

BROADCAST Dialogue

The Best Broadcast Briefing in Canada

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Thursday, April 1, 2004

Volume 11, Number 42

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RADIO: **Corus Entertainment** is set to exchange certain Quebec radio stations with **Astral Media**. Under the deal, Corus takes Astral's seven AM stations (**CKAC Montreal, CHRC Quebec City, CJRC Hull/Gatineau, CKRS Chicoutimi, CHLN Trois Rivières, and CHLT Sherbrooke/CKTS Sherbrooke**), including the **Radiomedia** network, as well as **CFOM-FM Quebec City**. In exchange, five Corus-owned FM stations in regional Quebec (**CJOI-FM Rimouski, CIKI-FM Rimouski, CFVM-FM Amqui, CFZZ-FM St. Jean-sur-Richelieu, and CJDM-FM Drummondville**) will become part of Astral Media Radio... The **Radio Starmaker Fund** will award \$898,327 to Canadian recording artists to assist with marketing, promotional and touring opportunities – the largest Fund expenditure since its first round of financial support in 2001. The Fund provides grants and bursaries every quarter which targets worthy artists and has contributed in excess of \$7.2 million to-date. The Radio Starmaker Fund is an initiative of the **Canadian Association of Broadcasters**, in partnership with the **Canadian Independent Record Production Association** and the **Canadian Recording Industry Association**... American radio ad sales in February were up 1% overall, with **RAB** saying local was up 3% but that national was down 4%... The **BC Lions** football club has signed a three-year broadcasting deal with **TEAM 1040** Vancouver, leaving its long-time radio broadcast partner, **CKNW Vancouver**... After a one-day suspension, the **Edge 102.1 (CFNY) Toronto** morning show – **Steve Blundell, Jason Barr** and **Todd Shapiro** – are back at work. The hosts were pulled from the air after gross-out TV personality **Steve-O**, a guest on the show last Friday, went too far – with sexually suggestive and graphic on-air pranks... **Howard Stern** is apparently trying to start a pay-radio channel to broadcast his syndicated morning show. Stern would like to buy spectrum from a satellite company, then air his show at a subscription fee of \$1 per month. But the controversial syndicated radio star still has about two years left on contract with **Infinity Broadcasting**. Meantime, the **New York Post** reports that an **FCC** insider is saying that another Stern indecency fine is in the pipeline... **Central**



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Island Broadcasting, based at Nanaimo, has an agreement to buy **CJAV Port Alberni**. If **CRTC** approval is granted, CJAV will be flipped to FM. Central Island operates **The Wave/The Wolf Nanaimo**, **Ocean FM Parksville** and **The Eagle Courtenay**... **Air America** went to air yesterday (Wednesday) in Portland, Chicago, Los Angeles and New York. **Progress Media's** answer to **Rush Limbaugh** began with Host **Al Franken**, the comedian and author, who made no bones about his main target – US President **George W. Bush**... Listener-supported **Christian Radio LIFE 100.3 Barrie** raised \$17,983 in monthly pledges plus a one-time category amount of \$56,505 during its annual "Sharathon" program... **The Bear Edmonton** gave a dump truck owner tickets to a **Metallica** concert for "the great job of advertising the station logo and concert." The truck, prominent on the Yellow Head Trail, was painted almost entirely with station and event lettering... **Broadcast Dialogue** Columnist **Jamie West** and his wife, **Rebecca** (who works at **CH TV Hamilton**), have a new weekend show on **CHML Hamilton** called **Sunday Brunch**. The three-hour program is interactive news and public affairs.

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TV/FILM: Canadian Association of Broadcasters President/CEO **Glenn O'Farrell** says Canada's private TV broadcasters need more co-operation from the federal government. In a speech to the **Broadcast Executives Society** in Toronto, O'Farrell said the industry is the key to strengthening Canada's cultural identity. Further, he said, Canadian broadcasters need help from the **CRTC** to level the playing field for domestic and foreign broadcasters. While not advocating the pulling of American signals, he did complain that US broadcasters get a "free ride" here. O'Farrell wouldn't say how the field could be leveled, but suggested discussions should take place before the Commission... Meantime, the **Canadian Cable TV Association** has denounced the suggestion of a tax on popular imported US channels. Cable TV companies say the levy would raise cable and satellite prices while also creating another trade irritant with the US. CCTA President **Michael Hennessy** says foreign services already contribute to the success of the Canadian broadcast system, which in turn hands over \$118 million to a fund (**CTF**) used to help fund domestic TV shows... **NHL** Hockey on-air rights, particularly as they affect the **Toronto Maple Leafs**, just ain't what they used to be. Any plans the club may have had for a rich new deal – a 20% increase in rights fees – are down the toilet. Now the Leafs are hoping they can at least match the \$450,000 a game they got in the five-year deal that expires after this season. When the Leafs called for offers, they included rights holder **TSN**, **Rogers Sportsnet**, **Global**, **CH Hamilton** and **Toronto 1**. TSN stunned the Leafs by suggesting a cut. Sportsnet's offer was only slightly higher, yet that gives it first bidding rights in the next round. The conventional channels were only marginally interested. The Leafs were counting on the extra cash to help defray the costs of its own broadcast ventures, estimated to total in the \$7 million range (production and carrying games on **Leafs TV**)... **The New VI (CIVI-TV) Victoria** Producer/WeatherCaster **Marv Piutti**, who many know from his years in the Toronto market, suffered a heart attack at work just over a week ago. After being released from a Victoria hospital, complications set in. Piutti's now in a Duncan, BC, hospital near his home and is said to be recovering well.

