

CableFAX Daily™

Monday — April 2, 2012

What the Industry Reads First

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On Deck: Time Warner Cable, AT&T Not in Fox Sports' Ball Park

Fox Sports San Diego is headed toward Thurs' **Padres** opening day without deals with 2 of the large distributors in the area. "Despite our best efforts, we do not expect to have an agreement with **Time Warner** and **AT&T** by Opening Day," the net said Fri. **Cox** and **DirectTV** do have deals in the market. Time Warner Cable claims that Fox Sports San Diego is not a new channel, but essentially Fox's existing LA-based **Prime Ticket** network. But Fox bills it as *the* Padres net, and San Diego's 1st dedicated RSN. Prime Ticket carries **Clippers** and **Ducks** games. So does Fox Sports San Diego. What Prime Ticket doesn't carry is 157+ Padres games—those used to be on **Cox Channel 4**. "In their proposal, Fox is effectively asking us to pay twice for the Clippers and Ducks. Once as part of Prime Ticket, and again through this supposedly new RSN. We have a deal that entitles us to distribute Prime Ticket; they need to honor it," TWC said Fri. Fox Sports struck back: "They will not be paying twice. It's a typical Time Warner smokescreen. Distributors can carry FOX Sports San Diego in lieu of Prime Ticket." (At least in the San Diego market) It sounds like TWC wants to keep its current Prime Ticket deal but pay a surcharge for the Padres games instead of strike a deal for a new network, while Fox is looking to build up a separate 24/7 Padres net. As usual, it comes down to money with TWC claiming the rate on the table represents a 400% price increase over what it paid Cox for the games last year. Fox said the rates are "very fair" and consistent with the terms accepted by DirectTV and Cox. An AT&T **U-Verse** spokesman on Fri said simply that it's in discussions with Fox, but that there weren't any updates to share. **DISH** also doesn't have a deal, but conversations are said to be going on there, while it has been quieter between Fox and TWC and AT&T. DirectTV is only carrying the Padres games on Fox Sports San Diego. To see Clippers action, subs have to tune in to Prime Ticket. That will change next year when DirectTV will carry Fox Sports San Diego fulltime in the market in lieu of Prime Ticket, Fox said. This season marks the 1st that DirectTV has had the Padres games. Cox used to withhold Cox-4 San Diego from its rivals, something it was allowed to do under **FCC** rules since it is terrestrially delivered. As for Cox, it's carrying Fox Sports San Diego and **Fox Sports West** (it has never carried Prime Ticket). We're still a few days away from opening day, but so far, no big Fox marketing campaigns out in San Diego. Although it has said that Padres fans who subscribe to TWC and AT&T should explore alternatives for watching the team on Thurs.

Retrans: March may just go out like a lamb for **DirectTV**. Despite noise earlier in the week from **Tribune** over possible stations drops (*Cfax*, 3/27), signs Fri pointed to the DBS player moving closer to a deal that would keep stations on in 16 markets as well as **WGN America** after the midnight Sat deadline. The negotiations fall right before **MLB** kicks off, with Tribune stations having rights to several teams' games (including the **Cubs**, **White Sox**, **Phillies**, **Mets**).

Change of Current: **Current** has bid goodbye to *Keith Olbermann*, announcing that "Viewpoint with *Eliot Spitzer*" would take the 8pm ET timeslot Fri night. "We created Current to give voice to those Americans who refuse to rely on corporate-controlled media and are seeking an authentic progressive outlet. We are more committed to those goals today than ever

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before,” read a statement from net founders *Al Gore* and *Joel Hyatt*. “Current was also founded on the values of respect, openness, collegiality, and loyalty to our viewers. Unfortunately these values are no longer reflected in our relationship with Keith Olbermann and we have ended it. “ Olbermann issued his own statement, saying he has been imploring Gore and Hyatt to resolve their issues internally. “It goes almost without saying that the claims against me implied in Current’s statement are untrue and will be proved so in the legal actions I will be filing against them presently,” he said.

In the Courts: Programming bundles are still A-OK in the eyes of the court. The 9th Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed a ’09 decision that bundling channels in video packages does not hamper competition and unduly harm consumers. The suit, filed in ’07 by a group of cable subs, named a host of programmers and distributors as defendants, including **Disney, Comcast, DirecTV, Fox** and **Cablevision**.

In the States: **Comcast** launched Xfinity Home in portions of the company’s San Fran Bay Area. In addition to home security, the service includes remote temperature/light control and remote live streaming video via in-home cameras while away.

