

BROADCAST Dialogue

Canada's "most relevant" broadcast publications

Christensen Communications Ltd.
414 St. Germain Avenue
Toronto ON M5M 1W7
Phone: (416) 782-6482
Fax: (416) 782-9993
E-Mail: broadcastdialogue@home.com
Web site: www.broadcastdialogue.com

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Thursday, August 3, 2000

Volume 8, No. 10

Page One of Four

REVOLVING DOOR: James McCoubrey, Exec. VP-Sales, Telemedia Radio (West), assuming responsibility for sales in BC and Alberta... **Paul Mann**, GM/GSM in Kelowna for Telemedia Radio (West) has been named Regional GM for the BC South Group of 14 radio stations... **SUN-FM/The Bullet Kelowna** Senior Account Exec **Phil Johnson** moves to Retail Sales Manager at **Mix 105 Vernon** and **EZ Rock Salmon Arm/Revelstoke/Golden**... **Elizabeth Ostiguy's** Ottawa-based **Emerson Communications** has hired Caroline Leclerc to – initially – assist in the provision of daily reports on the **CRTC** hearing on new digital specialty licences... News Director **Kelly Johnston** is leaving **CKY5-TV Winnipeg** to join **CFCN-TV Calgary** as Executive Producer. She begins Sept. 5... **92 CITI-FM/KY58 Winnipeg** has a new

VP/COO at the CBC, has announced he is leaving the Corporation. In his memo, McCoubrey wrote, in part: "Now that the Task Force is nearing the successful completion of its mandate and is making its recommendations to Executive Management, it is time for me to undertake new challenges... (Bob Rabinovitch) has asked me to complete certain implementation issues so I'll be here until I've completed these"... **Shae Warrington**, in Public Relations at **Global Television Toronto**, leaves next Friday for **CTV's Discovery Channel**... **Darryl Hartwick** has left his **CHML Hamilton** PD's job, having accepted a faculty position teaching Radio Broadcasting and Broadcast Journalism at Hamilton's **Mohawk College**... **Lisa Akizuki** is no longer PD at **Hot 103 Winnipeg**... **Vic Foliott** has moved from **CKGL Kitchener** to **CKPC-AM/FM Brantford** as Ops Mgr... **Charles Gamble**, ex VP Client Development at **WIC Television/Western Broadcast Sales**, is now COO of the **National Advertising Benevolent Society** (NABS) based in Toronto... **Kevin MacEachern**, who left **CIGO Port Hawkesbury** back in 1993, is returning to **101.5 The Hawk** next month as Sales Manager... **Victor Nerenberg**, afflicted with a speaking problem since last October, won't be back on-air at **CJAD Montreal**. Instead, Nerenberg will "remain on staff as a valued, but inactive member"... **Dorothy McInnis**, ex Creative Director at **Z99 Regina**, is new Creative Writer at **SILK-FM Kelowna**... **Michael Tindall**, former VP-Southern Media for **Telemedia Radio (West)**, has moved to



Winnipeg's Premiere radio company needs an **EXPERIENCED PRODUCER** who knows how to create effective spots and promos.

The person must live and breathe audio production, be innovative, and work well in a team.

Applications should be sent to:

(Mr.) Rene Huebener
1445 Pembina Hwy
Winnipeg MB R3T 5C2



POWER 97 (CJKR-FM) Winnipeg

We have two positions available

Music Director and **Midday Announcer**

Power 97 is "Winnipeg's Best Rock" station, playing the best classics and the best new rock.

IF YOU ROCK, send your tape and resume by August 11 to:

Steve Parsons
Program Director
POWER 97 (CJKR-FM)
930 Portage Av.
Winnipeg MB R3G 0P8

Promotions Director. **Tania Morgan**, ex of **CKY5-TV Winnipeg**, will market both stations.

SIGN-OFF: **Mike Worland** was a 28-year Sales veteran of **Oldies 1150(CKOC)/K-Lite-FM (CKLH-FM) Hamilton**. His past included a stint on **Radio Caroline**. GM **Jim MacLeod** says "Mike was pretty well known in Southern Ontario. He was one of those guys who was noticed when he walked into a room." Worland succumbed to cancer after a four-year battle.

LOOKING: **Light 105.7/CKTB St. Catharines** is looking for a Promotion Director... **Q94.3/CFST Winnipeg** needs an experienced Producer... **CHEK-TV Victoria** is looking for a Sales Account Executive... **Rawlco's Z99/CJME Regina** are in search of a Creative Director... **Power 97 Winnipeg** has two positions available: Music Director and Midday Announcer... **The Spirit (CHOW-FM) Welland** is looking for a News Reader... See the ads in this edition and at our Web site: www.broadcastdialogue.com... Other jobs we've heard about include a Sales Rep for **CMT** (Country Music Television) in Toronto... **Delco Wire & Cable** is looking for Sales Assistant in Toronto for the contractor and broadcasting market... **Easy Rock 95.9 (CICX) Orillia** is looking for a Sales Rep and a Creative Director... **CKY5-TV Winnipeg** is looking for a News Director... **CJME Newstalk 1300 Regina** is looking for Anchors and Reporters.

GENERAL: **CanWest Global Communications** has paid \$3.5 billion to **Hollinger Inc.** for major newspapers in every province – except Manitoba and New Brunswick.. The deal also includes a half-interest in the **National Post**, various weekly newspapers, magazines and Internet properties. Among the trade publications are **Broadcaster**, **Cablecaster** and **NewMedia.Pro**. CanWest

said it will pay \$2.2 billion in cash, plus \$600 million in shares. It also will take over \$700 million in debt. Hollinger will have a 15% equity share and a 6% voting interest in CanWest. The deal is expected to close by the end of next month but is subject to approval by the Competition Bureau... Several days after facing scrutiny from US regulators for its planned merger with **America Online**, **Time Warner Inc.** has made its first deal to allow an independent Internet service provider access to its cable system. **Time Warner Cable** has a preliminary agreement with **Juno Online Services** to offer high-speed Internet service to cable customers... **Michael Buzzell**, the **Canadian Association of Broadcasters'** Communications Coordinator, has received the **Canadian Public Relations Society's President's Award** for outstanding contribution to PR in Ottawa.

TV/FILM: **CKX-TV Brandon** has given pink slips to 24 people. The **Craig Broadcasting** station is laying off eight full-timers and 15 part-time workers. By switching from a locally-produced news shows to broadcasts from **Craig's A-Channel Manitoba** (based in Winnipeg), CKX-TV will eliminate its local

SALES ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE



CHEK TV in Victoria, B.C. has an immediate opening for a Sales Account Executive. The account list will consist of both large and small local Vancouver Island advertisers.

Areas of responsibility include:

- * The sale of commercial broadcast time, advertisements and commercial production services to advertisers and focus on local advertiser content.
- * New business development.
- * Building strong relationships with clients that will establish a competitive advantage for CHEK TV.

Qualifications include:

- * A minimum three years of radio or TV sales experience.
- * Ability to demonstrate a successful track record in new business development and sales promotions.
- * Possess strong interpersonal skills and be a strong negotiator.
- * Be a team player.

