

CableFAX Daily™

Tuesday — November 27, 2012


What the Industry Reads First

Volume 23 / No. 228

FiOS/AMC: Blackout Looms as Contract Nears Expiration

Fans of **AMC** zombie series "The Walking Dead," might have reason to be depressed: There's only 1 ep (Dec 2) left before the show goes on a mid-season hiatus through Feb. But the news is harsher for **Verizon FiOS** fans. They stand to lose the channel all together if the two can't work out a deal before the current contract expires Dec 31. AMC started running a PR campaign during Sun night's ep, "When the Dead Come Knocking," featuring a commercial and a crawl indicating that FiOS subs could lose access to the net's movies and original series such as "Mad Men" and "Breaking Bad." KeepAMCNetworks.com asked subs to call 855-8-Keep-On, informing Verizon subs that AMC siblings **IFC**, **Sundance Channel** and **WEtv** also could be dropped. The Website doesn't mention when the contract expires. The 2 have been negotiating for a few months now, but AMC Nets' decision to pull the publicity trigger indicates it hasn't seen anything from Verizon that it likes yet. It was just a little more than a month ago that **DISH** restored AMC and the other nets. AMC has said that the carriage drop centered on the now settled **Voom** lawsuit (DISH contended the decision was unrelated to the lawsuit). This time around, it looks like price is the problem, with a source noting that the current deal was signed in '06 before the net established itself as a top programmer. For its part, Verizon seems confident that a blackout will be avoided. "We expect all AMC Networks' programming will continue to be available on FiOS without any service interruptions," said a tweet from the telco Mon. It slammed the programmer for going public: "This is nothing more than a desperate attempt by AMCN to scare our FiOS TV customers into thinking that they will lose their programming," a spokeswoman said. The telco has a history of working with top programmers to reach "mutually beneficial agreements," and "it is unfortunate that AMCN has decided to unnecessarily publicize these discussions, but not surprising as they have a history of using their viewers as pawns in their negotiations with distributors," she said. AMC's statement: "AMC Networks is informing our loyal viewers who are Verizon customers that we are in negotiations. Our discussions are ongoing and we are hopeful to reach an agreement with Verizon that recognizes the fair value of our networks."

Carriage: Another **NBCU** deal is crossed off the programmer's to-do list, with **Verizon** following suit after



RETHINK
50+

New Brand. New Content.
New Opportunities.

Now available in NYC
on TWC Ch. 180,
starting 11.28.12

Contact:
bbrightman@rl.tv

Experience matters.

RL TV
www.rl.tv

PRESENTED BY  **CABLEVISION**

Holiday **ROCK & ROLL** Bash 12



It's Going to Be a Ball!
Thursday, December 6

HARD ROCK CAFE
1501 Broadway, NYC
Benefit Office: 516-803-2354
www.Lustgarten.org/Bash12

A BENEFIT FOR THE LUSTGARTEN FOUNDATION FOR PANCREATIC CANCER RESEARCH



GIBSON DUNN



News Corporation

SULLIVAN & CROMWELL LLP



DEBEVOISE &
PLIMPTON LLP

Disney and ESPN Media Networks

Hughes
Hubbard



MINTZ LEVIN
Mintz Levin Cohn Ferris Glovsky and Popeo PC



VIACOM

MEDIA
PARTNERS



CableFAX
www.cablefax.com



Multichannel



Cablevision's support of The Lustgarten Foundation ensures that 100% of every donation goes directly to pancreatic cancer research. curePC.org is the way to join Cablevision and The Lustgarten Foundation in the fight.

Fight pancreatic cancer. Visit curePC.org

CABLEFAX DAILY (ISSN 1069-6644) is published daily by Access Intelligence, LLC ● www.cablefaxdaily.com ● fax:301.738.8453 ● Editor-in-Chief: Amy Maclean, 301.354.1760, amaclean@accessintel.com ● Exec Editor: Michael Grebb, 323.380.6263, mgrebb@accessintel.com ● Editor: Joyce Wang, 301.354.1828, jwang@accessintel.com ● Community Editor: Kaylee Hultgren, 212.621.4200, khultgren@accessintel.com ● Advisor: Seth Arenstein ● Group Publisher, Media Entertainment: Denise O'Connor ● Assoc Publisher: Amy Abbey, 301.354.1629, aabbey@accessintel.com ● Sales Mgr, Susan, Kim, 301.354.2010, skim@accessintel.com ● Marketing Dir: Laurie Hofmann, 301.354.1796, lhofmann@accessintel.com ● Prod: Joann Fato, jfato@accessintel.com ● Diane Schwartz, SVP Media Comms Group ● Subs/Client Svcs: 301.354.2101 ● Group Subs: Amy Russell, 301.354.1599, arussell@accessintel.com

Cablevision and **Suddenlink** struck pacts this month. TV Everywhere rights are part of the Verizon FiOS pact, which also includes **USA, Bravo Media, cloo, Chiller, CNBC, E!, G4, MSNBC, mun2, NBC Sports Network, Oxygen Media, Style Media, Syfy, Telemundo Media and Golf Channel**, as well as retransmission consent for local **NBC** and **Telemundo** owned stations. Also included are the rights to the Olympics Games, **Comcast SportsNet Philly, CSN Mid-Atlantic and Comcast SportsNet New England**.

