

At a party given by **King World** last week in New York, which included an appearance by David Brenner, host of the company's syndicated *Nightlife*, Roger King and Michael King, chairman of the board and president of King World, respectively, announced the show has been sold in at least 100 markets, covering 75% of the country. Of the 100 stations, 89 are affiliates. Bob Tichler, formerly of *Saturday Night Live*, has been named producer of the series. *Night Life* premieres Monday, Sept. 8.

King World also announced that *True Confessions*, produced by the Landsburg Co. and King World, is a firm go for the fall. The show,



based on the Macfadden Publication of the same name, premieres on Sept. 8 in 70 markets covering 60% of the country. There will be 130 episodes of *True Confessions*. Among stations that will carry the series are *wCBS-TV* New York; *wls-TV* Chicago; *ktvu(TV)* San Francisco; *khOU-TV* Houston; *kSTW(TV)* Tacoma, Wash.; *kSTP-TV* Minneapolis; *kXTV(TV)* Sacramento, Calif.; *KTSP-TV* Phoenix; *wRTV(TV)* Indianapolis; *WTNH-TV* Hartford, Conn., and *KOIN-TV* Portland, Ore. Sales are on a cash-plus-barter basis with King World retaining one minute. King World also says that it has cleared two Westerns—*Branded*, and *The Guns of Will Sonnett*—in 64 markets each.

■ **Fox/Lorber Associates** last week announced the acquisition of syndication rights to over 100 hours of programming from HBO's library of specials and documentaries. Fox will break up the programming into as many as 10 packages. The announcement marked the single largest licensing deal in HBO history. The package will include a "The Stand-Ups/SRO," a package of specials by such performers as Harry Belafonte, Robert Klein and David Brenner; "The Harold Lloyd Library," including 26 half-hours, eight features, and two documentaries; "Tabloid Television," a package of highly exploitable reality programs, and "Sports Rivals/Sports Heroes." The deal between Fox/Lorber and HBO is for seven years, allowing for licensing of the various packages in three two-year cycles. David Fox, chief executive officer, said that three packages will be released in the next two weeks. Fox said sales will be on a cash basis. Although the material never went through a broadcast standards department, an edited version will be delivered to stations. Much of the material is already available on home video. Barry Collier, chairman of Prism Entertainment, which bought Fox/Lorber earlier this year, said Prism hopes to sell the packages internationally.

■ In national ratings, *The Mystery of Al Capone's Vaults*, the **Tribune Entertainment-Westgate Group** co-production, now stands as the highest-rated single syndicated show in history, with a 31.8 Nielsen rating among the 181 stations on which it aired. During the week of broadcast (April 21-27), the program out-rated the week's top-rated network show, *The Cosby Show*, which scored 27.7.

■ **The Samuel Goldwyn Co.** has now cleared the weekly record-review program, *On the Record*, starring Robert Christgau of the *Village Voice* and Steve Pond of *Rolling Stone*, in roughly 35 markets covering 40% of the country, according to Doug McCormick, vice president, Eastern sales. Among clearances are *wNBC-TV* New York, *kABC-TV* Los Angeles, *wGBO-TV* Chicago, *wGBS-TV* Philadelphia, *WATL-TV* Atlanta, and *KTXH(TV)* Houston. *On the Record* is intended for late fringe on weekends.

■ **Embassy Telecommunications** says that it has now placed *Facts of Life* in 101 markets, covering 82% of the country, for its fall premiere. Cash sales of the show's 153 episodes, for six runs over five years, include all top 10 markets, and 24 of the top 25. Recent sales include *KTZZ(TV)* Seattle; *wix(TV)* Syracuse, N.Y.; *wol-TV* Des Moines, *kGAN(TV)* Cedar Rapids, Iowa; *wEVV(TV)* Evansville, Ind.; *kKTV(TV)* Colorado Springs; *kADN(TV)* Lafayette, La., and *kMID-TV* Odesa-Midland, Tex.

■ **JM Entertainment** says that it has cleared *At the Gate*, a one-hour special focusing on horse racing's Triple Crown and hosted by William Conrad, in 125 markets covering 86% of the country. The program's window is April 27 to June 7, the day of the Belmont Stakes. Sales are on a barter basis with seven minutes for stations and five minutes for JM. Among JM's sponsors are Beatrice, Old Milwaukee, Brylcreem and American Cyanamid. Among clearances for *At the Gate* are *wNBC-TV* New York, *kNBC(TV)* Los Angeles, *kyw-TV* Philadelphia, *wCVB-TV* Boston, *wxyz-TV* Detroit and *wJLA-TV* Washington. JM has also cleared Michael Myerberg's prize-winning 90-minute animated version of *Hansel and Gretel* in 117 markets covering 85% of the country. Scheduled for two runs, during the second and fourth quarters of this year, *Hansel and Gretel* is sold on a barter basis with seven minutes for stations and five minutes for JM. JM's list of advertisers for the show include Tonka and Teddy Ruxpin. Among stations carrying the program are *wNBC-TV* New York, *kHJ-TV* Los Angeles, *wFLD-TV* Chicago, *KTXX(TV)* Houston, *wXIX-TV* Cincinnati, and *wTV(TV)* Milwaukee.

