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(54) INTERACTIVE WAGERING SYSTEMS AND METHODS WITH MULTIPLE TELEVISION FEEDS

(75) Inventors: **Toby DeWeese**, Tulsa, OK (US); **Masood Garahi**, Superior, CO (US); **William L. Thomas**, Bixby, OK (US)

Correspondence Address:
FISH & NEAVE
1251 AVENUE OF THE AMERICAS
50TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10020-1105 (US)

(73) Assignee: ODS PROPERTIES, INC.

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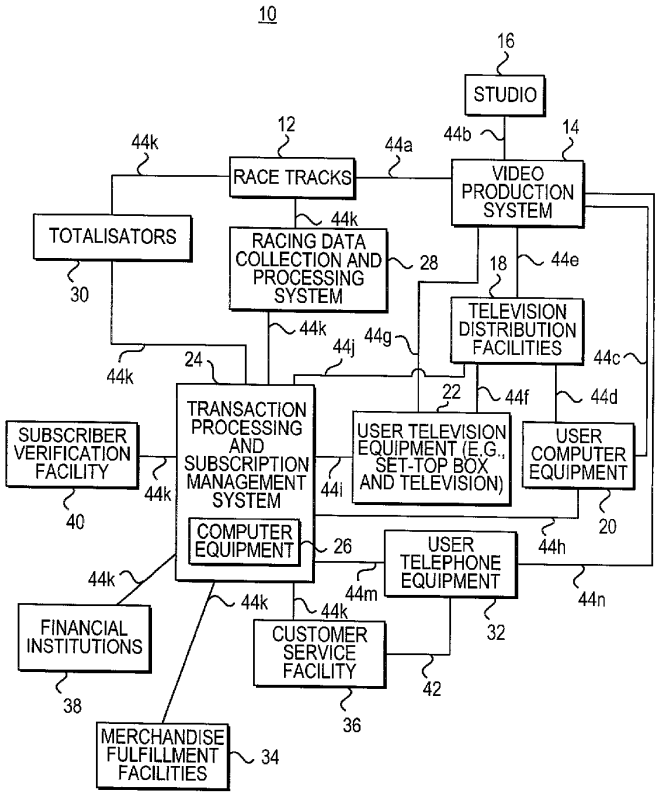
(52) U.S. Cl. 463/40

(57) ABSTRACT

Interactive wagering systems and methods with multiple television feeds are provided. A plurality of television feeds may be related to a race and race-related characteristics. A television feed may carry television feed information, which may provide sufficient information to allow a user to select an appropriate television feed for a wager or to allow the system to automatically select an appropriate feed for a wager. The interactive wagering application may also record a television feed so that the user may interact with the television feeds at any time. Wagering services may be also provided to a user through more than one wagering interface.



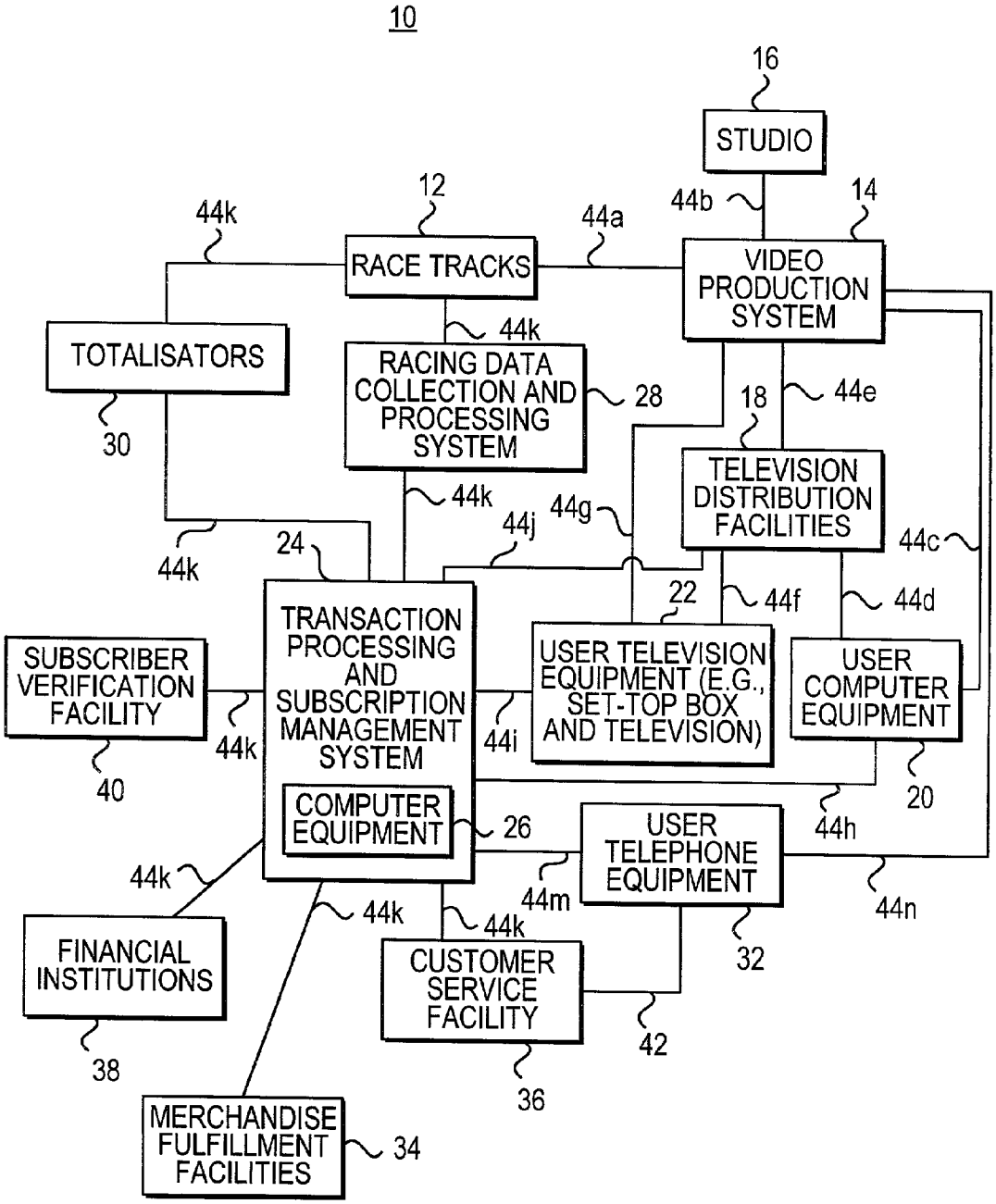

10
16
STUDIO
12
44k
44a
44b
14
RACE TRACKS
VIDEO PRODUCTION SYSTEM
TOTALISATORS
44k
RACING DATA COLLECTION AND PROCESSING SYSTEM
28
18
44e
30
TELEVISION DISTRIBUTION FACILITIES
44k
44g
44j
44c
44k
24
22
44f
44d
TRANSACTION PROCESSING AND SUBSCRIPTION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
SUBSCRIBER VERIFICATION FACILITY
USER TELEVISION EQUIPMENT (E.G., SET-TOP BOX AND TELEVISION)
USER COMPUTER EQUIPMENT
44k
44i
40
20
COMPUTER EQUIPMENT
26
44h
USER TELEPHONE EQUIPMENT
44k
44m
44n
44k
44k
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
CUSTOMER SERVICE FACILITY
32
42
38
36
MERCHANDISE FULFILLMENT FACILITIES
34

