

BROADCAST Dialogue

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Thursday, March 2, 2000

Volume 7, No. 38

Page One of Four

TV/FILM: BCE shook up the Canadian market last Friday with its "very friendly" \$2.3 billion offer for **CTV Inc.** If approved by all parties, the new ownership would create a multi-media giant linking telecommunications and Internet with TV broadcasting. BCE, with Canada's most widely held stock, said along with international material from **Lycos Inc.**, the CTV acquisition would provide new Canadian entertainment shows as well as sports and news programs tailored to **Sympatico-Lycos**. Federal regulators are unlikely to block the deal. Both the **CRTC** and the **Competition Bureau** will probe it and neither will wait for shareholders to approve it. BCE has already deposited a trust agreement with the Commission for approval. Any shares deposited in favor of BCE's bid will go into trust and not be released unless the CRTC approves. On the surface, the only possible glitch for BCE is its ownership of **ExpressVu**, since the Commission frowns on cablecos owning large chunks of specialty TV channels. If the CRTC decides the ExpressVu situation is a problem, it could order BCE to maintain separate management at CTV and ExpressVu. The BCE offer, which has valued CTV at 18 times earnings before interest and taxes, prices the network at the higher media valuations US companies typically command. Any counter-bid would have to be incredibly impressive. Further, BCE has also made the offer attractive to CTV's top brass, saying that "the welcome mat" is out for President **Ivan Fecan** and senior executives. BCE may restructure its CTV offer to avoid a big tax bill by offering more stock and less cash but will first need a formal response from CTV on the \$38 a share offering. **Electrohome Broadcasting** meantime,

which holds seven-million CTV commons shares (representing a 12.1% equity position), says its board "will explore alternatives" because it believes that a cash offer for its shares is not in the best interests of shareholders. As with **Electrohome**, **CanWest Global Communications** – which holds 5.6 million shares (or roughly 9.8%) of CTV – also would rather have a share option than cash... Here's what BCE would be getting: 100% of **CTV News 1**; 65% of **The Comedy Network**; 40% of **CTV SportsNet**; 60% of **CTV Pay-per-view Sports**; 33% of **Outdoor Life Network**; 12% of **History Television**; 100% of **Talk TV**; and, 100% of 25 conventional TV stations throughout the country. Some interesting action could brew on the West Coast. **BCTV Vancouver** and **CHEK Victoria** are CTV affiliates, both being acquired by **CanWest Global Communications**. **CanWest** will need CRTC permission to



CJRN/CKEY Niagara Falls is updating their on-air and copy talent banks. Do you love radio? Do you like to have fun on the air? Are you creative? If you answered "YES" to any of these questions, then CJRN/CKEY wants to hear from you. Send your T&R or sample scripts to:

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keep the two stations and, instead, sell **CKVU-TV Vancouver**. CTV owns **YTV Vancouver**, the city's newest station. It will likely be the local CTV network affiliate if CanWest is able to keep BCTV, unless CTV decides to bid on CKVU and sell VTV. "This is now the most competitive, the most fully deregulated market in the world," said Toronto-based telecommunications industry consultant **Eamon Hoey**, adding that "Americans will now point to Canada as the way to go"... Meantime, in Montreal, **Astral Media** said it wasn't interested. Astral Chairman **Andre Bureau** says the company is looking to grow through more acquisitions, but not network TV. He thinks specialty TV is the way of the future, while conventional broadcasting companies are going to lose more market share. Astral Media, by the way, became that after changing their name from **Astral Communications**.... The feds have asked lawyers to take a look at any possible risk of a US trade challenge if **CBC** stops showing blockbuster movies in prime time. The issue arose after the **CRTC** issued certain demands at CBC licence renewal time. While many think there's no problem, trade rules do apply to the CBC because it's a government body... **CPAC** became the first Canadian network to offer full 24/7 streaming of its signal that's available to anyone on the Internet. The move, Monday, delivers House of Commons material as well as CPAC's menu of other public affairs programming. A version of **RealPlayer** is necessary and the site is www.cpac.ca... The **BBC**, stung by accusations that it has "dumbed down", is recruiting a new breed of female presenters who are as notable for their brains as for their looks. Women with heavyweight academic credentials will present four new series on **BBC1** and **BBC2** this year as part of conscious efforts by the corporation to increase its quota of clever women broadcasters... The **COGECO Program Development Fund**, the only private fund in Canada dedicated to the development of dramatic TV series, Movies of the Week, and mini-series, has deadlines of April 1, July 15 and October 15 for TV development and production financing programs. For info, contact **Andra Sheff** at 416/977-8966... **CFJC-TV Kamloops** and **CHBC-TV Kelowna** have both told the **CRTC** that wireless cable will devastate BC Interior ad markets if allowed to deliver Vancouver signals. The Commission is considering

applications for BC wireless cable licences from **Look Communications** and from **SkyCable Pacific**. Only **BCTV Vancouver** reaches the area but Interior TV stations have a longstanding deal that lets them substitute local and regional advertising for Vancouver ads before the signal is rebroadcast.

GENERAL: **Canadian Music Week** is on in Toronto, now through Saturday – the combined annual meetings of the **Radio Marketing Bureau**, the **Ontario Association of Broadcasters** and, of course, the main event - Canadian Music Week. For those who cannot attend, torontostartv.com is webcasting many of the live events from all three functions. **Toronto Star Television** is providing high quality, uninterrupted live streaming video at variable bandwidths via RealPlayer. You may log on now to see what's going on. See the sessions in real time from a special link at www.broadcastdialogue.com, too. Just go to the bottom of our home page, then click on the **torontostar** link... **Canadian Association of Broadcasters'** President **Michael McCabe** says "We've succeeded in pulling the plug on **iCraveTV**". **iCraveTV** agreed in an out-of-court settlement Monday in Toronto to stop showing broadcasters' programming on the Internet without consent. The caveat, however, is that **iCraveTV** may to ask the courts to change the deal if the government makes it clear the broadcast of TV shows isn't a copyright infringement. The settlement goes much further than the injunction issued by a US court. A US federal judge ordered the company to stop picking up American program signals and repeating them on the Internet... US Consumers will soon be able to buy digital TV receivers that work with their cable systems. A deal struck between television makers and cable operators ends an impasse over technical standards that let digital sets communicate with digital cable boxes. Cable customers are expected to be able to buy cable-ready digital sets within 18 months. The **National Association of Broadcasters**, however, isn't happy. NAB's **Dennis Wharton** says the pact leaves out some important issues, including the definition of what constitutes a cable-ready receiver. He calls it "... a piece of the solution, and represents a transparent attempt by both cable operators and TV manufacturers to avoid an FCC rule

TELEMEDIA RADIO (WEST) INC.,

operating radio stations in B.C. and Alberta, is now accepting resumes for future Morning Announcer positions. Our stations are located in small and medium markets, so if you can't bear to leave Vancouver or Calgary or Edmonton, this isn't for you. However, if you're ready to take the next step in your career, this could be your best opportunity.

Candidates should have a minimum of 2 - 3 years experience, previous experience with DCS, MTS, Selector and SAW, and a passion for radio and its relevance to the community. Strong on-air and production skills are critical.

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**Sharon Taylor, Manager, Human Resources,
Telemedia Radio (West) Inc.,
4625 Lazelle Avenue, Terrace, B.C. V8G 1S4**

desperately needed by consumers". **FCC** Chairman **Bill Kennard**, however, says the "industry agreement on digital TV technical standards will jump-start the digital revolution for television"... **Rogers Cable** says it has shown dramatic growth with its high speed Internet service, having passed the 200,000 figure for **Rogers@Home** customers. At the end of December 1998, there were just over 54,000 customers... **America Online** and **Time Warner** are promising to give consumers a choice of Internet providers. They say they will open their cable TV lines after the planned merger. The two call it a first step in a policy of open access in their cable systems... In Vancouver April 13, **ABCOTM (Association of Broadcast Communicators)** has its *The Media Forum 2000* set to roll. The event will feature guest speakers from a cross section of Vancouver's ad agencies. For info, contact **Christy Topolewski** at 604/632-1396.

