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Idaho's first television broadcast was on June 18, 1953. On June 13, the Idaho Free Press published a photo of the installation of the transmitter for KFXD-TV. It was located about ten miles from Nampa, near the intersection of the Meridian-Kuna Road and Amity Avenue. On the 17th, the Free Press carried a brief announcement that KFXD planned their first tests for the next day. The following articles from the local newspapers detail the results of Idaho's first television broadcast.

IDAHO'S FIRST TV SIGNALS REACH AS FAR AS WEISER

Nampa's KFXD-TV, first television station to go into operation in Idaho, sent test patterns for five hours yesterday.

Reception was reported as far away as Weiser and Ontario, Oregon. Station Manager Ed Hurt said about 130 viewers telephoned to report they were receiving the test pattern.

Hurt said patterns will be sent out daily from 1 to 5 p.m. and from 6 to 8 p.m. "so the station can adjust its transmitter and the viewer can adjust his set for the best picture."

Transmission of programs will begin probably after the middle of July," he said.

The station received a telegram of congratulations from Idaho's Rep. Gracie Pfof, whose home is in Nampa.

Lt. Gov. Edson Deal went to the transmitter site on Deer Point high above the Boise Valley and dedicated at a ceremony marking the establishment of video broadcasting in Idaho.

Deal inserted the test pattern slide on the Channel 6 station while Station Manager Hurt pulled the switch that put the station on the air.

KFXD's initial broadcast yesterday climaxed a race among several Idaho grantees to see which would be first to make television broadcasting a reality.

Idaho Free Press (Nampa), June 19, 1953, p. 1, c. 1-2

IDAHO TELEVISION STATION BROADCASTS INITIAL TESTS

Nampa AP--The first television transmitter to go into operation in Idaho sent test patterns for five hours Thursday.

Officials of station KFXD said the signals were received as

far away as Weiser, Idaho, and Ontario, Ore.

They had asked people to call and tell them whether they were receiving a picture and how good it was. Manager Edward Hurt reported the response was "excellent."

He said about 130 people telephoned.

Hurt said patterns would be telecast daily from 1 to 5 p.m. and from 6 to 8 p.m. until transmission of actual programs begins "probably after the middle of July."

Hurt said good reception was reported by people with indoor antennae. The purpose of the test, he said, "is so the station can adjust its transmitter and the viewer can adjust his set for the best picture."

The station received a congratulatory telegram from Rep. Gracie Pfost (D-Idaho), whose home is in Nampa.

Idaho Statesman, June 19, 1953, p. 28, c. 1-2

PROGRAMS BY JULY 1?

TV ERA COMES TO BOISE VALLEY

By Jeanne Pollett

Boise Valley has entered a new era--an era where talk of "rabbit ears" and "all-band conicals," of "twin lead-ins" and "optical filters" has become commonplace. For television has come to the valley.

While KFXD-TV continues to send test patterns, four Nampa and Boise permit holders are preparing for their first television programs.

David Lee, program manager for KFXD, said today the station hopes to put its first program on the air July 1 "if not sooner."

The Nampa station, which was first in Idaho with its test pattern last week, plans to begin telecasting two hours a day, probably from 5 to 7 p.m.

This will be a temporary program schedule, Lee said, and will probably use film exclusively. The station expects to increase its time gradually to five hours a day, and add live programs.

"We're continuing to send test patterns, and are getting the bugs worked out of our transmitter," he added. "The test patterns have reached farther than we expected--to Weiser, Vale, Payette, Ontario, Emmett, Sweet, Homedale, and Parma."

Lee estimated there are 300 to 400 television sets in the valley today.

In Boise, Walter E. Wagstaff, vice-president and general manager of KIDO, said that station expects to begin programming July 12. The transmitter arrived this week, he said, and installation began yesterday.

KIDO's TV building north of the city has been finished. Camera, film, and lights have all been installed, Wagstaff said, and "we hope to have the transmitter installed within a week."

Wagstaff said the station will start sending test patterns a few days before the first program. It will be on the air five hours a day, beginning either at 5 or 6 p.m.

KIDO-TV expects to reach about 75 miles where the terrain is flat, carrying as far as Eastern Oregon. Network programs will be filmed reaching Boise Valley a week after the original shows.

The Boise station expects to present live shows from its own 50-by-30-foot studio.

Westerman Whillock, general manager of KDSH in Boise, said his station has not yet set a starting date. An engineer is visiting television installations now, he said, and there will be no plans made until his return.

Plans for a transmitter on Deer Point in Bogus Basin are still on the drawing board, Whillock said. From its elevation of 7000 feet, KDSH expects to reach from Glenns Ferry to Weiser and into some of the mountain area. Telecasts will start "in late fall, at the earliest," he said.

Last to go on the air will be Boise's KGEM, Milo J. Peterson, general manager, said telecasts on Channel 9 will begin some time in early 1954.

Like KFXD and KDSH, the station will have its transmitter on Deer Point. A one-story metal building will house the transmitter and film studio.

Telecasting of sports events and other shows originating outside the studio appeared to be somewhat further in the future for the Boise Valley stations. Cost of equipment will probably make it prohibitive for a time, one station owner explained.

Idaho Free Press, June 24, 1953, p. 1, c. 2-5

NAMPA STATION TELECASTS FIRST MOVIES

Nampa's Station KFXD-TV last night telecast, the first motion pictures ever sent over the air waves in Idaho. "The Big Picture," a United States Army movie of the war in Korea, flashed onto the screens of Boise Valley television sets as the Nampa station continued its test pattern broadcasts. Reception in Nampa was reported "generally good" with some "bugs" yet to be ironed out at the transmitter on Deer Point. KFXD-TV has announced it hopes to start regular programming on July 1 or before.

Idaho Free Press, June 25, 1953, p. 1, c. 6

The Idaho Free Press Radio and Television Log for Wednesday, July 1, lists KFXD-TV as broadcasting test pattern from 2 to 5 p.m.; Braniff's Golf Challenge, 6 to 6:20; Carlsbad Caverns, 6:20 to 6:30; Mahogany, Wood of the Ages, 6:30-7; Production Pioneering, 7 to 7:15; Fiesta at Santa Fe, 7:15 to 7:25; "Korea" with Celeste Holm, 7:25 to 7:30; Driving Under Adverse Conditions, 7:30 to 7:45; Christophers, Series 2, 7:45 to 8; test pattern, 8 to 9; and 9 p.m. sign off.

However, its "lead" was short-lived. Only six weeks after KFXD made the first broadcasts in the state:

KFXD HALTS TELECASTS

Idaho's first television station, KFXD-TV, has suspended its telecasts.

Manager Ed Hurt said the suspension will probably be permanent. Transmitter equipment set up on Deer Point in Boise National Forest will be dismantled.

Hurt declined to discuss reasons for the suspension. He indicated several factors were involved.

The Nampa station became the first TV permit in Idaho when it began telecasting June 18. It was followed by KIDO TV the only one in Idaho.

Hurt said he has notified the Federal Communications Commission of the suspension, but has not yet given up the temporary permit on which KFXD-TV was operating.

Possibility telecasts will be resumed is "fairly remote," Hurt said. If KFXD-TV goes back on the air, "it will take several months, at least."

Idaho Free Press, August 13, 1953, p. 1, c. 1

And in the Statesman:

IDAHO'S FIRST TV STATION GOES OFF AIR

NAMPA (Special)--Idaho's first commercial television station has gone off the air, Ed Hurt, manager of KFXD and KFXD-TV, disclosed Wednesday night.

Hurt said the last telecast was made Tuesday night. The station did not transmit Wednesday night. He would give no reason for the suspension, which he said "probably" would be permanent. He said any chance that KFXD-TV would go on the air again at a later date is "fairly remote," and even then it would be several months at least.

Equipment, set up by KFXD technicians last spring, will be dismantled, Hurt said.

Operation of the radio station, KFXD, will continue. Hurt said.

He said he had notified the Federal Communications Commission of the suspension. The station was operating on a temporary television station construction permit issued by the Federal Communications Commission and Hurt said he has not yet given up the permit.

The station went on the air June 20. The first commercial television station to operate in Idaho, it was followed in July by KIDO-TV in Boise, which is the only one in Idaho now and

continuing operations. The KFXD tower was erected on Shafer Butte.

Hurt declined to give any specific reason for discontinuing the TV operation but said only that "it was my own idea" and that a number of factors were involved in the decision.

Idaho Statesman, August 13, 1953, p. 7, c. 1

The first article published by the local papers concerning the advent of television for the Boise Valley area was the following, which appeared in March of 1952:

T-V APPLICATION IS FILED BY RADIO STATION KIDO

An application for a television permit has been filed with the Federal Communications Commission by radio station KIDO.

Walter E. Wagstaff, vice president of the station, announced the application was filed by Washington attorneys for construction of a station atop the hills northeast of Boise. He termed the proposed location "one of the most ideal television transmitter sites in the entire United States."

Wagstaff said the application is for Channel 7 and an effective radiated power of 51,000 watts visual and 26,000 watts aural.

Range of 75 miles

"Channel seven and the power combine to give KIDO television coverage in a range of more than 75 miles," Wagstaff said. Wagstaff added that KIDO has ordered from Radio Corporation of America all necessary equipment including the transmitter, antenna, cameras and all attendant equipment "to provide Boise with complete and well-rounded television program service."

Wagstaff issued the following detailed statement in connection with the KIDO application, explaining the application, the current freeze regulations, the approximate time for construction, and other arrangements in connection with television for KIDO; "KIDO Tuesday filed an application with the Federal Communications Commission for authorization to construct a television station in Boise. The station would operate on channel seven with effective radiated power of 51,000 watts visual, and 26,000 watts aural. In those directions in which the nature of the terrain permits, it is anticipated that the station will have a coverage range in excess of seventy-five miles and will be general over most of the lower Snake River Valley. KIDO has ordered from the RCA Manufacturing Company all necessary equipment including transmitter, antenna, cameras for both live and film pickups, and all attendant equipment to render complete and well-rounded program service to viewers of the area."

Property Purchased

"Property has been purchased for the construction of a building to house studios and transmitter. The application has been entered in the expectation that the government freeze which has prevented any granting of television station licenses for the past three and a half years is about to be lifted, and that authorizations to build and operate television stations will again be issued. The so-called freeze was put into effect on October 1, 1948, and only stations which had received licenses prior to that date were permitted to commence operations, a total of 108 in the United States.

"It was because of the 'freeze' that not only Boise, but such large cities as Portland, Denver, and Spokane have been unable to obtain television broadcasting facilities. The purpose of the freeze was to suspend further assignment of the limited number of channels until technical studies could be made to find ways and means of authorizing the largest number of stations possible over the United States. The Federal Communications Commission has indicated that the studies have been completed and that the freeze will shortly be lifted. April 1 has frequently been mentioned by members of the FCC as the target date, and the indications are that whether or not that particular date sees the actual lifting of the freeze, it will nevertheless occur in the near future.

