

WESTWOOD ONE INC /DE/

Form DEFA14A

January 11, 2008

**UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20549
SCHEDULE 14A**

Proxy Statement Pursuant to Section 14(a) of the Securities
Exchange Act of 1934 (Amendment No.)

Filed by the Registrant

Filed by a Party other than the Registrant

Check the appropriate box:

- Preliminary Proxy Statement
- Confidential, for Use of the Commission Only (as permitted by Rule 14a-6(e)(2))**
- Definitive Proxy Statement
- Definitive Additional Materials
- Soliciting Material Pursuant to §240.14a-12

WESTWOOD ONE, INC.

(Name of Registrant as Specified In Its Charter)

(Name of Person(s) Filing Proxy Statement, if other than the Registrant)

Payment of Filing Fee (Check the appropriate box):

- No fee required.
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(1) Title of each class of securities to which transaction applies:

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(1) Amount Previously Paid:

(2) Form, Schedule or Registration Statement No.:

(3) Filing Party:

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Dear Shareholders:

This letter is to inform you of certain developments that have occurred since the date of our proxy statement which was mailed to you in late December in reference to the Annual Meeting of Shareholders of Westwood One, Inc. (the Company) to be held on February 12, 2008 at 9:00 a.m., Pacific Time, at the Company s offices located at 8965 Lindblade Street, Culver City, CA 90232-2689. The developments were reported by the Company in a Current Report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on January 10, 2008, a copy of which (without exhibits) is enclosed with this letter. Copies of the exhibits to the 8-K may be obtained from the SEC s website at www.sec.gov.

Appointment of new President and CEO

On January 8, 2008, Thomas F.X. Beusse was appointed President and CEO of the Company, replacing Peter Kosann. In connection with the appointment, Mr. Kosann resigned from the Company s Board of Directors (the Board) on January 9, 2008. Accordingly, on January 8, 2008, the Board of Directors appointed Thomas F.X. Beusse to serve as a Class I director of the Company, effective on the date of Mr. Kosann s resignation and nominated Mr. Beusse to continue to serve as a Class I director for a three-year term ending in 2010 in place of Mr. Kosann. Mr. Beusse was not named to serve on any committees of the Board. The Board s recommendation remains the same, that is to vote **FOR** the election of the nominated directors.

Mr. Beusse, 43 most recently served as the President of Time4 Media, a former division of Time Inc. from January 2006 to March 2007, at which time the division was sold by Time Inc. to a third party. From March 2001 to October 2005, he held various positions at Rodale, Inc., ranging from Senior Vice President of Rodale Sports Group (March 2001 to November 2001) to President Men s Health/Sports Content Group (December 2001 to December 2004) and President of Magazine Publishing until October 2005.

In connection with his appointment, Mr. Beusse and the Company entered into a three-year employment agreement. A description of the terms of Mr. Beusse s employment agreement is included in the enclosed 8-K.

Amendment to Norman Pattiz Employment Agreement

In connection with the appointment of a new CEO, on January 8, 2008, the Board also approved Amendment No. 3 (the Amendment 3) to the Company s employment agreement with the Chairman of the Board, Norman J. Pattiz (Pattiz), originally made as of April 29, 1998 and subsequently amended. Amendment 3 extends the term of Mr. Pattiz s employment agreement for an additional period beginning December 1, 2008 and continuing through June 15, 2009. In connection with the agreement to extend the term of his services and Mr. Pattiz s agreement to continue to provide services in connection with the Company s hiring of a new CEO, Mr. Pattiz received on January 8, 2008 a nonqualified stock option to purchase 250,000 shares of Company common stock that will vest in equal one-third increments on January 8, 2009, 2010 and 2011. A more complete description of the modifications to Mr. Pattiz s employment agreement is included in the enclosed 8-K.

What do these changes mean?

This letter is a part of the proxy supplement that supplements the definitive proxy statement filed with the SEC on December 21, 2007. It is still the case that three independent Class I directors nominated by the Board are to be approved by the Company's shareholders at the annual meeting. However, since Thomas F.X. Beusse, not Peter Kosann, is one of the directors for whom you are being asked to vote, we are providing Mr. Beusse's information to you. Also, because Norman J. Pattiz is one of the directors for whom you are being asked to vote, we are describing the changes to his employment agreement in this proxy supplement.

