

# CableFAX Daily™

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What the Industry Reads First

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## Bye Britt: Marcus to Lead TWC, Britt Retiring at Year-End

**Time Warner Cable** must need more to do. It's not out of the woods yet with **CBS** (the deadline for retrans consent talks was extended until 5pm on Mon), it has unhappy subs in Green Bay, Milwaukee and Omaha that lost their **NBC** and **CBS** affils overnight, **Charter** and *John Malone* are still circling and talks with **Hulu** about a potential ownership stake reportedly broke down this week. So, it announced Thurs the much-speculated retirement of *Glenn Britt* at year-end with pres/COO *Rob Marcus* stepping into the role on Jan 1. And for good measure, it threw in a separate announcement about a \$4bln share repurchase reauthorization and a quarterly dividend of 65 cents/share payable Sept 16. "While TWC was 'due' for another reauthorization, we can't help but think the timing a little strange—perhaps this buyback is also a way to thwart a potential takeover attempt by **CHTR**," **Wells Fargo** analysts said in a research note. The *WSJ* kicked off Britt retirement speculation in Feb, citing a source as saying the exec would step down at the end of the year. The Journal report came at the same time TWC's stock was reeling from the company missing analyst estimates for '13 guidance. The MSO declined to confirm the news in Feb, saying "if and when he decides to step down," there would be an announcement. A month later Marcus said no decision had been made and assured an investor conference that Britt was very much engaged and in charge. But the speculation continued and was widely accepted, with it becoming official Thurs at TWC's board meeting. The news broke in the *NYT* shortly before market close, with TWC shares essentially unchanged at day's end. Wells Fargo said it wasn't a surprise, and it doesn't expect any material reaction for the stock. The MSO declined our request for an interview, but in the sit-down with the *NYT* Britt said his retirement had no bearing on the company's reaction to Malone. "We tend to focus on the things that we can control, and we feel very good about the proposition of Time Warner Cable as a stand-alone company," Marcus, 48, told the *NYT* in response to a question about whether Malone's interest could "cloud" his time as CEO. The CEO-to-be joined the company in '05 as sr evp, overseeing corporate groups, including M&A, business affairs, programming and HR. "I love this business, but I'm ready to retire knowing Rob is ready to lead," Britt said in a statement. Britt joined **Time Inc** in '72 and become evp, TWC in '90. He was named CEO of the company in '01 and was named pres/CEO in '06. "I have had the privilege of being in this industry for more than 40 years and witnessing first-hand the most momentous evolution in communications technology ever experienced—we have truly been at the forefront of

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changing the way the world communicates,” Britt said. NCTA chief *Michael Powell* saluted the outgoing TWC exec, saying he always has served with “dignity and grace” and deserves “industry’s praise during the remaining months of his tenure.”

**Good, Bad & Unknown:** First the good news, **Time Warner Cable** subs didn’t lose **CBS** O&Os. The bad? TWC customers are without **Journal Broadcast Group** stations, including Milwaukee **NBC** affil **WTMJ** and Green Bay’s **NBC** station **WGBA**. Unlike CBS-TWC, the 2 sides don’t appear to even be talking. Said TWC in a statement: “This is an over 200% increase for the same programming they deliver for free over the air; and many of their individual shows—both national and local—are available for free online.” If this blackout continues into football season, there will be some cheesed off Packers fans. Also impacted: Omaha’s **KMTV**, Palm Springs’ **KMIR** and **KPSE** and Green Bay’s **WACY**. The unknown? Whether TWC and CBS can work out a deal before Mon’s new deadline. A short-term extension is generally thought to be a positive sign, but TWC is a wild card. It’s proved time and time again that it’s not afraid to lose networks. Hours before the extension was announced Wed, TWC was making noise about replacing CBS in the channel 2 slot in NY and L.A. Here’s an interesting crinkle with that scenario: would TWC have to give 30-days notice before moving a channel into the new spot per FCC rules? (Recall, the FCC smacked it a few years ago for removing **NFL Net** in some **Adelphia** systems that it bought without notification) Maybe it could keep the channel in its old channel assignment as well as channel 2 for 30 days... Speaking of the FCC, **NCTA** took NAB to task for defending joint market agreements that let a broadcaster negotiate multiple retrans deals in a single market. The pending **Gannett-Belo** transaction “accentuates the importance of the Commission moving expeditiously to make clear that joint negotiation for retransmission consent by multiple broadcast stations in a particular market is impermissible,” NCTA said. TWC, **ACA** and **DirectTV** have petitioned the FCC to deny the station Belo-Gannett station transfers. The proposed transfer would result in at least 1 market in the common ownership of 2 top-four rated stations—with the parties set to spin off 1 or more stations, but they will operate jointly per contractual agreements, NCTA said.

