

# DIRECTV High Definition User Interface

FIRST LOOK SERIES



# DIRECTV High Definition User Interface

Since the introduction of the HR20-700, DIRECTV has delivered HD programming with a clean and uncluttered user interface consistent with its other receivers... but the public wanted more. Among the most common requests has been a truly high-definition user interface. The last update to the user interface in 2007 was comprehensive, but still provided graphics that were rendered based on standard resolution images and fonts.

DIRECTV has delivered a new user interface that is not only faster than the one it replaces, but renders all text and graphics in high resolution. The new interface does away with the Quick Menu in favor of a consistent full-screen experience while keeping the new channel banner introduced in 2010 and the same buttons used in prior user interfaces.

Whenever possible, screens are similar to existing ones in the old user interface to help subscribers adapt.

Among the new features is a new "My DIRECTV" landing screen that acts as a gateway to suggested content, playlists, and interactive content. This provides a more consistent experience for the common user while streamlining the experience for more advanced users.

*Special thanks to Mike Bertelson and barryb for photographs of the user interface. Note that dates and other details have been obscured to preserve the integrity of the testing process.*

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## Are you on the Cutting Edge?

DBSTALK.com is home to the Cutting Edge forums, where users actively participate in testing pre-release software for DIRECTV receivers. The resulting rapid-deployment development method allows for faster fixes and abundant new features.

**[Click here to learn more at DBSTalk.com!](#)**

### About DBSTalk.com

Since its inception in 2001, DBSTALK.com has grown to represent the satellite communities for DIRECTV, Dish Network, Sirius/XM and Free-to-Air satellite reception. We provide user-to-user support for tens of thousands of users and are read by millions across the Internet, giving us the title of "The Internet's Satellite Resource."

Please note that some DBSTalk.com testers and staff members may have received free equipment from DIRECTV or its partners for the purpose of evaluation and testing.

# Words from the test team

It's fast. No, really it's FAST! Even on standard HR2x hardware, this new UI isn't just crisp, clear and modern in appearance, it's an order of magnitude quicker in everyday usage - keypresses are registered more quickly, Playlist scrolling is faster, and navigating through the Guide is downright speedy, whether left and right by timeslot, or scrolling up and down through the channels. Personally, using the new user interface as compared to the current one feels like the difference between using an HR21 versus an HR24.

—DBSTalk User *LameLefty*

The new User Interface reflects an upgrade to a more appealing "current generation" graphical experience. The attractive new guide, setup menus, program "posters", and sub-screens all reflect a visual presentation much like the DirecTV iPad application. In addition to the visual enhancements, the new UI also reflects a significant performance boost from previous generation versions. In particular, common activities such as scrolling through channels, menus, and other large groups of screen content is exponentially faster. Furthermore, the fact that the new user experience and accelerated operations can be enjoyed on earlier generation hardware will make it even more attractive to all DirecTV customers.

—DBSTalk User *HDTVfan0001*

## Is it fast enough? Check out these comparisons!

Special thanks to Scott Kocourek for speed tests.

Scrolling performance in seconds  
(ten consecutive PageDowns in guide)