GENERAL: The *World Broadcasting Unions International* Satellite Operations Group has approved a set of Universal Access Procedures for all satellite uplinks – aimed at significantly reducing satellite interference. The WBU-ISOG includes broadcasters, satellite operators, transmission service providers and industry groups. The Group is calling on broadcasters and satellite operators to collectively help eliminate satellite interference, with special concern for deliberate events of interference caused by rogue carriers which intentionally transmit to satellite capacity assigned to legitimate users. This interrupts network broadcasters that use satellites for news gathering, program acquisition and distribution... *CanWest Global Communications* says it plans the launch of a multimedia digital newspaper, including news clips and possibly classified ads linked to video footage. CanWest COO Rick Camilleri says the balance of power has shifted from media companies to consumers in that consumers have limitless access to content. With that in mind, he says, CanWest's attempt at integrating different types of media could provide a successful business model... Using *Rogers Cable* pricing as an example, American lawmakers are pushing the US cable industry for more choices. Senators, angry over rising Cable TV subscription fees, want cablecos to give US consumers more choice. Some have threatened regulation. The Senate Commerce Committee was divided over whether to try to force cable companies to offer channels on an a la carte basis, but most agreed that there should be more than just a basic package of 25 channels and expanded suite that includes about 60 channels, like a tier of family-friendly channels. The panel released a price sheet from Rogers which gives Canadian consumers the chance to create their own digital package of up to 30 channels or pick thematic packages such as family oriented programming.



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and
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**Deadline for applications,
Thursday April 15, 2004.**

SIGN-OFFS: **Hugh Trueman**, 84, in Mississauga. Trueman, known most recently for his 25-year career in Sales work at *CFRB Toronto*, was "Uncle Bill" on-air at *CHSJ Saint John* for almost 25 years early in his career. At 15, Trueman was younger than many of the performers who called him Uncle Bill... **Bob Harrison**, 69, in Kelowna. Harrison was PD and a part of the original *CKIQ Kelowna* morning show when the station signed on in 1971. He also worked at *CKOV Kelowna* for many years before leaving broadcasting in 1985... **Alistair Cooke**, 95, in New York. Cooke, the broadcaster who epitomized highbrow TV as host of *Masterpiece Theatre* and whose *Letter from America* was a radio fixture in Britain for 58 years, died just one month after retiring because of heart disease.

LOOKING: *FLOW 93.5 Toronto* seeks both a General Sales Manager and a Promotions Manager. See the ad on this page, then click on the link in the ad to see complete descriptions for both opportunities... Other jobs we've heard about this week include: *Alliance Atlantis Toronto* - Manager, Legal Services; *CHRD-FM Drummondville* - Animateur(trice); *Astral Media Radio Montreal* - Programmeur; *Les Chaînes Télé Astral Montreal* - chef de service, post-production; *94.9 CIMF RockDétente Gatineau* - Rédacteur(trice) publicitaire; *Astral Télé Réseaux Montreal* - Préposé(e) au service à la clientele; *The School of Journalism at the University of Regina* - Lab Instructor; *Q107/CHQR Calgary* - Senior Account Executive; *AM900 CHML Hamilton* - News Magazine Anchor & Talk Show Personality; *CKOO-FM Verdun* - Adjoint(e) aux ventes and Représentant aux ventes; *Corus Entertainment Inc. Toronto* (Jefferson Ave) - General Accountant - Programming & Production; *Corus Radio Toronto* - National Creative Coordinator; *The Weather Network Mississauga* - Senior Traffic Coordinator; *Rogers Television Mississauga* - Videographer; and, *Channel M Vancouver* - Assistant Assignment Editor.

REVOLVING DOOR: **Jamie Ross** is new PD at *CKNX Wingham*. She had been Morning Show Host at *CFOS Owen Sound*... New MD at *Big Country 93.1 (CJXX) Grande Prairie* is **Lyle West**. It's an internal promotion... **Brian Hill** is new ND at *CHRX-FM/CKNL/CKRX/CJDC Fort St. John*.

