

Cablefax Daily™

Friday — November 20, 2015

What the Industry Reads First

Volume 26 / No. 225

FCC Beat: Wheeler Approves of T-Mobile's Video-Friendly Data Plan

T-Mobile's new plan to exempt video from its wireless data caps, launched earlier this month, has caught the attention of the **FCC**. Commenting on the plan dubbed "Binge On" during the agency's open meeting Thurs, chmn *Tom Wheeler* said "it is clear in the Open Internet order that we are pro-competition and pro-innovation and clearly, this meets both of those criteria," he said, calling the service "highly innovative and highly competitive." Wheeler indicated that T-Mobile's offering doesn't violate the paid prioritization rules from the FCC's net neutrality order, but the agency will keep tabs on it. "What we're going to be doing is watching the Binge On product, keeping an eye on it, and measure it against the general conduct rule," Wheeler said. Under T-Mobile's plan, 24 streaming video services, including **Netflix**, **HBO Now**, **Showtime** and **ESPN**, are exempt from the user's monthly data quota (**CFX**, 11/11). Binge On is open to any streaming video provider who meets the technical requirements and is free, according to T-Mobile. Republican commish *Michael O'Rielly* viewed Wheeler's comments as a blessing to the service and said he expects more similar services to come. Fellow GOPer *Ajit Pai* was not so sure. Under the Internet conduct rules no one gets certainty, he said. The only cable-related item on Thurs' agenda, a further NPRM and 2nd Report and Order on creating easier access to video programming and closed captioning on devices, was approved by the Commission ahead of the meeting and deleted from the schedule. Still, the Q&A session offered some updates on several issues relevant to the industry. On his effort to tackle privacy rules for ISPs, Wheeler said the Commission has privacy enforcement responsibility for ISPs regulated by Title II framework. "We are meeting with various parties and carefully reviewing the questions of how that responsibility and authority translate in an IP world," he said. "We are cognizant that **FTC** has done things in this area. There are practices in this area that are widespread. We are weighing all of these things." The FCC and FTC "swim in parallel lanes sometimes," the chmn said. During the news conference, Wheeler also addressed the complaints brought by WiFi providers against wireless carriers over their use of LTE-U, or unlicensed LTE, citing potential interference issues. Unlicensed spectrum is characterized by 2 things: innovation and respecting each other's band, Wheeler said. "I want to make sure both can happen by...the development of commonly agreed standards," he said.



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CABLEFAX DAILY (ISSN 1069-6644) is published daily by Access Intelligence, LLC ● www.cablefax.com ● 301.354.2101 ● Editorial Director: Amy Maclean, 301.354.1760, amaclean@accessintel.com ● Publisher: Michael Grebb, 323.380.6263, mgrebb@accessintel.com ● Editor: Joyce Wang, 301.354.1828, jwang@accessintel.com ● Cablefax/Screenster Editor: Kaylee Hultgren, 646.764.8267, khultgren@accessintel.com ● Advisor: Seth Arenstein ● Dir. of Business Dev.: Rich Hauptner, 203.899.8460, rhauptner@accessintel.com ● Acct. Exec: Olivia Murray, 301.354.2010, omurray@accessintel.com ● Dir of Market Dev: Laurie Hofmann, 301.354.1796, lhofmann@accessintel.com ● Production: Joann Fato, jfato@accessintel.com ● Diane Schwartz, SVP Media Comms Group, dschwartz@accessintel.com ● Group Subs: Laurie Hofmann, 301.354.1796, lhofmann@accessintel.com ● Sub Questions, Client Services: 301.354.2101, clientservices@accessintel.com ● Annual subscription price: \$1,649/year ● Access Intelligence, LLC, 9211 Corporate Blvd., 4th Floor, Rockville, MD 20850

Comcast Stream TV: Comcast launched its \$15 a month live streaming TV service, dubbed Stream TV, in Chicago. It joins Boston, which launched the service earlier this month. Additional markets will be announced. The offering, first announced in July, allows users to access all the major broadcast nets including **ABC, CBS, CW, FOX, NBC, PBS** and **Univision** as well as **HBO**. The service is available only to Xfinity Internet customers. Out-of-home streaming is also available through Xfinity On Demand though not all programs are available.