"Interest in the prospects of receiving television service in this area has been high, with KIDO receiving daily inquiries from many people as to when television might be available. Letters are frequently received from out-of-town people who are planning to move to Boise, and who want to know whether or not they can receive television programs.

"Therefore, KIDO is installing equipment of sufficiently high power to give service to the entire valley, and to render the most complete program service possible."

Modern Equipment Ordered

"The telecasting equipment on order is the most modern and efficient yet developed and represents many improvements and developments over 'pre-freeze' equipment. While the stated input power of the proposed station is 10,000 watts effective radiated power from the transmitter and antenna will be 51,000 watts. Thus, KIDO will operate with higher power and greater coverage than most of the television stations presently operating in other parts of the country.

"A combination studio and transmitting building will be constructed a short distance northeast of Boise Hills Village. The location combines the advantages of ready accessibility from Boise (only 1.24 miles from the courthouse) with the very high efficiency which is a result of the altitude of the site. Washington, D.C., consulting engineers who prepared the

engineering data for KIDO's application to the FCC proclaim it as one of the most ideal transmitter sites in the entire U.S. Spacious studio facilities are planned, providing for almost all types of local program production.

"Program sources are many and varied. While it is not anticipated that a coaxial cable or micro-wave relay will be available in the near future to bring network programs to Boise for direct release, that by no means prevents Boise viewers from seeing the very best of the network shows. All such programs are filmed simultaneously as they are broadcast in New York and Hollywood and the filmed versions are available to stations not actually connected on the network. Thus, Boise viewers will have the 'Big-Time' programs and special events, although they will be seen here a week or two after the same programs have been seen in the cities which have network service from the cross country cables or relays.

"KIDO has held extensive discussions with the National Broadcasting Company for the purpose of arranging to release to KIDO viewers the best of the network originated programs. Programs of some other networks may also be carried. Also, KIDO plans extensive local programming, bringing before the television camera and microphone the best of local groups and individual performers. Many other excellent programs are available in the form of movie shorts, newsreels, specialty acts, etc. It is pointed out that KIDO will have the same program sources available that many of the large cities now have, Seattle as an example.

"The all-important question of 'when' the KIDO television station will be in operation is of course the \$64 question. KIDO is prepared to commence construction of the station immediately upon receiving authorization from the FCC, but it is difficult to estimate when that may be. It is expected that after the freeze is lifted, the FCC will impose a waiting period of ninety days before starting to process applications, to receive those applications prepared but not yet filed. In many cities there will be more applicants than available television channels, and therefore the FCC will be faced with the task of holding extensive and detailed hearings to determine which applicants will be in the FCC for processing, and the procedures will necessarily be lengthy.

"Some applications will probably not be acted upon for several years. However, the FCC has stated that applications from those cities which do not presently have television service will be processed first, and this will serve to speed up action on Boise. However, once the FCC approval is received, six to nine months are required for construction of a station and installing the equipment, so at best it will be a year or more before any new stations get on the air anywhere in the United States. As to the timing in Boise, the whole matter depends on how soon the FCC authorizes construction.

"The public should be warned against over-optimism as to the time in which the proposed television service will be available.

Many people have misunderstood the government freeze, and have thought it to be a freeze just on materials and construction, and that immediately it is lifted construction of stations can begin.

This is not the case. Regardless of the availability of materials and equipment, a station still has to go through the FCC procedures necessary to obtain a permit to operate, and this process is, by its very nature, time consuming.

"However, because Boise has no television service, it is probable that it will be among the first cities to be acted upon.

In the meantime, the public would be ill-advised to purchase receiving sets. Sets are constantly being improved, and the person who waits until television is actually authorized before purchasing a set will undoubtedly get greater value for his money than the person who buys hastily. There has been no shortage of receiving sets thus far, and the present indications are that there will be sufficient sets of all makes, models, and price ranges to meet the demand when television is authorized.

"Operating personnel of the proposed KIDO TV station will be drawn partly from the present staff, and partly from the employment of additional people. Extensive training in television techniques is necessary even to those thoroughly experienced in radio operation. To facilitate this type of training, KIDO is taking delivery on a studio camera as soon as one can be obtained, and will commence a course of training in camera use. This is particularly important since proper use of camera and proper studio lighting are vital to good pickups, and require considerable experimentation, training, and experience. It is hoped that this camera will be delivered in the summer of this year, and training will begin immediately upon its delivery."

"Station executives have spent considerable time in TV stations in Salt Lake City, Seattle and San Francisco, studying operations of stations there. This weekend, Walter E. Wagstaff, manager of KIDO and Harold Toedtemeier, chief engineer, will leave to attend television engineering meetings in Chicago, and to observe television operations in Chicago, Kansas City and Tulsa. All possible preparations are being made so that KIDO will be in a position to get on the air in the shortest possible time once the station is authorized.

"KIDO has served the people of this area for 24 years, and is looking forward eagerly to the opportunity of bringing television as an addition to its radio service. No effort will be spared in bringing the best programs, the highest technical efficiency, and the greatest possible coverage to the people of this area," Wagstaff said.

Idaho Evening Statesman, March 26, 1952, p. 6, c. 1-3

On February 4, 1953, the Idaho Statesman ran the following article:

**KIDO TO BREAK GROUND TODAY FOR TV STUDIO
Construction Begins Immediately on First Idaho Video Station**

Ground will be broken this morning for Idaho's first television station, KIDO-TV of Boise, Walter Wagstaff, general manager of the station, said Tuesday.

He said executives of KIDO, Inc. and others interested in the project would be at the hill site north of Hills Village for a brief ceremony at 9:30 o'clock. They will include Mrs. Georgia Davidson, president; Wagstaff, Harold Toedtemeier, chief engineer under whose direction the station will be built and equipped; Jack Link, program director, and Wiff Janssen, news and special events director.

E. A. (Jerry) Fulton, contractor, said preliminary work began Tuesday afternoon. He said George Wintz, bulldozer operator, started building a 300-yard access road to the site, but was rained out in the afternoon's storm. Wintz is to go back to the road job about daylight this morning and is expected to finish it in time to move the dozer to the site for excavation work, Fulton said.

The station will consist of a 54 by 75 foot studio building, of concrete and cinder block construction, and a 350 feet steel tower on a knoll behind the building, Wagstaff said. The tower will be topped by a six-bay television antenna.

Construction is expected to require 72 days, Fulton said. He named James M. Muray as construction superintendent on the job, and said Harold Carpenter is in charge of excavation work. Also on the site today will be carpenters preparing to build forms. With suitable weather the company expects to complete construction in 10 weeks, Fulton said.

Wagstaff said the station plans to telecast effectively over an area bounded roughly by a semi-circle from Payette around to the vicinity of Bruneau in Owyhee County. He said there would be some blind spots within this area because of the line-of-sight characteristics of television, but in all localities in line-of-sight "we expect to deliver a good picture within a perimeter of about 75 miles from Boise, and in some directions, even further."

Today's ground-breaking ceremony and the following activity will be recorded and broadcast, Wagstaff said.

There were four stations [KIDO, KFXD, KDSH, and KGEM] in the Boise area vying for the honor of being the first Idaho television station on the air. Just the day before KFXD transmitted their test pattern, KGEM-TV made the following announcement:

STATION DELAYS DATE OF FIRST TV BROADCAST

Station KGEM-TV will not begin broadcasting on Channel 9

until sometime in early 1954, Milo J. Peterson, general manager of the Idaho Broadcasting and Television Company, announced Tuesday.

The decision to postpone the date of the first broadcast was due to recent developments of the TV industry in Boise and Nampa and his own personal illness, Peterson said. "We have decided not to race for a broadcast date, but to proceed with construction as weather and conditions permit."

Construction of the Deer Point transmitter will begin this summer, he announced.

The Federal Communications Commission last week granted clearance on a corrected location at Deer Point 600 feet removed from the proximity of the Idaho state highways bureau broadcasting transmitter. Peterson said the bureau's fear of interference from the KGEM and KDSH television transmitters proposed to be located at Deer Point below Shafer peak had brought about a review of one TV application and delay of the other.

KGEM-TV will build a one-story metal building designed to withstand the winters at the high elevation. It will house a transmitter and film studio, but the company plans to maintain its TV studio in addition to facilities at its present radio studio and transmitter site.

Idaho Statesman, June 17, 1953, p. 12, c. 1

An editorial by Jim Brown, editor of the Idaho Daily Statesman, presented his views on the beginnings of television in Idaho:

THE COMMUNITY GETS ITS FIRST SQUINT AT TELEVISION: BEFORE TOO LONG TV WILL HAVE A REGULAR BILL OF FARE

Those Boiseans who exercised the usual precaution and obtained a television set early have had the experience of watching test patterns over KFXD-TV at Nampa. That station has had the honor of being the first in Idaho to televize [sic] an image on a screen. The honor is recognized.

Boise's oldest radio station KIDO, moving into the television field, has decided not to rush ahead with test signals for the simple honor of being first. But KIDO's TV is just around the corner--not in test form--but in what appears to be a comprehensive programming arrangement. July 12 is the date KIDO-TV starts a full and regular schedule, which will be a first in itself, and one that will bring the full impact of this great invention to the community.

We have not learned that KFXD-TV, Nampa, has any specific date for full-time television programming. This is regrettable from the stand point of the Nampa audience it is licensed to serve, since the appetite will have been whetted [and] at the same time, placed on a diet. But KIDO-TV, powered to go places,

will return the favor in proportions that will handle the situation.

The coming of television is a step in entertainment progress that the community must see to appreciate. No matter who presents it, an important milestone is being recorded in community history.

In all the television arrangements that are being made for the community, it is regrettable that Boise will not be on what is termed in the trade "live television." For the immediate future, at least, television will not bring the community telecasts of events from distant places.

Unlike San Francisco or Los Angeles, or even Salt Lake City, we will not see Congress in session at the identical moment, or a big league ball game as it is played. But there is consolation in the fact that television, of local origin is about to start. In all things, it is necessary to creep before the age of walking. In time we are confident Boise will need but twist the dial to watch the world in parade.

Idaho Statesman, June 21, 1953, p. 4, c. 1-2

On the 25th of June, this article appeared:

PLANNING FOR TV MEETING'S TOPIC

A meeting of the Boise Appliance and TV Association will be held tonight at 8 o'clock in the KIDO-TV studio, located on the hill site overlooking Boise Hills Village.

All members as well as other interested persons of the industry were urged to attend by H. Paul Mills, president of the group.

A panel discussion is planned on the subject of TV planning for the Boise Valley. Distributors will take part as well representatives of the four stations planning TV participation: KIDO, KFXD, KDSH, and KGEM.

