People

Sidney Greenberg to watch home movies

MONTREAL – Sidney Greenberg is the new president of Bellevue Home Entertainment, the video wholesaling division of Astral Bellevue Pathé.

The appointment was announced by Sidney's brother Harold Greenberg, president and CEO of APB.



It was also announced that Andy Skerratt, formerly vice-president of Video One, has joined BHE as the manager of special projects.

Harvey Greenberg, another of the four founding brothers, will continue as chairman of the board of BHE.

Boudreau goes for creative break

MONTREAL – Marc Boudreau has set a new solo course for himself.



The first director of the Quebec wing of the Academy of Canadian Cinema and Television has resigned to pursue other career ambitions.

Boudreau, who opened the Montreal office in May 1986 and who was instrumental in organizing campaign drives and two televised editions of the Prix Gémeaux for television excellence, will remain on the executive committee as a consultant.

Says Boudreau, "After 10 years of hard work in the arts, I want to follow my own compass and write."

The former executive assistant to Clément Richard, minister of Cultural Affairs in the Parti Québécois and head of Communications with the Société générale du cinéma du Québec, did not say whether his writing would fall into the realm of film and television.

Tutino makes a catty move to sales

MONTREAL – Carmela Tutino, formerly of International Cinema Corporation, is on the road with her own line up of films for sale.



The principal mover behind the Montreal-based Feline Films, Tutino launched the award-winning Un Sourd dans la ville in Paris, France on April 19. She will also be attending Cannes and MIP with a number of independent québécois films and she is currently working on the first edition of a québécois film retrospective which will tour 10 Italian cities in 1989.

Previously, Tutino had been special assistant to Denis Héroux of ICI, and has become responsible for foreign sales of products from ICI and Cinévidéo before striking out on her own.

Holiff and Mandel make up differences

TORONTO – Comedian/actor Howie Mandel has settled out of court with his former personal manager, David Holiff, prior to an April 13, 1988 trial date.



The settlement for an undisclosed amount of money ended a six-year legal battle which started when Holiff sued Mandel for a breach of contract after Mandel dismissed Holiff in 1982.

Holiff had been relentless in his promotion of Mandel, convincing the editor of *Cinema Canada* to use the actor for a cover shot in 1981, long before he became a prominent actor.

Tifo joins Yorkton jury

MONTREAL – Marie Tifo will be joining Maclean's film critic Lawrence O'Toole and filmmakers Wendy Tilby and Martin Duckworth to judge the short films showcased at the Yorkton Short Film and Video Festival from May 25-29.

With a highly professional p.r. campaign, festival director Ian Reid gave a rousing all-French speech to an appreciative Montreal press corps April 12, inciting one and all to meet in Yorkton, Saskatchewan for Canada's oldest film festival.

In all, Yorkton will award \$3,500 in cash prizes as well as honouring 16 different categories and seven craft proficiencies.



The seminars and workshops which accompany the festival will feature Brigitte Berman, Barbara Evans and Kathleen Shannon on "Researching the Documentary," Hugh Foulds of Emily Carr College on animation, Richard Kerr (University of Regina) and filmmakers Martin Duckworth and Tim Neat from Scotland on "The New Documentary." Ralph Ellis will talk about selling to television while "Using Film in School" will be the subject of a panel by editor Jean Oser, Dale Winnitowy and Shannon. Marie Tifo will do double-duty, presenting a workshop entitled "Actor/Director, Stage/Screen."

Parks rewarded for desert trials

TORONTO – When Deborah Parks was sweating it out in the Egyptian Sahara, trying to figure out how to keep a camera running in 50-degree heat and ever-present dust, her mind wasn't likely on frivolous things like awards. But her work photographing



the documentary Shahira (about an Egyptian woman working on small-scale development projects with a forgotten tribe) netted her a best documentary photography award from the Canadian Society of Cinematographers last month.

Shahira was coproduced with Parks' partner, Shelley Saywell, and aired on TVOntario in April. It has been sold to several countries around the world.

Saywell and Parks, who has shot everything from Studio D documentaries to rock videos, went into the desert with the aim of capturing a credible portrait of an incredible woman. The heat and the dust they knew about – what they didn't count on was scorpions.

"Ignorance is bliss," Parks says nonchalantly. "We had so much on our minds we had no time to think." Both escaped unharmed to rack up world sales and now a CSC Award.

Devion boss of co-funding

VANCOUVER – The CBC has appointed Ron Devion as director of Co-Funding for the English Television Network. He'll be moving to Toronto in early May after a successful stint as the corporation's director of television in British Columbia.

He takes on the new job just as the CBC begins the herculean task of increasing its Canadian content from 80 to 95 per cent. There is not enough money in the corporation's own budget so it is looking for partners to co-produce programs.

CBC-British Columbia has been pioneering such agreements since Devion came to Vancouver (from the network's Sports Department). He estimates the total value of co-productions in B. C. since his first effort in 1982 at about \$4 million.

Most deals see CBC providing equipment, talent and airtime. Independent producers then assemble outside financial support.



News and documentaries are still exclusive in-house productions but Devion will be looking for other kinds of proposals to fill the hundreds of hours of "programming opportunities" required to achieve the 95% figure.

Shatalow comes out swinging

TORONTO - A couple of years ago documentary filmmaker Peter Shatalow, whose first feature, Blue City Slammers, opened in Toronto at the end of April, became disillusioned with filmmaking. He turned his hand to developing production management software for the film industry. During that time he saw a performance of Layne Coleman's play Blue City Slammers at Toronto's Theatre Passe Muraille. The smalltown Ontario characters jumped out at Shatalow, himself a native of St. Catharines.

"The characters were so real," he told Cinema Canada.
"They were honest, unashamed people who lived their lives without pretension." He knew that here was a film he wanted to make. He and Coleman developed a strong script which enabled Shatalow and his coproducer Bruce Raymond to raise the close to \$2 million budget. The film was shot in 21 days in the Goderich area.

Cineplex-Odeon launched the film in Toronto April 29. Shatalow hopes that with Cineplex distributing the film, it will get a good run across North America because "it's a good summer film."