Please forward your resume by August 18, 2000 to:

Lori McLeod
CHEK TV
780 Kings Road
Victoria, B.C. V8T 5A2
E-Mail: lmcleod@wic.ca
Fax: (250) 384-7766



CKTB and CHRE-FM in St. Catharines are searching for a dynamic, team-driven

PROMOTION DIRECTOR.

If you are creative, well-organized, and detail-oriented – with an exceptional work ethic who has the ability to oversee great money-making sales and ratings promotions from start to finish – you need to send your resume to:

Jamie O'Brien
Assistant General Manager
CKTB/CHRE-FM/HTZ-FM
Box 610, St. Catharines ON
L2R 6X7
Fax: (905) 704-0790
E-Mail: jamie@610ctkb.com

noon show and scaling back its evening newscast. Three Brandon reporters will remain in place to produce inserts for the Winnipeg-based news programming... **CanWest Entertainment** has bought the international distribution business of Dutch-based **Endemol Entertainment** for \$US100 million. The deal includes Endemol's library of about 600 hours of TV programming and more than doubles CanWest's existing program library. Endemol's assets and operations will be absorbed by CanWest's international TV distribution arm, **Fireworks International**, based in London... **CBC News Now**, said to be an innovative news hour loaded with live reports, high-tech toys and a whole new attitude toward TV journalism, will launch Oct. 2. **Ian Hanomansing** will front the new national half-hour which go to five time zones. The national newscast might either lead or follow the regional half-hour, depending on the region. Each show will be tailored to each region. But all will be commercial-free... The **Peel Board of Education**, just west of Toronto, has voted 9-3 – based on its own extensive evaluation of **YNN** (Youth Network News) programming and the network's offer – to enter into a partnership with **Athena Educational Partners** beginning this fall... **TVB** has issued the call for entries for its **RETAIL COMP** awards, open to all retail commercials produced for Canadian audiences and aired between September 1999 and August 2000. TVB judges spots from A, B and C markets, single-market and multi-market, English and French, with special categories for station-produced PSAs. Entries are accepted from all stations, agencies and production houses in Canada, and must be received by September 1, 2000. Winners will be announced at TVB's **SAC 2001** conference in February. Contact **Vivien El-Dawoud** at 416/923-8813 Ext. 236 for details.

RADIO: The **CRTC** has approved the application by **Dufferin Communications** to relocate its **CIDC-FM Orangeville** transmitter and for a reduction in power, from 50,000 watts to 30,700. CIDC-FM is known in Toronto as **HITS 103.5**. The licence amendment will shift the

station's signal contour toward Toronto and, thus, will expand potential audience from 153,600 to roughly 668,200 (the new transmitter and antenna will be at an elevation higher than the CN Tower). A similar request by Dufferin was rejected in 1998 but it argued successfully this year that BBM's Toronto CMA included Orangeville which had once been reported as a separate market. That meant that national and local advertisers gradually turned away from CIDC-FM. An intervention filed jointly by **Shaw, WIC** and **Rogers** argued that the shift in coverage would turn CIDC-FM into a Toronto station, a self-transformation without

a licence rather than a competitive process... Meantime, **HITS 103.5** has applied to purchase **CKDX-FM Newmarket**. **CRTC** approval, says **HITS**, would allow it to market and serve listeners with two FM frequencies in the Toronto CMA... Not approved was a request by **CFBG-FM Bracebridge** for a change in frequency and an increase in power. It wanted a bump to 100,000 watts (from 2,900) and a move to 99.5 from 100.9... **Astral Media Inc.** says it is moving quickly to build its core radio and specialty TV businesses, actively seeking acquisitions in the Montreal and Quebec City markets. Astral Chairman **Andre Bureau** says while a purchase isn't imminent, discussions are under way with several individually owned stations. Astral already owns the eight-



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Today's Country **SPIRIT 91.7** is looking for a

News Reader.

Booming 50 thousand watts out of Niagara, **Today's Country** is heard throughout Southern Ontario, including Toronto and Hamilton. If you're a team player and willing to work hard, then we'd like you to join the **SPIRIT** family. Must have News experience. Send tape and resume to:

Peter Morena
Assistant General Manager
SPIRIT 91.7
Regional Road 23
Welland ON L3B 5R6

Creative Director

Rawlco Communications seeks an experienced Creative Director for Z99/CJME Regina. We're looking for a true department head to take charge and make a terrific creative department even better and to work closely with our sales departments in a winning partnership. Resumes, scripts and production to:

Michael Zaplitny, General Manager
Rawlco Communications
210 – 2401 Saskatchewan Drive
Regina, SK S4P 4H8
e-mail: mzaplitny@rawlco.com

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station French-language **Radio Energie** FM network, plus three AM stations and a 50% interest in **Radiomedia**... Businesses such as restaurants, stores and bars which play music direct from radio or TV in their establishments to entertain customers may soon have to pay-to-play. A ruling by the **World Trade Organization** (WTO) backs up the contention of music creators and owners that music in such locales played direct from a broadcast outlet is a secondary use of that music. **SOCAN** and **CRIA** (Canadian Recording Industry Association) say they will use the new WTO ruling to press the Canadian government for changes to copyright legislation. In a recent updating of copyright legislation, Canada exempted stores, bars and restaurants from paying royalty fees for music on radio and TV as had the U.S. But now the Americans say they will conform to the WTO ruling... **CKAY Duncan** is no more. In its ashes has risen the new FM'er, **89.7 SUN-FM**, owned and managed by **Cam Drew**... **101.5 The Hawk (CIGO) Port Hawkesbury** has begun streaming audio from its Web Site, first private Nova Scotia radio station to do so... Toronto-based **Research-Director.Com** has developed a series of radio format profiles for radio buyers and planners in Ontario. The questions used for the profile analysis are sourced in the **BBM** Spring 2000 radio survey and cover topics ranging from household purchasing, financial planning, food and drink consumption to sports, fitness and social activity. Four profiles now available: Country Music; Adult Contemporary; All-Sports and Play by Play; and, Fine Arts... **Canadian Broadcast Sales**' Vancouver offices have moved to 601 West Broadway, Suite 600. The CBS phone and fax numbers haven't changed. Still with CBS, the company has agreed to represent **RhimJim**, the South Asian radio station that uses SCA technology and **Shaw Cable** to reach all of BC and major markets across Canada... Coming up Sept. 19 in Orillia, **Heather Thompson** of **Easy Rock 95.9 (CICX-FM) Orillia** will receive the **Ontario Provincial Police/Ontario Provincial Police Association** Award of Merit in their Spot News Audio category... **WMAQ**

Chicago, the station that entertained depression-era listeners with programs such as *Amos 'n' Andy* and *Fibber McGee and Molly* has aired its final broadcast. The merger between **CBS-Infinity Broadcast** and **Viacom** spelled doom for the station, which began in 1922. Only a few of the all-news station's 60 staffers were offered jobs at a sister station **WBBM**. **WMAQ**, by the way, stood for "We Must Ask Questions"... In Washington, **XM Satellite Radio** has added 15 new members to its satellite radio programming team. They will be among a team tasked to create and package up to 100 channels of digital music, news, sports, talk, comedy and children's programming.

