# SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION 

Washington, D.C. 20549
FORM 8-K
CURRENT REPORT

## PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE

 SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934Date of Report (Date of earliest event reported) March 11, 2004 (March 8, 2004)
GRAY TELEVISION, INC.

| (Exact Name of Registrant as Specified in its Charter) |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Georgia | 0-13796 | 58-0285030 |
| (State or Other Jurisdiction of Incorporation) | (Commission File Number) | (IRS Employer Identification No.) |
| 4370 Peachtree Road, Atlanta, Georgia |  | 30319 |
| (Address of Principal Executive Offices) |  | (Zip Code) |

Registrant's telephone number, including area code (404) 504-9828

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## Item 7. Financial Statements, Pro Forma Financial Information and Exhibits.

(c) Exhibits
99.1 Press Release of Gray Television, Inc. issued March 8, 2004.

## Item 12. Results of Operations and Financial Condition.

The information set forth under this Item 12 is being furnished and shall not be deemed "filed" for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference in any filing under the Securities Act of 1933, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

On March 8, 2004, Gray Television, Inc. issued a press release reporting its financial results for the fourth quarter ended December 31, 2003. A copy of the press release is hereby attached as Exhibit 99.1 and incorporated herein by reference.

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## SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned hereunto duly authorized.
GRAY TELEVISION, INC (Registrant)

By: /s/ James C. Ryan
James C. Ryan, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

## EXHIBIT INDEX

99.1 Press Release of Gray Television, Inc. issued March 8, 2004.

## GRAY REPORTS OPERATING RESULTS

FOR THE THREE MONTHS AND YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2003
ATLANTA, GEORGIA - MARCH 8, 2004 . . . GRAY TELEVISION, INC. (THE "COMPANY") (NYSE: GTN) today announced its results for the three months ("fourth quarter") and year ended December 31, 2003.

The Company's reported results for 2003 reflect the impact of the acquisition of Stations Holding Company, Inc., on October 25 2002, comprising 15 network affiliated television stations serving 13 television markets and the acquisition on December 18, 2002 of KOLO-TV, the ABC affiliate serving Reno, Nevada. Both acquisitions are collectively referred to as the "2002
Acquisitions". The Company has also provided information on its operating results on a "pro forma" basis which gives effect to the 2002 Acquisitions as if they had occurred on January 1, 2002 (see Note 1).

FOURTH QUARTER OF 2003 COMPARED TO THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 2002
Revenues. Total revenues for the three months ended December 31, 2003 increased $6 \%$ to $\$ 80.4$ million as compared to the corresponding period of the prior year primarily reflecting the impact of the 2002 Acquisitions. Broadcasting revenues increased $7 \%$ to $\$ 66.5$ million. The stations acquired in 2002 had revenue of $\$ 35.1$ million in the fourth quarter of 2003 compared to $\$ 25.4$ million from the respective acquisition date in 2002 through December 31, 2002. For the television stations that were owned continuously for the quarters ended December 31, 2003 and 2002, total revenue for 2003 decreased $\$ 5.3$ million, or $14 \%$. This decrease primarily reflects the net result of increases in local and national advertising revenue of approximately $7 \%$ and $8 \%$, respectively, offset by a decrease in political advertising revenue of $88 \%$ or $\$ 6.9$ million. On a pro forma basis, total broadcasting revenues decreased $12 \%$ from the pro forma results of the fourth quarter of 2002. Broadcasting local and national revenues increased approximately $9 \%$ and $6 \%$ respectively from the pro forma results of 2002 while political advertising revenue decreased $\$ 12.8$ million to $\$ 2.3$ million from the pro forma results for the fourth quarter of 2002.

Operating expenses. Operating expenses before depreciation, amortization and certain other non-cash charges increased $13 \%$ to $\$ 51.5$ million primarily reflecting the impact of the 2002 Acquisitions. Broadcasting expenses increased 18\% to $\$ 39.4$ million. The stations acquired in 2002 had broadcast expense of $\$ 20.2$ million in the fourth quarter of 2003 compared to $\$ 13.2$ million from the respective acquisition date in 2002 through December 31, 2002. For the television stations that were owned continuously for the quarters ended December 31, 2003 and 2002, broadcast expenses decreased $4 \%$ from the prior period. On a pro forma basis, broadcasting operating expenses decreased $2 \%$ from the prior period.

