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CableFAX Daily™

Monday — March 29, 2010

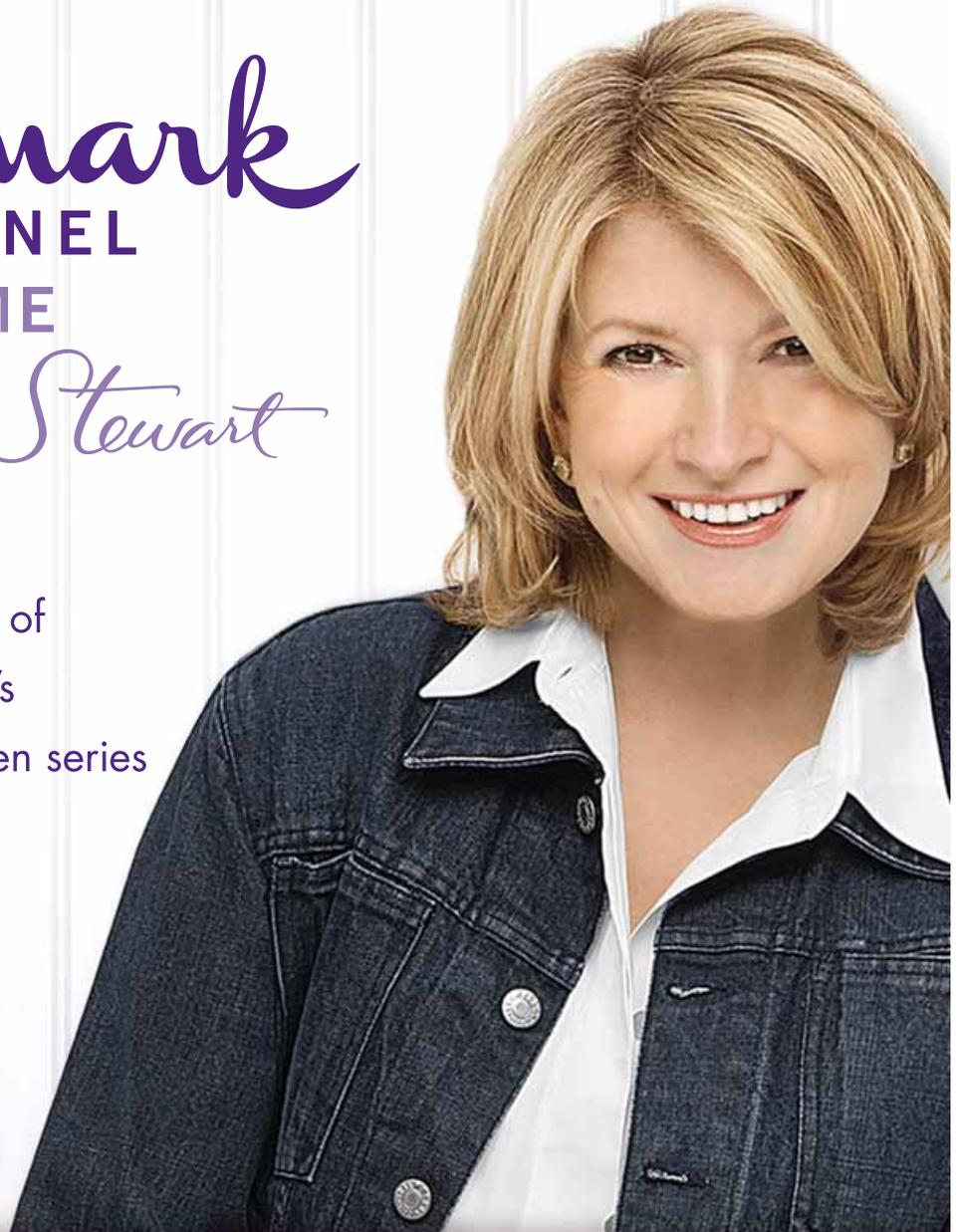
What the Industry Reads First

Volume 21 / No. 059

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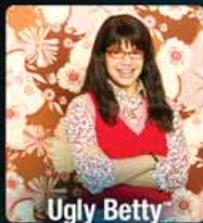
Celluvision: CVC Knocks Around \$30 Price Point in Cell Phone Survey

