

Schein et al.

[54] ELECTRONIC PROGRAM GUIDE WITH INTERACTIVE AREAS

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- [*] Notice: This patent issued on a continued prosecution application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d), and is subject to the twenty year patent term provisions of 35 U.S.C. 154(a)(2).
- [21] Appl. No.: 08/906,073
- [22] Filed: Aug. 5, 1997

Related U.S. Application Data

- [60] Provisional application No. 60/022,436, Aug. 6, 1996.

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[45] Date of Patent: *Nov. 21, 2000

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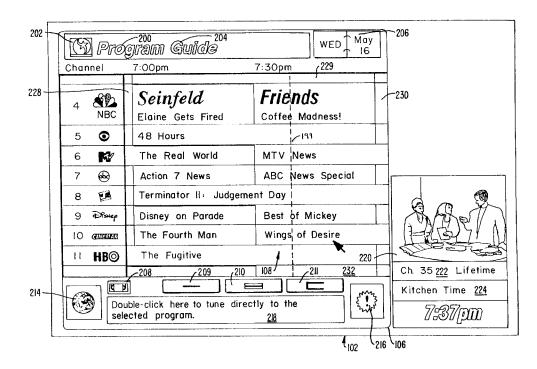
International Preliminary Examination Report dated Oct. 15, 1998 from the corresponding PCT application (PCT/US97/13751).

Primary Examiner—Thomas G. Black Assistant Examiner—Uyen Le Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Christie, Parker & Hale, LLP

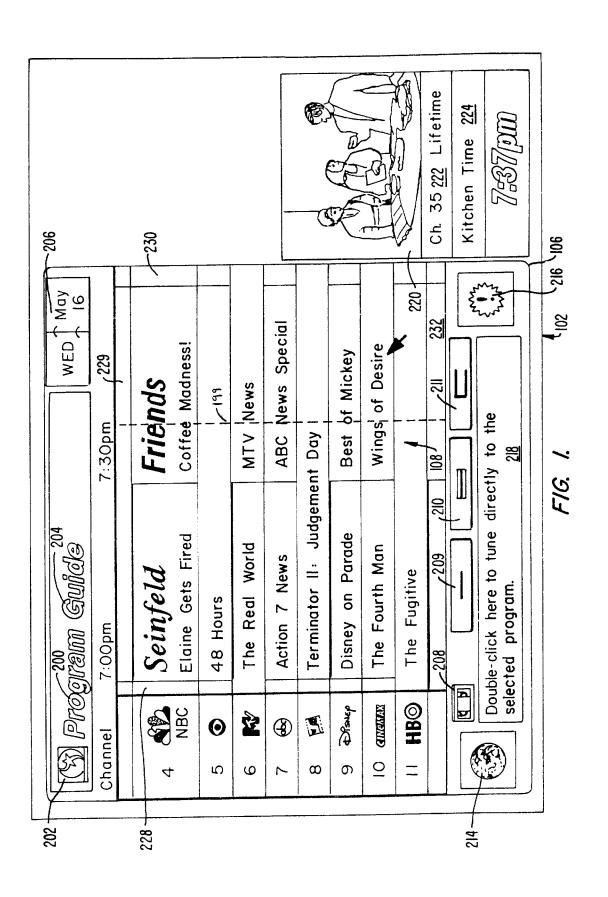
[57] ABSTRACT

A television schedule system and method for displaying television schedule information on a television screen includes a program guide having a schedule information area that depicts the programs that are being presented on each channel at each time during the day. An input device allows the viewer to move a pointer over different interactive areas of the guide and the function performed when the area is activated is displayed in a contextual help window. Various control glyphs provide for recursive interaction with the guide. Additionally, a video window is interactive and provides tuning functions.