RADIO: R. D. "Red" Hughes says he, on behalf of **Portage-Delta Broadcasting**, has sold **CFRY-AM/CFRY-FM Portage La Prairie** to **Elmer Hildenbrand's Golden West Broadcasting**. Golden West now owns and operates 16 stations on the prairies, including six in Manitoba. Transfer in ownership is expected by the end of August... Concert promoter **SFX Entertainment** has been sold to sold to US radio giant **Clear Channel Communications Inc.** for \$4-billion, \$2.9 billion in stock and the assumption of \$1.1 billion of debt. The deal is said to be one in which the creation of a major force in the music industry will be created. Clear Channel is the biggest US radio company (800 stations) while SFX is the biggest promoter of concerts and other live events in the US. It was back in 1998 that SFX sold off its radio stations to **AMFM**. AMFM has since been acquired by San Antonio-based Clear Channel... **CKHR-FM Hay River, NT** is still on the air thanks to local business coming to the rescue. The station's morningman, **Brian Lefebvre**, went on the air Tuesday morning and said it was the last day for CKHR to be on the air. As a result, businesses came to the station's door looking to see how much was needed to keep it going. Enough business was mustered – in one-year commitments – to stay in business. As

Lefebvre says, "Incredible response from a little town... they wanted their radio station"... **Canadian Women in Communications'** Annual Awards Dinner in Ottawa saw, of course, the presentations of the four main winners (as presented in last week's edition) plus naming the participants in this year's **Career Accelerator** program. They are: **Kiss92 Toronto's Julie Adams**; **CHUM-FM Toronto's Maxine Armstrong**; **CING-FM Burlington's Tanya Buchanan**; **CAB Ottawa's Lynn Buffone**; **VOCM St. John's' Ann Coombs**; **Rogers Broadcasting Toronto's Dani Eisler**; **CFAM Altona's Angela Enns**; **Radio MAX Chilliwack's Ana Macedo**; **CFMC Calgary's Lolly Mackenzie**; **CISN Edmonton's Lisa McGovern**; **CHFI Toronto's Susana Pinto**; **CHUM-FM Toronto's Angela Reed**; **CJOC/CFRV-FM Lethbridge's June Robinson**; **CFBR/CFRN Edmonton's Monica Shepansky**; **Z95.3 Vancouver's Mari-Lou Shoulak**; **VOCM St. John's' Karen Parmiter**; **CFOX Vancouver's Margaret Pearce**; **680 News Toronto's Stephanie Smyth**; **Energy Radio London's Krita Taylor**; and **Country 105 Calgary's Tracy Walsh**... **CJOB Winnipeg**, taking advantage of bitcasting and **RealAudio**, is now live on the Web at www.CJOB.com.

SYNDICATION: Roger Ashby's *The Hit Files* is now into **CHUM Radio Network** production. The vignette launches April 3... **Sound Source** now has game shows, e.g. *Radio Wheel of Fortune*, *Radio Jeopardy*, *Match Game*, *What's My Line?*, *\$100,000 Pyramid*, *Burt Luddin's Love Buffet*, *Inquization*, *Family Feud* and *Extreme Gong*. They're available on a barter basis. Launch date is Mar. 6... The Edmonton-based **Interiors By Cheryll-The Radio Show** – daily 90-second shows – launched Monday with 21 stations.

REVOLVING DOOR: **Jim Macdonald**, former President of **WIC Television**, is now a Sr. VP with **BCE Inc.**, based in Toronto... **Joe Mulvihill**, who shepherded **Integrated Media Sales** since its inception, is no longer with the rep company... **Ottawa Sun** Editor **Rick Gibbons**, who many will remember from his days as one of **BN Ottawa's** Reporter/Editor's, just couldn't stay

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away from broadcasting. He's still the Sun's Editor but now also does the 3-6 pm talk show on **CFRA Ottawa**... Some streamlining at the **Canadian Association of Broadcasters**. Exec VP/COO **Tina Van Dusen's** expanded role now includes Marketing and Member Services. **Sylvie Courtemanche**, Sr. VP, Specialty and Regulatory Affairs, has been promoted to Exec. VP, Policy and Regulatory Affairs. She will continue in the Radio sector as CAB moves the fill the vacancy of VP, Radio. **Rob Scarth**, in addition to his new role as Sr. VP, Television, takes on New Media. And **Pierre-Louis Smith** joins CAB April 3 as VP, Specialty and Pay Services. Most recently, he was with **TVA** as Director, Regulatory Affairs... Succeeding **Shawn Smith** at **Rogers Broadcasting's** syndication arm (*Rhona at Night*) in Vancouver is **Paul Durante**... **Barry Taylor**, ex of CITI Winnipeg, is new MD at Xfm Vancouver, effective March 13... **Z95.3 Vancouver** midday host **Pam Stevens** leaves tomorrow (Friday), heading across the street to **CKSR-FM (Xfm@104.9)** for the 2-6 pm gig... **Radio Max Group** (Fraser Valley) ND **Robert Linden** returns to **CKWX Vancouver** as Morning News Editor.

LOOKING: **KYX Ft. McMurray** has an opening for their morning show... **Telemedia West** is looking for Announcers... **CJRN/The River Niagara Falls** is looking for Air Talent... See the ads in this edition for those jobs... Also looking for people: **Radio Max Chilliwack** is looking for a News Director... **CKWS-TV Kingston** is looking for a videographer to work at their Belleville office.

SIGN-OFF: I'm going to go a bit beyond the usual stats this week in my reporting of **Bob Hesketh's** passing at age 76. This is personal. Hesketh, as most are aware, was – for 30 years – a mainstay at **CFRB Toronto**. He

also syndicated *The Way I See It*, a daily commentary. Hesketh retired from CFRB in 1987 and is survived by his wife, **Stella** and two sons, **Ian** and **Kim Hesketh** (who's GM at **CJVI/The Ocean Victoria**). When I arrived at CFRB as the rookie news anchor, I was in awe of the personalities who, up until then, had simply been so far up into the stratosphere that a mere mortal such as I couldn't possibly have anything in common with them. I'm talking about the likes of **Gordon Sinclair**, **Jack Dennett**, and **Bob Hesketh**. And then there were your run-of-the-mill Gods, all of them names I'd grown up with. They were all tremendously kind, but the man who stood out was Bob. He often invited me into his private office to chat, to reassure, to bolster, to encourage. I've never let go of that memory. Indeed, it's now part of how I treat the new kids who call here. Yes, this one is personal. **Bob Hesketh** was a truly decent human being.

SUPPLYLINES: **Sony of Canada** has recalled two InfoLithium battery packs, the ones with model numbers NP-F750 and NPF550. Three of roughly 415,000 such packs distributed worldwide either overheated and/or smoked while being recharged. There are an estimated 15,000 of them in Canada... **Applied Electronics** saluted their long-time and well-respected Sales Engineer, **Bob Norton**, at a 25th anniversary roast last Saturday night in Toronto. Friends, colleagues and customers came from all parts of the country for the event.

NEW SUBSCRIBERS THIS WEEK INCLUDE: **Pat Cross**, **NetStar Communications Toronto**. Welcome!

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KYX 98 in Ft McMurray has an opening for the Morning Show. If you consider yourself a top notch, creative, fun and community minded communicator this may be the opening you've been looking for.

If you are highly motivated and are working in a medium or large market and always wanted to do mornings, here's your chance. Or if you've done all you can in a smaller market, then we would like to hear from you. How serious are we?

We're looking for someone to make a commitment and we're offering a salary range from \$36,000 to \$45,000 per year.

KXY 98 is an adult rock station in Canada's fastest growing city, Ft McMurray, Alberta, with a population of 40,000. Send your best to:

Mike Hardy
Program Director
KYX 98
9912 Franklin Ave
Ft McMurray, AB T9H 2K5

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Thursday, March 9, 2000

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GENERAL: **BCE** is expected to mail its \$2.3-billion offer for **CTV** to shareholders soon. Once that's done, **CTV** will have about 10 days to give an initial response. So far, no comment from **CTV**... Award winners at the **Ontario Association of Broadcasters** convention, held last week as part of **Canadian Music Week**, were: *Community Service* awards were presented to **CKQM-FM Peterborough** and **ONTV Hamilton**. *Station of the Year* awards went to **CHUM-FM Toronto** and **CFMT International, Toronto**. **Connie Smith**, Anchor/Reporter at **ONTV Hamilton**, received the *Howard Caine Memorial Award for Public Service* outside of broadcasting... At **Canadian Music Week**, radio award winners were: *Campus Station of the Year* -- **CKLN (Ryerson) Toronto**; *Station of the Year, Multicultural* -- **CHIN Toronto**; *Music Director of the Year, Secondary Market* -- **Mike Campbell, VOCM-FM St. John's**; *Program Director of the Year, Secondary Market* -- **Tom Blizzard, CIHI Fredericton**; *Station of the Year, Secondary Market* -- **HTZ FM St. Catharines**; *Station of the Year, News/Talk/Sports* -- **CFRB Toronto**; *Network/Syndicator of the Year* -- **Sound Source Network**; *Music Director of the Year, Major Market (tie)* -- **Guy Brouillard, CKOI Montreal** and **Rob Robson, CFOX Vancouver**; *Program Director of the Year, Major Market* -- **JJ Johnson, MIX 99.9 Toronto**; *Broadcast Personality of the Year* -- **Brother Jake, CFMI Vancouver**; *Station of the Year, Rock/Alternative* -- **CFNY Toronto**; *Station of the Year, Country* -- **COUNTRY 105 Calgary**; *Station of the Year, Dance, CHR* -- **KISS 92 FM Toronto**; *Station of the Year, Pop*