Voting Process

A new proxy card is enclosed with this letter, which card should be used to vote for the proposals to be considered at the annual meeting. If you have already returned your proxy card, you may as discussed in more detail in the proxy statement, change your vote at any time before the proxy is exercised by filing with the Secretary of the Company either a notice of revocation or a duly executed proxy bearing a later date. If you have already returned a proxy card and do not attend the meeting in person or provide a new proxy card, your vote will be recorded as originally given, except that the Board will record the vote in your proxy as it pertains to Mr. Kosann for Mr. Beusse. All other provisions set forth in the Company's proxy statement dated December 21, 2007 continue to apply. As before, the election of Messrs. Smith, Pattiz and Beusse will require the affirmative vote of a majority of the votes entitled to be cast and represented in person or by proxy at the meeting. With respect to the election of Messrs. Pattiz and Beusse, the Common Stock and the Class B Stock vote together as a class. With respect to the election of Mr. Smith, the Common Stock votes separately as a class and the Class B Stock will not vote.

IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU MARK, SIGN, DATE AND RETURN THE ENCLOSED PROXY CARD IN THE PROVIDED POSTAGE-PAID ENVELOPE IF YOU DO NOT INTEND TO BE PRESENT AT THE MEETING. IF YOU DO LATER DECIDE TO ATTEND, YOUR PROXY WILL AUTOMATICALLY BE REVOKED IF YOU VOTE IN PERSON. ACCORDINGLY, YOU ARE URGED TO MARK, SIGN, DATE AND RETURN THE PROXY CARD NOW IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT YOUR SHARES ARE REPRESENTED AT THE MEETING.

Sincerely,
WESTWOOD ONE, INC.
David Hillman
Secretary
January 11, 2008

Section 5 Corporate Governance and Management

Item 5.02 Departure of Directors or Certain Officers; Election of Directors; Appointment of Certain Officers; Compensatory Arrangements of Certain Officers.

(b) On January 8, 2008, Peter Kosann ceased serving as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Westwood One, Inc. (the Company or Westwood) and on January 9, 2008, Mr. Kosann resigned from the Company's Board of Directors (the Board) in connection with the appointment of a new CEO as described in (c) below.

(c) Thomas F.X. Beusse was appointed President and CEO of Westwood effective January 8, 2008. Under the terms of a Consent Agreement, CBS Radio, Inc. (CBS Radio) has agreed, pursuant to its existing agreement with the Company to manage Westwood (the Management Agreement), to have Mr. Beusse serve as the Company's CEO. While Mr. Beusse will be an employee of the Company, all costs and expenses of Mr. Beusse's employment with the Company will be reimbursed by CBS Radio until the earlier of the: (i) expiration of the term of the Management Agreement, and (ii) closing of the transactions set forth in the Master Agreement entered into between Westwood and CBS Radio on October 2, 2007. A copy of the Company's Consent Agreement with CBS Radio is attached hereto as Exhibit 10.1. A copy of the Management Agreement was previously filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission (the SEC) as Exhibit 10.17 to its Current Report on Form 8-K filed on June 4, 1999 and the amendment thereto was filed with the SEC as Annex A to the Company's proxy statement on April 25, 2002. A copy of the Master Agreement was previously filed with the SEC on December 21, 2007 as Exhibit 2.1 to the Company's proxy statement.