■ **Warner Bros. Television Distribution** says that it has now cleared "Volume 26," in 60 markets, including 24 of the top 25. The package includes 24 features. The latest additions include *wKBD-TV* Detroit; *WTNH-TV* Hartford, Conn.; *wZTV(TV)* Nashville; *wPCQ-TV* Charlotte, N.C., and *wLNE(TV)* Providence, R.I.

■ **Prijatel Productions** says that four stations will begin airing *Bingomania* this month, and that an undisclosed number of others have cleared the show. The show began as a local production at Griffin Television's *kWT(TV)* Oklahoma City. Other stations that will carry it include *wDSU-TV* New Orleans, *wTAE-TV* Pittsburgh, and *kPOM-TV* Fort Smith, Ark. Prijatel also says that it has now placed *The Missing Children Network* on seven more stations, bringing its total to 98. The new stations are *wFRV-TV* Green Bay, Wis.; *kBAK-TV* Bakersfield, Calif.; *wSFA-TV* Montgomery, Ala.; *wTVQ-TV* Lexington, Ky.; *WEEK-TV* Peoria, Ill.; *wTVM(TV)* Columbus, Ga., and *wGHP-TV* Greensboro, N.C. Sales of the series are on a cash basis.

■ **ITC Entertainment** has purchased the television movie, "Rock-abye," starring Valerie Bertinelli, and "Amos," starring Kirk Douglas. "Rockabye" scored 25.3/38 when it aired on CBS in January and "Amos" scored a 24.5/37 when it aired on CBS last September.

■ **Blair Entertainment** says that it has added 15 more stations to its lineup for *Strike it Rich*, hosted by Joe Garagiola, bringing the show's total to 40. Sales of *Strike it Rich* are on a cash-plus-barter basis, with Blair retaining one minute. Among the 15 new stations are *wPX(TV)* Pittsburgh; *wIT(TV)* Hartford, Conn.; *wCPO-TV* Cincinnati; *wMOD(TV)* Orlando, Fla., and *wUHQ-TV* Grand Rapids, Mich. Blair said it has also added nine more stations for its movie package, "Revenge," bringing its total to 35. The nine new sales are *wMOD(TV)* Orlando, *wPEC(TV)* West Palm Beach and *wHG-TV* Panama City all Florida; *wSBF-TV* South Bend, Ind.; *wFMJ-TV* Youngstown, Ohio; *KEY(TV)* Santa Barbara, Calif.; *kSWO-TV* Wichita Falls, Kan.; *kPEJ(TV)* Midland-Odessa, Tex., and *wHTV(TV)* Meriden, Miss. And Blair says that *Divorce Court*, which begins its third year of production in 1986-87, has increased its lineup by 11 stations. The show is currently on 159 stations covering 93% of the country. Sales are on a cash-plus-barter basis with Blair retaining one minute.

■ **Fries Distribution** says that it has now cleared *Cover Story* on 28 stations covering 45% of the country. The weekly series of 26 half-hour celebrity profiles is produced by Rift Fournier's Noel Films. Among the clearances are *wCBS-TV* New York, *kCBS-TV* Los Angeles, *wMAQ-TV* Chicago, *wCAU-TV* Philadelphia and *wCLO-TV* Cleveland. Sales are on a barter basis with four minutes for stations, and two and a half minutes for Fries.

■ **Columbia Pictures Television** says that it has increased its market total for *What's Happening Now!* to 101 stations covering 80% of the country. The go-ahead for the second and third years of production of the series has also been given. Sales of the weekly updated version of the ABC *What's Happening!* series of the 70's are on a barter basis with three and a half minutes for stations and three minutes for Columbia. Back end cash deals for the daily version of the series are negotiated with each sale. Among the latest clearances are *wGCV-TV* Milwaukee; *wsoc-TV* Charlotte, N.C.; *wBRC-TV* Birmingham, Ala.; *wRAL-TV* Raleigh, N.C., and *wALA-TV* Mobile, Ala.