

A Kids Power Shift

Upfront market delayed as buyers seize upper hand from sellers PAGE 4

WASHINGTON

Karmazin Steers Stern Toward O&Os

CBS Stations chief, radio host said to be close to deal for Sat.-night show PAGE 6

REGULATION

FCC Adds to Core for DTV

Commission votes to add 5 channels on digital spectrum PAGE 6

A Ray of Sun From Nagano

Ad buyers say CBS' Olympics were far from a total bust



The long tooth of The Law

Congressman Billy Tauzin is keeping a wary eye on an activist FCC.

MARKET INDICATORS

National TV: Quiet

Remainder of first quarter is not quite a buyer's market, but close. Most advertisers were waiting for Olympics to end before making second-quarter commitments.

Net Cable: Active

First-quarter scatter is almost over. Networks are 60-70 percent sold in second quarter. CPMs continue to pace at double-digit increases. Kids biz still holding.

Spot TV: Soft

New York, L.A. and the rest of the top 10 look weak, except Chicago, which is very tight. For the corning weeks, many of the top 50 markets are said to be wide open.

Radio: Heating

The next couple of weeks will determine second quarter, which looks to be quite tight. Autos and wireless telecom are broiling. Packaged goods are getting busy.

Magazines: Solid

European fashion is gearing up and beginning to look strong Petroleum in the midst of major spending spree. Liquor and travel are heating up.



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MarComAsia

Laura K. Jones MEDIAWEEK February 23, 1998

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AT DEADLINE

Capital Publishing Refinance Plan Due

Capital Publishing is expected to announce details of its refinancing effort as early as next week. A new group of investors will buy the undisclosed stake of majority-owner Fidelity Capital, the business development and venture capital arm of Ned Johnson's billion-dollar Fidelity Investments firm. New York-based Capital, publisher of Worth, Civilization and American Benefactor, began its search in November through the New York-based investment banking firm of Ladenburg, Thalmann and Co. Advertisers and competitors of both Worth and AB have objected to Fidelity's stake in the publishing company, citing potential conflicts of interest.

Price Protection for Last Seinfeld

Two movie studios reportedly have agreed to buy commercial time on the May 14 Seinfeld finale on NBC. Warner Bros. has a deal to buy a 30-second spot on the final episode for \$2 million, sources said. Newspaper reports last week speculated that Sony also has agreed to a deal. NBC declined to comment. In addition, media buyers indicated last week that NBC has offered potential advertisers a form of price protection. In the movie category, for instance, if several studios each agree to pay \$2 million per spot, and if eventually another movie company comes on board at a lower price, then the initial advertisers' price tags would be adjusted to equal the latecomers'.

PGI Spurs \$100M Mystery Review

Purchasing Group Inc. has contacted both fullservice and media-only agencies about possibly handling a \$100 million media account, sources said. Victor Guss, an associate consultant with the Jenkintown, Pa .- based firm, denied there was a review, adding that an unnamed client was merely looking at media options. PGI specializes in costreduction efforts in procuring services and materials. Its client list includes Fortune 1000 companies including Eli Lilly, Schering-Plough, IBM, Kellogg Co. and Sun Oil Co.

Times Circuits Closes Ad Loop

High-tech advertisers including Syquest, Dell and

NEC have committed to a yearly schedule to advertise in Circuits, The New York Times' new national, four-color weekly section on digital technology that launches this week. "The category has grown significantly for us in the past three years," said Dan Cohen, the Times' senior vp of advertising. The new Thursday section will run an anticipated eight to 12 pages.

INSIDE

Guccione goes for a different spin on men 22 TV SPORTS 10 LOCAL MEDIA 12 THE MEDIA ELITE 24 MEDIA PERSON **H** :

Hearst-Argyle: 2-For-2 Swap + \$20 Million

Hearst-Argyle Television has exchanged two TV stations and \$20 million in cash for two of STC Broadcasting's TV stations. Hearst-Argyle will trade WDTN-TV (an ABC affiliate) in Dayton, Ohio (DMA 53), and WNAC (NBC) in Providence, R.I. (DMA 46), for STC's KSBW (NBC) in Monterey-Salinas, Calif., (DMA 122), and WPTZ-TV/WNNE-TV, NBC affiliates serving Burlington, Vt., and Plattsburgh, N.Y. (DMA 92), respectively. Hearst-Argyle execs in New York said that the swap was executed to comply with FCC ownership guidelines. Hearst Broadcasting Group merged with Argyle Television last September; the FCC

ordered that the company divest the Dayton and Providence stations due to a coverage overlap with stations it owned in Cincinnati and Boston.

People Moving: Peter Henderson III has joined the American Business Press as the association's vp of meetings, events and operations. He was vp/meetings and events at the Magazine Publishers of America... Thomas E. Lucas last week was named senior vp/marketing, a new position at Fox Family Channel. Lucas was vp/advertising and promotions for the Travel Channel.

Addenda: Fred Goldman, father of Ronald Goldman, one of the murder victims in the O.J. Simpson case, is set to host his first TV special for United Paramount Network. Search for Justice With Fred Goldman, to air on UPN on Wednesday, April 22, is billed as a look at "injustices of the criminal and civil justice system."...Spelling Entertainment Group, in which Viacom Inc. has ar 80 percent stake, will shut down its film division and focus solely on TV. Six employees got pink slips; another 14 will be phased out...CBS' Four Corners, starring Ann-Margaret, will be the first prime-time program with a Spanish-language simulcast via the second audio program (SAP). The show premieres on Feb. 24... The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences hopes to move the Oscars from Monday to Sunday in 1999. Discussions with ABC, which has broadcast rights through 2000, are under way.

Correction: A Media Note in the Jan. 19 issue incorrectly reported a transaction between Granite Broadcasting and Freedom Communications. Granite has sold WWMT-TV, a CBS affiliate in Grand Rapids, Mich., and WLAJ-TV, an ABC affiliate in Lansing, Mich., to Freedom.

MEDIAWEEK (ISSN 0155-176X) is published 47 times a year. Regular issues are published weekly except the last week of July and the second and fourth weeks of August and the last two weeks of December by ASM Communications, Inc., a subsidiary of BPI Communications Inc., 1515 Broadway, New York, NY, 10036. Subscriptions are \$125 one year; \$215 two years. Canadian subscriptions \$280 per year. All other foreign subscriptions are \$280 (using air mail). Registered as a newspaper at the British Post Office. Periodicals postage paid at New York, N.Y. and additional mailing offices. Subscriber Service (1-800) 722-6658. MEDIAWEEK, 1515 Broadway, New York, NY, 10036. Editorial: New York, (212) 536-5336; Los Angeles, (213) 525-2270; Chicago, (312) 464-8525. Sales (212) 536-6528. Classified (1-800-7-ADWEEK). POSTMASTER: Send address changes to MEDIAWEEK, P.O. Box 1976, Danbury, CT 06813-1976. Copyright, 1997 ASM Communications, Inc.





February 23, 1998 MEDIAWEEK

MEDIA WIRE

Bravo's Upscale Bravura Breeds Reformat With Ads

In an effort to deliver upscale audiences to advertisers. Bravo has started to sell more spots. The network has eight minutes an hour of avails to sell in the approaching upfront as the arts service becomes a fully ad-supported basic net this September. Bravo's reformatting comes after 15 years of developing from a premium service with no ads to a basic service that accepted 60-second billboards before and after its programming.

The plan to accept unit ads, which will run three times an hour, keys on the network's predominantly high-end audience and the ad community's eagerness to get at them. "For the past two years, we had more interest from the advertiser community than we've had inventory," said Ed Carroll, Bravo's executive vp and general manager.

Buyers agree that Bravo is one of the cable nets to buy for well-to-do eveballs. "It's an economic thing for them. Even if their ratings fall off a tick because of the commercial breaks, they'll be making more money," said one buyer aware of Bravo's plans who asked not to be named. Moreover, Bravo has increased its subscriber base to more than 30 million-the threshhold number of homes needed for a cable net to attract an advertising base.

The network will keep its billboard advertising. But while ads are a fact of life in basic cable, operators said that Bravo has been popular with viewers because of its light commercial environment. And they cautioned the network not to muck up programming with too many spots. "If they do it so that you don't get irritating interruptions, it will be less annoying than if they start cluttering up their lineup," said Linda Stuchell, vp, programming, Harron Communications of Frazer, Pa. -Jim Cooper

TV Rights, Interview Deals Bury Snowboarder's Kin

The family of a rescued California snowboarder has received nearly 100 media proposals for his survival story. Independent producers bidding for the TV movie rights and tabloid newspaper interviewers want 14-year-old (continued on page 6)

Kids Still Mis

Upfront market remains on hold as buyers claim th

NETWORK TV / By Eric Schmuckler

nce whispered to be coming as early as January, the kids upfront ad market now looks unlikely to break until March. This delay signals a shift from the frenzied seller's market of recent years to one where the buy side enjoys the upper hand due to an increasing supply of inventory and tepid demand. "As network ratings dropped in recent years, the marketplace has gone through the roof, and no one adjusted their pricing," said John Muszynski, executive vp at Leo Burnett's Starcom unit and one of the overlords of the kids market. "This is an adjustment year."

Muszynski, who oversees kids buying for the Kellogg and McDonald's accounts, is one of the big players who has slammed on the brakes this upfront season. Another is Grey Advertising senior vp Jon Mandel, who handles Hasbro toys, Kraft General Foods cereals and Warner Bros. Mandel has repeatedly announced that he'd rather delay the upfront till as late as June, even at the expense of his golf

game.

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Sellers say Grey's Mandel is behind the holdup.

ging it." The voluble Mandel could not be reached for comment late last week, but for good reason: He was engaged in a shootout for the buying on Tiger Electronics, which Hasbro just struck a deal to acquire. The \$70 million account has been handled by Shelly Hirsch of Summit Media; Tiger owns a majority stake in Summit. Hirsch is among the most respected figures in the kids game, but one close

observer said he would be "shocked" if Mandel hadn't secured lower rates for Hasbro by virtue of his buying clout. Mandel also has worked long and well with Hasbro and its vp of media, Debbie Boyd. One theory is that Mandel has delayed the upfront to gain time to win the Tiger business. Hirsch and Boyd could not be reached.

The early upfronts of recent seasons may turn out to have been an aberration. They overlapped with Toy Fair in February, leaving buyers on toy accounts to guess at their true budgets; they frequently over-ordered just to be safe. "These hypothetical budgets artificially inflate the demand; then they get cut

Affiliates Warm To Fox Kids Deal

Network locks up broadcast distribution for 10 years

TV STATIONS / By Eric Schmuckler

he deal offered by Fox Kids Worldwide to its stations last week met with widespread initial approval and is expected to put to rest lingering questions about the network's broadcast distribution.

As expected, Fox will offer affiliates a cash payment to buy out their half-interest in the profit stream of the Fox Children's Network of as much as \$100 million over the next five years. Fox's initial offer was in the area of \$30 million to \$40 million, said one affiliate. "It's a huge number to be paid out," said Harry Pappas of Pappas Telecasting. "I think it fairly takes into account the interests of the affiliates, of News Corp. and of Fox Kids Worldwide and [its boss] Haim Saban."

Affiliates will be asked to sign 10-year agreements locking them into carrying FCN's full 19 hours per week of programming. In return, they are to give up some



back," complained Muszynski. "A lot of people are tired of being burned by that." Another top buyer noted that scatter has been readily available—at upfront prices or below—for most of the season. As for next fall, he adds: "This inventory will be there in March, it will be there in April, and you know what? It will be there in September. The tide has turned it's our serve."

Most kids accounts can breathe easy, having already laid a base of one-third to one-half of their budgets on Nickelodeon in two-year deals signed last season. But Nick has had little luck enticing buyers to extend their deals to the 1999-2000 season, or to put money into its

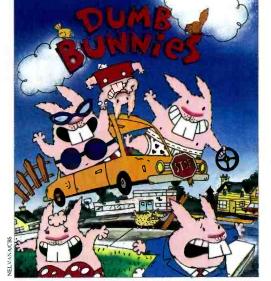
inventory during FCN hours, on the order of five tc 10 units per week, for use in promoting Fox's kids shows on both broadcast and cable. Stations would naturally prefer to keep their inventory during the "hard eight" weeks befcre Christmas, and the deal offers "some flex.blity" there, according to Murray Green, gm of WFLX, West Palm Beach, Fla., and chaïrman of the Fox Affiliate Board. Full details will arrive at stations this week.

The proposal is not tied to the widely expected request by Fox for its affiliates to share the burden of its new NFL rights deal—not formally anyway. "We couldn't do that at this stage," explained Stu Powell of WPGH-TV, Pittsburgh, who helped hammer

out the plan. "Many of the Fox stations don't carry kids, including the New World stations, and many kids affiliates aren't Fox stations." But as Dan Sullivan of Sullivan Broaccasting noted: "The money will be sucked up by football anyway. It's going from one pocket to another. I'm rot spending that money, I'll te I you that."

Technically, there is no "deal" between Fox and its affiliates. "We have an agreement in principle that we feel

pricey new half hour prime time. of MTV Networks sales boss John Popkowski said he was not concerned. "We'll find out who our partners are," he said. "We will still be the dominant kids player, and we'll see them next year." Buyers said Nick has employed a strategy of putting offers on the table with a two- or threetime limit. day "People felt insult-



Hasbro is said to have bought into Nelvana's *Dumb Bunnies* on CBS.

ed," sniffed one buyer. Popkowski said Nick had always put time limits on its offers.

Cartoon Network is not pressing as hard as it once had been and now appears resigned to waiting for the action next month. Although Toon has so much inventory that it cannot tighten up its pricing much, buyers

comfortable recommending," said Green, "but it has to be handled in direct negotiations between Fox and its stations. This is a framework." Local negotiations ought to be rounded up within a couple of months, he said. There is no escape clause that allows affiliates to dump the kids lineup early, but if Fox decides to bail out of kids broadcast during the five-year cashout, affiliates will be paid in full.

Stations will be paid according to their market size and ratings strength. That is, a station covering 1 percent of the nation's TV homes and delivering the network's average would be entitled to 1 percent of the \$100 million kitty. That may not sound especially rich—Fox TV boss Chase Carey

> has called the kids broadcast net a billion-dollar asset—but the stations merely share in a profit stream while equity and control have always remained with Fox.

"I'm not sure there is any profit now that the kids business has gotten so much tougher," said Sullivan. "If we hadn't been able to do a deal, I'm not sure how we would unravel this thing. It's probably not a bad deal." still expect to give it perhaps a token CPM increase. Said one such buyer, "They still have a good story and it's not like we paid a helluva lot for it." Fledgling Fox Family could book as little as \$25 million, said one buyer, though that would "put a dent other the in And providers. with toy budgets down, you could see a \$50 million

to \$75 million swing." But Fox Family sales chief Rick Sirvaitis cited encouraging reports from Toy Fair for Mattel-Tyco's preschool line, Bandai and Toymates and others in dismissing that view. "I still think total dollars will be up," he averred.

In broadcast, fast-growing Kids' WB is expected to achieve the highest CPM increases, but buyers are beating the drums for decreases elsewhere. "I've made it clear to ABC and Fox that I'm not buying anything without a negative," declared one major spender. ABC is rightfully proud of its 30 percent kids rating gain, but the net has very high bases and buyers see little reason to extend that premium in a soft market. Fox had hoped a revamped Saturday lineup would turn around its ratings. In its Feb. 7 premiere, the new schedule gained 11 percent in rating and one share point, to 17, from the previous week. In its second outing on Feb. 14, though, it slipped to a 3 percent gain over the season average. Disney and other syndicators will likewise come under heavy pressure on prices. A source said Hasbro had taken a large chunk of CBS' new Nelvana-supplied cartoon lineup at a bargain-basement rate-a small expenditure given the toymaker's needs, but every little bit helps.

Does this swing to the buy side represent a seismic shift in the kids market? Consider: A cornerstone of Saban's cable pitch is that 70 percent of the kids audience watching TV during the day is *not* watching kids-dedicated channels. Saban aims to recruit some of those viewers as well as siphon off a bit of Nick's audience; Toon, which is growing in households, ratings and original programs, may do so even more. In theory, these highly focused kids networks will better serve the audience, eventually causing a rise in kids viewership for sale to advertisers.