Adult -- **MIX 99.9 Toronto**; and, *Broadcasting Executive of the Year* -- **Denise Donlon, Citytv/MuchMusic Toronto**... **Tal Bachman** took **Canadian Radio Music Awards** for best new rock solo artist, best new pop adult solo artist and best new contemporary hit radio artist. **Canadian Association of Broadcasters** President **Michael McCabe**, in praising the awards for recognizing Canadian newcomers, said "Radio needs all the new stars it can get"... **ChumCity Interactive** has a strategic relationship with **ARTISTdirect, Inc.**, an online music company that connects music fans with favorite artists worldwide via their online network. Under the three-year deal, the two will work together to expand their offerings in the areas of music content, e-commerce and special online productions on their sites... A **CRTC** hearing scheduled for May 9 in Kingston will hear such applications as: **World Television Network's** for a national specialty programming service to provide news, public affairs, film and entertainment programming from around the world. The company wants dual status carriage on an analog basis, with a wholesale rate of \$0.30 per sub; **Tri-Co Broadcasting's (CFLG-FM/CJSS-FM)** for a new AM station (Nostalgia) at Cornwall; **Affinity Radio Group's** for a new FM license at Kingston (Classic Rock); **CHUM Limited's** for an FM'er (soft AC) at Kingston; **McColman Media Inc.'s** for an FM (soft AC) at Kingston; **Power Broadcasting's** for an FM'er at Kingston (New Rock); **John Wright's**, on behalf of a company to be incorporated, for an FM at Kingston (Rock); and, **CBC's** for a new FM licence at Sudbury which would provide **Radio Two** network service.



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KYX 98 is an adult rock station in Canada's fastest growing city, Ft McMurray, Alberta, with a population of 40,000. Send your best to:

Mike Hardy
Program Director
KYX 98
9912 Franklin Ave
Ft McMurray, AB T9H 2K5

The deadline for interventions is April 13... **FSN Cable**, a division of Winnipeg-based **Moffat Communications**, will pay up to \$US27.1 million for three South Florida cable systems. The acquisitions are in Clermont, and the counties of Miami-Dade and West Palm Beach. After an initial \$13 million, FSN has agreed to pay as much as \$14.1 million over the next three years for additional subscribers in new developments... **RTNDA Canada** will honor **BN's Terry Scott** with its *Distinguished Service Award* at its annual convention this June 15-17 in Vancouver... Grads from the past four decades are being invited to a bi-annual reunion Friday April 28 at **BCIT's Broadcast Centre**. BCIT has been kicking out broadcast graduates for 36 years. For info, contact **Jan Wadsworth** at 604/432-8863... Graduates of the **Southern Alberta Institute of Technology** in Calgary are reminded SAIT is holding a Millennium Alumni Reunion June 10. For information, call SAIT at 403/284-8110...

RADIO: Haliburton Broadcasting has applied to the **CRTC** for a frequency change and a power increase for its **CFBG-FM Bracebridge**. The station wants the 99.5 frequency and power of 100,000 watts to better serve the entire Muskoka market. Currently, CFBG-FM can be heard on 100.9 at 2,900 watts... **CJAD Montreal** will broadcast the city's St. Patrick's Day Parade Sunday March 19. The play-by-play will be done from the station's St. Catharines St. rooftop... An ad for **Rogers Video** has drawn heat from men's and women's groups who say the spot condones and trivializes domestic violence. In the ad, about a woman accused of killing her husband, two women talk about having a party to watch it. They ask if he suffers and then laugh maliciously. When a male voice says no husbands were hurt in the making of the movie, the two females give a disappointed "oh". The ad ran on 80 stations... **Alan Cross** of **Edge 102 Toronto** has just released his fourth book: "20th Century Rock and Roll: Alternative Rock" (**Collector's Guide Publishing**, 2000. ISBN 189652219X). In it you'll find biographies of everyone from the **Velvet Underground** and **Iggy Pop** to the **Smashing Pumpkins**, the **Beastie Boys** and **NIN**... **KDFC San Francisco** has done what no other Classical

music station has done – become top-rated in its market. **KDFC's** secret? It plays the hits and shorter pieces -- not full symphonies -- during drive. The station's tied for first place with two other stations in the latest quarterly **Arbitrons**...

REVOLVING DOOR: Cinar Corp. of Montreal saw some Exec heads on the chopping block this week after \$US122-million was invested without the board's knowledge. As a result, Cinar founders **Micheline Charest** and **Ronald Weinberg** quit as co-chief executives. Cinar also fired its CFO. Montreal lawyer and long-time board member **Lawrence Yelin** becomes Cinar's new Chairman while **Barrie Usher** is new President/CEO... PD/Morning Host **Tyler Glenn** is **Star-FM Brandon's** first employee, in to his new job from **Z99 Regina**. Star-FM (**CKLF-FM**) is **CKLQ Brandon's** new FM sister and is scheduled for a spring launch programming AC... New President/COO of **Davicom Technologies**, based in Trois-Rivieres-Ouest, is **Michael A. Lafond**.

LOOKING: KYX Ft. McMurray has an opening for a new morning show... **KISS-FM Toronto** is looking for a Swing Announcer (see the ads in this edition and at our website: www.broadcastdialogue.com)... **CJME/Z99 Regina** has openings for a morning Anchor and a Reporter/Anchor....

SIGN-OFF: After a long fight against cancer, **Paul Fleury**, President of St. Laurent-based **Sonotechnique P.J.L. Inc.** passed away...

TV/FILM: CTV has formed a major production company with film industry Exec **Robert Cooper** and **Landscape Entertainment Corp.**, the new company, has already signed to produce mini-series for **NBC**. CTV will invest about \$49 million in equity financing into Landscape over the next three years. When the deal closes, CTV will hold a third of the company, which will be based in Canada. Cooper Will remain in Los Angeles. He was most recently head of feature

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Toronto's New
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Today's Hit Music

development and production at **DreamWorks SKG** where he completed several feature films including *American Beauty*... **CBC Television** settled its dispute with Reporter **Terry Milewski** on the weekend. Milewski was suspended for three days over his reporting of the APEC affair in Vancouver, and later for 15 days for writing an article criticizing the Prime Minister's Office. He was exonerated a year ago by a CBC ombudsman. The deal struck reimburses him his lost pay but the suspensions will stay in his personnel file... Twelve major US broadcasters are creating a national network that will use the air and TV antennas -- instead of cable wires or phone lines -- to deliver speedier Web downloads of digital media, including music, software and video games. The **iBlast** network will broadcast over a portion of the digital spectrum that the US government has allocated to local TV stations to provide HDTV. iBlast expects to begin providing service in 102 markets early next year, broadcasting through 143 local stations... **NBC** is resigning from the **National Association of Broadcasters**. It says the NAB hasn't fought hard enough to ease limits on ownership of TV stations. It was last June that **FOX** network pulled out of NAB over the same issue. NBC president **Robert Wright** wrote (to NAB) that NBC cannot support policy decisions that go against "our best interests, and the interests of sustaining broadcasting as a growth business and vigorous competitor to pay television." Under current US rules, no company can own stations that reach more than 35% of US households. Smaller owners fear greater concentration of ownership, especially by networks that distribute programming, would put smaller players in a weak position when negotiating to get shows... Up to 1,000 new jobs at **ESPN** in Connecticut if the US sports channel goes ahead with a planned \$500-million expansion. Plans include seven new buildings, including a digital broadcast centre. ESPN, a subsidiary of the **Walt Disney Company**, has more than 76-million subscribers and includes four cable channels... On April 17, **Women in Film and Television-Toronto**

(WIFT-T) will honour, with their Crystal Awards, **Alliance Atlantis Broadcasting** President **Phyllis Yaffe** with the Lifetime Achievement Award; **CTV** Sr. VP **Susanne Boyce** with the Award for Excellence in Training or Professional Development; Actress **Wendy Crewson** with the Award for Creative Excellence; **Imported Artists Film Company** President **Christina Ford** with the Award for Excellence in Production; **Tattersall Sound** President **Jane Tattersall** with the Award for Excellence in Production; and, **CHUM Television's Paul Gratton** with the Friend of WIFT-T Award. For tickets, call 416/322-3430, ext. 21... Specialty channel **Showcase** has signed an exclusive three-year deal with **Inside Out** to be the presenting sponsor of the **Toronto Lesbian & Gay Film & Video Festival** this May... Reminiscent, at least on the surface, of **CBC-TV's** old *Front Page Challenge*, a new **CBC Newsworld** game show is in the works -- *News Junkies*. And *The National's* **Peter Mansbridge** will become the host. The show will feature contestants answering current affairs and history questions, along with Canadian trivia.