FIG. 1

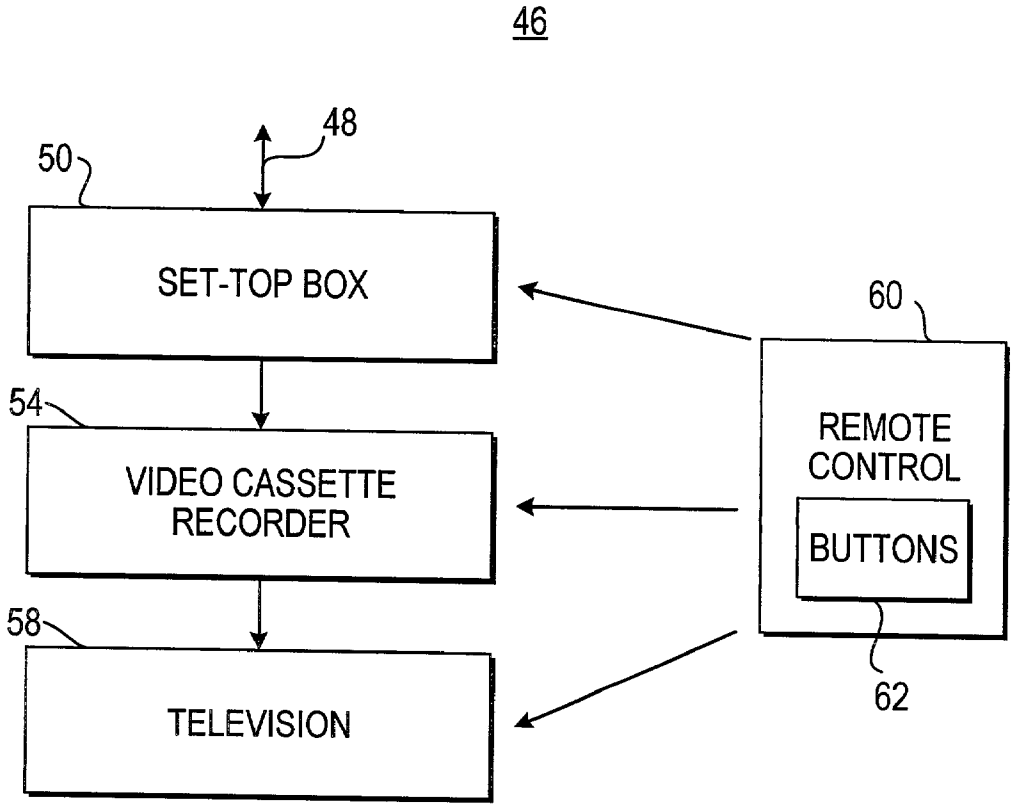

46
48
50
SET-TOP BOX
60
54
VIDEO CASSETTE RECORDER
REMOTE CONTROL
BUTTONS
58
TELEVISION
62

FIG. 2

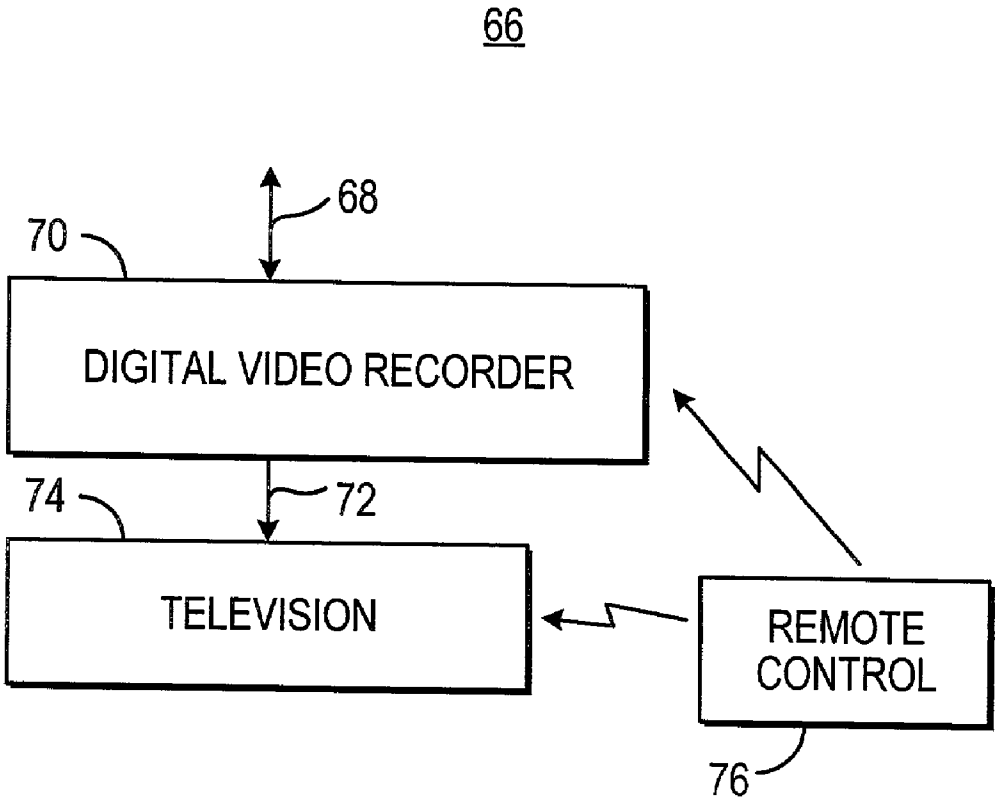

66
68
70
DIGITAL VIDEO RECORDER
74
72
TELEVISION
REMOTE CONTROL
76

FIG. 3

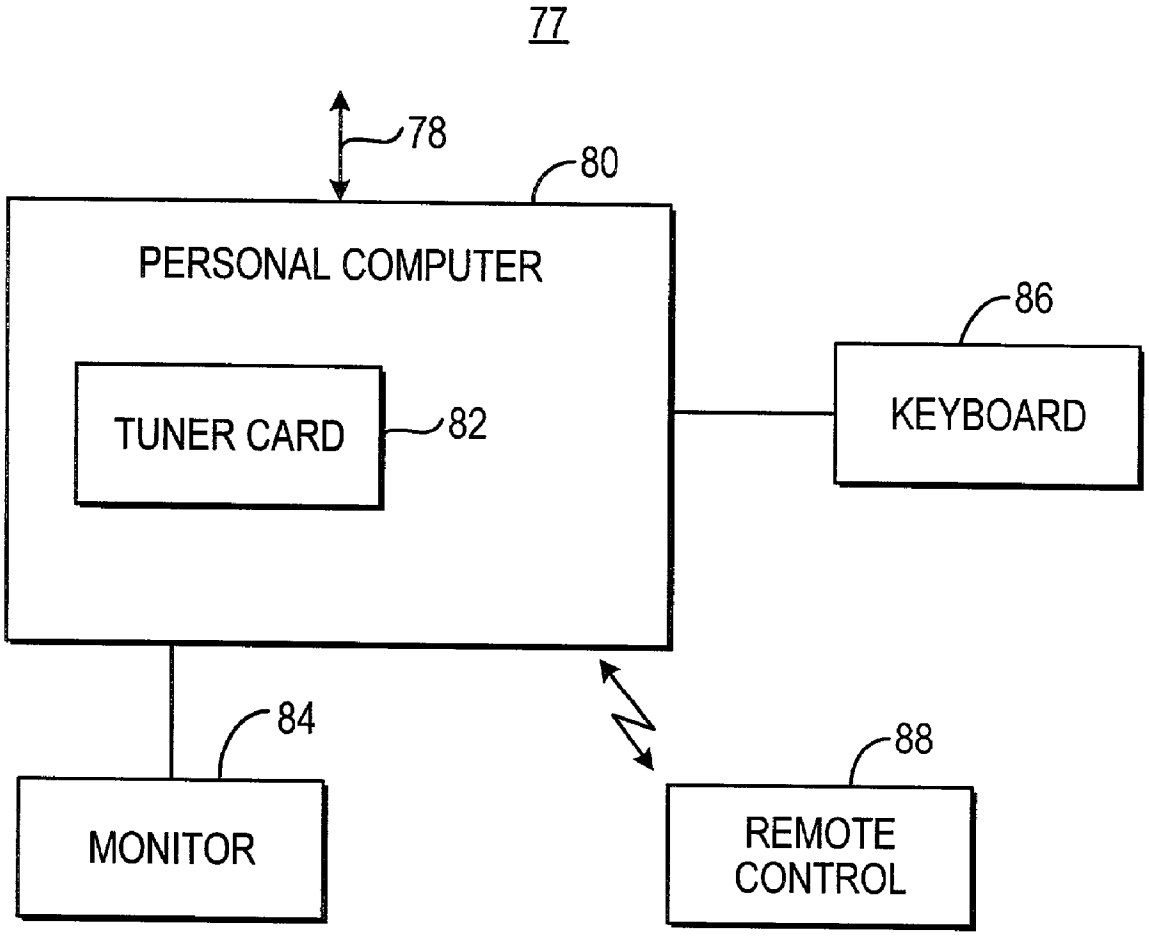

77
78
80
PERSONAL COMPUTER
TUNER CARD
82
86
KEYBOARD
84
MONITOR
88
REMOTE CONTROL

FIG. 4

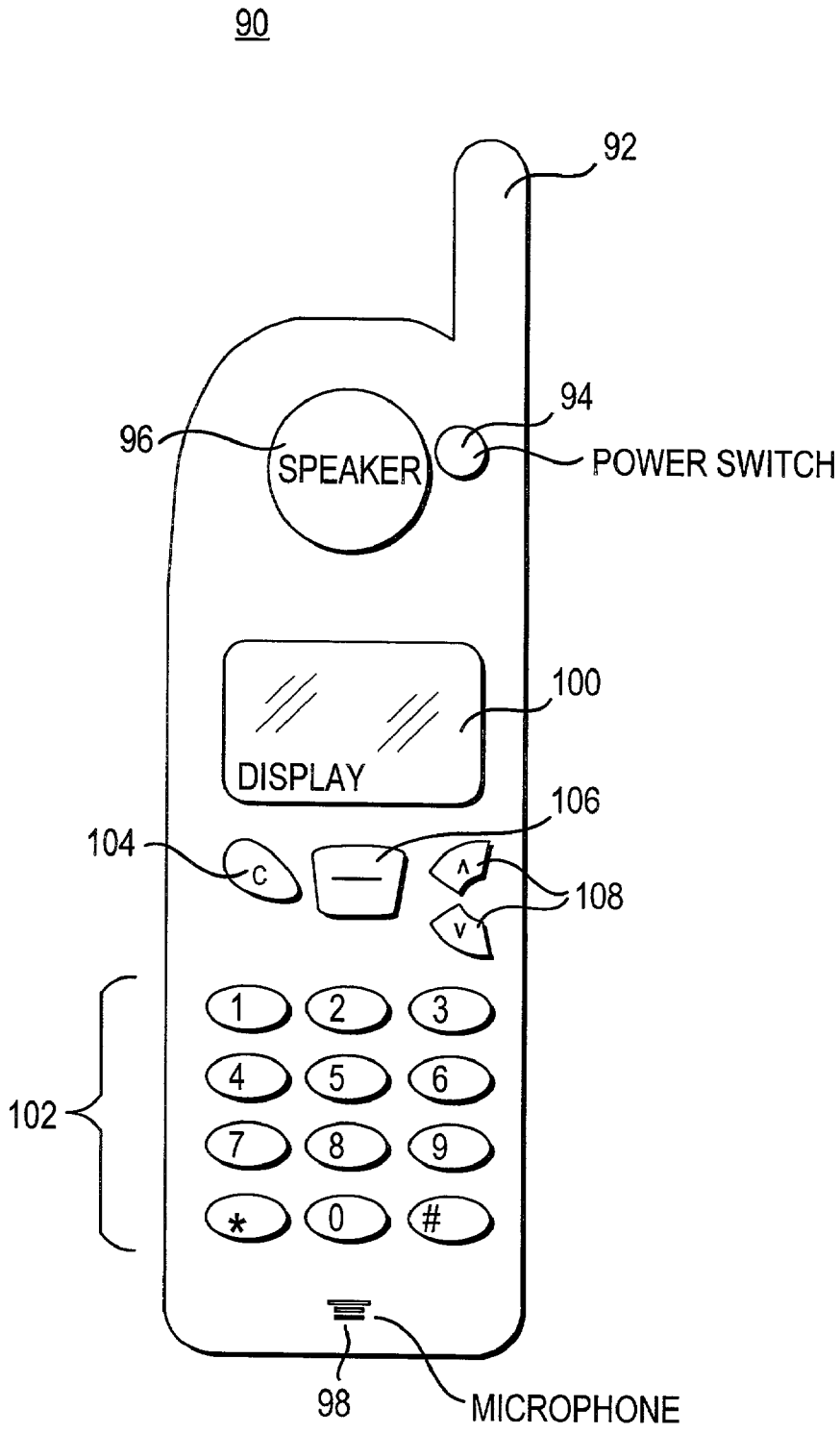

90
92
94
96
SPEAKER
POWER SWITCH
100
DISPLAY
106
104
C
108
102
1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
*
0
#
98
MICROPHONE

FIG. 5

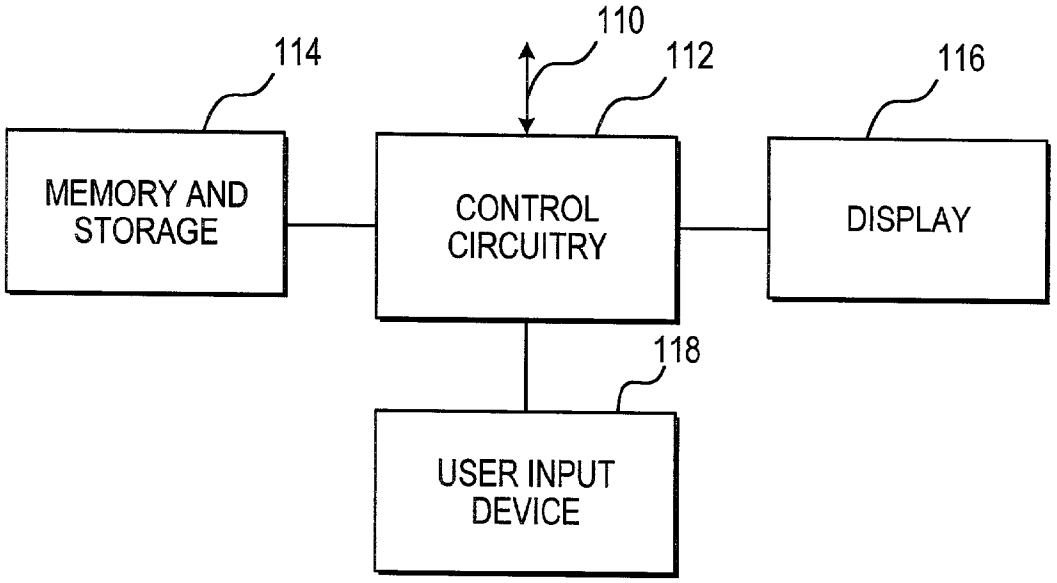

110
114
112
116
MEMORY AND STORAGE
CONTROL CIRCUITRY
DISPLAY
118
USER INPUT DEVICE

FIG. 6

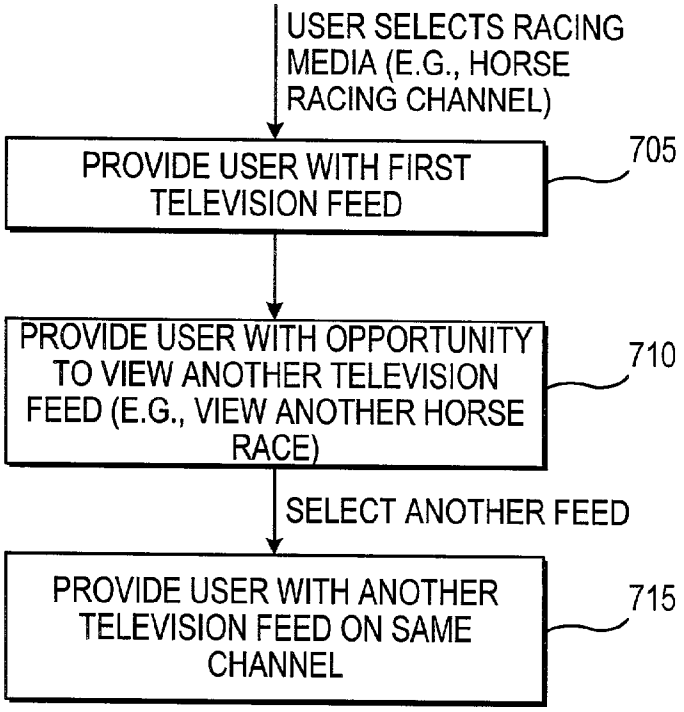

USER SELECTS RACING MEDIA (E.G., HORSE RACING CHANNEL)
PROVIDE USER WITH FIRST TELEVISION FEED
705
PROVIDE USER WITH OPPORTUNITY TO VIEW ANOTHER TELEVISION FEED (E.G., VIEW ANOTHER HORSE RACE)
710
SELECT ANOTHER FEED
PROVIDE USER WITH ANOTHER TELEVISION FEED ON SAME CHANNEL
715

FIG. 7

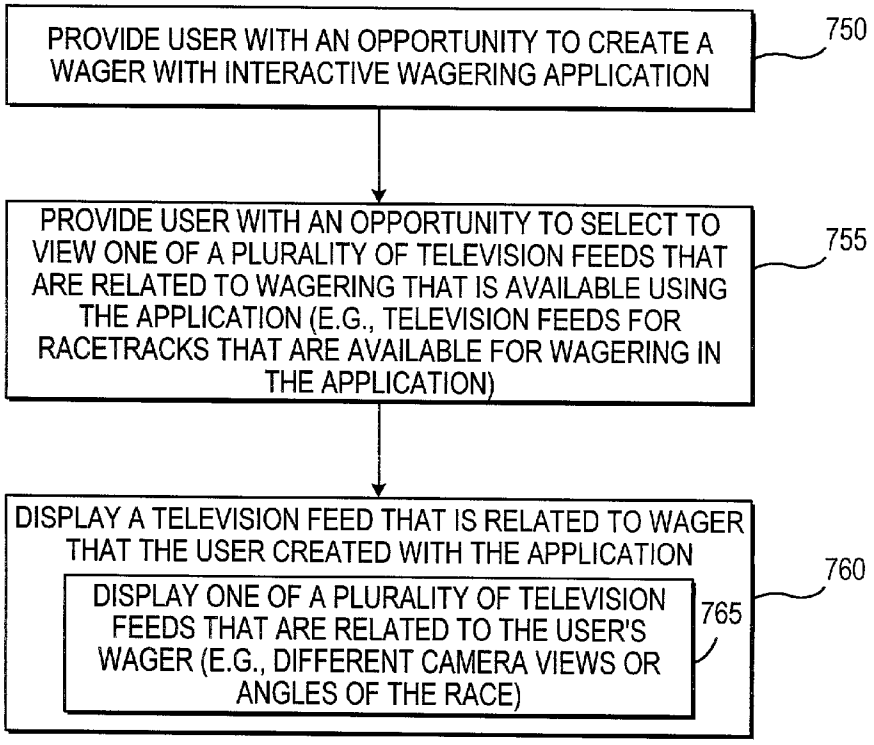

PROVIDE USER WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO CREATE A WAGER WITH INTERACTIVE WAGERING APPLICATION
750
PROVIDE USER WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO SELECT TO VIEW ONE OF A PLURALITY OF TELEVISION FEEDS THAT ARE RELATED TO WAGERING THAT IS AVAILABLE USING THE APPLICATION (E.G., TELEVISION FEEDS FOR RACETRACKS THAT ARE AVAILABLE FOR WAGERING IN THE APPLICATION)
755
DISPLAY A TELEVISION FEED THAT IS RELATED TO WAGER THAT THE USER CREATED WITH THE APPLICATION
760
DISPLAY ONE OF A PLURALITY OF TELEVISION FEEDS THAT ARE RELATED TO THE USER'S WAGER (E.G., DIFFERENT CAMERA VIEWS OR ANGLES OF THE RACE)
765

FIG. 8

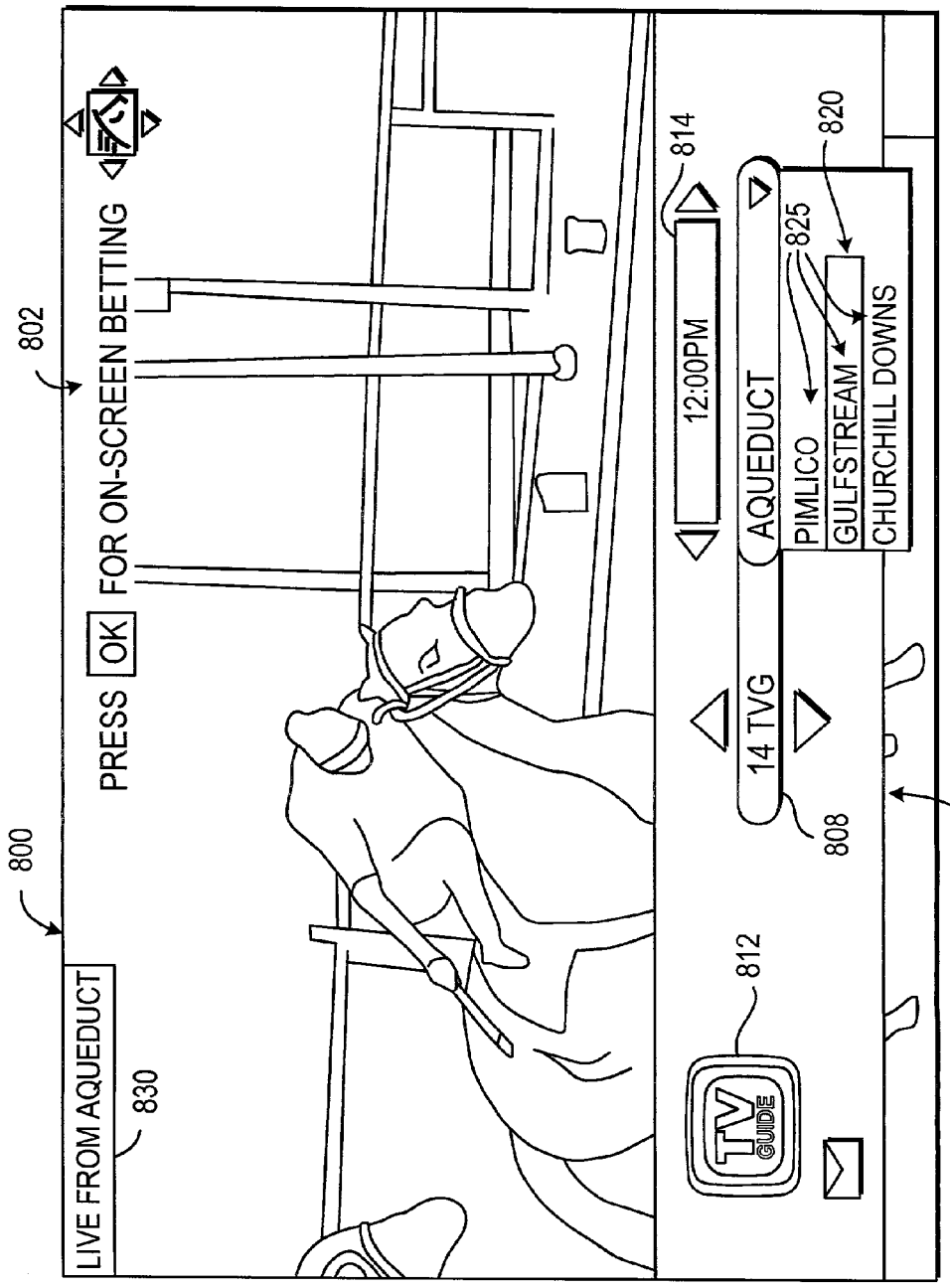

800
802
PRESS OK FOR ON-SCREEN BETTING
LIVE FROM AQUEDUCT
830
814
12:00PM
14 TVG
AQUEDUCT
PIMLICO
GULFSTREAM
CHURCHILL DOWNS
820
825
808
806
812
TV GUIDE

FIG. 9

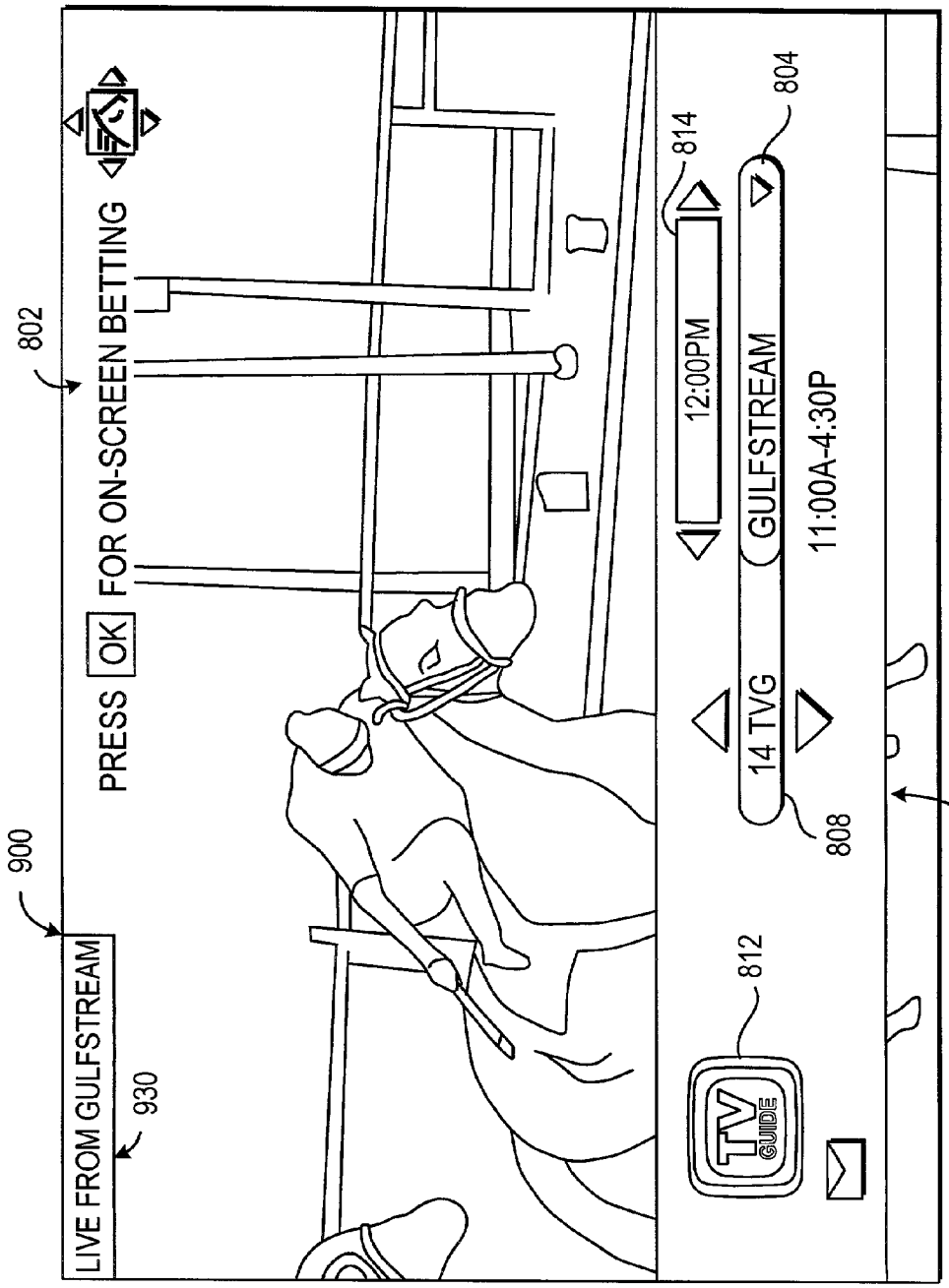

900
LIVE FROM GULFSTREAM
930
802
PRESS OK FOR ON-SCREEN BETTING
812
TV GUIDE
808
14 TVG
GULFSTREAM
11:00A-4:30P
814
12:00PM
804
806

