

# Cablefax Daily™

Wednesday — November 16, 2016

What the Industry Reads First

Volume 27 / No. 222

## Merger Commitment: Two Hispanic Youth Nets Coming to Comcast

Add **Primo TV** and **Kids Central** to the list of 10 independently owned and operated networks **Comcast** promised to launch as part of its **NBCU** merger commitment. The MSO announced Tues that the nets will be broadly distributed on its system starting in January. Kids Central is an English-language net appealing to bicultural Hispanic viewers ages 3-7. In primetime, the net offers programs that target the whole family. The net—owned and operated by **Condista Networks**, which represents more than 25 Spanish-language TV channels—will provide both English and Spanish language VOD content. Primo TV, owned by **V-Me Media**, is an English-language net that targets bicultural Hispanic viewers ages 6-16, featuring content such as animated series, adventure programming and STEM Awareness. Eight of the 10 nets will be minority-owned, as part of the merger condition. Five nets have already launched, including **El Rey** (2013) and **BabyFirst Americas** (2012), which are primarily Hispanic American owned and operated; **Revolt** (2013) and **ASPiRE** (2012), which are majority African American owned; and **BBC World News** (2011). For the remaining 2 African American majority-owned channels to be launched, a Comcast spokeswoman said the company is working ahead of the launch schedule outlined in the Memoranda of Understanding. The company will begin the request for proposals for the 2 African American majority-owned independent networks in late 2016/early 2017, she said. Comcast will consider programming proposals for all networks, including independent networks, on a rolling basis, she said. Comcast's main criteria for selecting Primo TV and Kids Central were: network content; whether the networks are fully financed; whether the networks' ownership and/or management group(s) are well established, have relevant experience, and are substantially owned by Hispanic Americans; whether the networks have launched and have existing or potential MVPD distribution; price; and whether the networks and potential carriage provide value to Comcast and its customers. "Kids Central and Primo TV's unique focus on young bicultural Hispanics fill an unmet need in youth-oriented programming and further demonstrate our commitment to providing the best experience for bicultural Hispanic families," said *Javier Garcia*, svp/gm of multicultural services at Comcast in a release.

**FCC, Slow Your Roll:** GOP leaders called on the **FCC** to go quietly into the presidential transition. In a letter Tues, **House Commerce** leaders *Fred Upton* (R-MI) and *Greg Walden* (R-OR) said the FCC's top priority over the next 10 weeks should be ensuring a successful broadcast incentive auction. Sen Commerce chmn *John Thune* (R-SD) penned a similar

## JUST RELEASED!

Find out who made **Cablefax's**  
**Most Powerful Women** List!

Register for the Celebration Luncheon on Nov. 17  
at The Edison Ballroom from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Read the Digital Version [www.cablefaxmag.com](http://www.cablefaxmag.com)



A promotional poster for the TV show 'Nightcap'. The scene is set in a radio studio. A large, bright yellow crescent moon is positioned behind the show's title, 'NIGHTCAP', which is written in a bold, blue, italicized sans-serif font. The background shows a dark studio with a large audience of people seated in bleachers, illuminated by bright spotlights from above. In the foreground, a wooden desk holds a vintage-style microphone on the left and a black mug with the 'Nightcap' logo on the right. A group of eight people, the show's cast, are huddled together on the floor beneath the desk. They exhibit various expressions of surprise and concern. A woman in the center, wearing a dark blazer over a pink top and a 'CREW' lanyard, is the focal point, with her arms outstretched. To her left, a man holds a yellow hairdryer. To her right, another man is writing on a pink notepad. A modern office chair is partially visible on the right side of the frame.