X-Boxing: Proof that once you raise the net neutrality ghost, it’s really hard to get it back in the grave... On Fri, **Public Knowledge’s Harold Feld** responded to **NCTA** chief *Michael Powell’s Comcast-Xbox* blog (*Cfax 3/29*), which was responding to PK’s claim that Comcast running its Xfinity Xbox on its private network raised net neutrality concerns. Got that? Basically, Feld argued that the former FCC chmn avoided addressing the issue in his CableTechTalk.com post. “Powell basically argues that the only reason PK (or anyone else) could possibly see anything here to worry about is because we’re either crazy alarmists or because we are ‘trying to get another bite at the regulatory apple.’ In sports, we refer to this kind of behavior as ‘working the ref’... Hopefully, we can still count on **DoJ** and **FCC** to make a fair call,” Feld wrote.

Inside the Beltway: The Senate confirmed **FTC** chair *Jon Leibowitz* for a 2nd term and also approved new Republican commish *Maureen Ohlhausen*.

Programming: **MTV’s “The Real World”** is still bringing it, with the net announcing a 28th season of the reality series. It’s also picked up a 23rd season of competition reality series, “The Challenge.” -- **INSP** signed a multi-film deal with *Corbin Bernsen* and **Home Theater Films**, giving it rights to exclusive TV premieres in the US. The agreement currently include 2 feature films: “Rust,” a former minister in a midlife crisis of faith, and “25 Hill,” which deals with a son who loses his father after he’s called to duty in Afghanistan.

Public Affairs: 29 cable nets have joined “Light It Up Blue” for Mon, World Autism Awareness Day. The nets will run a 15-sec PSA about autism while select nets will turn their logos and branding blue throughout the day. World Autism Awareness Day was founded in Feb ’05 by *Suzanne* and *Bob Wright* (wright is the former vice chmn of GE and CEO of **NBC** and **NBCU** and has a grandchild with autism). Participating nets include: **AMC, Lifetime Movie Network, BIO, H2, Animal Planet, Bravo, Comedy Central, Cooking Channel, Discovery Fit & Health, Food Network, Fuse, FX, Fox Movie Channel, FX Movie Channel, IFC, Investigation Discovery, Military Channel, MSG Nets, MTV, MTV2, MTVU, Spike, Style, Sundance Channel, TV Land, Velocity, VH1, VH1 Classic, and WE tv.**

On the Circuit: **The Kaitz Foundation** hosts its 3rd annual program aimed at helping mid-to-upper level professionals of color with producing, directing and writing/story producing credits in nonfiction/reality. The Hollywood Creative Forum will be held Apr 11 in L.A.