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Thursday, April 8, 2004

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GENERAL: Last night (Wednesday) on *The History Channel*, the story of *The Big 8 (CKLW) Windsor* – called *RADIO REVOLUTION... The Rise And Fall Of The Big 8* – hit the air. CKLW in the 1960s and early 70s was the most powerful force in the music industry. 'LW invented a programming style that was imitated in markets around the world. The Big 8 – 50,000 watts on clear channel 800 (AM) – had 62 million listeners in prime time. (Ed's note: *If you're reading this on time, you might still catch the documentary. It's on at 8 ET.*)... The *Radio-Television News Directors Association of Canada* has announced the presentation of a *Special Lifetime Achievement Award* to the late Israel "Izzy" Asper, founder of *CanWest Global Communications Corp.* It will be presented to *Leonard Asper*, accepting on behalf of the Asper family, at the RTNDA's national convention this June in Saskatoon. RTNDA has also announced eight regional *Lifetime Achievement Awards*: **Pete McGarvey**, Orillia (Central Canada); **Bruce Graham**, Windsor NS (Atlantic); **Andy Walsh**, Richmond (BC); **J.J. Richards**, Vancouver (BC); **Keith Bradbury**, Roberts Creek (BC); **George Garrett**, Surrey (BC); **Roger Currie**, Winnipeg (Prairie); and, **Jim Mattern**, Saskatoon (Prairie)... Canada's TV broadcasters spent \$654 million on news and information programming in 2002 -- 54% of the \$1.119 billion in conventional expenditures on Canadian TV programming. But, according to a *Senate Committee on Transportation and Communications'* interim report on the Canadian news media, only 1.1% of Canadian viewers watch *CBC Newsworld*, 0.5% watch *CTV Newsnet* – but 2.7% watch *CNN*. The committee has been holding hearings over the last year. The committee found that profits in radio in 2003 were 22.7%, in conventional TV 18.3%, in pay and specialty television 17%...



Rosalie Trombley, the famed MD at The Big 8 --CKLW Windsor

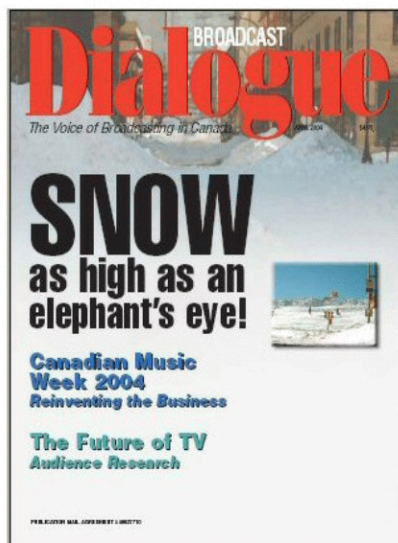
RADIO: There are four new FM stations heading to Edmonton. The *CRTC* has approved applications from *Rawlco (Edmonton) Ltd.*, *O.K. Radio Group Ltd.*, *Aboriginal Voices Radio Inc.* (AVR), and *CHUM Limited/Milestone Media Broadcasting Ltd.* (a partnership). The CHUM/Milestone FM'er (majority owned by CHUM at 51%) will program Urban at 91.7 (100,000 watts), Rawlco gets Smooth jazz Specialty at a frequency to be determined, O.K. Radio Group will program Modern Rock at 102.9 (64,000 watts), and AVR won approval for a Native format at 89.3 (100,000 watts). Denied in this bid for the Edmonton market were *CKMW Radio*, *Rogers Broadcasting*, *Harvard Broadcasting*, *Edmonton Radio*, and *Global Communications*... **Jimmy Pattison** has dropped his lawsuit against Victoria's *Seacoast Communications*, clearing the way for the sale of *Mel Cooper's CFAX 1070/B107.3 Victoria* to *CHUM Ltd.*

It was back in January that CHUM agreed to purchase the AM-FM Victoria combo (for \$7.5 million). Pattison had claimed an earlier agreement with Seacoast would give Pattison the right of first refusal for those stations... American broadcast organizations concerned about obscenity on the air – and subsequent **FCC** reactions – may want to know about something called *Guardien*. It's an automated profanity elimination and spoken word logging system manufactured by **ENCO** to be unveiled at **NAB** in Las Vegas later this month... **Mix-97 (CIGL) Belleville** morning show Host **Sean Kelly** learned the hard way that sharing a name with an IRA terrorist – who's now in Los Angeles awaiting deportation – can be, at the least, inconvenient. Kelly was detained at Pearson International Airport in Toronto while trying to board a flight to Florida. After 90 minutes of questioning, and watching his family go on their scheduled flight, Kelly was released. The problem then became paying for a flight on a different airline. The Irish Kelly was convicted in Northern Ireland for the 1988 killing of two British soldiers.

S YNDICATION: There are more than 35 versions of the **Frank Sinatra** hit *My Way* (not including those attempts made in the televised Viagra commercials). Coming up Monday, April 12, is the 35th anniversary of the world's most covered, most played and most performed song and, to commemorate it, publisher **Warner Chappell Music** is coordinating simultaneous radio airplay around the world at exactly 11:50 AM ET. All 35 versions of *My Way* will be available free for downloading on April 9. Go to <http://content.soundsource.ca> and use **My Way** in the User Name section and **Frank** as the Password...