Wrestling Coming to Pop: Pop scored the exclusive US rights to **Impact Wrestling**. Impact will make its debut on the net with a live 2-hour broadcast on Jan 5. New Home for Impact: After a year on **Destination America**, Impact Wrestling is making Pop its new, exclusive home. Impact make its debut on Pop with a live 2-hour broadcast Jan 5. The net will continue to air wrestling every Tues night at 9pm. The die-hard fandom and extraordinary passion surrounding Impact Wrestling captures the spirit of Pop as a network that celebrates fan-driven entertainment and excitement," Pop pres *Brad Schwartz* said in a statement. "We're committed to this new partnership and psyched to bring the show's loyal fans a dedicated night to watch their favorite show on Pop every week."

Comcast Voice: Comcast added free calls to mobile phones in 6 Latin American countries as part of its Carefree Minutes Latin America 300 plan (an additional \$9.95/month or no extra cost for select Xfinity Latino Triple Play packages). The countries included are Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic and Venezuela. The plan's customers can already make five hours of calls a month to landlines in 17 Latin American countries.

Casa/Wave Deal: Casa Systems scored a contract with **Wave Broadband** to offer its converged cable access platform. Wave serves around 450K subs in parts of CA, OR and WA. Casa's platform, dubbed C100G CCAP, seeks to deliver voice, video and gigabit data services over the same platform.

CTHRA's Salary Survey Call: CTHRA is inviting compensation specialists to participate in its 2016 Compensation Survey Planning Meetings to identify job categories and titles that need to be added or eliminated from the survey. Programmers will convene on Dec 2 and ops on Dec 3 at **HBO's** offices in NYC. For the 15th consecutive year, consulting firm **Croner Company** will facilitate the planning meetings and conduct the annual survey.

espnW's Super Women: espnW has partnered with **Marvel Comics** to recognize the athletes and influencers who make up its "IMPACT25" list, which recognizes those who have made the biggest mark on women in sports this year. Marvel artists will create a super version of each honoree, including the espnW Woman of the Year. The full roster will be revealed Dec 7, but we've already been given a sneak peek of Marvel's illustration of World Cup star *Carli Lloyd* alongside Captain Marvel.

TWC Upgrades Phone Plan: Time Warner Cable continues to expand its Global Penny Phone Plan, which allows users to access penny-per-minute rates, with 20 new destinations that include Egypt, Cambodia, Bermuda, Kuwait and Macau. The plan now features 50 destinations.

Programming: **Tennis Channel** and **ATP World Tour** renewed their telecast rights agreement. The multi-year deal includes 21 annual men's Masters 1000 and 500-level events, including Barclays ATP World Tour Finals (underway in London this week). Tennis is the exclusive US on-air-and-digital-rights-holding network for all but 5 of the events. -- **Crackle** launched its 1st original scripted drama, "The Art of More." The 10-ep series can be streamed for free using the Crackle App available on connected TVs, mobile devices, gaming consoles or online. The series explores the world of multimillion dollar auction business. -- **USA** and **WWE** will kick off the holiday season with "WWE Week" starting Dec 20 with "Santa's Little Helper," followed by "Monday Night Raw," the 2015 "WWE Slammy Awards" on Dec 21, a live "Smackdown" the next day and a 2-hour "WWE Tribute to the Troops" special on Dec 23. -- **GSN** greenlit 40 eps of new games show series "Winsanity" to be hosted by *Donald Faison* ("Scrubs"). Every time a contestant is correct and wins a prize, so does a randomly selected portion of the studio audience. However, if a contestant gives a wrong answer at any point, they, and the audience lose everything. -- SVOD service **SundanceNow Doc Club** will launch "Take 5," a 5-minute short film series, early next year. The first collection of 5-min docs will explore "Justice in America." All the films will be available and shareable for free, to both Doc Club members and the general public. -- **WE tv** is set to debut its dating docu-series "Ex Isle" on

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Jan 8. -- **The Weather Channel** premieres 2-hour special "Dead of Winter: The Donner Party" Nov 27.

O Christmas Tree: Christmas lover **Hallmark Channel** broke the Guinness World Record for largest display of illuminated Christmas trees Wed, with the lighting of a 559 tree-maze in NYC's Herald Square. Candace Cameron Bure, who stars in the net's "A Christmas Detour," flipped the switch. The trees will all be donated to the **Educational Alliance Boys & Girls Clubs of NYC.**

Roanoke TV Victim Fund: NAB announced that the "Alison & Adam Memorial Fund" established to support families of the victims of this summer's Roanoke TV shooting has raised \$88,175. NAB partnered with the **Radio Television News Association** to launch the fund to accept donations on behalf of *Alison Parker* and *Adam Ward*, who were tragically killed Aug 26 by a former employee of **WDBJ-TV**, a CBS affiliate owned by **Schurz Communications.**

On the Circuit: **NAMIC Mid-Atlantic** and **WICT DC-Baltimore** will host a fundraiser and holiday celebration Dec 12 at **Travel Channel's** Chevy Chase HQ. The evening of networking, dancing and silent auction bidding will benefit **BroadFutures** and **Girls Inc.**, both of DC. Tix are \$50 for members and \$100 for guests. To register, visit www.namic.com/events.