4370 Peachtree Road, NE * Atlanta, GA 30319
(404) 504-9828 * Fax (404) 261-9607

Revenues. Total revenues for the year ended December 31, 2003 increased $49 \%$ to $\$ 295.4$ million as compared to the same period of the prior year primarily reflecting the impact of the 2002 Acquisitions. Broadcasting revenues increased $66 \%$ to $\$ 243.1$ million. The stations acquired in 2002 had revenue of $\$ 127.9$ million for 2003 compared to $\$ 25.4$ million from the respective acquisition date in 2002 through December 31, 2002. For the television stations that were owned continuously for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002, total revenue for 2003 decreased $\$ 6.2$ million, or $5 \%$. This decrease primarily reflects the net result of increases in local and national advertising revenue of $5 \%$ and $4 \%$, respectively, offset by a decrease in political advertising revenue of $82 \%$ or $\$ 10.8$ million. On a pro forma basis total broadcasting revenues decreased $4 \%$ from the pro forma results for the full year of 2002. Broadcasting local and national revenue increased approximately $5 \%$ and $4 \%$, respectively from the pro forma results of 2002 while political advertising revenue decreased $\$ 19.7$ million to $\$ 5.7$ million from the pro forma results for the full year of 2002 .

Operating expenses. Operating expenses before depreciation, amortization and certain other non-cash charges increased $53 \%$ to $\$ 191.7$ million primarily reflecting the impact of the 2002 Acquisitions. Broadcasting expenses increased $78 \%$ to $\$ 145.7$ million. The stations acquired in 2002 had broadcast expense of $\$ 76.4$ million for 2003 compared to $\$ 13.2$ million from the respective acquisition date in 2002 through December 31, 2002. For the television stations that were owned continuously for the years ended December 31, 2003 and 2002, broadcast expenses increased $1 \%$. On a pro forma basis broadcasting operating expenses decreased $1 \%$ from the prior year.

## BALANCE SHEET

Total debt outstanding at December 31, 2003 was $\$ 655.9$ million compared to $\$ 658.2$ million at December 31, 2002. The Company's cash balance was $\$ 11.9$ million at December 31, 2003 compared to $\$ 12.9$ million at December 31, 2002.

## SETTLEMENT OF IRS LITIGATION

In January 2004, the Company settled its litigation with the IRS relating to the acquisition of certain television assets in 1996. The settlement requires no cash payments from the Company. The Company agreed in the settlement to forego certain claimed depreciation and amortization deductions relating to the 1996 through 1999 tax years, which in turn resulted in a reduction of the Company's current federal income tax net operating loss carryforwards by approximately $\$ 16.3$ million. After giving effect to the settlement, the Company's federal net operating loss carryforwards approximate $\$ 190$ million. During the three months ended December 31, 2003, the Company recorded a non-cash charge to decrease its deferred tax assets by approximately $\$ 5.8$ million to reflect this settlement. As a result of the settlement, the Company is also entitled to collect a previously claimed federal tax cash refund from 1996 of approximately $\$ 1.2$ million, plus statutory interest.

Gray Television, Inc.
Earnings Release for the Three Months and
Year ended December 31, 2003

The Company has restated its 2002 and 2001 consolidated financial statements for the items discussed below. These restatements had no impact on cash or on income (loss) before cumulative effect of accounting change.

Reclassification Between Broadcast Licenses and Goodwill for Acquisitions Prior to 2002

Broadcast licenses of television stations acquired by the Company prior to January 1, 2002 were valued using a residual value methodology where the excess of the purchase price over the fair value of all identified tangible and intangible assets was attributed to the broadcast license. In applying this methodology, the Company previously reported deferred tax liabilities for the excess of book over tax basis of assets acquired with a corresponding increase in goodwill. The Company has determined that, instead of recognizing that amount as additional goodwill, the amount should have been included with the residual amount attributed to the broadcast license. Accordingly, the Company has restated its December 31, 2002 balance sheet to reflect the reclassification of approximately $\$ 36.4$ million of amounts previously reported as "goodwill" to "broadcast licenses". This reclassification, in turn, created additional book over tax basis of the broadcast licenses, requiring recognition of additional deferred tax liabilities and recognition of a corresponding increase in the amount of broadcast licenses. This grossing up effect resulted in an additional increase to broadcast licenses and an increase to deferred tax liabilities of approximately $\$ 29.0$ million at December 31, 2002.

Revision of the Initial Transition Impairment Charge Calculation Upon Adoption of SFAS 142

The adjustment mentioned above and the correction of certain other computational errors in the initial transition impairment calculation caused the pre-tax impairment charge as of January 1, 2002 to increase from $\$ 39.5$ million to $\$ 39.9$ million and caused the related tax benefit to increase from $\$ 8.9$ million to $\$ 13.2$ million. Therefore, the cumulative effect of accounting change of $\$ 30.6$ million previously reported in the statement of operations for the year ended December 31, 2002 has been restated and is now reduced to $\$ 26.6$ million. This net adjustment was recorded as an increase in broadcast licenses of \$6.4 million, an increase in deferred taxes of $\$ 2.4$ million and a decrease in the cumulative effect of accounting change of $\$ 4.0$ million.