R EVOLVING DOOR: **Clyde Ross** is new GM/GSM at **Dave FM Cambridge**. Former SM **Bill Dowling** has left the station. Ross was most recently with **CKEY-FM/CJRN Niagara Falls... CFQC-FM (HOT 93) Saskatoon** morning team of **Jay & BJ** (Jay Oliver and Billie Jo Ross) is leaving the station, bound for **Clear-FM (CKY) Winnipeg**. Moving to mornings at HOT 93 is **Jay Richards**, who'd been doing afternoons... New Promotions Director for **CJWW/HOT 93 FM/MAGIC 98.3 FM Saskatoon** is **Cristy Beggs**, a promotion from within... **Robert Watson**, Group Marketing Manager for **Dougall Media** in Thunder Bay, has left the industry. Succeeding him is former Radio Sales Team Leader **Cora Bourgeois**, back from maternity leave. Dougall Media operates **CKPR/HOT 105** and **Thunder Bay Television... Vic Follitt** is new Station Manager at **CKWR-FM Waterloo**, succeeding **Paul Scott** who has left the business... **Sony of Canada** has promoted **Doug Wilson** to President/COO, succeeding **Hiro Sakai**, who returns to Tokyo after eight years in Canada. Wilson had been President of **Sony Logistics America... Rick Landry**, Station Engineer at **CKLQ/STAR FM Brandon**, has moved to Winnipeg-based **OMT Technologies... The New RO (CHRO-TV) Ottawa** has signed **Cory Atkins**, ex of **CFRN-TV Edmonton**, as its 11 p.m. Anchor... **Michael Grade**, 61, will be the new Chairman of the **British Broadcasting Corporation**. He's the former head of Britain's independent **Channel 4** network and a one-time BBC executive...

S IGN-OFF: **Austin Willis**, 86, in Dartmouth. He was best known as the host of *This Is the Law*, a **CBC** show that flourished in the 1970s. Earlier, he had co-starred in the Canadian-made TV adventure series *Seaway*, about security agents working along the St. Lawrence Seaway.



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LOOKING: **CHUM Kingston** - a Promotions/Public Relations/Marketing Director; **CBC Ottawa** - Manager, Corporate Planning (Strategy and Business Development); **RDTV Red Deer** - Station Manager/Local Sales Manager; **Alliance Atlantis Toronto** - Communications Co-ordinator, Dramatic Networks and a Production Executive; **CHMT Timmins** - a morning News Anchor/morning Co-Host; **Global TV Calgary** - Anchor/Reporter; **CTV Toronto** - Broadcast Designer, Sports and a Broadcast Designer, News, and an Engineering Technician; **CTV Specialty Toronto** - Traffic Coordinator and an Account Coordinator; **Global TV Toronto** - News Media Manager; **CBC Winnipeg** - Reporter/Editor; **CanWest Interactive Toronto** - Account Executive and a Jr. Business Development Representative; **Global Television Specialty Networks Toronto** - Traffic Coordinator; **CBC Toronto** - TV Technician; **CBC Sudbury** - Producer French Radio; **CBC Yellowknife** - Videographer; **Corus Children's Television Toronto** - Programming Coordinator; **Corus Entertainment Television Division Toronto** - Credit Analyst; **CHEX-TV1 Oshawa** - Account Executive; **Rock 106/107.7 The River Lethbridge** - Producer/Announcer; and, **CBC Regina** - Producer and a Reporter/Editor.

TV/FILM: **ACTRA**, the Canadian actors' union, says **Telefilm Canada** has entered into an arrangement with the Los Angeles-based **Creative Artists Agency** to hire actors for Canadian films. Further, says ACTRA, the "secret deal" is being done with taxpayers' dollars. Both ACTRA and the **Writers Guild of Canada** say the one-year pilot project represents a slap in the face for Canadian talent. Telefilm argues that the deal with the biggest talent agency in Hollywood is good for smaller Canadian producers and for Canadian talent living in Los Angeles. Telefilm Exec Producer **Richard Stursberg** stresses that the deal isn't about encouraging more US films shot in Canada to save money, nor is it about using American actors in Canadian feature films... A study conducted by the **Child Health Institute** at the **University of Washington** has found that the more time preschoolers spend in front of the tube, the greater their risk of having attention problems by school age. US researchers found that for each hour of TV watched daily, children boost their chances -- by about 10% -- of developing attention, or concentration, problems by the age of seven... **CBC-TV** has cancelled **Disclosure**, the investigative public affairs program. **Disclosure's** demise comes at the end of its three-year run and is blamed on falling viewership. The Corporation cancelled **NewsWorld's CounterSpin** last month... **Mohawk College's** Communications Media Department (in Hamilton) celebrates its 25th annual **Mediafest** today (Thursday) with the presentation of its **Honourary Andy Award** to **CBC Sports** Commentator **Brian Williams**. The award recognizes Williams "*his invaluable contributions and achievements in the Canadian broadcast industry.*"

