

piece, set during the civil war, Didymus, an immigrant farmer must make a difficult choice between his twin sons. The story unfolds leading the viewer to believable conclusions, covering patriotism, family loyalty, and love. This story-telling produced an exceptional and overwhelming experience for the viewer.

In the Fiction category, First Place (Film) was awarded to Sam Sloves and Anissa Bouziane (Columbia University) for *Close Call*. Second Place (Video): Steve LaTart and Chad Atkins (Ironde-quoit High School) for *Dream On*.

In the Non-Fiction category, First Place (Film) was awarded to Amotz Zakai (RIT) for *A Camera, Two Lights and A Button*.

In the Experimental category, First Place (Film) was awarded to Rodrigo Bellott (Ithaca College) for *Forlorn*. Honorable Mention (Film): Marc Dworkin (SUNY Binghamton) for *The Artfilm: Chickenhand-puppets for Philippe*. Honorable Mention (Video): Kevin Dillon and Eric Watson (SUNY Fredonia) for *Channel Zero*.

In the Animation category, First Place (Computer Animation) was awarded to Curt Markham (RIT) for *Yobbo*. Second

Place (Computer Animation): Glenn Ehlers (RIT) for *A Spring Day*. Honorable Mention (Computer Animation): Daniel Pejril (RIT) for *Open House*.

Honorable Mention (Hand Drawn) was awarded to Sarah Donahue (RIT) for *Up and Away with The Meeps*.

Gloria Read, a special guest from the Eastman Kodak Co. awarded four \$1,000 Film Production Grants. These awards were presented to Christopher Foley and Matthew Cameron for *Didymus*, Sam Sloves and Anissa Bouziane for *Close Call*, Amotz Zakai for *A Camera, Two Lights And A Button*, Rodrigo Bellott for *Forlorn*.

SMPTE section officers and managers, and the RAVA chairman thanked Vince and Kathy Slavin for the effort that they put into this annual Festival. The judges were also thanked for their time and critical review.—Arthur J. Cosgrove (Section Chairman), Eastman Kodak Co.,

Sacramento

October 21, 1998

The October 21st meeting of the Sacramento Section, titled The Technology

and Enjoyment of HDTV, was attended by about 40 people at the Tektronix-Grass Valley Products facility.

The technical session began with an overview of SMPTE specifications relating to HDTV. It continued with a presentation and discussion of system designs, characteristics of the reference signals, the impact of multiple video formats and the challenges of designing switchers at HDTV data rates. It concluded with a discussion of the design of HDTV production and master control switchers including the use of field programmable gate arrays (FPGAs) to implement video processing and the design techniques needed to receive, route, and transmit the 1.485 Gbit/sec signals. An informal discussion and a demonstration of the Grass Valley 110HD production switcher followed the presentation.

In addition to the technical session, a separate viewing room was available where SMPTE members and their guests could see and hear HDTV on a large monitor.—William Carlquist (Secretary/ Treasurer), Tektronix

News

SMPTE to Give Seminar at NAB99

Following last year's success, SMPTE will present an all-day seminar at NAB99 on April 1-7, 1999, at the Las Vegas Convention Center. Co-chaired by Richard Hess, vice-president, National Teleconsultants, and Graham Jones, manager, DTV Systems Engineering at Harris Corp., the topic will deal with issues of control and automation of new technologies in broadcasting.

The age of digital television is here and with it new technologies, systems, and equipment. Digital inbound and outbound program streams, encoders and multiplexers, multichannel audio, metadata, data-casting, and multicasting, in addition to video servers, VTRs, switchers, traffic, and newsroom systems, are all elements of this new age. The ability to manage and control these elements is critical to the operation of network distribution and station broadcasting. The seminar will take an in-depth look at how these new developments will be managed.

For registration information, call 1-800-342-2460, or you may register online at www.nab.org/conventions/.

UCLA Extension announces a personalized, five-day program of study for profes-

Notice concerning trial publication and public comment on SMPTE Standards, Recommended Practices and Engineering Guidelines

SMPTE Standards, Recommended Practices and Engineering Guidelines are now published on the SMPTE World Wide Web site at <http://www.smpte.org/stds/> for trial publication and public review.

These proposal documents will continue to be published in the *SMPTE Journal* for information-only purposes.

This change is in accordance with the SMPTE Administrative Practices:

During the trial publication period of six weeks following the posting of the proposed document on the Society's World Wide Web site, the Society invites comment on the proposed document from the readership. Comments are submitted by the Director of Engineering to the Chair of the responsible Technology Committee with copies to the Chair of the Standards Committee and the appropriate Engineering Director. If, in their opinion, the comments require any technical change, the project is returned to the Technology Committee for further consideration.

If the comments are considered by the appropriate chairs and Engineering Director to be exclusively editorial, the Director of Engineering, in consultation with the Technology Committee Chair, makes the necessary editorial revisions. Commenters shall be promptly notified of the disposition of their comments and the justification for the actions by the Technology Committee Chair.

C.V. Girod, P.E., Director of Engineering

sionals in engineering, science, and other technologies. The 57th Technical Management Program, to be held March 28 to April 2, 1999, addresses the newest trends and paradigms in today's turbulent business world and provides managers with a

repertoire of methods to solve problems, plan strategies, and motivate colleagues.

The four-course format allows participants to shape a curriculum from more than 20 different offerings each day. The list of courses being offered includes New

Ideas: Creating, Evaluating, Championing, and Transforming Them into Innovations; Managing Problem Behavior on the Job; High-Technology Marketing and Program Development: What Technical Managers Need to Know; Leadership Skill Building; and Becoming a More Effective Communicator in Your Organizational Role.

