

Columbia University in the City of New York

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM

Journalism Building

New York, N.Y. 10027

December 15, 1986

Dear Mrs. Tall:

Joe Wershba told me the sad news about Joel Tall. Although I haven't seen him in the last quarter century, I've always had a warm spot in my heart for him and for the remarkable work he did in advancing the state of audio tape editing. His innovations made him almost the father of tape as a tool of serious broadcast journalism.

You know of his dedication and his contributions, and I want you to know, too, how much his old associates mourn his passing.

Sincerely,



Fred W. Friendly

Mrs. Joel Tall
4600 Connecticut Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20008

DAN RATHER

Dear Leona Tall,

This is simply to say
that my thoughts are with
and of you.

We all admired and
respected Joel so.

Please be gentle with
yourself during this time -
and know that all of us
are pulling for you and
with you.

Yours truly,
Dan

9 December 1986

EDWARD BLISS, JR.
14 MARLBORO STREET
NEWBURYPORT, MASSACHUSETTS 01950

Sunday

Dear Leona -

This is a letter that somehow I never thought I would write. What can I say that you don't already know? That Lois and I always have valued you and Joe as two of our dearest friends and that, with you and Benita, we feel bereaved, though nowhere near what you must feel after so many years of loving comradeship.

I'm so glad Joe called me recently. We had a wonderful talk - he was feeling so good about his autobiography being completed and other work going forward. I feel that I have known you and Joe forever, and my life has been enriched for the knowing.

My new Anne has called you to tell of Lois' imminent operation, which will be Tuesday if all goes well, the same day as the services for Joe. We shall be with you in our prayers and look forward to seeing you before too long a time.

Lovingly,
Ed



24 Dec 86

Leona dear,

We got this notice in Variety, where thousands who knew Joel professionally, and many personally, will learn of his passing. I can't for the life of me understand how I got the date wrong-- except that I sent the letter on the 18th and it clogged my mind. Forgive me.

Stay well. Keep in touch. 212-975-6686 office. 516-775-8107 home. Call collect any time. Love from Shirley.

Joe
wershba

LORD LEW GRADE 80TH BIRTHDAY SALUTE

(Starts on page 33)

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MORE NET CHANGES IN 2D SEASON

Beatles Lawyer Charges Capitol Diverted Albums

By KEN TERRY

Serious new allegations against Capitol and EMI Records have surfaced in court documents related to the longrunning case of Apple Records, two surviving Beatles and Yoko Ono Lennon against the diskeries.

An affidavit filed in N.Y. State Supreme Court Dec. 18, Beatles attorney Leonard Marks opposed the defendants' motion to dismiss seven charges against them for allegedly diverting them for allegedly

CBS & NBC HAVE BACKUP SHOWS, ABC SHORT

By BOB KNIGHT

The week between Christmas Eve and the end of the calendar year is traditionally the low sets-in-use breather before the start of the "second season." Taking stock of the primetime season to date, the 1986-87 season has been generally uneventful, the only true excitement having come from a couple of come-from-behind baseball victories in the playoffs and the World Series.

At this juncture, the three commercial networks have taken some tentative "second season" change

action, but it is hard to believe there won't be more — even though it would be typical of the season if they did not. The current season has generally been one of slightly disguised lethargy in a general sense, as if the webs — each, sure of their ranking order now and for the season's end — are refraining from going all out in efforts to make up gaps that are too big to overcome.

CBS-TV, which potentially has the most to lose this season if its "second season" machinations do not result in upward movement, has

understandably been the busiest changemaker so far. To date, it has cancelled four series and put two on hiatus ("Better Days," "The Twilight Zone," "Downtown" and "Kay O'Brien" have been axed, "Together We Stand" and "Designing Women" are on hold), but it still has some problem areas — which it might not try to resolve until after the February sweeps.

It has apparently resolved its Saturday 9-to-11 p.m. time period with movies, at least for the re-

(Continued on page 89)

Two Japanese Paycablers In Urge To Merge

The introduction of commercially viable paycable programming in Japan, an event of key importance to several major U.S. suppliers, is entering a delicate if not crucial phase.

Consensus is emerging in Tokyo that 1987 will be the year that either a largescale pay program service is established, or that the debut of the business is postponed for the indefinite future.

Much hangs on negotiations currently in progress between the largest and best-financed paycable programming venture and a

their daughter, Robin Kabat Dickson.

GIUSEPPE ORNATO

Giuseppe Ornato, 59, chairman, prexy and general manager of RCA S.P.A., RCA/Ariola's music company in Italy, died Dec. 22 in Rome.