The CableFAXIES awards

Awards Breakfast
Grand Hyatt, NYC
May 1, 2012

Saluting Cable’s Top Marketing & PR Programs and People

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CableFAX Week in Review

Company	Ticker	3/30 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
BROADCASTERS/DBS/MMDS				
DIRECTV:	DTV	49.34	2.64%	15.39%
DISH:	DISH	32.93	0.40%	15.63%
DISNEY:	DIS	43.78	0.30%	16.75%
GE:	GE	20.07	1.47%	12.06%
NEWS CORP:	NWS	19.97	(0.35%)	9.85%
MSOS				
CABLEVISION:	CVC	14.68	(0.14%)	3.23%
CHARTER:	CHTR	63.45	(2.25%)	11.43%
COMCAST:	CMCSA	30.01	0.10%	26.57%
COMCAST SPCL:	CMCSK	29.51	(0.2%)	25.25%
GCI:	GNCMA	8.72	(10.29%)	(10.93%)
KNOLOGY:	KNOL	18.20	0.55%	28.17%
LIBERTY GLOBAL:	LBTYA	50.08	(1.18%)	22.06%
LIBERTY INT:	LINTA	19.09	(0.26%)	17.69%
SHAW COMM:	SJR	21.15	2.12%	9.19%
TIME WARNER CABLE:	TWC	81.50	0.79%	28.21%
VIRGIN MEDIA:	VMED	24.98	4.17%	16.84%
WASH POST:	WPO	373.57	(3.03%)	(0.86%)
PROGRAMMING				
AMC NETWORKS:	AMCX	44.63	(0.07%)	18.76%
CBS:	CBS	33.91	6.50%	24.94%
CROWN:	CRWN	1.59	26.19%	31.40%
DISCOVERY:	DISCA	50.60	4.55%	23.51%
GRUPO TELEvisa:	TV	21.08	(0.33%)	0.09%
HSN:	HSNI	38.03	0.21%	4.88%
INTERACTIVE CORP:	IACI	49.09	(0.63%)	15.23%
LIONSGATE:	LGF	13.92	(4.2%)	67.31%
LODGENET:	LNET	3.50	(3.31%)	46.44%
NEW FRONTIER:	NOOF	1.55	19.23%	50.49%
OUTDOOR:	OUTD	7.31	(6.88%)	(2.01%)
SCRIPPS INT:	SNI	48.69	(0.25%)	14.78%
TIME WARNER:	TWX	37.75	1.81%	4.45%
VALUEVISION:	VVTV	2.07	23.21%	10.11%
VIACOM:	VIA	51.97	0.06%	(2.55%)
WWE:	WWE	8.87	0.91%	(4.83%)
TECHNOLOGY				
ADVANTAGE:	AEY	2.39	(2.98%)	13.66%
ALCATEL LUCENT:	ALU	2.27	(1.73%)	45.51%
AMDOCS:	DOX	31.58	1.67%	10.69%
AMPHENOL:	APH	59.77	5.23%	31.68%
AOL:	AOL	18.97	2.60%	25.63%
APPLE:	AAPL	599.55	0.59%	48.04%
ARRIS GROUP:	ARRS	11.30	3.29%	4.44%
AVID TECH:	AVID	11.00	(0.45%)	28.96%
BLNDER TONGUE:	BDR	1.22	0.83%	0.00%
BROADCOM:	BRCM	39.30	2.16%	33.86%
CISCO:	CSCO	21.15	3.02%	16.98%
CLEARWIRE:	CLWR	2.28	(5%)	17.53%
CONCURRENT:	CCUR	3.64	(2.41%)	(3.96%)
CONVERGYS:	CVG	13.35	(2.05%)	4.54%
CSG SYSTEMS:	CSGS	15.14	(2.95%)	2.92%
EHOSTAR:	SATS	28.14	(1.78%)	34.38%
GOOGLE:	GOOG	641.24	(0.21%)	(0.72%)
HARMONIC:	HLIT	5.47	0.55%	8.53%

Company	Ticker	3/30 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
INTEL:	INTC	28.11	0.84%	15.94%
JDSU:	JDSU	14.49	4.39%	38.79%
LEVEL 3:	LVLT	25.73	(3.31%)	51.44%
MICROSOFT:	MSFT	32.26	0.77%	24.25%
MOTOROLA MOBILITY:	MMI	39.24	(0.05%)	1.13%
RENTRAK:	RENT	22.70	2.76%	58.96%
SEACHANGE:	SEAC	7.78	(5.01%)	10.67%
SONY:	SNE	20.77	2.21%	15.13%
SPRINT NEXTEL:	S	2.85	4.01%	21.79%
THOMAS & BETTS:	TNB	71.91	0.36%	31.70%
TIVO:	TIVO	11.99	(0.83%)	33.67%
UNIVERSAL ELEC:	UEIC	19.98	(0.05%)	18.44%
VONAGE:	VG	2.21	(0.45%)	(9.8%)
YAHOO:	YHOO	15.22	0.26%	(5.64%)
TELCOS				
AT&T:	T	31.23	(0.92%)	3.27%
VERIZON:	VZ	38.23	(3.02%)	(4.71%)
MARKET INDICES				
DOW:	DJI	13212.04	1.00%	8.14%
NASDAQ:	IXIC	3091.57	0.77%	18.67%
S&P 500:	GSPC	1408.47	0.81%	12.00%

WINNERS & LOSERS

THIS WEEK'S STOCK PRICE WINNERS

COMPANY	CLOSE	1-WK CH
1. CROWN:	1.59	26.19%
2. VALUEVISION:	2.07	23.21%
3. NEW FRONTIER:	1.55	19.23%
4. CBS:	33.91	6.50%
5. AMPHENOL:	59.77	5.23%

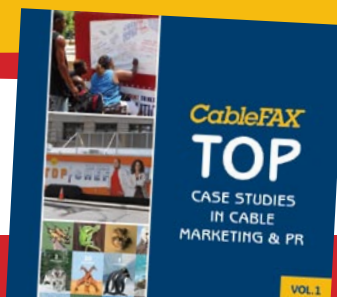
THIS WEEK'S STOCK PRICE LOSERS

COMPANY	CLOSE	1-WK CH
1. GCI:	8.72	(10.29%)
2. OUTDOOR:	7.31	(6.88%)
3. SEACHANGE:	7.78	(5.01%)
4. CLEARWIRE:	2.28	(5%)
5. LIONSGATE:	13.92	(4.2%)

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