Dan Sullivan: "It's probably not a bad deal."

MEDIA WIRE

Jeff Thornton's narrative. Thornton was rescued after being lost for a week in the mountains near Wrightwood, Calif.

The battle for Thornton's story is shaping up to be between network newsmagazine shows and cable channels that are investing in original movies. "Right now [the family is] a little overwhelmed," said a source who is working with them. "Most of these shows want an exclusive, so if they say yes to *PrimeTime* [*Live*], for instance, then *Dateline* and 20/20 won't consider them. And frankly, they don't even know what a lot of these shows are like, so it's difficult for them to know how to make a choice between, say *American Journal* and *Hard Copy*, when they aren't that familiar with either one."

If the boy's survival story turns up in prime time, it isn't likely to be on a network. CBS has already passed on a proposal. Fox executives said they weren't interested. ABC and NBC have yet to be approached. The source said the family would probably begin making decisions on which proposals, if any, they want to accept this week. —*Betsy Sharkey*

Chancellor Spends \$72M For 2 Washington Stations

Irving, Texas-based Chancellor Media Corp. last week bought the two sole radio properties comprising Washington's small, family-owned Capitol Broadcasting. The purchase of WWDC-FM and AM, expected to close by the second quarter of this year, cost Chancellor \$72 million.

That's a figure that didn't seem to frighten Chancellor president and CEO Scott K. Ginsburg, who said he's been eyeing the Capitol properties for "over 42 months...we've had a long-term discussion over this [sale]." Ginsburg's satisfaction over the purchase is understandable: The buy gives Chancellor a total of five FM and three AM stations in the market and earns it a bigger share of the local pie than nearest D.C. radio rival CBS Inc.

According to Ginsburg, no format changes are planned at the stations; the AM serves up adult standards and the FM, also known as "DC 101," specializes in rock. The purchase will give Chancellor 101 radio stations in 21 markets. "I thought it was kind (continued on page 8)

Stern: Mr. Saturday Night?

Karmazin behind move to put controversial talk-show host on CBS

TV PROGRAMMING / By Betsy Sharkey

oward Stern is said to be about two weeks and "a couple of deal points" away from committing to a Saturday late-night variety show that would initially be produced solely for the 14 CBS-owned stations, according to a source close to the negotiations, who requested anonymity because of the sensitive nature of the talks.

CBS executives and Stern's attorney, Don Buchwald, declined comment, although CBS Entertainment president Leslie Moonves confirmed in January that talks with the controversial radio personality were ongoing.

The man driving the talks for CBS is Mel Karmazin, chairman of the network's station group. Karmazin's relationship with Stern tracks back to 1985, when Karmazin, then head of Infinity Broadcasting's radio empire, hired out-of-work shock-jock Stern, whom many in the business had deemed unemployable.

Karmazin's strategy to put a Stern show on the O&Os at first keeps the project at arm's length from the network, shielding CBS from fallout it could face from its more conservative, heartland audience. For Stern, the O&O arrangement could keep the network from intervening in the show's content.

Though little is known yet about the shape the Stern show might take or which company



Media "King" Stern mulls still another extension.

would produce the show, reaction from the media buying community is positive. "Certainly for CBS, it brings to the table an exposure for their product to a much younger audience. And at a time when CBS is getting into the [NFL] business, to have a platform to promote football the next day is intriguing," said Bill Carroll, vp/director of programming for Katz

TV Group. Like NFL viewers, Carroll added, "Stern's audience tends to be young, [and] male."

Even if the show is controversial, said Garnett Losak, Blair Television vp/director of programming, "if [it] delivers a critical mass, there will be advertisers. The bottom line is if there are men 18-34. If the rating is there, the advertisers will be there."

The CBS station group reaches roughly 40

percent of the country. The question of further distribution of a Stern show—straight syndication deals through CBS' Eyemark division, or granting CBS affiliates a right of first refusal—remains unresolved.

One scenario being floated: If a Stern show does well, it could be expanded to replace Tom Snyder's *Late Late Show*. Snyder has complained about creative differences with the producers on the show's direction. ■

Digital: 5 More for the Core

FCC adds channels for DTV transition; eyes DBS-cable ownership

REGULATION / By Alicia Mundy

he Federal Communications Commission last week moved to clean up rules on digital TV licenses and voted to examine cross-ownership of cable and direct broadcast satellite (DBS) services. In distributing some 1,600 DTV channel assignments, the FCC voted 4to-1 to add five core channels to the available spectrum to overcome potential signal problems for some UHF stations and to deflect possible

interference between DTV signals later.

The FCC's move effectively gives every station a second channel to transmit a high-definition signal. The decision came six weeks later than originally scheduled because of backroom bickering among commissioners about the number of channels to use during the transition. The commission voted to expand core channels, making them channels 2–51, up from 2–46.

Commissioner Harold Furchtgott-Roth was

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MEDIA WIRE

of poetic that it's 'DC 101,'" and it's our 101st station," he said. —*Rachel Fischer*

Product Placement Scores With *Superstars* Revival

A bevy of corporate sponsors have lined up for the revival of the Superstars competition, an original made-for-TV sports property. IMG has lined up Kawasaki, Air Jamaica, the Jamaica Tourism Authority, Raymond Weil watches, Naya, Met-Rx, Kawasaki and Gold's Gym as corporate sponsors. Their obligations range from \$95,000 to \$125,000 and, except for Naya, include media, said Bob Horowitz, senior vp at IMG's TWI TV production unit.

Product placement is also key, as in the case of Raymond Weil watches as official timer, Naya bottled water or Kawasaki jet skis, which will be used in one of the 10 events. Still unsold is the \$500,000 title sponsorship, which includes 10 units. Athletes inked so far include Kordell Stewart, Barry Sanders, Warrick Dunn, Terrell Davis, Dan O'Brien and Karch Kiraly. Prize money totals \$150,000, with \$45,000 going to the winner. The 25th anniversary edition of the original trashsport, in which athletes compete in events including golfing, swimming, kayaking, basketball and cycling-along with the memorable obstacle course-will be taped in Jamaica in early April. It gets two hours of air time April 19 on ABC with Dan Dierdorf, Lesley Visser and Dan Fouts as talent. -Terry Lefton

NBA in Spanish: Telemundo Paves Way, Bids May Follow

Telemundo's New York flagship, WNJU-TV, has reached a groundbreaking deal to broadcast a package of NBA games entirely in Spanish. Expected to be announced this week, the deal consists of four New York Knicks games in March and April that will also appear in English on the MSG network. "If it works, you might see bidding for Spanish-language rights for the NBA," said Luis Roldan, vp/gm of WNJU. Smart Sports, a New York-based production company, will provide the broadcast, which includes Spanish-speaking talent, graphics and play-by-play. —*Claude Brodesser* the lone dissenter. Furchtgott-Roth said the FCC should not allow broadcasters to use the extra channels during the transition. He wanted to auction the channels to help meet a congressional goal of \$4.5 billion from spectrum sales.

Commissioner Susan Ness disagreed, noting that the decision "will result in 175 additional digital channels within the expanded core, including some in markets that will be extremely valuable." This expansion, Ness added, "will not result in any discernible diminution to the expected revenue when the spectrum is recovered at the end of the transition."

Eddie Fritts, president of the National Association of Broadcasters, said the group is "pleased the FCC has settled on a channel assignment plan that paves the way for a speedy rollout of the next generation of television." But not all broadcasters are satisfied. Some smaller stations still worry about overlap and interference. Fox's lobbyists have argued that the company's Washington, D.C., station received an unfair allocation. Until the final plan with all 1,600-plus stations is laid out, broadcasters won't be able to tell how all their stations will fare.

At its Feb. 19 meeting, the commission voted to begin seeking comment on DBS-cable cross-ownership limitations. Furchtgott-Roth and commissioner Michael Powell both dissented from the move. While an FCC staffer noted that there are few DBS-cable cross-ownership plans, there is one major combination in the works: the pending \$1.1 billion sale of a DBS slot owned by News Corp. and MCI to Primestar Partners, jointly owned by several of the country's largest cable operators.

CBS' Downhill Upside

Ad buyers say the Olympics rating shortfall was not all bad news

TV SPORTS / By John Consoli

d agency execs said last week they were not surprised by the failure of CBS to meet its Winter Olympics rating projection, stating they knew before putting down their clients' dollars that the network's guarantee of a 19.6/30 was overly optimistic and would probably not be met. Agencies' projections often are more conservative than those of the networks, alerting clients early on to the probability of makegoods.

While CBS has taken a lot of heat for its

production shortcomings on the Games, buyers said ratings (an average 16.5/27 through Feb. 19), were not so bad considering the soft firstquarter ad environment in prime time.

Buyers said they were more concerned with CBS' current ratings and demos



Viewership tumbled from '94.

than with comparisons to previous Olympics (ratings were down 14 percent from '92 in Albertville and 40 percent from Lillehammer in '94). "We're disappointed with a small d, not with a capital D," said Ron Frederick, national broadcast director at J. Walter Thompson. David Martin, president of Pentacom, which handles Chrysler, one of the Games' largest advertisers, agreed. "The truth of the tin. He added that "just the name 'Olympics' alone" draws new viewers in demo categories that a network may not regularly reach—in CBS' case, young viewers. For the week ended Feb. 15, CBS scored its first win in adults 18-49 since Grammys week four years ago. The Olympics also lifted CBS to primetime wins each night in almost all 38 metered

matter is the numbers were still good, substan-

tial and demographically valuable," noted Mar-

time wins each night in almost all 38 metered markets. The Games helped David Letterman significantly close his ratings gap in late night

> with NBC's Jay Leno. During the Olympics, *Letterman* averaged a 5.1/15, up 31 percent from its pre-Olympics number, while *Leno* averaged a 5.5/14, down 7 percent.

> CBS, which paid \$375 million for Olympics rights and reportedly took in \$550 million in ads, was expected to turn a profit of \$60 million. The final number will be much lower, considering

the high level of makegoods owed advertisers. Some clients took their makegoods during the Games; others will negotiate for second-quarter spots.

TNT, which aired 50 hours of Olympics coverage, won't feel the sting of makegoods because CBS sold its inventory. TNT averaged a 1.2 rating for the first 35 hours, down from a 2.1 in '94. —with Jim Cooper ■



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JUDGING CRITERIA

- innovative nature of the concept
- tactical approach
- · creative and or innovative use of media
- · effectiveness relative to the objective

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HOW TO ENTER

Complete the official entry form on the back of this brochure and attach it as a cover to your statement. Your statement should describe the nature of the plan, why you consider it creative, and how it achieved your clients' objectives. Statements should not exceed 750 words in total and must be typed on a single page. Feel free to discuss any background information/situation analysis relevant to set the stage for the program description.

DOCUMENTATION

Please include documentation such as a copy of the media plan, examples of the execution and any client testimonials demonstrating the successful results of your plan. In order to properly categorize your entry, be sure to indicate the level of media spending on your entry. Confidential, proprietary information in the supporting

documentation may be censored.

QUESTIONS?

Please call Alexandra Scott-Hansen at MEDIAWEEK at (212) 536-6588 or email Alexandra at ascott-hansen@adweek.com



Media plan OF The Year Official entry form

CATEGORY NUMBER (1 THROUGH 11):_			
SUBMITTED BY:			
COMPANY:			
Address:			
STATE:CIT	Y:	Zip:	
Рноле:	_Fax:		
Your Client:			
BRAND:			
BUDGET:			
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Sally Won't Play 2nd Fiddle

Host dismisses producer; said to feel overlooked by new owner SYNDICATION / By Michael Freeman

nternal strife in the senior ranks of *Sally Jessy Raphael* has led to the sudden departure of co-executive producer Amy Rosenblum, whom sources said was forced to exit after a heated confrontation with the talk-show host on Feb. 12. Rosenblum's departure comes as USA Networks Inc., distributor of *Sally Jessy*, has been negotiating with Rosenblum about moving over to the studio's fall relaunch of a new *Maury Povich* talk show.

USA Networks Inc. (formerly Universal Television Enterprises), which was acquired last year by Barry Diller's HSN Inc., has been talking with Rosenblum about serving as co-executive producer of *Maury*, according to sources within the company. USA hopes to insert Rosenblum as the No. 2 to *Maury* executive producer Tamara Haddad.

A representative for USA's domestic syndication division confirmed that Rosenblum has departed *Sally Jessy*. The rep declined further comment on "personnel matters" and would not elaborate on the events leading up to the departure of Rosenblum, who was a sevenyear veteran (the last three years as co-executive producer) of *Sally Jessy*.

Sources close to *Sally Jessy* staffers said that Rosenblum had engaged Raphael in a "heated shouting match," and it was agreed that Rosenblum would leave the show immediately. One talk-show source said Raphael became "inflamed" upon finding out Rosenblum was negotiating a move to the Povich show.

Phone calls to *Sally Jessy's* executive producer, Maurice Tunick; Rosenblum; Raphael's publicist; and a handful of senior production staffers went unreturned last week.

"Everyone has certainly clammed up in a maneuver that the [Clinton] administration would be proud of," said one source connected with the show. "If Sally can blow a lid every now and then and get rid of someone that fast, the rest of the staffers are certainly in fear of

losing their jobs."

Sources outside the show said Raphael has been upset with USA's focus on renewing stations and upgrading time periods for the red-hot *Jerry Springer*, which is hitting 8-10 rating averages in some major markets. Adding to the alleged rift between Raphael and USA is the reported \$10 million per

year the studio has agreed to pay Povich.

SIR has been performing well, turning in a 5.2 rating/13 share Nielsen household average during the November '97 sweeps. The show ranked third behind King World's *Oprah Winfrey* (8.0/24) and *Springer* (7.8/21), according to a Petry Television analysis. *Sally*'s ratings among women 18-34 (4.4/20) and 18-49 (3.8/19) grew 18 and 12 percent in share, respectively.

"Sally doesn't like to be a second or third banana to anybody, but to be taking the third slot behind *Springer* and *Povich* at USA has not been a pleasing development for her," said one source with connections to USA.

CABLE TV

Cable networks' and the WB's ratings are growing at the expense of the Big Four networks, the Cabletelevision Advertising Bureau reported last week. According to CAB's analysis of Nielsen data, cable average household delivery for the 1997-93 season has grown by more than 1.9 million homes on Monday, Wednesday and Sunday nights—the same nights that the WB airs. During those nights, the WB, which recently added Tuesday as its fourth night of shows, grew an average of 340,000 households, while ABC, Fox, NBC and CBS collectively lost about 484,000.

Turner Network Sales is expanding its senior management team. William H. Grumbles Jr., president of worldwide distribution for Turner Broadcasting System, last week appointed Andrew T. He ler as an executive vp at TNS. Heller will work with regional sales executives on sales strategies. He will also oversee business affairs, operations and technology. Grumbles also promoted Kevin Gaffney and Doug Orr, both former regional vice preidents, to become senior vps of the eastern and western divisions respectively. Also, Carter Maguire becomes executive vp of TNS' central division.

The Atlanta Thrashers, the Turnerowned NHL expansion franchise that will begin play in fall '99, last week reached settlement with the skateboarding magazine *Thrasher* that will allow the team to continue using its name. Terms of the deal were not disclosed. —*Jim Cocper*

WEEKEND JOURNAL

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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EVERYONE ON THE PLANET IS GIVEN THE SAME WEEKEND. SOME PEOPLE JUST USE IT BETTER.

ng d-A to d. yndin has rther rould year the studio has **TV SPORTS**

By Langdon Brockinton

Still a Good Catch

Marlins' local packages luring advertisers despite off-season changes

BFS-TV in Miami is close to finalizing a new five-year TVrights deal with the Florida Marlins, the World Series champions. Financial terms of the pending contract extension have not

been disclosed. WBFS expects to televise 55 to 60 regular-season Marlins games this season, said Bill Ballard, vp and general manager of the Paramount-owned UPN affiliate. The station has carried Marlins games since the team's inaugural season in 1992.

As part of the new deal, WBFS and Front Row Communications will sell commercial time on the telecasts. Fort Lauderdale-based Front Row is controlled by Wayne Huizenga, the Marlins' owner, who is trying to sell the franchise. Last season, under a time-buy arrangement with WBFS, Front Row handled all the ad sales.

In anticipation of the rights renewal, WBFS began selling Marlins inventory a few weeks ago. With Opening Day just six weeks away, the station has moved 40 percent of this season's commercial load, Ballard said.

