

More From Forbes.com Upgrade your Portfolio to Real-time!
 → Streaming Quotestream Desktop → Web Portfolio in Real-time

Become a member
 Portfolio | Register

Forbes.com Attaché

Personalize Now!

PRESENTED BY

\$0 online stock trades.
 Learn More
 Restrictions apply.
Bank of America Investment Services, Inc.
 Bank of America



Search: **Forbes.com** Quotes Video Web Blogs Advanced

- INSIDE FORBES.COM:**
- Most Famous YouTube Videos
 - Networking Without Words
 - Must-Have Mobile Software

U.S. EUROPE ASIA HOME PAGE FOR THE WORLD'S BUSINESS LEADERS Free Trial Issue
 HOME BUSINESS TECH MARKETS ENTREPRENEURS LEADERSHIP PERSONAL FINANCE FORBESLIFE LISTS OPINIONS
 Video Blogs E-mail Newsletters Org Chart Wiki People Tracker Portfolio Tracker Special Reports

E-Mail | Comments | E-Mail Newsletters | RSS

ADVERTISEMENT

Associated Press
Venezuela TV Station in Final Days

By FABIOLA SANCHEZ 05.25.07, 1:49 PM ET



- Popular Videos**
- Meet The 10 Hottest Heiresses
 - Glaxo's Dangerous Drug?
 - Cavemen, Crime And The Lipstick Jungle
 - Designer Digs
 - Gold Bull

The countdown has begun for Venezuela's oldest private television station. At midnight Sunday, Radio Caracas Television - the most widely watched channel - will be forced off the air after President Hugo Chavez's government decided not to renew its license.

Talk show host Miguel Angel Rodriguez, whose program is a daily rant against Chavez, ended his Friday segment by blowing a kiss to the camera and saying defiantly: "There is no goodbye. It's see you later."

The opposition plans street protests over the weekend to demand that RCTV be allowed to keep transmitting, while Chavez supporters are expected to hold their own demonstrations. The authorities tightened security Friday in Caracas, putting hundreds of police and National Guard troops along major avenues.

- Most Popular Stories**
- MySpace Bows To Subpoena
 - EMI Goes Into Private Equity Hands
 - What Did Glaxo Know?
 - Building Blocks For Success
 - Facebook Welcomes Companies And Developers

Hundreds of university students chanted "No to the closing!" as they gathered in Caracas Friday for a march to Venezolana de Television - the main state-run channel. They said they were going to demand to use the state-run airwaves to criticize the RCTV decision.

"People have to realize that we have a totalitarian president," said Maria Alecia Klempner, a 25-year-old university student wearing a T-shirt reading: "Freedom of Expression S.O.S."

Chavez defends the decision as a legal move to democratize the airwaves by reassigning RCTV's license to a public service channel. The government provided startup funding for the new channel, TVES, and says it will start broadcasting early Monday in some parts of the country.

Inside the studios of RCTV, meanwhile, the mood was somber yet defiant, with some employees wearing T-shirts reading "No to the closing."

"There is a lot of uncertainty. It's very hard," said technician and 22-year RCTV veteran Alejandro Gonzalez Natera, who wiped away tears as he spoke.

At least some of the station's roughly 2,500 employees will stay on, producing soap operas that are watched on other stations throughout Latin America.

RCTV was founded in 1953 and broadcasts a mix of talk shows, sports, locally produced soap operas and an immensely popular comedy program called "Radio Rochela," which often pokes fun at Chavez. RCTV has regularly been the top channel in viewer ratings.

Groups such as Human Rights Watch and Reporters Without Borders have called the government's move a flagrant effort to silence criticism, and the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on Thursday passed a resolution condemning it. It was sponsored by Republican Dick Lugar had bipartisan support, including from Democrats Hillary

100 COMMISSION-FREE TRADES
 E*TRADE Securities LLC
 OPEN AN ACCOUNT IN MINUTES

end ad

Make Forbes.com My Home Page

Bookmark This Page

Find Free Wi-Fi Hotspots

News by E-Mail Get stories by E-Mail on this topic FREE

Topics

- AP Business Government
 Personnel Product

Enter E-Mail Address: [FAQ](#) | [Privacy Policy](#)

Select Your Title

Also available: E-Mail Newsletters

ADVERTISEMENTS

AARP Auto Insurance.

Over 50? You could save up to \$303 on your auto insurance. Get a quote <http://AARP.TheHartford.com>

Alternative to Open Back Surgery

Minimally invasive, corrects most spinal disorders, 21st century laser techniques, outpatient surgery. www.laserspineinstitute.com

Loan Rates Near 39-Yr Low

\$430,000 for \$1299/Mo. Think you pay too much? Calculate new payment. Mortgage-Rates.lowermybills.com

Practice Forex Trading

Start Trading With A Free \$50,000 Demo Account - Play Before Pay! www.fxcmtr.com

New Costa Rica Property

Ocean and Mountain Views. Pre-Development Pricing. Free DVD. www.CostaLandSales.com

Buy a link here

ADVERTISEMENT

Related Business Topics

Personalize Your Own
Forbes Attaché

SIGNUP NOW!

- Weather [Select Your City](#)
 Sports [Select Your Teams](#)
 Stocks [Select Companies](#) **XYZ +5.87**
 News [View by Industry](#)
 Authors [Choose Favorites](#)

CEO Edition Forbes Attaché
 Are you a C-Suite Executive?
 Activate your attaché in one click.
 ACTIVATE NOW!