SUPPLYLINES: Montreal-based **Matrox Video Products Group** says its Matrox DigiSuite realtime editing platform is being used as part of live-to-tape production of NBC's *Tonight Show*. It's used to edit shorts and skits as well as to create titles and graphics that are added to the show... **Lucent Technologies Inc.** says it plans to invest more than \$US650-million over the next two years to expand its fibre-optic cable business. The plan by the New Jersey-based Lucent, comes amid an aggressive spending spree throughout the industry, including similar announcements by **Nortel Networks** of Brampton and **Corning Inc.**... **A.C. Simmonds & Sons** of Pickering has become exclusive Canadian distributor for **Vega Wireless** products... **Panasonic** reports that **Headline Sports** "The Score" is moving away from its complete non-linear setting in favor of the company's DVCPRO for digitization.



53rd Annual General Meeting & Convention
Kelowna . British Columbia
May 17. 18. 19 2000



for sponsorship opportunities or delegate registration, please contact . . .

Convention Chair: Kim Hesketh, CIOC/CJVI Victoria

BROADCAST Dialogue

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RADIO: Elmer Hildebrand, on behalf of a company to be incorporated, has won **CRTC** approval for a new classic rock FM radio station in Saskatoon. The downside is that the Commission says he must use a frequency other than the one proposed... **The Fan 590 (CJCL) Toronto** PD Nelson Millman has been named Program Director of the Year at the annual **Sports Radio Conference** in Scottsdale, AZ. His competition was 150 sports radio station PDs from across the US... One of **CFTR (680News)/CHFI-FM Toronto's** Pilot/Traffic Reporters – Darryl Dahmer – had a “near hit” Monday. It actually was a hit with another light aircraft, described as a “brush”, over the city. It happened shortly after Dahmer finished a traffic report for CHFI. Both planes landed safely... And, still with airborne Traffic Reporters, after 30 years of service flying **CJAD Montreal's** helicopter, Rick Leckner will call it quits in June. Leckner, 51, will continue as a Traffic Consultant with CJAD while giving more time to his corporate communications company, **Maison Brison**... The English and French networks of **CBC Radio** will get an extra \$10-million in their annual budgets, beginning next fiscal year (April 1), to “enhance and enrich the quality of programming” and to develop new initiatives to extend CBC Radio's public service. The money's being redirected from the stalled youth radio service... Long-time voice of the **Western Hockey League's Medicine Hat Tigers** – Bob Ridley – is being named to the **Alberta Sports Hall of Fame**. He's been the play-by-play man for every game but one over the last 30 years... In England, student radio has introduced its own form of TV's *Blind Date*,

with a slight twist. Instead of a date, *Blind Shag* expects contestants to have sex with a stranger just minutes after meeting. Afterwards, the pair goes on **Leeds Student Radio** to “confess” the romp. Two points of view on this: 23-year-old co-ed student Gema Ensenat thinks it's great. “Everyone is so uptight about sex when it is there to be enjoyed, so what is wrong with this game getting it all out into the open?” Rachel Berg, the Co-President of Leeds University Union Christian Union, however has a different opinion. “We believe that marriage is the only context in which sex should be enjoyed -- the context of *Blind Shag* removed the idea of sex between two people who love and are committed to one another.” More than 120 Leeds students have already entered the competition... An item in the **Edmonton Sun** last Thursday, in Graham Hicks' column: ‘As *Cujo* and the Toronto Maple Leafs shut out the Oilers on Tuesday, so were Edmonton radio stations shut out of the Toronto ... I mean, Canadian annual radio broadcasting awards. The city went into the recent award ceremonies (in Toronto) with more nominees than any other Canadian city. How many awards did Edmonton disc jockeys, program directors, music managers and station executives win? None, nada, goose-egg, zero. “The whole scene was dominated by Toronto, the centre of the universe,” says (a usually non-sarcastic PD). “No station outside of Toronto won anything, except for Country 105 Calgary, as country station of the year. There's no country music station in Toronto.” Ah well. There's always next year. For Toronto to dominate one more time.’ (Ed's note: In fact, while Toronto stations did quite well, there were winners from outside “the centre of the universe”.

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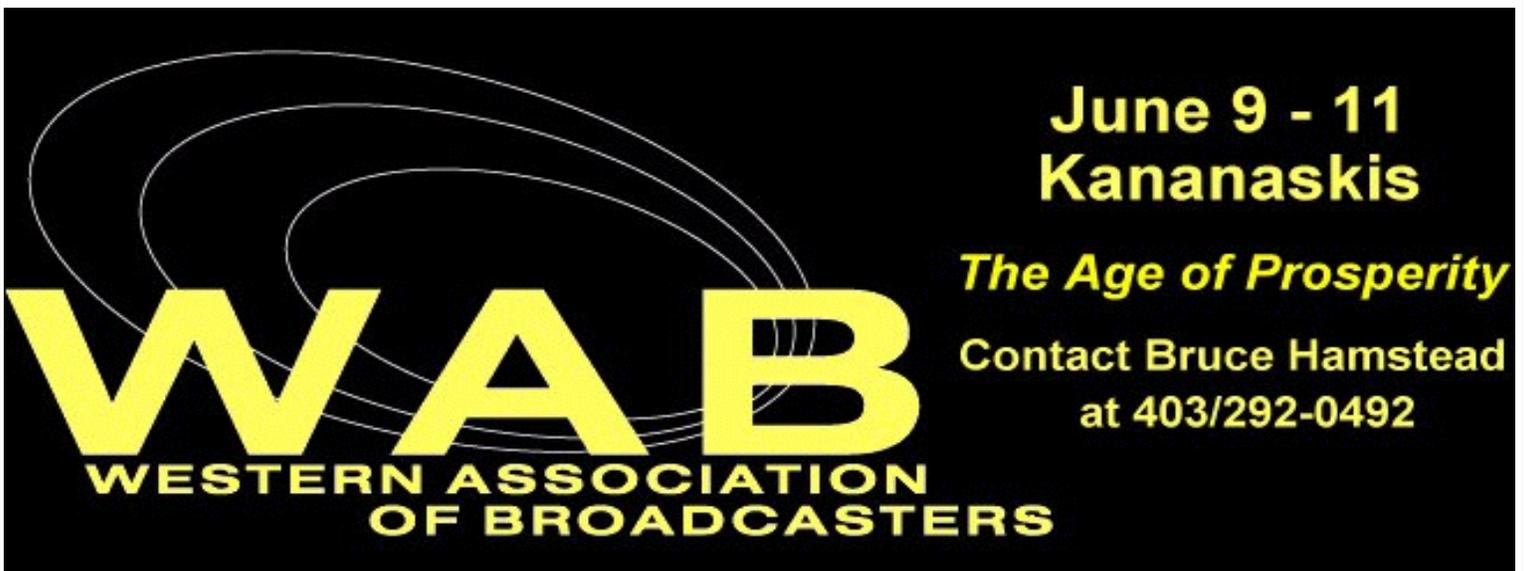
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REAL FISHING RADIO

They were **VOCM-FM St. John's** Music Director **Mike Campbell**, **CIHI Fredericton** PD **Tom Blizzard**, **CHTZ-FM (HTZ) St. Catharines**; Music Directors **Guy Broullard**, **CKOI Montreal** and **Rob Robson**, **CFOX Vancouver**, and **Brother Jake** of **CFMI (Rock101) Vancouver**.)