Members of the association will be on hand to direct parking of cars by those attending the session. KIDO's new TV equipment will be open for inspection.

Idaho Statesman, June 25, 1953, p. 10, c. 2

In early July KIDO announced their plans for television in the Boise Valley:

KIDO-TV SCHEDULES START OF REGULAR TV PROGRAMS

KIDO-TV of Boise (Channel 7) will start television test patterns Thursday and regular programs will begin Sunday afternoon, Walter Wagstaff, vice president, announced Tuesday.

He explained that the test patterns are scheduled from 10 a.m. to 12 o'clock noon, and from 2 to 5:30 p.m., daily prior to

Sunday.

On the day of the station's official start, programs will begin at 2 p.m. and continue until 11 p.m. There will be a succession of top local and national programs from the CBS, NBC and DuMont networks.

Starting at 2 p.m. Sunday, 30 minutes in advance of the entertainment programs, will be brief ceremonies in which Gov. Len Jordan, Mayor R. E. Edlefsen, Philo T. Farnsworth, New York City, and the KIDO staff will take part.

Farnsworth, a former Idahoan and Capehart TV executive, is known as the "father of TV" inasmuch as he holds several of the basic patents. He is coming to Boise particularly for the start of television in his former state.

Wagstaff's announcement was the basis of the granting of a special temporary authority for full-time test pattern and programming by the Federal Communications Commission.

KIDO-TV will broadcast from the transmitter and studios at 700 Crestline drive on the Boise hills overlooking Hills Village.

The FCC permit was granted to KIDO-TV on Dec 23 and work on the transmitter-studios was started shortly thereafter.

Wagstaff, at the time KIDO-TV announced affiliation with three major networks, declared the station "intends to give the people of the Boise Valley the very finest available in TV programs." In that connection, he added Tuesday: "KIDO-TV has installed the necessary facilities for proper presentation of the great networks, and I can assure TV listeners we have acquired the finest possible equipment on the best advice available in the industry.

Idaho Statesman, July 8, 1953, p. 16, c. 1-2

KIDO SETS TELECASTS FOR SUNDAY

Station KIDO-TV of Boise will start telecasting regular programs on Channel 7 Sunday, Manager Walter Wagstaff has announced.

The programs will begin at 2 p.m. and continue until 11 p.m. and will feature CBS, NBC and DuMont productions.

KIDO-TV has been telecasting test patterns for several days.

Station KFXD-TV of Nampa, which went on the air last month, will resume telecasts tonight after a brief lapse in transmission due to "transmitter difficulties." Programs scheduled last night did not appear.

The regular program schedule will be resumed tonight at 6. A station spokesman said the problem was typical of those of most new stations.

Idaho Free Press, July 9, 1953, p. 2, c. 3

On the day KIDO-TV began broadcasting, there was a long article in the Statesman:

KIDO-TV TO INAUGURATE REGULAR TELEVISION SERVICE IN BOISE TODAY

BROADCAST OF CEREMONIAL OPENING TO LEAD PROGRAM

Television comes of age in Boise today.

KIDO-TV will formally begin daily programs at 2 p.m. with the showing of opening ceremonies to take place at the station's TV-studio and transmitter on the hills north of Boise.

KIDO-TV has been conducting test patterns since Thursday. Walter Wagstaff, vice president, said the public is invited to visit the KIDO-TV studio today at any time after 3 p.m.

"It will be impossible to admit the public to the control room or other operating quarters, said Wagstaff, "but the studio will be open during the afternoon and early evening."

A grand total of 16 programs, including the initial ceremonies, will be presented today. The station will begin operating at 2 p.m. and sign off at 11 p.m.

Monday, the operating hours will be from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m., and thereafter from "approximately 6 p.m. to 10:30 p.m.," Wagstaff said. Wagstaff said the 6 to 10:30 p.m., operating schedule is only temporary and will be extended as more programs are booked.

The opening ceremonies will feature Gov. Len Jordan, Mayor R. E. Edlefsen and Philo T. Farnsworth, a former Idahoan and an executive of Capehart TV, who holds the basic patents on television, Wagstaff and other KIDO-TV representatives.

Planning and Building

Wagstaff issued this statement Saturday:

"KIDO-TV will take to the air Sunday, July 12, at 2 p.m. as the culmination of many months of planning and building. Application for a TV station was originally filed with the Federal Communications Commission in March, 1952, and the grant was given by the FCC on December 23, 1952. During the intervening months KIDO has constructed a special studio and transmitter building on the hills north of Boise Hills Village, constructed an antenna system over 400 feet in height, and installed the most modern equipment. Equipment inside the building consists of a 10kw RCA transmitter of the latest design (KIDO-TV received the third 10kw transmitter ever manufactured by RCA), film camera with two projectors for showing of motion pictures and television film of all types, a studio camera for live pickups, and miscellaneous equipment for showing slides, photographs and news tape.

"The building itself includes a 30 x 50 foot studio fully equipped with Hollywood motion pictures studio type lighting; offices, film processing room, film projection room, control room and transmitter space, and dressing rooms. A full size basement under the building provides storage space and an electric elevator between the basement makes it possible to store heavy items which are to be shown before the camera, etc. Automobiles

or trucks may be driven directly into the studio or basement, making it possible to show automobiles before the camera or to deliver home appliances, furniture, stage props--in fact anything which might be necessary in connection with studio pickups.

None More Modern

"Although there are much larger plans in the United States than KIDO-TV, none offer more modern facilities or greater versatility.

Every item in the plant is new and of the very latest design--representing an investment of approximately a quarter of a million dollars. "Affiliation agreements have been entered into with NBC, CBS and DuMont and some programs have been booked from each of these networks. However, the network program schedule is not as full as it will be a little later in the year since many network programs have summer replacements and will not be available to KIDO-TV until September or October. Although the schedule is not as full as it will ultimately be it nevertheless includes some of the most popular network programs on the air and some of these will be viewed today.

"In addition to the network programs already scheduled to go on KIDO-TV, a number of excellent programs will be made available by KIDO and by its local and regional advertisers. Some excellent film libraries have been purchased and the program schedule will compare very favorably with any that has ever been presented by any new station in any part of the country.

"The public is invited to visit the KIDO-TV studio Sunday, at any time after 3 p.m., although it will be impossible to admit the public to the control room or other operating quarters, the studio will be open during the afternoon and early evening."

S. R. Ross of the S. R. Ross Distributing Company, who made arrangements for Farnsworth's appearance in Boise, said the later has 150 basic television patents, and that no television set made anywhere in the world uses less than six such patents.

Farnsworth will be guest of honor at the Boise TV and Appliance Association's no-host luncheon at Hotel Boise today.

Initial Programs

Today's KIDO-TV program includes:

2:00 to 2:30 p.m.--Opening ceremonies: Governor Jordan, Mayor Edlefsen, Philo Farnsworth, Representatives of KIDO-TV; 2:30 to 3 p.m.--Dennis Day; 3 to 3:30 p.m.--Hit Parade; 3:30 to 4 p.m.--Cisco Kid; 4 to 4:15 p.m.--Studio Interviews; 4:15 to 4:30 p.m.--Paradise Island; 4:30 to 5 p.m.--Two for the Money; 5 to 5:30 p.m.--Telesports Digest; 5:30 to 6 p.m.--Your Playtime; 6 to 6:15 p.m.--NBC Newsreel; 6:15 to 6:30 p.m.--Preview of Club Bohemian; 6:30 to 7 p.m.--Groucho Marx; 7 to 8 p.m.--Philco Theater; 8 to 9 p.m.--Toast of the Town; 9 to 9:30 p.m.--China

Smith; 9:30 to 11 p.m.--Feature Film: "Don't Trust Your Husband."
Idaho Statesman, July 12, 1953, p. 5, c. 1

In Addition to Walter Wagstaff, vice president and general manager, chief engineer for the new station was H. W. Toedtmeier; Vern Moore, audio-visual producer; film editor, Bill Harvey, and Jack Link as program director. The dedication ceremonies surrounding the beginning of KIDO-TV were impressive and extensively covered by the Statesman.

**TELEVISION COMES TO BOISE AS KIDO-TV LAUNCHES REGULAR PROGRAMS
 DEDICATORY CEREMONY IS CONDUCTED
 By Ernie Hood**

Television became a reality in Boise Sunday with the start of regular programs by KIDO-TV on Channel 7.

Taking part in station dedication ceremonies which preceded the start of network programs were a score of officials including Gov. Len Jordan, Mayor R. E. Edlefsen and Philo Farnsworth, a former Idahoan who is known to the world as the "father of television."

Ceremonies began at 2 p.m. in the KIDO-TV studios on Crestline Drive overlooking Hills Village, and network programs began 30 minutes later. Programs continued until 11 p.m. Sunday.

Regular Schedule Starts

Regular week-day program schedule operations will open at 5 p.m. today.

The KIDO-TV dedication event began when Vern Moore, master of ceremonies, stepped in front of the cameras in the \$250,000 studio at 2 p.m.

Gov. Jordan voiced his congratulations to the management of KIDO-TV and expressed the greetings of the people of the state of Idaho "to this pioneer station in its premier."

Mayor Edlefsen also congratulated KIDO-TV Vice President Walter Wagstaff and others of the management and expressed belief a great stride was at hand in the entertainment and education fields for the people of Boise.

"Honored and Thrilled"

Farnsworth told of his work on TV patents and saw great strides in the present-day industry in progress since those days in the 1920's. He expressed himself "honored and thrilled" to be present for the KIDO-TV premier.

Wagstaff expressed the appreciation of the KIDO-TV management to all who assisted in the development of facilities, mentioning particularly Moore and H. W. Toedtmeier, chief engineer. Wagstaff also drew attention to the fact that in

Farnsworth, and William Balderston, president of the great Philco Corporation, Idaho has two of the top men in the world in the electronic and television fields.

Wagstaff also told of the pioneering in the radio field by the KIDO and KIDO-TV president, Mrs. Georgia Davidson, and said the great outlay for equipment and facilities was at her personal direction for the purpose of presenting the finest in TV programming to the people of the area.

Mrs. Davidson and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Newport, were in the studio but did not appear before the cameras.

Jack Link, program director, read congratulatory wires from entertainment world personalities including Groucho Marx and Walter O'Keefe, as well as from leaders of the industry including heads of the NBC. He read a poem, "Ode to an Ulcer," by one of the KIDO staff, Marian Pearson, as descriptive of the state of mind of executives in the final press of details before going on the air.

Thereafter followed the eight and a half hour program of network shows.

TV dealer showrooms were thronged during the broadcast hours in the business district. A number accepted the invitation of The Statesman to witness the TV programs in its business and editorial department offices.