Cablevision continues to kick the tires on a mobile phone service, sending out a survey to subs recently that says it's considering a service that would include unlimited calling, texting and Internet data access for \$29.95/month. During last month's earnings call, COO *Tom Rutledge* said mobile phones that could hop from WiFi to cellular networks and back were currently in trial (*Cfax*, 2/26), with promising early results. The Optimum cellular service would include a "variety of smart phone choices that offer features comparable to those offered by iPhone, Android and Blackberry," according to a copy of a portion of the survey posted by a sub online. The MSO declined to comment on the survey. It's not clear how far along this is or what cellular network CVC might use. **T-Mobile**, which has Unlicensed Mobile Access service, is viewed as a possible contender. "This service will work within your home over a wireless router connected to Optimum Online and outside your home utilizing Optimum WiFi or any WiFi connection as well as over a reliable cellular network when WiFi is not available," said the survey, which probed expectations for reliability, technology, etc. No word on a name (and it's probably too early), but we'll go out on a limb and guess Optimum Mobile. It's the WiFi component—significant given CVC's free WiFi offering to its broadband subs in CT/NJ/NJ—that makes this offering considerably different than **Time Warner Cable**, **Comcast**, **Cox** and **Bright House's** short-lived attempt to offer wireless phone branded **Pivot** through a jv with **Sprint**. Last month, Rutledge expressed hope that "we'll be able to launch additional products using the WiFi network that will look like what some people think of as cellular phones." While we're on the subject of CVC tech, keep an eye out for its remote storage DVR. It's supposed to roll out on a limited basis in Apr, offering functionality such as pause/start live TV and caller ID on screen.

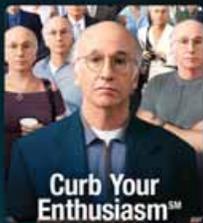
Comcast-NBC: The FCC's Media Bureau denied **Media Access Project's** request to extend the filing deadlines by 45 days in the proposed **Comcast-NBCU** jv. Among other things, the group said it needed more time given the number of important proceedings (such as retrans) pending at the FCC. The Bureau said the existing pleading cycle is "significantly longer" than in similar media-related proceedings and that it's obligated to review the deal as expeditiously as possible. MAP's request was supported by other groups, including **ACA** and **Free Press**.

In the Courts: A US appeals court opened the door for more political ad dollars Fri, striking down limits on individual contributions to independent political advocacy groups that want to use money for or against candidates. Those individual limits are set at \$5K per year. The US Court of Appeals for the DC Circuit based its decision largely on Jan's landmark Supreme Court decision that overturned a corporation and labor union spending ban on campaign spending. -- **DISH** was granted an extension until Apr 30 on a previous stay of a US District Court injunction ordering the DBS op to shut off DVRs that were found to infringe on a **TiVo** patent. "DISH is now negotiating with a gun to its

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head," said *Sanford Bernstein's Craig Moffett*. With the court not set to review its software workaround before then, DISH's hope now rests on the unlikely case of it being granted an en banc rehearing, Moffett told clients, saying he continues to believe this is of enormous risk to DISH, which he rates "market perform."

Broadband: Need more National Broadband Plan? *Blair Levin*, exec dir of the **FCC's** broadband initiative, is the guest on **C-SPAN's** "Communicators," Sat, 6:30pm ET. He chats up the need to make the set-top box market more competitive and innovative (like mobile devices) and spectrum reclamation from broadcasters. "This is one of the parts of the plan I am most proud of because it puts us on the right side of history," Levin said of the spectrum reallocation recommendations. While there was concern on the Hill this week that broadcasters might not volunteer to give back 120Mhz, Levin predicted a sufficient number of broadcasters will volunteer if the FCC is given the tools it needs (like the ability to give broadcasters a share of auction proceeds for spectrum).

In the States: Those under retrans deals with **Sinclair** take note. The broadcast station owner has renewed its 9 **ABC** affiliation agreements, covering approximately 5% of the country. The new agreements expire Aug 31, '15.

At the Portals: The **FCC** will hold a public workshop on its Open Internet proceeding in Seattle, Apr 28, 9:30am. It'll look at how to best preserve the Internet's openness in the US and other countries. A list of participants will be made available next month.

Programming: **TV One** will bow the 18th annual Trumpet Awards honoring African American achievement, Apr 4, 9pm ET. -- New to **Outdoor Channel** this spring is "The Baja Unlimited," a behind-the-scenes look at SCORE's famed Baja desert racing series (debuts Mon, 7:30pm ET).

Online: **Spike TV** and **Ultimate Fighting Championship** launched UltimateFighter.com, an ad-supported Website that features every ep from all 10 seasons of "The Ultimate Fighter," which bowed on Spike in Jan '05. The site marks the 1st time complete UFC fights have been available on the Web for free in an ad-supported model, and it's the 1st vertical site for a Spike series. -- **EWTN** and **Catholic News Agency** have agreed to share news and resources, resulting in the launch of www.ewtnnews.com. -- **ESPN's** latest locally focused Website launches Apr 2 and focuses on NY (ESPNNewYork.com).