GENERAL: Canadian Satellite Communications Inc. shareholders have approved a two-for-one split of Cancom's common shares. The stock split will increase the number of outstanding Class A voting shares to 51.2 million... **Rogers Media** and **Excite@Home**—the 50/50 partnership valued at \$30-million—have officially launched Excite.ca. The site features 15 topic areas or 'channels' while the directory allows searching of 250 million Web pages and multimedia items. Excite.ca has formed content partnerships with **Canadian Press**, **Associated Press**, **ChumCity Interactive**, and others. Suggestions are that Rogers will spend over \$1 million to promote the site... Coming up June 9-11 at Kananaskis is the annual **Western Association of Broadcasters** convention, this year themed *The Age of Prosperity*. WAB is still seeking nominations for WAB Gold Medal (awarded to a WAB member station for outstanding contribution in community service, WAB Broadcaster of the Year, and WAB Honourary Life Membership. For info, contact **Bruce Hamstead** at 403/292-0492... **RecordTV** is the latest Web site to demonstrate the convergence of TV and the Internet. RecordTV deploys a virtual VCR to allow 'taping' (via RealPlayer) of a full spectrum of TV programs. Viewers can choose to record from an entire grid of programs, set the 'timer' and then return to watch the program in its entirety whenever they wish... In another demonstration of a broadcaster's ability to broaden markets using the Internet, **ChumCity Interactive** has formed a strategic alliance with **Ticketmaster Canada** so consumers can buy tickets online... The **CRTC**, looking at ways to better communicate so as to increase public participation, has set dates across the country for "informal round table" consultations with CRTC Commissioners and senior staff. All will take place between the hours of 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. (local times) at Toronto April 5 in the TVOntario Board Room,

at Halifax April 10 in the World Trade & Convention Centre, at Vancouver April 10 in the Hyatt Regency Hotel Plaza Ballroom, at Edmonton April 11 in the Westin Hotel, at Regina April 12 in the Hotel Saskatchewan Radisson Plaza, at Winnipeg April 13 in the Radisson Hotel, at Ottawa-Hull April 19 in the Place du Portage, Phase 1V, and at Montreal April 26 in the Complexe Guy Favreau. To register, call the CRTC's toll free number - 1-877-249-2782... It was a long time coming but investors are now getting back to blue-chip stocks, and moving away from technology. Weakness in high-tech stocks, which have been among the market's top performers in 2000, suggest that investors are taking profits from their sharp gains this year... And, this item from the March 3 **National Law Journal Online**: Universities are increasingly facing problems with students violating copyrights, and some experts say students do not understand the issues surrounding intellectual property. Several schools have blocked their network's access to **Napster** software, which students were using to obtain digital music that is often pirated. In addition, students are selling lecture notes to private companies, while some experts maintain that the copyright to the notes belongs to either the professor or the university. Students also violate copyright laws on software. The **Software and Information Industry Association** says 47% of the software on college students' PCs is copied rather than bought. Professor **Paul Goldstein**, who teaches copyright law at Stanford, conducted a study in which he asked a group of students whether they would steal a six-pack of a soft drink or photocopy a book, knowing they would not be caught in either case. Most students felt that shoplifting the six-pack was wrong because the grocer would lose money, and said they would not steal the item. However, most students also said they would copy the book, because the material would remain in the book for others to use, Goldstein says.



June 9 - 11
Kananaskis

The Age of Prosperity

Contact Bruce Hamstead
at 403/292-0492

WAB
WESTERN ASSOCIATION
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REVOLVING DOOR: At **Craig Broadcast Systems**, **Sandi McDonald** is Exec. VP, Corporate Development (in from **PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP**), **Jennifer Strain** is VP, Corporate and Regulatory Affairs (from **WIC** where she was legal counsel and Director, Corporate and Regulatory Affairs), and **Wayne Sterloff** is President of **A-Channel Entertainment** (in from previous endeavors with **CTV**, **Telefilm Canada** and **BC Film**)... **CTV Canada AM** Producer **Zev Shalev** is quitting to start up an Internet and specialty-channel company. He'll be joined in the new venture by Canada AM Senior Story Producer **Fiorella Grossi** and an as-yet unidentified Ad Executive... **Bryan Press** is GSM at **Global Television New Media** in Toronto. Press moved over from **Canvideo Televison Sales**.

TV/FILM: **CTV's** board of directors has accepted a sweetened takeover bid from **BCE Inc.** to support an offer of \$38.50 a share in cash -- an increase of 50 cents a share over BCE's bid made Feb. 25, bumping the \$2.3 billion original offer by \$30 million. The new offer also won **Electrohome Broadcasting's** approval BCE will take over that company, which owns about 8.4 million CTV shares or 12% of the total outstanding... An internal dispute at the **CRTC** is said to be delaying the decision on whether or not **CTV** should be allowed to own **NetStar Communications**, owner of **The Sports Network** (TSN) and French-language **RDS**. CTV already owns Sportsnet. A decision expected a while back has apparently been postponed because of disagreement and an ongoing debate among the commissioners. Some think CTV shouldn't be allowed to own TSN and Sportsnet because it would leave the network with too much control over sports broadcasting. They think the precedent was the refusal two years ago to allow TSN to create a separate network that would have played the regional sports broadcasting role... **Vancouver Film School** has launched its VFS 2000 Scholarship Competition. The 12 scholarships, valued at more than \$174,000, are for New Media; Film; 3D Animation & Digital Effects; Classical Animation; Acting for Film & Television; and, Writing for Film & Television. Entry deadline is May 31... The **Montreal Alouettes** say 14 of their 18 **CFL** games will be carried in Quebec by French-language all-sports **RDS** next season. Meantime, just over two weeks before baseball season starts, the **Montreal Expos** don't have deals for either radio or television.... That new quiz show to be hosted by **CBC's Peter Mansbridge** is still at the starting gate but, so far, no go signal. **Newsworld's News Junkies**, according to producer **Cynthia Kinch**, is being held up because there's too much happening at CBC News, currently undergoing a restructuring, for playing games... **CHEK-TV Victoria** has launched its interactive web site, part of an initiative to incorporate traditional TV and new media technologies (www.chektv.com). Features include streaming videos, on-line interactive polling, weather, video headline news on demand, archived video news clips and written transcripts, plus community events and programming... Montreal-based cable TV and telecommunications group, **Videotron**, has returned \$220,000 in grant money to the federal government after falling short of its job-creation target. The money was part

of a \$2.5-million grant from the **Human Resources Department** awarded under the controversial **Transitional Jobs Fund**. The Videotron project was supposed to create 500 new jobs but, in the end, 456 positions were created. VP **Daniel Neron** says the shortfall of 44 jobs, at the \$5,000-per-job specified in its contract, worked out to the \$220,000... Germany's 24-hour 'reality' TV show has been cleared to continue airing - with one minor exception - by that country's regulators. Producers agreed to give contestants a daily one-hour 'privacy' break from round-the-clock camera observation. **Big Brother**, which airs nightly, began March 1 and shows the daily lives of five men and five women restricted to one house. Infrared cameras even tape the two communal bedrooms when the lights are off. Criticism had been that it offended human dignity. But the German equivalent of the **CRTC** said making any other demands would risk curtailing free speech guarantees. The audience gets the chance to vote to kick someone out of the house, and the last person left at the end will win a \$125,000 prize... A hunger strike at **KFTV Fresno** continues. And Anchor **Fermin Chavez** is down 13 pounds or more. "They're using us, exploiting us, and we knew we needed to do something to get everyone's attention," he said. Chavez, 37, who's the highest-paid protester at \$32,500 a year, but the lowest-paid anchorman in the Fresno market - along with a handful of other unionized on-air personalities and station engineers - has been on a hunger strike since Feb. 18. The employees take turns at daily picketing in front of the station.

SUPPLYLINES: **Itelco** has launched COFDM transmitter components for the US market, a move that could reignite debate there over digital TV standards. Company VP **Howard McClure** says Itelco doesn't "take sides in the controversy over 8VSB versus COFDM" but instead intends to meet customer requirements... Kitchener-based **Christie Digital Systems** has appointed **Randy Pagnan** as its VP, Sales... Saint John-based **iMagicTV**, which provides interactive digital TV software for Internet service providers, has signed a strategic marketing agreement with **Oracle Corporation** to engage in cooperative marketing, promotion and product development. They will work towards integrating iMagicTV's **DTV Manager** with Oracle's **Video Server** software to provide the platform behind many current and future video applications including Video-on-Demand and Timeless TV, a service that allows consumers to record programs, later search for them, and play them back with VCR controls... **CBC** has ordered more than \$500-thousand of Ottawa-based **International Datacasting Corp.'s FlexRoute** digital audio satellite broadcast equipment. It will be used to upgrade **CBC Radio North's** present satellite radio distribution system. The transformation of the radio distribution network to digital format will enable CBC Radio North to uplink radio programs from Yellowknife which will then be rebroadcast to listeners across the north via FM transmitters.

