



LIFE AFTER WIFE

EMMY® WINNER DEBRA MESSING BRINGS *THE STARTER WIFE* TO SHOWCASE

Series Premieres with Two-Hour Special Event
Wednesday, October 22 at 10pm ET/PT

Toronto –October 7, 2008 – Breaking up is hard to do... especially in Hollywood. *The Starter Wife*, the ultimate “get over it, move on, pick yourself back up, you’re better off,” series starring Debra Messing joins the Showcase fall schedule. After stellar ratings and Emmy success for the 2007 miniseries, USA Network commissioned ten exciting episodes that will air exclusively on **Showcase** in Canada. *The Starter Wife* premieres with a special two-hour episode on **Wednesday, October 22 at 10pm ET/PT**.

The addictive series focuses on the post-divorce adventures of Molly Kagan (Messing), the jilted wife of a movie studio executive who discovers a world of exciting and slightly frightening possibilities after she is abandoned by the Hollywood community that once adored her. The official first season finds Molly, having sworn off men, deciding to get serious about a writing career. Luckily, she has her loyal friends by her side to help keep her on track.

Reprising their roles on *The Starter Wife* is three-time Emmy Award®-winner Judy Davis as Joan McAllister and Chris Diamantopoulos as Rodney - Molly's two best friends. Davis won an Emmy® for Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Miniseries or Movie for her role as Joan in 2007. Joe Mantegna also returns as Lou Manahan, former studio head and former boyfriend of Molly. New to the series are David Alan Basche (*Lipstick Jungle*) as Kenny Kagan, Molly's ex-husband; Danielle Nicolet (*Heartland*) as Liz Marsh, Molly's new friend and **Canadian Hart Bochner** (*Die Hard*) as Zach, Molly's new love interest.

“Not only does Debra Messing shine in the role that brings her back to the small screen, but *The Starter Wife* ropes viewers in with an entertaining, irreverent look at what happens when you lose a status that has defined you,” says Daniel Eves, Vice President, Strategic Scheduling, Specialty, Canwest Broadcasting. “By portraying the starting over process in such a stylish, sexy and funny way, it’s easy to see why *The Starter Wife* is an audience and Emmy success. It’s an excellent addition to Showcase’s fall schedule and viewers are going to love it.”

Guest stars this season include Eddie Cibrian (*Ugly Betty*, *Third Watch*) as a detective investigating some suspicious events in Molly’s life, Reggie Austin (*Notes from the Underbelly*), as Devon Marsh, Liz’s husband; Ronny Cox (*The Agency*) as Pappy, Joan’s husband; Daniel Gerroll (*Cashmere Mafia*) as David Shea, a controversial movie star who Joan meets in rehab; James Black (*All of Us*) as Felix, a successful action star with a secret; Krista Allen (*Unscripted*) as Eve, Molly’s nemesis at her daughter’s school; and Alia Shawkat (*Arrested*

Development) as Robin, a troubled girl that Joan befriends in rehab.

The Starter Wife is based on the New York Times bestselling novel by Gigi Levangie Grazer.

For additional information and images for ***The Starter Wife*** and other Showcase series, please log on to the Canwest Media site at:

www.canwesttvmedia.com

login: canwest

password: publicity

About Canwest Broadcasting:

Canwest Broadcasting operates two conventional television networks, Global Television and E!, and twenty of the country's most popular specialty channels, including HGTV, Mystery TV, National Geographic Channel, Showcase, Slice™ and TVtropolis. Canwest Broadcasting is a division of Canwest Media Inc.

About Canwest Media Inc.

Canwest Media Inc is a subsidiary of Canwest Global Communications Corp. (www.canwest.com; TSX: CGS and CGS.A). An international media company, Canwest is Canada's largest publisher of paid English language daily newspapers and owns, operates and/or holds substantial interests in conventional television, out-of-home advertising, specialty cable channels, web sites and radio stations in Canada, New Zealand, Australia, Turkey, Indonesia, Singapore, the United Kingdom and the United States.

-30-

For media inquiries, please contact:

Michelle Lemmon
Publicity Coordinator
Canwest Broadcasting
(416) 934-6933
mlemmon@canwest.com

Jessica Gold
Publicist
Canwest Broadcasting
(416) 967-3110
jgold@canwest.com

Amy Waters
Senior Publicist
Canwest Broadcasting
(416) 934-7079
awaters@canwest.com