**Fox Sports 1:** Less than a month before the launch of **Fox Sports 1**, **Fox Sports** has lined up star athletes across the board for Fox Sports Live. Recruits include **ESPN** vet *Charissa Thompson*, **NBA** Hall of Famer *Gary Payton*, **NFL** stars *Donovan McNabb* and *Ephraim Salaam* and the previously announced *Andy Roddick*. In addition to the panel hosted by Thompson, *Jay Onrait* and *Dan O’Toole*, who joined Fox in May from Canadian net **TSN**’s “SportsCentre,” will anchor the program. Meanwhile, the upcoming net might have something to do with *Keith Olbermann*’s return to **ESPN**. “I don’t know if Keith Olbermann would be back if Fox Sports Live or Fox Sports 1 did not exist,” according to *Scott Ackerson*, evp, studio production, Fox Sports. We’re sure Olbermann’s thank-you note is in the mail.

**Summer TCA:** The legacy of *James Gandolfini* continues at **HBO**. TCA critics wasted little time in questioning the net’s chief *Richard Plepler* and programming head *Michael Lombardo* about HBO series “Criminal Justice,” which was to be the return to episodic TV of Gandolfini. “I can’t imagine us showing the pilot with James Gandolfini in it,” Plepler told the critics. Critics also wanted to know whether HBO might go OTT. The execs said the existing distribution model is “the best at the moment.” Lombardo and Plepler also said “The Newsroom” is outperforming expectations and very likely will return for a third season and that comedy “Veep” will feature Julia Louis-Dreyfus’s Selena Mayer character running for President in 2016. -- **Discovery Communications** pres/CEO *David Zaslav* told critics the company’s current primary focus is growing market share. It’s “hyper-focused on our international business” across 220 countries and this year will spend over \$1.5 billion on content. **TLC** presented “Secret Princes” (premieres Oct 25), a docu-series in the net’s expanding genre of romance that follows 4 wealthy princes from abroad in their search for love in the U.S. **Velocity**’s 4-part series “*Patrick Dempsey: Racing Le Mans*” (premieres Aug 28) follows the “Grey’s Anatomy” star as he tackles one of the greatest endurance auto races in the world. **ID**’s “Surviving Evil” (Aug 28 premiere) profiles survivors of brutal attacks, including reenactments of the crimes and interviews with the victims who fought back and survived. **Science Channel**’s “The Unexplained Files” (Aug 28 premiere) takes a look at unexplained occurrences and investigates the mysteries behind each. **OWN**’s “Raising Whitley,” which follows comedienne and actress *Kym Whitley* and her eclectic family and friends as they raise her adopted son Joshua, is back for more episodes in early 2014. The net also ordered the original docu-series “It’s Prime’s Time,” (wt) featuring sports legend *Deion Sanders* and his family, debuting in 2014. -- Critics learned something about cheetahs from *Kim Wolhunter*, wildlife filmmaker of **Discovery Channel**’s “Man, Cheetah, Wild,” premiering Oct 3: “They would rather run away from something than confront it,” he said. -- **BBC America**’s touting “Doctor Who’s” 50th anniversary and looming departure of star *Matt Smith*, who told critics “it’s just the right time to leave.” Producer *Marcus*

# BUSINESS & FINANCE

Wilson said the net's "been cast wide" for Smith's replacement, who will be the 12th Doctor. Timed to coincide the Doctor's 50th anniversary, "An Adventure in Time and Space" (Nov premiere) tells the story of the first Doctor, actor *William Hartnell* (played by *David Bradley*). BBCA will premiere "Atlantis" in Nov with Jason (*Jack Donnelly*) washing up in an ancient land filled with Greek mythology characters. "Broadchurch" (Aug 7 premiere) is a present-day drama about a child who's found dead on the beach of a small resort town in Britain. Unlike some series, Broadchurch will reveal the boy's killer at the end of its 8-ep run. -- "Community" head writer *Dan Harmon* and *Justin Roiland* are the co-creators of **Adult Swim's** "Rick and Morty" (fall premiere), which tracks an inventor grandfather and his less-than-brilliant grandson. -- At a date to be determined in Sept, **TV One** will morph its "Washington Watch" program into an hour-long, daily morning show "News One Now," hosted by *Roland Martin*. It will focus on issues of importance to the black community, a perspective absent on broadcast and cable, Martin said. **[For more details from TCA, go to [www.cablefax.com](http://www.cablefax.com)]**

**On the Hill:** The House Communications subcommittee passed 2 **FCC** reform proposals after bill sponsors, including the panel's chair *Greg Walden* (R-OH), agreed to working with Democrats to address concerns on some provisions of the bills.

