



# USDA BROILER MARKET NEWS REPORT

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## NATIONAL BROILER MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



Majority prices were trending unchanged for next week's deliveries. Trade sentiment was mixed, ranging no better than steady in the Northeast to fully steady to firm in the Midwest. Retail demand was fair to moderate with limited features present. Food service was fair to fairly good, best for fast food promotions. Supplies were at least adequate to close balanced. In the parts structure, trading was fair to moderate. Breast items and wings were in good balance and clearing. Dark meat was balanced to short and held confidently with a strong export demand. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at irregular, but mostly desirable weights.

**Preliminary report** of prices negotiated for trucklot sales of ready-to-cook broiler/fryers fob and delivered to first receivers at major market areas week of 02/09/04-02/13/04 (cents per lb)

US GRADE A (Including branded product)				
AREAS	MAJORITY	RANGE	WTD AVG	LOADS
Delivered to First Receivers				
Chicago	69.00-72.00	66.50-82.00	72.02	26
Los Angeles	76.00			
New York	76.00-78.00			
Southeast Area FOB Dock Equivalent				
Mississippi	70.00-72.00	65.00-75.00	70.93	82

**GEORGIA F.O.B. DOCK PRICES** Georgia f.o.b. dock quoted price on broilers/fryers for this week's trading is 71.00 cents based on ice-packed USDA grade "A" sized 2 1/2 to 3 pound birds.

PRELIMINARY FOB DOCK OR EQUIVALENT			
LOADS	RANGE	FRIDAY PRELIM. WTD. AVG.	
864	66.00-74.75	70.99	
Georgia f.o.b. dock confirmed preliminary weighted average price on ice packed parts:			
	WTD. AVG.	VOLUME	
ITEM	(CENTS PER POUND)	(000 POUNDS)	
LINE RUN TENDERS	215.00	1,360	
BREASTS - B/S	188.50	5,487	
BREASTS - WHOLE	97.50	1,457	
THIGH MEAT - B/S	107.00	1,010	
LEG QUARTERS	36.50	7,683	
WINGS	119.00	2,979	

This information is supplied by the Georgia Department of Agriculture's Poultry Market News Service.

**MIDWEST REGION BROILER/FRYERS** Preliminary majority prices for next week's deliveries into the Chicago area were unchanged. Whole broiler/fryer market tone was fully steady to firm. Offerings remained light with small weight whole fryers short of needs. Trade interest was light to moderate. Retail movement was in a full range, mostly fair. Food service demand was mostly moderate, instances fairly good into sports bars and fast food promotions. Floor stocks were in close balance, instances short to fully adequate. Weights were desirable to occasionally light. Parts trade was mixed, best for wings and dark meat items. Supplies remained balanced to tight. Trade sentiment was steady to firm, mostly fully steady to firm on all items.

**SOUTHERN BROILER** Trade sentiment was at least steady to fully steady. Demand entering the weekend was fair to moderate, best for ads and promotions. Supplies were balanced to well cleared. In the parts structure, trading was fair to fairly good. Dark meat was close to tight and clearing well, supported by strong export interest. Boneless skinless breast and wings were sufficient to short and well cleared. Bone-in breasts were about adequate. In production areas, live supplies were moderate at mixed, but mostly desirable weights.

**WESTERN REGION BROILER/FRYERS** The preliminary majority prices were unchanged from last Fridays' levels. Limited early trading reported for next weeks' deliveries at unchanged prices for regular commitments and higher for new negotiations. Offerings were in fairbalance. Buyers' interest was fair. Retailer demand was fair to fairly good best for parts and to cover feature activities. Dealers

anticipated moderate weekend carryovers. The market tone on parts was fully steady to firm with boneless breast and dark meat items in the strongest position.

Ads noted (per pound unless otherwise stated):

Arizona – not available;

Colorado – whole body 100, whole cut-up 100, roaster 100, drumstick 99-129, thigh 99-129, leg quarters 100, split breast 100, split breast 249 buy one get one, boneless breast 299, boneless breast tenders 499 and 3# IQF 699,

(deli food service – fried mixed 8 piece 499, 10 piece drumstick and thigh 399);

Idaho – boneless breast 197-349, 25 percent off 3-4# bag IQF product such as wings, thighs, drumsticks, breast tenderloins, boneless breast or split breast,

(deli food service – whole rotisserie chicken each 499);

Northern California – whole body 99, whole body organic 179, Cornish hen 149, roaster 129, boneless breast 399, boneless breast organic 599, drumstick organic 239, thigh organic 239;

Southern California – whole body 69-99, whole cut-up 99-119, Cornish hen marinated 149 each, boneless breast 399-468, boneless breast 3# bag IQF 687, boneless breast strips 98, boneless thigh meat 199, boneless leg meat 97-129, boneless leg meat pieces 99, split breast 97-129, whole leg 67, leg quarters 10# bag 290-370, thighs 67-169, drumsticks 59-169,

(deli food service – fried 8 piece mixed 399, whole rotisserie chicken each 399-549).

**NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYERS** Trucklot buying interest on ready-to-cook whole broiler/fryers was fair to moderate entering the weekend. Offerings of all sizes were at least adequate for current needs. Movement through retail and distributive channels was mostly fair. The market tone was no better than steady. In the parts complex, breast items were in very good balance, although, boneless-skinless breasts were noted in the stronger position. Dark meat cuts continued to clear very well under strong export demand. Wings and tenderloins were tight and commanding premiums.

**DELMARVA BROILER/FRYERS** Movement of ready-to-cook whole birds picked up entering the weekend and was mostly moderate. Seller offerings were adequate and in fairly good balance on the over 3.0 pound sizes; fully adequate to ample and somewhat slow to clear on the lighter weights. Live supplies were moderate; weights were desirable to light. Processing schedules were moderate. Less than trucklot asking prices were unchanged at 77 to 87 cents. Trade sentiment was no better than steady. In the parts complex, drums were available in spots. Most other items were in generally good balance to closely cleared.

\*BROILER/FRYER CURRENT NEGOTIATED PRICES FOR IMMEDIATE DELIVERY INCLUDES MOSTLY MULTIPLE-DROP SHIPMENTS OF BRANDED AND WING TAGGED TO NEW YORK CITY FROM DELMARVA. **BRANDED U.S. GRADE A**

RANGE		68-91
WEIGHTED AVERAGE		79.54
NO. OF BOXES		9,137
CUMULATIVE	02/02/04-02/06/04	80.35
	02/03/03-02/07/03	58.04
NO. OF BOXES	02/02/04-02/06/04	40,006
	02/03/03-02/07/03	39,657

\*7 of 7 plants reporting.

FEB 05

**SOUTHERN STATES BROILER/FRYER PARTS**

FEB 06

ITEM	POUNDS				POUNDS				WEEKLY	
	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG	(000)	WTD AVG
BREAST - B/S	902	177.00-258.00	178-182	186.47	870	180.00-258.00	180-185	190.35	4,359	186.64
TENDERLOINS	232	178.00-225.00	180-182	185.64	178	178.00-225.00	182-185	188.34	1,288	188.53
BREAST - LINE RUN	90	96.00-99.00	98-99	97.94	TOO FEW TO REPORT				458	97.69
FRONT HALVES	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				297	99.67
LEGS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				103	56.00-58.00	56-57	56.30	510	54.13
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	556	33.00-37.00	35-37	35.61	615	35.00-38.00	36-37	36.41	2,686	35.34
LEG QUARTERS (4/10)	910	35.00-39.00	38-39	38.08	1,180	37.00-40.00	38-39	38.08	5,200	37.06
WINGS (WHOLE)	307	118.00-123.00	118-119	119.55	281	118.00-123.00	119-120	119.33	1,449	118.91
WINGS (CUT)	527	130.00-141.00	133-135	135.46	603	130.00-141.00	134-139	135.61	2,520	135.54
DRUMSTICKS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				64	58.00-60.00	-	58.19	174	58.34
THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				TOO FEW TO REPORT				392	53.63
B/S THIGHS	TOO FEW TO REPORT				80	102.00-116.00	-	112.50	410	102.24

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 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS  
 TRADING FOR FEBRUARY 05, 2004 F.O.B. DOCK.

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 WHOLE BODY INDEX BASED ON SOUTHERN STATES PARTS  
 TRADING FOR FEBRUARY 06, 2004 F.O.B. DOCK.

**RANGE**                      **TODAY'S AVERAGE**  
 63.50 - 70.50                      67.88

**RANGE**                      **TODAY'S AVERAGE**                      **5-DAY AVERAGE**  
 64.50 - 71.50                      68.71                      67.52

The Index is intended solely as an indicator of values for commodity-type product and does not represent the industry's willingness to sell or ability to buy.

**NORTHEAST BROILER/FRYER PARTS** - Trucklot buying activity ranged fair to fairly good entering the weekend. Offerings of breast items remained in good balance with boneless-skinless breasts in the better position. Legs, leg quarters and thighs continued to clear well under strong export demand. Tenderloins and wings were closely cleared and held with confidence. Movement through retail and distributive channels was about fair. The market tone was fully steady to instances firm.