SYNDICATION: In partnership with **Network Productions** of Vancouver, **Telemidia Network Radio** is launching a new radio series in October based on the TV show, *Legends of Hockey*... **Sound Source** signed a licensing agreement to supply US-based **Premiere Radio Networks** comedy material from *Just for Laughs*. **Sound Source** represents *Just for Laughs* radio world wide.

SUPPLYLINES: **Radio Computing Services** (RCS) has installed Master Control (digital system) at the new **CHUM** radio station in London... Waterloo-based **Inscriber Technology Corp.** has a partnership with **Microsoft** to develop technology for interactive TV... **Delco Wire & Cable** has hired **Mike Couch** – son of **Alcatel/Canada Wire's Byron Couch** – in a junior sales capacity... **Leitch Technology** says the **Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers** (SMPTE) has approved the establishment of the **Jim Leitch Gold Medal Award**, which will honor outstanding contributions in the application of digital technology to the motion imaging arts and sciences... **Tele-Quebec**, the public education and cultural TV network, has purchased additional **Panasonic** DVCPRO50 equipment for its expanding operation. Products purchased included AJD900WP camcorders and AJD95DCP AC/DC desktop VCRs.



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Thursday, August 10, 2000

Volume 8, No. 11

Page One of Three

TV/FILM: Coming up on Monday in Hull, the **CRTC** begins its hearings for digital distribution of new pay and specialty TV services. There are 88 Category One applications. It's expected the Commission will be sitting over roughly four weeks... www.intertoob.com -- billed as the world's first 24-hour live interactive Internet TV-style broadcast -- was set to launch last night. The Calgary-based operation says it will offer live 24-hour interactive online broadcasting. Advertising will combine "Webmercials" -- 30-second digital advertisements -- which will allow viewers to click to an advertiser's site. Viewers may also participate, direct, and control the content of the live TV-style programming. All shows will be produced at the company's Calgary studio on a volunteer basis. Talent will be local amateurs - actors, musicians, writers, artists, directors and producers. Intertoob says its prime appeal will be to the dot-com generation (15-35s)... Montreal-based **Telescene Film Group Inc.**, with funding troubles in its \$US101.9-million TV production schedule, says its top executive in charge of lining up financing is leaving the company. Exec. VP/COO **Paul Painter** will step down Aug. 15. Shares in the company have dropped like a rock to \$1.40 levels from a high last year of \$22.75. Painter holds -- roughly -- a 47% block of Telescene stock. Telescene told a conference call of analysts last week that it needed \$US36-million for production commitments this year... **Izzy Asper** says he's unaware of plans to sell **CanWest Global Communications'** South Pacific (New

Zealand and Australia) broadcast assets. But he also says he hasn't ruled out a future sale. Asper, the Exec. Chairman of the company, was responding to reports in the Australian business media where **CanWest** CEO **Leonard Asper** was quoted as saying a transaction with Australia's **Network Ten** wasn't out of the question. Speculation abounds because of **CanWest's** added debt load after buying **Hollinger Inc.** But the senior Asper denies that **CanWest** would consider selling its New Zealand assets to offset that debt... Media buyers seem to be gloomy on the **CanWest** deal to acquire **Hollinger's** major Canadian newspapers. A report in the Financial Times quotes several buyers who are down on **CanWest** holding the dominant position in key markets. Toronto-based **Genesis Media** CEO **Bruce Claassen**: "This makes me ask, 'what are their sales practices going to be? Are they going to do tied selling? Are they going to give breaks to newspaper buyers who are also large TV buyers, and make smaller advertisers who buy only newspapers pay the full price?' **Cossette Media** VP/National Media Director **Lauren Richards** is quoted as saying: "As a buyer, I do have some reservations about the power they could have in relation to the market, but certainly if I was a seller I would be doing exactly the same thing." An anonymous buyer said: "Global Television is already cocky in negotiations because they've had the top shows for years. They've got themselves in a powerful negotiating position and expect us to buy their weaker markets if we want to buy the stuff we really need. Is this deal going to make forced



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buys more likely? Well, yeah, because the more power a media company has, the more negotiating power it has." Taking exception to the negativity is **Sunni Boot**, President of **Optimedia**. She says it's easy to get caught up in the issue of market dominance. Her bigger fear, she said, is if **Time Warner** came in and took over everything with their global properties and global feeds. *"That would undermine the whole Canadian media industry. The more I have time to digest it, the more I have come to believe that this is the least of all evils. This is what Canada needs -- a strong global visionary ... who is advertiser-friendly"...* Meantime, the **NDP** (New Democratic Party) wants the federal government to stop the **CanWest/Hollinger** deal. MP **Wendy Lill** says *"huge conglomerates treat local news as no more than dressing to attract advertising,"* and she wants the feds to direct the **CRTC** not to grant or renew any broadcast licence to anyone who also owns a daily newspaper. (Ed's Note: *Seems odd in light of Canadian history on this matter, what with the Blackburn family of London having owned both the London Free Press and CFPL-TV/AM/FM and the Siftons, who once owned radio stations in Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan plus community and daily newspapers, including the Regina Leader Post.*)

GENERAL: The **CRTC** says it wants co-operation in setting the ground rules for digital broadcasting and it's asking broadcasters and cablecos to help develop new guidelines. The Commission wants consensus on issues that include the future of analog technology and subscription fees and French-language services. **CRTC** Exec. Director of Broadcasting **Jean-Pierre Blais** says the groundwork for a growing digital world is being laid but he asks, *"How do we bring (these) 40 analog licences into this new environment without losing all the benefits we've managed to develop in the Canadian broadcasting system?"* The Commission is accepting written comments until Sept. 15 and a working group is expected to submit its written report by Oct. 31... The **CRTC** is also looking for public input on ways to support

French-language broadcasting to Francophones outside Quebec. Public consultations will take place in early fall and will be followed by an October 18 public hearing in Hull... Canadian journalist **Katia Jarjoura** – hit by Israeli shrapnel during a crossfire between Israeli troops and a Lebanese mob – was caught in the clash at the Lebanese border. The **Radio-Canada** stringer had three pieces of shrapnel removed from her stomach. The 25-year-old Jarjoura was injured when Israeli soldiers fired on a crowd hurling rocks and a Molotov cocktail. Jarjoura, from Montreal, was filming the standoff for a documentary she is preparing on Israel's 22-year occupation of southern Lebanon... Former **BCTV Vancouver** honcho **Ron Bremner**, who's now President of the **Calgary Flames** (NHL), says he's naturally interested to see whether the likes of **Rogers Communications** or **CanWest Global** will jump into operating sports franchises. He's quoted as saying, *"If you were out there buying prime-time programming and sitcoms, the reality is that today it may be cheaper to buy a sports team over the long haul to use as programming over a number of outlets. They're looking at how they combine content with what they have in terms of broadcast entities. In cities like Toronto, Montreal or Vancouver, there's probably going to be more opportunity and more demand for broadcast outlet partnering. Where you've got population, you've got viewers and you've got access."* Bremner is closer to the topic than many may remember. His **WIC** boss, the late **Frank Griffiths Sr.**, combined broadcast ownership and major league sports back in the mid 70s when he held a majority interest in the **Vancouver Canucks**. (Ed's note: **Allan Waters** of **CHUM Limited** had the **Ottawa Roughriders** and **TSN** once had the **Toronto Argonauts**)... The **Canadian Media Guild** (CMG) isn't happy about **CBC-TV** plans to use an American announcer to call some **Toronto Blue Jay** games in September. **CBC** wants to hire **Rich Waltz** of **Fox Sports** in Seattle to announce four or five games while regular Jays voice **Brian Williams** is covering the Olympics in Sydney. **CMG** spokesman **Kathy Viner** says there are Canadians qualified to do the job... *Gwai Lo Cooking*, seen on **CFMT-TV**

