industry that "You have to keep everlastingly at it [the fight for First Amendment rights]. There is always someone doing an end-run against us. Never give up or we will lose something precious to our democracy."

At the NATAS ceremony (seated, l to r): John Cannon, president of the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences; Rita Hauser, of counsel to Stroock & Stroock & Lavan; Dr. Stanton; Kay Koplovitz, founder of the USA Networks; former CBS News anchor Walter Cronkite; William F. Baker, president of the New York NATAS chapter and head of public broadcasting's Channel 13; (standing, l to r): Irwin Segelstein, former CBS and NBC programming and record industry executive; Bill Small, longtime CBS Washington bureau chief and later lobbyist; Ralph Baruch, CBS syndication executive, later CEO of Viacom; Ralph Goldberg, CBS government affairs counsel now with King World; Lou Dorfsman, responsible for CBS design during the Stanton years; Mike Wallace of *60 Minutes*; Corydon Dunham of Cahill, Gordon & Reindel; attorney Floyd Abrams; group broadcast executive Ralph Becker; Gus Hauser, prominent cable executive; Andy Rooney of *60 Minutes*; former CBS TV Network President Tom Leahy; Morley Safer of *60 Minutes*; former CBS executive George Dessart, now professor of TV and radio at Brooklyn College; Stanley Moger of SFM Media, who moderated the event, and Alan Wagner, former CBS programming executive, now a TV producer (Boardwalk Entertainment).

—Don West



Printed in the U.S.A. Founded in 1931 as *Broadcasting*, the News Magazine of the Fifth Estate. *Broadcasting-Teletesting* introduced in 1945. *Television* acquired in 1961. *Cablecasting* introduced in 1972. *Broadcasting/Cable* introduced in 1989. *Broadcasting & Cable* introduced in 1993. *Broadcasting & Cable* is a registered trademark of Reed Publishing (Nederland) B.V., used under license. *Telemedia Week* is a registered trademark of Reed Elsevier Inc. Reg. U.S. Patent Office.

 **Cahners.**

Incorporating The Fifth Estate TELEVISION Broadcasting

Broadcasting & Cable (ISSN 0007-2028) (GST #123397457) is published weekly, except at year's end when two issues are combined, by Cahners Business Information, 245 West 17th St., New York, NY 10011. Cahners Business Information is a division of Reed Elsevier Inc., 275 Washington St., Newton, MA 02158-1630; Bruce A. Barnett, President and Chief Executive Officer; Jackie A. Daya, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer; Glen Rogers, Executive Vice President. *Broadcasting & Cable* Copyright 1999 by Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. *Broadcasting & Cable* is a registered trademark of Reed Elsevier Properties Inc., used under license. Periodicals postage paid at New York, NY, and additional mailing offices. Canada Post International Publications Mail Product (Canada Distribution) Sales Agreement No. 0607533. Postmaster, please send address changes to: *Broadcasting & Cable*, PO Box 6399, Torrance, CA 90504-0399. Rates for non-qualified subscriptions, including all issues: USA, \$129; Canada, \$169 (includes GST); Foreign Air, \$350; Foreign Surface, \$199. A reasonable fee shall be assessed to cover handling costs in cancellation of a subscription. Back issues: except for special issues where price changes are indicated, single copies are \$7.95 US, \$10 foreign. Please address all subscription mail to: *Broadcasting & Cable*, PO Box 6399, Torrance, CA 90504-0399. Microfilm of *Broadcasting & Cable* is available from University Microfilms, 300 North Zeeb Road, Ann Arbor, MI 48106 (1-800-521-0600). Cahners Business Information does not assume and hereby disclaims any liability to any person for any loss or damage caused by errors or omissions in the material contained herein, regardless of whether such errors result from negligence, accident or any other cause whatsoever.