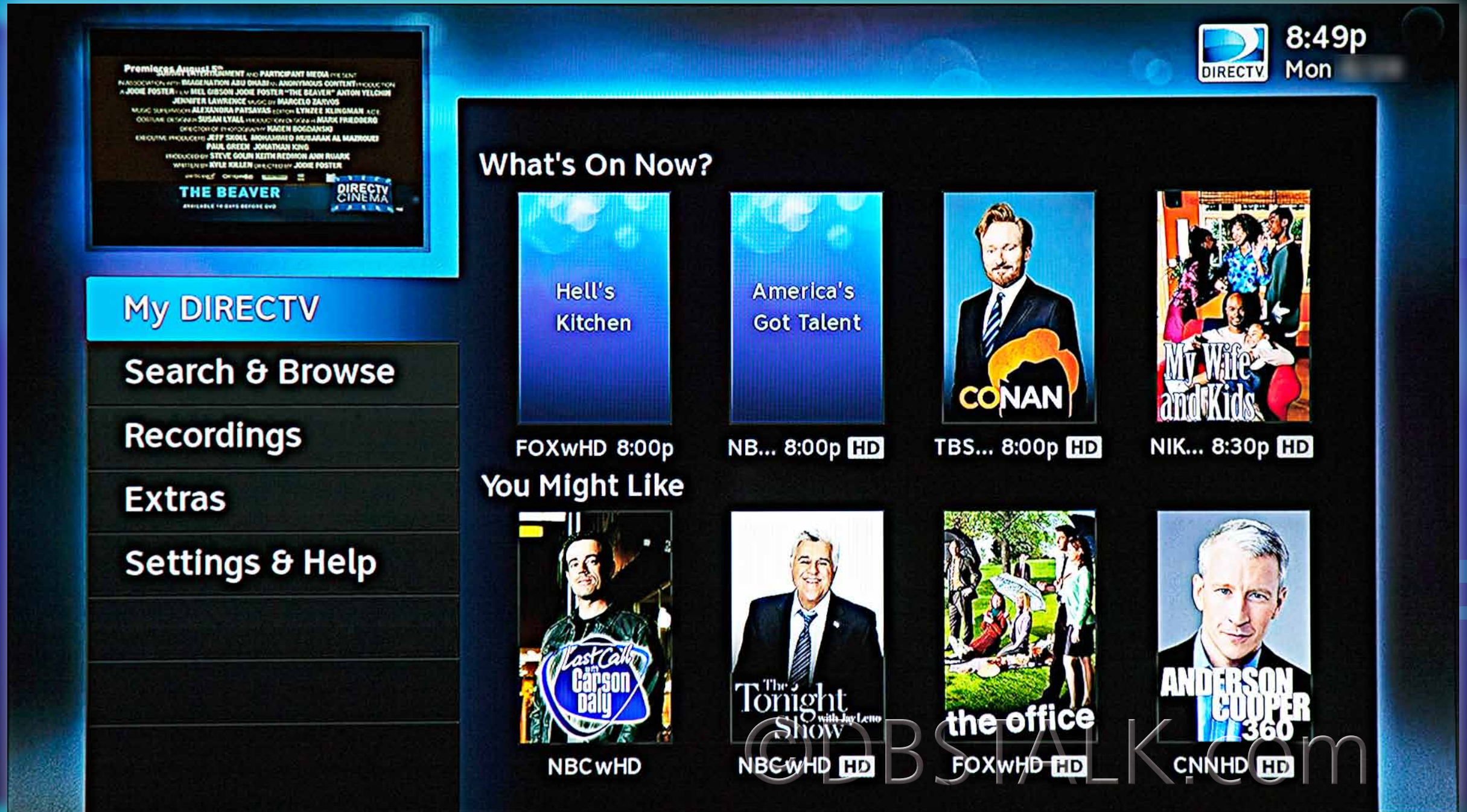


Scrolling performance in seconds  
(scrolling through 66-page playlist)



