

CableFAX Daily™

Tuesday — June 5, 2012

What the Industry Reads First

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DISHruption: DISH Moves AMC Nets As Spat Continues

On Sun, **AMC Nets** started running TV spots warning that **DISH** is dropping **AMC** and urging them to call DISH or visit KeepAMC.com. Then on Mon morning, subs woke up and found AMC was missing along with sister nets **IFC** and **WE**. Gone already? No, but you can understand subscribers' confusion. DISH moved the channels from the 130-channel range to 9600-range. In other words, Siberia. When confused subs started complaining on social media about the channels' disappearance, DISH responded that, "The channels have been relocated to be in a channel location that is more reflective of the quality of programming," read a Tweet. "You may continue to watch AMC on Ch.9607, WEtv on Ch.9608, and IFC on Ch.9609 for the time being." In a statement, DISH kept it close to the vest. "We regret AMC Networks has chosen to involve viewers at this time. Our contract does not allow us to go into further details, however, we remain hopeful that we can find a resolution that brings AMC to our customers at a value they've come to expect." The DBS provider has said it will drop the channels when its contract with AMC Nets expires at the end of the month. AMC claims the threat is because of a ruling in April that denied DISH's application to further appeal a prior trial court decision sanctioning it for bad-faith destruction of evidence in their ongoing spat over the carriage of **VOOM HD** networks. DISH has rejected that, saying the litigation is a separate matter and that it has opted not to renew the nets based on their price and low ratings. "It is unfortunate that, in retaliation for an unrelated lawsuit, DISH is punishing its customers by threatening to drop the AMC Networks, and with this sudden, dramatic change in channel position, making it extremely difficult for their customers to find and watch some of the most popular and acclaimed shows on television," AMC said Mon. Lost in the hubbub of the Cable Show was the news that DISH dropped AMC Nets' **Sundance Channel** on May 20. We're guessing *Charlie Ergen* doesn't sign off on proofs of subscriber magazine DISH. New Sundance series "Push Girls" is highlighted on the cover of the June issue. Oops!

Charter Territory: We always wondered if St Louis would suit *Tom Rutledge*... Charter plans to open an office in the NY metro area to house a limited number of sr execs later this year, according to an SEC filing. Some direct reports and staff of the relocated execs will also relocate to NY. The MSO said it plans to leave in St. Louis most of the functions currently performed there. No relocation of the functions housed in the Denver Corporate office is planned.

Retrans: **DirecTV** is in danger of losing ME **CBS** affiliate **WABI** and local **CW** station if a new retrans agreement isn't reached by 12:01am Tues. **WABI**, owned by **Diversified Comm**, warned viewers that the 2 have been unable to come to a mutually acceptable agreement. -- **Block Comms'** **WDRB** and **WMYO** remain off **Time Warner Cable's** Louisville system. The MSO is offering free previews of **ESPNNews** and **GAC** in their place.

New Wave: **Oak Hill Capital** and **GI Partners** have entered into a deal to acquire **WaveDivision** in conjunction with CEO *Steve Weed* and other members of Wave mgmt from its current owners, led by **Sandler Capital Mgmt**. Terms weren't disclosed. It's expected that Weed will continue to run the operation, which serves suburban markets in Seattle, San Fran,

It's re-booty time!
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From the most outstanding cable programs to the best surprise ending, the annual CableFAX Program Awards honor the best in cable programming content and people. Now is your chance to win a CableFAX Program Award and get recognized for bringing value to your viewers. The winners and honorable mentions will be saluted during an awards luncheon in Fall 2012 in New York City.

Enter as many categories as you like but please tailor your entry to the category you are entering.