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TV/FILM: **CHUM Ltd.** has acquired, subject to regulatory approval, **Craig Media** for \$265-million. Properties in question are **Toronto 1, A-Channel Calgary, A-Channel Edmonton, A-Channel Winnipeg, CKX-TV Brandon**, and specialty channels **MTV, MTV2** and **TV Land**. If the deal goes through, CHUM will have to sell Toronto 1 because it owns two stations already seen in Toronto - **Citytv Toronto** and **The New VR (CKVR) Barrie**. CHUM President/CEO **Jay Switzer** said, "It's probably fair to say this is an urgent situation. That's probably a good word to use in terms of some of the pressures that Craig Media is facing in terms of their own challenges." **Drew Craig**, President/CEO of Craig Media said, "I would say that there's now three (private) television companies in Canada and with things unfolding the way they have in terms of concentration of media in Canada, it's very difficult for companies like ours to come up the middle and thrive in that environment" ... "As much as we're happy to see the assets go into what we would deem to be great hands, it was a very difficult decision for our family to make, to get to this point." As for a potential buyer for Toronto 1, **Robert Prichard**, President/CEO of **Torstar Corp.** said: "On the right terms and conditions, we could have an interest..." The **Cabletelevision Advertising Bureau (CAB)** in the US wants to get Madison Avenue thinking about cable TV as being more like broadcast TV. The Bureau's pitch claims that ad-supported cable, in aggregate, delivers more reach than the broadcast networks do among some key audience demos; that across nearly every demographic, US network TV continues to lose viewers to cable. Reach studies for 18-49s, say the Bureau, show 68% for broadcasters and 64% for cable (based on a CAB analysis that lumped ratings for all measured cable networks as a single entity using December 2003 **Nielsen** respondent-level data)... Meantime, **CBS** - sensing a major opportunity for the first time in two decades - is predicting that it will overtake **NBC** on Thursday nights and get double-digit CPM gains in the upfront. With NBC facing the loss of a key piece of its Thursday prime time, **Friends** and **Frazier**, CBS is practically licking its corporate chops... **Clutter Watch 2003**, a study released from **MindShare's** Chicago office, says the big four US TV networks carried more clutter last year. **Debbie**

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Solomon, Senior Partner/Group Research Director, says "In 2003, two more networks, **NBC** and **Fox**, broke the 15 minute barrier. With **ABC**, the clutter leader, there are now three broadcast networks running over 15 minutes of non-program material per hour in prime time." "Clutter" was described as anything other than the main program, e.g. network logos, animated promotions for upcoming shows, split screens, digital text (aka snipes), and flash overlays, similar to pop-up ads on the Internet. Some local stations have aired weather warnings over commercials, raising a new issue - - what happens when the commercial gets cluttered?... From Richmond, Virginia, among the winners of this years **Jefferson Muzzle Awards** is Amnet **CBS Television**. The awards, for suppression of free speech, are handed out each year on **Thomas Jefferson's** birthday. CBS got its muzzle for refusing to air the mini-series, *The Reagans*, amid conservative pressure. The citation reads: "... for acts of self-censorship demonstrating both hypocrisy and an unwillingness to stand up to public and political pressure."

RADIO: **John Wright**, the owner of **K-Rock Kingston**, and **Garry McColman**, the co-owner of **KIX Country/The Border** (which transmit from Cape Vincent immediately adjacent to Kingston on the American side), are said to be contemplating a business arrangement. McColman told the **Kingston Whig-Standard** that if a deal can be struck, his KIX Country and the Border would move into K-Rock's Kingston offices. McColman launched KIX Country early last month, shortly after **Corus Radio** killed its Kingston Country station. **CRTC** Spokesman **Denis Carmel** says he doesn't know how such an agreement would be viewed by the CRTC, saying: "I don't know because it's not something we've ever had to deal with"... The **CRTC** has approved an application by **Norwestco Communications Ltd.** for an English-language FM radio station in Vermilion Bay, with rebroadcast transmitters at Dryden and Kenora. The station will program Hot Adult contemporary music featuring mostly dance and contemporary hits. As one might have expected, **Fawcett Broadcasting**, with primary stations at Dryden, Kenora and Fort Frances, filed an invention opposing the application. (*Fawcett has been the sole commercial radio broadcaster in that area of northwestern Ontario for 65 years.*) It argued that the applicant's business plan was unrealistic in its expectation that Dryden and Kenora could each support more than one commercial station. Nowestco gets 103.3 MHz (@ 1,600 watts in Vermillion Bay, and rebroadcast transmitters at Dryden (104.5 at 1,800 watts) and at Kenora a(104.5 at 1,700 watts)... Meantime, the **Commission** approved **Fawcett's** application to flip **CJRL Kenora** to FM. It will operate at 89.5 with 40,000 watts. CJRL will program the same format as currently on AM – Hot AC. **Norwestco**, noted above, intervened in opposition saying that approval of Fawcett's application could have a negative impact on them... **The Team 1200 Ottawa** Host **Don (Dandyman) Romani** has been suspended indefinitely after on-air comments about **Toronto Maple Leafs** enforcer **Tie Domi**. Romani, in banter, said Domi hits his wife. In a statement last Thursday, station owner **CHUM** apologized: "The Team 1200 regrets comments made by host Don Romani regarding Tie Domi and a member of his family. Mr. Romani regrets making inappropriate comments and has publicly apologized to Mr. Domi and his family." Before being suspended, Romani described his remarks as a failed attempt at humour. The Leafs and **Ottawa Senators** are matched in a first-round **NHL** playoff series... **Clear Channel's** suspension of **Howard Stern** from six of its stations is now permanent following an **FCC** proposal of fines close to \$500-thousand against Clear Channel for alleged indecency during Stern's broadcasts. The FCC cited 18 alleged violations nearly a year ago...