ICE PACKED B/F PARTS, DLVRD TO FIRST RECEIVERS IN POOL TRUCKLOT AND TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, CENTS PER LB.

FEB 06

ITEM	CURRENT NEG			WTD	CURRENT NEG			WTD	WEEKLY	
	TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		TRADING*	AVG**	VOL/LBS		WTD AVG	VOL/LBS
BREAST - B/S	180-185	178.26	584,680	185	181.15	621,258	178.33	3,116,053		
TENDERLOINS	175-180	164.70	135,980	180-185	176.51	198,660	167.05	820,270		
BREAST - WITH RIBS	95-96	100.71	202,760	95-96	100.92	147,520	101.16	770,720		
BREAST - LINE RUN	95	97.88	89,000	95	98.75	86,600	98.08	404,560		
LEGS	47-48	49.54	324,760	47-48	50.35	215,481	49.36	1,401,402		
LEG QUARTERS (BULK)	37-38	36.74	383,286	38-39	36.99	445,133	36.31	1,985,534		
DRUMSTICKS	40-41	45.01	182,000	40-41	46.37	159,500	44.85	795,360		
THIGHS	41-42	49.25	49,100	41-42	49.22	71,720	48.23	318,840		
B/S THIGHS	107-108	104.77	85,400	109-110	105.57	95,080	102.56	449,930		
WINGS (WHOLE)	114-115	119.00	168,229	114-115	120.69	123,994	119.44	739,753		
BACKS AND NECKS (STRIPPED)	10-12	11.97	30,640	10-12	12.08	42,920	12.03	183,840		
LIVERS (5 POUND TUBS)	35-40	33.60	17,880	35-40	33.20	18,560	33.87	81,120		
GIZZARDS (HEARTS)	60-65	68.54	23,080	60-65	70.09	23,640	69.49	113,950		

INCLUDES: NY CITY METRO. AREA, RI, NORTHERN NJ, MA, CT, PA (NORTHEAST OF HARRISBURG). \* TODAY'S NEG. SALES AS OF 11:30 A.M.

\*\* WTD AVG PRICE OF ALL GRADES AND BRANDS OF PRODUCT SHIPPE, OR TO BE SHIPPED AS OF 1:30 P.M.

**ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER OF BROILER-FRYERS (IN THOUSANDS)**

	ESTIMATED		ACTUAL		AVG WT		ACTUAL		AVG WTS	
	02/06	02/05	02/04	02/03	02/04	02/03	01/30	01/28		
ALA	3,942	3,849	3,772	3,777	5.17	5.25	4,245	5.29		
ARK	5,161	5,237	5,162	5,245	5.05	5.07	5,366	4.93		
DELMARVA	2,123	2,172	2,229	2,212	5.32	5.36	3,115	5.54		
KY-LA-TN	2,038	1,980	1,987	1,978	5.04	5.08	1,850	4.97		
MISS	2,627	3,017	2,907	2,955	5.46	5.48	2,681	5.43		
NC	3,095	2,448	2,405	2,438	6.33	6.39	4,661	6.23		
TEXAS	2,059	2,041	2,129	1,965	5.16	5.11	2,130	4.90		
TOTAL	21,045	20,744	20,591	20,570	5.32	5.35	24,048	5.26		
MON-FRI	104,509				102,181(B)					

(B) Weekly cumulative for states listed above.

Broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for 06-Feb 04 and 7-Feb-04 is estimated to be 31,486,000 down 12.75 percent from a week ago and up 10.5 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 36,086,000; last year 28,497,000)

Weekly broiler-fryer slaughter under federal inspection for the weekending 07-Feb-04 is estimated to be 151,288,000 head unchanged from a week ago, and up 1 percent from a year ago.

(Last week 150,873,000 Last year 150,335,000)

**SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (L.A. AREA) PROCESSED POULTRY, DELIVERED TO RETAILERS**

	RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	92-98
ROASTERS 4# & UP	81-95
HENS UNDER 5#	
HENS OVER 5#	63-66
DUCKS	
RABBITS-WHOLE	
RABBITS-CUT UP	

**SAN FRANCISCO PROCESSED POULTRY DELIVERED TO RESTAURANTS AND INSTITUTIONS**

		RANGE
FRESH FRYERS	DRY PACK	103-105
	ICE PACK	101-102
ROASTERS 4# & UP	DRY PACK	89-105
	ICE PACK	105-108
HENS OVER 5#	ICE PACK	91
	DRY PACK	89
DUCKS		152-175

**YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED** Under federal inspection, classified by live wt., week ending 24-Jan-04 (Preliminary),

	(A) Fast food/ Food service	(B) Retail	(C) Deboning
	4.20 Lbs & down	4.21-5.25 Lbs	5.26 Lbs & Up
-----THOUSANDS-----			

Head	20,395	20,515	38,099
Avg Weight	3.82	4.70	6.51
% of total /1	26%	26%	48%

**COMPARISONS**

Last week	20,621	18,011	36,688
Avg Weight	3.76	4.78	6.16
% of total /1	27%	24%	49%

Same week, yr ago /2	21,565	21,968	46,844
Avg Weight	3.87	4.74	6.24
% of total /1	24%	24%	52%

To date/2004	60,642	58,839	114,671
To date/2003	57,984	58,317	114,922

/1 May not total to 100% due to rounding. /2 Comparable week.

(A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include cornish hens.

(B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.

(C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

**LIVE POULTRY SLTRD UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION** W/E 31-Jan-04 (PRELIMINARY)

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS	DUCKS
-----THOUSANDS-----					
HEAD	150,873	1,274	1,255	2,529	444
AVG WT	5.26	3.50	8.02	5.74	6.42
LAST WEEK	147,528	1,429	1,228	2,657	489
SAME WK YR AGO	151,181	1,579	1,443	3,022	440
AVG WT	5.21	3.58	7.38	5.21	7.02
TO-DATE/2004	614,714	5,487	5,073	10,560	1,786
TO-DATE/2003	600,996	6,902	5,653	12,555	1,669

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 158.4 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 152.7 million head or 5.7 million head less than or 96% of estimated fryers available.

**GRAYSTONE SMALL ANIMAL AUCTION** - Weekly: FEB 03, 2004

	RANGE		RANGE
Muscovy Ducks - Drakes	1.20 - 1.25	Pigeons	2.25 - 2.35 ea.
Muscovy Ducks - Hens	1.00 - 1.10	White Pigeons	5.10 ea.
Pekin Ducks	3.00 - 3.50 ea.	Rabbits	
Red Fowl 4-5 LBS	.40 - .60	4-6 LBS	1.50 - 1.60
Red Fowl 5-6 LBS	.70 - 1.05	Rabbits	
Crossbred Roosters		6-9 LBS	1.20 - 1.30
7-11 LBS	.80 - .84	Bunnies	1.75 - 4.00 ea.
Guinea Fowl	1.60 - 1.65	Guinea Pigs	5.50 - 8.00 ea.
Banty Hens	4.00 ea.	Pullets	
		4-6 LBS	1.50 - 1.60
		Total Coops Sold	140

**EASTERN REGION MISCELLANEOUS POULTRY**

FOR CURRENT DELIVERY FOR THE WEEK OF 02-FEB-2003

**DUCKLINGS:** PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A, 4-5 POUNDS, DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
LONG ISLAND	137-140	144-146
MOSTLY		
MIDWEST	124-128	125-130
MOSTLY		

**ROASTERS:** PRICES NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS, US GRADE A AND PLANT GRADE, 5 POUNDS AND UP, DELIVERED

	RANGE	MOSTLY
ICE PACKED (12 PER BOX)	76.00-79.50	78.00-79.00
VACUUM PACKED (6-9 PER BOX)	63.00-85.00	67.00-75.00

**SQUABS:** NEW YORK AREA WHOLESALE PRICES, FROZEN, PLANT GRADE, DOLLARS PER DOZEN, 1 TO 10 BOXES

12 OZ.	60.48-71.28
14 OZ.	66.96-77.92
16 OZ.	73.44-86.67

THE EASTERN REGION INCLUDES:

CT,DE,FL,GA,MA,MD,ME,NC,NH,NJ,NY,PA RI,SC,VA,VT,WV

**CENTRAL REGION DUCKLINGS** Prices unchanged. Trade sentiment steady to fully steady. Demand was fairly good to good due mostly to tighter supply following the Chinese new year. Schedules usually full-time. Weights were desirable. Prices paid to first receivers for 10-18oz boneless breast at \$4.25-5.25, bone in legs at \$1.35-1.45, gizzards at \$1.35-1.40, wings at \$0.30-0.45, livers at \$0.75-1.70, and feet at \$0.80-1.15.

