

pally owned by Marvin F. Ceder. It also has interest in WJYQ(FM) Charleston, S.C. WAKS is daytimer on 1460 khz with 5 kw day, and WAZZ operates on 103.9 mhz with 1.5 kw and antenna 493 feet above average terrain. Broker: Chapman Associates.

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Paramount's **The Joan Rivers Show** has been sold in 33 markets representing 47% of country. Hour-long, talk show strip is produced by Tribune Entertainment and will premiere in fall 1989.

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World Event's **Denver the Last Dinosaur** has been cleared on all of Fox's O&O's as strip for fall 1989.

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NBC O&O's have given full-season commitment to Broadway Video's **Michélob Presents Sunday Night**. The show, distributed by FoxLorber Associates is fully sponsored by Anheuser-Busch and is currently seen on 34 stations covering more than 45% of country.

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Five finalists have been selected as possible replacements for outgoing Radio Advertising Bureau President William Stakelin. RAB reported Dec. 19 interviews held in Cincinnati narrowed search down to: Lynn Christian, former Century Broadcasting executive; Wayne Cornils, RAB executive VP; Daniel Flamberg, RAB senior VP; Bruce Johnson, former RKO and Shamrock Broadcasting executive, and Warren Potash, retired Capital Cities/ABC radio executive. Stakelin leaves RAB post Feb. 1.

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Tele-Communications Inc. received FCC approval on its purchase of Tempo Enterprises last week. TCI put Tempo broadcast stations in trust, headed by Tempo executives, while FCC acted on rest of purchase. Meanwhile, Tempo last week sold WTPQ(AM) Conyers, Ga., and WHTT(TV) Ann Arbor, Mich., to FAB Communications, sources said, and company turned over its 50% stake in KGCT-TV Tulsa, Okla., to other 50% owner, Green Country TV. One estimate had Tempo stake valued at \$1.6 million in Tulsa station. Still pending at FCC is Tempo's DBS application, to which several parties have filed objections. FCC had sent TCI letter five weeks ago questioning its qualifications to be broadcast licensee, which temporarily threw wrench into TCI's effort to close deal by year's end.

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City of Dubuque, Iowa, approved agreement last week where cable operator Tele-Communications Inc. will submit to broad rate regulation in exchange for not challenging city's efforts to come under FCC's effective competition rule (BROADCASTING, Dec. 19). TCI can raise basic rates up to cost-of-living index each year, as well as pass through 10% programming-related hike over two years. Pass-through hike is limited to program acquisition, copyright and transmission fees. Independent accountant will look at TCI books to verify data, city cable officer said. Dubuque's terrain made it infeasible to receive three off-air signals effectively. City has been fighting for five years, and has spent \$150,000, city cable officer said, to receive classification that would allow for rates to be regulated. City of 19,000 subscribers (54 channels for \$15.50 basic monthly rate following 28% hike in September) is more than 75% penetrated. Agreement runs five years.

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Three newly elected Republicans are joining Senate Commerce Committee when 101st Congress convenes Jan. 3. Conrad Burns (Mont.), Slade Gorton (Wash.) and Trent Lott (Miss.) will fill seats left open by California's Pete Wilson and Kansas's Nancy Kassebaum, who took other assignments, and Paul Trible of Virginia, who retired.

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Roger Werner, ESPN president/CEO, said last week that cable network will make "modest profit" on its presentation of eight regular season NFL games, despite drop in ratings compared to 1987. Cable-only ratings fell from 10.6 to 9.3 in ESPN's second

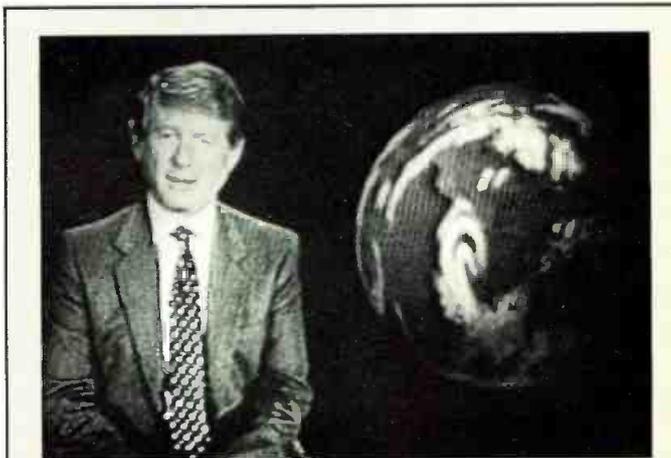
year of football coverage with one year remaining on NFL contract. Broadcast-cable ratings fell from 12.4 to 10.4. However, because of growth of cable homes in 1988, total number of homes watching NFL games fell only 8%. Werner blamed lower numbers on too many games that ended with lopsided scores.

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Viacom Broadcasting said last week that it had decided not to sell WVT(TV) Hartford, Conn., its NBC affiliate that had been up for sale. "While we have received a number of aggressive offers for WVT, none of them approached the premium price a station of WVT's proven performance and potential growth should command," said Pat Brady, president of Viacom's television group. Offers for station had been around \$150 million-\$160 million.

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Beginning in January, Fox O&O's will air **The Cops**, reality-based, half-hour series. Show follows five officers and deputies from Florida Sheriff's office during course of their week. Series begins on Sunday, Jan. 15.



Hello, out there. When Ted Koppel and Richard N. Kaplan, his executive producer on *Nightline*, sat down a few months ago to begin planning the year-end report for an edition of *The Koppel Report*, they decided they did not want to do the traditional year-end roundup of major stories, of who won and who lost elections, of wars ended and peace initiatives started. They wanted to do something different, something, well, cosmic in scope. News from Earth, being broadcast on ABC tonight (Dec. 26), is the result. It consists of a series of pieces united by the expressed hope that they will not only be meaningful to Americans five years hence, but, get this, to inhabitants of outer space, if they were to intercept and decode the signals.

The stated premise of the program is that since television signals travel at 186,000 miles per second and continue through space indefinitely, News from Earth, as stated in an ABC press release, "could be intercepted and translated by an alien intelligence." To speak to the potential audience of aliens, as well as the conventional one of Americans, *The Koppel Report* rounded up figures to discuss issues the producers regarded as of long-range significance—environmentalist Jean-Michel Cousteau, on what man has done to the planet Earth, for instance; South African Archbishop Desmond Tutu, on racism; former President Richard Nixon, on arms control and disarmament, and anthropologist Jane Goodall, in a moving piece on the destruction of the planet's animals.

Throughout the hour, there are reminders of the events that marked 1988 around the world—uprisings on the West Bank, suppression of blacks in South Africa, starvation in Africa. But the emphasis, Kaplan says, "is a program dedicated to truth, not facts. We wanted to see what was behind the events."