Visit www.cablefaxprogramawards.com for full details

Platinum/People Categories:

- Best Actor in Cable
- Best Actress in Cable
- Best Cable Program
- Best New Cable Program
- Best Showrunner
- Hall of Fame: Open to actors, writers, directors, producers and programming executives for a body of work

Best Show or Series in the Following Genre

- Animals/Nature
- Animated
- Children's
- Comedy
- Documentary
- Drama
- Education/Instructional
- Family Friendly
- Faith Based/Religious
- Food
- Music
- News
- Public Affairs
- Reality

- Reality Competition/ Game Show
- Sci Fi
- Sports
- Talk Shows
- Regional Program
- Other: enter your best in a genre not mentioned above

Best Actor/Actress/ Host in the Following Genres

- Comedy
- Drama
- Family Friendly
- Food
- Music
- News/Public Affairs

- Reality Competition/ Game Show
- Sports
- Talk Shows
- Best Regional Program
- Other: enter your best in a genre not mentioned above

Special Category:

- Best Opening Sequence

Tech Categories:

- Best Online/Mobile Extras for a Linear Show
- Best Online-Only/ Mobile-Only Show
- Best Video on Demand Program/Special

COMPILING YOUR ENTRY

What to Send:

At the beginning of your two page synopsis, include the following information for all categories:

- Category entered
- Title of entry
- Key contact for entry
- Organization submitting entry

Supporting Materials:

- Video of Program on DVD
- Clippings
- Photos

How To Enter: Use this form or visit www.cablefaxprogramawards.com for additional category information.

Mary Lou French
CableFAX Program Awards
Access Intelligence
4 Choke Cherry Rd, 2nd Floor
Rockville, MD 20850

Deadline: June 1, 2012
Late Deadline: June 8, 2012
Event: September 2012

Entry From (All information required)

Title of Entry/Name of Entrant (as you'd like it to appear on your award if selected): _____

Company and/or Client: _____

Contact Name of person submitting entry: _____

Job Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone of Contact: _____ Fax of Contact: _____

Email Address (Required): _____

Entry Fees

- Primary entry: \$300 each \$300 each \$ _____
 - Secondary entry of same campaign** into one or more categories: \$199 each \$199 each \$ _____
 - Late entry fee: \$199 per entry \$199 each \$ _____
- (for entries sent between June 2 and June 8, 2012)
- Total \$ _____

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- Check (payable to Access Intelligence/CableFAX)
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- Signature _____

The late entry fee must be applied to each individual entry postmarked after June 1, 2012.
* Payment in full must accompany the entry.
** If entering more than one category, please submit separate entry forms.

www.CableFAXProgramAwards.com

Entry fees are not refundable.
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The awards are presented by the most trusted information source in cable: CableFAX Daily and sister brand CableFAX: The Magazine.

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Sacramento and Portland under the names **Wave Broadband** and **Astound** with more than 586K homes passed (385K RGUs). Sandler had ownership for about 10 years. "Having Oak Hill and GI as partners gives us a long-term horizon here to continue to grow the business," Weed said Mon. "We expect to continue doing what we've been doing, which is focusing on high quality products and service but also looking for strategic acquisitions." The transaction is expected to be complete in 4Q12. **RBC Capital Markets** was the lead adviser to Wave along with **Waller Capital Partners**, while **Deutsche Bank** and **Wells Fargo** are serving as financial advisers to Wave. Now all eyes turn to **Atlantic Broadband**. Private equity firms are reportedly interested in the MSO. Oak Hill controls a minority share in Atlantic, while **ABRY** is its controlling shareholder. Like Wave, Atlantic was formed in '03—another case of cable cowboys returning to the rodeo.

RUS Watch: Mediacom, which serves some of the less sparsely populated parts of Lake County, MN, urged congressional investigations and fund suspension of a \$66m Lake County, MN, RUS project, according to a May 31 letter to House Commerce Oversight subcommittee chair **Cliff Stearns** (R-FL) that **CableFAX** obtained Mon. The company is bringing the case to other legislators, according to Mediacom vp, public affairs **Tom Larsen**. Mediacom complained last year to the US Department of Agriculture's Office of the Inspector General that the RUS project application appeared to be fraudulent, designed to set the county up for financial failure and allow outside consultants to buy the fiber systems at a discount. Larsen said a '10 commentary published in the *Lake County News Chronicle* by Lake County Commissioner **Paul Bergman** appeared to assure taxpayers that they had no default exposure. "None of these funding sources require any taxpayer guarantees so the taxpayers of Lake and St. Louis counties will have no obligation if the utility fails," said the commentary. Bergman denied the accusations, calling Mediacom's claims "wild allegations." The county has every intention to fulfill its obligations, including paying back "every last dime," if the project fails, he told **CableFAX**. Mediacom implored Stearns' committee to conduct a "thorough and arms-length review of the application, award and administration" of the loan and grant.