Atlantic Association of Broadcasters

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A A A B

2000

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Annual Convention

For info & registration,

CONTACT

Lisa Steeves

at

Telemedia Radio Atlantic

(506) 450-7633

Toronto, does not violate any codes policed by the **Canadian Broadcast Standards Council**. A complainant said the Cantonese expression "gwai lo", which translates as "foreign devil" or "ghostly fellow", refers to the show's host who's Caucasian; that it discriminates against non-Orientals. But the Ontario Regional Council found no Code breach... Government of Ontario-owned **TVOntario** is getting set to launch *Lifelong Learning Challenge Fund*. The initiative is meant to create new opportunities to learn critical job skills through the Internet. TVO will issue a call for proposals this month from employers, industry organizations, unions, and educators to develop Ontario-based online skills training programs... **NBC's** Internet division – **NBCi** – is cutting 20% of its workforce (170 jobs) to save money at the. In the quarter ended June 30, the struggling online division reported a net loss of \$US151.9 million on revenues of \$30.5 million, though much of the loss came from writing down \$94.9 million in goodwill... The **Broadcasters Association of Manitoba** (BAM) and the **Canadian Association of Broadcasters** (CAB) are calling for wider public consultation on Bill 4, the (Manitoba) Elections Finances Amendment Act. CAB and BAM say the one day set aside for public hearings is insufficient, considering the consequences. the proposed legislation could have. Bill 4 would impose strict limitations, including such key areas as who is allowed to make financial donations to political campaigns, the size of such donations, and the amount of advertising that parties are allowed to buy during and between election campaigns.

RADIO: The federal government is being asked to overturn the **Milestone Communications** win of an FM station in Toronto (which will target the black community). In fact, there are 39 appeals before the feds challenging the Milestone decision, mostly from other ethnic groups. Other contenders had been those interested targeting South Asians, Francophones, gays and lesbians, Eastern Europeans and Catholic youth, but most of the appeals support a South Asian station. A ruling on the appeals isn't expected until next month... **Motorola** in Chicago says a paired radio and Internet product could be in new cars by as soon as the 2002 model year. Meantime, though, Motorola won't likely be first. **Clarion** already has a combined car radio/CD player/voice-activated system that offers personalized Internet data such as news headlines, sports scores and stock quotes along with e-mail (never mind a global positioning indicator). Car makers are betting that millions of drivers will be willing to pay as much as \$30 US a month for Internet-access gadgets... **Sirius Satellite Radio** says in-orbit testing of *Sirius-1* was successfully completed July 31, with payload and signal testing showing

all systems performing to spec. *Sirius-2*, the second of a three-satellite constellation, has arrived at the Baikonur Cosmodrome launch site in Kazakhstan, and is scheduled for launch between Sept. 5 and 15. *Sirius-3* is scheduled for launch in October. Sirius Satellite Radio says it will launch its 100-channel service at the end of this year. Service is designed for motorists throughout the US for a monthly subscription of \$9.95... A new radio station in Alberta has a whole other twist. **British Forces Broadcasting Service**, at CFB Suffield, is serving 3,500 British forces stationed there for manoeuvres, plus the town of Ralston (about 45 clicks from Medicine Hat), with nine hours of local programming a day. The balance of programming comes from **British Forces Radio** in Germany. **CHAT Medicine Hat** has rented the new station transmitter space. CHAT GM **Dwaine Dietrich** says he believes this is the only licence of its kind in Canada where live programming comes from outside the country.

REVOLVING DOOR: **Garry Barker**, Exec. VP at **Maritime Broadcasting** and GM at **CHNS/CHFX Halifax**, is calling it quits come the end of the month.

Barker has been with the Maritime operation for eight years... **Ricky Cyr**, the evening talk show host at **CJAD Montreal**, did his last show there on Friday. He's moving his act to the **Talk America** network in the US, but not moving. He says he'll stay in Montreal and do his show from a local studio.

SIGN-OFFS: **Rick Weaver**, 74, a former **Miami Dolphins** radio announcer and Florida's sportscaster of the year 10 times, has died of colon cancer at his Grosse Point, MI., home... **Alex (Sleepy) Stein**, the founder of the first all-jazz radio station in the US, has died in Los Angeles at 81. It was in Chicago where he earned the nickname Sleepy after succeeding an all-night jock named **Wide-Awake Widoe**. In 1957, Stein bought **KNOB-AM** and began all-jazz programming from the station in Signal Hill, a community completely surrounded by Long Beach. **Stan Kenton** helped him finance the station by contributing the profits from his band's performances.

LOOKING: **CTV** in Toronto is looking for a Research Manager... **CKCK-TV Regina** wants to hear from a Writer/Producer... **ASN Halifax** has a Co-Host opening.

SUPPLYLINES: **Unique Broadband Systems** (UBS) of Toronto has appointed former **Nortel** wire solutions group VP/GM **John Leon** as its new VP, Sales & Marketing.

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Thursday, August 17, 2000

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TV/FILM: Toronto-based **Nelvana Ltd.** has reaffirmed its interest in buying the assets of Montreal's **Cinar Corp.** Nelvana says it has been talking to Cinar's investment banker, **Merrill Lynch & Co.** But Nelvana's not the only one taking a hard look at Cinar. There's a long list of suitors, including **CanWest Global Communications, Corus Entertainment, Seagram (Vivendi), Viacom/CBS, Fox (News Corp.), Disney, and Time Warner.** The sale price is pegged at US\$235-million to US\$765-million, depending on how the animation library and Cinar's education division are valued... Vancouver-based **Lions Gate Entertainment** has secured a \$200 million revolving credit facility with a syndicate of global financial institutions. The financing creates capital designed to support strategic and financial growth initiatives... The **CRTC** hearing into new digital specialty and pay TV license applications is being broadcast on the **Cable Public Affairs Channel (CPAC).** CPAC GM **Al MacKay** expects the Monday to Friday broadcasts will run from 8:30 am to 6:00 pm ET over the course of four weeks. There are 89 Category 1 applications... Meantime, the **Canadian Association of Broadcasters** encouraged the **CRTC** to use the hearing to ensure "pride of place for Canadian programming services" and to provide consumer value and choice... In New York, **Nielsen Media Research** and **TiVo Inc.** have jointly announced the formation of a strategic agreement to enable audience measurement of personal video recorders with the TiVo Service in all metered TV panels. The agreement, says the two, establishes a collaborative approach and

commitment to measurement of the new TiVo service and is a key development for both companies... US residents near the Canadian border are expected to watch **CBC-TV's** Olympic coverage because **NBC** will delay coverage by 15 hours. NBC spokesman **Kevin Sullivan** shrugs and says "The law allows for any signal that can be picked up by an antenna to be broadcast by the local cable operator" but, he also said, "our research indicates that between 1 and 6 a.m., 9% of the TV audience is available to watch, so draw your own conclusions"... **Magna Entertainment Corp.** says it is inching closer toward developing a full horse-racing cable TV network and Internet strategy, aiming to implement its full Internet and TV venture early 2001. MEC Chairman **Frank Stronach's** eventual goal with TV is to have horse racing beamed into