FIG. 10

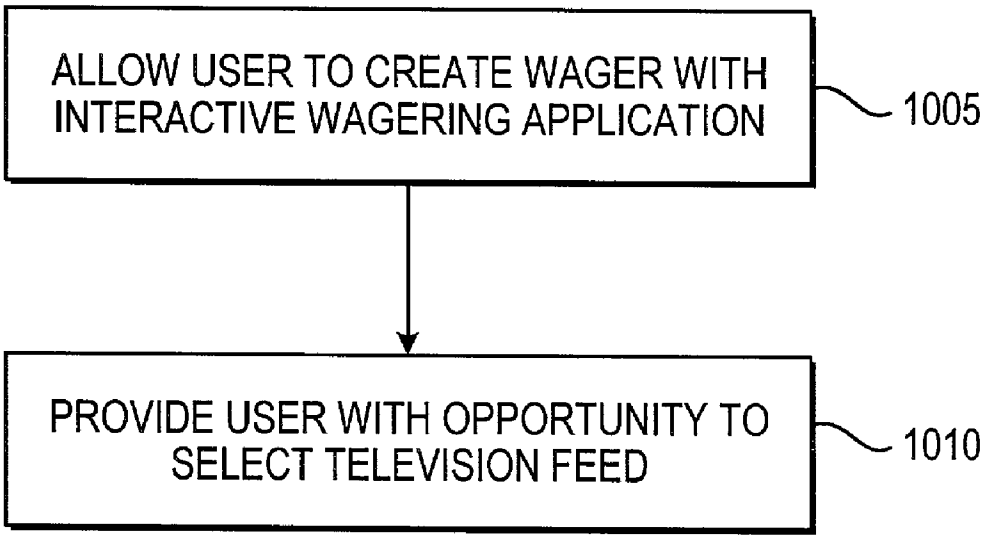

ALLOW USER TO CREATE WAGER WITH INTERACTIVE WAGERING APPLICATION
1005
PROVIDE USER WITH OPPORTUNITY TO SELECT TELEVISION FEED
1010

FIG. 11

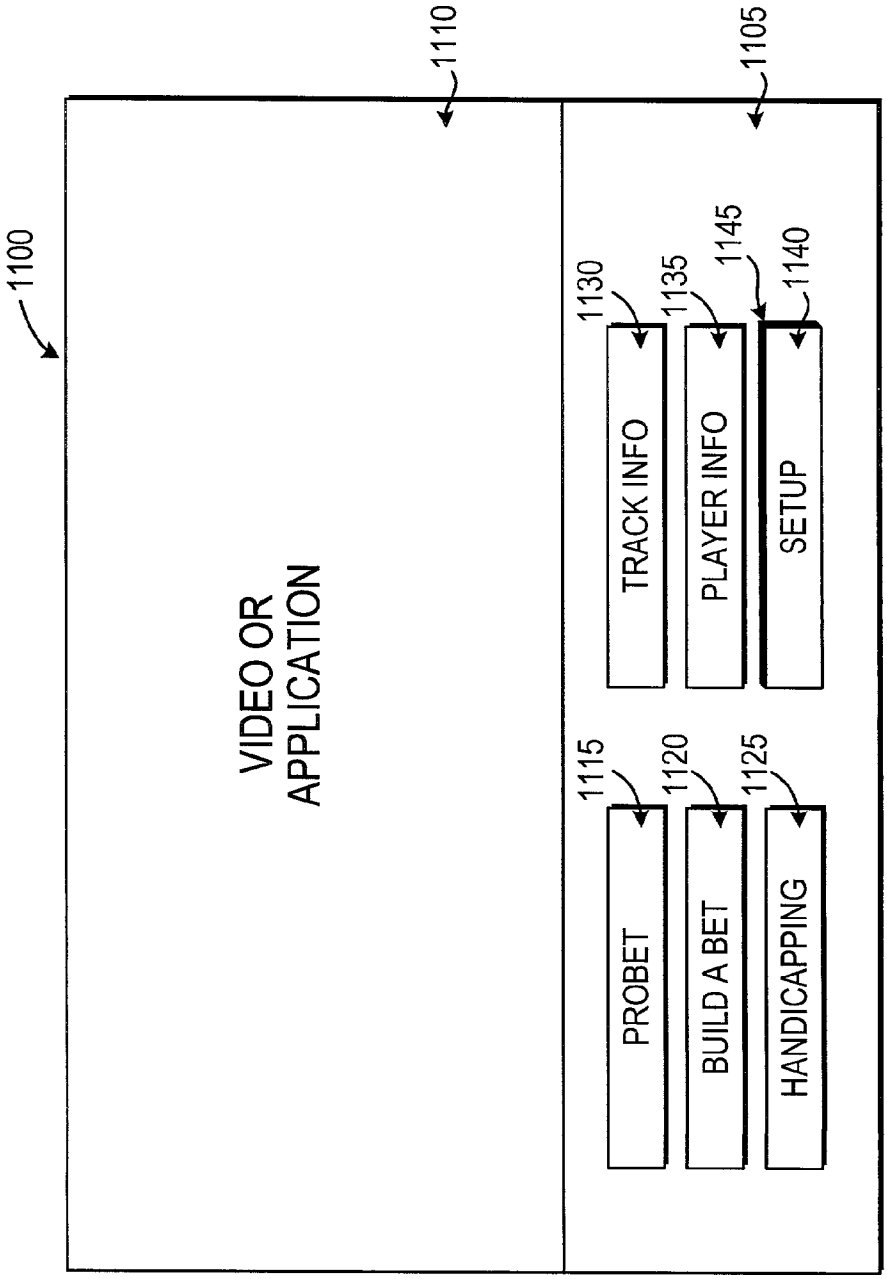

1100
1110
1105
VIDEO OR APPLICATION
1115
PROBET
1120
BUILD A BET
1125
HANDICAPPING
1130
TRACK INFO
1135
PLAYER INFO
1145
1140
SETUP

FIG. 12

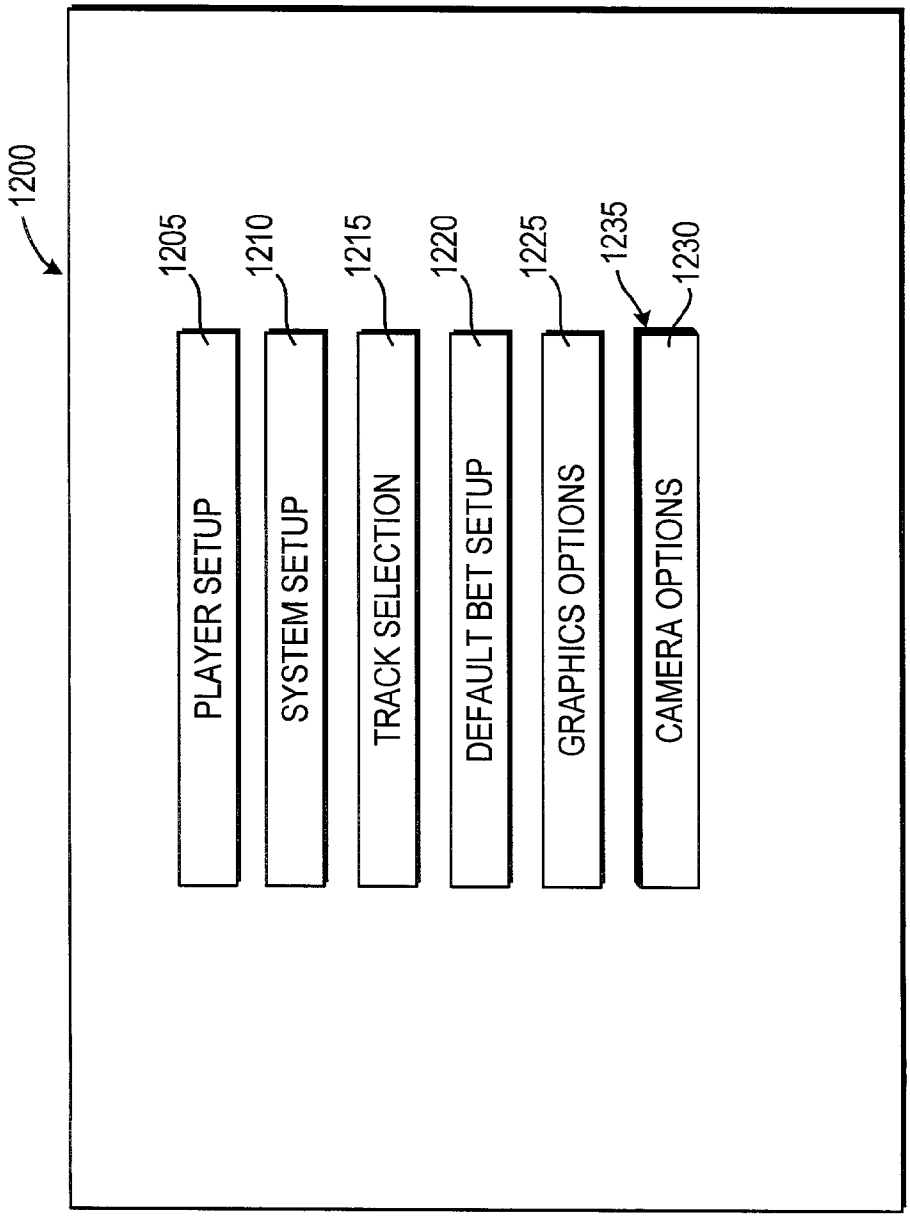

1200
1205
PLAYER SETUP
1210
SYSTEM SETUP
1215
TRACK SELECTION
1220
DEFAULT BET SETUP
1225
GRAPHICS OPTIONS
1235
1230
CAMERA OPTIONS

FIG. 13

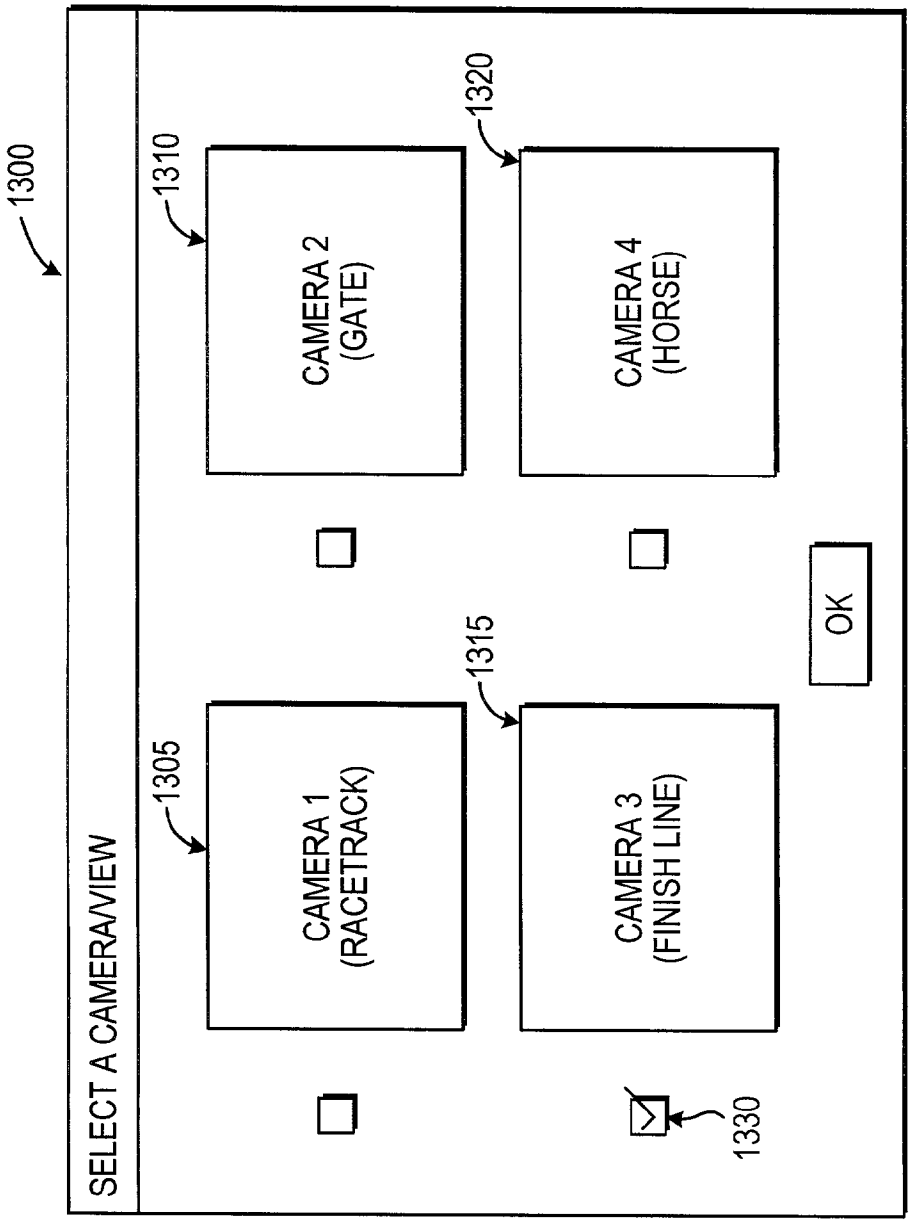

1300
SELECT A CAMERA/VIEW
1305
CAMERA 1
(RACETRACK)
1310
CAMERA 2
(GATE)
1315
CAMERA 3
(FINISH LINE)
1320
CAMERA 4
(HORSE)
OK
1330

FIG. 14

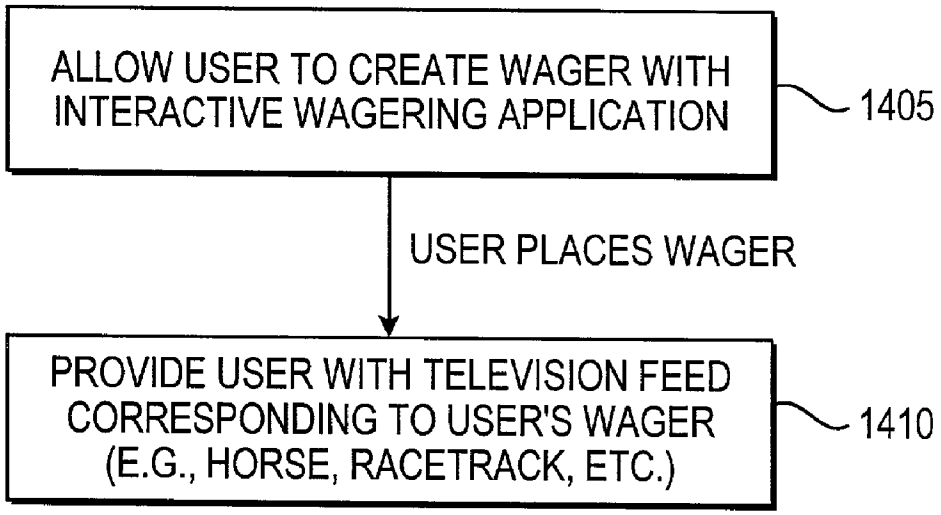

ALLOW USER TO CREATE WAGER WITH INTERACTIVE WAGERING APPLICATION
1405
USER PLACES WAGER
PROVIDE USER WITH TELEVISION FEED CORRESPONDING TO USER'S WAGER (E.G., HORSE, RACETRACK, ETC.)
1410