## CableFAX Daily Stockwatch

Company	07/25 Close	1-Day Ch	Company	07/25 Close	1-Day Ch
<b>BROADCASTERS/DBS/MMDS</b>					
DIRECTV:	64.13	0.45	HARMONIC:	7.71	0.01
DISH:	44.23	(0.56)	INTEL:	23.06	0.13
DISNEY:	64.55	(0.09)	JDSU:	14.52	(0.1)
GE:	24.69	0.07	LEVEL 3:	21.29	(0.3)
NEWS CORP:	30.39	(0.09)	MICROSOFT:	31.39	(0.57)
<b>MSOS</b>					
CABLEVISION:	18.73	0.03	RENTRAK:	22.07	0.20
CHARTER:	127.75	(0.47)	SEACHANGE:	12.40	0.23
COMCAST:	44.17	(0.79)	SONY:	22.11	(0.7)
COMCAST SPCL:	42.17	(0.75)	SPRINT NEXTEL:	5.82	0.05
GCI:	9.14	0.11	TIVO:	11.47	0.09
LIBERTY GLOBAL:	80.38	(0.06)	UNIVERSAL ELEC:	31.46	0.13
LIBERTY INT:	24.46	0.13	VONAGE:	3.39	0.08
SHAW COMM:	25.16	(0.09)	YAHOO:	28.27	0.43
TIME WARNER CABLE:	117.22	(0.07)	<b>TELCOS</b>		
WASH POST:	536.20	2.76	AT&T:	35.46	0.06
<b>PROGRAMMING</b>					
AMC NETWORKS:	68.44	0.08	VERIZON:	50.71	0.33
CBS:	52.49	0.01	<b>MARKET INDICES</b>		
CROWN:	2.86	0.16	DOW:	1555.61	13.37
DISCOVERY:	85.08	0.45	NASDAQ:	3587.61	(23.66)
GRUPO TELEVISIA:	26.41	0.31	S&P 500:	1690.25	4.31
HSN:	60.04	0.53			
INTERACTIVE CORP:	51.42	(0.09)			
LIONSGATE:	31.72	(0.12)			
SCRIPPS INT:	72.00	0.30			
STARZ:	23.17	(0.11)			
TIME WARNER:	62.71	0.41			
VALUEVISION:	6.10	UNCH			
VIACOM:	73.39	0.35			
WWE:	10.87	0.07			
<b>TECHNOLOGY</b>					
ADVANTAGE:	2.47	(0.06)			
ALCATEL LUCENT:	2.11	(0.03)			
AMDOCS:	38.62	(0.01)			
AMPHENOL:	77.53	(0.38)			
AOL:	38.39	0.94			
APPLE:	438.50	(2.01)			
ARRIS GROUP:	15.52	0.17			
AVID TECH:	6.30	0.09			
BROADCOM:	27.46	0.45			
CISCO:	25.50	(0.09)			
CONCURRENT:	7.63	(0.16)			
CONVERGYS:	19.27	0.26			
CSG SYSTEMS:	23.77	0.47			
EHOSTAR:	40.40	(0.1)			
GOOGLE:	887.70	(15.2)			

# CableFAX

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# PROGRAMMER'S PAGE

## Daym, Daym, Daym!

If you haven't seen *Daymon "Daym" Patterson's* enthusiastic fast food reviews on YouTube, you need to spend more time online. His Five Guys Burgers and Fries review ("you bite the fry, the fry bites back") grabbed the attention of **Reddit**. From there, it was remixed and autotuned by *The Gregory Brothers* into a catchy number with more than 15mln views, while the original has another 4mln hits. His reviews have more than 150K subs on YouTube.