Customer Care: Blown your **NCAA** Bracket? Check out Consumerist.com's 5th annual search for the "Worst Company in America." The bracket-style, single elimination tourney features 32 nominees, including **Comcast, Time Warner Cable, Charter, DirecTV, AT&T** and **Verizon**. Each week, until the final round on April 23, Consumerist.com will scale down the brackets based on company match-ups and visitors' votes. Past "winners" include **Halliburton, AIG** and **Countrywide**.

Obit: *Chet Simmons*, who was pres of **ESPN** at its launch in '79, passed away Thurs of natural causes. He was 81. Simmons started in '57 with **Sports Programs** (which became **ABC Sports**) and was instrumental in the development of "Wide World of Sports." He also served as pres, **NBC Sports**. After leaving ESPN in '82, Simmons joined the **USFL** as founding Commissioner. Funeral services were slated for Sun at Savannah, GA's Bonaventure Cemetery.

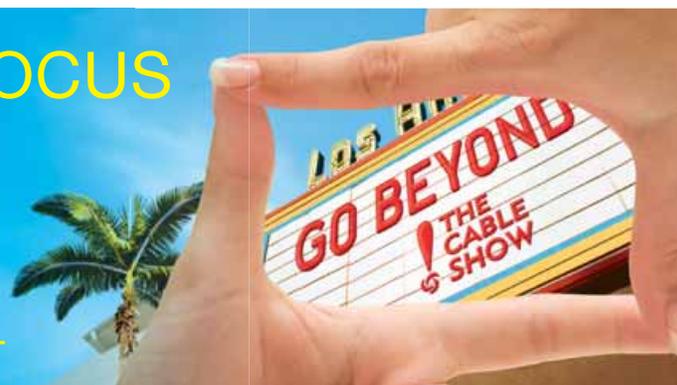
Public Affairs: **RCN** employees raised nearly \$5K for the **American Red Cross Haiti Relief Fund**, and the over-builder committed \$282K in donated cable time to run Red Cross PSAs in all its markets.

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CableFAX Week in Review

Company	Ticker	3/26 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
BROADCASTERS/DBS/MMDS				
BRITISH SKY:	BSY	35.27	0.03%	(2.62%)
DIRECTV:	DTV	33.46	0.12%	0.33%
DISH:	DISH	20.46	(2.2%)	(1.49%)
DISNEY:	DIS	35.31	4.96%	9.49%
GE:	GE	18.34	1.49%	21.22%
NEWS CORP:	NWS	17.09	3.20%	7.35%

MSOS				
CABLEVISION:	CVC	23.73	1.24%	(8.09%)
COMCAST:	CMCSA	18.34	4.62%	8.78%
COMCAST SPCL:	CMCSK	17.54	5.54%	9.56%
GCI:	GNCMA	5.79	0.17%	(9.25%)
KNOLOGY:	KNOL	13.51	(1.31%)	23.72%
LIBERTY CAPITAL:	LCAPA	36.06	4.86%	51.01%
LIBERTY GLOBAL:	LBTYA	28.63	3.02%	30.79%
LIBERTY INT:	LINTA	15.04	2.87%	38.75%
MEDIACOM:	MCCC	6.08	3.75%	36.02%
RCN:	RCNI	15.35	1.79%	41.47%
SHAW COMM:	SJR	19.59	(0.56%)	(4.76%)
TIME WARNER CABLE:	TWC	51.18	4.96%	23.65%
VIRGIN MEDIA:	VMED	16.89	0.60%	0.36%
WASH POST:	WPO	440.22	(1.74%)	0.14%

PROGRAMMING				
CBS:	CBS	13.93	(0.36%)	(0.85%)
CROWN:	CRWN	1.99	1.53%	37.24%
DISCOVERY:	DISCA	33.59	3.35%	9.52%
GRUPO TELEVISIA:	TV	20.58	(0.58%)	(0.87%)
HSN:	HSNI	30.49	3.92%	51.02%
INTERACTIVE CORP:	IACI	23.12	(3.22%)	12.89%
LIBERTY:	L	37.24	0.19%	2.45%
LIBERTY STARZ:	LSTZA	52.88	3.26%	14.58%
LIONSGATE:	LGF	6.20	2.82%	6.71%
LODGENET:	LNET	7.05	14.45%	27.49%
NEW FRONTIER:	NOOF	1.85	(7.5%)	(2.12%)
OUTDOOR:	OUTD	6.60	3.45%	13.79%
PLAYBOY:	PLA	3.68	4.25%	15.00%
RHI:	RHIE	0.29	9.26%	(4.84%)
SCRIPPS INT:	SNI	43.85	6.30%	5.66%
TIME WARNER:	TWX	31.50	0.83%	8.10%
VALUEVISION:	VVTV	3.59	19.67%	(25.21%)
VIACOM:	VIA	35.45	5.22%	12.54%
WWE:	WWE	17.60	2.39%	14.81%