FIG. 15

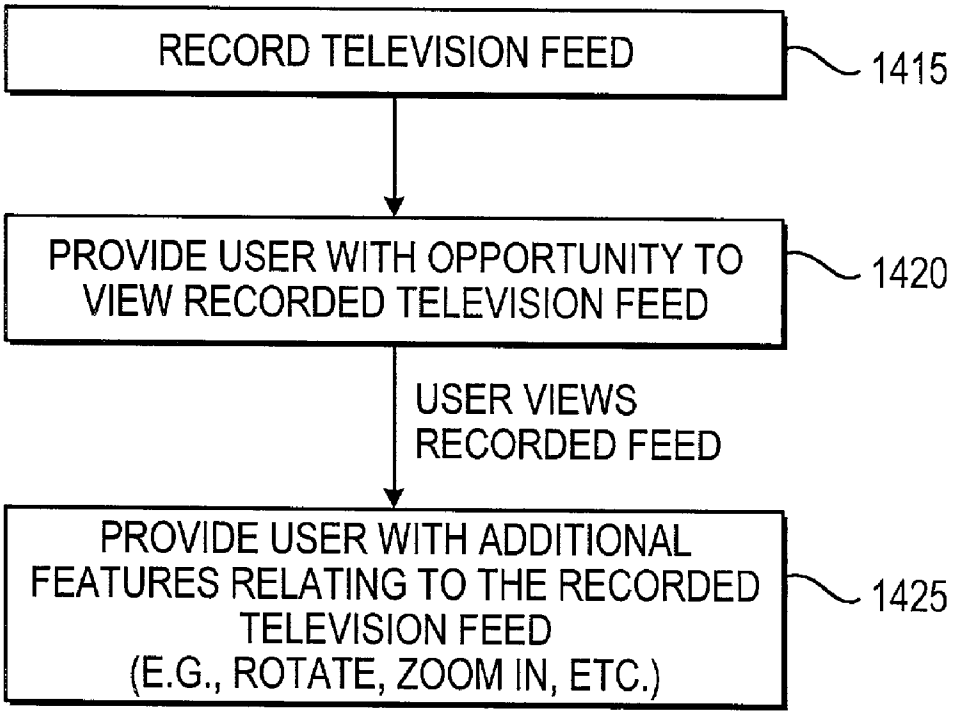

RECORD TELEVISION FEED
1415
PROVIDE USER WITH OPPORTUNITY TO VIEW RECORDED TELEVISION FEED
1420
USER VIEWS RECORDED FEED
PROVIDE USER WITH ADDITIONAL FEATURES RELATING TO THE RECORDED TELEVISION FEED (E.G., ROTATE, ZOOM IN, ETC.)
1425

FIG. 16

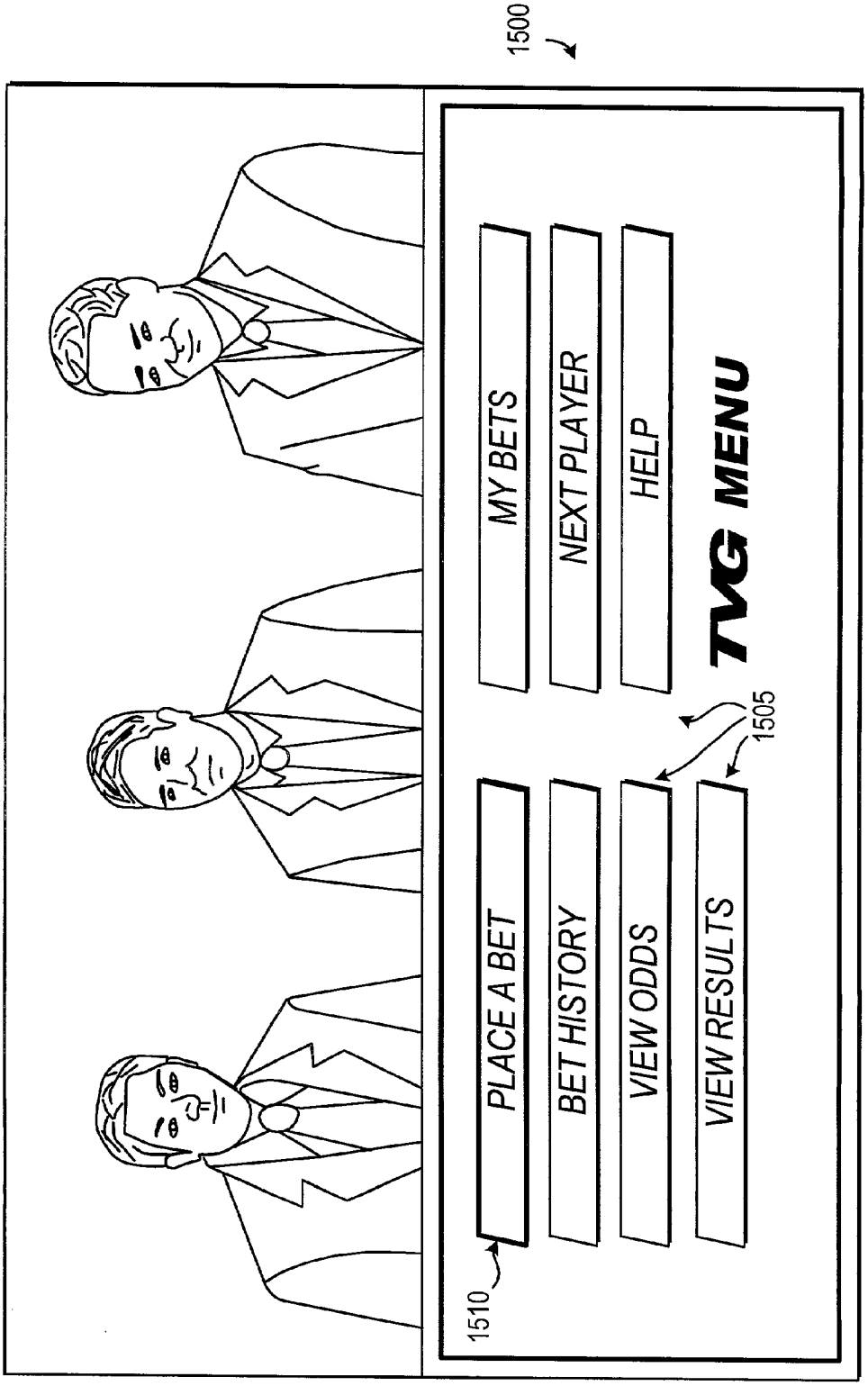

1500
TVG MENU
MY BETS
NEXT PLAYER
HELP
PLACE A BET
BET HISTORY
VIEW ODDS
VIEW RESULTS
1505
1510

FIG. 17

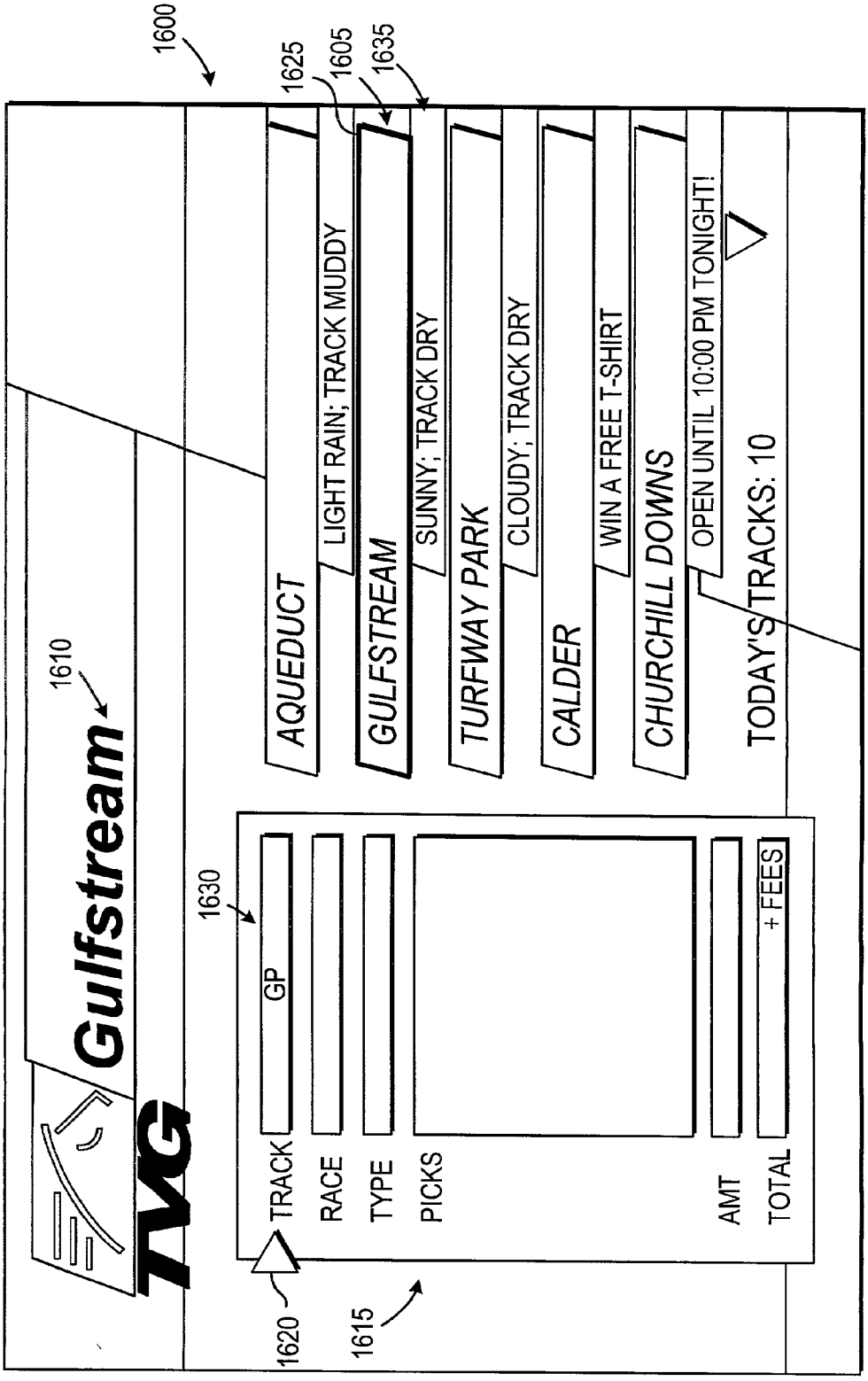

1600
1625
1605
1635
1610
Gulfstream
TVG
AQUEDUCT
LIGHT RAIN; TRACK MUDDY
GULFSTREAM
SUNNY; TRACK DRY
TURFWAY PARK
CLOUDY; TRACK DRY
CALDER
WIN A FREE T-SHIRT
CHURCHILL DOWNS
OPEN UNTIL 10:00 PM TONIGHT!
TODAY'S TRACKS: 10
1630
GP
TRACK
RACE
TYPE
PICKS
AMT
TOTAL
+ FEES
1620
1615

FIG. 18

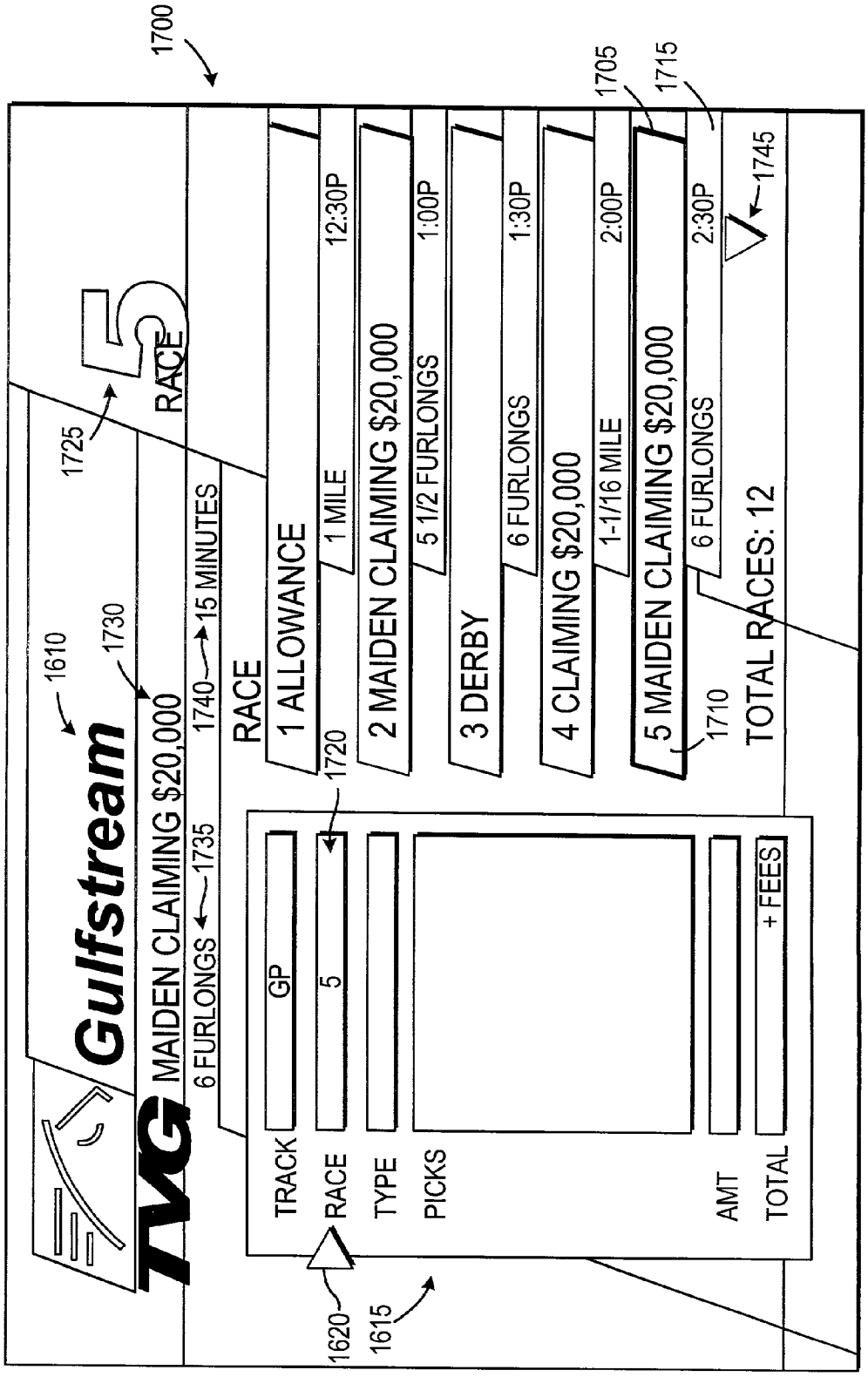

1700
1705
1715
1745
1725
RACE
5
1610
1730
Gulfstream
MAIDEN CLAIMING $20,000
6 FURLONGS
1735
1740
15 MINUTES
RACE
1 ALLOWANCE
1 MILE
12:30P
2 MAIDEN CLAIMING $20,000
5 1/2 FURLONGS
1:00P
3 DERBY
6 FURLONGS
1:30P
4 CLAIMING $20,000
1-1/16 MILE
2:00P
5 MAIDEN CLAIMING $20,000
6 FURLONGS
2:30P
1710
TOTAL RACES: 12
1720
TRACK
GP
RACE
5
TYPE
PICKS
AMT
TOTAL
+ FEES
1620
1615

FIG. 19

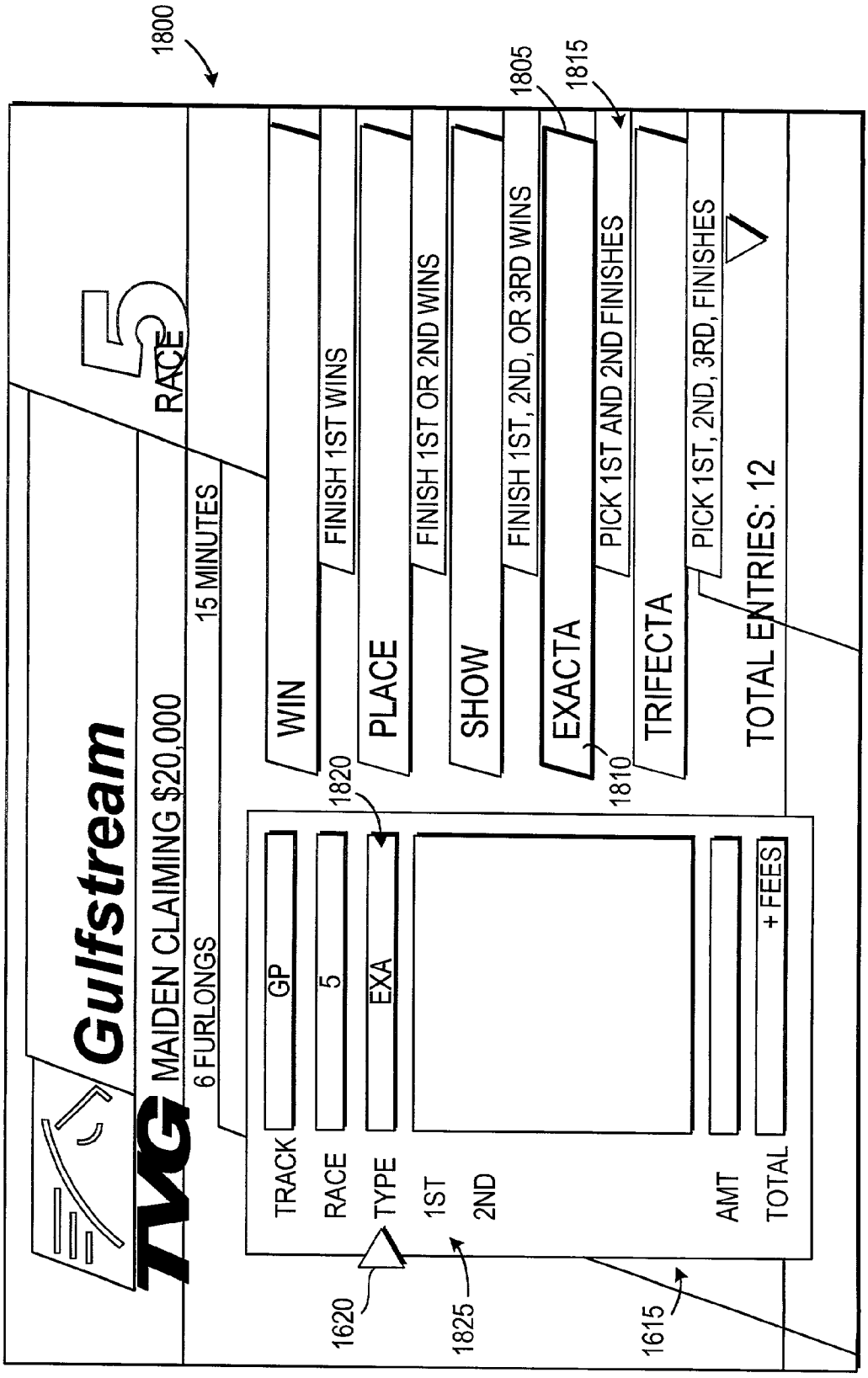

1800
1805
1815
TVG
Gulfstream
MAIDEN CLAIMING $20,000
6 FURLONGS
15 MINUTES
5
RACE
WIN
FINISH 1ST WINS
PLACE
FINISH 1ST OR 2ND WINS
SHOW
FINISH 1ST, 2ND, OR 3RD WINS
EXACTA
PICK 1ST AND 2ND FINISHES
TRIFECTA
PICK 1ST, 2ND, 3RD, FINISHES
TOTAL ENTRIES: 12
1810
1820
TRACK
GP
RACE
5
TYPE
EXA
1ST
2ND
AMT
TOTAL
+ FEES
1620
1825
1615