Xboxing: Cable got to kick off E3. OK, that's not exactly true. But keynoter **Microsoft** used its press conference Mon to make some TV Everywhere announcements with cable nets. **WatchESPN** will be coming to **Xbox Live** later this year. Coming in 4Q is **Univision's UVideos**, a new digital network for authenticated users featuring Hispanic programming. Xbox also announced deals with the NBA, **Nick** and NHL. Xbox already offers MLB.tv. **Time Warner Cable**, **Bright House**, **Verizon FiOS** and **Comcast** subs will be able to watch authenticated version of **ESPN**, **ESPN2**, **ESPN3**, **ESPNu** and **ESPN Buzzer Beater/Goal Line** via Xbox Live Gold. All Xbox LIVE Gold members will be able to access customized ESPN.com VOD clips and sports highlights. UVideos will be optimized for the Xbox 360 console, taking advantage of **Kinect**.

Competition: Verizon launched 10 Spanish-language channels on **FiOS TV**, 9 of which are from Spanish content distributor **Olympusat**. Known as Ultra HD Plex, the Olympusat channels include movie network **Ultra Cine**, Latin Music network **Ultra Fiesta**, entertainment kids channel **Ultra Kidz**, Mexican film based **Ultra Mex**, Latino female focused **Ultra Luna**, Latino male focused **Ultra Macho**, modern film based **Ultra Film**, Latin American documentary-based **Ultra Docu** and Latin American movie classics **Ultra Clasico**. The 10th Channel, **Multimedios TV**, offers Spanish-language family and entertainment programming broadcast from Monterrey, Mexico. The move followed Verizon's agreement last week with Univision, which includes the launch of 3 new cable nets: **Univision Deportes**, **Univision Tlnovelas** and **FOROtv**. **AT&T U-Verse**, **TWC** and **Comcast** also carry Olympusat's Spanish language and other entertainment channels -- **Verizon** offered voluntary packages to 1,700 technicians and call-center workers. "Layoffs are a tool of absolute last resort," he said.