A 30-year veteran of RCA, Ornato had been managing director of the company since 1959, prexy since 1964, and was named chairman in 1985. Widely regarded as a statesman of the Italian and European music industries, he is credited with leading RCA to a prominent position within the Italian music business.

Ornato was m.d. of ELFI S.R.L. from 1948-50, when he joined Olivetti, first as salesman, later as Rome branch manager. He joined RCA Italy in 1956 as m.d.

Ornato was a member of the executive committee of A.F.I., the Italian phonograph record association, where he served as prexy for several years.

He is survived by his wife, two sons, a daughter and two grandchildren.

MAMO CLARK

Mamo Clark, 72, screen actress of the 1930s, died Dec. 18 of cancer in Panorama City, Calif.

A native of Honolulu, Clark was educated at the U. of Southern California and, billed simply as Mamo, appeared opposite Clark Gable in the original "Mutiny On The Bounty."

Using her full name, she went on to act in about 20 films through 1941, including "The Hurricane," "Hawaii Calls," "Air Devils," "Boo-oo," "Mutiny On The Blackhawk," "One Million B.C." and "Girl From God's Country."

She recently wrote a book about the Hawaiian Islands, "Except Their Sun."

She is survived by her husband, actor-teacher James Rawley, to whom she was married for 45 years, and a son.

JOYCE BARTHELSON

Joyce Barthelson, 86, musical composer and coach and cofounder of the Hoff-Barthelson Music School in Scarsdale, N.Y., died Dec. 1 in that city.

A pianist and vocal and ensemble coach for NBC Radio in the late 1930s and early 1940s, she founded her music school with Virginia Hoff in 1944. Nonprofit institution currently has 1,200 students and a faculty of 60.

She composed the operas "Chanticleer," "Feathertop," "The King's Breakfast," "Greenwich Village 1910" and "The Devil's Discipline." She also composed an "Oboe Concerto" and two cantatas for soloists and chorus, "The Forty-

JIMMY SANDERSON

James (Jimmy) Sanderson, 58, sportscaster for Radio Clyde in Glasgow, and recently controversial football commentator on Scottish Television's nightly magazine "Scotland Today," died Dec. 8 of a heart attack in Glasgow. His career spanned over 40 years, mostly on Scottish newspapers.

He adopted an abrasive style in talkback to callers and achieved good ratings. He recently had been a press officer with the British Commonwealth Games at Edinburgh. He clashed last year with newspaper publishing tycoon Robert Maxwell while on the payroll of the London Daily Mirror in Scotland.

Survived by his wife, a son and a daughter.

V.C. ANDREWS

V.C. Andrews, age unreported, novelist whose works include last year's bestseller "Dark Angel," died of cancer Dec. 19 in Virginia Beach, Va.

Andrews had seven books to her credit, the first of which, "Flowers In the Attic," currently is in production as a film for New World



Pictures. Other titles include "Petals On The Wind," "If There Be Thorns," "Seeds Of Yesterday," "My Sweet Audrina" and "Heaven." It is estimated some 30,000,000 copies of her books are in print worldwide.

She is survived by her mother and two brothers.

JOEL TALL

Joel Tall, 81, former CBS audio engineer, died Dec. 18 in Washington, D.C.

Tall pioneered audiotape-splicing and tape editing, and invented EdiTall splicing block used in radio and television. He also authored "Techniques Of Magnetic Recording" and engineered Edward R. Murrow and Fred W. Friendly's Columbia record, "I Can Hear It Now."

He is survived by his wife and daughter.

EDDIE WARING

Eddie Waring, 76, whose coverage of Rugby League football for BBC-TV helped lift that sport to national popularity in Britain, died Oct. 28 in a nursing home near Leeds.

He started as a sports reporter for a provincial paper before switching to tv, and retired in 1981 after a 30-

The New York native was based in London for the last 20 years. Survived by his wife.

JOSEPH DE BRETAGNE

Joseph de Bretagne, 86, veteran film sound engineer, died Dec. 4 in Cagnes-sur-Mer, France.

One of the first film sound men in France, Bretagne was attached to the Billancourt Studios throughout the 1930s, and went independent after World War II. He worked frequently with directors Julien Duvivier, Jean Renoir, Sacha Guitry and Christian-Jaque.

Yank pic credits include "Roman Holiday," "Bitter Victory," "The Vikings," "Paris Blues" and "A View From The Bridge."

BILL SIMPSON

Bill Simpson, 54, Scottish actor best known for his role as a family physician in the BBC-TV series "Dr. Finlay's Casebook," died Dec. 21 in Glasgow, following a long illness.