Cablefax Daily Stockwatch

Company	11/19 Close	1-Day Ch	Company	11/19 Close	1-Day Ch
BROADCASTERS/DBS/MMDS					
DISH:	63.74	(0.62)	CONVERGYS:	24.84	0.15
ENTRAVISION:	8.44	(0.09)	CSG SYSTEMS:	35.30	(0.26)
GRAY TELEVISION:	16.61	(0.07)	ECHOSTAR:	39.48	(0.89)
MEDIA GENERAL:	15.44	0.17	GOOGLE:	738.41	(1.59)
NEXSTAR:	59.61	(0.29)	HARMONIC:	5.32	0.01
SINCLAIR:	34.40	(0.23)	INTEL:	34.30	1.14
TEGNA:	27.70	(0.07)	INTERACTIVE CORP:	62.25	0.05
MSOS					
CABLE ONE:	454.54	(10.81)	LEVEL 3:	50.71	0.03
CABLEVISION:	31.11	(0.3)	MICROSOFT:	53.94	0.09
CHARTER:	186.13	(1.68)	NETFLIX:	120.22	(0.41)
COMCAST:	62.62	0.06	NIELSEN:	47.67	(0.21)
COMCAST SPCL:	62.69	0.09	RENTRAK:	49.87	(0.01)
GCI:	20.49	(0.16)	SEACHANGE:	6.52	0.17
LIBERTY BROADBAND:	53.14	(0.89)	SONY:	26.86	0.13
LIBERTY GLOBAL:	42.00	(1.25)	SPRINT NEXTEL:	4.05	0.06
SHAW COMM:	20.50	0.03	TIVO:	8.84	(0.06)
SHENTEL:	50.68	0.94	UNIVERSAL ELEC:	50.89	0.72
TIME WARNER CABLE:	184.00	(0.79)	VONAGE:	6.62	(0.18)
PROGRAMMING					
21ST CENTURY FOX:	29.95	(0.35)	YAHOO:	32.62	(0.36)
AMC NETWORKS:	80.43	0.44	TELCOS		
CBS:	51.75	0.44	AT&T:	33.62	0.08
CROWN:	5.90	(0.02)	CENTURYLINK:	28.47	(0.02)
DISCOVERY:	30.56	(0.22)	FRONTIER:	4.96	0.09
DISNEY:	118.71	0.57	TDS:	29.12	0.32
GRUPO TELEVISIA:	28.97	0.03	VERIZON:	45.76	0.38
HSN:	49.90	0.08	MARKET INDICES		
LIONSGATE:	36.22	(1.55)	DOW:	17732.75	(4.41)
MSG NETWORKS:	20.10	(0.01)	NASDAQ:	5073.64	(1.56)
SCRIPPS INT:	56.72	0.08	S&P 500:	2081.24	(2.34)
STARZ:	35.10	(0.15)			
TIME WARNER:	70.98	(0.79)			
VIACOM:	53.57	(1)			
WWE:	17.12	(0.32)			
TECHNOLOGY					
ADVANTAGE:	2.27	(0.02)			
AMDOCS:	56.65	0.99			
AMPHENOL:	54.58	(0.22)			
APPLE:	118.78	1.49			
ARRIS GROUP:	29.71	0.64			
AVID TECH:	6.26	0.12			
BLNDER TONGUE:	0.41	(0.01)			
BROADCOM:	52.80	(0.47)			
CISCO:	27.37	0.25			
COMMSCOPE:	27.37	0.02			
CONCURRENT:	4.70	0.01			