Network programs on KIDO-TV today will include:

5 p.m.--The Powers Girl, with George Murphy, Anne Shirley and Carole Landis; 7:15 p.m.--Public Prosecutor; 7:30 p.m.--Masquerade Party; 8 p.m.--Burns and Allen; 8:30 p.m.--Your Story Theater; 9 p.m.--Wrestling from Chicago; 8:30-11:15 p.m.--BE [GE] Feature Theater, "My Son, My Son," starring Madeline Carroll and Brian Aherne.

Idaho Statesman, July 13, 1953, p. 11, c. 1

An interview with Philo Farnsworth, who came for the ceremonies of the start of KIDO-TV, provides some insight into the thinking of the inventor of television.

CHILDREN REALLY INVENTORS, VIDEO PIONEER DECLARES

"Children are really our inventors . . . they have the fresh viewpoint and if they understand the problem their open minds are apt to provide the solution."

The authority for that statement in Boise Sunday was Philo Farnsworth, vice president of the Capehart-Farnsworth Corporation in charge of TV research and development.

Actually, it fits his own situation for Farnsworth, now known as the "father of television," came up with the basic solution to problems of television development while still in junior high classes at Rigby, Idaho, back in 1921 when he was a boy of 15.

The problems of that day, Farnsworth recalled as he relaxed in the KIDO-TV studios prior to the start of programming Sunday, was providing TV electronic works without mechanical parts.

"I read everything available on the subject and the solution just came to me," he said.

At the time, Farnsworth explained his concepts of the solution to his school teacher at Rigby--Justin Tolman.

Twenty years later, in 1941, Tolman was brought to a courtroom where he redrew that diagram of Farnsworth's boyhood.

The reproduction of the blackboard work of 1921 decided the awarding of the important patents in Farnsworth's favor.

The one-time Idahoan now holds about 150 important patents in the TV field. His organization holds many more, but the 150 are personal Farnsworth patents. Of these, about six or eight are basic in all TV sets.

Farnsworth was born in Beaver, Utah, and came to Idaho when he was nine years of age. His father was a farmer. After a year at Ucon, in Bonneville County, the family moved to Rigby.

Farnsworth attended Brigham Young University in Utah as a special student, and in 1921 worked at Glens Ferry in the railroad yards as an electrician's helper.

The years that followed found him plugging at his TV idea, and in 1926 he had established the Crocker Laboratories in San Francisco, forerunner to today's Capehart-Farnsworth Corporation.

Mrs. Elma Farnsworth accompanied her husband here for the KIDO-TV dedication, and they returned by plane Sunday night to the state of Utah where they are camping this summer with their three sons.

While in Utah this summer, Farnsworth called on his old teacher--Justin Tolman, now in the public school organization at Bountiful, Utah. "There is a man to whom I will always be grateful," he declared. "Think of how he remembered for 20 years the idea I set down for him on the blackboard that day in the schoolhouse at Rigby."

Idaho Statesman, July 13, 1953, p. 10, c. 1-2

Another item found in the paper relating to the beginnings of KIDO-TV:

GROUCHO RECALLS TIME HE PLAYED IN IDAHO CAPITAL

Groucho Marx recalled Boise days of his own when he sent a wire to Walter Wagstaff, vice president of KIDO-TV.

Congratulating Wagstaff and wishing KIDO-TV loads of success for the future, Marx added: "I played in Boise . . . and I hope your success is better than mine."

Old timers failed to recall the situation referred to by Marx.

Idaho Statesman, July 13, 1953, p. 11, c. 6

In November of 1953, there was an important announcement:

BOISE STATION AFFILIATES WITH NATIONAL TV NETWORK

Affiliation with the television network of the American Broadcasting Company was announced Saturday by KIDO-TV.

"This affiliation will enable KIDO-TV to bring many excellent programs to viewers of this area. In fact, some ABC programs already have been committed by KIDO-TV and are being released now or will be released soon. These are the Georgie Jessel Program, alternating Sundays at 5 to 5:30 p.m.; the United States Steel Theater Guild of the Air and the Motorola TV Theater to alternate Tuesdays at 9 to 10 p.m. Negotiations are underway at the present time for other fine program properties which the American Broadcasting Company releases," said Walter Wagstaff, vice president and general manager of KIDO-TV.

"Some months ago the American Broadcasting Company merged with United Paramount Theaters with the result that the network now has access to some of the finest talent in the country and access to almost unlimited production facilities," Wagstaff continued. "Its programs are already taking their place in the front line of the finest television entertainment on the air and KIDO-TV is particularly pleased to have been selected as the ABC outlet for this area."

Idaho Statesman, November 15, 1953, p. 12, c. 1-2

KIDO's call letters were changed to KTVB February 1, 1959. An article in the Idaho Sunday Statesman, September 11, 1966, gives some historical background on KIDO:

KTVB ATTRACTS BIG AUDIENCE

When KTVB, Channel 7, originated in the 1920's, it was not recognizable as a television station.

KFAU was a radio station located in the physics department of the Boise High School. The station was later purchased by C. J. Phillips and Frank Hill and the call letters were changed to KIDO. The studios were located in the Elks Club, and later in Hotel Boise.

KIDO applied for a television license during the Federal Communications Commission freeze period in 1952, at which time no license was issued.

July 12, 1953 was the on-air date with television studios located at 700 Crestline Drive. Direct network programming was not available until 1962.

KTVB's satellite station, KTVR, La Grande, Ore., was established in December, 1964. KTVB was the first full-time television station to operate in Idaho and the first to broadcast network color.

Channel 7 has transistorized color equipment to transmit color film.

Mrs. Georgia M. Davidson is KTVB's president, and Robert E. Krueger is vice president and general manager.

In 1971, KTVB opened a beautiful new office on Fairview Avenue:

KTVB OFFICIAL AT GRAND OPENING CALLS NEW STUDIO "MOST MODERN"

Grand opening ceremonies were conducted Friday at KTVB-Channel 7 television facilities on Fairview Avenue. Open house tours for the general public get underway Sunday.

Robert E. Krueger, KTVB vice president and general manager, told newsmen at a noon luncheon the new studio complex is the most modern in the area between Salt Lake City and Portland.

"The cost of the building," Krueger said, "excluding landscaping, furnishings, equipment and real estate was \$487,500."

He said the broadcast medium "has come a long way" since the days of KIDO-TV, the former call letters of KTVB.

The new facility, located at 5407 Fairview Avenue, was designed by Cline, Smull, Hamill, Haw and Associates, Boise architectural firm, and yields 20,401 square feet. The main studio measures 70 by 55 feet, the largest in Idaho.

Housed within the facilities are the news department, complete color film processing laboratories, offices for the Television Network of Idaho, which links the Boise operation with television studios in Twin Falls and Idaho Falls, sales, and KTVB Productions which handles commercial operations for the NBC-TV affiliate.

The studio boasts 400,000 square feet of landscaping, including a courtyard and hospitality area in the center of the building complex. Landscaping was designed by Hansegeorg Borbonus of Boise.

Furnishings and interior designs are the creation of Interior Designs and range from contemporary to custom decor.

The main control room has full color capability equipment including two color video machines, used primarily for recording network programs which are carried on a delay basis.

Krueger said plans for an office complex adjacent to the studio with a Fairview frontage are in the development stages.

Open house for the general public will be held from 2 to 7 p.m. Sunday, 7-9 p.m., Monday through Friday, and from noon until 5 p.m. next Saturday.

Idaho Statesman, May 22, 1971, Section A p. 16, c. 3-6

In 1980, KTVB had a major change in its operation:

SEATTLE COMPANY TAKES OVER KTVB

KING Broadcasting Corp., Seattle, officially took over

operation Thursday of KTVB, Boise's NBC television affiliate.

A statement released by the corporation said the ownership change has been given final approval by the Federal Communications Commission.

KING owns and operates three other television stations, KING in Seattle, KREM in Spokane, and KGW in Portland. The company also operates five cable television systems and nine radio stations.

Robert E. Krueger continues as general manager of KTVB and key staff members will remain the same.

Ancil Payne, president of KING Broadcasting, praised former KTVB owner Georgia Davidson for her 53 years in Idaho broadcasting, starting with KIDO Radio in Boise.

She has been affiliated with NBC since 1937 and founded Idaho's first television station, KIDO-TV in 1953, It became KTVB in 1959.

Idaho Statesman, April 18, 1980, p. 3B, c. 7-8

The next television station to get started in the Boise Valley area was KBOI-TV, the television division of KDSH Radio.

CITY STATION BREAKS GROUND FOR TELEVISION TRANSMITTER

Ground was broken Monday at Deer Point, 7100 feet above sea level in the Bogus Basin recreational area, for Idaho's newest television transmitter.

The station, to be constructed by Boise Valley Telecasters, will put out a signal reaching from Twin Falls to Baker, Ore., and is expected to be on the air Thanksgiving day, according to H. W. Whillock, president of the corporation.

The new TV outlet will have the call letters KBOI, and will be affiliated with the Columbia Broadcasting System for the release of television programs.

"However," said Whillock, "we will operate our station on a basis of considerable local programming. This outlet, to operate on Channel 2, has been conceived for the entire valley, and is not alone dedicated to Boise."

Babbitt Construction Company took over at the transmitter site as soon as the ground breaking ceremonies were held, and by evening, tractors had done considerable foundation work.

Whillock said that the transmitter building will be of a type that will fit into the recreation area, and was approved to that extent by the Forest Service.

Programs will be microwaved from the valley floor to the transmitter tower, and then will be instantaneously rebroadcast to receivers. This eliminates laying coaxial or other type of cable to carry programs to the transmitter site.

Power for the transmitter, said Whillock, will be derived from the lines already serving the recreation area in Bogus Basin.

Studios for the new station are to be constructed in Meridian, but until they are finished, temporary quarters will be utilized as a studio in order to meet the Thanksgiving day target date, according to Whillock.

Other members of the corporation at the ground breaking includes Willis Moffatt, vice president; Stanley King, member of the executive board, and Earle Glade, Jr., secretary treasurer.

Whillock said that test patterns would be broadcast a few days in advance of the Thanksgiving beginning date.

The KBOI studio, according to Whillock, will be of the most modern construction. The architectural firm of Pereira and Luckman, designers of the CBS Hollywood Television Center, will be associated with a local firm of architects in building the studio.

The most favorable reception for the station will be from Bliss to Huntington, and from Council to Jordan Valley, said Whillock. But actual reception will be possible in a fringe area taking in Twin Falls and Baker.

Equipment for the transmitter will be provided by DuMont. The transmitter will be shipped from the factory in time to reach Boise about October 15. Cost for the transmitter will be about \$225,000, said Whillock.

The transmitter will put out an effective radiating power of 16,500 watts, according to [Jim] Johntz.