24 Claims, 36 Drawing Sheets

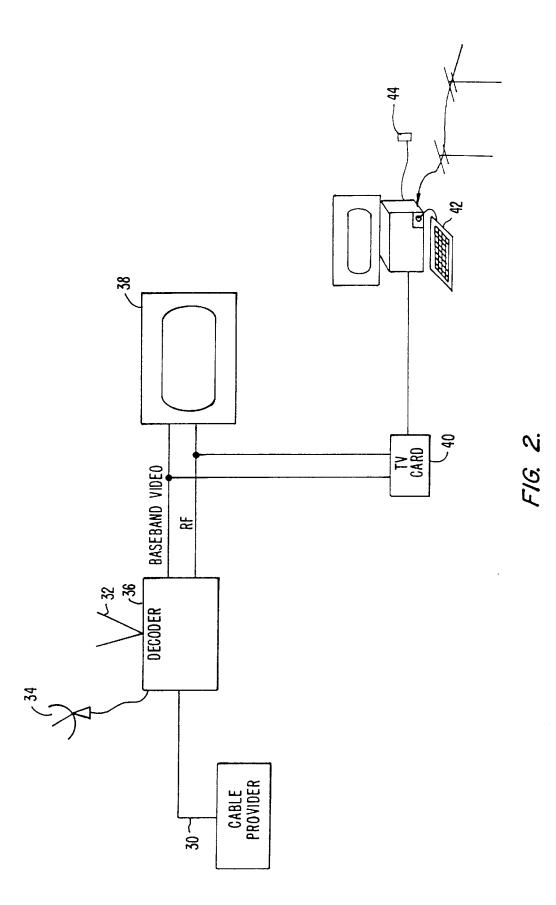


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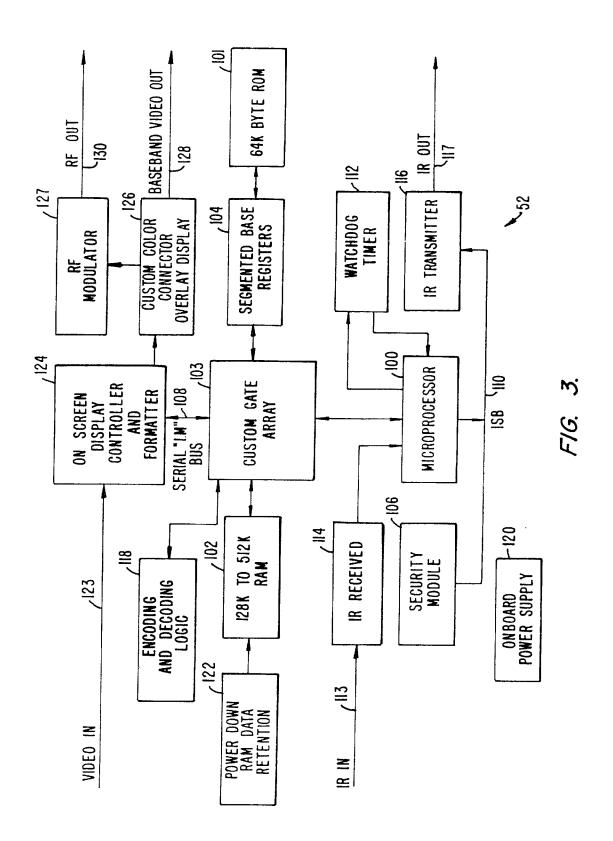


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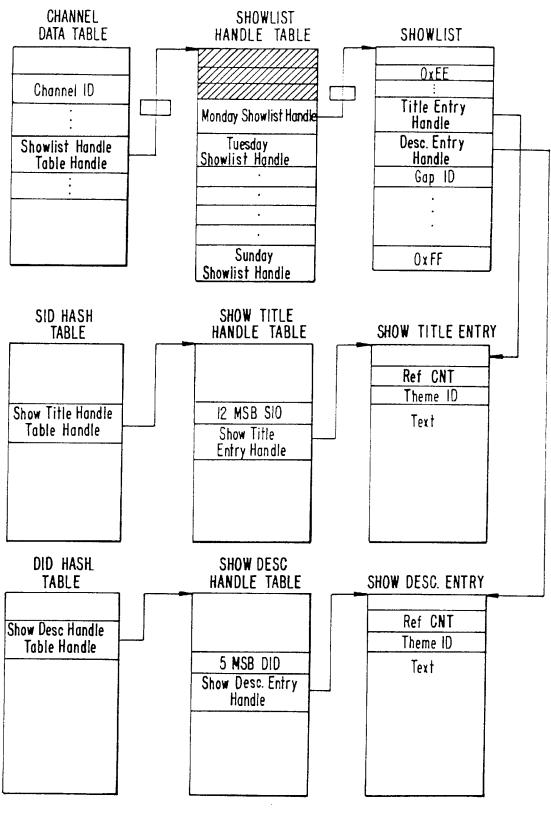


FIG. 4.

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