

Lights, camera...pets

'Pet Talk' is full of surprises

BY KEVIN BROWN
STAFF WRITER
kbrown@oecomm.net

You never know what's going to happen with animals on TV. On the local cable TV show "Pet Talk with Sandy Dupuis," a sleeping dog once snored into the microphone. A kitten brought on set once crawled up the shoulder of an animal rescue volunteer.

And then there was the dog that began performing a mating act on the floor.

But Dupuis, on her Southwestern Oakland Cable Commission channel 12 show, also presents a wealth of useful information for owners of all kinds of pets. Guests have ranged from a Northwest Airlines official talking about traveling with pets, to a dog that has sniffed out human remains on Civil War battlefields.

"It's just topics of interest to the general owner," explains Dupuis, who elicits help from husband Jeff on remote shoots.

The half-hour show airs in greater Farmington and Southfield, Commerce Township, Novi, West Bloomfield, Oak Park and other Metro Detroit cities.

At a taping Nov. 26, Dupuis featured dog trainers to the stars Vladimir Roytappel and Bonny Wainz. They've trained dogs for Steve Yzerman and Thomas Hearn, among local celebrities. As Roytappel and Wainz sit on

a white wicker sofa, production supervisor Lisa Antuna fits them with lapel mikes. Guests are encouraged not to hold dogs to their chests.

"All we hear is this heavy breathing," Antuna tells them, smiling. Dupuis is seated in a matching chair, holding her shepherd-chow mixed-breed puppy Bosco.

The "Pet Talk" logo — a painting with a dog, cat and parrot appearing in separate window panes, is displayed just behind the set. Floor director Leroy Johnson, manning one of four cameras, counts down and points to Dupuis, signaling the start of taping.

Roytappel explains his Alternative Canine Training business takes a different approach to training.

"In America, you live in a great democracy," he said, in a Russian accent. "But dogs live in an authoritarian way, no two have the same rank."

Roytappel has a green leash draped over his neck. There are assorted collars and chain chokers on a table between him and the host.

"Dogs have three major needs — exercise, mental stimulation, obedience training and social needs," he explains.

He says three main reasons owners fail at dog training is they don't understand the traits

of various breeds, like shelties who will herd small children. "How about mixed dogs?" Dupuis asks. "They are the best; they combine different breed traits," he says.

Because dogs are pack oriented, they need structure and leadership as well as love, Roytappel adds. He explains his method is to praise good behavior for results, rather than punish.

After hearing two years ago about the possibilities of doing such a show on community access TV, Dupuis took the required workshop and ran the camera for other shows.

"When you watch the other shows you learn a lot of people skills. It's helped me to come out more because I was really, really shy. I really love pets and animals," she said.

Her first show was a remote from Ann Bienenman's combination cat rescue, boarding, and gift shop. "Sometimes I try to be a roving reporter, just so we don't have a talking heads show." She has also done remotes from dog and cat shows.

Representatives from animal rescue groups are regular guests. "Each rescue group has so much to say. Everyone has a story to tell," Dupuis said.

The show airs in greater Farmington at 11 p.m. Monday, 4:30 p.m. Tuesday, 8:30 p.m. Friday, and 7:30 p.m. Saturday.

A local lottery winner's still out there

Michigan Lottery officials hope players take a little extra time to look through their old Lottery tickets. Somewhere out there is a slip of paper worth \$150,000, and if it is not found quickly, this Big Game windfall will fall into the category of "unclaimed prizes."

The soon-to-expire ticket was purchased at

Orchard-10 Market, 24065 Orchard Lake Road, in Farmington, for the December 1, 2000 Big Game drawing. It matched the first five numbers in that night's drawing: 15, 25, 28, 38, 47 and the Big Money Ball number was 5. Prizes are valid for one year from the draw date. For information call (517) 335-5640.