Idaho Statesman, September 15, 1953

NEW TELEVISION STATION OPENS FOR INSPECTION

The northwest's newest television station, KBOI of Boise, opens its door tonight from 7 until 10 o'clock for public inspection, and will begin regularly scheduled programs on Thanksgiving day. H. W. Whillock, general manager of KBOI-Channel 2, which is the television outlet for radio station KDSH, said the public is invited to come to the studio at 1009 Jefferson Street and see television from the production end.

CAMERAS IN OPERATION

Those visiting the studios will be able to have their pictures broadcast "live" on KBOI's regular test pattern run tonight, Whillock said. Television cameras in the studio will be operating throughout the public inspection.

At 12:30 p.m. Thursday, pre-game ceremonies for the Boise-Nampa high school football game at Bronco stadium will be carried, and telecast of the game itself begins at 1 o'clock.

Whillock said musical entertainment would be provided during tonight's public inspection, and staff members will be on hand to explain workings of the studio to visitors.

He said that KBOI extended a "cordial invitation" to residents of the area to come in and see the studio. The control

panels, engineering section, cameras and general studio layout will be open.

Whillock said that the public inspection "presents an excellent opportunity" for the people to see the workings of a television station.

The KBOI tower is situated in the Bogus Basin recreational area at an elevation of 7200 feet above sea level. Programs are microwaved from the Jefferson street studio to the transmitter for instantaneous retransmission.

KBOI will be affiliated with the Columbia Broadcasting System network, and Whillock said a full range of national and local programming would be represented in KBOI broadcasts. The opening broadcast Thursday includes a dedication program beginning on Channel 2 at 7:30 p.m.

Idaho Statesman, November 25, 1953, p. 3, c. 1

KBOI PRESENTS FIRST FULL DAY OF TELECASTING

KBOI-Channel 2, television outlet for radio station KDSH in Boise, formally went on the air Thursday for its first full day of scheduled broadcasting.

Highlight of the first day's operation was a telecast of the Boise-Nampa high school football game at Bronco stadium in Boise.

H. W. Whillock, general manager of KBOI, said that reports received at the studio indicated generally good reception of the program.

It was the first time in the history of Idaho television, he said, that a sporting event had been telecast live from its point of origin.

Whillock said that the new television station's staff was "deeply grateful" to persons who telephoned during the first day's operation with information on how the program was being received.

Thursday night, a dedication program was aired on KBOI, and among the guests were Gov. and Mrs. Len Jordan, Mayor Russell Edlefsen of Boise, Mayor Jason Smith of Caldwell, Councilman Tom Glendenning of Nampa (representing Mayor Preston Capell), Mayor Earl Glade of Salt Lake City, Forrest Waldon of Salt Lake City, and Stan King, president of the Boise Chamber of Commerce.

Gov. Jordan in a brief speech of welcome to the new station, complimented Whillock on the establishment of another television outlet in Idaho.

KBOI-Channel 2 is affiliated with the Columbia Broadcasting System for network television film and program releases. However, said Whillock, the station would attempt as much regional programming as possible in order to serve its area fully. Reports received Thursday indicated the station has a "seeing range" in an arc running through Jerome, Twin Falls, Burns, Ore., Baker, Ore., and north to Cascade and McCall, including intermediate points.

Idaho Statesman, November 27, 1953, p. 15, c. 1

Additional information on KBOI's television programming advancement is found in the following article:

KBOI EXPANDS COVERAGE AREA WITH FEATURES

KBOI-TV Channel 2, since its first telecast Thanksgiving day, 1953, has grown in influence and geographical coverage to reach audiences in Riggins, Winnemucca, Buhl, John Day, Oregon, and all contiguous areas covering a total audience of 350,000. The alert and in-depth coverage of news by KBOI's professional news staff has demonstrated the power of electronic journalism. The acquisition of video tape machines, color projector and a studio color camera makes Channel 2 completely capable of handling color, giving acknowledgment to a proficient technical team. The popular, informative programming, originating with CBS and KBOI-TV, has attracted viewers by the hours each day. H. Westerman Whillock is president and general manager.

Idaho Sunday Statesman, September 11, 1966, p. 14

KBOI-TV changed its call letters to KBCI on February 1, 1975.

In 1968 there were hopes for more television coverage in the Treasure Valley; however it proved to be a longtime coming.

FIRMS HOPE TO REOPEN CHANNEL 6

NAMPA--The hope of a third television station was held out to Treasure Valley viewers this year as firms began to shuffle for position in what looked like a long battle for Channel 6 in Nampa.

The initial adversaries in the Channel 6 race were Snake River Valley Television and two Salt Lake City businessmen. Both groups said they would locate their transmission facilities high atop Shafer-Butte near Boise and both said they would be affiliated with the American Broadcasting Co.

Actor Robert Taylor, William Martin, Grand Island, Neb., and Richard F. Shively, all incorporators of the Snake River Valley Television, disclosed their plans at a press conference in Boise on February 21.

James Lavenstein, Salt Lake City, told a Nampa newspaper by telephone that he will seek the Channel 6 license and at the same time he and his partner will file for Channel 9 in Salt Lake City. Lavenstein said his partner will be M. Walker Wallace, a member of the family which controls Walker Bank and Trust Co. Of Salt Lake City.

Lavenstein's plans call for establishing studios in Nampa with a staff of between 40 and 50 persons "to start with." He

added that a half dozen part-time employees would augment the staff.

Martin, who is general manager of Snake River Valley Television, said the company initially plans to put some \$750,000 into the operation. His firm plans to build studios and offices at Nampa, although no site has been chosen yet. Plans call for initial hiring of a 30-man work force to operate the facilities.

Idaho Statesman, June 23, 1968

IDAHO TV CORP. RECEIVES LICENSE TO RUN IDLE CHANNEL 6 FROM NAMPA
By Ken Burrows, Statesman TV Editor

After some four years of testimony and debate before the Federal Communications Commission, Idaho Television Corp. has secured a license to operate Channel 6 in Nampa.

James U. Lavenstein, Salt Lake City, a principal of Idaho Television Corp., told The Statesman Friday his firm was the successful bidder for the vacant Channel 6 license. His comments followed the denial Thursday of an appeal by Snake River Valley Television Corp. against the FCC's Review Board decision awarding the license to Idaho Television.

Snake River Valley Television was the only other concern seeking the Channel 6 franchise.

Although no more action by the FCC is anticipated in the case, Snake River Valley has 30 days in which to file suit in federal court protesting the commission's action.

Based on the past, it has become almost customary in a disputed case over a television channel franchise to carry appeals to the Federal Courts.

"We have absolutely no idea when we will be 'on the air,'" Lavenstein said Friday. "It is just too early to say and we will have to wait for the green light from our Washington attorneys before we make our next move."

The Salt Lake City businessman said his group must consider hiring a staff--numbering about 50--and make arrangements for purchase of property in Nampa for a studio location.

"We do not have any particular location of site in mind at this time," Lavenstein said, adding that his firm does have an arrangement with the Forest Service for the placing of a transmitter near Bogus Basin.

"We must also consider arrangements for the purchase of specialized equipment," Lavenstein said. "Much of the equipment for the operation of a television station must be custom made."

Lavenstein noted that although no contract agreement had been reached with ABC-TV, the network has shown interest in having Channel 6 as an affiliate station.

In terms of equipment and buildings, Idaho Television Corp. will invest between \$500,000 and \$750,000 by the time it begins broadcasting.

Idaho Television incorporators include four Salt Lake City

partners, the fifth member is a New Yorker. They are Lavenstein, Marilyn Lavenstein, and M. Walker and Constance Wallace, all of Salt Lake City, and Daniel O'Shea, New York.

If Channel 6 becomes affiliated with ABC-TV, Boise Valley will have a full complement of network programming.

T. H. Eberle of Eberle and Berlin is listed as statutory agent in Idaho for the firm.

Idaho Statesman, May 29, 1971, p. 15, c. 1-3

EXECUTIVE REPEATS VOW TV CHANNEL 6 AT NAMPA TO GO ON AIR BY FALL
By Ken Burrows, Statesman TV Editor

An official of Idaho Television, Inc., the company holding a license to broadcast on Nampa's vacant Channel 6, reaffirmed Wednesday his firm's plans to be "on the air" by early autumn.

James U. Lavenstein, Salt Lake City, a major stockholder in Idaho Television, told The Statesman Channel 6 will establish studios and offices in an existing Nampa building.

He declined to disclose the location of the building, but said renovation and remodeling will begin in about two weeks.

Lavenstein confirmed the station will be affiliated with the American Broadcasting Co. (ABC-TV). A percentage of ABC's national schedule is presently being carried by Boise channels 2 and 7.

"We have reached an agreement with the ABC television network for Channel 6 to carry its entire lineup," Lavenstein said.

"Our plans presently call for us to be on the air by late September or early October," he noted. "We will begin renovation of our site in about two weeks and prepare for the installation of equipment."

Idaho Television, Inc., was issued a permit to operate the Nampa channel in May, 1971. Under Federal Communications Commission regulations, the firm is required to be in operation 18 months following the issuance of the license or risk loss of its broadcasting authority.

Lavenstein said transmitter equipment will be housed at Deer Point on the mountain north of Boise.

Attempts to reactivate the unoccupied frequency date back to early 1968 when the late actor Robert Taylor and two Boise attorneys incorporated to form Snake River Valley Television, Inc. The trio later filed an application with the FCC for a license to operate Channel 6.

One month later, Lavenstein and three associates, M. Walker Wallace and Constance Wallace, both of Salt Lake City, and Daniel O'Shea of New York, formed Idaho Television, Inc., and entered their bid in competition with Snake River Valley to operate Channel 6.

Idaho Television was awarded a license in May 1971, following an FCC review board reversal of an earlier decision

favoring the Taylor group.

Lavenstein said one problem broadcasters face in preparing to start a new operation is the FCC rule that orders for equipment cannot be placed until a license is secured.

Idaho Television also holds a license to operate vacant Channel 6 in Pocatello. Lavenstein said the company expects to be on the air with the Eastern Idaho facility at about the same time as the Nampa channel.

Under FCC rules, Idaho Television must be broadcasting on the Pocatello frequency by next March.

Call letters for the two stations have not yet been designated.

Idaho Statesman, July 13, 1972, p. 1D, c. 6-8

FCC AWAITS EQUIPMENT PLAN FOR CHANNEL 6

By Ken Burrows, Statesman Staff Writer

An Idaho Television Company's failure to submit an equipment modification application has forced the Federal Communications Commission to place the firm's construction permit extension request in the "hold file."

Idaho Television, Inc., which holds rights to broadcast over Nampa's vacant Channel 6, sought the extension when it did not meet the FCC's licensing requirement that the facility be on the air by Nov. 28.

Notification of the firm's intent to file the equipment modification application was included in construction permit extension request, according to Roy Stewart, FCC licensing division.

"When Idaho Television asked for the extension on its construction schedule, the company's attorneys informed us their client intended to switch from General Electric equipment to RCA," Stewart said.