FIG. 20

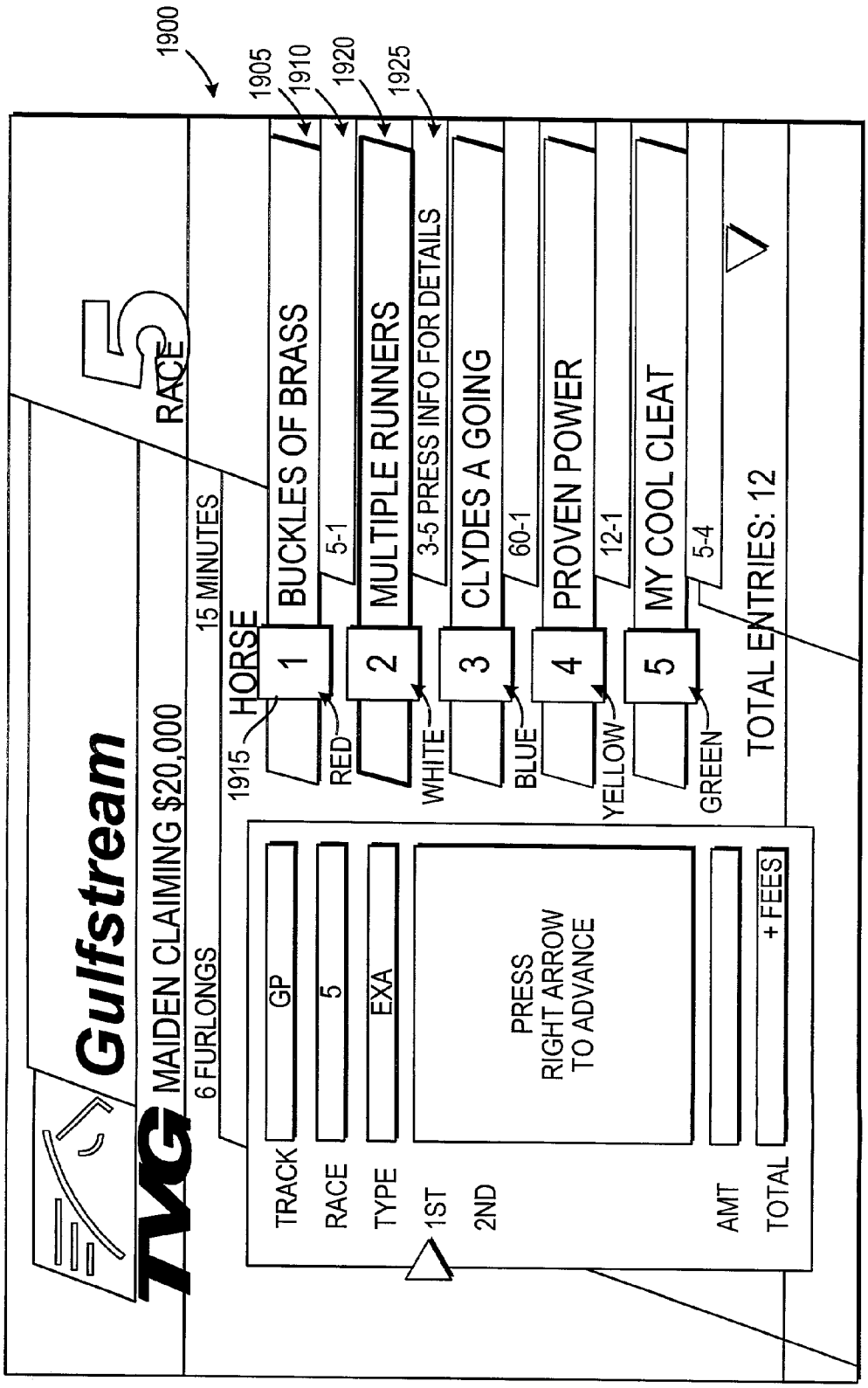

1900
1905
1910
1920
1925
TVG
Gulfstream
MAIDEN CLAIMING $20,000
6 FURLONGS
15 MINUTES
5
RACE
HORSE
1915
1
BUCKLES OF BRASS
5-1
RED
2
MULTIPLE RUNNERS
3-5 PRESS INFO FOR DETAILS
WHITE
3
CLYDES A GOING
60-1
BLUE
4
PROVEN POWER
12-1
YELLOW
5
MY COOL CLEAT
5-4
GREEN
TOTAL ENTRIES: 12
TRACK
GP
RACE
5
TYPE
EXA
1ST
2ND
PRESS
RIGHT ARROW
TO ADVANCE
AMT
TOTAL
+ FEES

FIG. 21

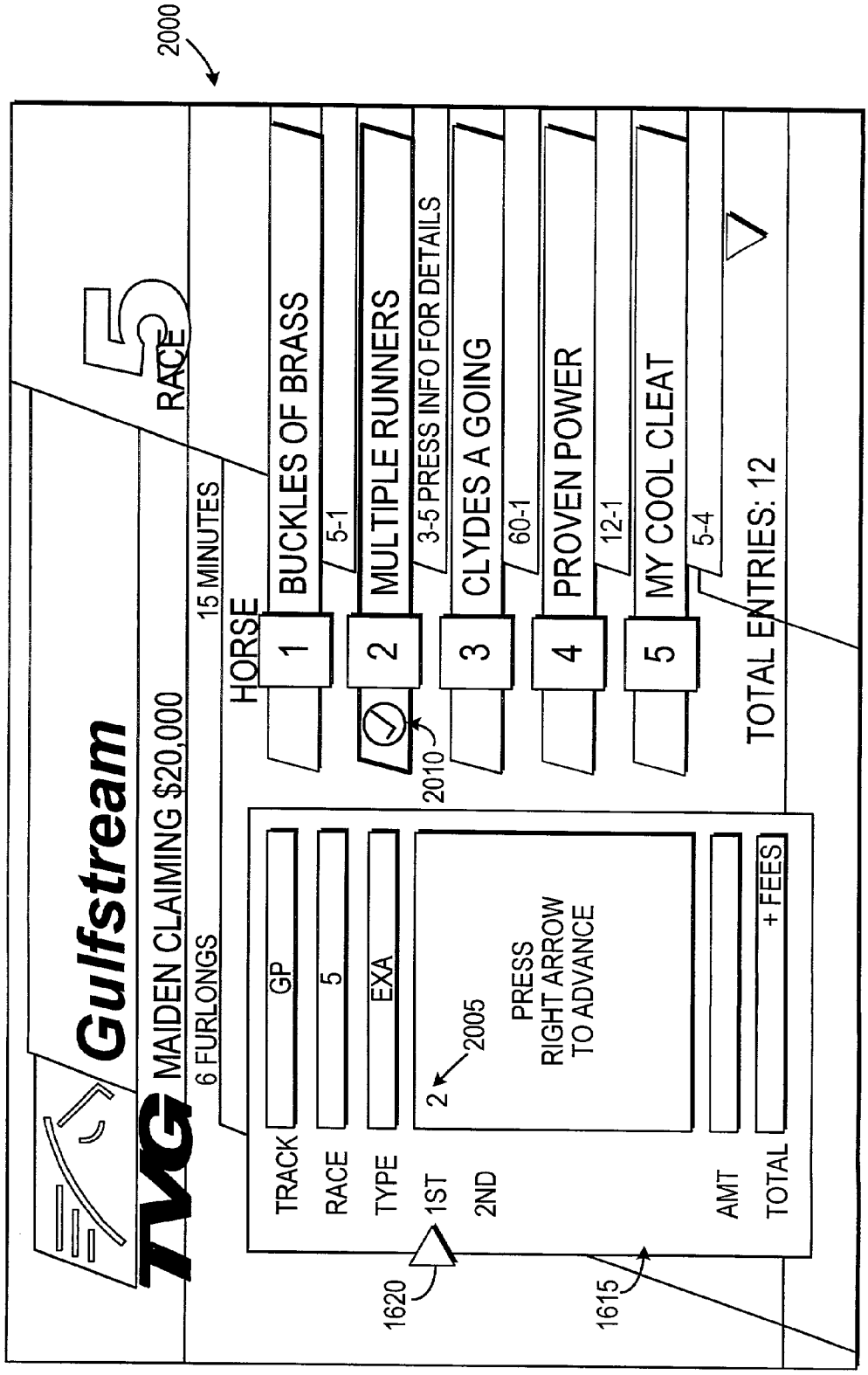

2000
TVG
Gulfstream
MAIDEN CLAIMING $20,000
6 FURLONGS
15 MINUTES
RACE
5
HORSE
1
BUCKLES OF BRASS
5-1
2
MULTIPLE RUNNERS
3-5 PRESS INFO FOR DETAILS
3
CLYDES A GOING
60-1
4
PROVEN POWER
12-1
5
MY COOL CLEAT
5-4
TOTAL ENTRIES: 12
2010
TRACK
GP
RACE
5
TYPE
EXA
1ST
2ND
2
2005
PRESS
RIGHT ARROW
TO ADVANCE
AMT
TOTAL
+ FEES
1620
1615

FIG. 22

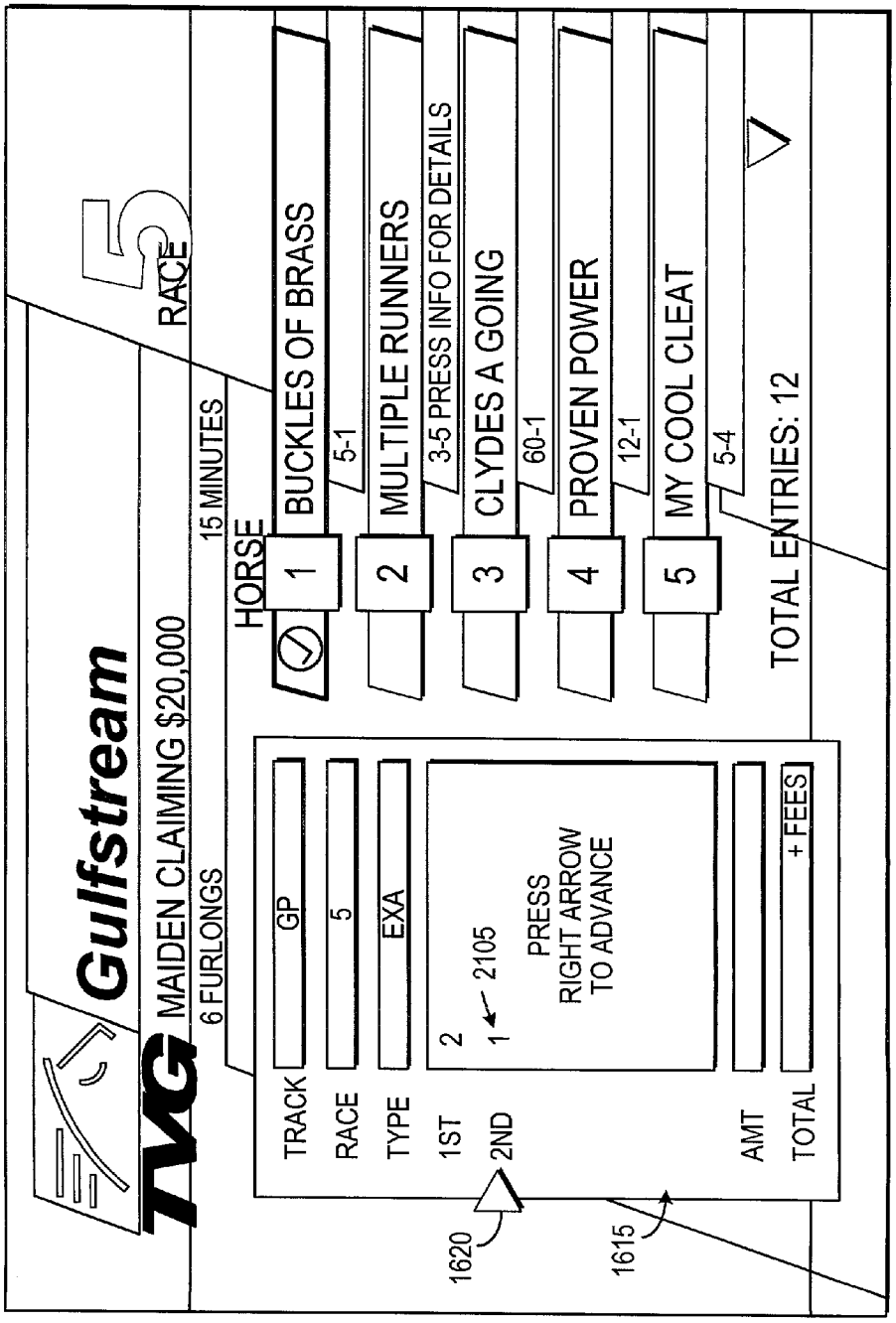

TVG
Gulfstream
MAIDEN CLAIMING $20,000
6 FURLONGS
15 MINUTES
RACE
5
HORSE
1
BUCKLES OF BRASS
5-1
2
MULTIPLE RUNNERS
3-5 PRESS INFO FOR DETAILS
3
CLYDES A GOING
60-1
4
PROVEN POWER
12-1
5
MY COOL CLEAT
5-4
TOTAL ENTRIES: 12
TRACK
GP
RACE
5
TYPE
EXA
1ST
2ND
2
1
2105
PRESS
RIGHT ARROW
TO ADVANCE
AMT
TOTAL
+ FEES
1620
1615

FIG. 23

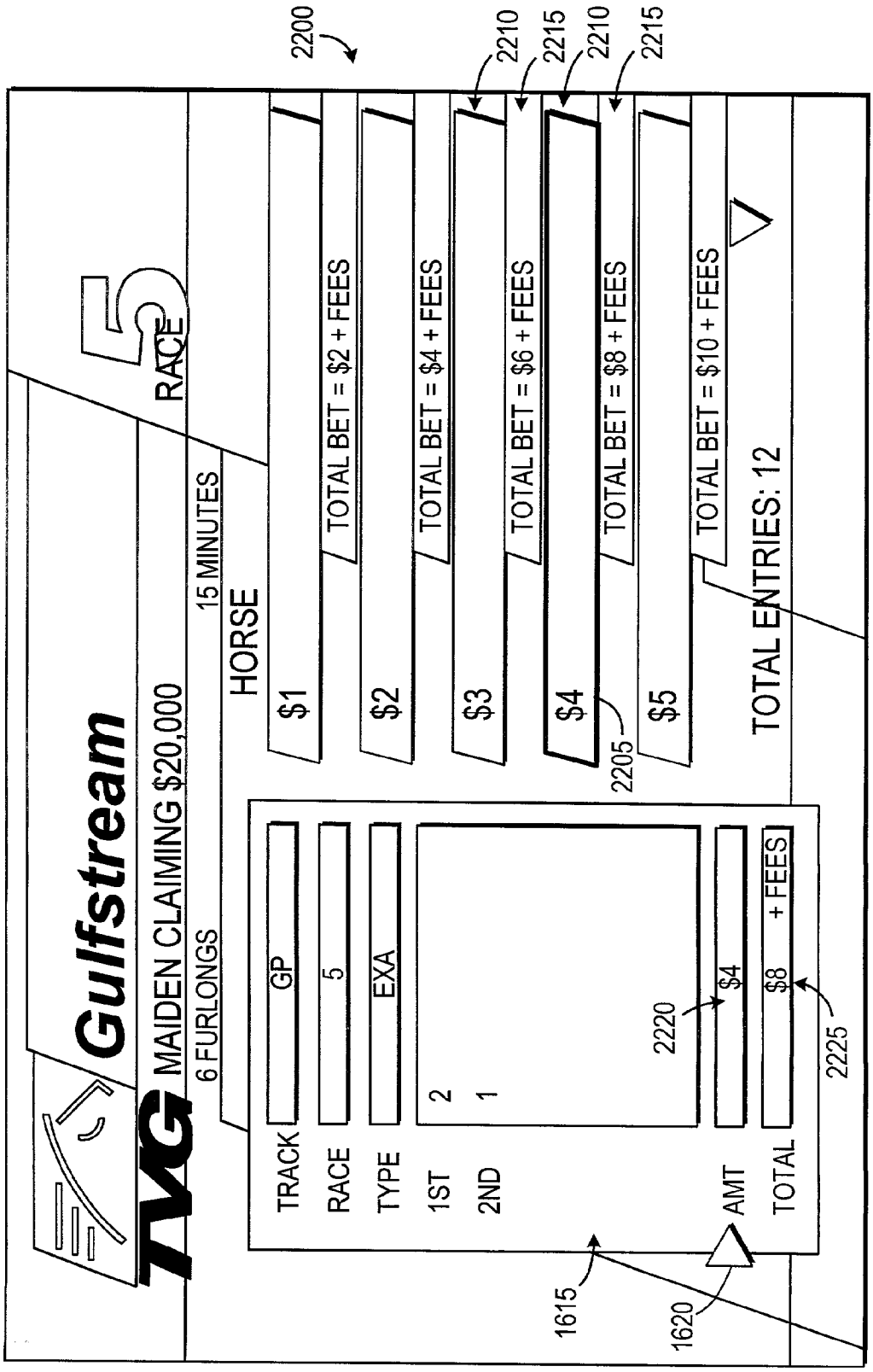

2200
2210
2215
2210
2215
TVG
Gulfstream
MAIDEN CLAIMING $20,000
6 FURLONGS
15 MINUTES
5
RACE
HORSE
$1
$2
$3
$4
$5
TOTAL BET = $2 + FEES
TOTAL BET = $4 + FEES
TOTAL BET = $6 + FEES
TOTAL BET = $8 + FEES
TOTAL BET = $10 + FEES
TOTAL ENTRIES: 12
2205
TRACK
GP
RACE
5
TYPE
EXA
1ST
2
2ND
1
2220
AMT
$4
TOTAL
$8
+ FEES
2225
1615
1620