# NIGHTCAP

A NEW ORIGINAL SCRIPTED COMEDY

**WED NOV 16 | 8P<sup>7C</sup>**

**Pop**

POPTV.COM

**POP 2016 ORIGINALS OUT-DELIVERED 2015 PRIMETIME  
+20% A18-49, +13% W25-54**

SOURCE: NIELSEN, NHI, NPOWER, L+7 (000); SCHITT'S CREEK, ROCK THIS BOAT: NKOTB, SING IT ON COMBINED AVERAGE, EXCLUDES REPEATS; PRIMETIME = M-SU 7P-12A, STRICT DAYPART



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letter, urging Wheeler to focus on issues that can achieve bipartisan support. “As Rep Henry Waxman and Sen Jay Rockefeller noted during the 2008 presidential transition, it would be counterproductive for the FCC to consider complex and controversial items that the new Congress and new Administration will have an interest in reviewing,” Upton and Walden wrote, referencing when Dems took control. An FCC spokesperson said the agency is reviewing the letters. The lawmakers didn’t name specifics, but FCC chmn *Tom Wheeler* has vowed to keep working on a set-top box order. Last month, in response to a letter from Rep *Keith Ellison* (D-MN), Wheeler reiterated his commitment to unlocking the set-top box for consumers. On Thurs, the Commission is set to vote on a BDS order. Republican FCC commish *Ajit Pai* wasted no time seconding the request to stop controversial votes during the transition, including on BDS. He called on Wheeler to follow the example of previous FCC chmn *Kevin Martin* and withdraw 4 “major items” from this week’s meeting agenda. In addition to BDS, the FCC is slated to vote on a report and order for rules for Phase 2 of the Mobility Fund, an NPRM on proposals to implement a unified roaming standard to classify voice over LTE and an order addressing the amount of video described programming required to be made available to consumers. On Mon, House Majority Leader *Kevin McCarthy* set a letter to all govt agencies, urging no new regs in the month’s leading up to *Donald Trump* taking office, *Roll Call* reported.

**Comcast Usage Plan:** Comcast’s Terabyte Internet Data Usage Plan, already available in 26 states, is suspended in Maine, effective Dec 1, according to the plan’s help & support page. According to **DSL Reports**, Comcast is sending a notice to its customers about the suspension. “We do not currently have data plans anywhere in the Northeast. As a result, we want to ensure we have clear and consistent communications to our customers as well as have our engineering and operations teams aligned around one policy,” the notice said. The company wasn’t available immediately for comment. Comcast started rolling out the usage-based program in Oct, offering 1 TB of data every month as part of subs’ monthly Xfinity Internet service. For those using more than 1 TB a month, the ISP will automatically add blocks of 50 GB to their account for an additional fee of \$10 each. However, total charges won’t exceed \$200 a month, no matter how much is used.

**AMC Nets Invests in Funny or Die:** AMC Networks took a minority stake in **Funny Or Die**. This follows several successful collaborations between AMCN’s **IFC** and Funny Or Die. The two said the investment (no details on how big it is) could include Funny Or Die-branded programming blocks along with additional original content for linear and digital. Funny Or Die will continue to operate independently, while IFC pres *Jennifer Caserta* will join the Funny Or Die board. AMCN has a strong connection with Funny or Die, but isn’t the only TV brand working with it. Funny of Die has “Billy on the Street” on **truTV**, “@midnight” on **Comedy Central**, and comedy specials such as the upcoming *T.J. Miller* special on **HBO**. In typical Funny or Die fashion, founders of the comedy brand *Will Ferrell* and *Adam McKay* managed to make us snicker even in a relatively dry press release about the deal: “We met on **Tinder**, things moved fast, and now we’re getting married.”

**Viacom’s Argentina Purchase:** Viacom agreed to buy Argentina’s free-to-air channel **Televisión Federal S.A.** for \$345mln in cash. The net, which reaches 95% of HHs in Argentina, will be part of **Viacom International Media Networks**. Telefe will be led by *Pierluigi Gazzolo*, pres of VIMN Americas. Viacom’s entry into Argentina started with the launch of MTV in 1993. The company’s presence in the country now includes 12 branded pay-TV nets, including **Nickelodeon**, **Nick Jr.**, **Comedy Central**, **Paramount Channel** and **VH1**, among others. The deal is pending regulatory approvals.