Gray Television, Inc.
Earnings Release for the Three Months and Year ended December 31, 2003

The following table summarizes the effects of the restatements
discussed above. These restatements had no impact on cash or on income (loss)
before cumulative effect of accounting change. (Dollars in thousands except per share data):

BALANCE SHEET AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2002

| AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED | AS RESTATED |
| :---: | :---: |

## ASSETS:

Broadcast licenses
Goodwill
Other intangible assets, net
Total assets
LIABILITIES:
Deferred income taxes
Total liabilities
STOCKHOLDERS' EQUITY:
Retained deficit
Total stockholders' equity

| $\$$ | 878,631 |
| ---: | ---: |
| $\$$ | 173,341 |
| $\$$ | 8,900 |
| $\$$ | $1,296,724$ |
|  |  |
| $\$$ | 174,765 |
| $\$$ | 888,114 |
|  |  |
| $\$$ | 28,176 |
| $\$$ | 369,420 |

$$
950,321
$$

$$
\begin{array}{r}
73,341 \\
8.900
\end{array}
$$

$$
136,969
$$

$$
1,296,724
$$

8,905

$$
1,332,048
$$

$$
206,143
$$

$$
919,492
$$

28,176
24, 230
373, 366

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002 AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED AS RESTATED

| $\$$ | $(30,592)$ | $\$$ | $(26,646)$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\$$ | $(27,887)$ | $\$$ | $(23,941)$ |
| $\$$ | $(34,317)$ | $\$$ | $(30,371)$ |
| $\$$ | $(1.55)$ | $\$$ | $(1.37)$ |
| $\$$ | $(1.53)$ | $\$$ | $(1.37)$ |

For the year ended December 31, 2001 the Company has restated its intangible asset amortization expense and its income tax benefit increasing each by $\$ 958,000$ to reflect, in that period, the impact of the reclassification between broadcast licenses and goodwill plus the related "tax-on-tax" gross-up mentioned above.

## RECLASSIFICATIONS

Certain prior year amounts have been reclassified to conform with the 2003 presentation. Specifically, the Company has reclassified amounts relating to the loss on disposal of assets from miscellaneous income (expense) to a separate line item entitled "Loss on disposal of assets, net" included in operating expenses.

Gray Television, Inc.
Earnings Release for the Three Months and Year ended December 31, 2003

The Company currently anticipates that its results of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2004 will approximate the ranges presented in the table below.
Dollars in Thousands

## OPERATING REVENUES

Broadcasting (less agency commissions)
Publishing
Paging
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES
OPERATING EXPENSES
Operating expenses before depreciation and amortization Broadcasting
Publishing
Paging
Corporate
Depreciation and amortization
Amortization of restricted stock award
Loss on disposal of assets
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES
OPERATING INCOME

The Company currently estimates that net political revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2004 will range between $\$ 2.3$ million and $\$ 2.5$ million compared to $\$ 741,000$ earned in the three months ending March 31, 2003. Such estimate for 2004 is included in the broadcast operating revenue estimates presented above. In addition the Company currently estimates that non-cash 401(k) plan expense will range between $\$ 475,000$ and $\$ 550,000$ for the three months March 31, 2004 and such estimate is included in the operating expense estimates presented above.

For the full year of 2004, the Company currently anticipates that total operating expenses before depreciation, amortization and certain other non-cash charges will increase approximately $3 \%$ over the results for 2003. The Company currently anticipates that broadcast operating expenses for the full year of 2004 will increase approximately $3.5 \%$ over the results for 2003 . These increased operating costs primarily reflect general increases in payroll and related employee benefit costs as well as sales commissions on political revenue sold by national sales representatives.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:
BOB PRATHER
PRESIDENT AND CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER
(404) 266-8333

JIM RYAN
SENIOR V. P. AND CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
(404) 504-9828

WEB SITE: WWW.graytvinc.com

## CONFERENCE CALL INFORMATION

Gray Television, Inc. will host a conference call to discuss its fourth quarter operating results on March 8, 2004. The call will begin at 11:00 AM Eastern Time. The live dial-in number is (877) 888-3855 and the reservation number is T485854G. The call will be webcast live and available for replay at www.graytvinc.com. The taped replay of the conference call will be available at (888) 509-0081 until March 22, 2004.