Although the Marlins are baseball's defending champs, the team is highly unlikely to return to its '97 perch, having made a series of cost-cutting moves this off-season that jettisoned several talented, albeit high-priced, stars, including Moises Alou,

Kevin Brown, Rob Nenn, Al Lieter and Devon White. Has the massive reconstruction affected TV ad sales? No, according to Ballard, who said: "They're still the World Series champions. The team's nucleus is still there. We think they'll be competitive." He added: "When the season is over, I have no doubt that we will have exceeded last year's ad revenue." Ballard declined, however, to divulge the '97 figure.

On the cable front, SportsChannel Florida is in the first year of a new, exclusive seven-year deal for Marlins games. Last season, SC Florida and the Sunshine Network each aired 35 regular-season contests. (Prior to '97, Sunshine had exclusive cable rights.)

SportsChannel Florida, which is 70 percentowned by Huizenga, will televise 70 regular-sea-



son Marlins games this season. The channel so far has sold 70 percent of its Marlins inventory, said Rod Mickler, vp and general manager. While that level is slightly ahead of last year's pace, Mickler noted that the comparison is a bit skewed because SC Florida did not acquire its

'97 rights until "a little late in the buying season."

Mickler said that while the Marlins' off-season player moves have "been an issue in the marketplace...the advertising community didn't overreact. The shock has passed. There still are a lot of wonderful memories of last season's [World Series] run." Returning advertisers include Sears, Southwest Airlines, Chevrolet, Gatorade, BellSouth and Miller Brewing.

CBS is said to be planning to rebroadcast a 1960s match between Ben Hogan and Sam Snead from the *Shell's Wonderful World of Golf* series prior to the network's final-round coverage of this year's Masters. The Hogan-Snead duel, which has never been shown since its original telecast, is expected to air as a lead-in to

"The shock has passed. There are still a lot of wonderful memories of last season." –Mickler expected to air as a lead-in to the Masters' final 18 holes on April 12. Advertisers that have committed to the Hogan-Snead reprise are said to include MasterCard, Shell Oil, Smith Barney, Tommy Armour Golf, the U.S. Postal Service, Maxfli and Kemper.

Although IBM is still advertising on Fox's National Hockey League telecasts this season, Big Blue has let loose its grip on category exclusivity. The move has allowed computer advertisers including Gateway, Microsoft and Oracle to buy time on Fox's coverage. IBM is said to have balked at the higher price tag that Fox sought to maintain exclusivity once the network added more telecasts (and, therefore, more inventory) to its NHL schedule this season.

Etonic, the Spalding unit that markets golf shoes, has bought time on USA Network's pro golf telecasts in the second quarter. With that deal, the cable network has sold about 95 percent of its '98 golf inventory, said Bob Riordan, vp of Eastern region sales for USA.

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TV STATIONS/CABLE TV Claude Brodesser RADIO Rachel Fischer PRINT/NEW MEDIA Dori Perrucci

GREENSBORO/WINSTON-SALEM, N.C./TV STATIONS Meters an Instrument of Discord

•GETTING TV STATIONS TO AGREE TO BE metered by Nielsen Media Research is akin to asking children to get inoculated: They know it's good for them, but their immediate concern centers on the needle's size and where it's going. "It's not only the money, it's the placement of the meters that's the critical part," explained Karen Adams, vp/gm for Foxowned WGHP-TV in High Point, N.C.

Nielsen wants \$35,000 a month from the market's six TV stations to install meters and place diaries. But the three leading stations are holding out. Although the devices would more accurately reflect viewing habits in the three-city market comprising Greensboro, High Point and Winston-Salem, N.C., the stations' general managers want to see the meters placed in their own backyards, rather than throughout the "tri-phenated market." "This was shoved, quite literally, down our throats," a VHF station general manager asserted last week. Joining WGHP in the holdout for lower rates and favorable meter placement are Gannett Broadcasting's CBS affiliate, WFMY-TV in Greensboro, and WXII-TV, Pulitzer's Winston-Salem NBC affiliate.

When metered, stations in the lead generally lose market share while those in the rear generally gain. Metering also affects story and commercial placement in newscasts, because stations need to have only five minutes of viewership to get credit for a full quarter-hour, which is Nielsen's smallest unit of measurement. Research shows that the first five minutes of each newscast are the most watched. "We're seriously rethinking how we do news in order to make sure we have people watching for those first five minutes," said one news director, adding that "commercial schedules will all be affected. It's a total culture change." Echoed Reynard Corley, the WXII gm: "You have to pay attention to what you do every day."

At the very least, station execs believe that meters will close the gap among competing newscasts—if not set the market on its collective ear. "There's a lot of news viewers at stake," said Joe Coff, vp/gm at WXLV-TV and WUPN-TV, two of the market's UHF stations that have already signed on to be metered. WXLV is Sullivan Broadcasting's ABC affiliate, which it runs Mission Broadcasting-owned WUPN through a local marketing agreement. "We're clearly No. 4 in news. But the difference between No. 1 and No. 4 will be a lot tighter," said Coff. A third UHF in the market, Pappas Broadcasting's WB affiliate WBFX-TV, is also on board.

Advertisers, meanwhile, want meters as soon as possible to more accurately target their audiences and end "tremendous amounts of diary confusion," said Erica Boardman, media supervisor at Trone Advertising in High Point.

Target date for the meters is April 1. But Reynard Corley, gm at WXII-TV, NBC's Winston-Salem affiliate, maintained that he

SCARBOROUGH MEDIA PROFILE: GREENSBORO/WINSTON-SALEM, N.C.

How Greensboro adult consumers compare to those in the country's top 50 markets

	Top 50 Markets %	Greensboro Market %	Greensboro Market Index
MEDIA USAGE			(100=average)
Read any daily newspaper-avg. issue	58.7	59.2	101
Read any Sunday newspaper-avg. issue	68.5	67.1	98
Total radio average morning drive M-F	25.4	25.3	100
Total radio average evening drive M-F	18.2	17.1	94
Watched BET past 7 days	6.9	10.0	145
Watched CNN 7 days	37.9	48.1	127
Watched ESPN past 7 days	32.2	44.7	139
Watched MTV past 7 days	16.4	20.3	124
Watched Nickelodeon past 7 days	16.9	22.3	131
Watched TNN past 7 days	18.2	32.8	181
Watched The Weather Channel past 7 day	s 37.3	53.3	143
DEMOGRAPHICS			
Age 18-34	33.8	31.4	93
Age 35-54	40.0	40.1	100
Age 55+	27.9	28.5	102
Race African American	13.2	16.9	127
HOME TECHNOLOGY			
Connected to cable	69.8	69.2	99
Connected to satellite/microwave dish	6.0	11.6	194

Source: 1997 Scarborough Research-Top 50 Market Report



Expect the **Che New Hork Eimes**

Introducing Circuits. A new technology section every Thursday.

We already capture the most sought-after readers in the country. With Circuits, we're programmed for even more success. Every Thursday, it features sophisticated stories and columns for technophiles and technophobes. When are you going to plug in? Call Dan Cohen, Senior V.P., Advertising, at 212-556-1493.



wants "fairness" in meter placement, citing what he called a disproportionate sprinkling of meters in competitors' neighborhoods. A Nielsen spokesperson in New York declined to comment on the negotiations.

Meanwhile, in anticipation of higher ratings from metering, WXLV and WUPN "are already bullish" on their advertising rates, said Heather Roos, media director at Long, Haymes, Carr Advertising in Winston-Salem. —*CB*

GREENSBORO, N.C./NEWSPAPERS A Retail Tale of 2 Cities Spins Distant Scenarios

• THE WINSTON-SALEM JOURNAL AND GREENSboro News & Record insist upon individuality. Officials at the papers say they don't compete for readers, despite their geographical proximity—only about 25 miles apart in the foothills of North Carolina's Piedmont region. Sure, their circulation numbers mirror each other, and they produce similar editorial products. But that's where any correlation ends, officials said.

That's because the two papers couldn't be more different in one primary area: tackling fickle retail advertisers. With retail advertising "under siege," as one newspaper ad executive put it recently, the *Journal* has gone to niche publications, while the *News & Record* is into relationship-building to drive revenue.

"We're pushing into new areas, including online, database marketing, events and even corporate videos to drive ad sales," said News & Record advertising director Kathy Lambeth. The strategy is grounded in one happy fact: Several retailers, including the local Toyota dealer and a developer, "are willing to take creative risks," she said. As a result, the paper (87,602 daily and 113,329 Sunday), owned by Norfolk-based Landmark Communications, was given a marketing award last year. The Newspaper Association of America honored it for targeted real estate and classified special sections. "We're trying to create a venue for advertisers to target consumers," she added. "We want to use the relationships we have with readers to help them push into new markets.'

Lambeth cited a 6 percent increase in overall ad revenue in 1997. She said "significant growth" also occurred in preprints and run-of-press advertising after major retailers Target and Kohl's moved into the Greensboro market. However, the latest Competitive Media Reporting data showed that ad rev-



Despierta stars (I. to r.) Fernando Arau, Ana Maria Canseco, Neida Sandoval and Fiafael José

enue fell slightly last year, from \$34.5 million in 1996 to \$33.7 million.

At the Journal (90,420 daily and 103,419 Sunday), niche publications were developed about seven years ago as "a defensive measure" to attract and keep advertisers, said the paper's general manager, V.C. ("Pat") Taylor. Today, that defense has grown into a successful offensive that has helped secure retailer loyalty for the property, which is owned by Richmond, Va.-based Media General. Circulation at the dozen or so publications is small-about 15,000 targeted subscribers; cumulatively, however, the publications reach 100,000 households, a key "pipeline" for retailers, Taylor said. The latest niche vehicle is a quarterly, called Replay, which is targeted to children and parents who play local sports. It launches this month. -DP

PATERSON, N.J./TV STATIONS Lost Hispanic Viewers Provide Wake-Up Call

• A SPANISH-LANGUAGE MORNING NEWS AND entertainment show is siphoning considerable numbers of viewers from Fox flagship WNYW-TV in New York. "How do you compete with an ethnic group that suddenly has a show in their own language?" asked Gail Yancosek, news vp at WNYW. She was referring to *Despierta America* (Wake Up America), which is fast becoming the hot morning show for many of New York City's 3.4 million Hispanic residents. The show is good news for Paterson, N.J.'s Univision station WXTV-TV, which has seen its ratings quadruple within the last year. "Did we lose that audience? Yeah," Yancosek conceded.

As late as May 1996, Fox's *Good Day New York* had held the top spot with Hispanic audiences in the a.m., holding a 4.7 Spanishhousehold rating/19 share. At that time, WXTV was programming sitcoms and kids shows while managing only a 2.6 Spanishhousehold rating and a 10 share for the 7 a.m.- to-9 a.m. time period.

The launch of *Despierta* has changed all that. WXTV jumped to a 7.9 Spanishhousehold rating and 28 share in May, while Fox fell to a 3 Spanish-household rating and 10 share.

Last month's Nielsen market survey showed that WXTV had clocked an 8.2 Spanish-household rating and 29 share; Fox's *Good Day NY* had fallen further, to a 2.6 Spanish-household rating and a 9 share. "We do feel that we compete with

the general market stations, even if they don't feel that they compete with us," explained Michelle Leibowitz, general sales manager at Univision's WXTV.

Fox officials said they have no plans to program differently to recapture lost viewers or otherwise change *Good Day NY*'s focus on women outside Manhattan ages 18-49. —*CB*

MIAMI/NEWSPAPERS Herald Presses On With Colorful Redesign

• FOR YEARS, EDITORS AT THE *MIAMI HERALD* have moaned about numbing deadlines that shoehorned them into the composing room. The paper's readers had their share of production-related complaints as well, primarily focusing on poor reproduction that made the paper hard to read.

That gloomy scenario is expected to end with a redesign and the installation of \$108 million in new presses, top *Herald* officials said. The press upgrade, which began this month, will be completed by mid-1999, when the last of five Goss Newsliner offset presses are installed. The redesign and new presses are strategic moves to upgrade the fortunes of the Knight Ridder flagship. And new readers and advertisers will follow, projected Joseph T. Natoli, the paper's president. "Our competition in this market have all had offset for years," Natoli said.

The upgrade will eventually offer advertisers more color and more color positions. New ad packages are expected to be introduced within the next month for advertisers who target the paper's "advance sections," including features and classified.

Among the redesign's most dramatic changes are new mastheads on inside section fronts and a new size—scaled down to 21 inches from $22^{1/2}$, said executive editor Douglas Clifton. Otherwise, he said, "most of the changes are subtle. We're modernizing the look of the paper with a new typeface and a new promotional style on Page 1." — DP

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The Best Double-Support System Since The Manssierre

The TV Guide Seinfeld Stand-Alone

This full-size, 100-page collectors' magazine outlines episode by episode nine seasons of Seinfeld fun.

On Newsstands: April 20 Space Close: March 20 Distribution: 900,000

The TV Guide Seinfeld Issue

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In this perfect viewers' companion piece, we'll pay tribute to Seinfeld as only TV Guide can do.

Issue Date: May 9* Space Close: April 7 *Timed to final broadcast.

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Make sure your ad is in both of these collectors' issues that millions of readers will tune in to. Call National Advertising Director Keith Baldwin at **212/852-7270**.



The capital's Cheshire cat: Billy Tauzin can charm the skin off a gator while he emasculates the FCC.

This Dog Does Hunt Rep. Billy Tauzin knows his way around Telecom

Swamp better than anyone in Washington.

The boys in Bayou country talk about the Northerner who asked why alligators smile so wide. "They not smilin', son," explained the Cajuns. "They just stretching their mouths so's they can get you in one bite."

Allegorical? Apocryphal? Whatever, it's the tale you associate with W.J. "Billy" Tauzin, 54, the man with the biggest grin in Congress. He's doing a phone interview with a paper "back home" in Louisiana, simultaneously waving at a waiting reporter and shaking hands with a dozen souped-up Mardi Gras partygoers from his district wandering through his office, and he never stops smiling. Not even when he gets to the rough part of the phone talk. "Hey! They been throwin' stink bombs at us. And you know what? We're gonna start start throwin' things back—and they're not gonna be any *stink bombs*, y'know."

Hmmm. Now who could Tauzin be dissing that way? A good guess would be the chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, William Kennard. "You're right!" says Tauzin, hanging up his phone. "They wanna fight with us?" he says, his eyes twinkling as he ponders the possible brouhaha. "Well, they're gonna get a war."

The source of this war-to-be is Kennard's statement that the FCC should order broadcasters to give free airtime to political candidates. Over my cold, dead body, Tauzin says. Ohhh, if only, sigh staffers and officials inside the FCC.

Billy Tauzin may be the biggest threat the FCC has faced in its 60-year history. He is both the best friend of the broadcasting industry and its worst enemy. He's a fan of cable, and its most frightening foe. He's a hit in Hollywood, and he's on Hollywood's hit list. And despite such opposite distinctions, he is blazingly consistent. That may be one reason why this quotable Republican has suddenly become one of the most powerful people involved with the telecommunications industry.

Tauzin's smile and good ole boy demeanor, which is marked by Southern garrulousness and the odd off-color joke, are political tools he uses as a front for what may be one of the sharpest minds in Congress. Unlike so many denizens of Capitol Hill who have wandered into the telecom swamp, Tauzin actually knows these murky waters. He understands the economics, demographics, politics and technology of any telecom issue you can name. Furthermore, as Jack Valenti, the godfather of power brokers in Washington, describes him, "Billy Tauzin is one of the most astute political animals I have ever met."

Yes, there's good reason that half the articles written about him use the cliché "Cagey Cajun." When Tauzin switched from the Democratic party to the Republican in 1995, he made some powerful allies among GOP leaders. It's not too big a claim to say they owe him. No wonder he ended up with the chairmanship of the reconstituted House Commerce Subcommittee on Telecommunications dealing with TV, phones, cable and Hollywood. And with the Democrats on the Commerce committee semi-permanently divided between the liberal Ed Markey faction

and the John Dingell ancien régime, Tauzin's had a lot of leeway to push forward proposals. And he's figured out how to get his way without stepping on the toes of the current Commerce chair, the courtly Tom Bliley of Virginia. When Bliley steps aside in three years, as GOP rules dictate, Tauzin will probably get that chairmanship. For all these reasons, he has to be considered powerfully armed and dangerous. And he loves it.