FIG. 24

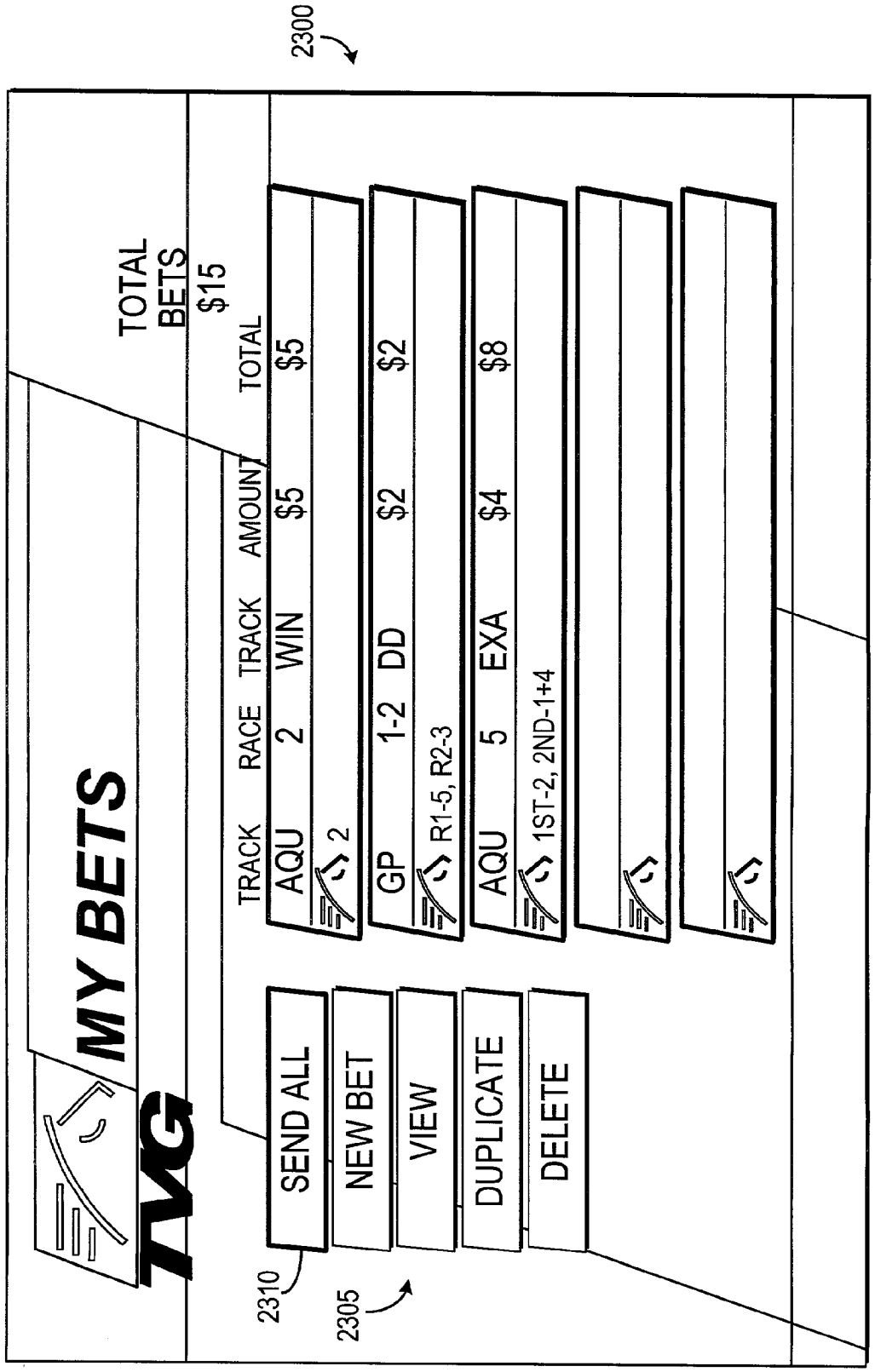

2300
TVG
MY BETS
TOTAL BETS $15
TRACK RACE TRACK AMOUNT TOTAL
AQU 2 WIN $5 $5
2
GP 1-2 DD $2 $2
R1-5, R2-3
AQU 5 EXA $4 $8
1ST-2, 2ND-1+4
SEND ALL
NEW BET
VIEW
DUPLICATE
DELETE
2310
2305

FIG. 25

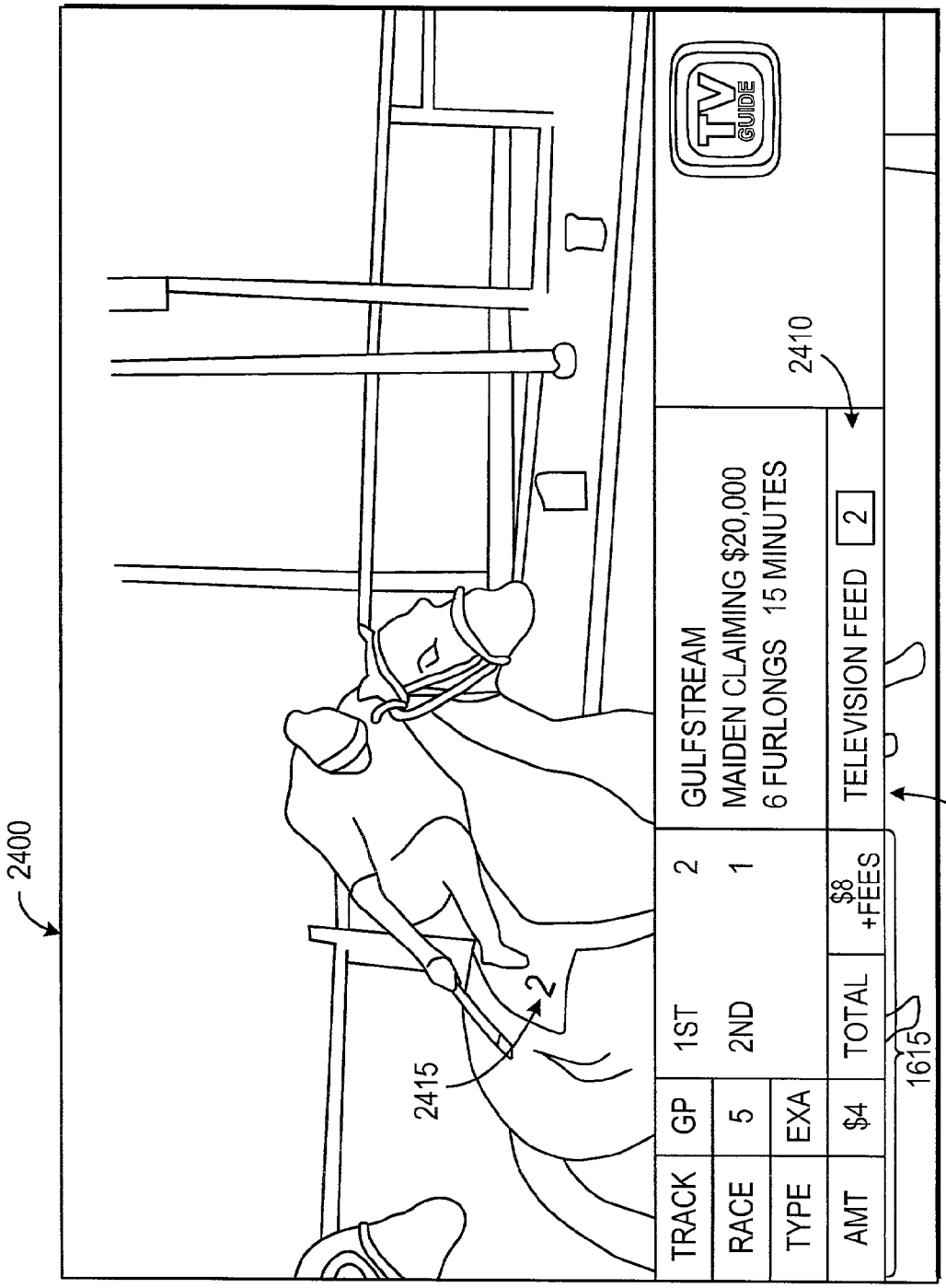

2400
2415
2
TRACK
GP
RACE
5
TYPE
EXA
AMT
$4
1ST
2
2ND
1
TOTAL
$8
+FEES
GULFSTREAM
MAIDEN CLAIMING $20,000
6 FURLONGS 15 MINUTES
TELEVISION FEED
2
TV GUIDE
2410
2405
1615

FIG. 26

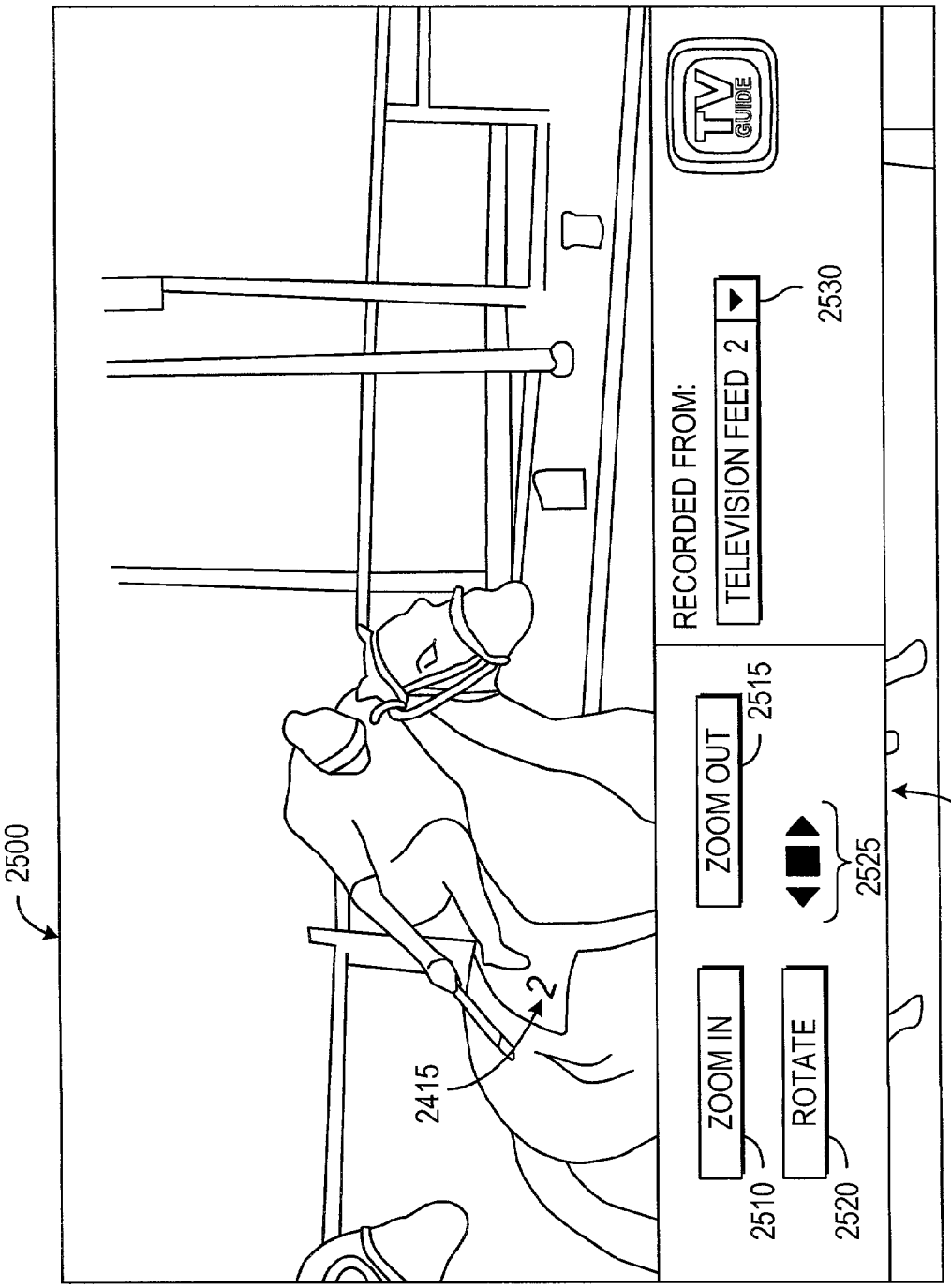

2500
2415
2
TV GUIDE
RECORDED FROM:
TELEVISION FEED 2
2530
ZOOM OUT
2515
2525
2505
ZOOM IN
ROTATE
2510
2520

FIG. 27

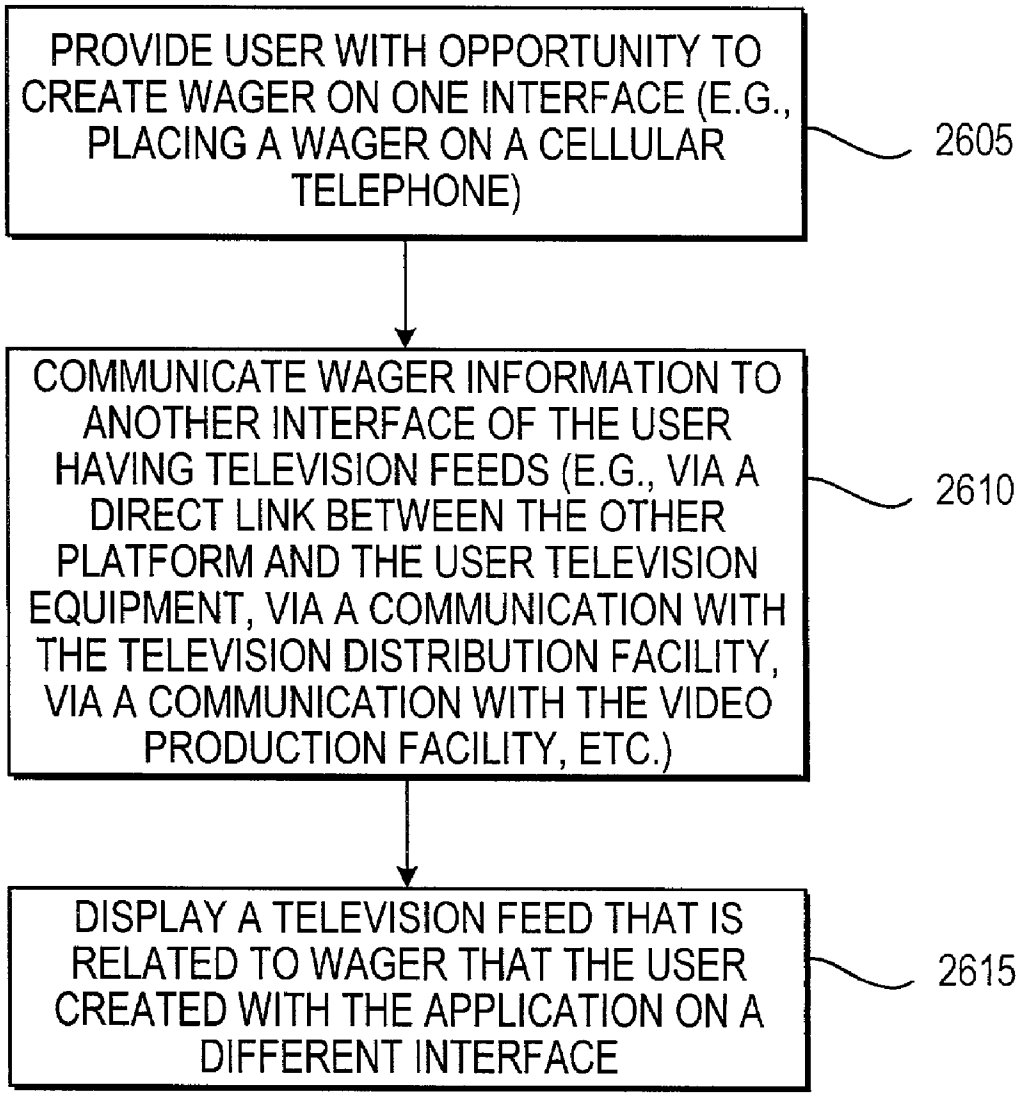

PROVIDE USER WITH OPPORTUNITY TO CREATE WAGER ON ONE INTERFACE (E.G., PLACING A WAGER ON A CELLULAR TELEPHONE)
2605
COMMUNICATE WAGER INFORMATION TO ANOTHER INTERFACE OF THE USER HAVING TELEVISION FEEDS (E.G., VIA A DIRECT LINK BETWEEN THE OTHER PLATFORM AND THE USER TELEVISION EQUIPMENT, VIA A COMMUNICATION WITH THE TELEVISION DISTRIBUTION FACILITY, VIA A COMMUNICATION WITH THE VIDEO PRODUCTION FACILITY, ETC.)
2610
DISPLAY A TELEVISION FEED THAT IS RELATED TO WAGER THAT THE USER CREATED WITH THE APPLICATION ON A DIFFERENT INTERFACE
2615

FIG. 28

INTERACTIVE WAGERING SYSTEMS AND METHODS WITH MULTIPLE TELEVISION FEEDS

[0001] This application claims the benefit of DeWeese et al. U.S. provisional patent application No. 60/194,803, filed Apr. 5, 2000, which is hereby incorporated be reference herein in its entirety.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] This invention relates to systems and methods for interactive wagering. More particularly, the present invention relates to systems and methods that provide interactive wagering systems and methods with multiple television feeds.