**In the Courts:** Cox Communications has a friend in **ACA**, which filed an amicus brief with the US Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit in support of its effort to overturn a \$25mln contributory copyright infringement verdict. Last Dec, a jury ruled Cox must pay music publisher **BMG** for Internet customers’ illegal downloads of music under the Digital Millennium Copyright Act. Cox argued in its appeal that the lower court eviscerated the safe harbor for ISPs that Congress provided under the DMCA. ACA pres/CEO *Matt Polka* agrees, calling the protection vital “because ISPs lack the ability (or obligation) to monitor and investigate every instance a subscriber is alleged to use P2P applications to share infringing material.”

**Viceland Doings:** Viceland recently scored broader distribution with **DirecTV**, which is offering it on Select, Entertainment and Choice packages. It also will be part of DirecTV Now’s entry-level package offering. The net announced 3 new series on Tues: “Payday,” “Big Night Out” and “Bong Appétit,” while renewing “Kings of the Road” and “Weediquette.” “I am just tickled pink to announce Viceland’s new series and also very happy with how our distributors across the board like DirecTV are embracing Viceland not only on traditional platforms but OTT as well,” said Vice Media founder/CEO *Shane Smith*.

**Crown Backs American Humane:** Crown Media Family Networks teamed with **American Humane** to become the

# BUSINESS & FINANCE

media sponsor of 2 programs recognizing the restorative bonds between military vets and canines. The first is a new program with American Humane to rescue shelter dogs and train them as service animals for vets with post-traumatic stress and other disorders. Crown is also supporting the nonprofit's initiative to reunite retired military dogs with the military human handlers.

**On the Circuit:** Time's running out to register for **Cablefax's** Most Powerful Women lunch. The event will be held Thurs at the Edison Ballroom in NYC from 11am-2pm. We'll put the spotlight on this year's honorees. Check them out in the latest issue of **Cablefax: The Magazine** on Cablefax.com. -- **WICT Rocky Mountain** hosts its 10th annual Tech It Out conference Thurs in Glendale, CO, at the Infinity Park Event Center. The full-day conference will showcase clips from the premiere of "She Started It," a documentary about women tech entrepreneurs, which aims to highlight successful role models for young women.

**Honors:** **NATPE's** 14th annual Annual Brandon Tartikoff Legacy Award recipients include **AMC Nets' Josh Sapan**, **Univision** CEO **Randy Falco** and **YouTube** global head of original content **Susanne Daniels**. Also being honored are **Fox TV** group chairman/CEOs **Dana Walden** and **Gary Newman** and actress, director, producer **Eva Longoria**. They'll be recognized at a reception during NATPE on Jan 18 at the Fontainebleau Miami Beach.

