

news conference, "It was the [NBC] affiliates that first piqued our interest in teletext technology." Network launched experiment, he added, "to find out whether or not there might be a business there for us, and for them."

□ **Knight-Ridder** announced agreement with **Capital Cities Communications** which may lead to formation of joint venture to provide videotext services in Kansas City, Mo., and Fort Worth, where Capital Cities publishes daily newspapers (*Kansas City Star/Times* and [Fort Worth] *Star-Telegram*). Initially, agreement calls for sharing of market data derived from Knight-Ridder-AT&T videotext experiment (known as Viewtron) in Coral Gables, Fla., and larger market test scheduled to begin in south Florida in 1983. If results of 1983 Viewtron test are "positive," two companies will go ahead with plans for Kansas City and Fort Worth markets. Announcement came two weeks after Knight-Ridder announced similar arrangement with **Affiliated Publications**, publisher of *Boston Globe*, to provide videotext services to Boston.

□ **NBC** will be among some 200 exhibitors at **Western Cable Show** next month. It will have two booths and two reasons for being there. NBC Enterprises will be there to sell old network programming to cable operators. According to spokesman Curt Block, NBC itself will be there to "observe what's going on in cable." Network wants to be fully informed before it makes leap into cable, he said.

□ **Gaylord Broadcasting Co.**, group station owner, through its **Gaylord Production Co.** subsidiary, has acquired **Yongestreet Productions**, producer of widely syndicated *Hee Haw* series, and its library of 352 one-hour shows for undisclosed sum. Alan D. Courtney, president, and other key Yongestreet personnel will continue in present roles, and Courtney also becomes president of Gaylord's TV entertainment division. Elmo Williams, executive VP of Gaylord Productions, becomes president of Gaylord motion picture division and continues in charge of all Gaylord production.

□ **Public television broadcasters** this week begin discussing development of four-plan for **Public Broadcasting Service** during FY 1983-86. In series of regional meetings, PBS President Lawrence Grossman will discuss with members which direction PBS should take to meet reduction in federal funding and maintain services provided by PBS to stations. Among proposals broadcasters will consider are models for station funding of PBS services. Broadcasters will also be asked to take look at various services provided and decide if any should be added or eliminated and determine ways to compete with growing competition from cable and other programming services. Grossman will hold four regional meetings—Nov. 18 in Atlanta; Nov. 19, Phoenix; Nov. 23, Washington; Nov. 24, Chicago.

□ **Texas Supreme Court** has ruled that **Southwestern Bell Telephone Co.** must pay court costs in lengthy dispute with **Texas Daily Newspaper Association** over **electronic information service** Bell wanted to test in some 600 Austin homes. Controversy ended last summer when Bell called off plans for test after Texas publishers association had protested plans to state's public utility commission. That agency ordered Bell to suspend preparations while protest was being considered. Although Texas appeals court said utility commission lacked authority to require suspension, company said prospect of months of litigation before courts and commission compelled it to abandon its plans.

□ **Financial News Network** will inaugurate its Monday-through-Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. EST, business programming on **Nov. 30**. Service will be from Santa Monica, Calif., via Westar III satellite. President Glenn Taylor said seven-hour block will provide business commentary, interviews and reports on national

and international economic activity. There will be continuous display of New York and American Stock Exchange ticker tape running across screen. Thirteen affiliates in nation's top markets have already signed with FNN, subsidiary of Three Ring Productions, Santa Monica.

□ **FCC** administrative law judge has denied renewals for **Gross Telecasting Inc.**, licensee of stations **WJIM-AM-FM-TV Lansing, Mich.** Partly in response to petition to deny filed by **American Civil Liberties Union**, Gross's renewal applications were designated for hearing in 1974. Among Gross's offenses, judge concluded, were that it had broadcast taped weather reports without notifying public, "repeatedly and intentionally" cut network programming to present local news or advertising and misrepresented its actions to FCC and its affiliated network (**CBS**), and used deceptive maps to obtain advertising clients. **James Gross**, company president, said company plans to appeal.

□ **FCC** last week unanimously voted to renew licenses of **Storz Broadcasting Co.** for **KXOK(AM)** St. Louis and **WIL Music Inc.** for **WIL-AM-FM** St. Louis, rejecting petitions to deny renewals on **EEO** grounds. St. Louis Broadcast coalitions had filed petitions against both licensees, alleging that they discriminated against black men by hiring only black women (because women would count as both blacks and women for EEO purposes). FCC said petitions were without merit.

□ **Donald Sipes**, VP, **MCA Inc.**, and former president, **MCA's Universal Television**, named president and chief operating officer, **MGM Film Co.** He succeeds **David Begelman**, now chairman and chief executive officer of **MGM's United Artists Corp.**

□ **Satellite NewsChannels**, cable joint venture of **Group W** and **ABC**, will shortly announce appointment of news director of **NewsChannel 1—Adam Powell**, associate producer with **CBS News's Morning with Charles Kuralt**. Another announcement, expected this week—**David Horowitz**, executive producer of **ABC News's Good Morning America**, named executive producer with **NewsChannels**.

## Up Coming

**On Capitol Hill:** House Telecommunications Subcommittee will hold hearing on H.R. 4727, bill to increase criminal penalties for unauthorized reception and reproduction of satellite broadcasts, on Tuesday at 1 p.m. in room 2123, Rayburn House Office building, and hearing on FCC's Track One legislative proposals on Thursday at 9:30 a.m. in room 2218 RHOB. □ Senate Commerce Committee will hold confirmation hearing on nomination of **Robert Garrick** to board of directors of **Communications Satellite Corp. (Comsat)** on Friday at 9 a.m. in room 235, Russell Senate Office building. **Also in Washington:** National Association of Broadcasters executive committee meets today and Tuesday at NAB headquarters. Broadcast Inter Association Council meets Wednesday, also at NAB headquarters. □ National Captioning Institute and ABC will hold press conference at National Press Club Tuesday at 10 a.m. to announce live closed-captioning of *World News Tonight* beginning Nov. 23. □ FCC Commissioner **Henry Rivera** will speak before National Black Lawyers Conference at Marriott hotel on Tuesday, 12:30 p.m. □ FCC General Counsel **Stephen Sharp** will address Federal Communications Bar Association luncheon at Touchdown Club Thursday. □ Federal Bar Association's two-day seminar on international communications opens Thursday at Mayflower hotel. **In San Francisco:** FCC Chairman **Mark Fowler** and **NTIA's Dale Hatfield** will be among speakers at National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners convention opening today at St. Francis hotel.