BROADCAST Dialogue

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Thursday, March 23, 2000

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TV/FILM: *ICraveTV.com* is getting set to broadcast again in about six weeks, anticipating a re-launch with new technology that would block US viewers. The security process has been dubbed *iWall*. CEO **William Craig** sees the system as a protector of copyrights because content suppliers will be able to control where they are seen... Montreal production company *Motion International* (formerly *Coscient*) says it is in discussions with *TVA Group* about a potential takeover bid worth up to \$125-million. If the deal goes ahead, it would create Canada's second-largest production firm behind *Alliance Atlantis Communications*... *Telefilm Canada* has turned off the public funds money tap to troubled *Cinar Corp.* The suspension is on until after investigations have been performed. Telefilm has given Montreal-based Cinar up to four weeks to respond to its questions. Over the last five years, Telefilm has provided Cinar with \$8.9 million for producing, dubbing and marketing. The *RCMP* is also having a look because of allegations Cinar passed off American scripts as the work of Canadians to get tax credits. **Micheline Charest** and **Ronald Weinberg**, the husband and wife co-founders and co-chief executives, were dismissed from the company last week... *Global Television* plans to establish a northern news bureau along with a real-world training program for Northern broadcasters. It's part of the acquisition of the *WIC* conventional TV assets. Cost of establishing and equipping the Yellowknife bureau, training a local reporter and maintaining the operation is estimated at \$1-million... *CTV*

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President/CEO **Ivan Fecan** may get as much as \$17-million in *BCE's* takeover bid. The amount would be in addition to the \$10-million in pay, stock options and bonuses CTV has paid him over the past two years. Fecan and 21 other CTV managers and directors could immediately exercise millions of dollars in stock options to take advantage of the \$2.3-billion takeover offer... The *Canadian Broadcast Standards Council* has formed a National Council to respond to complaints about Specialty Service members. Up until now, those complaints have been dealt with by the CBSC Regional Councils... The *United Steelworkers of America* will represent the employees of *The Shopping Channel* TV network. *Rogers Broadcasting* had asked the Labour Board to reconsider but, in a March 3 decision, the board refused.

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Daniel Lamarre, Chair, CAB Board of Directors and
President and CEO of TVA Inc.
Michael McCabe, President and CEO, CAB



REVOLVING DOOR: Susan Davis, ex of *Bohn and Associates Media* in Vancouver, becomes GM/PD at *KISS-FM (CKKS-FM) Vancouver* April 1... Kerry Greenly is GSM at *Radio Max (CHWK Chilliwack/CKMA Abbotsford/CKGO Hope)*, based in Chilliwack. Erin Petrie has been GM at Radio Max since September... Dale Buote is gone as GM/PD at *X-FM (CKMA) Abbotsford*... Dave McGinn, who many remember from *CJOH-TV Ottawa's* news department and who most recently was start-up project manager at *APTN*, is moving to *A.N.N. Systems*, San Diego, to become Product Manager (A.N.N is Advanced News Networking, a newsroom computer system)... Peter Gross, who once toiled for *Citytv Toronto* and who most recently has been a Sportscaster at *680News Toronto (CFTR)*, moves back to Citytv April 1 as a weekend weather specialist and as host of the thrice-weekly *The World According To Gross* program on specialty channel *CP24*.

LOOKING: *Broadcast Dialogue* magazine is looking for an Art Director. See the ad on Page 1... *Kiss 92 FM (CHMX-FM) Regina* has an opening for an evening Swing Announcer... *The NewRO (CHRO-TV) Ottawa* is looking for a Sports Anchor/Reporter.

GENERAL: Vancouver-based *360networks inc.* says it will provide more than \$250 million in high-speed bandwidth network services and fibre-optic links to *Shaw Communications*. In return, Shaw will buy \$US100 million of equity in the company... *CanWest Global Communications Corp.* is investing \$20 million - in cash, airtime and on its *globaltv.com* Web site - to buy almost a third of one of Canada's leading Internet sources for health information, Vancouver-based *Medbroadcast Corp.* The deal gives CanWest 32% of Medbroadcast, two seats on the board, and allows CanWest to bump its stake to 40%. The companies will jointly develop a 26-episode TV series on health and lifestyle issues to be aired beginning in September; Global will help Medbroadcast in international licensing of its medical content; combine ad programs for sponsors and share the use

of Global media sales staff; and, integrate Global TV medical news and related content on *medbroadcast.com* with video and audio, interactivity and accessible archives... Friends of the late **Mike Conway**, a 20-year veteran in the Toronto radio business, who passed away suddenly this past September at 39, are being invited to celebrate his life, his friendship, and the family he left behind. The event is planned to begin the early evening of Wednesday, April 12, in mid-town Toronto. Get in touch with **Laurie Yakabuski** at 416/489-2188 for information and tickets... On Tuesday, May 16 in Ottawa, the National Capital Region chapter of **Canadian Women in Communications** is staging its *4th Annual Comedy Night*, featuring **Mary Walsh** from *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*. For info, contact **Jill Dowless (Nortel Networks)** at 613/841-9887... The **Atlantic Association of Broadcasters** Convention 2000 is set for Sept. 7-10 Fredericton's Sheraton Hotel. For info, contact **Leesa Steeves** at 506/450-7622.

RADIO: The **CRTC** has approved a flip for **CJET Smiths Falls (Rogers Broadcasting)** to FM, where it will continue its "traditional country music" format. Further, the Commission has allowed the new FM'er to air 85% hits each week since CJET's programming consists primarily of pre-1981 music. It will operate at 92.3 with 9,300 watts... In Victoria, the former **CKXM-AM** has re-launched as **The New X91.3** (still CKXM), with a target audience 25-54. PD **John Shields** says the format doesn't fit into the usual categories. Instead, he says, listeners can expect to hear artists such as **Steve Earle, Jann Arden, Chris Isak, Chantal Kreviazuk** and **Lyle Lovett**, along with **Shania Twain, Faith Hill** and **Dwight Yoakam**. X91.3 launched Monday at 4 p.m... **The Record**, Canada's weekly music journal, has been sold to **Musicmusicmusic Inc.** Former owner **David Farrell** will stay on as GM and maintain editorial control. It was last August that The Record ceased a hard-copy version, opting instead for an exclusive Web presence. Farrell describes the move as a "small S success ... I guess we lost some readership because there wasn't a

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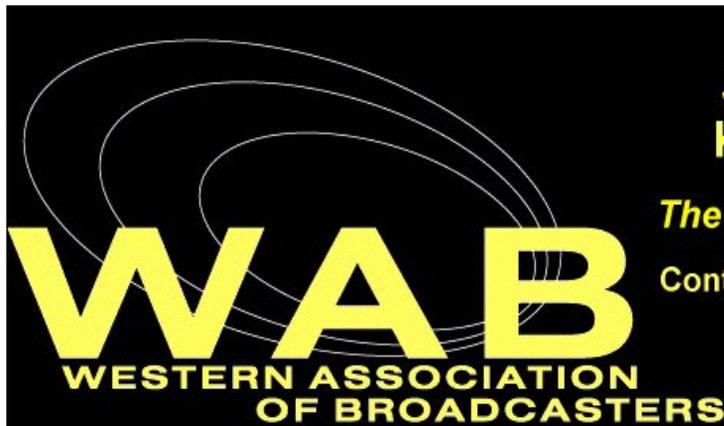


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Convention Chair: Kim Hesketh, CIOC/CJVI Victoria

hard-copy." But, he says, with information a reflection of the previous week and hard copy delivered the following week, *"it was three weeks out of the loop. At some point, that was going to catch up and bite me on the ass"*... The **CIGO Port Hawkesbury Cash Crusade for Kids** is being called a huge success, with over \$17,000 raised in a four-hour telethon. The show, in support of the **Children's Aid Society**, saw entertainment from the likes of **East Coast Music Awards** winners **The Barra MacNeils** and **Kilt... CIQM-FM (Q97.5 FM) London**