"I am having a good time. This is the most fun I've ever had in a job," he says, thumping his hand on the coffee table. Rain is pouring down on the two sun chairs where he replenishes his tan on his Rayburn office balcony. Inside, it's sunny as a Sunday on Lake Charles. A hundred Louisianans have come to D.C. for the Washington Mardi Gras, a very private affair whose coveted invitations go for \$500. A state senator from Tauzin's district wanders in wearing his Vietnam Marine pilot's jacket. Piles of faux Mardi Gras beads sit on every table and on the receptionist's desk, a reminder that the three-day celebration begins in a few hours.

"I had a chance to be a senator, but I wanted this job," he says. No brag; just fact. Tauzin's had nine terms in Congress—in most elections pulling in close to 90 percent of the vote. After he switched parties, he could have suffered the same fate as other changelings who went down to defeat at home. Not Billy Tauzin. In 1996, he ran as a Republican and wasn't even opposed. Still, he raised \$664,000 for a campaign against no one. He could have had retiring Sen. Bennet Johnston's seat for the asking. But Tauzin wanted Telecom.

"This is the cutting edge. This is the future," he says emphatically. And this is a war zone. Right now, Tauzin is dealing with: cable rate increases; DBS programming and regulations; ownership rules at the FCC; the biennial review of FCC regulations; liquor ads on TV; the TV ratings system; broadcasters' digital commercial potential and HDTV; and the FCC and the free political airtime controversy. That doesn't include the McCain-Feingold bill on campaign reform and its implications for political ads and free airtime. Nor does that list mention the new and spiraling controversy over the FCC's very expensive move to The Portals building, which may be linked to a Democratic contributor's ties to Vice President Al Gore. Nor does it include any telephone issues. Meantime, Tauzin is forsaking all this to go on a road tour with Dick Armey, the

"They wanna fight with us?" he says, his eyes twinkling. "Well, they're gonna get a war."

> Texan who leads the House Republicans, where they do a song-and-dance routine on scrapping the income tax code in 20 states.

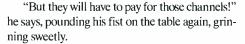
> Billy's a busy boy. Within two days of this interview, he's juggling the Armey tax duet with a high-roller Hollywood fund-raiser, a meeting with the Murdochs (Rupert and son) and a gettogether with Bill Gates. So, why should the FCC and its rookie chairman be concerned about Tauzin's agenda?

> Because the FCC is first on Tauzin's "to do" list, which could mean restructuring, and perhaps deconstructing, the entire agency. "We made a

terrible mistake. And I feel some *mea culpa* for it," says Tauzin, looking earnestly into this reporter's eyes. "When we did the telecom bill, we should have taken that opportunity to fix the FCC. We have to redo it. We have an agency that was created for regulation, and we're asking them to stand back and deregulate, and it's no wonder they can't do it. They're not organized for that. We *have* to reorganize them!," he says exasperatedly, as though he's offering them a favor.

So, has the congressman broached that subject with the FCC's chairman yet? "Well, yes, I mentioned my concerns that the FCC needs a better structure to deal with all the rapid changes in telecommunications. I mean, it doesn't make sense the way the bureaus and regulations are set up right now."

And did the chairman agree? "Ah think he understood mah point," Tauzin drawls, that smile



That's a pretty bold statement to make in an even-number year, an election year, Tauzin is reminded. "Ah'm not afraid of broadcasters. But there's some things they just gotta understand." If this were, say, Rep. Ed Markey (D-Mass.), talking, that statement would register somewhere between a crazy jest and a death wish. But Tauzin's got some clout to back up those words.

Furthermore, the complicated telecom situation helps Tauzin wield power here. If broadcasters push him too far on HDTV, he's got leverage on other, interrelated issues. He might want to force broadcasters to let DBS carry local stations, in the name of consumer rights. Hell, he might suddenly decide free airtime for politics is a great idea. Tauzin's got his fingers in

> enough pies right now that no one in the telecom industry can afford to piss him off.

Besides, Tauzin's one of the few politicians willing to go to the mat with the FCC at this moment. For instance, he's about the only member of Congress talking seriously about loosening up ownership regulations, even if it means owning two TV stations or a TV station and a newspaper in the same market. "As many stations as there are, nobody's gonna dominate the voices in this country. It's a little strange if a

racing from left ear to right.

One point Kennard probably gets is Tauzin's reluctance to let the FCC dictate free airtime for politicians. Other captains on Capitol Hill might be tempted to get into a jurisdictional spitting contest with the FCC on this topic, but Tauzin doesn't want a wimpy win. He goes straight for Old Glory. "It's unconstitutional! If Kennard and company want to vote me out of office, they can. But they cannot just rewrite the election laws of the United States of America." By heaven, it's the American way to spend as much as possible on campaign advertising, and Tauzin's going to defend that right to the death. "You bet!" his eyes flash. "We'll fight 'em tooth and nail."

That doesn't mean Eddie Fritts, president of the National Association of Broadcasters, is home free yet. "The NAB is a great lobbying machine, as they should be," Tauzin smiles, switching gears. "But," he leans forward, "that doesn't mean they get a free lunch."

He's talking about HDTV. "The American people will want HDTV when they see it. We didn't give broadcasters six channels because it was an even number. We gave it to them to develop HDTV. If they want to use them for other commercial purposes, that's just fine," he adds. broadcast station can't buy a newspaper.

"If the FCC won't do their job here," Tauzin says, "Well, ah guess we're gonna have to jest step in and do it for them."

Tauzin also has plans for cable, which do not come as good news to that industry. A random survey of five cable-industry lobbyists in D.C. revealed the following: Billy Tauzin is more feared by cable than either John McCain, chairman of the Senate Commerce Committee, or Bill Kennard. "Billy's the one guy calling for rate controls," howls a TCI rep.

"Not rate controls," counters Tauzin. "Now that wouldn't be fair if we fixed rates where they were outrageously high, would it?"

"What I've told Kennard," he says, "is do it market by market. Look for where the cable companies are *gouging* the consumer. The FCC has the power to roll back rates where they are out of line."

"Kennard gets into these other issues where he's got no business," Tauzin sighs. Liquor ads on TV, airtime for politics. "Here he's got the power, and he doesn't use it. What's he afraid of?" Apart from the wrath of major political contributors whose contributees aren't all as invincible at home as Tauzin, not much. "And," Tauzin adds, "every study so far shows that the rate increases are at least four times inflation. And they are much, much higher than the new programming costs at the cable companies."

That's why Tauzin will be holding hearings in the future on cable increases and, in particular, on program bundling. "Consumers want a choice," he exclaims. "They don't want to pay more for programming they didn't ask for and don't watch. That's why we gotta look at cable. And why we gotta help DBS" on program access, local station transmittal rights and copyright costs. Look to Tauzin to try to give DBS a temporary break in the must carry provision "so it can play on a level field."

Tauzin and McCain are at odds currently on the TV ratings for violence and sex. When McCain and Ed Markey, Tauzin's Democratic nemesis on the subcommittee, pushed for content-based ratings, Tauzin held a hearing in Peoria on the subject.

"What he did was quite fabulous, brilliant," says Valenti, who is guiding the TV ratings process. "He flew the subcommittee out there, and got 150 parents to talk about what worries them on TV. We found out that people aren't interested so much in the ratings as they are troubled by certain shows on TV. They have their own internal rating system, and that came out of Billy's hearings."

Which is why, when NBC refused to adopt the complicated content-based ratings on its shows, Tauzin refused to condemn NBC outright. "I respect NBC's right to differ. I have to separate my personal feelings about what's on TV from my role as a legislator. The Peoria hearings came out exactly as I thought. The consumers spoke."

That kind of positioning has helped Tauzin raise more than 10 times as much money from Hollywood for Republicans, among whom he is the most popular, as it gave to the GOP in the 1980s. "I tell the folks in Hollywood," he says, "You can give as much as you want to the Democrats. That's what you've always done. But look at who your real friends are,' I tell them. The two most important things to Hollywood are free artistic expression and the right to earn a living. I tell them, 'It's the liberals who threaten these.'"

As for liquor ads, Tauzin laughs. "You know, if Kennard pushes that, he's gonna have Mothers Against Drunk Driving and SADD and all those groups coming up here, and they're gonna say that you shouldn't advertise beer either, and you know what? They'll be right. There's no legal way to dissociate the two [liquor and beer]. What Kennard's doing with this issue, man that's just not smart," he adds.

And smart, very smart, is the only way Tauzin likes to play. *Laissez les bon temps rouler*.



Tauzin is one of few politicians willing to battle the FCC.

The Seal is like beer:



it makes people just a little happier than they were without it.





Magazines

By Jeff Gremillion and Lisa Granatstein

Bob Guccione Jr. is set to spin advertisers on why they should get in Gear with his new men's title

Bob Guccione Jr. Joining the Manhunt

t's been almost nine months since *Spin* founder Bob Guccione Jr. sold the alternative-music title to Bob Miller for \$43 million. Guccione pocketed some \$17 million from the deal and went off to plan his next creation, a new men's magazine called *Gear*. With a prototype set to roll off presses next week and an Aug. 4 launch date on his calendar, Guccione has resurfaced to trumpet his ambitious foray into an increasingly crowded category. ◆ "I know there are a lot of books out there," Guccione says of the men's field. "There were 90 music books being published when I started *Spin* [in 1985], but who can

name more than five or six of them? There's always room for one more good one."

The small staff putting together the *Gear* prototype includes justnamed executive editor Jack Wright, previously sports editor of the *Daily Express* in London. Kevin Stewart, a



Black & white & red all over: the Gear prototype, out next week

veteran of the fashion departments at *Details* and *Vibe*, has signed on as fashion director. Guccione also roped in two top business-side operatives from *Spin*, Mark Weinhouse and Jocelyn Kester, as directors of advertising and marketing, respectively.

Gear, which will be slightly oversized (9"x11"), plans to publish three bimonthly issues before going monthly in February 1999. The initial rate base will be 200,000. Guccione says he has personally sunk "a couple hundred thousand" dollars into the project; he declines to identify other investors or discuss long-term financing.

Guccione says his book will be "eclectic," covering many of the same topics that other men's books do. But he pledges a new interpretation at every turn. In looking at pop culture, *Gear* won't hesitate "to call bull----

on bull----," the editor and publisher says. Fashion will be "functional...accessible," ranging from "American sportswear to high-end Italian formal wear." Sex stories will be "intelligent discussions of sexual dynamics, not the soft-porn stuff that Details has," says Guccione, taking a shot at the book that seems to be his most direct competitor. "We're not going to do stories about women who seduce pizzadelivery boys," he says. "That's frat-boy stuff."

Gear's mix will also include "investigative pieces and social journalism," as well as travel, crime and humor. *Politically Incorrect*'s Bill Maher is on board as a contributor, Guccione says.

Covers will feature male and female celebrities, shot by aspiring young photographers. "If you want a fresh take, you have to have fresh people," Guccione says. "Herb Ritts is boring right now." *Gear* will not include health-oriented service. "We won't do '20 Ways to Flatten Your Abs'—that stuff is pretty pedestrian," he says.

It's a bit early to gauge *Gear*'s potential appeal to advertisers, but one buyer has a soberingly practical reaction. "I'm doubtful that there's room for another book in the category," says Michael Provus of Young & Rubicam. "*Gear* sounds like it would be a good product, but it would have to be very different from what's out there now to make an impact."

That's just what Guccione is shooting for. "The book should be like a great date—visually attractive, fun, intelligent, provocative," he says. "The time you spend with it should seem to pass quickly. And when it's done, you should feel as if you can't wait for the next one.

"You know, I really feel this one," adds Guccione of his second startup. "It's so exciting to be alive and inventing again." —JG

New Edition *en Español* For CN's *Glamour*, It's Spanish Spoken Here

Glamour will launch a Spanish edition this week. The joint venture between Condé Nast and Miami-based Ideas Publishing Group joins the growing ranks of titles that have begun targeting the Latino market, both in the U.S. and abroad.

While *Glamour en Español* will have the look and feel of the Englishlanguage monthly, often publishing the same features on beauty and health, the magazine will have an emphasis on Latino culture, including celebrities and topical issues. The Spanish-language version will have a distribution of 478,000, with 65,000 in the U.S. and the rest in 19 Latin American countries.

Because some words can get lost in the translation—for example, *cojer* means "to retrieve" in most of Latin America but "to do it" in Mexico, Argentina and Uruguay—a language style editor is on board to pay special attention to the Spanish language's regional nuances. "There's a commitment to have the same editorial qualManaging editor, Time

ity that *Glamour* puts out in the general market," says Madelin Bosakewich, publisher of *Glamour en Español.*—*LG*

'Civilization' Guest Editors A Raging Bull Of a Grammarian

Civilization will begin its run of guest editors with the April/May issue, due out March 17. Nelson Aldrich Jr., editorial director of the Capital Publishing title, recruited movie director Martin Scorsese to oversee the first guest-edited issue. The director's cut of Civilization will include a profile on Moby-Dick author Herman Melville, with Scorsese friend Gregory Peck contributing a sidebar. Scorsese put together one piece himself, assembling an imaginary art collection of his favorite paintings, sculptures and manuscripts.

The director's work ethic, like his directing, "was meticulous," says Aldrich. "He corrected people's grammar."

While guest editors, which *Civilization* plans to employ for an indefinite period, will hold sway over the feature well, other sections of the title will remain constant. The April/May issue will also introduce four departments for short items, each falling under a rubric of the four "signs of civilization"— designs, finds, minds and shrines.

Future guest editors are expected to include Julia Child, Saul Bellow, Paloma Picasso and Vaclav Havel. "Most celebrities are people of achievement," Aldrich says. "And we want to have such people, not only because they entertain us, but because they are really representative of the cultures they are achieving in."

Civilization's experiment with guest editors follows similar moves by Hearst's *Marie Claire*, which turned over its January issue to Gwenyth Paltrow, and *The New Yorker*, which had Roseanne take a turn in early 1996. —*LG*

60 SECONDS WITH...



Q. Time's 75th anniversary celebration on March 3 in New York will attract a host of past cover subjects, including President Clinton. What makes a Time cover so special? **A**. If

Walter Isaacson

you've made the cover of Time, you've made it-for better or for worse, sometimes. And people who have been on the cover like to come back and celebrate. Q. Which Man of the Year would you most want to meet? A. John Paul II. I think he has an incredible moral force and philosophical force. He's been involved in the greatest movements in the century, including the fall of communism. Q. Is "Interngate" starting to look like Watergate? A. The Monica story is a modern scandal, unlike anything we've had in the past. There are probably parallels to Watergate, but there are more dissimilarities than similarities. Q. What's up with Time's heavy tech coverage? A. The digital revolution is to our generation as transforming as the civil rights movement or Vietnam was to previous generations. It's a big story of our time, and I want to be all over it. Q. Were the Olympics everything you thought they'd be and more? A. It's a shame they got overshadowed by Lewinsky and Iraq, and the fact they didn't get off to a very interesting start, [including the] snow delays with skiing. Q. If you were an Olympic athlete, what would be your sport? A. That's kind of a Barbara Walters question that doesn't quite apply to me. Also, I'm from Louisiana, so winter sports are not particularly my strength.

'Death: A User's Manual' Benetton's *Colors* Dances With Mr. D.

Colors magazine takes shock value to the heavens with its latest theme issue, Death: A User's Manual. "Death is the last pornographic issue left," says Oliviero Toscani, president and editorial director of the irreverent bimonthly. "Nobody talks about it. It's like sex used to be."

Launched in 1991 as a biannual by Italy-based clothier Benetton, the title is now available in seven editions and eight languages, including German, French, Croatian and Korean. The international book varies its quirky subject matter—featured subjects have included war, religion, animals and hair—employing often graphic pictures and bare-bones text.

The latest issue provides fashion tips ("what the best-dressed corpses are wearing"), insight into suicide ("Just Do It!") and other risks in life that may put you at death's door.

Not surprisingly, the issue found few takers on the advertising front (Diesel jeans among them). "We don't want to please everybody," says Toscani. "We don't want to make money! We are rich! We make a magazine we like."

Recent *Colors* advertisers have included Fiat, Renault and Moschino. The title has worldwide distribution of 350,000; some copies are given out at Ben-

etton stores.