Mr. Beusse and the Company have executed an employment agreement for Mr. Beusse to serve as the Company's CEO with a term of three years, at an annual base salary of \$700,000. Mr. Beusse will be eligible for an annual discretionary bonus of up to \$700,000 (*i.e.*, 100% of his annual base salary) for each of 2008, 2009 and 2010, provided that Mr. Beusse will receive not less than \$300,000 in annual bonus for 2008. On January 8, 2008, Mr. Beusse was granted two stock options to purchase an aggregate of 1,000,000 shares of Company common stock (*i.e.*, 500,000 shares per stock option), each of which generally will vest in equal one-third increments on January 8, 2009, 2010 and 2011, except in the case of certain termination events as described in more detail in Mr. Beusse's employment agreement, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 10.2. One stock option to purchase 500,000 shares of Company common stock will be issued pursuant to the Company's 2005 Equity Compensation Plan (the Equity Plan); and the other stock option to purchase 500,000 shares of Company common stock will be issued outside of the Equity Plan as an inducement grant in accordance with the rules of the New York Stock Exchange. For each of calendar years 2009 and 2010, Mr. Beusse will receive stock options to purchase up to 625,000 shares of Company common stock based on the achievement of performance goals as determined by the Compensation Committee of the Board.

In the case of a termination of Mr. Beusse's employment by the Company other than for a cause event, or by Mr. Beusse for good reason (each, as defined in the employment agreement), Mr. Beusse generally will be entitled to the following severance benefits:

continued payment of an amount equal to two times the sum of his base salary plus \$250,000 (*i.e.*, \$1,900,000 in the aggregate), payable in equal periodic installments for two years following such termination;

the minimum 2008 bonus (\$300,000) to the extent not already paid as of the date of termination;

if such termination occurs prior to January 8, 2009, one-third of each of the two stock options to purchase an aggregate of 1,000,000 shares of Company common stock (as described above) will immediately vest as of the date of termination and will be exercisable for the period that is the longer of (x) the date of such termination through January 8, 2009, and (y) ninety days from the date of such termination; and

continued health benefits at the active employee rate for a period of eighteen months following termination. In the case of a termination of Mr. Beusse's employment by the Company other than for a cause event, or by Mr. Beusse for good reason (each, as defined in the employment agreement), upon or within twenty-four months following a change in control (as defined in the employment agreement), then Mr. Beusse generally will be entitled to the severance benefits described above, plus the following benefits:

full vesting and immediate exercisability of all outstanding equity awards held by Mr. Beusse; and

a 280G gross-up payment to indemnify Mr. Beusse for the effect of any excise tax imposed by Section 4999 of the Internal Revenue Code as described in more detail in Mr. Beusse's employment agreement.

A copy of the press release announcing Mr. Beusse's appointment is furnished herewith as Exhibit 99.1 and is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety. A copy of the Company's employment agreement with Mr. Beusse is attached hereto as Exhibit 10.2, the terms of which are incorporated by reference herein in their entirety. A copy of the press release announcing the inducement grant to Mr. Beusse is attached hereto as Exhibit 99.2 and the form of the stock option used for such grant is attached hereto as Exhibit 10.3.

Mr. Beusse, 43, will serve as the Company's President and CEO. From January 2006 to March 2007, he served as the President of Time4 Media, a former division of Time Inc. From March 2001 to October 2005, he held various positions at Rodale, Inc., ranging from Senior Vice President of Rodale Sports Group (March 2001 to November 2001) to President Men's Health/Sports Content Group (December 2001 to December 2004) and President of Magazine Publishing until October 2005, at which time the division was sold by Time Inc.

(d) On January 8, 2008, the Board appointed Thomas F.X. Beusse as a director of the Company in connection with his appointment as the Company's CEO, effective upon Mr. Kosann's resignation from the Board which occurred on January 9, 2008. Mr. Beusse has not been named to serve on any committees of the Board.

(e) On January 8, 2008, the Board approved Amendment No. 3 (the Amendment 3) to the Company's employment agreement with the Chairman of the Board, Norman J. Pattiz (Pattiz), made as of April 29, 1998 and amended as of October 27, 2003 and November 28, 2005 (as amended, including by Amendment 3, the Pattiz Agreement). Amendment 3 extends the term of the Pattiz Agreement for an additional period beginning December 1, 2008 and continuing through June 15, 2009 (the Extended Term). In connection therewith and Mr. Pattiz's agreement to continue to provide services in connection with the Company's hiring of a new CEO, Mr. Pattiz will receive a nonqualified stock option (the 2008 Stock Option) to purchase 250,000 shares of Company common stock that generally will vest in equal one-third increments on January 8, 2009, 2010 and 2011, except in the case of certain termination events as described in more detail in the Pattiz Agreement. The 2008 Stock Option will be issued pursuant to the Equity Plan. Upon a change in control (as defined in Amendment 3), the 2008 Stock Option will become fully vested. If Mr. Pattiz is terminated without cause (as defined in the Pattiz Agreement) or if Mr. Pattiz terminates his employment due to an adverse change in his title as Chairman, in each case, prior to January 8, 2009, one-third (1/3) of the 2008 Stock Option will vest immediately as of the date of such termination and will be exercisable until ninety days following the earlier of Mr. Pattiz's voluntary termination of service and November 30, 2015.