[0003] Wagering is a popular leisure activity. For example, many racing fans wager on events such as horse, dog, and harness racing. However, it may be inconvenient to attend racing events in person. Not all racing fans have sufficient time to visit racetracks as often as they would like and some fans have difficulties in obtaining suitable transportation to the track. Off-track betting establishments are available for fans who cannot attend racing events in person, but fans must still travel to the off-track betting establishments.

[0004] Interactive wagering using a set-top box wagering interface has become widely popular. An example of a set-top box wagering interface is illustrated in Marshall et al. U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/330,651, filed Jun. 11, 1999, which is hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety. As shown therein, an interactive wagering interface can be presented on a wagerer's television alternatively or simultaneously with television racing coverage. Because television coverage of racing may be provided in conjunction with such an interface, the wagerer may feel as though he or she is at the race and thus may be enticed to participate in wagering.

[0005] The user may view television coverage of the race after creating or placing a wager or during the wager creation process. Typically, the user is provided with racing coverage on a channel that may be showing one of many races including races on which the user has not placed a wager. The user may only be interested in racing coverage for the races on which the user has placed wagers and may be frustrated that coverage for his or her race is not currently provided for his or her race.

[0006] In view of the foregoing, it would be desirable to improve such systems.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0007] In accordance with the principles of the present invention, multiple television feed interactive wagering systems and methods may be provided to users. For example, a user may select one of multiple feeds corresponding to available cameras at a selected racetrack.

[0008] To take advantage of the ability to broadcast multiple racing feeds, some embodiments of the present invention provide systems and methods that enable the user to select from among the available television feeds through a virtual channel. The virtual channel is either separate from or integrated with an interactive wagering interface. In an interactive wagering interface that is presented through a user's set-top box, a user may select a particular race, which may cause a racing coverage channel to present the selected race to the user.

[0009] When a user selects a particular horse in a race, the selection may cause the channel to display a television feed that is selected for that horse. For example, upon placing a wager, the user may be provided automatically with television feed corresponding to the user's selected horse. This may give the user the feeling of being at the race. If desired, a user may be allowed to select one of the multiple television feeds for display.

[0010] Some embodiments of the present invention provide recorded television feed so that a user may interact with the television feeds at any time. The user may playback recorded television feeds and view the feed from different vantage points. For example, the user may desire to view the horses crossing the finish line from a different perspective.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0011] **FIG. 1** is a schematic diagram of an illustrative interactive wagering system in accordance with the present invention.

[0012] **FIG. 2** is a schematic diagram of illustrative user television equipment in accordance with the present invention.

[0013] **FIG. 3** is a schematic diagram of additional illustrative user television equipment in accordance with the present invention.

[0014] **FIG. 4** is a schematic diagram of illustrative user computer equipment in accordance with the present invention.

[0015] **FIG. 5** is a diagram of an illustrative user cellular telephone equipment in accordance with the present invention.

[0016] **FIG. 6** is a schematic diagram of illustrative user equipment in accordance with the present invention.

[0017] **FIG. 7** is a flowchart of illustrative steps involved in allowing the user to view another television feed on the same channel in accordance with the present invention.

[0018] **FIG. 8** is a flowchart of illustrative steps involved in displaying a television feed related to the wager created by the user in accordance with the present invention.

[0019] **FIGS. 9 and 10** are illustrative screens that may present television coverage of racing in accordance with the present invention.

[0020] **FIG. 11** is a flowchart of illustrative steps involved in allowing the user to select a desired television feed from multiple television feeds in accordance with the present invention.

[0021] FIGS. **12-14** are illustrative screens that may be presented when the user desires to select a specific television feed in accordance with the present invention.

[0022] **FIG. 15** is a flowchart of illustrative steps involved in providing the user with a television feed corresponding to the user's wager in accordance with the present invention.

[0023] **FIG. 16** is a flowchart of illustrative steps involved in recording a television feed in accordance with the present invention.

[0024] FIGS. **17-25** are illustrative screens for creating a wager suitable for use with the systems and methods of the present invention.

[0025] **FIG. 26** is an illustrative screen with a television feed corresponding to the user's wager in accordance with the present invention.

[0026] **FIG. 27** is an illustrative screen that may present the user with additional features relating to the recorded television feed in accordance with the present invention.

[0027] **FIG. 28** is a flowchart of illustrative steps involved in providing wagering services through more that one wagering interface in accordance with the present invention.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

[0028] An illustrative interactive wagering system **10** in accordance with the present invention is shown in **FIG. 1**. Aspects of the invention apply to various different types of wagering, but are described herein primarily in the context of interactive wagering on races (e.g., horse races) for specificity and clarity.

[0029] Races may be run at racetracks **12**, which may be located at various geographic locations. Races run at racetracks **12** may be simulcast to television viewers. For example, simulcast videos may be provided to users with satellite receivers or to off-track betting establishments via satellite.

[0030] System **10** may be used to provide an interactive wagering service to users of various user equipment. An interactive wagering application may be used to provide the wagering service. The interactive wagering application may run locally on the user equipment (e.g., on a set-top box, personal computer, cellular telephone, handheld computing device, etc.) or may run using a client-server or distributed architecture where some of the application is implemented locally on the user equipment in the form of a client process and some of the application is implemented at a remote location (e.g., on a server computer or other such equipment in the system) as a server process. These arrangements are merely illustrative. Other suitable techniques for implementing the interactive wagering application may be used, if desired.

[0031] Real time videos from racetracks **12** may also be provided to video production system **14** for distribution to users as part of a television wagering service (i.e., a wagering-related television channel or Internet-delivered service or the like). If desired, multiple simulcast videos may be provided to video production system **14** in real time. Talent (e.g., commentators) for the television wagering service provided by the interactive wagering application may be located at studio **16**. Studio **16** may provide a video feed containing commentary and the like to video production system **14**. Graphic overlays for the television wagering service may be added to the service at video production system **14**.

[0032] The television wagering service may use video production system **14** to combine selected video segments from desired racing simulcasts with the video feed from studio **16** and suitable graphic overlays. If desired, video production system **14** or a separate facility may be used to reformat simulcasts from racetracks **12**. For example, if racetracks **12** provide simulcasts as traditional analog television channels, video production system **14** (or a separate facility) may convert these simulcasts or portions of these simulcasts into digital signals (e.g., digital video signals) or into a different number of analog signals. Digital video signals may require less bandwidth than analog video signals and may be appropriate for situations in which videos are to be transmitted over either high or low bandwidth pathways. Low bandwidth pathways may include telephone lines, the Internet, etc.

[0033] Video production system **14** may be used to provide a television wagering service that includes selected simulcast videos, video from studio **16**, and graphic overlays to television distribution facilities **18** (for redistribution to user television equipment **22** and user computer equipment **20**), to user computer equipment **20**, and to user telephone equipment **32** (if user telephone equipment **32** has a display capable of displaying moving images). Television distribution facilities **18** may be any suitable facilities for supplying television to users, such as cable system headends, satellite systems, broadcast television systems, or other suitable systems or combinations of such systems. User computer equipment **20** may be any suitable computer equipment that supports an interactive wagering application. For example, user computer equipment **20** may be a personal computer. User computer equipment **20** may also be based on a workstation, a networked computer or computers, a laptop computer, a notebook computer, a handheld computing device such as a personal digital assistant or other small portable computer, etc.

[0034] Each of television distribution facilities **18** is typically located at a different geographic location. Users with user television equipment **22** may receive the television wagering service from an associated television distribution facility. User television equipment **22** may include, for example, a television or other suitable monitor. A television may be used to watch the television wagering service on a traditional analog television channel. User television equipment **22** may also include a digital or analog set-top box connected to a television distribution facility **18** by a cable path. A digital set-top box may be used to receive the television wagering service on a digital channel. If desired, user television equipment **22** may contain a satellite receiver, a WebTV box, a personal computer television (PC/TV), or hardware similar to such devices into which set-top box capabilities have been integrated. A recording device such as a videocassette recorder or digital recording device (e.g., a personal video recorder (PVR) or digital video recorder (DVR) based on hard disk drives or the like) may be used in user television equipment **22** to store videos. The recording device may be separate from or part of the other components of user television equipment **22**.

[0035] Illustrative user television equipment **46** is shown in **FIG. 2**. Set-top box **50** may receive television programming and data at line or input **48**. Set-top box **50** may have analog and digital television tuning circuitry for handling analog and digital television signals. Television signals may be passed to videocassette recorder **54**, which is separate from the hardware (i.e., set-top box **50**) that implements the

television wagering application, for recording. Set-top box **50** may also control the operation of videocassette recorder **54**. For example, set-top box **50** may issue infrared commands that are received by videocassette recorder **54** at the same inputs at which standard remote control commands are received.

[**0036**] Videocassette recorder **54** may be connected to television **58**. Television programming and graphic display screens generated by applications implemented using set-top box **50** may be passed from set-top box **50** to television **58** through videocassette recorder **54**.

[**0037**] Set-top box **50** has memory and processing circuitry. This allows set-top box **50** to be used to implement applications that support an interactive wagering application, television wagering service, interactive television program guide, web browsing and Internet access, and other services such as home shopping, home banking, and video-on-demand services, etc.

[**0038**] A remote control **60** such as an infrared remote control may be used to control set-top box **50**, videocassette recorder **54**, and television **58**. Remote control **60** may have buttons **62** such as a power button, right, left, up, and down arrow keys, an OK or select key, a favorites or fav key, a lock or parental control key, etc.

[**0039**] Illustrative user television equipment **66** based on a digital video recorder **70** is shown in **FIG. 3**. Digital video recorder **70** may receive television programming and may access interactive services using line or input **68**. Digital video recorder **70** may have analog and digital tuning circuitry to receive and process television signals. Digital video recorder **70** may be used to record television programs in any suitable format. For example, digital videos may be stored using the MPEG-2 format.

[**0040**] Recorded videos or real-time videos from input **72** may be displayed on television **74** or any other suitable monitor. A remote control **76** such as an infrared remote control may be used to control digital video recorder **70** and television **74**. Remote control **76** may have buttons such as a power button, right, left, up, and down arrow keys, an OK or select key, a favorites or fav key, a lock or parental control key, etc.

[**0041**] Digital video recorder **70** has memory and processing circuitry that allows digital video recorder **70** to be used to implement applications that support an interactive wagering application, television wagering service, interactive television program guide, web browsing and Internet access, and other services such as home shopping, home banking, and video-on-demand services, etc. Television programming and display screens generated by interactive applications may be displayed on television **74**.

[**0042**] Referring back to **FIG. 1**, user computer equipment **20** may receive the television wagering service using a video card or other video-capable equipment to receive analog or digital (e.g., moving picture experts group or MPEG) videos from a television distribution facility. User computer equipment **20** may also receive the television wagering service directly from video production system **14** using, for example, a modem link. If desired, the video for the television wagering service may be compressed (e.g., using MPEG techniques). This may be useful, for example, if the path to user computer equipment **20** is a modem connection using telephone links. If video production system **14** is only used to serve user computer equipment **20** without traditional analog television capabilities, video production system **14** may only need to supply such digitally-compressed video signals and not analog television signals.

[**0043**] Illustrative user computer equipment **77** is shown in **FIG. 4**. User computer equipment **77** may be based on a personal computer **80** or any other suitable computing device. Personal computer **80** may receive television programing and information for interactive services using line or input **78**. Personal computer **80** may contain a tuner card **82** or other suitable circuitry for handling analog and digital television signals. Personal computer **80** may also contain memory and processing circuitry that allows personal computer **80** to be used to implement applications that support an interactive wagering application, television wagering service, interactive television program guide, web browsing and Internet access, and other services such as home shopping, home banking, video-on-demand services, etc. Personal computer **80** may contain a storage device such as a hard disk drive to store videos. Television signals and screens generated by interactive applications may be displayed on monitor **84**.

[**0044**] The user may interact with personal computer **80** using any suitable user input interface, such as keyboard **86**, a pointing device such as a trackball, mouse, or touch pad, a voice recognition system, a handwriting recognition system, etc. If desired, the user may interact with personal computer **80** using a wireless remote control such as remote control **88**. Remote control **88** may be, for example, an infrared remote control.

[**0045**] Referring back to **FIG. 1**, video clips of races and other simulcast information may be provided to users in the form of a television wagering service or by an interactive wagering service provided by the interactive wagering application. If desired, race-related videos may be provided to the user by using video production system **14** or other suitable equipment to route appropriate video clips from the simulcasts to the user in real time. Video clips may also be stored for later viewing. For example, one or more video servers located at racetracks **12**, video production system **14**, television distribution facilities **18**, or other suitable locations may be used to store video clips. The stored videos may then be played back in real time or downloaded for viewing at user television equipment **22**, user computer equipment **20**, or user telephone equipment **32**. The video clips may contain videos of races, commentary, interviews with jockeys, or any other suitable race-related information. If desired, real-time or stored videos may be provided from racetracks **12** directly to user television equipment **22**, user computer equipment **20**, or user telephone equipment **32** over the Internet or other suitable communications paths without involving video production system **14**. Videos may also be provided by routing video signals through equipment located elsewhere in system **10**. For example, videos may be routed through transaction processing and subscription management system **24**.

[**0046**] In some embodiments, video clips of races, real-time videos of races, or any other simulcast may be transmitted through multiple feeds to user television equipment **22**, user computer equipment **20**, user telephone equipment **32**, or any other suitable user equipment. For example, one

or more cameras at racetracks **12** may transmit videos from the cameras to video production system **14**. Video production system **14** may transmit the videos created at racetracks **12** to television distribution facilities **18**, which may transmit the videos using one or more television feeds to user television equipment. As discussed below, videos may be provided to television distribution facilities **18** and/or user television equipment **22** as digital signals by, for example, having a number of digital videos (e.g., ten or more digital video channels) carried on a single analog television feed. However, any other suitable approach may be used.

[**0047**] Television distribution facilities **18**, video production system **14**, or any other suitable facility may transmit multiple television feeds. Television distribution facilities **18** or video production system **14** may provide a plurality of television feeds that each correspond to a race (e.g., a race that is available for wagering on the system). Moreover, each television feed that is for a particular race may be, for example, on a single channel that may carry a number of digital feeds for the race that correspond to that channel. For example, video production system **14** may transmit ten digital videos for one available race on one feed. A television feed may carry race-related information corresponding to the race that is on that television feed. Race-related information may include race-related statistics, weather information, commentary, feed information, or any other suitable information. For example, television feed number two may be assigned to all races at Churchill Downs. When a user creates a wager and bets on a horse racing a Churchill Downs, television distribution facilities **18** or video production system **14** may distribute television feed number two to the user with the race-related information.

[**0048**] Other examples may include distributing information about which television feeds for a particular race are related to which race characteristics (e.g., which horse, camera angle, etc.) For example, television feed number two may be assigned to horse number two at Churchill Downs. Television feed number two may provide the user (e.g., wagerer) with videos of races, commentary, feed information, or any other suitable race-related information pertaining to horse number two at Churchill Downs. The television feed information may provide sufficient information to allow a user to select an appropriate feed for a wager or to allow the system to automatically select an appropriate feed for a wager. The feed information may be carried with the television feeds, separate from the feeds (e.g., using a computer connection), or in a combination thereof. Examples of paths for communicating data are discussed in connection with **FIG. 1**. Any other suitable approach may be used.