The magazine plans to expand to 10 issues next year and hopes to launch editions in Russian, and Chinese.

Colors' April/May issue will chew on Fat. -LG

Must-Reads

A compendium of noteworthy articles from recent issues:

Forget the Oscar noms... here's a real movie-buff bonanza: *EW* weighs in with an inside guide to 120 upcoming films in the spring preview double issue. *Entertainment Weekly*, Feb. 20/27

"Carbon Copy," Richard Kadrey's not-so-futuristic what-if story on the first human clone, *Wired*, March

"The Many Lives of David Geffen." John Seabrook heads to the hills for a finely crafted profile of the Hollywood rajah. *The New Yorker*, Feb. 23/March 2



A good time for the great taste: *Colors* includes a look at some odd burial customs.

MEDIA DISH SPECIAL

The American Association of Advertising Agencies annual Media Conference, held Feb. 11-13 at the Disneyland Hotel in Anaheim, Calif., was the largest 4A's media confab yet. More than 700 agency media executives, media celebs (such as John F. Kennedy Jr.), vendors and suppliers signed up for the conference, which also featured a trade show at which 70 companies exhibited products and services.





(L. to r.) Lee Doyle, executive vp, co-media director, Ammirati Puris Lintas; Jack Triolo, vp/associate director media planning, APL; lngrid Sletten Wade, vp/associate director media planning, APL; Don Goldsmith, vp/ associate research director, DMB&B; and Mary Hanley, senior vp, group director of media, APL Chicago



▲ (L. to r.) Dan Cohen, senior vp of advertising, *The New York Times*, O. Burtch Drake, president and CEO, AAAA; and Jyll Holzman, vp advertising sales, the *Times*

▶ (L. to r.) Jerry McCarthy, director of nat'l advertising, *The Chicago Tribune*, Ralph Rydholm, CEO, EURO RSCG Tatham; and Don Melanson, *The New York Times*





▲ Jayne Spittler (I.), senior vp, director of media research, Leo Burnett Co.; and Ellen Weinstein, DARE



◀ (L. to r.) Allen Banks, executive vp, Saatchi & Saatchi, North America; Ann Banks; Mike Donahue, executive vp, AAAA; and Ave Butensky, president, Television Bureau of Advertising

▲ Steve Howe (I.), advertising sales director, *The Wall Street Journal*; and Paul Woolmington, president and chief media officer, Young & Rubicam Int'I.

AND THE WINNERS ARE...

The Participants of The Media Directors' Golf Outing

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GOLF M A G A Z I N E





THE WINNING FOURSOME (I. to r.) Jim Kahn (Publisher, GOLF MAGAZINE), Ralph Rydholm (CEO Euro RSCG Tatham, Chairman 4As), Kevin McCormack (Editor, Adweek Magazine), and Joe Tirinato (SVP, Strategic Planning, TVB).

GOLF MAGAZINE[®] is a Times Mirror Magazines Publication

Oak Creek Golf Club, Anaheim, California, February 10, 1998

MEDIA DISH SPECIAL



▲ (L. to r.) Steve Greenberger, senior vp, director of print media, Grey Advertising; Sandy Spaeth, senior corporate vp/marketing, Parade Publications; Steve Blacker, vp/market research, Condé Nast; Christine Miller, evp, Magazine Publishers of America; and Jerry Kaplan, vp, director of magazine group sales, Meredith Corp. (L. to r.) Mickey; O. Burtch Drake, CEO, AAAA; Ralph Rydholm, CEO, EURO RSCG Tatham and chairman, AAAA board; and Minnie







▲ (L. to r.) John Babcock, president and CEO, BPI Communications; Ann Kopper; and Jim Kopper, executive director, Golf Magazine Properties

▲ Jim Lytle, senior vp, sales, Newspapers First; and Jack Klues, executive vp, worldwide director of media, Leo Burnett Co.





◀ (L. to r.) Bernie Flanagan, The Wall Street Journal; Steve Howe, ad sales director, WSJ; and John Kamp, senior vp, AAAA, Washington

▲ (L. to r.) Ralph Rydholm, CEO EURO RSCG Tatham; O. Burtch Drake, AAAA; and John F. Kennedy Jr., editor-in-chief, *George*



@deadline

Eagle Up For Grabs

Officials at new media shops affiliated with **Omnicom's** Communicade unit said that last week's gathering of the six

agencies in Miami made clear a

breach between Boston-based

Communicade shop **interactive** Solutions and Eagle River

latest new media purchase.

Following the acquisition, the

two shops were expected to be

merged. Interactive Solutions

president Chris Butler said he

was unaware of any such plan.

Communicade executives could

A Paid-for Starring Role

not be reached for comment.

In an upcoming episode of

NBC.com's online version of

a cameo role will be played

Homicide: Life on the Street,

by one of the show's advertis-

ers. Pontiac will promote its

through a sponsorship that

includes banners and a con-

placement: a Grand Am will

test. It looks like product

be rented by one of the

show's characters.

1998 Grand Am model

Homicide Second Shift,

Interactive, Omnicom's

Last week, L.A. mayor Richard Riordan announced with much far fare that the new media community of his city will henceforth be called "Digital Coast." (Apparently, L.A.'s old Silicon Valley derivative, Siliwood, was deemed unsuitable.) This new PR push is probably a good idea; it seems that the Web's reputation in Tinseltown is so sullied that some TV network executives actually banned URLs on advertising during -Kevin Pearce children's programs. Bernhard Warner has the full story below.

Once Banned, Web Is Still Suspect on Kid's TV

By Bernhard Warner

ast Fall, when Hasbro agency Griffin Bacal, N.Y., planned to include a Web site address in a TV spot for Tonka Search & Rescue, they ran into a slight problem.

ABC, CBS and Fox simply forbade it.

Fearing that they would guide unsuspecting children into the hands of the unknown, the networks balked at running URLs, or Web addresses, even as clients and agencies were making the Web an integral part of marketing strategies.

Since then, television networks have relaxed dramati-

cally their stance on the inclusion of Web sites in TV spots. But the practice of policing advertisers' use of the Web to market to children continues on many levels, suggesting that perceptions of the Internet as a vast, unpredictable-

In December, Fox Kids Net repealed a policy that categorically barred advertisers from inserting URLs in the body of any commercial slotted during children's programming blocks. The policy was adopted to protect children's privacy, said Ruth Levenson, director of commercial clearance and public service at Fox. Once the network was satisfied that advertisers, with the help of watchdog groups such as the Children's Advertising Review Unit, were doing a satisfactory job of making their sites more secure for kids, Fox softened its position. "Now we're just going with the times," said Levensor.

Time Warner has no stated policy on the

"We've allowed it in the

that link to unsavory content

or improperly worded market-

placement of URLs in TV spots broadcast on Kids WE. but the www's are accepted "on a trial basis," said Rick Mater, vp of broadcasting standards at the WB Network, Burbank, Calif. past, but we're keeping our www.tigertoys.com eye on it," Mater said. URLs

ing messages—such as sweepstakes—are some of the issues that WB would flag.

ABC, NBC and CBS have made URLs one of the content checkpoints that is reviewed before a spot can be aired. Several agencies cited CBS and Fox as the networks with the most stringent policies as of last fall.

Despite the Web's increasing acceptance as a mainstream medium, the extra layer of scrutiny is nothing new for ad execs with youthdirected clients. "When we get into pure kid time, if we have a major buy on a station we comply," said Stephen Kolker, president of Posnick and Kolker, the New York agency for Tiger Electronics, makers of Giga Pets.

News Features Reviews People Events Search MODEM & POPPE TANGO p. 28 | WHAT TO DO WITH WEBCRAWLER p. 30 |



Tiger Electronics was among the advertisers that met with resistance over promoting its site.

MORE NEW MEDIA FOR MOORE p. 30 THE BACK-TO-BASICS OF WEB DESIGN p. 31

even dangerous-medium still linger.

Slate's Sub Plan Finally, after much specula-

tion and an earlier attempt to do so, Slate, Microsoft's online political zine, will become a subscription-fee service, at \$19.95 per year. Initial plans called for Slate to launch as a paid weekly from its first issue in June 1996, and as recently as last January, Microsoft viewed the online paid model as not viable. Some of the site's content will remain free.

Yahoo, Santa Clara, Calif., will unveil today its long awaited Yahoo platinum Visa Card. Issued by First USA, Wilmington, Del., the card offers a fixed APR of 9.9% and is touted as the first card with a risk-free online shopping guarantee. The card will be promoted throughout Yahoo beginning this week. Separately, the company launched Yahoo Finance Tax Center in time for filing season.

Late last month, Procter & Gamble, Cincinnati, quietly launched a new Web site for Dryel, the packaged goods maker's new at-home fabric care product for dry-clean-only clothes. The site, developed by new media agency iMC2. Dallas, offers product information.

With hopes of luring international advertisers, LinkExchange, the San Francisco-based ad network, is today launching a new service that targets sites and audiences by language. LinkExchange's 200,000-plus Web sites are packaged to advertisers by category.

Total College Network, a Raleigh, N.C.-based online sports network, said it would launch a whopping 42 new sites today. Each of the sites would focus on sports at major colleges. The sites' features will include schedules, news and real-time cybercasts.

Macromedia, San Francisco, has formed a new entertainment site called ShockRave to promote Shockwave, its animation technology. United Media, Comedy Central, Columbia TriStar and SegaSoft Networks have provided games, puzzles and cartoons created with Shockwave.

Poppe Tyson, New York, has relaunched a Web site for LendingTree, Charlotte, N.C., a free online consumer lending service that links applicants with financial institutions. The agency will handle ongoing maintenance of the site. Poppe beat out two other new media agencies for the assignment.

)24/7 Media has named Grybauskas Beatrice, both New York, to create a print campaign targeting sites and advertisers. The online ad sales firm's online campaign will be handled by Grybauskas' new media arm, Blue Dingo Digital.

SaveSmart, Mountain View, Calif.-based online promotions company, secured \$14 million in funding, it announced last week. Major investors include: Cendant Corp., Stamford, Conn., DataCard Corp., Minnetonka, Minn., Draper International, San Francisco, Intel, Santa Clara, Calif., Microsoft, Redmond, Wash., and Softbank Technology Ventures, San Jose, Calif.

New Search Engine Allows Sites to Pay Their Way to Top

BY LAURA RICH-Idealab, an incubator of such new media startups as eToys and CitySearch, is turning the search engine paradigm on its head with the launch of a new site. GoTo.com, unveiled at the TED

Conference in Monterey, Calif., over the weekend, makes all of its result positions available for purchase by Web sites.

Through an auction setup, sites may bid on the cost per click-through they will pay for a keyword, the term typed into a search form by users. The prices ultimately paid will be listed next to each Idealab's new site will bring a yellow pages

will be ranked according to who paid the most for that particular keyword.

"My contention is that search results get better" when the listings are paid for, said Bill Gross, chairman of Idealab, Pasadena, Calif. Comparing the scheme to the vellow pages, Gross makes the assumption that advertisers who can afford to pay for such spots and ads are more relevant to the consumer's quest.

"How much money you pay is a better indication of the site," said Gross. Traditional searches rank sites by a variety of relevancy indicators, usually after a soft-



search, and each listing philosophy to search engine results.

ware "spider" has analyzed their content.

GoTo will also rank paid and unpaid sites according to user and editor input. Jeffrey Brewer, who helped co-found CitySearch, will be the company's chief

executive officer.

The new search engine was tested with 1 million users in January: 80 of the top 100 online advertisers approached for the beta test agreed to participate.

Now in its official launch, advertisers will be able to sign up for keywords at the site and submit their bidding price there. Gross expects that

the cost-per-click rates will be lower at first, under 10 cents per click, until more advertisers are involved and the market becomes more competitive.

Run of site and keyword banners will be sold along the lines of existing search engines. GoTo will be branded to users through a radio and billboard campaign, as well as through online media, all beginning in March. A search for an ad agency is in its final stages, with all shops based in Southern California, said Gross, who added that the campaign will center around the concept, "Don't Search, GoTo."

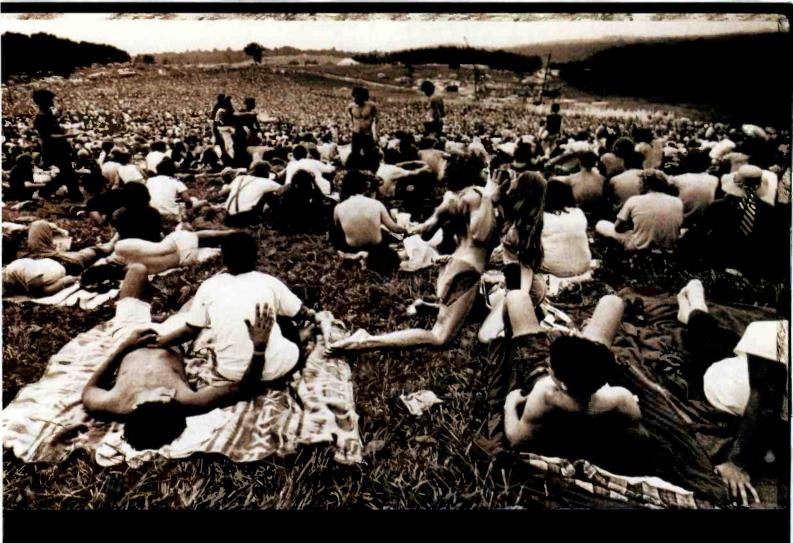
Poppe, Modem Deny Consolidation Rumors

BY LAURA RICH-Since agency conglomer-BJK&E ates and True North Communications finally agreed to a merger last month, many in the new media industry have been speculating about the future of the two powerful new media brands brought to the table: BJK&E's Poppe Tyson and True North's Modem Media, a unit of new media holding company TN Technologies.

Top officials at the two shops said they will be ready to reveal a full-scale plan by April. Both sides stated that, despite rumors to the contrary, a merger between the networks would not take place.

"This isn't a consolidation," insisted Kevin Clark, chief executive officer of Poppe Tyson, the acquired shop in the transaction. Instead, "there's an appealing synergy there," said Bob Allen, president of Modem Media, pointing out the lack of conflicting clients in each shop's roster. As well, Poppe brings a strong international network. Modem's greater contribution is its online media buying and planning capability. The company also boasts AT&T as a client, which accounts for more than twothirds of revenues, according to filings with the Securities & Exchange Commission.

Sources said the company has plans to make another run at the stock market this year—an attempt last year fell short—but Allen denied this, saying the timing would be unrealistic. He called the new relations between Modem and Poppe "getting to know each other again," in reference to an earlier attempt between the two shops to form a merger independent of Poppe's parent company (Modem had not vet been merged with TN Technologies). Said Allen, "It's been 18 months since we've had these discussions; a lot has changed."



ON FEBRUARY 3 WE BROUGHT TOGETHER ISMILLION PEOPLE WITH A LOT IN COMMON. HISTORY SUGGESTS THAT THE POPULATION WILL EXPLODE.

Lycos, the personal Internet guide, has just acquired Tripod, one of the fastest-growing Web communities. The resulting new-generation online service has an audience of 18 million—and growing—and will be the fifth most-visited site on the Internet.

Tripod provides personal homepage publishing tools and topic-specific content communities, or "pods," to a mostly 18-to-34-year old audience. Lycos offers navigational tools that enrich the online experiences of millions of users. Together, they're one great media buy with a diverse, loyal audience generating new members right before your eyes.

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February 23, 1998 MEDIAWEEK

Plans for **WebCrawler**

Ever since Excite acquired WebCrawler in December of 1996, skeptics have wondered: What will they do with a separate brand in precisely the same market segment?

Now, at a time when most search engines are trying to be more-with communities, content tie-ins and chats-Excite has explained: it wants WebCrawler to be less.

WebCrawler will be repositioned as a faster, streamlined service, with different Internet-based tools. The site will be reduced graphically for the fastest pageloading time possible, and will include a daily tool box with baby-name finders, calculators, free email services and the like. Daily changing subjects will include health and fitness, work, personal finance and travel.

"Excite is more of a free online service," said Joe Kraus, senior vice president and co-founder of Excite. "WebCrawler is focused to be the shortest distance between the consumer and what they want on the Web.'

