



CNNFN TO OFFER LESS LIVE COVERAGE, CUT JOBS

By *TIM ARANGO*

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CNNfn is expected to announce several new programming changes and job cuts, The Post has learned.

The changes, which will result in less live coverage and more taped feed, will result in several job losses, according to sources familiar with the matter. An announcement is likely either today or tomorrow.

A CNN spokesperson confirmed that the network is planning to make programming changes at its financial news network. The company declined to comment on any job cuts in the works.

One change the network is planning is to eliminate its "Halftime Reports" show, anchored by Kathleen Hays. The network will replace it with "The Flip Side," a talk show that will be aired between 11 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.

Hays will anchor this show, along with CNNfn correspondent Vallerie Morris and Geri Willis, a new contributor who is joining CNNfn from SmartMoney magazine.

The new show was described by a spokeswoman as a "talk show forum that focuses on the financial needs of daytime viewers."

Last year CNN was passed by Fox News in ratings, and has lately been in the midst of numerous personnel changes. Chairman and CEO Walter Isaacson announced last month that he was leaving; last week, Jamie Kellner, head of Turner Broadcasting, which oversees CNN, announced his own departure.

Both Fox News and The Post are owned by News Corp.

The network has overhauled its weekend business coverage, axing "Business Unusual" and Willow Bay's show "Pinnacle."

[Home](#)

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