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GENERAL: As expected, the **Canadian Recording Industry Association** (CRIA) has filed an appeal of the recent court decision denying its request for Internet Service Providers to give up identities of alleged flagrant digital music uploaders. CRIA says it will argue that the decision was “*in error on a number of legal bases.*” In February, CRIA filed motions to require five ISPs to disclose the names of subscribers alleged to be large-scale infringers distributing thousands of digital music files to millions of strangers. On March 31, the court denied the motion... The **Radio-Television News Directors Association of Canada** (RTNDA) has announced that the **CTV Television Network** will receive its *Friend of RTNDA Award* at the association’s national convention in Saskatoon June 12. RTNDA President **Terry Scott** says it’s both the company and the people who make CTV “*a true friend of RTNDA.*” The award is presented when deemed appropriate to organizations that have shown a commitment to RTNDA and to the betterment of broadcast journalism in Canada. Previous winners are **Broadcast News, CNN Newsource Sales, Canada NewsWire, WIC, VOCM Radio, Golden West Radio** and **Broadcast Dialogue**... During final journalism classes at **BCIT Burnaby** Tuesday – BOOM! – an on-campus building exploded. While no deaths and only some injuries, the size of the blast drew local newsies to the scene. But a number of the students were there, too, getting hands-on experience. Several sold their video footage to Vancouver news operations while others filed stories to local radio...

REVOLVING DOOR: **Chuck Camroux**, unceremoniously bounced from his GM job at **CJRT-FM Toronto** a short while back, is now Manager Corporate Development for the Toronto-based **Evanov Radio Group (CKMW Radio Ltd.)**, owner of **CIDC-FM Toronto/Orangeville, CKDX-FM Toronto/Newmarket**, and **CIAO AM Toronto/Brampton**... After 40 years, **CHUM Ottawa** VP/Director of Sales **Don Holtby** is retiring... **Rob Alexander** is new Network Program Director for **Newcap Alberta** properties (**Alberta Radio Group**)... **Susan Marjetti** has been appointed Regional Director of Radio for **CBL-FM Toronto** and Southern Ontario. Marjetti had been Program Manager... **Bruce McAllister**, a **CHEK-TV Victoria** Reporter/Anchor, moves to **Global Calgary** as Anchor/Investigative Reporter... The **Radio Marketing Bureau** has a new VP Business Development, **Karen Best**... **Paul Scott**, ex GM at **CKWR-FM Waterloo**, moves to the Broadcasting Program of **Conestoga College** in Kitchener April 19... **Rae Stevens** is new GSM at **CIGV-FM (Giant FM) Penticton**...

SIGN-OFFS: **Norman Campbell**, 80, in Toronto after suffering a stroke. The Producer-Writer-Composer was hailed as being one of the founding geniuses of Canadian television. Campbell joined **CBC Vancouver** as a radio producer in 1948. He won an Emmy in 1970 for his ballet production of *Cinderella* and another Emmy in '72 for *Sleeping Beauty* but is likely best-known for co-writing the musical version of *Anne of Green Gables* (with **Don Harron**). Campbell also traveled south to direct TV specials for **Diana Ross, Bing Crosby, Frank Sinatra** and **Andy Williams**, as well as episodes of the *Mary Tyler Moore Show* and *All in the Family*... **Terry Campbell**, 58, in Vancouver. No cause for his death was given. Campbell, a **CBC Radio** personality best known for his work on CBC Radio Two's *Stereo Morning* and *Arts National Shows*, started with CBC Radio in Winnipeg in 1967 and worked in various on-air and producing jobs with the network through 1992.

LOOKING: Jobs we’ve heard about this week include: **Alliance Atlantis Toronto** - Closed Caption Editor; **CTV Winnipeg** - Part-time Maintenance Technician; **CTV Toronto** - Systems Software Specialist; **Report On Business Television Toronto** - Studio Technician; **CBC Ottawa** - Manager, Human Resources Administrative Services; **CBC Sudbury** - Reporter/Editor; **CBC Toronto** - Business Manager, Network Radio News, Current Affairs and CBL; **CBC Regina** - Senior Maintenance Technologist; **Rock 101.9/The Jewel Cornwall** - Promotions Director; **CHAY FM/CIQB FM Barrie** - Part-time News Journalist; **CKWF-FM/CKRU/CHEX-TV Peterborough** - Part-time News Reporter/Videographer; **CFZZ-FM St-Jean** - Program Director; **Rogers Television Mississauga** - Mobile Producer; **Stornoway Communications Toronto** - Controller; **Rogers Television Toronto** - Master Control Operator; **Rogers Radio Ottawa** - Business Manager; and, **Global Regina** - a Weather Anchor.