The program will be held at UCLA's Covell Commons, on the UCLA Campus, in Westwood. The fee is \$2,195, which includes the cost of all required texts and materials, parking, five continental breakfasts, five luncheons, and the Sunday afternoon and Thursday evening receptions.

For further information, call (310) 825-3858, Fax (310) 206-2815, e-mail

bcroswhi@unex.ucla.edu or jlee@unex.ucla.edu, or write to UCLA Extension, Dept. of Engineering, Information Systems and Technical Management, Short Courses, 10995 Le Conte Ave., Ste. 542, Los Angeles, CA 90024. Visit the UCLA Extension Website at: www.unex.ucla.edu/short_courses.

Dolby Laboratories introduced a new Extranet service making it possible for theater equipment suppliers and service technicians to access a secure area of the Dolby web site for up-to-date technical information from anywhere in the world.

"A certified Dolby theater service engineer with a modem-equipped laptop will no

longer have to carry a stack of manuals and service bulletins," said Ray Callahan, director of Cinema Products, "all necessary information will be instantly available in the field, right at the other end of the phone line."

Lipsner-Smith Co., a subsidiary of Research Technology International, has named Thomas A. Tisch as senior vice-president. Tisch will market motion picture film systems worldwide. Jonathan A. Banks, president of Lipsner Smith, announced the appointment stating, "Tom Tisch is very well known and respected in the film industry. His many years of experience are a great asset to our company and to our customers."

New Products

Audio Media

Maxell Corp. of America has introduced a complete family of media for professional audio applications including MD-PRO, DAT, DTRS, and A-DAT. Each product delivers the high performance, reliability, and rugged construction required for editing, recording, and archiving applications.

The **MD-PRO74 media** employ an extremely sensitive magnetic layer that delivers a carrier-to-noise ratio of 47 dB, very low bit-error rates, and a wide magnetic power margin. Longevity is ensured with a microscopic layer of protective lubricant that covers the disc surface, along with a sealed shell that keeps out contaminants and is both shock and heat resistant. To maintain stable operation, the tape employs five-layer construction with a smooth base film and dust-resistant back coating layer, and a highly polished magnetic surface. Maxell's HB treatment process securely bonds the tape layers together and achieves excellent head-to-tape contact.

Fuji Photo Film U.S.A., Inc. announced the addition of two professional products to its digital audiocassette lineup. Designed to meet the audio recording demands of today's professionals, **Fuji DPA and DPD digital audiocassettes** for 8-channel ADAT and DTRS digital audio recording systems, respectively, allow the full potential of each format to be realized. The audiocassettes incorporate proprietary Fuji magnetic tape coating technology that offers superior performance, reliability, and durability—even after repeated passes.

Compact Disk Recorder

TASCAM introduced its new **CD-RW5000 Compact Disc Recorder**. With the ability to read and/or write to all cur-

rently available media including CD, CD-R, CD-RW, CD-R-DA and CD-RW-DA, this versatile recorder is useful for both home and professional studios, post-production facilities, contractor installations, and DJ rigs.

In addition to its support for all forms of CD media, the 2U rack-mountable CD-RW5000 also features XLR balanced and RCA unbalanced analog I/O, an AES/EBU digital input, S/PDIF coaxial and optical digital I/O, a sync start function, auto or manual track increment capability, a sample rate converter, an erase function, and parallel control I/O capability.

Format Converter

Panasonic Broadcast & Digital Systems Co. (PBDSC) has introduced **The AJ-UFC1800 Universal Video Format Converter** to essentially convert any video format to any other format, making it possible to convert television signals between all video formats recognized under the U.S. ATSC-DTV standard. The video format converter was developed by Panasonic AVC American Laboratories, Inc. (Burlington, NJ) in partnership with its parent laboratory, AVC Products Development Laboratory (Osaka, Japan), and will be marketed by PBDSC in the U.S.

The AJ-UFC1800 can adjust picture aspect ratios with pan and scan functions, can insert or remove 3:2 pull-down film conversion, and can be programmed to convert other scanning formats as well. It supports multiple frame rates including 60, 50, 30, and 24 Hz. It features a programmable color matrix for HD or SD, and is PC programmable for "new" formats through its RS-232 port. The converter incorporates GPI activated presets, an internal test generator, and will come in a compact 3U rack unit.

Lens Conversion

Century Precision Optics has introduced the **Series 2000 Century/Canon 17-35mm T3 lens conversion**, ideal for lightweight cameras, including the Aaton 35, MovieCam SL, and Arri 435. Century has extensively re-engineered Canon's EOS still 35mm lens and the result is a true 35mm cine zoom that accurately holds focus and minimizes image movement throughout the zoom range. It incorporates a new aluminum alloy housing that makes conventional zooming possible and minimizes lens weight (only 31 oz). Lens markings are large, bright, and clearly readable from both sides. Features include internal focus design, PL mount, integral gears, and Series 9 front thread.

Modular Video System

VAS Group has introduced the **XBox Modular Video System**, offering in a single chassis the ability to convert in real time between multiple HDTV and standard definition video formats. Its flexible design allows any input to be converted to any output video format and its modular design permits users to build a custom system tailored specifically to their needs; this feature serves as a guarantee against obsolescence.

The XBox features image manipulation functions such as anti-alias filters, dynamic pan and scan, zoom, and complete aspect ratio control. In film mode the XBox is capable of adding or removing a 3:2 sequence and features offspeed PAL input and output.

Monitor

The latest **HDTV monitor Model LV 5150D**, from Leader Instruments Corp., operates with 1080 and 1035 interlaced