He said such a modification in plans requires FCC approval.

"We have not received that modification application yet," he continued. "If we don't get it by the end of the year, the FCC will contact the firm's attorneys to determine the cause of the holdup."

Idaho Television originally was given until Nov. 28 to be in operation with its Channel 6 facility. Under FCC rules, if a deadline is not met, a formal explanation outlining reasons for the delay must be submitted with the broadcasting control agency.

James U. Lavenstein, Salt Lake City, a major stockholder in Idaho Television, said the company has experienced various "problems and delays in its construction schedule."

Stewart said the new application was contained in a three-page statement outlining causes for construction delay. No reasons were given, however, for plans to change equipment procurement.

The FCC official noted Idaho Television claimed "problems

arose in obtaining affiliation with the ABC-TV network." The company and ABC signed an affiliation contract last July 26, Stewart said.

Lavenstein also notified the FCC that snow accumulation at Deer Point would delay construction of a transmitter. Installation of this equipment is not anticipated until early next spring.

The TV company statement pointed out that another six months is needed in order to accomplish network interconnection. Western Communications, Inc. Has been contracted to complete the microwave hookup.

If the FCC approves the construction extension, Idaho Television actually will have received more than the customary six months permit. If the equipment modification application is not received until after the New Year, the station will have delayed its schedule another month.

Lavenstein also notified the FCC that a major financial partner in the venture--Daniel O'Shea, New York City--"would restrict his involvement in the operation because of poor health."

Actual construction timetable for Channel 6 never was disclosed by Lavenstein, although he was quoted last spring as anticipating turning on the transmitter by autumn.

The broadcaster said his company presently is working with a Boise architectural firm on plans for the studio facility, which is tentatively scheduled to rise in Nampa's industrial Park.

"The weather is holding up construction of the transmitter, but we plan to work on the studio and offices through the winter," Lavenstein said.

Idaho Statesman, December 16, 1972, p. 14, c. 1-6

KFXD's early test pattern broadcast, which was never really followed by regular programming, was on Channel 6. The first actual operational television station on Channel 6 was KITC-TV, that finally started February 1, 1974. Its call letters were soon changed to KIVI.

KITC-TV PROGRAMS KICK OFF AT 6 TONIGHT

Channel 6 television, the Nampa-Boise American Broadcasting Co. affiliate, begins regular broadcasting at 6 p.m. today with a special inaugural program.

The six o'clock show will introduce KITC's programming lineup, according to Harry Godsil, Channel 6 general manager.

ABC-TV network reports a number of changes in the first night's schedule which differ from programs listed in "TV Weekly."

Channel 6's program lineup for tonight:

- The inaugural program airs at 6 p.m.
- "ABC Evening News" with Howard K. Smith and Harry Reasoner

will be broadcast at 6:30 p.m.

- "Jane Goodall and the World of Animal Behavior: The Baboons of Gombe," a documentary, airs at 7.

- The ABC adventure series, "The Six Million Dollar Man," will be broadcast at 8, followed by the Democratic response to "The State of the Union" message at 9.

The remainder of the evening's schedule is correctly listed in the current edition of "TV Weekly."

Idaho Statesman, February 1, 1974, p. 17, c. 4-5

In the second book published in celebration of Nampa's centennial (a compilation of family and business histories), was the following article written by an unnamed KIVI staff person.

KIVI CHANNEL 6

KITC Television began broadcasting from Nampa February 1, 1974. Soon the call letters were changed to KIVI to represent K--predetermined by the Federal Communications Commission to designate stations west of the Mississippi River; I--Idaho and VI--six. The station operates as an affiliate of the ABC Television Network.

Until 1977 KIVI operated under the jurisdiction of Idaho Television Corporation and Eastern Idaho Television Corporation respectively. In June of 1977 KIVI became part of the Future Corporation.

Sawtooth Communications Corporation was formed in October of 1981 when KIVI Television was purchased by the Evening Post Publishing Company of Charleston, South Carolina.

Besides being the parent company of Sawtooth Communications, the Evening Post has several other concerns including newspapers, an international publishing firm, radio, television, and cable television operations.

KIVI was the first Idaho television station to broadcast via satellite a national program. "Entertainment Tonight," in September of 1981. It was also the first station to broadcast locally via satellite when it broadcast the Boise State vs. Jackson State football game in December of 1981. KIVI was the first Idaho television station to broadcast in stereo, in July 1985.

KIVI broadcasts the Snake River Stampede parade each year from downtown Nampa and airs more local programming than any other television station in the state. KIVI has Idaho's only complete mobile production facility.

KIVI won the J. C. Penney University of Missouri Award for Community Leadership in 1985 and the station sponsors the Jefferson Awards for Idaho recognizing individuals for outstanding public service. In 1984, Donna Velvick of Nampa's Hope House went on to win the National Jefferson Award.

Nampa's People: Discovering Our Heritage, 344

WELCOME CHANNEL 6

A bright new spot at the center of your television dial comes to life Friday evening as Channel 6 inaugurates a complete line-up of ABC-TV programming.

The wait has been long and probably was just as frustrating for KITC management as it was for the viewers anticipating the start of programming while Idaho Television, Inc. Encountered one delay after another.

Initially, operation from the Nampa facilities will be strained since KITC has not yet constructed a permanent studio-office complex. Daily broadcasts will emanate from two house trailers located at the company's site in Nampa.

Consequently, there will be no local origination until the studio is completed about 200 days hence.

The addition of Channel 6 to the local TV line-up is the most welcome event in the sphere of communications since Channel 4 (ETV) became a reality nearly two years ago.

The advent of channel 6 gives Boise Valley complete network coverage; the area now has a well-rounded television schedule that should meet the needs of most viewers.

The American Broadcasting Company traditionally has been the underdog in programming popularity. But, at the same time, it has been a leader in innovative production of shows.

On many occasions during the past few years, I have seen what must have been excellent documentaries scheduled by ABC slip past in the Boise market. These programs will not be available in this region.

On the local level the credentials of station personnel are quite impressive from General Manager Harry Godsil on down through the ranks.

Godsil is an ambitious man with an extensive background in television. He has promised a sound commitment to programming for community enrichment when local origination begins in about 7 months.

Here's a few highlights from the upcoming ABC schedule:

--"Wide World of Entertainment" which will be carried weekdays at 10:30 p.m. It is promoted by the network as a series of outstanding drama, variety and documentaries.

-- The highly acclaimed "Movie of the Week" airs on Tuesdays, and an additional, "Suspense Movie," will be broadcast on a regular basis on Saturdays.

--"Toma," one of the better law and order entries this year will be carried on Friday nights.

Idaho Statesman TV Weekly, January 27, 1974, p. 2

The next information on Channel 6 came in April, with the beginning of broadcasting of local news on Friday, April 26, 1974:

KIVI MOVES INTO LOCAL NEWS
By Warren Adams

Nampa - Channel 6 television began its local news programming Friday night--approaching news broadcasting in a different manner in terms of both concept and facilities.

If the broadcaster delivering the local news each evening appears to be uncomfortable, it will only be because he is broadcasting from inside a 22 by 24 foot garage, filled with cameras, wires and blazing lights. The garage, according to KIVI news director Barrett Rainey, while "hot, small and miserable," will be the home of the news department until station studios are completed in August.

The news team will consist of four reporters at the beginning, Rainey said, and the department will expand as the needs develop and facilities become operational.

"You have to crawl before you can walk," the news director said in a recent interview, "and the Channel 6 news programs may seem primitive when we start. But we're going to approach the field of broadcast journalism in a little different fashion than has been done here before."

One big difference between Channel 6 and its competitors will be the time scheduling news. "Our telecast will be from 6 until 7 p.m.," Rainey said. "Later on, as we get to the walking and running stages, we will have news telecasts from 11 to 11:30 p.m. each evening and on Saturdays and Sundays."

The station will offer 15 minutes of local news, followed by a half hour of network news and cap the hour of coverage with a final 15-minute local segment.

Channel 6 chose to begin its local news programming as its sister station, Channel 6 in Pocatello, goes on the air for the first time today.

Until facilities and staff are completed there, Rainey said, the local news telecast from Nampa will be beamed to the Pocatello-Idaho Falls area, stretching "from border to border," in Rainey's words.

But more important than the time difference--in terms of concept, at least--will be the approach Channel 6 plans to take regarding the news itself.

"This station is going to pay a little less attention to the total day-to-day news," Rainey said, "and more attention to how significant stories affect the viewer. Broadcast journalism, by virtue of the time element imposed upon it, has tended to be a surface-coverage thing.

"But we plan to take the time to develop the impact a story may have on the viewer, and provide some details. That concept hasn't been employed in Idaho before."

The station also plans to get its viewers involved in the news programs. "We are planning some features involving members

of the community," the news director explained, "Not just community leaders, but other people who also have something to say. We want a feedback situation, wherein more than just offering free air time, we can teach the people the mechanics of how to use the medium. We want to offer the people an opportunity to get into it."

Viewers will also note a difference in the format of Channel 6 newscasts. Compartmentalization of the news--the system of hard news, then sports, then weather--won't be used in the KIVI plan.

What will be utilized, according to Rainey, will be a mixture of news, sports and weather stories into the local newscast ahead of the national news and also after it.

"Television tried to follow the newspapers in compartmentalizing its news, but broadcasters are realizing now that they can't do that and be fair to people. "We'll treat sports and weather as they affect the overall news picture."

The station must keep a weather-eye on happenings in Boise, since a great deal of news of the state occurs there, Rainey said.

"At the beginning, viewers may not see a dime's worth of difference between our newscasts and those coming from Boise. But our home is Nampa, and as our news operation expands and facilities are prepared, viewers in this area will find more local news on the air.

"That's a promise."

Channel 6 has an obligation under its FCC license to serve its immediate broadcast area and city of license but more importantly, Rainey said, the station feels a moral obligation to the community.

"This station and its management are firmly committed to having the station--its people and its facilities--involved in the local scene. We intend to be a member of the community and not a visitor.

The ABC-TV affiliate recently changed its call letters from KITC to KIVI in order to get the number "six" into its name. The "K" indicates the station is located in the western part of the United States, the "I" stands for Idaho, and the VI is the Roman numeral for six.

Idaho Free Press & The News-Tribune TV Section
(Nampa-Caldwell), April 27, 1947, p. B-6

KIVI had not yet moved into its new building at Nampa when Ken Burrows, editor of the Statesman TV Weekly, lamented the demise of Channel 6's attempt to provide the evening news at 6 p.m.

6 P.M. NEWS DIES

A few months ago television in Boise came out of the dark

ages.

An enterprising new channel--KIVI--decided 6 o'clock was an appropriate time to carry the evening news, and that logically prime time programs should be aired between 8 and 11 p.m.