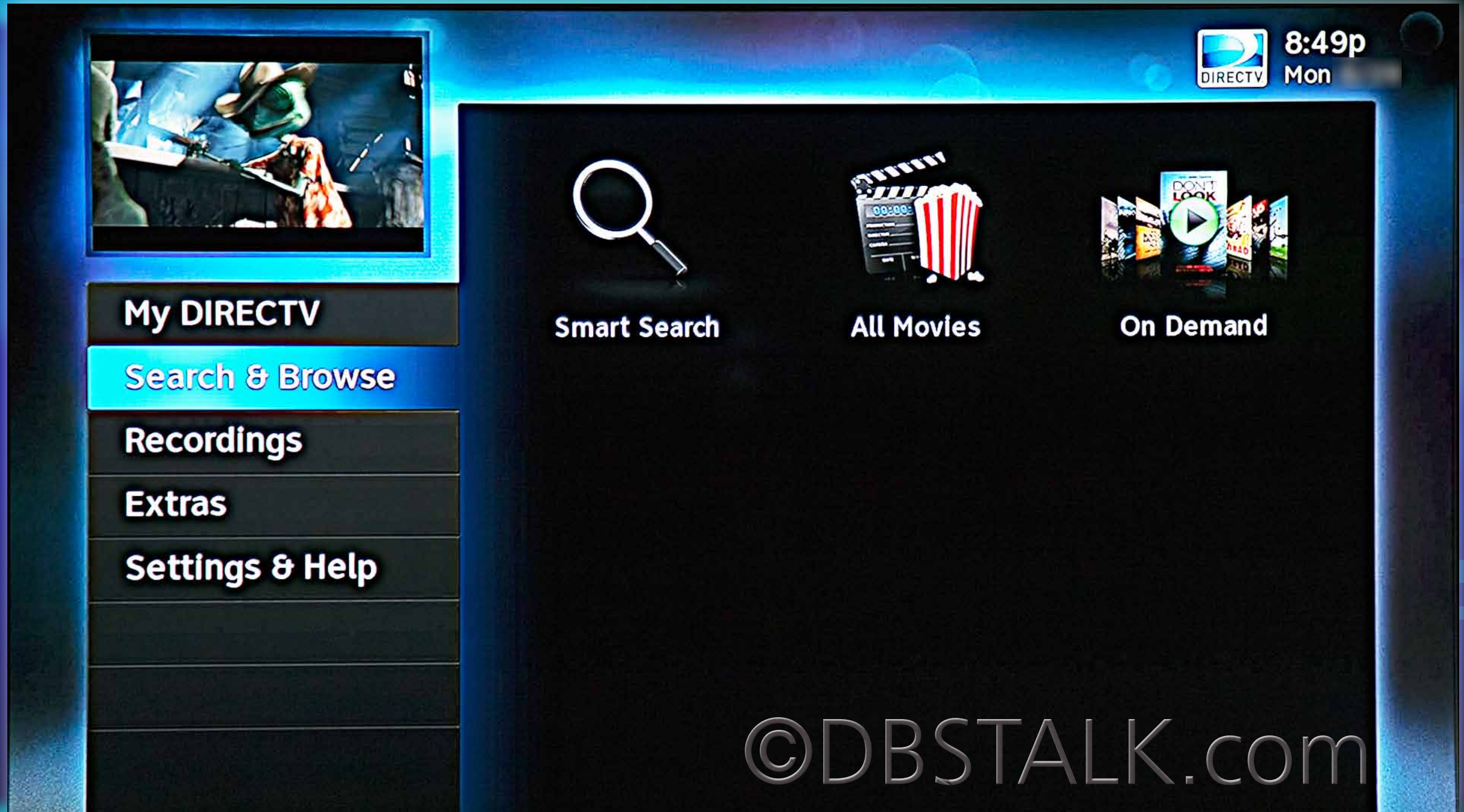


My DIRECTV Landing Screen: When the user presses **MENU**, this is the screen that appears.