## Cablefax Daily Stockwatch

| Company                      | 11/15<br>Close | 1-Day<br>Ch | Company               | 11/15<br>Close | 1-Day<br>Ch |
|------------------------------|----------------|-------------|-----------------------|----------------|-------------|
| <b>BROADCASTERS/DBS/MMDS</b> |                |             | INTEL:                | 34.91          | 0.43        |
| DISH:                        | 54.80          | 0.83        | INTERACTIVE CORP:     | 65.93          | 0.47        |
| ENTRAVISION:                 | 6.90           | 0.30        | LEVEL 3:              | 54.88          | 0.77        |
| GRAY TELEVISION:             | 9.25           | (0.05)      | MICROSOFT:            | 58.87          | 1.14        |
| MEDIA GENERAL:               | 18.27          | (0.28)      | NETFLIX:              | 113.59         | 0.21        |
| NEXSTAR:                     | 59.20          | (1.3)       | NIELSEN:              | 43.58          | 0.51        |
| SINCLAIR:                    | 31.20          | 0.20        | SEACHANGE:            | 2.58           | 0.08        |
| TEGNA:                       | 22.69          | 0.31        | SONY:                 | 29.61          | (0.38)      |
| <b>MSOS</b>                  |                |             | SPRINT NEXTEL:        | 7.74           | 0.24        |
| CABLE ONE:                   | 572.38         | (2.62)      | SYNACOR:              | 2.80           | 0.05        |
| CHARTER:                     | 260.20         | (2.94)      | UNIVERSAL ELEC:       | 69.45          | 0.95        |
| COMCAST:                     | 66.98          | (0.28)      | VONAGE:               | 6.58           | 0.12        |
| GCI:                         | 16.70          | (0.11)      | YAHOO:                | 40.21          | 0.91        |
| LIBERTY BROADBAND:           | 66.61          | (0.64)      | <b>TELCOS</b>         |                |             |
| LIBERTY GLOBAL:              | 30.88          | 0.22        | AT&T:                 | 36.77          | 0.64        |
| SHAW COMM:                   | 19.20          | 0.16        | CENTURYLINK:          | 24.72          | 0.41        |
| SHENTEL:                     | 25.95          | (0.25)      | FRONTIER :            | 3.30           | 0.06        |
| <b>PROGRAMMING</b>           |                |             | TDS:                  | 25.56          | (0.01)      |
| 21ST CENTURY FOX:            | 27.45          | (0.07)      | VERIZON:              | 47.37          | 1.19        |
| AMC NETWORKS:                | 53.27          | (1.62)      | <b>MARKET INDICES</b> |                |             |
| CBS:                         | 59.21          | 0.35        | DOW:                  | 18.00          | 400.00      |
| DISCOVERY:                   | 27.80          | (0.55)      | NASDAQ:               | 5275.62        | 57.23       |
| DISNEY:                      | 97.70          | (0.22)      | S&P 500:              | 2180.39        | 16.19       |
| GRUPO TELEVISA:              | 22.71          | 0.01        |                       |                |             |
| HSN:                         | 39.05          | (0.5)       |                       |                |             |
| LIONSGATE:                   | 23.47          | (0.06)      |                       |                |             |
| MSG NETWORKS:                | 20.20          | (0.25)      |                       |                |             |
| SCRIPPS INT:                 | 70.63          | (3.07)      |                       |                |             |
| STARZ:                       | 33.83          | (0.04)      |                       |                |             |
| TIME WARNER:                 | 88.67          | 1.87        |                       |                |             |
| VIACOM:                      | 42.95          | (0.5)       |                       |                |             |
| WWE:                         | 17.81          | (0.29)      |                       |                |             |
| <b>TECHNOLOGY</b>            |                |             |                       |                |             |
| ADDVANTAGE:                  | 1.78           | (0.01)      |                       |                |             |
| AMDOCS:                      | 57.65          | (0.63)      |                       |                |             |
| AMPHENOL:                    | 67.13          | 0.50        |                       |                |             |
| APPLE:                       | 107.11         | 1.40        |                       |                |             |
| ARRIS GROUP:                 | 29.04          | 0.17        |                       |                |             |
| AVID TECH:                   | 4.71           | 0.06        |                       |                |             |
| BLNDER TONGUE:               | 0.53           | 0.03        |                       |                |             |
| CISCO:                       | 31.70          | 0.33        |                       |                |             |
| COMMSCOPE:                   | 34.97          | 0.12        |                       |                |             |
| CONCURRENT:                  | 5.94           | UNCH        |                       |                |             |
| CONVERGYS:                   | 23.98          | (0.05)      |                       |                |             |
| CSG SYSTEMS:                 | 41.39          | (0.06)      |                       |                |             |
| ECHOSTAR:                    | 50.15          | (0.24)      |                       |                |             |
| GOOGLE:                      | 758.49         | 22.41       |                       |                |             |
| HARMONIC:                    | 4.60           | (0.45)      |                       |                |             |



## Call for Entries

**Entry Deadline**  
December 9, 2016

Cablefax's Digital Awards is the industry's top honor in the digital space, recognizing outstanding websites, digital initiatives, and people among programmers, operators, and industry professionals.

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