GM **Tom Cooke** is talking proud of station staffers **Andy Oudman**, the morning news Anchor, Sales Rep **Kathy Thirsk**, and Promotion Co-ordinator **Tracey Fischer**. They went out of their way last week to demonstrate (yet again) what good folks in the radio business are capable of doing... and how what they do shows the community how powerful radio can be. A bit of background: The first **Q Kids Radiothon** – a 60-hour effort – raised over \$110,000.00 for the **Children's Hospital of Western Ontario**. Afterwards, a call came in describing a difficult situation challenging **Racheal Vanmeekeren**, who's battling cancer at Children's Hospital. With her 16th birthday coming up, the three Q97.5 staffers made special plans for pre-celebrations, arranging with **The New PL (CFPL-TV) London** and **Zomba Records**, to send her to a **Back Street Boys** concert in Hamilton. Further, they got her backstage to meet them. Part two came on Monday, March 20, the day of her birthday. At noon, 350 of her schoolmates were bused to the Children's Hospital parking lot – just outside her room – where balloons, banners, Pizza Hut pizza, and all kinds of other goodies were waiting for them. At noon, Q97.5 played the tunes she wanted to hear.... With North America reeling from the effects of high-priced fuel, many radio stations are using the situation for promotional purposes. One such effort is at **K-ROCK Edmonton** where their 'Gasman' superhero swoops down on unsuspecting motorists who are filling-up, and pays. So far, he's spent hundreds of dollars in random gas purchases. Gasman, whose sell-line is the equivalent of *"giving a whiff of what's it's like to not have to pay through the nose for gas"*, does not depart with a superhero *"To the Batmobile"* but rather his own unique parting mantra: *"You can tax my petroleum, but not my flatulence"*... At small market **CKDM Dauphin**, thousands of hockey fans wanted CKDM to offer play-by-play for two important **Manitoba Junior Hockey League** playoff games (one with the hometown **Dauphin Kings** at Portage La Prairie and the other, the **Swan Valley Stampeders** at home). Both games on the same night. CKDM sent two broadcast teams to the two locations, providing live coverage and switching broadcasts during intermissions and on three separate occasions during the two games... **CFRB Toronto** is now using **The Weather Network** audio feeds... **The Bear Edmonton's (CFBR-FM) Children's Fund** has made a \$50,000 donation to the **Edmonton Police Service's DARE** program (which teaches Grade 6'ers about resisting drugs, alcohol and violence). The Bear GM **Marty Forbes** says *"the*



**June 9 - 11
Kananaskis**

The Age of Prosperity

**Contact Bruce Hamstead
at 403/292-0492**

mandate . . . is to donate to the most pressing needs for children in our city and with the massive coverage of the current drug problems alleged in our city junior and senior high schools this week we feel there certainly is no more 'pressing' issue." Front pages and lead stories in Edmonton this week have been about crack cocaine having become a major problem in senior and junior high schools... **KPIG 107-oink-5 Watsonville's** bumper stickers read *"Praise The Lard"*, and while the small station is an important part of the Santa Cruz and Monterey communities in California, **Arbitron** shows more people listening to it online than any other Internet radio station in the world. Of 500,000 local people, roughly 50,000 are listeners but - on the Internet - there are a further 60,000 tuned-in. Right now, there are roughly 4,000 radio stations on the Internet and ratings leaders tend to be news/talk or alternative (like KPIG). For **Microsoft's** part, it's alternative radio station of choice - and its default selection - is **CFNY-FM (The Edge) Toronto**. KPIG may be found at www.kpig.com... An anti-milk campaign staged by **People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA)**, which claims fat and cholesterol make milk less healthy than beer, also said the industry is cruel to cows. That got the blood boiling in New York City Talker **Mike Gallagher**. As his protest, Gallagher (earlier this week) said he would tape and narrate the slaughter of a steer for use this morning (Thursday) on 128 US stations. PETA's campaign on the benefits of beer over milk was dropped after complaints about underage drinking. PETA's stand on the play-by-play planned for today? A *"sick little stunt."*

SUPPLYLINES: **Sony of Canada's** Broadcast and Professional Group has a strategic partnership with **Power Music Marketing** to extend the reach of Sony Pro Audio products to the Canadian music industry and contracting markets... **Columbine JDS**, of Denver, has acquired agency **Adcognito** of Montreal. The move, says Columbine, further strengthens its Canadian presence... Internet company **Global Media Corp.**, along with **AccuWeather Inc.**, have launched a 24-hour interactive AccuWeather Channel. Global Media developed a 24/7 continuously updated all-weather media player. The AccuWeather Player delivers 120 different streams of forecasting and reporting through a private branded version of the Global Media Player.

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GENERAL: In its first Webcast Tuesday, the *Canadian Association of Broadcasters* elaborated-on and launched its *Future Plan* - as initially presented (in draft form) to delegates at the 1999 CAB convention in Montreal. At its essence, the strategy hopes to position private broadcasters for the digital age. The *Strategic Planning Group*, a broad cross-section of industry CEOs, have identified five objectives: development and ownership of distinctive content; establishment of Internet businesses; brand extension across many platforms; and, securing maximum structural flexibility and the expansion of revenues and revenue sources. FuturePlan also calls for an immediate change to the Copyright Act so that Internet-based broadcasting respects the copyrights of creators; that it not resell broadcasters' content without paying for it... Meantime, on the issue of copyright - but with a US angle - *Napster Inc.*, which trades music on the Internet, is seeking the federal court's protection from copyright liability. The *Recording Industry Association of America* has accused Napster of encouraging users of the company's software and computer servers to trade copyrighted music online without permission. Napster provides free software that allows users who are simultaneously logged on to download MP3 music files from each other, free. The recording association is seeking \$100,000 for each work infringed and preliminary and permanent injunctions against further copyright infringement by Napster... The *CRTC* has approved the application by *Corus Entertainment* to acquire *Power Broadcasting's* three TV and 11 radio stations in Ontario as well as seven radio stations, including one radio network, and one TV station based in Quebec with bordering retransmitting stations in New Brunswick. Overall purchase price was \$107.5 million. The stations are: *CHEX-TV Peterborough* (and transmitters CHEX-TV-1 Bancroft, CHEX-TV-2 Oshawa); *CKWS-TV Kingston* (and transmitters at Brighton, Prescott and Smiths Falls); *CHAU-TV Carleton* (including eleven transmitters in Quebec and New Brunswick); *CIQB-FM Barrie*; *CIZN-FM Cambridge*; *CKCB-FM Collingwood*; *CJOY Guelph*; *CIMJ-FM Guelph*; *CFFX/CFMK-FM Kingston*; *CKDO/CKGE-FM Oshawa*; *CKRU/CKWF-FM Peterborough*; *CFEL-FM Montmagny*; *CFVM Amqui*; *CFZZ-FM St-Jean-sur-Richelieu*; *CJDM-FM Drummondville*; and, *CFLP/CIKI-FM Rimouski*. The French-language radio network consists of CFLP Rimouski; CFVM Amqui; *CHNC New Carlisle*; *CHGM Gaspé*; *CHRM Matane*; and, *CKCN Sept-Îles*... *General Motors*

owns *Hughes Aircraft*, and Hughes Aircraft owns *DirectTV* (wireless television service and high-speed wireless Internet services), and shares of GM and Hughes spiked last Thursday on a report that *News Corp.* and *Liberty Media* were considering a takeover bid for GM in an effort to get control of DirectTV. News Corp. pooh-pooed the *CNBC* report, calling it "entirely false and without merit". Hughes' market value (more than \$60 billion) is greater than GMs'... *Rogers Communications* and *Shaw Communications* are swapping major regional shares of the market and striking up an Internet