As part of Amendment 3, the non-competition and unfair competition provisions of the Pattiz Agreement will cease to apply to Mr. Pattiz upon the earlier of June 15, 2009 and the effective date of Mr. Pattiz's termination prior to the expiration of the Extended Term. The Company will continue to engage Mr. Pattiz as a part-time employee and/or consultant (at the Company's option) during a Continued Engagement Period (as defined in the Pattiz Agreement) through November 30, 2015, or such earlier time as Mr. Pattiz voluntarily terminates his services with the Company. Mr. Pattiz's stock options will continue to vest during the Continued Engagement Period. However, during the Continued Engagement Period, Mr. Pattiz's non-solicitation obligations will be limited to prohibit Mr. Pattiz from soliciting, employing, hiring or engaging employees, consultants and voice talent who are providing services to the Company or its related entities on the earlier of June 15, 2009 and the effective date of Mr. Pattiz's termination prior to the expiration of the Extended Term.

A copy of the Amendment 3 is attached hereto as Exhibit 10.4, the terms of which are incorporated by reference herein in their entirety. Except as expressly provided in the Amendment 3, the Pattiz Agreement was not modified and will continue in full force and effect.

A copy of the Pattiz Agreement was previously filed with the SEC as Exhibit 10.1 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1998; a copy of Amendment No. 1 thereto was previously filed with the SEC as Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2003; and a copy of Amendment No. 2 thereto was previously filed with the SEC as Exhibit 99.1 to the Company's Current Report on Form 8-K dated November 30, 2005.

On January 8, 2008, the Compensation Committee approved the awards of stock options as described above to Messrs. Beusse and Pattiz. A copy of the Company's form Stock Option Agreement for non-director participants was previously filed with the SEC as Exhibit 99.2 to the Company's 8-K on December 9, 2005. A copy of the Equity Plan was previously filed with the SEC as Exhibit 10.2 to the Company's 8-K on May 25, 2005.

Section 9 Financial Statements and Exhibits

Item 9.01 Financial Statements and Exhibits.

(d) Exhibits.

The following is a list of the exhibits filed as a part of this Form 8-K:

Exhibit No.	Description of Exhibit
10.1	Consent Agreement, dated as of January 8, 2008, made by and among CBS Radio Inc., Westwood One, Inc. and Thomas F.X. Beusse.
10.2	Employment Agreement, effective as of January 8, 2008, by and between the Company and Thomas F.X. Beusse.
10.3	Stand-Alone Stock Option Agreement, dated as of January 8, 2008, by and between Westwood One, Inc. and Thomas F.X. Beusse.
10.4	Amendment No. 3, effective January 8, 2008, to the employment agreement by and between Westwood One, Inc. and Norman Pattiz, dated as of April 29, 1998, as amended.
99.1	Press Release, dated January 8, 2008, announcing the appointment of Thomas F.X. Beusse as

President and Chief Executive Officer, replacing Peter Kosann.

99.2 Press Release, dated January 9, 2008, announcing the inducement grant of a non-qualified stock option made to Mr. Beusse in connection with his appointment as President and Chief Executive Officer.

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.

WESTWOOD ONE, INC.

Date: January 10, 2008

By: /s/ David Hillman

Name: David Hillman

Title: Chief Administrative Officer; EVP, Business Affairs;

General Counsel and Secretary

EXHIBIT INDEX

Current Report on Form 8-K
dated January 8, 2008

Westwood One, Inc.

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