THE COMPANY
Gray Television, Inc. is a communications company headquartered in Atlanta, Georgia, and currently owns 29 television stations serving 25 television markets. The stations include 15 CBS affiliates, seven NBC affiliates and seven ABC affiliates. Gray Television, Inc. has 22 stations ranked \#1 in local news audience and 22 stations ranked \#1 in overall audience within their respective markets based on the results of the Nielsen November 2003 ratings reports. The TV station group reaches approximately 5.3\% of total U.S. TV households. The Company also owns four daily newspapers, three in Georgia and one in Indiana.

Gray Television, Inc.
Earnings Release for the Three Months and Year ended December 31, 2003


SELECTED BALANCE SHEET DATA:

Cash and cash equivalents
Total Debt (2)
Total debt net of cash

DECEMBER 31,

| 2003 | 2002 |
| :---: | :---: |
| \$ 11,947 | \$ 12,915 |
| 655,902 | 658,220 |
| 643,955 | 645,305 |

Gray Television, Inc.
Earnings Release for the Three Months and Year ended December 31, 2003
SELECTED OPERATING DATA:
OPERATING REVENUES
Broadcasting (less agency commissions)
Publishing
Paging
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUES
OPERATING EXPENSES
Operating expenses before depreciation and amortization
Broadcasting
Publishing
Paging
Corporate and administrative
Depreciation and amortization
Amortization of restricted stock award
Loss on disposal of assets
TOTAL oPERATING EXPENSES

Operating income

Miscellaneous income, net
Appreciation in value of derivatives, net
Interest expense
Loss on early extinguishment of debt
INCOME BEFORE INCOME TAXES AND
CUMULATIVE EFFECT OF ACCOUNTING CHANGE
Income tax expense
NET INCOME BEFORE CUMULATIVE
EFFECT OF ACCOUNTING CHANGE
Cumulative effect of accounting change, net
of $\$ 13,215$ income tax benefit
NET INCOME (LOSS)
Preferred dividends
Preferred dividends associated with the redemption of preferred stock

NET INCOME (LOSS) AVAILABLE TO COMMON STOCKHOLDERS

DILUTED PER SHARE INFORMATION:
Net income (loss) before cumulative effect of accounting change available to common stockholders
Cumulative effect of accounting change, net of income taxes

Net income (loss) per share available to common stockholders

Weighted average shares outstanding

OTHER SELECTED DATA
POLITICAL REVENUE


Gray Television, Inc.
Earnings Release for the Three Months and
Year ended December 31, 2003

NOTES:

Note 1. "As Reported" and "Pro forma"
Information in this earnings release has been presented under two different methods: as reported and pro forma. The as reported basis of presentation gives effect to the acquisitions as of their respective acquisition dates. The pro forma presentation gives effect to the acquisitions of Stations Holding Company, Inc. which occurred on October 25, 2002 and KOLO-TV which occurred on December 18, 2002 as if each had occurred on January 1, 2002. Accordingly, the pro forma presentation combines the Company's historical results of operations with the respective acquired operation's historical pre-acquisition operating results. Certain amounts of corporate overhead were eliminated in the pro forma presentation. Depreciation and amortization expense in the pro forma presentation give effect to accounting for the respective acquisitions. Pro forma income tax expense or benefit assumes an effective tax rate of $38 \%$ on the pro forma incremental net pre-tax income or loss. Pro forma interest expense and shares outstanding give effect to the company's issuance of additional debt and common equity to finance, in part, the acquisitions. An unaudited reconciliation between the as reported and the pro forma condensed consolidated statements of operations for the three months and year ended December 31, 2002 follows:

