

our opening news  
compendium  
edited by Kim  
Williamson

## EXHIBITOR REPORT CARD: CARMIKE Q1 REDUX

Carmike Cinemas recently announced its first-quarter results, having requested a filing extension to correct erroneous calculations. The Columbus, Ga.-based theatrical chain saw revenues total \$111.7 million for the period ended March 31, compared with \$101.2 million a year ago. Operating income totaled \$3.8 million, down from \$5.9 million, while general expenses increased to \$19.8 million from \$18.1 million. Carmike's net loss equaled \$6.2 million, compared with positive net income of \$300,000 in Q1 2005. —**Francesca Dinglasan**

For more Exhibition News, see page 28

## CINEPLEX LAUNCHES SASKATOON GALAXY

After months of anticipation and continued construction, Cineplex Entertainment has opened its latest theatrical complex in the province of Saskatchewan. Located in downtown Saskatoon, Canada's biggest theatrical circuit's new theater will operate under the Galaxy banner. Comprising more than 50,000 square feet and 12 screens, Galaxy Cinemas Saskatoon officially opened to the public at the beginning of September, while its gala opening event—in which proceeds earned during the evening's festivities were earmarked for local charity the Children's Health and Hospital Foundation of Saskatchewan—was scheduled for later that month. —**Francesca Dinglasan**

For more Northern Exposure news,  
see page 30

## INOX BRINGS MULTISCREEN CONCEPT TO CENTRAL INDIA

Multiplex operator Inox Leisure is continuing to proliferate in its native territory, with its latest moviehouse opening in Central India's Nagpur market. The three-plex is the region's first multiscreened cinema as well as one of the first venues to offer modern moviegoing amenities, such as state-of-the-art sound systems and flexible sliding-scale ticket pricing, to residents. Following the model first launched by the U.K.'s Easy-Cinema, the Inox site adjusts admissions fees according to the time and day of a particular screening. With the launch of the new Inox plex, the company controls a total of 12 sites and intends to operate a total of 26 comprising 108 screens by the end of 2008. —**Francesca Dinglasan**

For more Pacific Overture news,  
see page 30

## U.K.'S CINEWORLD REVISITS IPO PLANS

British exhibition chain Cineworld is once again looking to launch an IPO on the London Stock Exchange. The theatrical cir-

cuit originally readied the float for this past May but decided to nix its plans, citing unfavorable market conditions. Now Cineworld has confirmed its intent to reintroduce the float, although the company has yet to set an exact date. Founded under the banner of Cine-UK by American industry vet Steve Weiner—who still remains as a major shareholder in the multiplex operator—Cineworld comprises more than 800 screens at nearly 80 sites throughout the United Kingdom. Cineworld parent company—the Blackstone Group acquired Cine-UK two years ago, combining the exhibitor's holdings with those of former rival movie theater chain UGC to form the current super-circuit. —**Francesca Dinglasan**

For more EuroViews, see page 31

## TDC GETS AMUSEMENTS OUT OF DC DEAL

In a development that follows the digital cinema deployer's move into Europe (see Supply Side, September), Technicolor Digital Cinema (TDC) has pacted with National Amusements for the rollout of digital cinema to the circuit. Under the deal, the Thomson subsidiary will install and maintain d-cinema systems that are in line with Digital Cinema Initiatives specifications in 14 National Amusements theaters for a total of 120 screens. The two companies continue to discuss the deployment of digital cinema throughout the chain, which operates 1,066 screens in the U.S. and 1,500 worldwide with sites in the Latin America, the U.K. and Russia.

Launching in late August with the opening of the new Cinema de Lux 14: The Greene in Dayton, Ohio, the deal will include theater sites in New York, Los Angeles and Boston and expands TDC's nationwide beta test to the East Coast. Earlier this year, TDC had inked a similar arrangement with Northern California's Century (see "On a Roll," February), which operates several cinemas on the West Coast. With reportedly no systems in place in any Century theaters, the implementation of that pact is at least temporarily up in the air, as the circuit was recently sold to Cinemark, which has inked for d-cinema with rival deployer Christie/AIX.

Technicolor Digital Cinema plans to complete its 250-300-screen beta test in the U.S. sometime next year, aiming for a 5,000-screen rollout over the next three to four years. The company, which is technology-agnostic and so can offer clients both 2K and 4K projection solutions, intends to outfit a total of 15,000 U.S. and Canadian screens with digital cinema through this initial rollout and additional phases over the next decade. —**Annlee Ellington**

For more Supply Side news,  
see page 32

## MORE STORIES FROM OUR STORIES

Urban film company Our Stories Films, a co-venture of Robert L. Johnson, founder of cable's BET network, and The Weinstein Co., has named Tracey Edmonds as president and chief operating officer. At Our Stories, Edmonds will be responsible for dri-

ving the vision of the new studio and all operations, including development and production. The focus at Our Stories will be on urban comedies. "For a long time, the African-American creative community has wanted to have a studio where greenlight authority rests with an African-American," said Johnson. "I'm happy that Harvey and Bob [Weinstein] have joined me in making this vision a reality. I'm excited that Tracey has chosen to become a part of this venture—her track record and creative abilities will ensure that the vision becomes a success." That track record includes a decade spent by Edmonds as president and CEO of Edmonds Entertainment Group, which handled film, television and music projects; Edmonds' first feature-film production, "Soul Food," was made for \$7 million and grossed \$43 million domestically. Edmonds' e" filmworks, an indie production company, made "Hav Plenty," released by Miramax back in its Weinstein era.

In other executive announcements, London-based First Movies, which does market research for entertainment companies, has named two former Nielsen NRG execs to posts: Randy Baker is the company's U.S. president, and Jane Epstein is exec vp/stateside operations. —**Kim Williamson**

For more Studio News, see page 34

## NEW MEDIA GENERATES NEW FRICTION

Even as guild leaders at the Screen Actors Guild, the Directors Guild of America and the Writers Guild of America are questioning current industry practices regarding pay for streaming media, producers are counter-arguing that most streaming is promotional in nature, and thus the directing, writing and acting talents involved are due no further payment. The discussions follow earlier, also contentious action by producers to pay residual fees for movies and TV programming downloaded via the internet or for iPods under the less remunerative home video formula; the guilds argue the pricier fees associated with pay TV would be more relevant. In other news, Sony became the first studio to sponsor podcasts via a CNN video podcast deal. —**Kim Williamson**

For more New Media news, see page 34

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