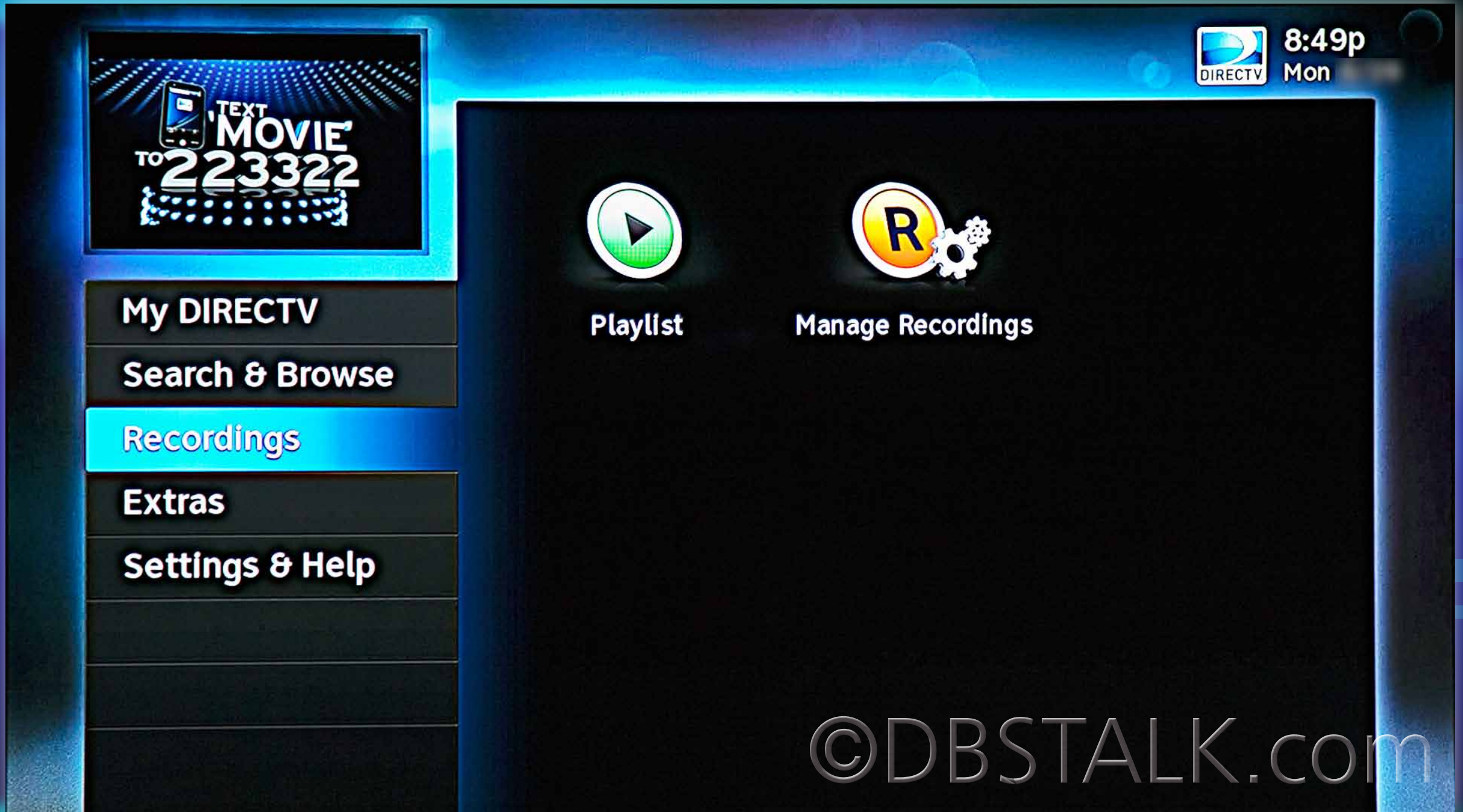




Search and Browse: When the user scrolls down after pressing **MENU**, this is the screen that appears.



Recordings: Easy access to the playlist or for managing recordings and series links.





Playlist: When the user presses **LIST** or chooses "Playlist", this is the screen that appears.



TEXT 'MOVIE' to 223322



8:49p  
Mon

## Hell's Kitchen

49min (Partial) | TV-14-D-L

[GARAGE] "7 Chefs Compete" Reality, Cooking.  
(2011) Scott Leibfried, Andrea "Andi" Van  
Willigan. The teams face each other in challen...

Ordered by Date (Newest First)

Hell's Kitchen 	Today	8:00p	399 FOXwHD
 <i>The Big C</i>	12 New/20 Total		
 <i>Weeds</i>	2 New/2 Total		
Kate Plus 8 	Today	6:00p	280 TLCHD
 <i>The Millionaire Matchmaker</i>	2 New/2 Total		
 <i>Giuliana &amp; Bill</i>	5 New/7 Total		


 Delete  Options  Keep



79 % Free ▼



Manage Recordings: When the user selects "Manage Recordings," this screen appears.



# Manage Recordings



8:50p  
Mon

**To Do List**  
**Series Manager**  
**Queue**  
**History**  
**Purchases**  
**Manual Record**  
**Record Defaults**  
**Done**

Scheduler status is listed below. Press SELECT on a left menu item to view or change scheduled events. Use CHAN to scroll.