| Data in Thousands | THREE MONTHS ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | AS REPORTED | EFFECT OF ACQUISITIONS | PRO FORMA |
| Operating revenues |  |  |  |
| Broadcasting (less agency commissions) | \$ 62,173 | \$ 13, 231 | \$ 75,404 |
| Publishing | 11,583 | -0- | 11,583 |
| Paging | 2,070 | -0- | 2,070 |
| Total operating revenues | 75,826 | 13,231 | 89, 057 |
| Operating expenses before depreciation and amortization |  |  |  |
| Broadcasting | 33,374 | 6,793 | 40, 167 |
| Publishing | 8,373 | -0- | 8,373 |
| Paging | 1,684 | -0- | 1,684 |
| Corporate and administrative | 2,322 | 384 | 2,706 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 6,663 | $(1,160)$ | 5,503 |
| Loss on disposal of assets | 592 | -0- | 592 |
| Total operating expenses | 53, 008 | 6,017 | 59, 025 |
| Operating income | 22,818 | 7,214 | 30, 032 |
| Miscellaneous income, net | 141 | -0- | 141 |
| Interest expense | $(10,759)$ | (895) | $(11,654)$ |
| Loss on early extinguishment of debt | $(5,563)$ | -0- | $(5,563)$ |
| Income before income tax | 6,637 | 6,319 | 12,956 |
| Income tax expense | 2,682 | 2,402 | 5, 084 |
| Net income | 3,955 | 3,917 | 7,872 |
| Preferred dividends | 858 | -0- | 858 |
| Net income available to common stockholders | \$ 3, 097 | \$ 3,917 | \$ 7,014 |
| Diluted weighted average shares outstanding | 41,232 | 9,049 | 50,281 |
| Other Selected Data: |  |  |  |
| Broadcast Revenue |  |  |  |
| Local | \$ 31,760 | \$ 6,351 | \$ 38, 111 |
| National | 15,193 | 2,427 | 17,620 |
| Network compensation | 2,441 | 251 | 2,692 |
| Political | 11,213 | 3,849 | 15,062 |
| Other | 1,566 | 353 | 1,919 |
| Total Broadcast Revenue | \$ 62,173 | \$ 13, 231 | \$ 75,404 |


| Data in Thousands | YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2002 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | AS RESTATED | EFFECT OF ACQUISITIONS | PRO FORMA |
| Operating revenues |  |  |  |
| Broadcasting (less agency commissions) | \$ 146,714 | \$ 107,110 | \$ 253, 824 |
| Publishing | 43,657 | -0- | 43,657 |
| Paging | 8,269 | -0- | 8,269 |
| Total operating revenues | 198,640 | 107,110 | 305,750 |
| Operating expenses before depreciation and amortization |  |  |  |
| Broadcasting | 81,996 | 64,652 | 146,648 |
| Publishing | 31,583 | -0- | 31,583 |
| Paging | 5,798 | -0- | 5,798 |
| Corporate and administrative | 5,607 | 3,403 | 9,010 |
| Depreciation and amortization | 17,728 | 4,424 | 22,152 |
| Loss on disposal of assets | 699 | -0- | 699 |
| Total operating expenses | 143,411 | 72,479 | 215,890 |
| Operating income | 55,229 | 34,631 | 89,860 |
| Miscellaneous income, net | 303 | -0- | 303 |
| Appreciation in value of derivatives, net | 1,581 | -0- | 1,581 |
| Interest expense | $(35,674)$ | $(14,057)$ | $(49,731)$ |
| Loss on early extinguishment of debt | $(16,838)$ | -0- | $(16,838)$ |
| Income (loss) before income tax and cumulative effect of accounting change | 4,601 | 20,574 | 25,175 |
| Income tax expense (benefit) | 1,896 | 7,819 | 9,715 |
| Net income (loss) before cumulative effect of accounting change | 2,705 | 12,755 | 15,460 |
| Cumulative effect of accounting change, net of $\$ 13,215$ income tax benefit | $(26,646)$ | -0- | $(26,646)$ |
| Net income (loss) | $(23,941)$ | 12,755 | $(11,186)$ |
| Preferred dividends | 6,430 | -0- | 6,430 |
| Net income (loss) available to common stockholders | \$ (30,371) | \$ 12,755 | \$ (17, 616) |
| Diluted weighted average shares outstanding | 22,127 | 28, 085 | 50,462 |
| Other Selected Data: |  |  |  |
| Broadcast Revenue |  |  |  |
| Local | \$ 79,631 | 62,663 | 142,294 |
| National | 39,288 | 28,528 | 67,816 |
| Network compensation | 6,422 | 2,917 | 9,339 |
| Political | 16,612 | 8,737 | 25,349 |
| Other | 4,761 | 4,265 | 9,026 |
| Total Broadcast Revenue | \$ 146, 714 | \$ 107,110 | \$ 253, 824 |

Note 2. Debt
Total debt as of December 31, 2003 and December 31, 2002 does not include \$1.2 million and $\$ 1.3$ million, respectively, of unamortized debt discount on the Company's 9 1/4\% Senior Subordinated Notes due March 2011.

CAUTIONARY STATEMENTS FOR PURPOSES OF THE "SAFE HARBOR" PROVISIONS OF THE PRIVATE SECURITIES LITIGATION REFORM ACT

The preceding comments on Gray's current expectations of operating results for the first quarter of 2004 are "forward looking" for purposes of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Actual results of operations are subject to a number of risks and may differ materially from the current expectations discussed in this press release. See the Company's annual report on Form 10-K for a discussion of risk factors that may affect the Company.