**Travel Channel** is among the fans, launching back-to-back eps of Patterson hosting "Best Daym Takeout" on Wed at 10pm. One difference between the YouTube show and Travel's series—the car. Patterson moves his reviews from the front seat of his compact Honda "studio" to a SUV more accommodating of his 6-ft-5-in, 390-pound frame. As the owner of a Mom Mobile with more than a few stale French fries and Goldfish crackers floating around the backseat, I'm always impressed that Daym never dribbles as much as a drop of ketchup. "I refuse to. I'm a stickler about my vehicle. Every week, I take it to get waxed and washed," Patterson told us. (He has a daughter who turns 1 this weekend. Get back to me in a couple years, Daym...) The biggest difference between the YouTube series, which will continue, and Travel's limited series is that Patterson ditches national fast food chains and travels to cities for takeaway spots appreciated by locals, crowning one the best. The debut ep has him in Chicago at Pequod's Pizza, Superdawg and Mr. Beef. How'd he start reviewing food from his car? It began with **Burger King's** French toast sticks two years ago. It ended up with more views than his normal vlogs. "I thought, 'People like watching me eat?'" Daym said laughing. Same thing happened with a **Dunkin Donuts** iced coffee review, and a YouTube star was born. Is there any food he won't try? Yes for YouTube, no for Travel. In fact, the 1st time he had oysters was when he ordered them from Acme Oyster House in ep 2. "There's going to be a lot of firsts, and it's great that individuals get to experience them with me." One thing's for sure: Travel has built-in social media for this series. - *Amy Maclean*

**Reviews:** "Our Nixon," Thurs, 9pm, **CNN**. It can be a difficult choice for a documentary maker to forego a narrator and let principals tell their story. In this absorbing film about *Richard Nixon*, that choice works brilliantly. The doc features home movies taken by principals: presidential deputy *Dwight Chapin*; White House chief of staff *H.R. Haldeman*; and *John Ehrlichman*, Nixon's domestic affairs adviser. The 500 recently-released reels provide a human quality, although recognizing faces and events can be tough without a narrator. The real stars are Nixon's taped phone calls, which put you in the Oval Office, and archival news footage and interviews, woven together beautifully. This material forms an intimate look at an iconic, infamous presidency. -- "The Writers' Room," premiere, Mon, 10pm, **Sundance Channel**.

A Sundance co-prod with "Entertainment Weekly," the series features showrunners, writers and actors dishing dope about their shows' origins, characters, plots and creative processes. We never visit the room itself, though. Host *Jim Rash* mixes kibitzing and investigating, which makes the show semi-serious and will please some and dismay others. Up first: "Breaking Bad." -- "Inside the American Mob," premiere, Sun, 9pm, **Nat Geo**. The early highlight of this well-done 6-part history of the Mafia is ep 2 (10pm), where the significance of **FBI** agent *Joe Pistone* (aka *Donnie Brasco*) is discussed. - *Seth Arenstein*

### Basic Cable Rankings

(7/15/13-7/21/13)

Mon-Sun Prime

1	DSNY	2.1	2094
2	USA	2.0	1966
3	TNT	1.8	1729
4	HIST	1.5	1465
5	ESPN	1.4	1407
5	FOXN	1.4	1369
7	TBSC	1.3	1342
8	HGTV	1.1	1072
8	A&E	1.1	1068
10	ADSM	0.9	898
10	DISC	0.9	856
10	AMC	0.9	847
10	FAM	0.9	845
10	DSE	0.9	63
15	FX	0.8	820
15	TLC	0.8	818
15	LIFE	0.8	812
15	SYFY	0.8	807
15	FOOD	0.8	798
15	NAN	0.8	743
21	SPK	0.7	652
21	BRAV	0.7	640
21	HALL	0.7	625
21	ID	0.7	572
25	MTV	0.6	614
25	CMDY	0.6	594
25	TRU	0.6	579
25	BET	0.6	579
25	TVLD	0.6	578
25	CNN	0.6	548
25	APL	0.6	533
25	MSNB	0.6	529
25	LMN	0.6	489
25	DSJR	0.6	351
35	VH1	0.5	524
35	EN	0.5	450
35	NGC	0.5	395
35	NKJR	0.5	354
35	BIO	0.5	322
40	TRAV	0.4	335
40	OWN	0.4	332
40	OXYG	0.4	289
40	H2	0.4	257
44	HLN	0.3	339
44	WE	0.3	268
44	GSN	0.3	259

\*Nielsen data supplied by ABC/Disney

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