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TV/FILM: The financially-troubled **Banff Television Foundation**, which saw it make a voluntary assignment in bankruptcy, says it now has “a financial and operational restructuring designed to ensure a stable and dynamic future for the **Banff Television Festival**.” The Foundation and the Trustee in Bankruptcy – **Richter Allan & Taylor, LLC** – got an order of the **Court of Queen’s Bench of Alberta** approving the sale of the Foundation’s assets to a new not-for-profit foundation (the “New Foundation”). As part of these proceedings, a new media, communications and information industry investment firm (**Achilles Partners, LLC**) will take over responsibility for the 2004 Banff Television Festival. With restructuring expected to be complete within the week, the Board of Directors will consist of senior representatives of the Canadian TV industry. And, as part of the restructuring, Festival CEO **W. Paterson Ferns** will resign and be succeeded by **Robert Montgomery**, a principal of Achilles Partners. Current intentions are for Ferns to become a part of the Banff team focusing on international development and content creation. **Loren Mawhinney** of **Global Television** is Chair of the Banff Television Foundation Board of Directors... Canada’s cablecos have filed application with the **CRTC** to carry **Fox News**. The **Canadian Cable Television Association** thinks that with such approval, carriage would help boost digital tier

subscriptions. Last year, the Commission turned down an application for cable to carry **HBO**, **ESPN** and Fox News. This application, however, is much pared-down... **CanWest Global Communications** plans on selling **Fireworks Entertainment** and taking a \$200 million writedown. The floundering program and production division, says CanWest, suffers from a “continued and persistent weakness in demand for North American content in international markets.” The company says it’s negotiating with “a number of parties” that might be interested in buying what remains of Fireworks – the film and TV library and distribution operations... **CBC**, in a continuing reorganization of TV programming, has issued layoff or redundancy notices to 29 employees in news, current affairs and sports. The notices in Toronto, Vancouver, Ottawa, Halifax and Montreal are largely the result of the cancellation of **Disclosure**, the investigative current-affairs show, and the reconfiguration of **Play**, a **Newsworld** pop-culture program. Most of the 29 employees are being temporarily reassigned to other shows, but some production assistants as well as at least one producer were laid off...

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American TV broadcasters heaped scorn on the **FCC** at the **NAB** convention in Las Vegas after the US regulator announced the death of analog in favor of HD by 2009. The problem, they say, is that it could let cablecos convert the new signals back to analog. The FCC proposed the airing of digital-only signals by 2009, which could force consumers to buy either a new HDTV set, a tuner, or a box to convert them back to analog. The switch to digital was to have happened by the end of 2006 (or when 85% of US households can receive the digital signals. Broadcasters say they're willing but want to ensure that cablecos send the new digital signals to customers and only convert it to analog in homes that don't have equipment to see digital. At present, fewer than 400 (of the 1,200) TV stations airing digital are carried on cable systems... Even predictable levels of violence need Viewer Advisories, says the **Canadian Broadcast Standards Council**. CBSC found that an episode of the Ultimate Fighting Challenge on TSN did not breach Articles 3 (Scheduling) and 10 (Violence in Sport Programming) but, however, the failure to air viewer advisories breached Article 5 (Viewer Advisories). Check this and other recent decisions at www.cbsc.ca...

RADIO: **Jon Pole** and **Andrew Dickson** have won **CRTC** approval for an FM'er at Renfrew. The station will be in a single-station market operating at 96.1 MHz (with 1,660 watts). Pole and Dickson plan to program an AC/MOR format... **Rogers Radio** has franchised its **JACK FM** format to **KJAC-FM Denver**...

GENERAL: **Rogers Communications** reported a first-quarter net loss of \$64.8 million although operating revenue increased 13.4%, driven by strong growth in its mobile-phone subsidiary. January-March operating revenue was \$1.26 billion, up from \$1.12 billion in the year-ago quarter. Rogers reported an operating profit of \$381.9 million, with Rogers Wireless contributing growth of 40.9%, cable growing 8.8% and the media division adding 8.3%. But, after items including almost a quarter of a billion dollars in depreciation and amortization and \$124 million in interest on long-term debt, the quarter's net loss of \$64.8 million came to 33 cents per share. This compared with a year-ago profit of \$23.7 million, six cents per share... **CHUM Limited** reported a \$1.2-million profit in its latest quarter. Higher revenues and lower interest costs helped reverse a small loss in the year-earlier period. CHUM earned four cents per share in its second quarter ended February 29. December-through-February revenues rose 4%, to \$125.7-million... **CanWest Global Communications** produced a quarterly net loss of \$211.3 million amid "disappointing" results from its Canadian TV properties and the downfall of its program production division, Fireworks. Revenue in its second quarter ended Feb. 29 was \$494 million, down from \$501 million in the year-ago period. The