Clinton and Barack Obama.

Chavez said the fact that only 65 of the European Parliament's 785 members participated in a vote condemning the government's decision showed the issue was of little interest, and added that Venezuela's "oligarchy has lost some money" lobbying for that resolution.

Chavez accuses RCTV and other opposition-aligned private media of supporting a failed 2002 coup against him. The channel has been accused of violating broadcast laws and showing programs with violence and sexual content that are morally degrading.

RCTV's general manager, Marcel Granier, challenged the government's decision, but Venezuela's Supreme Court dismissed one legal challenge and declined to intervene in another, even as it has agreed to keep considering RCTV's appeal.

While many Venezuelan journalists have taken to the streets in protest, others have sided with the government.

Eleazar Diaz Rangel, editor of the newspaper Ultimas Noticias, argued that the "immense majority" of media organizations openly oppose the government.

On television, however, pro-government channels are dominant. Aside from RCTV, Globovision is the only other major opposition-aligned channel, and it is not seen in all parts of the country. Two other channels that used to be staunchly anti-Chavez, Venevision and Televen, have recently toned down their coverage.

Associated Press writers Ian James and Jorge Rueda, in Caracas, contributed to this report.

Copyright 2007 Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published broadcast, rewritten, or redistributed

Starting A Small Business Small Business Loans

Content from Related Companies

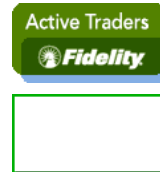
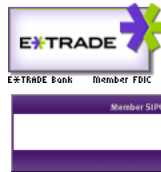
Business Information Center:
From white papers to investor relations briefs, access free information when it's most convenient - when you are reading your business news

Business Information Center:
At the click of a button, we deliver the latest corporate, investor, press, and media communications items directly to the Forbes community

Business Information Center:
The Business Information Center brings Forbes readers timely news and views of a wide range of major international businesses and organizations

Trading Center

Brought to you by the sponsors below



Free Credit Report

[more >](#)

as a member of **privacy matters.com**

First Name

Last Name

Credit Reporting & Monitoring:
Discover how it can protect your credit well-being.

[Next >](#)

More On This Topic

E-Mail Newsletters: [Sign Up Now To Stay Informed On A Range Of Topics](#)
Attaché: [Customize Forbes.com Now To Track This Author And Industry](#)



ForbesAutos.com

Article Controls

[E-Mail](#) | [Comments](#) | [E-Mail Newsletters](#)

[del.icio.us](#) | [Digg It!](#) | [My Yahoo!](#) | [Share](#) | [RSS](#)

Related Sections

[Home > News & Analysis](#)

Today On Forbes.com

Pumping Politics

Brian Wingfield
Summer driving season and soaring gas prices mean one thing in Washington: pointless legislation.



- Oil Prices Expected To Remain High
- Sliding Back Into Oil
- Complete Coverage:** Energy

Google-Proof PR?	Nasdaq Takes The Nordic Route	Radio Redux	Star Wars' Galactic Dollars

[News Headlines](#) | [More From Forbes.com](#) | [Special Reports](#)

[Subscriptions >](#)

[Subscribe To Newsletters](#) [Subscriber Customer Service](#)

More From **Forbes.com**

- [2007 Gas Guzzlers](#)
- [Super-Swanky Casinos](#)

ForbesTraveler.com [more >](#)

- ➔ [Best-Paid Men In Entertainment](#)
- ➔ [10 Videos That Made YouTube Famous](#)
- ➔ [Must-Have Mobile Software](#)

Quiet Agent [more >](#)



Change Jobs. Anonymous. Free.

Here are all the tools you need to get a **better job** while you have a job.

Tell us your Ideal Job Now

HERE'S HOW

Powered by [QuietAgent.com](#)

CEO Book Club

BOOK REVIEW
Robert Mads Anderson



BOOK REVIEW
Armchair Mountaineering
Robert Mads Anderson
A new book from *National Geographic* brings the Himalaya experience home.



TRUTH IN ENGINEERING

FREE

Click here

Forbes
Trial Issue

WORLD SAVINGS

5.41% APY

Open a high-interest CD today!

Forbes.com
Newsletters

Stay Informed!

Special Advertising

Wine Club

[SITMAP](#) [HELP](#) [CONTACT US](#) [INVESTMENT NEWSLETTERS](#) [FORBES CONFERENCES](#) [FORBES MAGAZINES](#) [FORBES AUTOS](#)

Ad Information Forbes.com Mobile RSS  Reprints/Permissions Subscriber Services
© 2007 Forbes.com LLC™ All Rights Reserved Privacy Statement Terms, Conditions and Notices

Tested By [Market Data By](#) [Market Data By](#) [Market Data By](#) [American History](#) [Polska](#) [Luxury Cars](#) [Luxury Travel](#) [Careers By](#)

Stock quotes are delayed at least 15 minutes for Nasdaq, at least 20 minutes for NYSE/AMEX.U.S. indexes are delayed at least 15 minutes with the exception of Nasdaq, Dow Jones Industrial Average and S&P 500 which are 2 minutes delayed.

Powered By [Oracle DBA by](#)

Intelligent Content Distribution System REMOTE DBA Oracle·SQL·MySQL