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GENERAL: **ComQUEST's** quarterly survey of Canadian behaviour with and attitudes toward the Internet are out. The data, from **CyberTRENDS**, reveals: Six out of ten adults now have access; 42% are weekly Web users; and, 18% of all adults have made a purchase via the Internet, more than double the number a year ago. Other trends include e-mail usage up, although list participation shows the first ever decline; average time spent on the Internet up over 20% versus a year ago; Internet advertising, from the consumer perspective, is as effective as it was a year ago; and, Internet banking is increasing. The one cautionary note is that the measure of "Web sites visited most often" shows that apart from work or business related information, all other site categories have declined... But despite the significant growth in New Media, nine of 10 Canadian journalists say they believe traditional media is here to stay. A joint **Loyalist College/International Teledata Group** study shows that not only do newsrooms report relevant breaking news in their traditional media, but that 70% say they would never let their online sites break a news story before them... The **Canadian Broadcast Standards Council** says a sexy promo on **Citytv Toronto's** program, **SexTV**, wasn't demeaning to either women or men. The promo began with the message "The average male has a sexual thought every 8 seconds", followed by a scene in which the camera panned slowly over the body of a nude woman, lying sideways, facing the camera, with her legs and arms discretely covering her breasts and genitalia. The promo ended with the message "But who's counting?". A viewer complained that the promo is "morally wrong, degrading to women, and harmful to children to see and think about how often their fathers, uncles, grandfathers think about sex." Details of the decision may be found at www.cbsc.ca... **Rogers Communications** has stepped up its legal battle against rival **Quebecor**, asking a Quebec court to allow it to proceed with its planned takeover of **Groupe Videotron**, Quebec's biggest cable operator. The

move is aimed at getting around a competing offer by Quebecor, the Montreal multi-media giant that wants Videotron to expand its broadcasting, telecom and new media operations... The **CRTC** is one of three finalists (out of 108 submissions) for the **Institute of Public Administration of Canada** (IPAC) award. The award is for Innovative Management. The IPAC award sponsored by **PricewaterhouseCoopers** and **IBM Canada**, recognizes new approaches to policy and management through collaboration. The submissions were assessed based on innovation, relevance, significance and effectiveness. IPAC will announce the winner at its 52nd Annual Conference in Ottawa August 30... **News Corp.** (owner of the **Fox network**) has agreed to buy TV station owner **Chris-Craft Industries Inc.** for \$US5.35 billion. That news came after **Viacom Inc.** ended talks over a possible deal. Chris-Craft has 10 stations, three of which are in major markets... Hip New Yorkers are sporting an oddly Canadian-looking emblem this summer. The **CBC** logo is BIG in the Big Apple! Cotton tees, retailing for about \$50 (Canadian), are the rage (over 2,000 sold since early this season)... **CKPG Prince George** long-time broadcaster **Bob Harkins** is recovering after dropping to the floor in CKPG's reception area. Harkins and his doctor credit his still being alive – and in as good a condition as he is – to the quick



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actions of **PGTV** Sales Rep **Brenda Clotildes**, who called on her early Girl Guide skills to administer mouth-to-mouth resuscitation until paramedics arrived... **CWC-Canadian Women in Communications** in association with **The New RO (CHRO-TV) Ottawa** and **CHUM Limited**, is presenting "ADIOS TO SUMMER" Aug 30 at Ottawa's Hard Rock Café in the Byward Market. Info from chrisd@bigbangnet.com.

RADIO: **CHUM Limited** has purchased **CKLY-FM (Y-92-FM) Lindsay**. **Steve Fawcett**, GM at CHUM's **CKPT/CKQM-FM Peterborough** will be responsible for day-to-day operations... **The Bear (CFBR-FM) Edmonton** PD **Greg Diamond** says the station's "Red White and New" program is offering local bands a recording contract worth \$30,000 at Edmonton's **Homestead Recorders**; 100 hours of studio time with a professional producer, and 500 copies of the final CD... **CIWV-FM (Wave 94.7 Smooth Jazz) Hamilton** is getting set to launch Labour Day weekend. It's now conducting signal and programming tests in Hamilton, Burlington, and Oakville... **FMcanada.com** is on the Internet in Montreal, Ottawa, Toronto, Winnipeg, Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver, streaming digital quality radio with music and local/national news and information from 50 Internet radio stations. Toronto-based **Martz Communications Group Inc.** says local information includes live traffic reports, AccuWeather, TV listings, maps and directions, and information specific to local communities. Martz says that with no **CRTC** restrictions, the Web site "actually opens the doors for Canadian artists" who aren't able to get adequate airplay on "traditional tightly formatted radio stations".

OPS: Further to last week's item about Toronto's Asian ethnic community, turns out the complaint wasn't against **Milestone Communications'** Black Music FM licence but rather aimed at **Michael Caine's** winning bid for 740 AM and programming geared toward the 50+ demo. Toronto-based **Infinity Broadcasting** has filed a petition arguing that the fastest-growing segment of the Toronto population is ethnic. **Neeti P. Ray**, President of Infinity, says had it been successful, Infinity would have broadcast programs in 22 languages. Ray says further that a study commissioned by his company strongly criticizes the CRTC decision for not taking into account Toronto city hall reports on the growing population of visible minorities in cities.

REVOLVING DOOR: Former **HTZ-FM (CHTZ) St. Catharines** GSM **Tom Christie** is Senior Account Exec at new station, **WAVE 94.7 FM Hamilton**... **Paul Kinsman**, a 12 year Production veteran with **Oz fm (CHOZ-FM) St John's**, is new MD... New local Anchors for **CBC News: Canada Now**, which is set to launch Oct. 2, are: Vancouver - **Gloria Macarenko**, Calgary - **Kathleen Petty**, Winnipeg - **Diana Swain**, Toronto - **Carole MacNeil**, Montreal - **Dennis Trudeau**, Charlottetown - **Roger Younker**, St. John's - **Debbie Cooper**, Edmonton - **Helen Mann**, Regina - **Costa Maragos**, Windsor - **Blake Roberts**, Ottawa - **Peter Van Dusen**, Fredericton - **Geoff Britt**, Halifax - **Linda Kelly**, and Yellowknife - **Paul Andrew**. All will join national Anchor **Ian Hanomansing** in the hour-long supertime news package... Sportscaster **Mark Hebscher** is leaving the anchor desk at **CTV Sportsnet**. His future with the network is not clear... **CTV** is parting ways with Canadian basketball analyst **Leo Rautins**. He'd been a fixture on national NBA telecasts since the inception of the **Toronto Raptors** and **Vancouver Grizzlies**.

LOOKING: **Telemedia Radio (West)** is looking for a GSM. See the ad on Page 2... **FM98.5 Kitchener-Waterloo** is looking for a News Announcer-Business Editor. See the ad on Page 1... Other jobs we've heard about include: **CKPG Prince George** is looking for a Broadcast Technician... **EZROCK 104.9 Edmonton** is looking to fill two jobs, evenings 7pm-Mid and a swing position.