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\$211.3-million loss, \$1.19 per diluted share, compared with a year-ago profit of \$9.9 million, one cent per share. Revenue from Canadian television operations fell to \$161.2 million from \$171.3 million and the segment's earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization faded to \$30 million from \$42.5 million. The CanWest board confirmed former New Brunswick premier **Frank McKenna** as chairman. McKenna had been interim chairman since the CanWest founder **Izzy Asper's** passing last October... Winning broadcasters at the **Atlantic Journalism Awards** in Halifax last Saturday are: **VOCM St. John's** – spot news award; **ATV Halifax** – TV spot news; **CBC Television** won top spot in five other broadcast categories – enterprise reporting, videojournalism, continuing coverage, feature writing and photojournalism; **CBC Radio** won four radio awards – enterprise reporting, continuing coverage; feature writing and new journalist... Finalists at the **British Columbia Association of Broadcasters** 57th annual convention May 14 at Penticton are: (for **Radio**) **Best Creative** – **MOJO Vancouver**, **CKBL/CHSU Kelowna**; and, **CHSU Kelowna**. **Excellence in News Reporting** – **News1130 Vancouver**, **Mountain FM Squamish/Whistler**, and, **B-100 Kamloops**. **Special Programming** – **100.3 The Q Victoria**; **100.3 The Q Victoria**; and, **CKNW Vancouver**. **Community Service** – **CJJR-FM Vancouver**, **CKDV/CKKN Prince George**; and **SUN FM (CHSU) Kelowna**. **Television** finalists are: **Best Creative** – **Channel M Vancouver**, **Global Vancouver**, **CH Victoria**; and, **Citytv Vancouver**. **Agency Creative** – **CFTK Terrace**; and, **Elevator Strategy, Advertising and Design Vancouver**. **Excellence in News Reporting** – **CTV British Columbia Vancouver**, **Global Vancouver**, **Global Vancouver**; and, **CFJC-TV7 Kamloops**. **Special Programming** – **PGTV Prince George**; **Citytv Vancouver**; and, **CHBC-TV Kelowna**. **Community Service** – **CH Television Victoria**; **CFTK Terrace**; and, **CHBC-TV Kelowna**...

REVOLVING DOOR: **W. Paterson Ferns** will resign his post as CEO of the Banff Television Foundation and be succeeded by **Robert Montgomery**, a principal of **Achilles Partners**. Current intentions are for Ferns to become a part of the Banff team focusing on international development and content creation (see the first item in **TV/FILM** for the complete story) ... **Tom Brokaw** has set Dec. 1 as his final **NBC Nightly News'** broadcast. Brokaw's successor, **Brian Williams**, will take over as sole anchor the next day. Brokaw, 64, began as Nightly News Co-Anchor in 1982, then teamed with **Roger Mudd**... **Farley Flex**, VP of Business Development at **FLOW FM Toronto**. He's leaving to partner with **Plasma Corporation**, an integrated media company based in Toronto...

SIGN-OFF: **Micheline Charest**, 51, in Montreal during cosmetic surgery. Charest who, along with husband **Ronald Weinberg**, founded children's animation film company **Cinar** and sold their shares in it last month, were the subjects of financial scandals that battered the company. Cinar almost saw its stock price wiped out...

LOOKING: Jobs we've heard about this week include: **The New PL London** - Commercial Writer/Producer; **Camosun College, Victoria** - Radio Instructor; **Alliance Atlantis Toronto** - Senior Closed Caption Editor and Supervising Audio Editor/Mixer and Revenue Analyst; **CTV Toronto** – Engineering Technician and a Project Manager; **Discovery Channel Toronto** – Executive Assistant; **Global Toronto** – Field Producer and a Building Services Assistant and a Promotion Scheduler; **CanWest Global Communications Winnipeg** - Sr. Programmer/Analyst and a Legal Counsel; **CBC Toronto** - TV Sales Admin Representative and a Broadcast Media Librarian; **CBC Ottawa** - Administrative Assistant Corporate Communications and an Administrative Assistant Strategy and Government Relations; **CBC Regina** - Senior Maintenance Technologist; **CHEX-TV Peterborough** - General Operator; **Country 95.3 FM Toronto** – Sales Assistant; **CKDK-FM Woodstock** - Evening Program Host; **W Network Toronto** - Program Coordinator; **Corus Entertainment Toronto** - Senior Graphic Designer; **Corus Radio Cornwall** - Promotions Director; and, **The Weather Network Toronto** - Senior Traffic Coordinator.

EDITOR'S NOTE: **Broadcast Dialogue** Newsletter radio, TV and specialty channel subscribers are entitled to a free colour logo placement in the upcoming **Broadcast Dialogue** printed Directory. For this to happen, however, we require a high-resolution .jpg (**.jpg ONLY**). The offer for free logo placement is for newsletter subscribers and for stations/channels ONLY at the drop point. The fee for placement to non-newsletter subscribers is \$125. Please do not assume that we already have your logo(s).