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PROGRAMMER'S PAGE

New Pack

Disney knows how to celebrate milestones—whether it's a limited edition DVD released from the vault or a star-studded party. So it was a given the 20-year anniversary of animated theatrical "Lion King" wouldn't pass unnoticed. To commemorate the event, Disney will launch series "Lion Guard" early next year on **Disney Junior** and **Disney Channel**, with 45-min movie, "Lion Guard: Return of the Roar," premiering Sun at 7pm on Disney Channel. *Ford Riley* was tapped to develop and serve as exec producer of the movie and series, which take place in the world of "The Lion King." This time the story follows Simba and Nala's cub Kion as he assumes the role of leader of the Lion Guard, a diverse group of animals who help preserve the Pride Lands. It's familiar territory for Riley as the first script he sold as a young writer was to Disney for "The Lion King's Timon & Pumbaa" animated series. This time around, Riley's focused on a slightly younger, preschool audience. Parents everywhere know that the original movie's hyenas can scare little ones, so that was one of the changes. "We tweaked them slightly so they weren't as scary," based on focus groups, Riley said. While this is a new tale, "we're staying true to the spirit of the Lion King film with epic storytelling." That means the animals in Lion Guard are really animals. You won't see them driving cars or living in houses. The storylines revolve around the adventures of Kion and his friends that he's recruited for the Guard, which include a honey badger named Bunga. (Fun tidbit for parents: Rob Lowe and Gabrielle Union provide the voices for Simba and Nala). With music such a memorable part of the Lion King film, Riley assured us songs will be a part of Lion Guard. The soundtrack will be released in Jan. "Beau Black is the songwriter. He's really embraced the challenge," the exec producer said, promising some fun with music before adding: "We're not trying to be *Elton John*—nobody can." — *Amy Maclean*

Reviews: "Railroad Alaska: Real Time Train Ride," Thanksgiving, 9am, 2pm ET, **Destination America**. We see *Henry Schleich*'s fingerprints all over this: 5 hours of footage from a camera affixed to a locomotive as it ambles along the Alaska Railroad. No music or narration and, in the 1-hour clip we saw, nothing but snow-covered tracks and mountains. DA promised critics it would be boring (honest), but we found it calming, with pacing like "Mad Men" eps. So, have a safe trip, er, tryptophan. -- "Deep Blue," Thanksgiving, 1pm, 8pm, **Nat Geo Wild**. The net celebrates Thanksgiving for 10 days with specials like this theatrical version of a 2001 **BBC** doc "The Blue Planet." "Deep" is mostly about gorgeous ocean footage, creative camera speeds and an ethereal soundtrack. It's a watery antacid for a stressful Thanksgiving. -- "Spymasters: CIA in the Crosshairs," Saturday, 9pm, Showtime. This doc is an excellent examination of the CIA's battle against global terrorism. The filmmakers are expert storytellers, putting a human face on the agency. The opening, with *Leon Panetta*, grabs you immediately. -- "Saints & Strangers," Sunday, Monday, 9pm, **Nat Geo**. These people are far from the Pilgrims you learned about in school. This 2-nighter is a fabulous, fairly accurate Cinderella story, with **Vincent Kartheiser** ("Mad Men's" **Pete Campbell**) in an Emmy-worthy performance as *William Bradford*. — *Seth Arenstein*

Basic Cable Rankings (11/09/15-11/15/15)			
Mon-Sun Prime			
1	ESPN	2.3	2110
2	FOXN	1.9	1806
3	HALL	1.6	1430
4	FBN	1.3	1106
4	DSE	1.3	100
6	USA	1.2	1131
6	NFLN	1.2	827
8	DSNY	1.1	1074
8	DISC	1.1	1067
8	TBSC	1.1	1054
8	AMC	1.1	1001
8	HIST	1.1	1000
13	HGTV	1.0	976
14	FX	0.9	845
14	TNT	0.9	836
14	ADSM	0.9	814
17	CNN	0.8	784
17	FOOD	0.8	754
17	ID	0.8	689
20	BRAV	0.7	589
21	MSNB	0.6	592
21	A&E	0.6	585
21	TLC	0.6	571
21	NAN	0.6	566
21	SYFY	0.6	547
21	DSJR	0.6	426
21	HMM	0.6	349
28	LIFE	0.5	511
28	ESP2	0.5	496
28	SPK	0.5	488
28	FAM	0.5	469
28	CMDY	0.5	428
28	VH1	0.5	416
28	TVLD	0.5	407
28	DFAM	0.5	33
36	BET	0.4	385
36	EN	0.4	382
36	APL	0.4	360
36	WETV	0.4	350
36	OWN	0.4	346
36	NBCS	0.4	325
36	LMN	0.4	319
36	NKJR	0.4	315
36	H2	0.4	290

*Nielsen data, supplied by ABC/Disney, is based on coverage area of individual networks



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- Technology enabling more convergence between traditional and new media

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