Despite the programming problems inherent in the Mountain Time Zone (the networks do not recognize MTZ), many people believed the other two affiliates would be forced to move their "afternoon" news program into alignment with Channel 6.

The Nampa station's commitment to reasonable timing of both news and entertainment programming received praise from any quarters. Working people just are not home in time to see the national news at 5 o'clock, they said. The family is in the middle of dinner at 7 p.m., therefore the evening's top shows should begin at 8, they said. And they did on Channel 6.

But alas, Boise Valley viewers have defeated their own purpose. "I don't mind if Channel 6 news rates third, but when radio stations come in ahead of us--that's too much," Harry Godsil, station manager, said only half in jest.

So, in an attempt to improve the station's rating, Godsil has been forced to conform with KTVB and KBOI. Beginning in September, the Smith, Reasoner report, along with local news will air at 5 p.m.

And don't go sending letters containing expletives to Godsil, because it's your fault! You demanded a 6 o'clock newscast and when you got it you treated it like a dog in a manger.

Now that's only half of the bad news. While our intellectual community is watching, "Truth or Consequences" and "To Tell the Truth" in lieu of the news, Channel 6 has been forced to modify its entertainment segment.

Since competition is the name of the game in television, an enterprise can go only so far to accommodate the viewer, so again, starting next month, Channel 6's prime time shows will be carried between 7 and 10 p.m.

Compensating somewhat for these disappointing decisions is the 11 p.m. scheduling of a late newscast. "ABC's Wide World of Entertainment" will be moved back to 11:30-1 a.m. on weekdays.

Channel 6 will move out of network programming at 10 p.m. The next hour will be filled with syndicated dramas. The old World War II series, "Combat," will fill that hour in the initial weeks of the new season, according to Godsil.

The station manger told me the new Channel 6 schedule shuffling comprised "some hard decisions, but we had no choice."

The station went to considerable expense to bring programs into this area at appropriate times--all, apparently, to no avail.

Godsil has not totally written off the prospect of reinstating his original scheduling of news and entertainment programs. "Despite the new hour (that the news will be carried), we will continue to serve the community's best interest in news coverage," he said.

Idaho Statesman TV Weekly, August 25, 1974, p. 2

From TV Chatter by Jim McLaughlin, substituting for Ken Burrows:

Barrett Rainey, news director at Channel 6, must be the first "repeater" on television in the valley. By repeater I mean someone who worked here once, went away and came back.

Until 1969 Barrett was a newsman on Channel 2, then departed for Seattle, where he worked for the Post-News on KNX-KCBS. He told me he was paid more money there than he ever expects to see again, but just didn't care for Seattle. He returned to this area in 1971 as director of communications for Gov. Andrus, then formed his own film company. He turned out films on industrial and educational subjects, for use in presentations by state and public service agencies.

Then during the long pre-birth period of KITC (now KIVI) he applied for a post in the news department, and was selected from among a half-dozen or so applicants.

He came back on camera with one of the most varied collection of plaid jackets in Idaho, and 10 times the polish he showed in his former days at KBOI. He attributes the increased skill to his time at the mike in Seattle. "That was good training," he told me. "It was sweatshop work, but I'll always be glad I got it."

As news director at Channel 6, Barrett has built a lineup which now includes Brad Mink, Conrad Teichert, Jim Blue, a recent graduate from the University of Illinois, and the most recent arrival from the Midwest, Candice Harr, holder of a master's degree in communications from Iowa State University. The chief photographer is Dick Zacharias, a steady occupant of the Boise communications sphere.

When KIVI moves to its new building in Nampa, hopefully around the middle of September, Rainey says he hopes to implement a new philosophy of news coverage. That means more concentration on the half-dozen or so counties in the area west of Boise, and less on Boise itself.

"We still have to cover Boise," he observed, "after all, this is where the most people are. But there's still an area out there that's not being covered thoroughly by television right now."

There will also be, he predicted, closer integration with the "other Channel 6," KPVI in Pocatello. "Not exactly a 'Goodnight Chet-Goodnight, David' thing, but the same general idea."

Idaho Statesman TV Weekly, September 1, 1974, p. 2-3

The only reference found about the actual moving into the new building was this rather brief account, that was accompanied by three photos:

CHANNEL 6 READIES NEW STUDIO FACILITY

Treasure Valley's own Channel 6 (KIVI), an ABC-TV affiliate, gears to move into its new studio facilities on Curtis Road in Nampa sometime next week. The ultra-modern television facility will, spokesmen say, enable the area's most recent addition to telecasting to expand its news service and bring local viewers the best in television quality.

Idaho Free Press & The News-Tribune, September 28, 1974, p. B-2

BILL GRATTON JOINS '6'

Viewers tuning in Channel 6's evening newscasts these days may be a little surprised to see Bill Gratton's face adorning the anchor desk.

Gratton has been in the electronic news business for more than three decades, and most of that time has been spent at Channel 2.

Gratton's move to the Nampa ABC affiliate comes at an appropriate time: Channel 6 has moved its early evening news block to the more realistic 6 p.m. time slot when more viewers are at home to tune in the local newscast.

The station experimented with a 6 p.m. newscast when it first went on the air, but because of poor ratings, coupled with economic difficulties, KIVI was forced to move the news back a half hour to compete with channels 2 and 7.

Now, with a new television season underway, Channel 6's "The News" has a new time period, a new news set and a new face.

Gratton's unpretentious, easy going on-air style represents a major plus for the Channel 6 news operation which has lacked a viewer identification and ratings points over the past two years.

The now white-haired Gratton was responsible for establishing credibility in reporting at Channel 2. That expertise is now a viable part of KIVI's newsroom.

Gratton's journalism career goes back to 1942 when he worked the sign-on shift at KIDO Radio. He joined KDSH Radio in 1947. The station's call letters were changed to KBOI 10 years later.

In 1951, Gratton accepted a position with WOC-TV, Davenport, Iowa. He returned to Idaho in 1953 just before Channel 2 television became a reality.

"Television was really getting off the ground about that time and the previous year the FCC (Federal Communications Commission) lifted a freeze that had been placed on the new stations," Gratton said.

The freeze was maintained while the commission designed a control plan for television development, Gratton added.

Gratton said he believes KFXC was the first television to be established in Idaho. "But they only lasted for about six months."

In 1957, Gratton was on the move again. This time he

accepted a position as program director at KNEW in Spokane.

Gratton fell victim to polio when only a little over a year old. As a child, and later as an adult, the affliction failed to slow him down.

"I really never had any problems," Gratton recalls. "You make the necessary adjustments and build your life from that point."

He credits his parents with making him self-reliant. "They treated me in the same manner as my brothers," he added.

Misfortune struck Gratton again in the summer of 1975 when a hand was mangled by the blades of a lawnmower. Fingers are essential to a polio victim for manipulating crutches. Again his mobility status was threatened.

"I was absent for a total of six months," Gratton said referring to the aftermath of the accident. Half of that time was spent recuperating from hand reconstruction surgery.

For 1-1/2 years prior to the lawnmower accident, Gratton worked in sales at Channel 2. But his face remained before the viewing audience as co-anchorman of the noon news.

Gratton's career, of course, goes back to the days of live television--before the wonder of video tape became a reality.

He said the TV medium was relatively new in those days, and lacked the polish exhibited today. He said he misses the spontaneity of those "pioneering" days.

"If you made a mistake, there was no doing it over in those days," he said. "It went out over the air."

Bloopers were not restricted to the local scene, either. Network "professionals" had their problems, too.

One incident that sticks in Gratton's mind was a segment of a life drama program. A man was about to commit suicide by jumping from a high roof.

"It was quite funny," Gratton recalled. "The camera switched from the man on the edge of the roof to the scene where he 'hit' the ground.

"Well, their timing was off. The camera was turned on while they were still pouring the ketchup on the man to simulate the fatal injuries."

The next major development in Treasure Valley television was in 1977, for KIVI:

FORMER BOISE CASCADE CHIEF BUYS OUT TV CHANNEL SIXES

By Mark Mendiola, Journal Staff Writer

The Federal Communications Commission Monday granted former Boise Cascade Corporation president Robert V. Hansberger permission to buy two sister television stations at Pocatello and Nampa, the Idaho State Journal has learned.

Jerald Fritz, FCC staff attorney from Washington, D.C., told the Journal this morning about the approved sale of Eastern Idaho

Television Corporation, licenses of KPVI Channel 6 of Pocatello, and Idaho Television Corporation, licensee of KIVI Channel 6 at Nampa.

"They both assigned the licenses and sold the assets to an outfit called Futura Titanium Corporation for a total consideration of \$655,850," Fritz said during a telephone interview.

The FCC attorney noted that Hansberger owns 100 per cent of Futura Titanium's stock, but also presently is a minority stockholder in both Eastern Idaho Television and Idaho Television corporations.

"In essence, what he had done is bought out all the stockholders through his wholly-owned corporation. Both Eastern Idaho Television and Idaho Television are going to merge in Futura Titanium Corporation," Fritz commented.

Futura Titanium is a Delaware corporation, but is Idaho-owned and controlled. It manufactures anti-corrosive, fabricated products used in handling toxic liquids or gases. Futura's main plant is in California, but it also operates a facility in Belgium and uses some Russian titanium for its European and Asian markets.

Futura's purchase application was filed with the FCC May 16.

Fritz said the commission waited 30 days to make sure no formal petitions requesting denial of the transaction would be submitted. When reviewing the application, FCC staff members considered Futura's legal and financial status and whether the corporation can meet market needs and interests, he added.

"I am very gratified that the FCC has seen fit to approve merger of the third station in the nation's smallest--but one of the most rapidly growing--markets in the nation into our company," Hansberger stated when contacted this morning at his Boise office.

Hansburger admitted the Pocatello and Nampa stations have been on somewhat shaky financial ground because "the companies were under capitalized in the very beginning."

"With the additional financial strength of Futura Titanium behind the two stations, I think they will be able to fully realize the advantages of having two ABC channel sixes in the two most important markets in Idaho," he stated.

The corporate president said he doesn't expect any personnel changes in Pocatello as a result of the merger. "The merger will not be finalized for several days, but it will be finalized very quickly."

Al Minton, a Hansberger associate involved in industrial development and former manager of Gate City Steel in Pocatello, said the vacant Bistline Lumber and Hardware and old Rialto theatre building on East Center will be torn down and "the balance of the structure will be remodeled for studio and administrative offices for KPVI Channel 6.

"Ultimately we hope to have additional office space there

for other tenants. We'll actually be making sort of a plaza out of that area. The architectural work has already started. As rapidly as we can get city approval, we hope to get it started," Minton said, noting that Pocatellan Cedric Allen will be the project architect. "We're hopeful of having it completed by Nov. 1."