NEGOTIATED BY FIRST RECEIVERS FOR US GRADE A DELIVERED IN TRUCKLOT AND POOL TRUCKLOT QUANTITIES, 4-5 POUNDS, WEEK OF 02-FEB-2003

ORIGIN	FROZEN	FRESH
MIDWEST AND OTHERS	107-124	125
MOSTLY		

**ESTIMATED U.S. SLAUGHTER COMPARED TO ESTIMATED FRYERS AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING.**

WEEK ENDING	MILLION HEAD SLAUGHTERED	MILLION HEAD AVAILABLE	PCT	AVG WT	
DECEMBER 27	114.4	145.8	78%	5.22	
JANUARY 3	136.5	147.1	93%	5.15	
	10	160.8	151.1	106%	5.17
	17	159.4	156.3	102%	5.20
	24	149.3	157.4	95%	5.24
	31	152.7	158.4	96%	5.26
YEAR TO DATE	622.2	623.2	100%		
FEBRUARY 7		159.1			
	14	158.5			

**BROILER/CATTLE/HOG WEEKLY ESTIMATED SLAUGHTER**

	Under Federal Inspection				
	-----THOUSANDS-----				
W/E	02/07/04	01/31/04	% CHG	02/08/03	% CHG
Broilers	151,288	150,873*	0	150,335*	+01
Cattle	601	602	0	651*	-08
Hogs	1,929	1,921	0	1,885	+02
*ACTUAL					

**NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET** Majority prices were unchanged on both heavy and light cannery when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate. Trading was limited. Available offerings were well cleared. Processing schedules were normal. The undertone was steady.

CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, WITHOUT FREIGHT COST

<b>LIGHT CANNER HENS</b> <b>(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)</b> 21-26.5 MAJORITY 23.5-24.5	<b>HEAVY CANNER HENS</b> <b>(WITHOUT NECKS)</b> 31.5-37.5 MAJORITY 34-35
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CENTS PER POUND, CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS, FREIGHT COST INCLUDED

<b>LIGHT CANNER HENS</b> <b>(LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)</b> 23-29 MAJORITY 26-27	<b>HEAVY CANNER HENS</b> <b>(WITHOUT NECKS)</b> 33-39 MAJORITY 36.5-37.5
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**LIGHT TYPE HENS**

CENTS PER HEAD, GENERALLY FOR REMOVAL WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS (INCLUDES HANDLING, FREIGHT AND ANY OTHER CHARGES, WEIGHTS AVERAGE ABOUT 3.50 POUNDS)

**EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HEN** Majority values were generally unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was moderate. Offerings of spent fowl were mostly adequate. Processing schedules were noted as normal. Opinions on removal cost were generally steady.

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>
REMOVAL COST	0-12	9-11

**SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN** Trading was too few to report. Demand was light for fully adequate offerings of light hens. Schedules were normal. Finished sales were only fair. Opinions of salvage costs were about steady.

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>
REMOVAL COST	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

**NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HEN** Removal costs were unchanged. Offerings were adequate to fully adequate with demand moderate to good. Opinions of value were steady.

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>
REMOVAL COST	0-7	5.5-7

**HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) \***

PRELIMINARY PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 09-FEB-04

**SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN** Sales were too few to report prices. Demand was moderate for offerings that were generally adequate. Processing schedules were reported as mostly normal for next week. Supplies of finished product were clearing satisfactorily.

The undertone was steady.	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

**SOUTH CENTRAL LIVE HEAVY-TYPE HENS** Negotiations were too few to report. Demand was moderate for adequate offerings of spent heavy hens. Slaughter schedules were normal. Finished sales were clearing well. Trade sentiment was at least steady.

	<b>RANGE</b>	<b>MAJORITY</b>
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

**WEST COAST LIGHT LIVE HEN** Plant schedules moderate. Offerings adequate.

**USDA, AMS, POULTRY PROGRAMS,  
POULTRY MARKET NEWS OFFICES**

<b>Washington, DC</b>	Voice	(202)720-6911	Mike Sheats
	Fax	(202)720-2403	(Chief)
<b>Atlanta, GA</b>	Voice	(404)562-5850	Johnny Freeman
	Fax	(404)562-5875	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(404)562-5856	
<b>Jackson, MS</b>	Voice	(601)965-4662	Gary Brown
	Fax	(601)965-4661	(Southern States Area Supervisor)
<b>Des Moines, IA</b>	Voice	(515)284-4471	Mary L. Adkins
	Fax	(515)284-4468	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(515)284-4545	
<b>Los Angeles, CA</b>	Voice	(213)534-1330	Jim Derby
	Fax	(213)534-1333	(Officer-In-Charge)
	Recorded	(213)534-1335	