SUPPLYLINES: **Mel Crosby**, ex of the old **Pineway Electronics** in Toronto, is at **Sequoia Electronics** in San Jose, CA. He's got the lock on all parts stock for ITC cart machines... **Miranda Technologies** says **NBC** has selected the Kaleido-QC integrated monitoring system to assist in its broadcast of the 2000 Olympic Summer Games. The eight Kaleidos, designed so operators can monitor a large number of incoming feeds and other signal sources, were bought by NBC to replace 60 TV monitors for multiplexing in graphic sub-control rooms.

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Thursday, August 24, 2000

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TV/FILM: **Nielsen Media Research** has abandoned weekly hard copy TV ratings books, switching instead to electronic data publishing. President **David Tattle** says "... the best way to get this information to our customers is through the web, to their desktop computers." Up until now, the company had delivered at least one ratings book per week to each of its agency and broadcaster clients for each of the four TV markets it reported (about 208 volumes, each roughly the size of a phone book). Nielsen says the savings generated on publishing are being used to assist in funding an increase the size of the Canadian TV people meter sample thus increasing the accuracy of its data... As the digital licence hearing continues, **CHUMCity** people say specialty channels have become \$25-million to \$70-million businesses. Some broadcast executives believe the new services yet to be licensed will also become money-makers with revenue expectations pegged at about \$20 million to \$25 million a year. But, said VP of regulatory and business affairs **Peter Miller**, "In our view, very few will even hit \$10 million a year." Some applicants, he said, have been a little bit too thrilled with the technology and not based enough in the reality of what the business is about. Miller said that maybe one third of Canadians will have access to digital channels. Others, such as **Alliance Atlantis**, say more than half of Canadian homes will have

digital set-top boxes by 2008... The **CRTC** has denied an application by **Jan Pachul** for a low-power TV station at Toronto's Beaches neighbourhood. The proposal was predicated on the station's signal receiving mandatory cable carriage in portions of Metro Toronto well beyond the applicant's intended service area... Montreal-based **Blackwatch Communications Inc.**, an emerging player in the financing, production and distribution of films and TV programming in Canada, is being bought by **Wotan Capital Inc.**, also based in Montreal, for \$20-million... Two Canadian entries are finalists for the 34th annual **Iris Awards**, the only awards recognizing excellence in programming for locally funded TV and cable stations in

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Canada and the US. They are *The Classroom*, **Rogers In-House** (Toronto) and *Erica Linder PAID PSA*, **A-Channel Edmonton**. Final judging is to take place in New York and Los Angeles. The Iris Awards are organized by **NATPE**, the National Association of Television Program Executives... Newsworld *Business News* and *Venture* are joining forces. The two teams will unite, to create a single unit that will provide business journalism to both the **CBC** and **CBC Newsworld**. The idea, says Chief Journalist and Exec. Dir. of News, Current Affairs and Newsworld, **Tony Burman**, is to consolidate CBC-TV strength in business journalism and build on it... Senior Executive **Adam Perry**, of **Channel 5** in the United Kingdom, is demanding explicit sex on television. He says the UK is lagging behind Europe and predicts hardcore pornography soon on British screens. A Channel 5 poll on sexual attitudes found that 59% of people think laws on sexually explicit material should be the same throughout the European Union. Just over half believe broadcasters should be allowed to show more explicit material after the watershed.

REVOLVING DOOR: **Cinar Corp.** has fired co-founders **Micheline Charest** and **Ronald Weinberg**, "terminated" by a special committee created several months ago by the company's board of directors. HOWEVER, the two don't want to go. The lawyers have the ball... **Dave Graham** is new PD/Morning Driver at **CKLR-FM (The Eagle) Courtenay**... **Laurie Healy** is the new **POWER 107 (CKIK-FM) Calgary** Music Director... **Mark Burley**, PD at EZ Rock Sudbury, has resigned to take up new duties as Program Specialist at **Conestoga College's** (Kitchener) new FM'er (88.3). His immediate task is to get the new station on the air this fall. Burley begins Sept. 11...

SIGN-OFF: **Mac Shoub**, 81, who wrote hundreds of radio and TV scripts for the **CBC** over a quarter of a century, died of heart failure in St. Michael's Hospital in Toronto last week.

LOOKING: **CJCS Stratford** is seeking a mid-day Announcer/Promotion Director. See the ad on Page 1... **CKDR Dryden** is looking for a versatile Announcer. See the ad on Page 2... Other jobs we've heard about include **101.5 The Hawk (CIGO-FM) Port Hawkesbury** with an immediate opening for a swing personality... Afternoon drive is open at **62 Kool Regina**.

GENERAL: Looks like **Rogers Communications** may be on the move again in possible major league franchise acquisitions. Just a week after the company's interest in buying the **Toronto Blue Jays** came to light comes word that Rogers may have an inside track on getting a big chunk of the **Toronto Maple Leafs**. **Maple Leaf Holdings Ltd.** also controls **NBA's Toronto Raptors** basketball team and the **Air Canada Centre**... **CanWest Global Communications Corp.**, after dropping a \$20-million private placement, now controls Vancouver-based



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Internet company, **Medbroadcast Corp.** The deal puts into place a CanWest/Medbroadcast partnership that also has Medbroadcast participating in CanWest's application (along with **Shaw Communications**) to run a specialty channel dedicated to health. Medbroadcast has 13,000 pages of content on the Web... Meantime, **CanWest Global** President/CEO **Leonard Asper** – in Hull Tuesday for the **CRTC** digital license hearings – says concentration of media ownership is less of an issue in the thousand-channel universe than people fear. Long gone are the days, he said, when one person would own the local newspaper, radio station and TV outlet. "Now there are 80 channels in every market. So if somebody owns three, four or five of them, there's more fragmentation there today than there is concentration." On another topic outside the hearing room, Asper discussed his vision of newsrooms of the future. They're going to be online, electronic, and on-screen, he says, a one-content creator from which each of the platforms it serves can choose the content. In fact, he said, it'll be much like The Canadian Press/Broadcast News in that there'll be diversity for TV or newspapers; a pool of stories available. And that efficiency will lead to less cost in news gathering and reduced employment in some areas and more jobs in others, he said, probably more jobs in marketing and journalism but less cost in technology as duplication of efforts are reduced. Side note: Asper expects regulatory and financial approvals for the Hollinger deal by October...

SYNDICATION: **Christine McPhee's** talk show, *The Touch of Health*, is off the air. In itself, not unusual but a news release this week suggests the two-hour weekly program was removed from the **CHUM Radio Network** and certain **Corus** stations (it was recorded at **Talk 640 (CFYI) Toronto**) because of pressure from a group hostile to complementary medical therapies. The release further suggests that **Quackwatch**, a US-based, industry-funded organization "dedicated to fighting complementary medicine" is behind the cancellation, having pressured broadcasters. CHUM Radio Network General Manager/CHUM Radio VP **Bob Laine** takes exception. He said, "The CHUM Radio Network was paid to distribute the program. When radio stations began to cancel, it became obvious that we could not do it on a break-even basis with the few stations remaining (with the show) in the network. We were forced then to cancel the show. As a result of the cancellation at Talk 640, the

program had no studio from which to originate and the CHUM Radio Network does not originate any of its full-length programs. CRN is looking at two alternative medicine health shows, one produced in Vancouver by JJ Richards and American one"... Seattle-based Jones Broadcast Programming says its show, Delilah, debuted at EZ Rock 97.3 (CJEZ-FM) Toronto Monday night. EZ Rock is Delilah's 207th affiliate. Two weeks back, the show began at Q92 FM (CFQR) Montreal...