Hansberger estimates cost of the new building project "will be in the hundreds of thousands" of dollars. KPVI currently has administrative offices at 150 N. Main, but its studio is in the back of the Teleprompter Cable TV building on Third. The old structure was bought from Wallace Associates of Salt Lake City.

Hansberger resigned as president of Boise Cascade Corporation in October of 1972 for personal reasons. He became president and director of Boise Cascade in 1967. He previously was president of Western Sales Company, Inc.; executive vice president of Western Kraft Corporation, a Container Corporation of America assistant executive vice president; and was a University of Minnesota engineering instructor.

The 57-year-old industrialist acquired Futura Titanium about 10 years ago. Other Futura officers include J. B. Monette, executive vice president; Klara K. Hansberger, vice president, Harry C. Scoville, second vice president; and Ben J. Ganett, assistant secretary.

Idaho State Journal, June 21, 1977, p. 2A, c. 3-6

And from the Statesman:

FUTURA TO SELL KIVI-TV TO SOUTH CAROLINA COMPANY
By Charley Blaine

Futura Corp. Will sell its KIVI television station in Nampa to a South Carolina company, Futura President Robert Hansberger announced Tuesday.

Hansburger said the sale of KIVI, Channel 6, an affiliate of ABC-TV, to the Evening Post Publishing Co. Of Charleston, S.C. would be closed in about six months after the Federal Communications Commission approves the transfer of KIVI's operating license to the new owners.

Meanwhile, Futura will operate the station, he said. No changes in personnel are contemplated before or after the ownership changes hands, he said.

John Gilbert, president of the Evening Post's KOAA-TV station in Colorado Springs, Colo., said the company plans to retain Michael Gee as general manager of the station.

Hansberger also said the Hansberger family will take over the ownership of KPVI-TV station in Pocatello, also Channel 6 and also an ABC affiliate.

Hansberger would not disclose the sale price for KIVI-TV or the terms of the sale.

Terms also were not disclosed on how KPVI's ownership will

be transferred from Futura to the Hansberger family, which controls Futura's stock.

Futura bought the 2-year-old television stations in 1976 for \$655,850. At that time, both were "in serious financial difficulties" trying to establish themselves, Hansberger said.

The KIVI sale was reported as being near completion in late May by KTVB-TV, Channel 7, but Hansberger and officials at Evening Post Publishing denied the story at the time. One Evening Post official said quotes attributed to him by KTVB "were made up of whole cloth.

When completed, the KIVI sale will take the last of the Treasure Valley's three commercial television stations out of local ownership.

KTVB was sold to King Broadcasting of Seattle in 1980. KBCI-TV, Channel 2, was sold to Eugene Broadcasting Inc., Eugene, Ore., in 1976.

A fourth commercial television station, KTRV-TV, Channel 12, may begin service in October in Treasure Valley. The station owners are from Memphis, Tenn., and New York City.

Hansberger said the sales of KIVI to Evening Post Publishing and Pocatello's KPVI to his family were made as a step toward making Futura a publicly owned company. Stock in publicly owned companies are traded among investors on some sort of stock exchange.

Hansberger has said that turning Futura into a publicly owned company will give the company more operating flexibility, particularly in raising capital from financial markets, to sustain growth.

But a decision on "going public" has been pushed back until 1982 because of the uncertain stock market, interest rates and business conditions generally, Hansberger said.

Hansberger said securities analysts might have problems analyzing a company with both manufacturing and broadcasting units.

Futura is mostly a manufacturing company, operating an aluminum extrusion plant, a titanium products fabrication plant, a fireplace products plant and a commercial signs business. It also is a partner in the proposed downtown mall and operates recreational properties in Idaho, including the Mackay Bar Resort.

Mackay Bar is owned by the Hansberger family, Hansberger said.

Hansberger said his family is holding onto KPVI because, "Frankly, our family is reluctant to get out of this fascinating business."

The Evening Post Publishing Co., founded in 1894 and still owned by the Manigault family of Charleston, operates five daily newspapers in the United States and an English-language daily newspaper in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

It also owns two weekly newspapers in South Carolina,

several radio stations in Maryland, several cable television franchises in South Carolina and television stations in El Paso, Texas, and Colorado Springs-Pueblo.

At the press conference, Gilbert said Evening Post Publishing was "delighted" to come to southwestern Idaho. He promised that KIVI would soon be unveiling a new look to compete, especially in news, against KTVB-TV, the Boise NBC affiliate that dominates local news ratings.

Idaho Statesman, July 8, 1981, p. 1B, c. 1-6

It was in October of 1981 when the fourth commercial television station and the only one without network affiliation, began to serve the Boise Valley area:

NAMPA'S CHANNEL 12 CRANKS UP
By Ken Burrows, The Idaho Statesman

A milestone in Idaho broadcasting was reached this Sunday morning when Nampa's Channel 12 signed on the air as Idaho's sole independent TV station.

The daily lineup of programs will include movies, syndicated (off-network) shows, children's segments, public affairs and news.

As one of about 68 television stations of its type in the nation, if somewhat dubious, of having set up shop in what may be the smallest marketing area boasting an "indy."

Independents traditionally gravitate toward densely populated areas capable of accommodating more than just network affiliates.

The station is an over the air facility and no special equipment, such as a cable hookup, is required to tune in.

The principals of the new station like to call their operation "a family affair." It is the only locally owned TV station in the Boise Valley following the recent sale of Channel 6 to The Evening Post Publishing Company, Charleston, S.C.

John Serrao is president and general manager; Serrao's wife, Alice is secretary; Mrs. Serrao's son, Cary Jones, is station manager; and Jones' wife, Gail, is director of programming and promotion.

The Nampa-Boise region was selected as the home for a new independent station after a lengthy feasibility study.

A combination of economic potential and the anticipated growth attracted the Serraos and Joneses to Idaho, Cary Jones said, citing results of the group's study.

Ironically, the first television station to go on the air in the Boise area was an independent. KFXD-TV, Channel 6, survived for only a few months in the early 1950s with a schedule of black-and-white cartoons and adventure movies.

Channel 12, with its call letters KTRV, plans to distill a line-up of shows aimed at "counter-programming" what viewers see

on network affiliates.

For example, on weekends it is not unusual for independents to broadcast movies while the network schedules are crammed with sporting events.

"Not everybody wants to watch football," Cary Jones said, noting that Channel 12 will program an "alternative" format.

The station was scheduled to sign on the air for the first time at 8 a.m. Sunday, with a series of religious programs.

Beginning at 10:30 a.m. Sunday, Channel 12 has scheduled a series of movies that will run until 4 p.m. Highlights of Sunday evening's programming includes a special in which Fred Astaire hosts a presentation saluting the best of 20th Century Fox' musicals.

Louis Rukeyser's Business Journal, which covers the week's top economic story, will air Sunday nights at 9 and again at 10:30. Weekday mornings get underway with religious shows and such children's programs as Romper Room and Popeye cartoons.

Mr. Frank Field discusses health topics on Health Fields weekdays at 10 a.m. Weekday afternoons are devoted to off network shows such as Perry Mason and the Big Valley.

Channel 12 will feature a motion picture every weeknight at 8, following reruns of old Gunsmoke shows.

Benny Hill, the British comedian who possesses a unique sense of humor, is featured Monday through Friday at 10 p.m., followed by Wild, Wild West.

Movies will be the order of the day on Saturdays when Action Theatre gets underway at 8:30 a.m. Feature movies continue through the day with an occasional injection of syndicated programs.

"I think we can match our movie schedule--title for title, star for star--with anybody's," Gail Jones said.

Serrao said the station will not carry a local daily newscast, but he said Sunday nights have been set aside for public affairs programs. Channel 12 will carry 10 hours of weekly satellite programming including religious shows and daily editions of Independent Network News.

In January, viewers will be offered live telecasts of PAC 10 college basketball.

The station plans to air five college football games including the Holiday Bowl, California Bowl and Tangerine Bowl.

Studios and offices for Channel 12 are located at 679 6th Street North Extension [Nampa].

Cary Jones said the cost of operating an independent station is high--up to three times higher than a network affiliate's prime-time operations.

Independents do not have the advantage of relying on network programming during these hours and "we do not have the nets to promote shows," Cary Jones said.

"But, on the other hand," Jones said, "we don't have the expense of operating a local news department."

Idaho Statesman TV Weekly, October 18, 1981, p. 8-9

The next innovation on the television scene in the area was cable television. The first mention found was a full-page advertisement for United Cable Television appeared in the Idaho Statesman, December 30, 1979, p. 16-C, with a very large headline proclaiming CABLE TV HAS COME TO THE TREASURE VALLEY. It covered a very limited area, shown on a map in the ad, but soon grew to cover most of the populated area in Boise and surrounding areas, plus Nampa and Caldwell. 1979, p. 16-C. Apparently they were already broadcasting as there was a map in the ad showing the area where cable-TV was available.

THEN AND NOW**TV Chatter by Ken Burrows**

The complexion of television has undergone a series of facelifts since the late 1960s when Boise Valley residents had a choice of watching either Channel 2 or Channel 7.

Until 1971, Boiseans literally lived in a sort of prehistoric video era. Long-time residents will remember Channel 2 was the CBS affiliate, while Channel 7 divided its broadcast day between NBC and ABC.

Program scheduling undoubtedly wasn't easy for Georgia Davidson and her crew at Channel 7. On many occasions, ABC promoted some special entertainment or sporting event that never saw the light of day in Boise.

The reason for the "blackout" was simple: Channel 7 was a primary NBC affiliate, and ABC programs were forced to take a back seat in the broadcasting arena.

In 1971, a new infant entered the Boise television scene. The introduction of public television was long-overdue. It was as if the city had emerged from a TV Dark Ages. Channel 4 Manager Jack Schlaefle commented: Boise will now get some cultural enrichment.

Channel 6 threw on its transmission switch a short time later and it seemed Boise had hit the "big time." We now had complete network service, plus the alternative of public broadcasting.

Ten years after Boise emerged from the TV Dark Ages, a new service--cable TV--made its debut. Nineteen channels now light up TV sets with everything from classified ads to first-run movies via Home Box Office.

While we now have a choice of myriad specials, sporting events, four-star movies and other better-than average fare, the industry's staple remains the humdrum of tedious everyday series, soap operas, reruns of comedy shows and second-rate movies.

Viewer's passion for watching television on a regular basis is waning because our expectations have been set too high as our appetite for more programming of the caliber of Roots grows.

We are like spoiled children who tend to pout when their demands are not met. And the poor network bosses have a Catch-22 problem on their hands from which they may never recover.

On those evenings when we find the entertainment dichotomy has nothing to offer, maybe we should sit back and contemplate the environment of just a decade ago when we had to simply choose between, say the Ed Sullivan Show and Bonanza.

Idaho Statesman TV Weekly February 10, 1980, p. 2, c. 1