To Do List:	16 Items
Series Manager:	5 Items
Queue:	0 Items
History:	61 Items
Purchases:	0 Items

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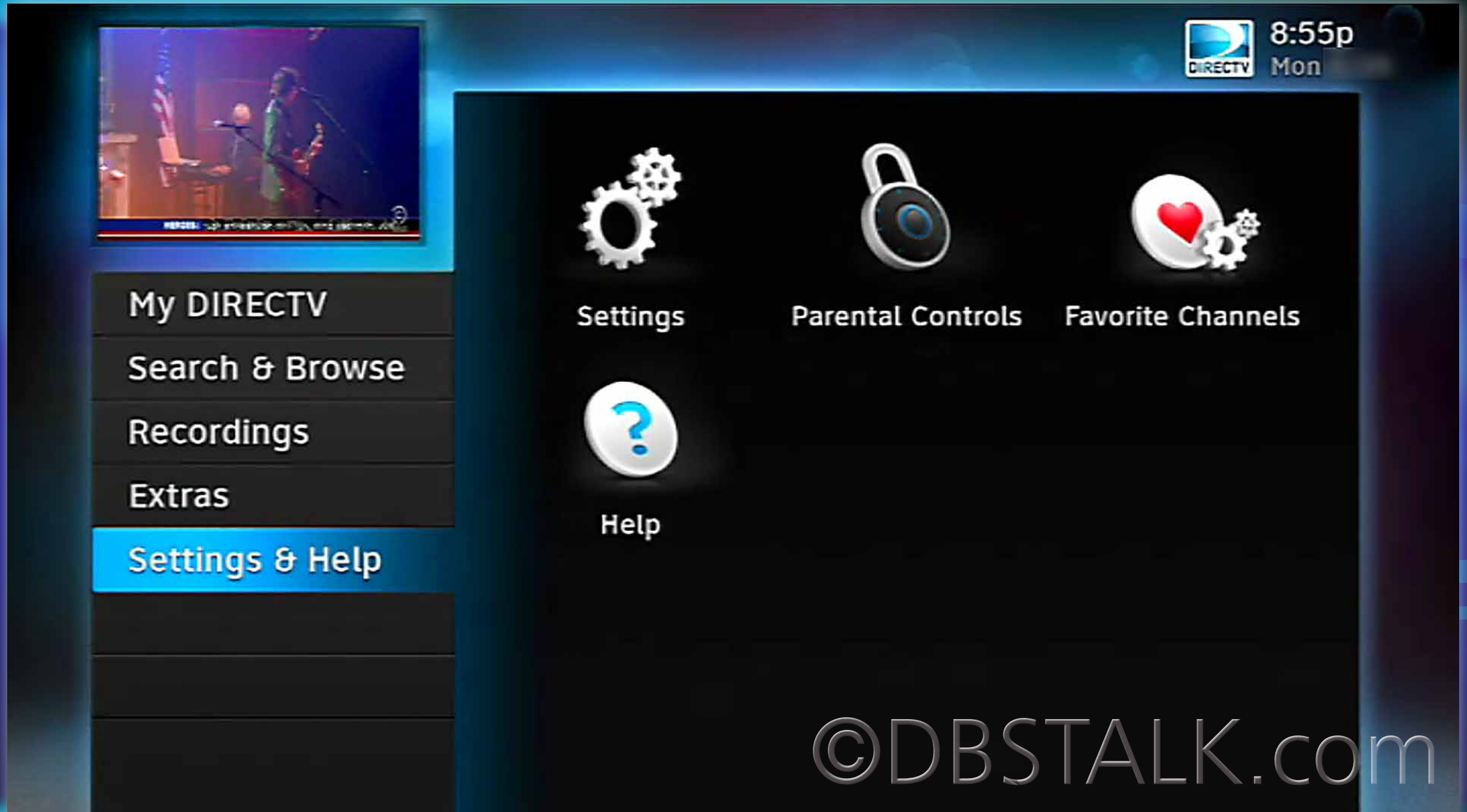


Extras: Many of the common extra features of the receiver have been grouped in one menu.





Settings and Help: Items commonly used in first-time setup are grouped together.



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System Info: Specialized information about the receiver, similar to the previous user interface.