h^{oliday} sale

getcozy
with our
entire
stock of
SWEATERS

buy ONE
get ONE

50% off

TICKETED PRICES

receive an additional
20% off
ANY SINGLE ITEM

DRESSBARN
Misses & Women Sizes 4-24

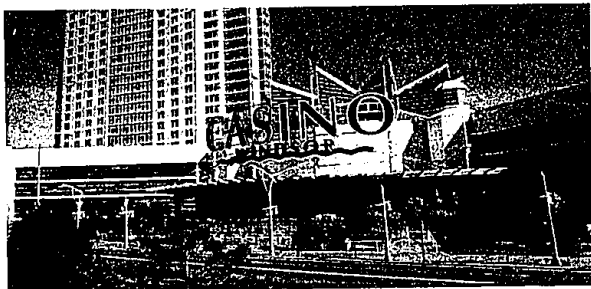
Not valid on 50% off merchandise, gift certificates, previous purchases or buyouts. Cannot be combined with any other offer or coupon. One coupon per customer. Expires 12/31/01. Coupon code #528

DRESSBARN

Misses & Women Sizes 4-24

For the store nearest you, call 1-800-DRESSBARN or visit our website at www.dressbarn.com

*Lower priced item 50% off. Styles & prices vary at Dress Barn Women. Sale ends 12/01/01



MORE REASONS TO CROSS THE BORDER

Border delays have been greatly reduced outside of peak commuter times. So there's every reason to come back to the Casino experience that Casino Player Magazine rated the "Best in the Detroit Area." It's a distinction we continue to earn every day, with more features, more programs, more fun and more excitement. If you want more, including four-diamond style and luxury, invest a few extra minutes in the casino experience that makes it worth the drive over!

PLAY & STAY FOR \$69*

SUNDAY - THURSDAY STAY, PER NIGHT, PLUS TAXES, DBL. OCC.
Great room rates are available in our four-diamond hotel now until Dec. 24, 2001. Enjoy a mid-week getaway (Sun-Thurs) for \$69* U.S. or a weekend (Fri-Sat) for just \$99* U.S.

TRIPLE CASH BACK TO PLAYERS' PRESTIGE CLUB MEMBERS

Membership in the Club is FREE and brings you all the benefits of our rewards program, plus Triple Cash Back for points earned on slot play from now to December 24*, 2001.

\$5^{CD} TABLE GAMES ALL DAY, EVERY DAY

Whether your game is blackjack, craps, poker or roulette, you can play your way with \$5 minimum tables all day, every day.

LAS VEGAS-STYLE ENTERTAINMENT

Our Showtime® Lounge brings you the very best in Vegas-style entertainment, up close and personal! Tickets are just \$9* U.S. — call the Showtime Box Office for information.

10X ODDS ON CRAPS

Only Casino Windsor can take the most exciting game around and make it even better. 10X Odds on Craps is only at Casino Windsor.

CASH REBATES AND SPECIAL OFFERS

Membership in our Players' Prestige Club gets you more rewards, including cash rebates for qualifying table play and invitations to special events. Best of all, membership is FREE. Sign up today!

For information on these and other reasons why you should visit Casino Windsor call 1-800-991-7777.

CASINO WINDSOR

*Certain rooms only. Additional taxes \$20. Cash off by 6 p.m. on arrival date or full rate with tax charged. Subject to availability. Room rates and hotel prices are subject to change without notice. Not valid with other promotions. Cash back not available on table games. Winner's 100% limited to the right to cash in or change the above structure without prior notice. Call for Tax, Not for Broker. 1-800-991-7777. Casino Windsor Gaming. 18+ only. Must be 18 years of age when leaving hotel room.



For further information or application materials, call 313-593-1183

A Master's Degree...By Choice, Not Necessity...Just FOR YOU!



You took the classes you had to take to earn your Bachelor's degree and start you on your career. Now you have reached the point at which you can take the classes you want to take, for the joy of learning, for the excitement of intellectual discovery. That's another kind of educational experience, and that's the point of the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies degree program offered at the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

Make no mistake, it will be challenging, but our current students say that it is also a thoroughly enriching and rewarding experience. The interdisciplinary courses will develop your critical thinking skills and intellectual flexibility, and you will become more knowledgeable about yourself as well. The program offers focused tracks as well as the opportunity to develop your own individualized track, and most courses are offered during the evening to accommodate those with busy schedules.

From U of M-Dearborn A Master of Arts in Liberal Studies

Winter term classes start January 7th. For information and an application portfolio, please call (313) 593-1183, visit our website on the internet at www.umich.edu/mals or send an e-mail to clgms@umich.edu or rrsch@umich.edu.

We are located at 4901 Evergreen Road, between Michigan Avenue and Ford Road, Dearborn, MI 48128-1491