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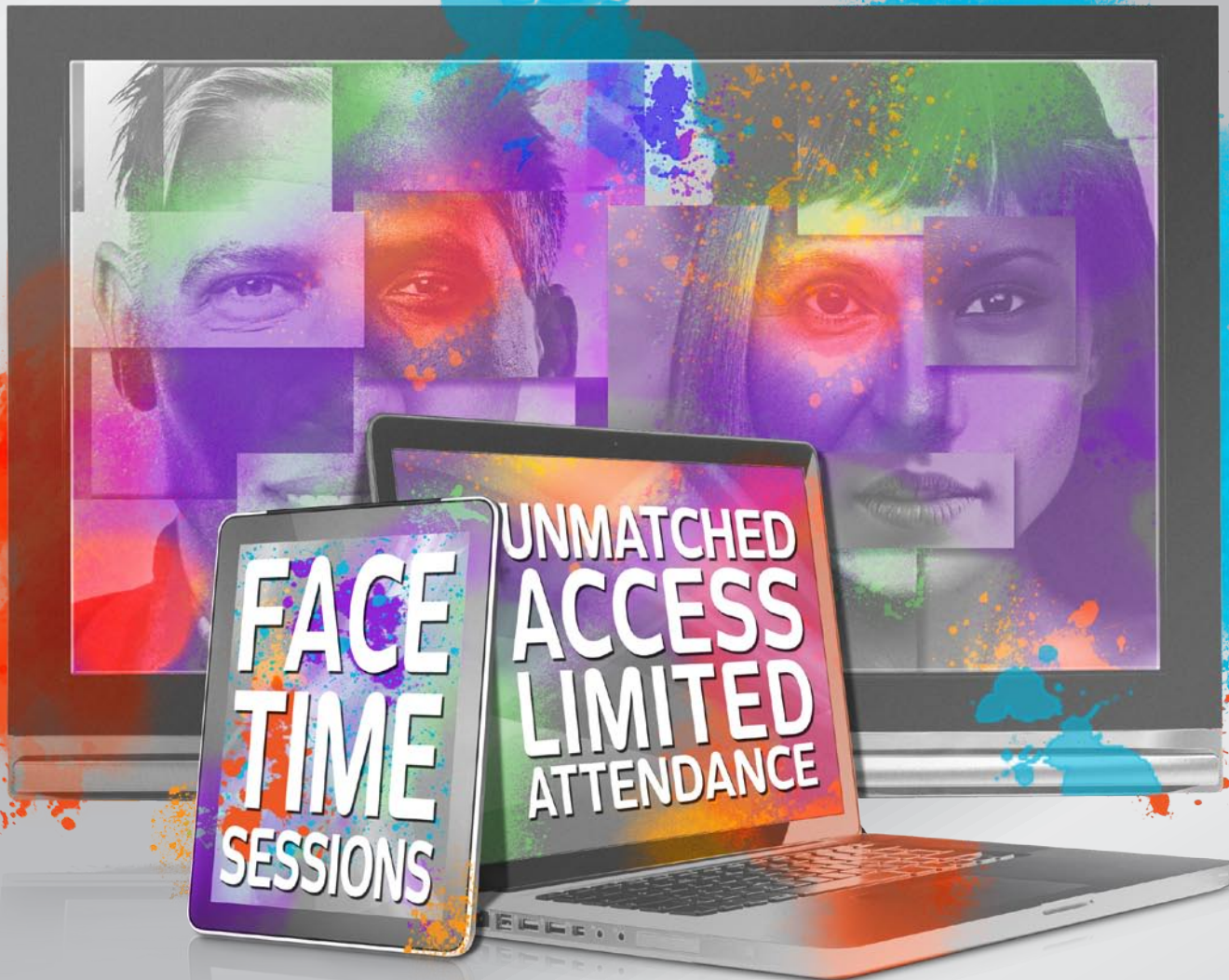
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1 Jerry Dow, Chief Marketing & Sales Officer, Suddenlink Communications 2 Jeffrey Hirsch, EVP and Chief Marketing Officer, Time Warner Cable 3 Marc Juris, COO, truTV 4 Benjamin Pyne, President, Global Distribution, Disney Media Networks 5 Evan Shapiro, President, Participant Television

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

MSO Doings: Comcast is expanding its Xfinity Voice Unlimited Select service in VA. The service is now available in parts of the Charlottesville and Roanoke areas, including in the city of Salem and Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa, Madison, Orange, Pulaski, Montgomery and Roanoke Counties. Comcast plans to roll it out to additional areas in its service footprint across the state this year, including in parts of the Harrisonburg and Lynchburg areas.

Programming: Fox Sports West announced a deal with the L.A. Kings that will have it televise approx 75 regular-season Kings games per season.

People: Sam Michaels was named svp, strategic dev of NBCUniversal Cable Ent and Cable Studios. Katherine Flynn-Vizzini will expand her role as vp, strategic development for the group, reporting to Michaels.-- Turner Sports' Jennifer Anderson Gragg joined Weather Channel as vp, brand strategy and marketing, overseeing development of brand strategy and product marketing across platforms. -- Style Media promoted Sarah Weidman to the newly formed position of svp, original programming and dev, where she will expand her role to manage all original programming while continuing to oversee development and new series for the net. -- Weather Channel's Pete Chelala joined Viacom as the vp, mobile product and sales, replacing Deborah Schlessinger-Brett, who will be vp, mobile sales.