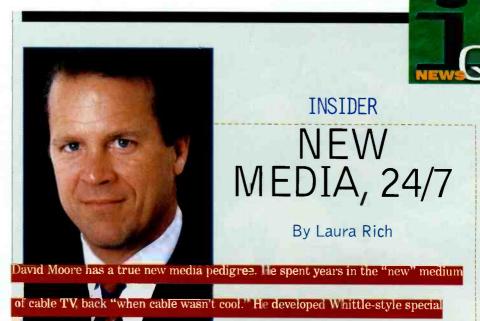
Both Excite sites rank among Media Metrix's top ten largest sites for last year, according to measurements of unduplicated audience reach at home and at work. WebCrawler has an advantage, Kraus said, because of its early position in the market.

"The WebCrawler acquisition has been confusing to me because I didn't see the immediate synergy," said Jesse Berst, editorial director of AnchorDesk.com. "Now finally I see some changes. There's still some room for a pure search site."

Excite will have to put considerable muscle into making its brand a leader as an online service against similarly positioned Lycos and Yahoo, as well as AOL. WebCrawler will be pitted against Alta Vista and Microsoft/Inktomi, "It's hard enough to have one big brand, much less two," Berst said.—Anya Sacharow

movers

Wink Communications, Alameda, Calif., has named Paritosh Choksi chief financial officer. He had been cfo and director at Phoenix American, San Francisco... Click Interactive, a Chicago-based electronic commerce firm, named John Garber, formerly of Motorola, Chicago, president. . . Josh Rose has been named associate creative director at BoxTop, Los Angeles. Rose had been creative director at Digital Evolution, Brentwood, Calif. . . At Muze, New York: Anthony Patterson was named ceo and Anthony Laudico was named senior vp of marketing and business development. Patterson had been general manager of Trade Service Corp.'s Entertainment Group; Laudico was a consultant.



interest TV before Whittle. He was a television rep in the early years, "when there Moore has always brought this sort

were 30 reps," he recalls. "Now there are three."

Moore, 45, still has an appetite for the unproven turf. As chief executive officer of 24/7 Media-the product of the merger of Petry Interactive (of which Moore was CEO), Interactive Imaginations and the staff behind Katz Millennium Marketing-he now over-

sees one of the largest ad sales organizations in new media.

24/7, which claims some 200 mid- to large-sized sites and 30 sales reps, is now ready to take on DoubleClick Network. considered the mar- 24/7's network includes s tes from Petry

ket leader with 80 Interactive, Interactive Imaginations and Katz.

sales reps, 60-odd sites and strong brand awareness among media buyers.

-

The difference between the two firms, says Moore, "is, we view ourselves as a media company; DoubleClick views itself as a technology company." Moore says that 24/7 was almost named CLOOP, for closed-loop marketing. He expects to distinguish 24/7 with a direct marketing slant, using better demographics for more acute targeting online. "That will be the holy grail," he says. And then, he predicts, the Internet will take "accountability" in advertising to a whole new level.

stint at the now defunct TV rep firm PGW, Moore made his leap into cable, joining Turner Broadcasting in 1979. Moore was later recruited to lead the sales force at Viacom-owned Cable Health Network, which ultimately merged with Lifetime

of bottom-line orientation to his new

media endeavors. Following a brief

Network. Responsible for combining the networks' sales teams. he remembers the experience as drawn out, less than graceful-and a drag on sales performance.

But that was 1984; this time around.

things will be different. Moore plans to divvy up New York between two sales teams-a strategy common in traditional media, but not so in the leaner new media. Thus, in addition to challenging DoubleClick, salespeople will have each other to compete against.

Ultimately, Moore expects a convergence of media, where he'll be able to identify users whether they're using the Internet, reading a magazine, or watching TV.

"I'll someday be involved in some octopus of media," he says. "The ad sell of the future will not be media-centric. It will be audience-centric."





Grounding Cyberspace

Web creative types concentrate on the nuts and bolts. By Laura Rich

n a lab in Salt Lake City, a computer learns by scanning Internet users' eyes as they watch a flickering screen. Their eyes are tracked by a hidden camera; a laser beam is centered on their pupils.

D

Web design.

DSW Partners, which

boasts Intel as a leading client,

creating Web sites for clients.

It may sound like an episode of "The X-Files," but this setup is simply one ad agency's approach to of Web work will focus on delivering desired objects within users' "fixation points," and eye tracking, he hopes, will deliver up directions to getting the desired click-throughs.

And, "even if they click on the right thing, was it hard for them to get there?" asks Hendricks of users' online habits. These and other questions will be put to the eyeball test.

Though DSW's move toward design automation is a high-tech example, there can be little

doubt that Web design is trending toward a more nuts-and-bolts approach. Across the country, new media firms surveyed by *IQ* are paying more attention to the user's experience and developing techniques to market more efficiently online.

Take the case of DSW client InFocus, a screen projector manufacturer. The agency had created a Web site based on its art directors' plans. Testing the site with the eye-tracking technology, however, the agency discovered that the all-important descriptor line for InFocus, "data/video projectors," which was situated under the InFocus logo in the bottom left corner of the screen, often went unseen by users. This finding, and others, led the shop to redesign the page to make sure users were drawn to the most important elements of the site.

"We're marketers; we want to guide their experience," says Hendricks.

"On some levels, there has been a kind of coming to their senses" on the part of Web creative types, notes Roger Black, legendary magazine designer and chief executive officer of Interactive Bureau, which has created sites for MSNBC and @home Network.

No longer, predicts Black, will there be an abundance of high-end sites targeted at mainstream consumers. The early days of Web design saw a bandwidth-hogging transference of high-end, CD-ROM-style multimedia to the Internet. These days,

Designers are focusing

on the user

experience—starting

with the eyeballs.

Ron Hendricks, director of production, interactive, at DSW, suggests that the more analytical approach is a sign of the times. He even goes so far as to predict that Web design "is going to change as a result of eye tracking." The new era

intends to follow the blueprint of users' clinically

proven navigation habits to lay out a page when



thanks to increased involvement on the part of more sophisticated marketers and established creative execs, online efforts are falling along more acceptable lines of consumption.

"There was an overconfidence in multimedia and a feeling that the Web would take the place of CD-ROM," recalls Black. "Now, we're seeing sites that are really simple."

Simple in their messages, simple in style and simple in size seems to be the word from Black and others leading the field.

Rich Giuliani, chief creative officer at Chicago-based Quantum Leap, which claims American Airlines and Microsoft as clients, notes that as marketers have become more aware of how their new media dollars are being spent, they have called for higher

standards from their agencies.

"We'll still play with bells and whistles," affirms Giuliani, but he doesn't expect to see too much more exploitation of whizbang tools like Sun Microsystems' Java—often used for nonessential flash by Web designers blanketing the Web.

"Nineteen ninety-eight will be about increasing sophistication rather than dramatic invention," he proclaims. This year, he predicts, will be about "standardization, refinement." Look for con-

tinued use of the increasingly common left-hand menu bar and don't wait around for a

Java replacement, he suggests. For his part, Black is looking for-

ward to a standardization on the part of technology developers such as Microsoft and Netscape, whose browser incompatibilities have been an ongoing headache. Designers have been torn between the new level of precision offered by the 4.0-level browsers—which allow for "style sheets" that control fonts, formats and such—and a nightmare of conflicts between the latest Internet Explorer, Netscape Navigator and older browsers as well. Black expects the code to grow more consistent, allowing designers to use one set of code, instead of two or more. "Now, you do both!" he complains.

Of course, designers will never defeat the device-independent nature of the Web itself, which allows users to change preferences, to choose hardware and generally wreak havoc with the placement of objects on the page. Hence the "optimized for" tag is likely to be affixed to Web pages for some time to come.

Like Black, Gino Lee, president of Studio Verso, a Web design firm based in San Francisco, sees the design industry moving toward greater simplicity in the delivery of messages to users, but implementing them will continue to be more complicated.

"We'll still play with bells and whistles," says Giuliani. But he doesn't expect to see too much exploitation of whiz-bang tools. "It's going to get harder," he says. The introduction of new forms of Internet access calls for additional tinkering of pages. "Different browser vendors are not getting it and it's making designers' lives miserable."

Also this year, marketers will pull their new media messages into line, Giuliani says. As an example, he points to the inconsistencies between Miller Brewing's TV and print campaigns and its online renditions. While Miller Lite's latest

slew of TV ads have centered on adman "Dick," a more upscale, sardonic sell, the brewer has maintained its younger-skewing MGD Tap Room online. "You won't see that so much more with major brands," Giuliani says.

Marketers' growing savviness about the medium and their willingness to give new media its own line in the budget are no doubt fueling such a trend. In turn, the rise of measures of accountability in design, like eye tracking and detailed demographic information, help, too.

So is "creative" getting less, um, creative?

Roger Black says no, but being aware of such depressing details as download time is imperative. "It's everything we can do to remember to drag ourselves over to a slow machine," he says. "[But] on the Web, you're getting people to do stuff. It's called *'interactivity.*"

Noted magazine designer Roger Black promotes simplicity at his site; DSW Partners' work for InFocus got a post-

mortem from a computer.



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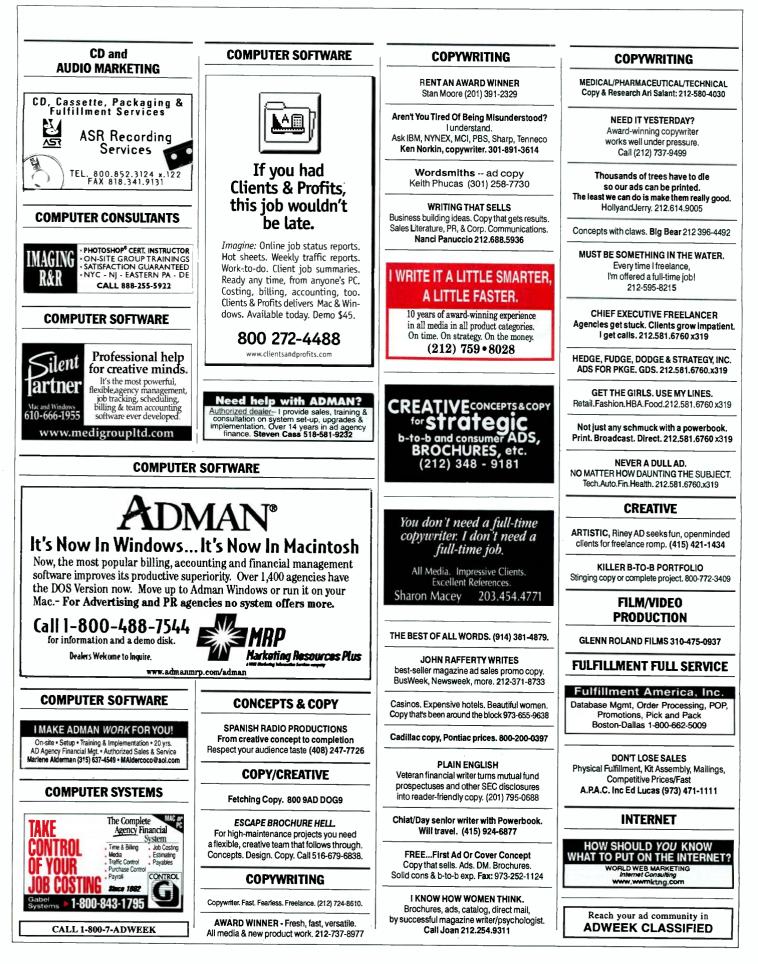
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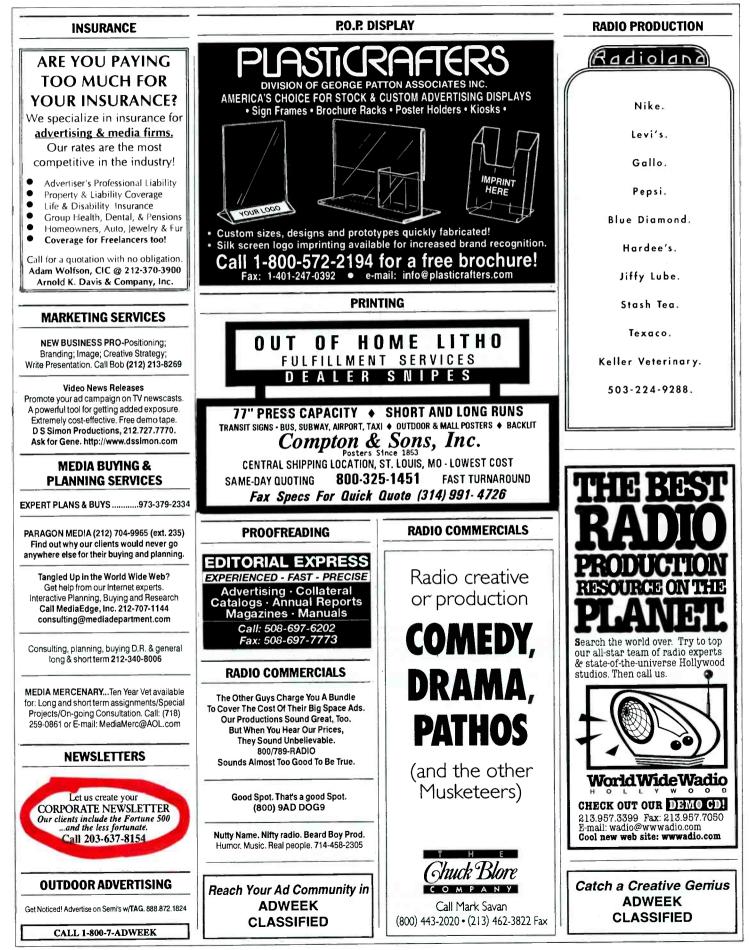
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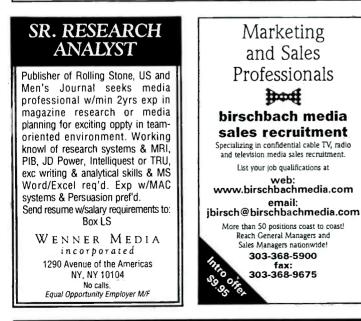
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CULTURE TRENDS

MTV's Buzz Clip

Buzz Clips are usually by new, up-andcoming artists who MTV believes have special potential. Of the 40 videos that MTV designated as Buzz Clips since January 1994, more than 75% have been certified gold or platinum.

Week of 2/16/98

Artist/Group: Natalie Umbruglia Song/Video: "Torn" Director: Alison Maclean

A former Australian soap opera actress, Natalie could have quite easily have followed the well-trodden ex-Soap Star route. However, spend five minutes with her and you'll realize that this wasn't the path for Ms. Umbruglia. she's simply not malleable enough to ever have been just another starlet. spend ten minutes with her and it really isn't such a surprise that she's made such a delicious album.

Artist/Group: Bob Dylan Song/Video:"Not Dark Yet" Director: Michel Borofsky

The first clip off the Grammy-nominated, *Time Out Of Mind* - his first album of original material in 7 years. With major publications, such as *Time* and *Newsweek* dedicating full articles to the artist, it' no secret that Dylan is back with his best work in years. Time Out Of Mind is Dylan's 41st album. The songs were produced by Daniel Lanois and Bob Dylan.