## System Info & Test



9:00p  
Mon

Receiver:	HR21/700
Receiver ID:	
Access Card:	
Software	
Original Version:	0x16c
Software:	
Scheduled Upgrade:	Not Scheduled
SWM Firmware version:	2.0.24
SWM Library version:	2.0.24
Completion Code:	1646
Internal Temp:	117 °F

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OK



Favorite Channel Lists: Modifying favorites is done the same way as the previous interface.



# Favorite Channel Lists

8:52p  
Mon

## Choose a List

**Channels I Get**

Custom 1

Custom 2

Done

**Favorites status is listed below.**

<b>Current Favorites:</b>	<b>All Channels</b>
<b>Available Lists</b>	<b>Total Channels</b>
All Channels:	819
Channels I Get:	755
Custom 1:	None
Custom 2:	None

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Help menus are unchanged with the exception of matching the new user interface.









## Help

Press **SELECT** on a list item to view info or to expand a group (shown in *italics*). Press **CHAN** to scroll and **LEFT** to close a group when opened.



8:52p  
Mon

-  **Troubleshooting & Frequently Asked Questions**
-  **Channels and Program Info**
-  **Movies, On Demand, and Pay Per View Events**
-  **Recordings**
-  **Special Features**
-  **Settings**

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DIRECTV MediaShare is supported in the new interface.

**Welcome to DIRECTV MediaShare**

**DIRECTV** 8:51p Mon

**DIRECTV is proud to bring you MediaShare. This free service allows you to stream music, photos, and video from your computer home network directly to your TV.**


**With MediaShare you can:**

- View slideshows and listen to music from your PC.
- View slideshows while listening to your favorite XM Radio channel.
- View video stored on your home network.

**Get Started**




Parental Controls are as extensive as ever.



5 DAY FORECAST

WHAT'S HOT  
THE MOST POPULAR SHOWS ON DIRECTV AS OF

# Parental Controls



8:52p  
Mon

Lock Now

Ratings Limits

Adult Channels

Channel Blocks

Spending Limits

Viewing Hours

Done

Parental Controls status is listed below. Press SELECT on a left menu item to change settings. Use CHAN to scroll.

Movie:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Allow R
TV:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Allow TV-14
TV Content:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Some Blocked
Other:	<input checked="" type="radio"/> Allow No Rating

Channel Blocks: No Blocked Channel(s)

Spending Limit: \$10 Per Purchase

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Guide: When the user presses **GUIDE**, this screen appears.



**The Colbert Report**  
8:31p - 9:01p | TV-14  
"The Cars" Comedy. (2011) Stephen Colbert.  
Musical group The Cars. Interview, CC, Series.



DIRECTV 8:57p Mon

Mon	8:30p	9:00p	9:30p
249 COMHD	< <b>The Colbert Rep... HD</b>	South Park HD	South Park HD >
251 OXGN	< The Bad Girls Club	The Bad Girls Club	
252 LIFEHD	< The Protector HD	The New Advent... HD	How I Met Your Mot...
254 amc	< The Italian Job		
256 TCM	< Forbidden Planet	Brainstorm	>
258 FMC	< Call Northside 777	Brubaker	>

- 12hrs + 12hrs Guide Options

©DBSTALK.com FAVORITES (Fav)



Channel Banner and Time Bar: Note the extensive use of transparency.

The image shows a television screen displaying a channel banner and a time bar. The channel banner is at the top, featuring the Comedy Central logo (a stylized 'C' with a dot) on the left, the channel number '249' and 'COMHD' next to it, the program title 'The Colbert Report' in large white text, and the time '8:56p' and 'Mon' on the right. Below the banner is a navigation bar with buttons for 'TVmail', 'Info', 'Last 4', 'Favorites', 'CC', 'Audio/Video', and 'Parental'. The main content area shows a video player with a dark overlay containing the text: '"The Cars" Comedy. (2011) Stephen Colbert. Musical group The Cars. Interview, High-Def, CC.' A blue button labeled 'More Info' is positioned to the right of this text. The video player shows a scene from a stage performance with green and blue lighting. At the bottom, a red time bar displays the text 'HEROES: ARON B. KOONTZ, JOSEPH POIRIER, JON ELDER' in white. A large, semi-transparent watermark '@DBSTALK.com' is overlaid across the bottom right of the screen.

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