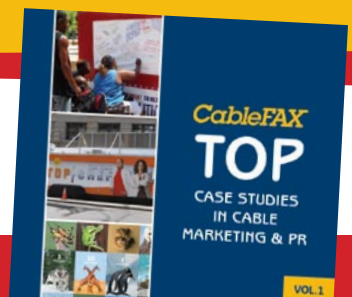
CableFAX Daily Stockwatch

Company	06/04 Close	1-Day Ch	Company	06/04 Close	1-Day Ch
BROADCASTERS/DBS/MMDS					
DIRECTV:	44.51	0.59	CONCURRENT:	3.92	0.06
DISH:	26.85	(0.12)	CONVERGYS:	13.80	0.04
DISNEY:	44.41	0.01	CSG SYSTEMS:	16.39	0.04
GE:	18.15	(0.39)	ECHOSTAR:	26.38	(1.06)
NEWS CORP:	18.81	0.08	GOOGLE:	578.59	7.61
MSOS					
CABLEVISION:	11.01	0.04	HARMONIC:	4.18	0.02
CHARTER:	61.28	(0.03)	INTEL:	25.04	(0.1)
COMCAST:	28.95	0.32	JDSU:	9.45	(0.2)
COMCAST SPCL:	28.56	0.16	LEVEL 3:	19.72	(0.03)
GCI:	6.57	0.35	MICROSOFT:	28.55	0.10
KNOLLOGY:	19.45	(0.02)	RENTRAK:	16.09	0.41
LIBERTY GLOBAL:	45.68	0.47	SEACHANGE:	8.02	0.08
LIBERTY INT:	16.18	(0.05)	SONY:	12.79	0.14
SHAW COMM:	18.54	0.16	SPRINT NEXTEL:	2.54	0.03
TIME WARNER CABLE:	73.99	(0.16)	TIVO:	8.13	0.06
VIRGIN MEDIA:	21.78	0.12	UNIVERSAL ELEC:	11.92	(0.38)
WASH POST:	351.63	2.13	VONAGE:	1.70	(0.01)
PROGRAMMING					
AMC NETWORKS:	38.11	1.03	YAHOO:	15.01	0.09
CBS:	30.62	0.29	TELCOS		
CROWN:	1.53	0.07	AT&T:	34.15	0.25
DISCOVERY:	48.50	(0.14)	VERIZON:	41.34	0.31
GRUPO TELEVISA:	18.98	0.23	MARKET INDICES		
HSN:	38.23	0.67	DOW:	12101.46	(17.11)
INTERACTIVE CORP:	44.00	(0.07)	NASDAQ:	2760.01	12.53
LIONSGATE:	11.82	(0.84)	S&P 500:	1278.18	0.14
LODGENET:	1.47	0.05			
NEW FRONTIER:	1.68	0.01			
OUTDOOR:	6.23	(0.15)			
SCRIPPS INT:	53.91	0.50			
TIME WARNER:	34.12	0.36			
VALUEVISION:	1.69	0.06			
VIACOM:	50.12	(1.26)			
WWE:	7.78	0.14			
TECHNOLOGY					
ADVANTAGE:	2.21	0.05			
ALCATEL LUCENT:	1.49	UNCH			
AMDOCS:	28.37	(0.08)			
AMPHENOL:	52.22	0.62			
AOL:	27.39	0.28			
APPLE:	564.29	3.30			
ARRIS GROUP:	11.93	(0.07)			
AVID TECH:	7.40	0.20			
BROADCOM:	32.02	0.28			
CISCO:	16.11	0.15			
CLEARWIRE:	1.19	0.04			

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THIS ONE OF A KIND BOOK is filled with strategic initiatives that are driving the dynamic cable industry forward! This Case Study Guidebook exemplifies how cable programmers, operators and vendors cut through the clutter to mount PR and Marketing efforts that worked, gained revenue, ratings points and industry buzz.

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