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Martz Communications and billed it as Canadian-based. In fact, the company – while using a Web site address that strongly suggests a Canadian base – is American.

SUPPLYLINES: **Leitch Technology** says **Ed Hacker** has been named President of **SiCon Video Corporation** and VP/GM of **Semi-Conductors**. Launched earlier this year, SiCon Video is a wholly owned subsidiary of Leitch Technology Corporation and is based in Richmond Hill, ON... **MediaTouch** has named **Kandy Shute** its VP of Sales and Marketing. Shute had been with **Broadcasters General Store** for more than 18. She will be based in Minneapolis... Montreal-based **Erikson Pro Audio** has, effective Sept. 1, exclusive Canadian distribution rights for the entire line of **Lexicon** digital audio processors...

WHIMSICAL: An anagram is a word or phrase made by rearranging the letters of another word or phrase. No reason they're here save for the fact they caught my attention:

RADIO: **Ian Tyson** will be inducted into the **Canadian Broadcast Hall of Fame** Nov. 14 during the annual convention of the **Canadian Association of Broadcasters** in Calgary... **Elmer Hildebrand**, on behalf of a company yet to be incorporated, has asked the **CRTC** to approve another frequency for his just-granted FM'er at Saskatoon. The new frequency is 98.3 at 100,000 watts. The original spot Hildebrand had applied for wasn't approved because of interference concerns... **Skywords Traffic** has added **News 1130 (CKWX) Vancouver** to its client base, for airborne traffic reports... A proposed new Halifax community events station is appealing for a 100-150 watt transmitter. **Radio 97.9 (CKEP-FM) Halifax**. The station's Web site is www3.ns.sympatico.ca/ckepradio...

- Dormitory
- Desperation
- The Morse Code
- Slot Machines
- Animosity
- Mother-in-law
- Snooze Alarms
- Alec Guinness
- Semolina
- The Public Art Galleries
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- Eleven plus two
- Contradiction
- Astronomer
- Princess Diana
- Year Two Thousand

- Dirty Room
- A Rope Ends It
- Here come Dots
- Cash Lost in 'em
- Is No Amity
- Woman Hitler
- Alas! No More Z's
- Genuine Class
- Is No Meal
- Large Picture Halls, I Bet
- I'm a Dot in Place
- Twelve plus one
- Accord not in it
- Moon Starer
- End Is A Car Spin
- A Year To Shut Down

OPS: An item in last week's newsletter discussed an Internet 'radio' programming organization run by

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Thursday, August 31, 2000

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RADIO: **Corus Entertainment** has bought **Metromedia**, owner of five stations in Montreal and one at St-Jerome. The Montreal stations are: **CKOI-FM**, **CFQR-FM**, **Info 690**, **940 News**, and **Cool-FM**. The sixth station is **CIME-FM**. This most recent purchase will be combined with Corus' six existing Quebec stations to, as the company puts it, position it "as one of the province's leading broadcasters"... **Telemedia Radio** has bought the five **Affinity Radio Group** stations in Ontario: **CHTZ-FM/CHRE-FM/CKTB-AM St. Catharines**, **CHAM-AM Hamilton** and **CKSL-AM London**. The deal won't be complete, of course, until the **CRTC** approves. Telemedia already owns 74 stations, including **CKOC/CKLH-FM Hamilton** and, in London, **CIQM-FM/CJBX-FM/CJBK-AM**... **New Brunswick Broadcasting**, owner of **CHSJ-AM Saint John** and **CKBW-AM Bridgewater**, has won **CRTC** approval for two new FM stations, one in Saint John, the other in St. Stephen (at the New Brunswick-Maine border). The St. Stephen station will program AC/Country at 98.1 (40,000 watts) and the Saint John station will program AC at 97.3 (55,000 watts). GM **George Ferguson** says the company hopes to have both new operations up and running within months... Also approved by the **CRTC** are five new stations in the Moncton area. **Atlantic Stereo** and **Maritime Broadcasting** each won FM'ers, with **Maritime** moving **CKCW-AM** (New Country format at 94.5 [19,000 watts]) and **Atlantic Stereo** (run by **New Cap**) adding a new FM station (Country at 96.9 [100,00 watts]) to its current **C-103 (CJMO-FM)**. A French-language FM'er goes to the team of **Denis**

Losier and **Maritime Broadcasting**. And, two low-powered FM stations have been won for Christian stations, to be run by **Jim Housson** and the **International Harvesters for Christ**. An application by **Telemedia Radio Atlantic**, which was technically mutually exclusive with that filed by **Maritime**, was denied... Coming up in Calgary Oct. 30, a **CRTC** public hearing for – among other things – a Calgary FM license. The heavy artillery is out as some of Canada's major broadcasters vie for the big win: The 98.5 frequency at 100,000 watts. Looking for approval are: **CHUM Ltd.** (Modern AC), **Craig Broadcast Systems** (Hot AC), **Standard Radio** (Urban Rhythm), **Global Television Network** (Light Classic Favourites), **NewCap** (AC/Modern Rock), and **Telemedia Radio (West)** (Smooth Jazz; same



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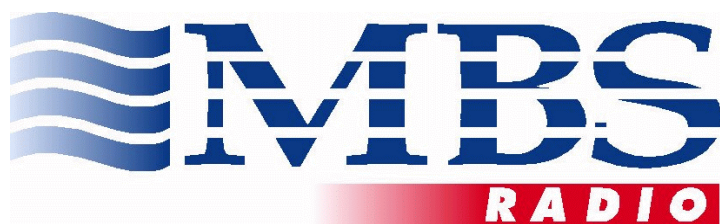
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No phone calls please. Only those selected for an interview will be contacted. Deadline for submissions is September 15, 2000.

frequency but a lower power of 77,100 watts)... Also looking for a Calgary FM'er is **Aboriginal Voices Radio** (88.1 @ 33,000 watts)... The new **Golden West Broadcasting** FM station at Moose Jaw has won **CRTC** approval to change to a non-specialty format. This means it can now air any mix of music, so long as at least 70% is from the pop, rock and dance and/or country categories... Smooth Jazz-formatted **WAVE 94.7** hit the air yesterday (Wednesday) in Hamilton. The new station can be heard from Mississauga on the East to St. Catharines to the south... **CBC** is merging **CBL**, its Toronto **Radio One** station, with national radio network news operations. **CBC** English Radio VP **Alex Frame** says the move is not being driven by economics; that there will be no layoffs. He says it's purely in the interest of providing the Toronto region with better coverage... **93.9 The River (CIDR-FM) Windsor** has changed formats from AAA to AC. The station is now called **Lite Rock 93-9 FM**.