The series had a nine-year run on tv before transferring to radio in 1971 for another seven years. Simpson also toured in legit, and for two years anchored a news show for Scottish Television.

He was twice married and divorced, and is survived by two daughters.

PAUL KEENAN

Paul Keenan, 30, television actor who was a regular on "Days Of Our Lives" and "Dynasty," died Dec. 11 of AIDS in Boston.

Keenan was a regular on "Days Of Our Lives" during the 1981-82 season and had the recurring role of Tony on "Dynasty."

He also acted in the telefilms "Mother And Daughter" and "Summer Fantasies," as well as in many series episodes.

He is survived by his parents and three sisters.

PAUL J. McNAMARA

Paul J. McNamara, 74, general manager from 1950-62 of the Warwick Hotel in Philadelphia, a favorite stopover for showbiz and sports celebs, died Nov. 26 in Haverford, Pa.

One of the first Holiday Inn franchises in the Philadelphia area and part-owner of seven hotels, he still was active in the field at the time of his death.

He is survived by his wife, two daughters and a grandchild.

MARV NEWTON

Marv Newton, 54, still photographer on many film and television productions, died Nov. 9 of a heart attack in Glendale, Calif.

A member of the Intl. Photographers Guild Local 659, he had

Nov. 28, East Meadow, N.Y. is with Cannon Films. Groom booking department, Pacificers, L.A.

Elizabeth Algarin to Dan Sr., Nov. 28, in Kingman, Bride is director of marketing sales with Directors South Editorial Service. Groom is a editor.

Karen Hunter to Martin H. son, recently in Dalrymple, land. She's a violinist.

Lori Levy to Roland Hilda 30, in Los Angeles. Groom is a ducer.

Jan Cornell to Matt Ne Dec. 21, in New York. Bride producer and v.p. creative a for Don Mischer Prods. in Groom is a freelance comedy v

Virginia Lynch to James Dec. 19, in New York. Bride assistant director and unit pr tion manager of films.

Sarah Flanagan to Georg guelles, Dec. 20, in Green Conn. Bride is an operations ager for San Francisco-based communications Consulting ices. Her father, Philbin Ste Flanagan, is v.p. and g.m. of vision Program Enterprises.

Camille Taylor to W McDuffie Jr., Dec. 20, in At Groom is a concert violinist.

Heather Evans to Ma Baumgardner, Dec. 20, in

Lord Grade's

- ABC Entertainment
- ACTT
- Willard Alexander
- Anglia Television
- Neil And Nancy Austrian
- Norah & Phillo Black
- Boston Ventures Ltd. Partnership
- CBS
- Central TV
- Channel 4
- Jonathan Chissick/Hoyts
- Collins Publishers
- Columbia Pictures
- Consolidated Press Holdings/ Kerry Packer
- Nancy, Bob, Linda, Bobby, Brian Da
- Dennis Davidson Assoc.
- Barbara and Marvin Davis
- Sammy Davis, Jr.
- Lord Bernard Delfont
- Tom Donald/Ian Warren
- Jake Eberts/Allied Filmmakers
- Laurence Evans
- Kevin Francis
- Bill Gavin
- Noel Gay Org. & Armitage Family
- Michael Grade
- Sander Gortlinsky
- Granada
- Greater Union Organisation
- Dianna and Leo Greenfield
- Bruce Gyngell
- HBO
- Henson/Kornit & Miss Piggy
- Jim Henson, David Lazer & Frank Oz
- Bernard & Roland Hilda
- Cindy & Alan Horn

*** #7 *****

Date: Thu, 22 May 2003 11:57:28 -0700 (PDT)
From: David Breneman <david_breneman@yahoo.com>
Subject: Re: [78-l] The KIRO Archive and other CBS airchecks

- --- "Kevin P. Mostyn" <koussy@lms.com> wrote:
> Didn't Joel Tall begin his editing career editing wire recordings?
> IIRC, he
> would join the cut wires with a knot, snip off the excess and then
> use a
> match to heat the joint. Somehow the splice would pass through
> through the
> head. Later he progressed to tape; the rest is history.

That's the canonical way to splice wire (with a square knot) but the splice doesn't pass through the head, it jumps out of the guide slot while the knot passes. This produces a split-second dropout which makes the procedure inappropriate for music (no edited-wire extended dance mixes :-)) but acceptable for most voice applications. The first season of CBS's "Hear it Now" (which I assume inspired, or was inspired by "I Can Hear it Now") was edited on wire. It was considered quite a landmark for that reason, very "cinematic" in its editing style.

=====
David Breneman david_breneman@yahoo.com