In the Courts: Not everyone spent Black Friday shopping. **ABC** informed a federal court in Manhattan on Fri that it will seek a preliminary injunction of DISH's AutoHop ad skipping TV feature. Earlier in the month, the US District Court for the Central District of CA rejected **Fox's** request for a preliminary injunction that would stop the DBS player from using AutoHop.

Deals: The *L.A. Times* is reporting that **Fox** and the **Dodgers** are close to \$6-\$7bln for a 25-year deal. Fox declined to comment on the report, saying only that discussions are ongoing. If an agreement can be reached, it will keep **Time Warner Cable** from trying to snatch up the rights for its newly launched L.A. RSNs. How fast are sports rights escalating? The deal could be worth 3 times what the Dodgers' new owners paid for the team and 20 times the value of the Dodgers' current TV contract, the *L.A. Times* reported. If these figures prove true, look for an **ACA Matt Polka** quote shortly. In the meantime, you'll have to be satisfied with this line from *John Malone's* interview last week with the Times: "We've got runaway sports rights, runaway sports salaries and what is essentially a high tax on a lot of households that don't have a lot of interest in sports." -- **Bright House** has agreed to acquire Tampa-based cloud communications provider **Telovations**, which offers businesses hosted voice solutions, including PBX and managed SIP trunking. The MSO said the deal will help it meet the diverse needs of the enterprise market as well as continue to offer small- and medium-sized businesses additional services. The transaction is expected to close within 45-60 days, pending regulatory approvals. The **FCC** is seeking comments on the deal by Dec 10.

Competition: **Verizon** upgraded its app for iPad tablets for **FiOS TV** and Internet subs, enabling access to 75 live networks. Unlike its MSO competitors, the telco's app doesn't offer access to broadcast nets.

Ratings: *Lindsay Lohan's* portrayal of *Liz Taylor* in "Liz & Dick" delivered 3.5mln total viewers for **Lifetime** during its Sun premiere. The movie, which starts *Grant Bowler* as *Richard Burton*, ranked as the year's 4th most-watched original movie premiere on ad-supported cable among total viewers, 25-54s, 18-49s and women 18-49 and 25-54. -- **Style's** "Giuliana & Bill" had its most-watched ep ever Tues, with 648K total viewers (+35% over the prior week's ep).

Online: **Bravo** debuts "Play Live," which lets fans play along with live, on-air content, during Mon's 11pm airing of "Watch What Happens Live" and plans to extend it to other Bravo programs in the coming months. The tech lets fans make predictions on what will happen next, voice opinions, cast votes, etc. Advertisers can use the feature for live interactive ads featuring polls or even e-coupon deals. Fans can visit bravotv.com/playlive on mobile devices and desktops, or download the Bravo Now app.

Programming: **HBO** debuts a feature-length documentary on *Beyoncé* Feb 16. Directed by the Grammy winner and actress, the film promises unprecedented access. -- Reality series "Dirty Jobs" has ended its 8-year run on **Discovery Channel**, according to a blog post. -- **Smithsonian Channel** greenlit the original series "L.A. Frocks," a window into the high-end vintage fashion world. The 6-ep unscripted series is set to premiere March 7. -- There won't be a 3rd season of "Boss," the political drama series on **Starz**. In a statement, the net said "after much deliberation, we have made the difficult decision to not proceed with Boss. We remain proud of this award-winning show, its exceptional cast and writers, and are grateful to *Kelsey Grammer, Farhad Safinia* and our partners at **Lionsgate TV**."

Public Affairs: **Univision** launched "Plan Prosperidad" (Prosperity Plan), a multiplatform, multi-year financial empowerment initiative designed to create awareness about financial literacy and entrepreneurship among Hispanics in the US. The programmer will promote and provide info about how to build credit, starting a business, and so forth across multiple platforms, including Univision.com/prosperidad. It will be guided by an advisory

BUSINESS & FINANCE

board that will include **Consumer Reports** and the **Americas Business Council Foundation**. Also on tap are financial literacy town halls over the next 2 months: Chicago, Dec 1; Atlanta and Denver, Jan 5; and Phoenix, Jan 6.

On the Circuit: News Corp COO Chase Carey will participate in a Q&A with **NAB** pres/CEO **Gordon Smith** at the Apr 8 opening event of the annual NAB Show in Vegas. The session also will feature the annual "State of the Broadcast Industry" address from Smith.