TECHNOLOGY				
3COM:	COMS	7.71	0.65%	2.80%
ADC:	ADCT	7.32	0.55%	17.87%
ADVANTAGE:	AEY	2.23	3.73%	13.20%
ALCATEL LUCENT:	ALU	3.25	2.20%	(2.11%)
AMDOS:	DOX	30.72	2.23%	7.68%
AMPHENOL:	APH	41.46	(4.67%)	(10.22%)
AOL:	AOL	25.84	1.29%	11.00%
APPLE:	AAPL	230.90	3.89%	9.57%
ARRIS GROUP:	ARRS	12.17	1.25%	6.47%
AVID TECH:	AVID	14.01	(1.13%)	9.80%
BIGBAND:	BBND	3.41	3.33%	(0.87%)
BLNDER TONGUE:	BDR	1.04	(7.13%)	(8.76%)

Company	Ticker	3/26 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
BROADCOM:	BRCM	33.12	(1.63%)	5.24%
CISCO:	CSCO	26.47	1.22%	10.56%
CLEARWIRE:	CLWR	7.13	(8.59%)	5.47%
COMMScope:	CTV	28.27	(4.49%)	6.56%
CONCURRENT:	CCUR	5.45	(0.73%)	37.63%
CONVERGYS:	CVG	12.57	(0.87%)	16.93%
CSG SYSTEMS:	CSGS	21.25	(3.32%)	11.31%
ECHOSTAR:	SATS	19.80	(1.49%)	(1.69%)
GOOGLE:	GOOG	562.69	0.48%	(9.24%)
HARMONIC:	HLIT	6.42	0.00%	1.58%
INTEL:	INTC	22.24	1.14%	9.02%
JDSU:	JDSU	11.78	7.48%	42.79%
LEVEL 3:	LVL	1.60	(4.76%)	4.58%
MICROSOFT:	MSFT	29.66	0.24%	(2.69%)
MOTOROLA:	MOT	7.17	(0.14%)	(7.6%)
OPENTV:	OPTV	1.55	0.00%	13.97%
PHILIPS:	PHG	33.21	1.07%	12.81%
RENTRAK:	RENT	21.26	5.25%	20.32%
SEACHANGE:	SEAC	7.41	3.93%	12.96%
SONY:	SNE	38.22	(1.09%)	31.79%
SPRINT NEXTEL:	S	3.80	1.06%	3.83%
THOMAS & BETTS:	TNB	37.98	(0.34%)	6.12%
TIVO:	TIVO	16.33	2.25%	60.41%
TOLLGRADE:	TLGD	6.31	(2.47%)	3.27%
UNIVERSAL ELEC:	UEIC	22.50	(3.52%)	(3.1%)
VONAGE:	VG	1.32	(1.49%)	(5.71%)
YAHOO:	YHOO	16.54	0.61%	(1.43%)

TELCOS				
AT&T:	T	26.24	0.00%	(6.39%)
QWEST:	Q	5.26	4.78%	24.94%
VERIZON:	VZ	30.37	(0.13%)	(8.33%)

MARKET INDICES				
DOW:	DJI	10850.36	1.01%	4.05%
NASDAQ:	IXIC	2395.13	0.87%	5.55%

WINNERS & LOSERS

THIS WEEK'S STOCK PRICE WINNERS		
COMPANY	CLOSE	1-WK CH
1. VALUEVISION:	3.59	19.67%
2. LODGENET:	7.05	14.45%
3. RHI:	0.29	9.26%
4. JDSU:	11.78	7.48%
5. SCRIPPS INT:	43.85	6.30%

THIS WEEK'S STOCK PRICE LOSERS		
COMPANY	CLOSE	1-WK CH
1. CLEARWIRE:	7.13	(8.59%)
2. NEW FRONTIER:	1.85	(7.5%)
3. BLNDER TONGUE:	1.04	(7.13%)
4. LEVEL 3:	1.60	(4.76%)
5. AMPHENOL:	41.46	(4.67%)



Cable Connection | Spring 2010 LOS ANGELES, CA

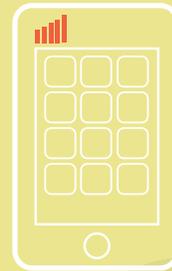
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