Artist/Group: Finlay Quaye Song/Video: "Sunday Shining" Director: James Brown

Rock, soul and reggae from someone who is cool, sexy and I all figured out without even trying is a rare thing. Finley Quaye has all of these qualities - in fact he has just about everything you can think of, including a brain and he's going to be a star. His debut album Maverick A Strike, featuring this interpretation of Bob Marley's Sun Is Shining" has already gone platinum and it's holding strong

© 1998 MTV

The Hollywood Reporter's Box Office

For 3-Day Weekend ending February 16, 1998

This Week	Last Week	Days in Rel.	Picture	3-Day Weekend Gross	Tota Gross Sal
1	1	52	Titanic	32,876,424	376,270,72
2	New	3	The Wedding Singer	21,917,127	
3	3	66	Sphere	16,586,765	
4	New	3	Good Will Hunting	9,254,361	79,671,173
5	2	10	As Good As It Gets		
6	5	48	The Borrowers	6,075,079	101,614,49
7	4	17	The Replacement Killers		
8	7	46	Great Expectations 3,662,441		14,743,90 22,090,90
9	6	10	Blues Brothers 2000	•	
10	8	38	L.A. Confidential 3,280,173		10,767,82
11	9	38	The Apostle		
12	10	47	Wag the Dog		
13	12	10	Spice World		
14	13	32	Desperate Measures	1,378,515	12,405,68
15	19	45	Deep Rising		
16	14	32	Flubber 1,003,719		89,379,86
17	11	45	Amistad 958,728		42,005,75
18	27	45	The Full Monty	849,749	39,840,64
19	16	26	Tomorrow Never Dies 720,1		120,698,203
20	17	166	Mouse Hunt 665,610		58,690,284
21	53	45	The Wings of the Dove 548,226		10,587,44
22	18	129	Hard Rain		
23	21	73	For Richer or Poorer	400,985	30,766,86
24	26	61	Fallen	340,821	23,993,419
25	24	17	Zero Effect	330,445	1,513,30
26	22	32	Half Baked	329,640	16,695,26
27	23	101	I Know What You Did Last Summer	323,909	70,874,53
28	38	32	Star Kid	307,507	6,011,963
29	30	73	Afterglow	244,283	954,58
30	28	3	Kundun	239,628	4,793,588
31		66	Hurricane Streets	231,500	231,50
32	42	80	Boogie Nights	216,577	25,073,58
33	47	61	Eve's Bayou	201,085	14,421,46
34	31	26	Live Flesh	197,913	575,033
35	15	3	Deconstructing Harry	186,860	10,268,158

CULTURE TRENDS

MTV Around the World

Week of 2/16/98

MTV Europe

Artist	Title
1. Robbie Williams	Angels
2. Aqua	Doctor Jones
3. Natalie Umbruglia	Torn
4. Janet Jackson	Together Again
5. Run DMC vs	Its Like That
Jason Nevins	

MTV Latin America (North Feed)

Artist	Title
1. Chumbawamba	Tubthumping
2. La Gusana Ciega	Ceofan
3. Mana	Hecnicera
4. Oasis	Don't Go Away
5. Rolling Stones	Saint of Me

MTV Brasil

Artist	Title
1. Bon Jovi	Queen of New
	Orleans
2. Claudinho &	Quero Te
Buchecha	Encontrar
3. LuLu Santos	Hypercon -
	ectivadade
4. Oasis	Don't Cry Away
5. Hanson	I Will Come To
	You

MTV Japan

Artist	Title
1. Babyface	Change the
	World
2. Mariah Carey	Breakdown
3. Sting/The Police	Roxanne '97
4. Oasis	All Around the
	World
5. Backstreet Boys	All Have to Give

Billboard's Top 15 Singles

Compiled from a national sample of retail, store and rack sales reports, for the week ending Feb 21, 1998 provided by *Sound Scan*.

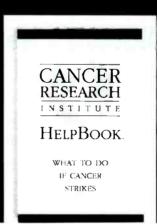
This Week	Last Week	Peak Pos.	Wks on Chart	Title	Artist
1	1	1	5	Nice & Slow	Usher
2	2	1	10	Together Again	Janet
3	4	1	12	Truly, Madly, Deeply	Savage Garden
4	3	2	36	How Do I Live	Leann Rimes
5	5	2	12	Been Around the World	Puff Daddy & the Family
6	6	6	16	I Don't Ever Want To See You Again	Uncle Sam
7	7	7	11	A Song For Mama	Boys ll Men
8	8	8	13	No, No, No	Destiny's Child
9	22	9	2	Too Much	Spice Girls
10	16	10	4	What You Want	Mase featuring Total
11	9	9	12	How's It Going to Be	Third Eye Blind
12	12	2	27	You Make Me Wanna	Usher
13	10	9	7	Dangerous	Busta Rhymes
14	13	11	17	I Don't Want to Wait	Paula Cole
15	18	15	16	Kiss the Rain	Billie Myers

Billboard's Heatseekers Albums

Best selling titles for the week ending Feb 21, 1998 by new artists who have not appeared on the top of Billboard's album charts.

Queen Pen Billie Myers Barenaked Ladie Next	My Melody Growing Pains es Rock Spectacle
Barenaked Ladie	8
	es Rock Spectacle
Next	
	Rated Next
Dixie Chicks	Wide Open Spaces
Allure	Allure
Alana Davis	Blame It On Me
Alejandro Ferna	ndez Me Estoy Enomarado
Cornershop	When I Was Born
Los Temerarios	Como te Recuerdo
Goldie	Saturnzreturn
Daft Punk	Homework
Something For th	he People This Time Its Personal
5.7.63	Preemptive Strike
DJ Shadow	ness Time For Healing
	DJ Shadow Sounds of Blackr

WORDS TO LIVE BY.



Few things can change a person's life as profoundly as hearing the words "you have cancer." Dealing with cancer, or helping a loved one through it, presents serious challenges. But having the right information can help improve the odds. So the Cancer Research Institute provides a HelpBook that offers explanations of terms and answers to important questions patients ask. It also contains a resource directory containing information that just might help you or someone you know live a longer, fuller life. Write to the **Cancer Research Institute HelpBook**, F.D.R. Station, Box 5199, New York, NY 10150-5199. Include \$2 for postage and handling.



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'98 Editions Available Now

Are you using up-to-date data? The new 1998 editions of Adweek's Agency Directory (publishes August), Major Media Directory (publishes October) and Client/Brand Directory (publishes November) are coming off the press. Containing over 20,000 Advertising, Marketing and Media Companies and more than 90,000 personnel.

If you've been using that "other reference," you'll be pleasantly surprised by how much more userfriendly we are. Listings are arranged so you can find all the data you need the first time. You can search by brand, by agency, by company name. And there are indexes to help you search by geographical location, by category, by type of business or type of media. Backed by the resources of **ADWEEK, BRANDWEEK** and **MEDIAWEEK**.

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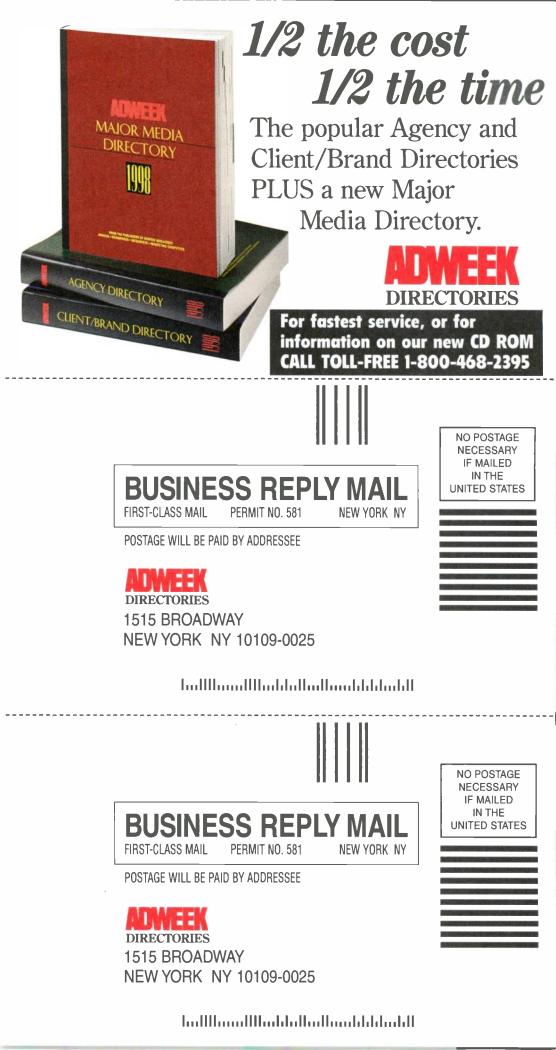
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PAGE 33

CALENDAR

Time magazine will celebrate its **75th** aniversary at a gala evening March 3 at New York's Radio City Music Hall featuring tributes to influential newsmakers, apperances by prominent *Time* cover subjects, and dancing on the Music Hall stage. Contact: 212-522-0833.

Entry deadline for the annual OBIE awards, recognizing creative excellence in outdoor and home advertising, is March 16. Work must have run during calendar-year 1997. Contact the Outdoor Advertising Association of America at 212-688-3667.

International investment bank Schroders and Variety present their annual conference on the media and entertainment industry, "The Business of Entertainment: The Big Picture," March 31 at the Pierre Hotel in New York. Contact: 212-492-6082.

The American Advertising Federation presents the Advertising Hall of Fame Luncheon March 31 at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York. Contact: 212-898-0089.

Forbes and the American Stock Exchange will present Forbes Presidents Forum for Emerging and Middle-Market Companies April 5-7 at the Plaza Hotel in New York. Speakers include Tom Scott, co-founder and president, Nantucket Nectars. Contact: 212-620-2398.

The Internet & Electronic Commerce Conference & Exposition (iEC) will be held April 27-29 at the Jacob Javits Convention Center in New York. Contact: 203-256-4700.

Media Notes

NEWS OF THE MARKET

Edited by Anne Torpey-Kemph

Ziff-Davis Files for IPO

Ziff-Davis has filed a registration statement with the Securities and Exchange Commission for an inital public offering of roughly \$460 million of common stock. The media and marketing company applied to be listed on the New York Stock Exchange and will include ZD publishing (PC Magazine, PC Week and Computer Shopper) and ZD Net Web site operations, the ZD Comdex and Forums Inc. trade show and conference business. ZD is a wholly owned subsidiary of Softbank Corp., a Japanese firm traded publicly on the Tokyo Stock Exchange First Section.

Urich to Captain UPN's *Boat*

Robert Urich has been chosen for the role of the captain in the Love Boat revival series set to premiere on Monday, April 13 at 8 p.m. on UPN. Urich, who has just gotten through an 18-month bout with cancer, had planned to host a syndicated daytime talk show, but those plans were dropped because of the crowded market. In Love Boat: The Next Wave, Urich is reunited with producer Aaron Spelling. Urich starred in the Spelling-produced series Vegas, and more recently in The Lazarus Man and Spencer: for Hire. Production on the sixepisode Love Boat order began Feb. 23. To make room for the new series, UPN will move Malcolm & Eddie, which now airs Mondays at 8:30 p.m., to Tuesdays at 9 p.m. In the House, which normally airs Mondays at 8 p.m., will go on hiatus until later in the spring. In related UPN news, the network has renewed Malcolm & Eddie, as well as Moesha, for the 1998-99 fall schedule. Moesha, starring Brandy Norwood, currently

anchors UPN's Tuesday lineup at 8 p.m. and has earned a 3.3 rating/5 share season-to-date. It will be entering its fourth season. *Malcolm & Eddie*, starring Malcolm-Jamal Warner and Eddie Griffin, has earned a 3.1 rating/5 share this season-to-date. It will be entering its third season.

A&E Ups Cascio, Makes Music

A&E has promoted Michael Cascio from vp of programming to senior vp of programming, responsible for developing the network's overall programming strategy. Cascio joined A&E in 1990 as director of documentary production. Since then, the network has won both Emmys and CableAce awards for *Biography* and *Investigative Reports*. In other A&E news, the network last week announced it has teamed with EMI-Capitol to create and release albums based on music legends profiled on *Biography* as well as other artists. The 11-year show has featured biographies on EMI-Capitol talent including Nat King Cole, Dean Martin, Judy Garland, Lena Horne and Mel Torme. The first albums, which could include rare outtakes and interviews, may be out by May.

SportsNet Plays Philly Classics

Comcast SportsNet, Philadelphia's 24-hour regional sports network, is continuing with *Comcast SportsNet Classics*, a 90minute show that features classic moments in Philadelphia sports history. The new schedule kicked off Feb. 14 with the 1976 Flyers vs. Soviet Red Army hockey game and will continue with classic games from the Phillies (baseball), 76ers (hoops) and area universities through April. The show preserves all original footage and



Pizza faces (I. to r.) Ruccolo, Howard and Reynolds

Howard, Ryan Reynolds and Richard Riccolo, is set in Boston. Reynolds and Ruccolo portray graduate students who supplement their income by delivering pizza. Howard plays the guys' upstairs neighbor and former housemate in college. The series will also offer a host of offbeat characters who frequent the pizza joint.

ABC Delivers *Pizza*

ABC will premiere a new half-hour sitcom from *Mad About You* co-creator and executive producer Danny Jacobson on Wednesday, March 11, in the 9:30 p.m. (EDT) time slot. *Two Guys, a Girl and a Pizza Place,* starring newcomers Traylor

Media Notes

CONTINUED

announcing, editing only commercials and most play stoppages. The show runs on Saturdays at 5:30 p.m., with a rerun on Sundays.

Optimum Media, Griffin Merge

Optimum Media has added media planning to its services by merging with Griffin Bacal Inc., which has assignments with combined billings of more than \$150 million. Optimum Media, a division of DDB Needham, which already offered buying and research functions, now becomes a full-service agency with planning and buying billings of more than \$2 billion. Steven Naftelberg, who served as media director at Griffin Bacal, will hold the same title at Optimum Media Planning. Initial media planning assignments will be for Griffin Bacal's existing clients-Hasbro, Discovery Zone, Kleenex, Sharp, Hallmark Entertainment and Radio Disney.

Magic Hour Adds Clearances

Twentieth Television's upcoming late-night syndicated talk show, The Magic Hour, hosted by former basketball star Earvin "Magic" Johnson, has been sold in 80 percent of the country for its June 8 debut. In addition to clearances on all 22 of the Foxowned stations and 19 of the Sinclair Broadcast Group-owned TV stations, new stations on board are WRBW-TV in Orlando, Fla.; KWBP in Portland, Ore.; KSWB-TV in San Diego; WTIC-TV in Hartford, Conn.; and WAXN in Charlotte, N.C.

CurtCo Taps Dickinson

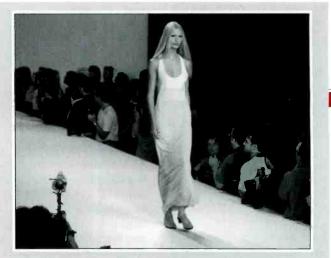
John Dickinson was recently named vp/editorial director of Home Office Computing and Small Business Computing & Communications (SBC&C) magazines. Dickinson, formerly editor-in-chief of Ziff-Davis' *Computer Life* and vp of Ziff's consumer media group, will oversee the editorial strategy for *SBC&C*. The two titles were purchased last December by West Coast–based CurtCo Freedom Group as part of Scholastic Corp.'s SOHO group.

High-Tech Up 12% in Print

High-tech print ad spending in the U.S. jumped 12 percent to a record \$3.2 billion last year, with ad pages climbing by 8 percent to 265,108, according to ADscope. IBM Corp. was the biggest player in the category, spending roughly \$108 million on 4,623 ad pages, followed by Compaq Computer Corp.'s \$86.5 million, an increase of 46 percent over 1996. Microsoft was third, increasing its spending 24 percent to nearly \$82 million. Ziff-Davis led the list of publishing houses on the receiving end of the spending, taking in 39,064 ad pages, up 3 percent. The survey included magazines and The Wall Street Journal.

WPIX Seeks Sales Chief

The hunt is on for a new sales chief at Tribune Broadcasting's New York flagship, WPIX-TV. The station last week promoted Paul Bissonette from that post to general manager. Bissonette succeeds Michael Eigner, who relinquished his gm title to focus on the operations of all nine of Tribune's East Coast stations. Betty Ellen Berlamino moves up from general sales manager to station manager. Who'll take the sales reins? Sources familar with the station's operations say the short list includes Michelle Leibowitz, general sales manager at Univision O&O WXTV, in Paterson, N.J., and Vinnie



Designer fare: Syndicated 7th on Sixth special

TWI's Fashion Show

Trans World International (TWI), the New York–based TV syndication arm of talent agent and sports marketing company International Management Group, has struck a deal with the Council of Fashion Designers of America to syndicate *7th on Sixth.* Revolving around CFDA's annual New York showcase event, "The Stars of Fashion," the special will be offered in an all-barter April 17–June 20 broadcast window to TV stations. It promises a behind-the-scenes look at the fashion industry, including interviews with such supermodel IMG clients as Tyra Banks and Nikki Taylor. Among the designers featured in the special are Donna Karan, Ralph Lauren, Nicolle Miller and Todd Oldham.

Manzi, general sales manager at Tribune's Boston WB affiliate, WLVI. WPIX officials could not be reached for comment.