People: Former **Fox** and **Discovery** exec **Peach Gibson** was named svp, creative services for **Telemundo** effective immediately. -- **Vincent DiBiase** was appointed pres of **Jones/NCTI**, effective Nov 15. He replaces **Timothy Burke**, who is now acting pres of **Jones Intl Univ**. -- **Brooke Runnette** was named pres, **National Geographic Television**. Runnette, who recently joined **Nat Geo Channels** from **Discovery Channel**, succeeds **Maryanne Culpepper**, whose departure was announced earlier this year. -- **Jonathan Schwartz** was named gen counsel of **Univision**. He succeeds **C. Douglas Kranwinkle**, 72, who announced last year he would be retiring after a 47-year career in law.

Editor's Note: Don't miss **CableFAX's** upcoming Program Awards/Top Ops luncheon on Dec 4 in NYC. More info: <http://tinyurl.com/c3fy2ws>

CableFAX Daily Stockwatch

Company	11/26 Close	1-Day Ch	Company	11/26 Close	1-Day Ch
BROADCASTERS/DBS/MMDS					
DIRECTV:	49.00	(0.49)	CONCURRENT:	5.19	0.02
DISH:	35.30	(0.45)	CONVERGYS:	15.22	(0.11)
DISNEY:	49.03	(0.23)	CSG SYSTEMS:	18.03	0.12
GE:	21.06	0.02	ECHOSTAR:	31.55	(0.13)
NEWS CORP:	24.70	(0.12)	GOOGLE:	661.15	(6.82)
MSOS					
CABLEVISION:	14.02	0.04	HARMONIC:	4.34	(0.07)
CHARTER:	70.28	0.28	INTEL:	19.89	0.17
COMCAST:	36.63	(0.28)	JDSU:	11.52	(0.11)
COMCAST SPCL:	35.59	(0.22)	LEVEL 3:	18.54	0.03
GCI:	7.79	(0.03)	MICROSOFT:	27.39	(0.32)
LIBERTY GLOBAL:	57.27	0.24	RENTRAK:	18.73	0.12
LIBERTY INT:	19.22	UNCH	SEACHANGE:	9.12	0.15
SHAW COMM:	21.44	(0.28)	SONY:	9.90	(0.12)
TIME WARNER CABLE:	93.09	(0.46)	SPRINT NEXTEL:	5.62	(0.02)
VIRGIN MEDIA:	34.28	0.28	TIVO:	10.15	(0.01)
WASH POST:	344.11	(8.39)	UNIVERSAL ELEC:	17.05	0.28
PROGRAMMING					
AMC NETWORKS:	51.12	(0.28)	VONAGE:	2.30	0.06
CBS:	35.53	(0.32)	YAHOO:	18.75	0.18
CROWN:	1.76	UNCH	TELCOS		
DISCOVERY:	57.88	(0.32)	AT&T:	33.97	(0.39)
GRUPO TELEVISA:	23.37	(0.01)	VERIZON:	43.30	(0.46)
HSN:	51.94	(0.69)	MARKET INDICES		
INTERACTIVE CORP:	42.90	0.05	DOW:	12967.37	(42.31)
LIONSGATE:	16.39	0.25	NASDAQ:	2976.78	9.93
LODGENET:	0.17	(0.02)	S&P 500:	1406.29	(2.86)
NEW FRONTIER:	2.03	0.02	TECHNOLOGY		
OUTDOOR:	7.37	0.05	ADVANTAGE:	1.98	(0.02)
SCRIPPS INT:	59.77	(0.63)	ALCATEL LUCENT:	1.12	0.02
TIME WARNER:	46.52	0.37	AMDOCS:	32.71	0.01
VALUEVISION:	1.77	(0.03)	AMPHENOL:	61.79	0.27
VIACOM:	50.96	UNCH	AOL:	36.85	0.40
WWE:	8.08	0.11	APPLE:	589.53	18.03
TECHNOLOGY					
ARRIS GROUP:	13.82	(0.08)	AVID TECH:	6.42	(0.12)
AVID TECH:	6.42	(0.12)	BLNDER TONGUE:	1.17	0.01
BLNDER TONGUE:	1.17	0.01	BROADCOM:	32.17	0.59
BROADCOM:	32.17	0.59	CISCO:	19.05	0.21
CISCO:	19.05	0.21	CLEARWIRE:	2.19	(0.01)
CLEARWIRE:	2.19	(0.01)			

CableFAX's & **100** **CableFAX**
Most **Powerful Women**
in Cable

December 5, 2012 | 8:00 am - 10:00 am | Grand Hyatt, NYC

REGISTER TODAY

www.cablefax.com/powerfulwomen

Join us for CableFAX's Most Powerful Women in Cable & CableFAX 100 Breakfast as we salute the people who have made their mark on the industry with leadership, innovation and community.

Sponsorship Opportunities:

May Abbey
301.354.1629
aabbey@accessintel.com

To Register, Contact:

Saun Sayamongkhun
301.354.1694
saun@accessintel.com