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alliance. Rogers will swap its cable operations in BC, primarily Vancouver, in exchange for Shaw's cable operations in southern Ontario and New Brunswick. Shaw pays \$75.9 million for gaining 23,000 more subscribers. Shaw has agreed to sell its nine per cent holdings in Cogeco Cable and Cogeco Inc. for \$198 million. Rogers will pay \$44 a share for about 4.5 million shares. Rogers agreed to sell to Shaw its interest in **Canadian Satellite Communications** for \$94 million. That's four million shares at \$23.50 apiece... The battle for **Vidéotron** continues, the latest effort being one from former Quebec Premier **Jacques Parizeau** who says if **Rogers** did take over it would be a case of "*Toronto buying Montreal*". **Caisse de dépôt et placement du Québec** joined **Quebecor** this week to launch a rival bid for Vidéotron. The Caisse has already used its shareholders' agreement with Vidéotron's **Chagnon** family to prevent it from voting for the Rogers deal. Meanwhile, the takeover is headed for the courts. Meantime, many Vidéotron shareholders, whose stock closed below \$40 Tuesday (after reaching \$48 earlier this month), are bailing out because of the uncertainty... The Ontario **Attorney-General's** ministry has decided that post-court dockets are no longer public documents. Until now, news media relied on them to supplement court coverage. The government argues – although the information has been available for years – that now some of the information is subject to privacy legislation. **Stuart Robertson**, one of Canada's top media lawyers, calls the new policy a "*strange and enigmatic development*". He says the move goes against the principle of openness in the courts; that it "*doesn't make any sense*"... Two broadcasters are among nine Canadians to receive honorary degrees from Toronto's **Ryerson Polytechnic University**. **Pamela Wallin** and **Standard Broadcasting Corporation's Allan Slaight** will be presented with the honors during graduation ceremonies in June... **Canadian Press**, among others, has been sued for libel by Heritage Minister **Sheila Copps** over coverage about a flight she, her husband and her mother were on (St. John's to Toronto). The item quoted sources as saying Copps and her husband were asked to relocate to their assigned seats, refused, and that a disabled passenger had to be relocated. In her statement of claim, Copps says the media portrayed her as an "*arrogant, belligerent, demanding, ignorant, insensitive individual with particular insensitivity being shown to disabled passengers*"... **NBC** has purchased roughly 3% of **World Wrestling Federation Entertainment, Inc.** stock, to the tune of \$30 million. NBC has agreed to buy approximately 2.3 million newly issued shares \$13 per, with the deal subject to due diligence procedures... This year's **Broadcast Educators Association of Canada** conference is to be held in Edmonton, hosted by **Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT)**. Dates are June 2-4.

RADIO: The **CRTC** has issued a call for FM applications for both Calgary and Vancouver. Letters of intent must be in the Commission's hands no later than April 25, and formal applications no later than May 23... **Affinity Radio Group** has withdrawn its application for an FM licence at Kingston... **CJAD Montreal** Morning Host **Terry DiMonte** – in the wake of recent cases of road rage – has launched a

public appeal to "*put the brakes*" to road-rage before it becomes a way of life...or death." The appeal is in conjunction with **Info-Crime**, PSAs inviting Montrealers to report roadway criminal behaviour... On Monday, **CIGO Port Hawkesbury** – on the air since 1975 (and broadcasting on FM for the past month) – becomes the first Nova Scotia AM to complete the flip to FM. CIGO-FM is at 101.5... **CKLQ Brandon** has received the Media Award from the **Canadian Cancer Society** for its 17-year support of the **RCMP Run for Cancer** in Western Manitoba.

TV/FILM: The **CRTC** approved **CTV's** \$409-million bid for controlling interest (68%) of **NetStar Communications**, parent to **TSN** but it's conditional on CTV selling its 40% interest in **Sportsnet** within a year. **BCE's** \$2.3-billion bid for CTV was conditional on the deal going through. However, CTV says it will sell its Sportsnet interest and comply with all CRTC conditions of approval. Two companies already displaying interest in Sportsnet are **CanWest Global** and **CBC**. **John Levy**, majority owner of **Headline Sports**, says he is also considering a bid... Canada's competition watchdog – the **Competition Bureau** – says it is growing wary of mega-mergers. Further, said Assistant Deputy Commissioner of the bureau's mergers branch **Raymond Pierce**, his department doesn't feel pressured to approve mega-mergers in a consolidating global market. Good strategic fits aren't always good competitive fits. Regulators have demanded concessions before approving mergers they believe might limit competition. Among them, of course, was the CRTC requirement that CTV sell Sportsnet before it can take over NetStar... Meantime, the Commission also approved **Sportscope Television's** petition to air 15% live sports and 10% regional programming on Headline Sports. And that means up to 25-hours of live programming a week there... **ITV Edmonton** Meteorologist **Claire Martin** has been named the world's best weather presenter at the 10th annual **International Weather Forecasters' Festival** in Paris. Martin won the **International Weather Presenter's Award**, the winner determined from a vote by fellow worldwide weathercasters. The festival is attended by weathercasters from 47 countries... **TVA**, Quebec's largest private French TV network has pleaded guilty to naming the victim in a sexual assault case even though there was a ban on using it. TVA was fined \$500 and agreed to give \$5,000 to a charity that helps female victims of conjugal violence... **The Bessies 2000 Awards Show** tickets are on sale, the event set to take place at Toronto's Sheraton Centre Hotel May 10. For further information or an order form, contact **Natalie Szpiro** at 416/923-8813 ext. 239... The **Canadian Broadcast Standards Council** has found that the humour of the late night cartoon series, **Kevin Spencer**, violates the prohibition against sanctioning, promoting or glamorizing violence. A viewer had complained that the show, aired on **CTV**, is "*a sick attempt to pass off as humour a family portrayal including sex, abuse, sodomy and drunkenness*" and that the show's protagonist "*is always looking for and exacting ways of hurting others, or, just as horrifying, hurting himself*." The complete decision may be found at: www.cbcs.ca... The

CRTC has approved creation of a trust to hold **CTV** shares until regulators decide whether to allow **BCE** to buy the network. Shareholders have until April 5 to tender their votes... Specialty channel **CTS** is taking national sales representation in-house April 1. **Prime TV Sales** and **Canvideo Television Sales** had been working with Crossroads since it began in 1998... An **AC Nielsen** study conducted for the **Association of Canadian Advertisers** shows 80% of TV hours monitored exceeded 12-minutes of spot content per hour and 66% had more than 30 messages per hour. The study was based on more than 7,000 hours of conventional and specialty programming in Vancouver, Calgary, Toronto and Montreal. Calgary was the most cluttered (89% of hours monitored and more than 12-minutes of ad content). Specialty channels were least cluttered, with 66% of hours monitored exceeding 12-minutes... **Bell ExpressVu** has formed an alliance with about 90 cable TV operators across the country, members of the **Canadian Cable Systems Alliance**, which buys programming, equipment and services as one group. BellExpressVu will provide the group with Canadian and US networks and specialty programming. The Alliance says its members will be able to reduce their head-end costs and still use existing cable systems to deliver signals to subscribers.

REVOLVING DOOR: Jay Switzer has been promoted to Senior VP/GM of **ChumCity** in Toronto, including all TV and related services (**Citytv Toronto**, **MuchMusic**, **MuchMoreMusic**, **Bravo!**, **Space**, **CablePulse24**, **Star!**, **ChumCity Interactive** and **ChumCity International**). He continues as Sr. VP, Programming at CHUM Television stations. Switzer's promotion follows the departure of Sr. VP/GM **Mark Rubinstein** to "explore new creative challenges".. **Claude Lewis**, the Sr. VP, Biz Services at **Cancom** is retiring next month... **Bruce Cowie**, special advisor to **CTV** President/CEO **Ivan Fecan**, has been elected

President of the Board of the **North American Broadcasters Association** (NABA). He succeeds the former COO of **PBS**, **Robert G. Ottenhoff**. New VPs are: **José Ignacio Suarez**, Chief of Staff and advisor to the President at Mexico's **TV Azteca**; **Peter Smith**, VP, Technical Planning and Engineering at **NBC**, and **David Baylor**, Executive VP at **DIRECTV**... **Ray Zinck**, ND at **CJLS Yarmouth** for 25 years, has stepped down to give more attention to his duties as co-owner of the station. **Gary Nickerson**, a 15-year staffer, is his successor... **Victoria Lord** at **Universal Music** in Toronto adds Corporate Communications to her Press & Promotions Manager responsibilities... **Richard Ouzunian**, Creative Head of Arts Programming at **TVOntario** has been let go as has **John Gill**, Director of Network Scheduling.

SIGN-OFF: **Sig Mickelson**, who helped build **CBS News** during the early days of television and made **Walter Cronkite** a North American national news figure, has died at 86. Mickelson, the first president of CBS News, began working for CBS in 1943, then was put in charge of news and public affairs at CBS Television in 1951. He founded the **Radio and Television News Directors Association** and was its president from 1948 to 1949.

LOOKING: **KICX (CICZ-FM) Midland** is looking for a Sales Professional... **KIX/YL Country (CKKX/CKYL) Peace River** is looking for both a News Supervisor and a junior News Person (see their ads here and at the **Broadcast Dialogue** Web site: www.broadcaddialogue.com)

SUPPLYLINES: **The New PL (CFPL-TV) London** is converting to **Panasonic's** DVCPRO for digital news gathering. As staff is trained, The New PL will get new camcorders and two offline edit suites, plus the incorporation of the newsBYTE non-linear editing system.



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