Gray Comm. to Buy Busse

Gray Communications Systems of Albany, Ga., has agreed to acquire Busse Broadcasting Corp. of Kalamazoo, Mich., for a reported \$51 million, plus the assumption of some \$61 million in debt. Busse owns two VHF television stations in Nebraska and one in Wisconsin. Gray, which owns several television stations in Georgia and Florida, has said that the purchase will close by Sept. 1, pending approval from the Federal Communications Commission.

Vegas Station Woos Lewinsky

Everyone wants to hear Monica Lewinsky's side of the presidential sex-scandal story, but Las Vegas radio station KRBO-FM is willing to pay \$5 million for the dish. The talk outlet, owned by Radio News Co., has made a formal offer through Lewinsky's lawyer, William H. Ginsburg, for an exclusive interview with the former White House intern. The terms of the offer are that the interview must take place before March 12 and Lewinsky would have to give 105.1 first rights to her story.

Alonso to Talk Telemundo

Actress and singer Maria Conchita Alonso has been signed to host a daytime talk show set to debut next spring on the Spanishlanguage Telemundo network. Alonso has starred in such movies as *The Running Man* (with Arnold Schwarzennegger) and *Moscow on the Hudson* (with Robin Williams). Alonso's program will be produced out of Los Angeles by Señiorita Anita Productions.



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BIG DEAL

Spaghetti0's

Advertiser: Campbell Soup, Saban Entertainment, Fox Kids Begins: April Budget: \$50 million Media: TV, print, radio

S aban and Fox Kids have forged a three-year deal with Campbell Soup putting six entertainment properties on Franco-American canned SpaghettiO's.

The deal, brokered by Davidson Marketing, Chicago, launches in the second quarter with four different *Life With Louie*-shaped pastas. It's rare for a packaged-goods company to commit over time to one entertainment outlet rather than seeking short-term ties to the hottest Hollywood offerings. Campbell, though,



O's labels boost kids TV shows.

"took into account our track record of delivering product, and...all our communication tools," said Elie Dekel, Saban's executive vp/marketing and sales. The deal, kick-started by last year's *Beetleborgs* Metallix promo on 20 million pasta cans, is exclusive for shaped pasta.

Every nine months during the alliance, which can be extended, a new shaped pasta will bow based on properties airing on Fox Kids in sync with Saban's initiative to focus each quarter's marketing activity behind a single property. Support includes character appearances, FSIs, TV ad buys on Fox Kids, on-air promos and sweepstakes, print in Totally Fox Kids magazine, radio spots on Fox Kids Countdown and Web exposure.

The Life With Louie program also pulls in Cost Cutters, a kid-targeted national discount hair salon that has committed to a year's worth of promo programs tied to Fox Kids shows.

-T.L. Stanley

Real Money

ADVERTISING ACTIVITY IN THE MEDIA MARKETPLACE

TREASURES

Advertiser: Nestlé Agency: Dailey & Associates, L.A. Begins: Late July Budget: \$8.5 million Media: TV Nestlé Chocolate & Confections this summer will launch the Treasures brand of bite-sized

chocolate nuggets backed by \$8.5 million in an effort to take a bite out of Hershey's category dominance.

Consistent with Treasures' female target, Nestlé will make heavy daytime TV buys, and will drop 5 million samples and an Oct. 4 FSI.

The line features Nestlé Crunch, Butterfinger and a peanut butter flavor in treasure chest–shaped pieces. It's the first time Nestlé has

targeted women with its Crunch line, which is popular with young men. Butterfinger, with its edgy, Bart Simpson-inspired image, is also making an unusual foray into adult usage.

Treasures aims to straddle the line between one-bite chocolates such as Hershey's Kisses and conventional candy bars. It will be priced against Hershey's Nuggets line, which staked out the niche via positioning as an upscale candy dish product for women. Nuggets garnered \$88 million in food, drug and mass sales in the year ended Jan. 4, per Information Resources Inc., in an individually wrapped candy segment that Nestlé pegs at \$1.1 billion and growing by 10 percent annually.—Sean Mehegan

LUGZ SNEAKERS

Advertiser: Jack Schwartz Shoes Agency: In-house Begins: Spring Budget: \$4 million Media: TV Jack Schwartz Shoes' Lugz urban shoe and

apparel unit is tilting a \$4 million spring media budget heavily toward TV to build a sneaker line launched last fall, as it diversifies the product mix beyond its core "brown shoe" lines.

The TV ad, done in-house, breaks nationally on the Soul Train Awards and continues



Wavans.

brown shoe, but more a fashion gear company," Schwartz said. Schwartz sees TV as raising the bar against the many me-too's jumping into white shoes.

Known for its use of Snoop Doggy Dogg, Rakim and other rap performer endorsers,

Lugz: Breaking out of brown

Lugz will add some new talent—Joe Clair, TRU and The Crew—to print ads featuring the entire line. Creative will expand to four pages in a handful of April books, such as *The Source, Vibe, Slam, XXL* and possibly *GQ*. Radio ads in 25 markets feature Master P, E-40 and Joe Clair. —*Becky Ebenkamp*

with national and spot buys on general and hip-hop programming on MTV, and targeted

stations and shows like Vibe and Keenen Ivory

Lugz's highly targeted approach should

efficiently reach males age 15 to 25, said

executive vp Jack Schwartz. While Lugz is

best known as a competitor to brands like

nity "because we're not seen strictly as a

Timberland, white shoes offer great opportu-

JVC DIGITAL STILL CAMERAS AND CAMCORDERS

Advertiser: JVC

Agency: R&J Integrated Marketing Communications, Parsippany, N.J.

Begins: May

Budget: \$3 million

Media: Print

Identifying three market segments for its digital still cameras and camcorders, JVC breaks the first of three lifestyle-oriented ads in May consumer publications with an estimated \$3 million budget.

The ads aim to broaden the appeal for JVC's video products beyond early adopters by using lifestyle rather than product-oriented creative. They use JVC's 6-month-old tagline: "When Performance Matters."

One ad featuring the Elmwood Park, N.J., firm's DualCam combination camcorder/digital still camera highlights the

CMR TOP 50

A Weakly Ranking of the Top 50 Brands' Advertising in Network Prime Time

Week of Feb. 2-8, 1998

Rank Brand Class Spots 1 MCDONALD'S V234 86 2 BURGER KING V234 39 3 WENDY'S V234 34 4 MAZDA AUTOS--626 LEASING T112 29 5 TACO BELL V234 25 6 PEPSI--SOFT DRINK F221 19 7 DISNEY -- HERCULES VIDEO H330 18 MILKY WAY--CANDY F211 18 MIRAMAX -- SENSELESS MOVIE V233 18 10 DOMINO'S PIZZA V234 17 M&MS--CANDIES F211 17 SPRINT LONG DISTANCE--RESIDENTIAL B142 17 13 ACE HARDWARE STORES V345 15 COLGATE -- TOTAL TOOTHPASTE D121 15 **ULTRA SLIM FAST--RTS DRINK** F123 15 16 7 UP--SOFT DRINK F221 14 COLGATE--WAVE TOOTHBRUSH D121 14 **RED LOBSTER** V234 14 WARNER BROS .-- SPHERE MOVIE V233 14 ZALES JEWELERS V392 14 21 BOSTON MARKET V234 13 **BUD LIGHT--BEER** F310 13 23 DR PEPPER--SOFT DRINK F221 12 POLYGRAM -- BORROWERS MOVIE V233 12 UNIVERSAL--BLUES BROTHERS 2000 MOVIE 12 V233 2F 1-800-COLLECT B142 11 NINTENDO 64--VARIOUS GAME SOFTWARE G450 11 POLAROID--VAR. CAMERAS & INSTANT FILM G230 11 29 APPLE--MACINTOSH POWER G3 COMPUTER B311 10 HALLMARK--GREETING CARDS B321 10 L'OREAL--VOLUMINOUS MASCARA D112 10 MASTERCARD -- PLATINUM CARD B150 10 NEW LINE--WEDDING SINGER MOVIE V233 10 **OLIVE GARDEN** V234 10 **TOYOTA--VARIOUS AUTOS & TRUCKS** T115 10 WALT DISNEY WORLD V239 10 31 **3 MUSKETEERS--CANDY BAR** F211 q BUICK AUTOS -- CENTURY T111 g CHIQUITA--BANANAS F142 q COLUMBIA -- PALMETTO MOVIE V233 q **HYUNDAI AUTOS--TIBURON** T112 a L'OREAL--PREFERENCE HAIR COLOR D141 MCI LONG DISTANCE--RESIDENTIAL B142 9 **NESTLE--FLIPZ CANDY** F211 q SAAB AUTOS--900 a T113 TARGET DISCOUNT -- MISC. V324 q **TYLENOL--EXTRA-STRENGTH GELTAB** a D211 43 **3M--POST-IT NOTES** B321 8 AT&T LONG DISTANCE--INT'L RESDNTL & RESDNTL B142 8 DIAL-10-321 LONG DIST--INT'L RES & RES B142 8

product's two features by showing two different shots of a whitewater rafting scene: one, a still photo, the other a more fluid, motion photograph, said Kevin Gordon, the consumer video division's manager for products and promotions. It breaks in May and June editions of *Us*, *Time*, *Maxim*, inflight books and possibly *Men's Journal* and *Rolling Stone*.

By late June the campaign moves to ads for a digital still camera, aimed at specialinterest and vertical users such as law enforcement and real estate, in *PC Magazine*, *Home Office Computing* and other PC books.

A third phase of the print effort, breaking in June and July books, will promote JVC's high-end CyberCam digital camcorder with placements planned in *The Robb Report*, *Forbes, Fortune*, inflight mags and consumer enthusiast titles. —*Tobi Elkin*

KRAFT PHILADELPHIA BRAND DIPS WITH CREAM CHEESE

Advertiser: Kraft Foods Agency: J. Walter Thompson, Chicago Begins: May Budget: Undisclosed Media: TV

Kraft Foods hopes to create a premium segment in the growing refrigerated dips category with the launch of its new four-SKU line of Kraft Philadelphia Brand Dips made with Cream Cheese, which it will support heavily with consumer promotions and TV advertising beginning mid-April.

According to Kraft research, sales for the refrigerated dips category rose 10.6 percent in 1997 and further research showed that consumers were looking for a convenient, high-quality dip that wasn't "runny or drippy." Based on the strong segment growth, perceived consumer need and the lack of a national brand in the category, Kraft is beginning to ship the new dips, extending the Philadelphia Brand equity to a new arena.

The dips, which come in resealable tubs, will be offered in Creamy Salsa, French Onion, Garden Ranch and Roasted Garlic & Herb varieties. Consumer promotions, such as in-store coupons, FSIs and POP displays, will begin in mid-April. Television advertising is expected to begin in May.

Panked in order of total spots. Includes ABC, CBS, NBC, FOX, UPN and WB. Regional feeds are counted as whole spots. Source Competitive Media Reporting

-Stephanie Thompson

Media Person BY LEWIS GROSSBERGER

A Round of Gulf

DID THE BOMBING START YET? MEDIA PERSON is afraid to go to the bathroom for fear he might miss it.

The administration really ought to have the courtesy to give us the starting time so we can be in front of CNN. But wars have gone downhill. In the old days, we'd finish one war and then start working on an interesting new one. But now the government informs us we have to do the last war all over again. Turns out neither we nor the enemy got it right. Someone forgot to tell Saddam Hussein he was supposed to die at the end.

No wonder the students at Ohio State are yelling as if they were stuck

in the '60s. This is like having to repeat the fourth grade. We don't want a do-over. We want to move on to a fresh new enemy, someone we haven't fought before. Why not the Brazilians, for instance? They are a lazy bunch who spend so much time at the beach they have never contributed their fair share to world tension or conflict. And has anyone ever inspected all those cabanas for hidden superweapons? The Canadians would make

an even better foe. We haven't invaded Canada since the 18th century, so they'd never expect it their nearness and would hold down trans-

portation costs. Or how about another rousing civil war? This time we could do East vs. West, just for variety's sake. What do we fight about? Over who gets the film rights to the war, of course.

But Media Person is dreaming. Let's face it: Due to unimaginative leadership, we're stuck with the tiresome, warmed-over Iragis. MP knows that you're a little rusty on the issue, having spent the last week pondering Nagano-related mysteries, such as 1) How it can be that everyone knows the ice dancing judging is crooked but nobody does anything about it, 2) Why nobody thought to hit the annoying "Pasha" Grushik in the leg with a metal rod, and 3) Why those people in the luge doubles weren't arrested for fornicating in public. So MP has helpfully prepared this handy pocket guide to brief you in case you are invited to explain the war to Larry King. Please read and memorize:

Best Argument for the War: We must destroy Saddam Hussein's weapons of mass destruction before he unleashes a disastrous attack with them.

Best Argument Against the War: But our government has already admitted that our

Military Hardware: The U.S. has recently deployed these new weapons in the Gulf: The Tom Cruise Missile-looks really cute in flight but leaves you wondering whether some other missile might have done the job better. The Nike Missile-tiptoes into Third World countries and blows up factories, leaving demoralized workers with even lower wages than normal. Spin Commandos-An elite team of lawyer/soldiers, trained to assassinate a foreign leader and then find loopholes in the U.S. law prohibiting the assassination of foreign leaders. The Stealth Lander (top secret...tell no one!)---Can operate invisibly on runways of scaredy-cat allies such as Saudi Arabia and Bahrain without local air controllers noticing.

Disposition of the Enemy: Surly and a bit depressed, having already been blown up previously for the right to own poison gas, and not particularly looking forward to it again.

Cool Network Logos to Watch For: Rerun in the Gulf (ABC), Baghdad Blast II (CNN), This One's for Monica (Fox News), Bombapalooza (MTV), Alleged Turmoil in the Mideast Region (Lehrer Report), Struggle Together Under Our Noble Leader to Destroy the Great Satan! (Iraqi Broadcasting System).

Diplomatic Efforts to Look For: UN Secre-

graphed

Michele

requested.

tary General Kofi Annan

returning to Baghdad to

bring Saddam the autophoto

Kwan

Madeleine

of

he

Or how about another rousing civil war? This time we could do East vs. West, just for variety's sake.

military will be unable to accomplish that goal.

Best Riposte to Best Argument Against the War: So what? Let's clobber the no-good son of a bitch anyway.

Least Effective Argument Against the War: If we attack Iraq, it could drive the price of camels up to record levels.

When the Bombing Is Most Likely to Start: After the Olympics, so as not to bollix up network advertising plans. During the Paula Jones trial, to divert attention from it. In prime time on a moonless night, preferably a Saturday, when there's nothing else to watch on TV anyway. Triangulate these imperatives and you've got it to the minute. (If bombing has already started, disregard this paragraph.) Albright traveling around the world in an attempt to break Henry Kissinger's speed record. Tariq Aziz appearing on Leno to explain that anthrax really isn't much worse than postnasal drip. Newt Gingrich calling whomever will listen to complain that nobody pays attention to him anymore.

What Bill Clinton Most Envies About Saddam: All those great palaces he can slip away to and do anything he wants without being seen.

What Puzzles Saddam Most About U.S. Policy: Why Clinton doesn't just have Monica Lewinsky shot.

Wisest Position to Take on this Whole Thing: Fierce ambivalence. Argue with anyone on either side who is certain they are right. They are probably wrong.

In The New Media Environment, Things Aren't Necessarily What You Think They Are.

To Cut It In This Business, You Need A **REALITY CHECK.**



Cable Advertising Conference

March 5, 1998

New York Marriott Marquis

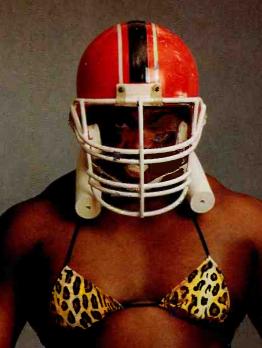
An expanding multichannel environment. Changing viewing habits. Rapidly-shifting media philosophies. They're all creating new realities for planning and optimizing successful national TV ad strategies.

You've got to re-examine your perceptions in this new media landscape, because things are no longer what they once appeared to be.

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Call (212) 508-1200 for program and registration information... or check the Cabletelevision Advertising Bureau's Web site (www.cabletvadbureau.com).



WE THOUGHT ABOUT A SWIMSUIT ISSUE, BUT IT JUST DIDN'T SEEM TO FIT.