TV/FILM: **Global Television** will complete its dream of a national television network on Labour Day when it welcomes **Calgary 7 (CICT-TV)**, **ITV (CITV-TV) Edmonton** and **CISA-TV Lethbridge** into its system. The exception is **RDTV (CKRD-TV) Red Deer** which remains a **CBC** affiliate. **Global Television National News Anchor Peter Kent** will do his early evening shows from Calgary next Tuesday and Wednesday... About 90 staffers at **CFCN-TV Calgary** were expected to take a strike vote yesterday (Wednesday) if the company's latest contract offer was rejected. Employees at the **CTV**-owned station belong to Local 899 of the **Communication, Energy and Paperworkers Union** and have been without a contract since July of last year. **CFCN GM Pat McDougall** says negotiations are ongoing; that there are many issues still to be addressed... Coming up Oct. 2 in Toronto, *The Teasing is Over. Digital Television and Interactivity Have Arrived!* The sub title is *Digital Seduction and the Dawn of the 500 Channel Universe* and is being presented by **Canadian Women in Communications** in partnership with **Alliance Atlantis** and **Bell ExpressVu. North American Broadcast Association** President **Bill Roberts** will lead a panel on Digital TV and Interactivity. The background: Canada is set to become the first country to reach the 500-channel universe and it's digital technology paving the way. For info, call

416/383-6600... he pre-watershed broadcast of the movie, *Double Team*, has won **CHMI-TV Winnipeg** a sanction from the **Canadian Broadcast Standards Council**. But, the **CBSC** Prairie Regional Council also said the violent scenes weren't gratuitous. **CBSC** determined the airing of the movie prior to 9 p.m. violated the **CAB's** violence code. The complete decision may be found at www.cbsc.ca... Psychologists in Moscow are braced for a spate of calls from people missing their favorite way of escaping the reality of Russian life. The fire at the **Ostankino** TV tower has caused blank screens – and may for months to come. Many say they feel a part of their lives has been cut off. Psychologists think there'll be a surge in cases of nervous disorders as people are deprived of their daily routine. Television has enjoyed a boom in Russia, with people spending upwards of five hours a day watching.



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SYNDICATION: Edmonton-based **The Da Silva Group** is offering a new hour-long weekly show – *Horse Racing Weekly* – and also exclusive live coverage of the Breeders Cup and the Triple Crown. Host is **John Short**, who's been covering horse racing since 1959. Also from Da Silva, two rock programs; *Rockline* and *Mick Fleetwood's Classics*.

GENERAL: **Groupe Videotron's** board is reaffirming its support for a merger with **Rogers Communications** and withholding any recommendation on a rival bid by multimedia giant **Quebecor**. Quebec's largest cableco says Quebecor's \$4.9-billion all-cash bid is financially attractive but contains "certain problematic conditions". But, Videotron says it is leaving the door open to a possible deal between Rogers Communications and Quebecor. Quebecor and Rogers have talked, but won't comment... **Shaw Communications Inc.** has increased its stake in Winnipeg-based **Moffat Communications Ltd.**, having purchased 500,000 shares to increase its holding to nearly 4.5-million. Shaw now owns 11.5% of Moffat. There are industry analysts who think Moffat is a potential takeover target as cable consolidation continues. Moffat, however, is tightly held and the family has denied it's for sale... **Rogers Cable** has launched **Rogers Productions**, a film production house. The company, known formerly as **Rogers In-House Production**, will focus on filming of TV commercials, music videos, on-air promotions, and corporate videos... The **Toronto Stock Exchange** suspended the Variable Multiple Voting Shares and the Limited Voting Shares of **Cinar Corporation** trading early yesterday (Wednesday) afternoon. The TSE says it did so because the company has failed to meet continued listing requirements... **Rogers Communications** has confirmed that it expects to cut a deal for the **Toronto Blue Jays** within a few weeks. Toronto media reports suggest Rogers would win 80 to 100% of the Blue Jays organization. An integral bit of side business is Rogers' acquisition **CTV Sportsnet** from **BCE Inc.** (**CRTC** has already ruled that CTV must sell the channel if it wants to keep a majority of **NetStar Communications**)... The **Canadian Competition Bureau** says it won't challenge

proposed strategic business combination of **Vivendi**, **Seagram** and **Canal+**. Regulatory approvals are pending before **Industry Canada** and the **Department of Canadian Heritage**... The **CRTC** has won the **Institute of Public Administration's** gold award for its forward thinking and innovation in regulation. IPAC presented the gold for Innovative Management at its annual conference in Ottawa yesterday (Wednesday). The win was for developing a collaborative approach to creating solutions for problems and issues in the telecommunications industry.

REVOLVING DOOR: **CJOJ-FM Belleville PD Mark Philbin** has added Morning Host duties to his chores... **CNN President Rick Kaplan** is leaving the network. CNN staffers were told of the move late Tuesday... **CNN President Rick Kaplan** is leaving the network. An executive reorganization will see, among other changes, the former President of **Turner Broadcasting System International** – **Philip Kent** – become President/COO of **CNN News Group**... Talker **Wayne McLean** is heading back to **CFPL London**, a station where he once toiled doing the same thing back in the 80s. McLean's latest stop was **CKGL Kitchener** but he's worked **CFRB Toronto**, **CJSB Ottawa**, and **Radio 4 Windsor**, to name but a few...

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Adrienne Arsenault will succeed **Anna Maria Tremonti** in **CBC-TV's** Washington bureau. Tremonti is going to *the 5th Estate*.

SIGN-OFFS: **Bruce Alloway**, 77, in Edmonton. Alloway began in broadcasting 44 years ago at **CJCA Edmonton** as an Account Executive. He wrapped it up in 1988 when he retired as President of **CFRN Edmonton**... **Audie Ashworth**, 63, a disc

jockey and publisher of hit songs, died of a heart attack in Nashville. He began his career at **WKSR Pulaski** (Tenn.) before forming **Audigram Inc.** which published hits by **J. J. Cale**, **Eric Clapton**, **Lynyrd Skynyrd**, and **Kenny Rogers**, among others.

LOOKING: **CHOK/CHKS/CFGX Sarnia** is looking for a junior copywriter... **Knowledge Network**, BC's public educational broadcaster based in Vancouver, is seeking a Manager, Broadcast Design and Promotion... Be sure to check www.broadcastdialogue.com for other jobs, too. Click on the CLASSIFIED button on the home page.

SUPPLYLINES: After over 11 years as Western Regional Sales Manager with **AVR Communications Limited**, **Wilf Rice** is moving on. He'll remain in Calgary as the Western Sales manager for **MSC Electronics**. MSC's new Calgary office will succeed the company's Vancouver location... Toronto-based **The Bulldog Group** has a deal with **CTV** to provide digital content management. The company creates software for organizations that use high-res video and store it in a digital format. The CTV deal will see the network use Bulldog's software to distribute digitized video... **Enterprise Software, Inc.** and **Columbine JDS Systems, Inc.** have combined their businesses in a stock-for-stock merger, creating a company designed to be a leading global provider of broadcast and advertising business systems and services covering TV, radio, cable, satellite and ad agencies.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS THIS WEEK INCLUDE: **Chris Byrnes**, **Byrnes Media**, Burlington. Welcome!

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