[**0049**] Transaction processing and subscription management system **24** may contain computer equipment **26** and other equipment for supporting system functions such as transaction processing (e.g., handling tasks related to wagers, product purchasing, adjusting the amount of funds in user accounts based on the outcomes of wagers, video clip ordering, etc.), data distribution (e.g., for distributing racing data to the users), and subscriber management (e.g., features related to opening an account for a user, closing an account, allowing a user to add or withdraw funds from an account, changing the user's address or personal identification number, etc.). Databases within transaction processing and subscription management system **24** or associated with system **24** may be used to store racing data, wagering data and other transaction data, and subscriber data such as information on the user's current account balance, past wagering history, individual wager limits, personal identification number, billing addresses, credit card numbers, bank account numbers, social security numbers, etc. Using such databases may allow the user to access information more quickly and allows for central administration of the wagering service.

[**0050**] If desired, racing videos and other services may be provided using servers and other equipment located at transaction processing and subscription management system **24**. For example, video clips may be provided to the user on-demand. Interactive advertisements may be provided to the user. When the user selects a desired advertisement, transaction processing and subscription management system **24** may provide additional information or other services related to the advertisement to the user.

[**0051**] Product ordering services may be implemented using computer equipment at transaction processing and subscriber management system **24** to handle orders and to assist in adjusting the appropriate account of the user accordingly. Orders may be fulfilled using merchandise fulfillment facilities **34**. Merchandise fulfillment facilities **34** may be operated solely to provide merchandise fulfillment or may be associated with independently-operated mail-order or on-line businesses. Similar facilities may be used to allow users to order services.

[**0052**] Statistical racing data such as the post times for each race, jockey names, runner names and the number of races associated with each track, handicapping information (e.g., information on past performances such as the number of wins and losses for the past year, etc.), and weather conditions at various tracks may be provided by racing data collection and processing system **28**. Some of the data may be collected from racetracks **12** and some may be provided by third party information sources such as Axcis Pocket Information Network, Inc. of Santa Clara, Calif. or other suitable data sources.

[**0053**] Racing data may also be provided from totalisators **30**. Totalisators **30** are the computer systems that may be used to handle wagers made at the racetracks, made at off-track betting establishments, and made using interactive wagering system **10**. Totalisators **30** generate wagering odds in real time. Totalisators **30** generate these odds based on information on which wagers are being placed (e.g., based on information on which wagers are being placed on races at racetracks **12**). Totalisators **30** are available from companies such as Amtote International, Inc. of Hunt Valley, Md. Totalisators **30** may be associated with individual racetracks **12** or groups of racetracks **12**. Totalisators **30** may communicate with one another using a communication protocol known as the Intertote Track System Protocol (ITSP). This allows totalisators **30** to share wagering pools. Totalisators **30** may provide racing data including information on the current races at racetracks **12**, the number of races associated with each racetrack, win, place, and show odds and pool totals for each horse or other runner, and exacta, trifecta, and quinella payoff predictions and pool totals for every possible combination of runners. Totalisators **30** may also provide current odds and other real time racing data for other types of wagers. Totalisators **30** may provide the time until post time for each race.

[**0054**] Totalisators **30** may provide race results, such as the order-of-finish list for at least the first three positions and

payoff values versus a standard wager amount for win, place, and show, for each runner in the finish list. Payoff values may be provided for winning complex wager types such as exacta, trifecta, quinella, pick-n (where n is the number of races involved in the pick-n wager), and daily double. The payoff values may be accompanied by a synopsis of the associated finish list.

[**0055**] Totalisators **30** may also provide program information of the type typically provided in printed racing programs. Such program information may include early odds, early scratches, race descriptions (including the distance of each race and the race surface—grass, dirt, artificial turf, etc.), allowed class ratings (based on a fixed ratio of external criteria), purse value (payoff to winning runner), allowed age range of runners, and the allowed number of wins and starts for each runner.

[**0056**] If desired, some of the information provided to transaction processing and subscription management system **24** by totalisators **30** (such as the program information or other suitable racing data) may be provided by racing data collection and processing system **28**. Similarly, some of the information provided to transaction processing and subscription management system **24** by racing data collection and processing system **28** may be provided by totalisators **30**. Moreover, the foregoing examples of different suitable types of racing data are merely illustrative. Any suitable data related to racing may be provided to transaction processing and subscription management system **24**, if desired.

[**0057**] Transaction processing and subscription management system **24** provides the racing data to users at user television equipment **22**, user computer equipment **20**, and user telephone equipment **32** for use in following race results and developing wagers. If desired, racing data may be provided to users using paths that do not directly involve transaction processing and subscription management system **24**. For example, racing data may be provided from racing data collection and processing system **28** to user television equipment **22**, user computer equipment **20**, or user telephone equipment **32** using the Internet or other suitable communications paths.

[**0058**] User telephone equipment **32** may be a conventional telephone, a cordless telephone, a cellular telephone or other portable wireless telephone, or any other suitable telephone equipment. Users at user television equipment **22** and user computer equipment **20** may view information on the racing data on a television or other suitable monitor. Users at user telephone equipment **32** may listen to racing data using an interactive voice system. User telephone equipment **32** may be based on cellular telephones with displays. Users may view racing data displayed on such displays.

[**0059**] An illustrative cellular telephone **90** with which the user may use the interactive wagering application is shown in **FIG. 5**. A portion of the software that is used to implement the interactive wagering service is resident on cellular telephone **90**. Cellular telephone **90** may have a recording device for storing software instructions and videos and a processor for executing the instructions and displaying the videos.

[**0060**] Cellular telephone **90** may have an antenna **92** to support wireless communications with transaction processing and subscription management system **24**, customer service facility **36**, or video production system **14** (shown in **FIG. 1**). A power switch **94** may be used to turn on and off cellular telephone **90**. A speaker **96** allows the user to hear conversations and to hear audio prompts from transaction processing and subscription management system **24** (**FIG. 1**). A microphone **98** allows the user to converse with others. Display **100** may be a liquid crystal display (black and white or color), a plasma display, a light-emitting diode display, an active matrix display, or any other suitable type of small display screen. Keys **102** allow the user to enter inputs. Numeric keys **102** (including the star and pound key) allow the user to respond to interactive voice response system prompts such as "press 3 to select race 3" and allow the user to enter numbers to select numerically identified on-screen menu options and the like that are displayed on display **100**. If desired, some of the numeric keys **102** may perform secondary functions if, for example, they are pressed and held for at least a predetermined length of time. Clear key **104** may be used to clear characters from display **100**. If the user presses and holds clear key **104**, the user may be taken back to the initial screen displayed on display **100** upon power up. Navigation key **106** may be used to access menus, make telephone calls, etc. Scroll keys **108** may be used to scroll through menus and to scroll through other items presented on display screen **100**.

[**0061**] A generalized schematic diagram of user equipment (i.e., user television equipment **22**, computer equipment **20**, and user telephone equipment **32** of **FIG. 1**) is shown in **FIG. 6**. Control circuitry **112** and memory and storage **114** may have communications and memory and processing circuitry for supporting functions such as receiving television programming, recording videos in storage, and accessing interactive services over line **110**. Line **110** may connect to communications paths such as paths **42**, **44***c*, **44***d*, **44***f-i*, **44***m*, and **44***n* of **FIG. 1**. Television programming and text, graphics, and video associated with interactive services may be presented to the user with display **116**. Display **116** may be a television, a computer monitor, or any other suitable display equipment.

[**0062**] The user may interact with control circuitry **112** using any suitable user input device **118**, such as a remote control, a keyboard, a wireless keyboard, a display remote, a handheld computer, a mouse, a trackball, a touch pad, or any other suitable input device.

[**0063**] Referring back to **FIG. 1**, users who wish to place wagers may establish an account at transaction processing and subscription management system **24**. An account may also be established at one of totalisators **30**. The user and the interactive wagering services may have their own bank accounts at financial institutions **38**. A user may set up an account electronically by using user television equipment **22**, user computer equipment **20**, or user telephone equipment **32** to interact with the subscriber management functions of transaction processing and subscription management system **24**. If desired, accounts may be established with the interactive wagering service with the assistance of customer service representatives at customer service facility **36**. Customer service facility **36** may be at the same location as transaction processing and subscription management system **24**, may be part of system **24**, or may be located remote from system **24**. Customer service representatives at customer service facility **36** may be reached by telephone. If

user telephone equipment **32** is used to access the interactive wagering service, for example, user telephone equipment **32** may be used to reach the customer service representative using communications path **42**. If user television equipment **22** or user computer equipment **20** is being used with the service, a telephone at the same location as that equipment may be used to reach the customer service representative.

[**0064**] The user's identity may be checked using social security number information or other identification information with the assistance of subscriber verification facility **40**. The services of subscriber verification facility **40** are used to ensure that the user lives in a geographic area in which wagering is legal, that the user is of a legal age, and that the identification information (e.g., the user's social security number) matches the name provided by the user. If the user is using a cellular telephone or handheld computing device, the user's present physical location may be determined by determining which general part of the cellular telephone network is being accessed by the user or by using the cellular network or a handset-based location device such as a global positioning system (GPS) receiver in the body of the cellular telephone to pinpoint the user's location. This location information may be used to verify that the user is located in a geographic area where wagering is legal.

[**0065**] In a typical enrollment process, the user provides personal information to the interactive wagering service and provides funds with a credit card or funds from the user's bank account. The interactive wagering service sets up an account for the user at transaction processing and subscription management system **24** and directs one of totalisators **30** to set up a new account for the user at the totalisator. The totalisator is also directed to credit the user's account to reflect the amount of funds provided by the user. After the user places a wager and wins or loses, the totalisator adjusts the user's totalisator account to reflect the outcome of the wager. The totalisator may periodically inform the interactive wagering service of the adjusted balance in the user's account. This may be accomplished using any suitable technique (e.g., periodically, continuously, on-request, etc.). For example, reports may be collected periodically (e.g., once a day in an end-of-day report) and provided to the interactive wagering service to reconcile the account balances at transaction processing and subscription management system **24** with the account balances at totalisators **30**.

[**0066**] If the user makes a balance inquiry, the inquiry may be passed to the appropriate totalisator by transaction processing and subscription management system **24**. If the user is charged a fee for subscribing to the service, the service may debit the fee from the user's account at the transaction processing and subscription management system **24**.

[**0067**] The accounts at totalisators **30** and transaction processing and subscription management system **24** are typically maintained separately, because the business entities that operate totalisators **30** and transaction processing and subscription management system **24** are independent. If desired, financial functions related to opening and maintaining user accounts and the like may be handled using computer equipment at another location such as one of financial institutions **38** or other location remote from totalisators **30** and system **24**. Such financial functions may also be implemented primarily at a totalisator **30** or primarily at the transaction processing and subscription management system **24**, if desired.

[**0068**] To take advantage of the ability to broadcast multiple television feeds, user television equipment **22** may automatically select a television feed thst corresponds to a particular user's wager. For example, when user television equipment **22** receives the user's wager, user television equipment **22** may request the corresponding television feed from television distribution facilities **18** or video production system **13**. In response to the request, television distribution facilities **18** or video production system **13** may present the user with a television feed that corresponds to the user's wager. If desired, a plurality of television feeds and feed information that includes information about the relationship of each television feed to the race or race characteristics may be distributed to user television equipment **22**. The feed information may be used manually or automatically to select an appropriate television feed for a current wager. Any other suitable approach may also be used.

[**0069**] In some embodiments, more than one wagering interface may be used to interact with the wagering system. For example, a particular user may be able to place wagers from user television equipment **22**, user computer equipment **20**, user telephone equipment **32**, etc. The same user may also be able to access appropriate video from more than one of these wagering interfaces. The wagering system may be configured for a user to have different wagering interfaces operate cooperatively.

[**0070**] For example, the user may place a wager over a cellular telephone wagering interface. The system may send a communication about the wager to, for example, transaction processing and subscription management system **24**, which may send the wager information to television distribution facilities **18**. Television distribution facilities **18** may send the wager information to user television equipment **22** and, for example, inform the set-top box of the user's wager. If desired, the one wagering interface may send a communication (e.g., sends information on wagers) to another wagering interface, such as user television equipment **22**, via a direct link between the two interfaces. When user television equipment **22** receives the wager information for the user, user television equipment **22** may request a television feed that corresponds to that user's wager from television distribution facilities **18** or video production system **14**. In response to the request, television distribution facilities **18** or video production system **14** may transmit the television feed and/or race-related information that may correspond to that user's wager. Creating wagers from another wagering interface is discussed below in **FIG. 28**. However, any other suitable approach may also be used.

[**0071**] Users at user television equipment **22**, user computer equipment **20**, and user telephone equipment **32** may place wagers by providing wagering data and otherwise interacting with transaction processing and subscription management system **24**. The interactive wagering service may provide a user at user television equipment **22**, user computer equipment **20**, or user telephone equipment **32** that has display capabilities with screens containing various racing data. For example, the user may be presented with screens that allow the user to view the current odds for horses in an upcoming race at a given track.

[**0072**] The service may provide the user with interactive screens containing menus and selectable options that allow the user to specify the type of wager in which the user is

interested and the desired wager amount. With a set-top box arrangement, for example, the user may use a remote control or wireless keyboard to navigate the various menus and selectable options. With a personal computer, the user may use a keyboard, mouse, trackball, touch pad, or other suitable input or pointing device. With a cellular telephone with a display, the user may use buttons on the telephone. When the user has made appropriate selections to define a desired wager, user television equipment **22**, user computer equipment **20**, or user telephone equipment **32** may transmit wagering data for the wager to transaction processing and subscription management system **24**.

[**0073**] Users with telephones may also interact with the service using an interactive voice response system located at transaction processing and subscription management system **24**. The interactive voice response system may present menu options to the user in the form of audio prompts (e.g., "press 1 to select a $2 wager amount," etc.). The user may interact with the service by pressing the corresponding buttons on a touch tone telephone. User telephone equipment **32** that is based on cellular telephones allows the user to interact with the wagering service in this way. User telephone equipment **32** that is based on cellular telephones with messaging and display capabilities also allows the user to interact visually with the interactive wagering service.

[**0074**] The components of system **10** may be interconnected using various communications paths **44**. Communications paths **44** may include satellite paths, coaxial cable paths, fiber-optic paths, twisted pair paths, other wire or cable-based links, wireless paths through free space, or any other suitable paths or combination of such paths. Communications over paths **44** may involve analog transmissions, digital transmissions, wireless transmissions, microwave transmissions, radio-frequency transmissions, optical transmissions, audio transmissions, or any other suitable type of transmissions or combination of such transmissions. Communications may involve Internet transmissions, private network transmissions, packet-based transmissions, television channel transmissions, transmissions in the vertical blanking interval of a television channel or on a television sideband, MPEG transmissions, etc. Communications may involve wireless pager or other messaging transmissions. Communications paths **44** may include cable connected to cable modems, digital subscriber lines, integrated services digital network (ISDN) lines, or any other suitable paths. Examples of suitable communications paths are described below. Those examples are, however, merely illustrative. Any of the communications path arrangements described above or other suitable arrangements may be used, if desired.

[**0075**] Communications paths that carry video and particularly uncompressed analog video or lightly-compressed or full-screen digital video generally use more bandwidth than communications paths that carry only data or that carry partial-screen digital video. For example, if it is desired to transmit high-quality simulcasts of races from racetracks **12** to video production system **14**, analog or digital videos may be transmitted from racetracks **12** to video production system **14** over path **44***a* using satellite links. Video may be transmitted from studio **16** to video production system **14** over path **44***b* using a satellite link or a high-speed terrestrial path such as a fiber-optic path. Studio **16** may also be located at the same site as video production system **14**, thereby avoiding the need for a long-haul transmission path. Videos may be transmitted from video production system **14** to user computer equipment **20** over path **44***c* using a modem link (using, for example, a digital subscriber line, a telephone network link, a wireless link, etc.). The modem link may be made over a private network.

[**0076**] A user with a cable modem may connect a personal computer or other such user computer equipment **20** to an associated cable system headend using path **44***d*. (The headend in such an arrangement would be one of the television distribution facilities **18** shown in **FIG. 1**.) The user may then receive videos from the headend via cable modem. Videos may be provided to the headend over path **44***e* using a network link, fiber optic links, cable links, microwave links, satellite links, etc. A user with a set-top box or similar device (shown in **FIG. 1** as user television equipment **22**) may also receive videos from a cable system headend using a cable modem or other such communications device over path **44***f*. In addition, a user with user television equipment may receive videos over the Internet or a private network using a telephone-based modem or other such communications device using path **44***g*. In a system with distributed processing, interactive wagering services may be provided using a television distribution facility **18** that includes equipment that supplements or replaces at least some of the equipment at transaction processing and subscription management system **24**.

[**0077**] If desired, user television equipment **22** or user computer equipment **20** may receive analog or digital videos from an associated television distribution facility over the communications paths normally used to distribute television programming (e.g., paths **44***f* and **44***d*). For example, videos may be received as part of a dedicated interactive wagering service television channel. If videos are provided as digital signals (e.g., MPEG signals), ten or more digital videos may be carried on a single channel (or one digital video may be carried on one-tenth of the bandwidth of an analog channel). If the videos are not full-screen videos, even more videos may be simultaneously provided without a loss of image quality.

[**0078**] Racing videos may be provided to user telephone equipment **32** over a partially-wireless telephone Internet link or other telephone link using path **44***n*.

[**0079**] If desired, racing data may accompany the racing videos along any of these paths. Moreover, racing videos may be provided by routing them directly from racetracks **12** to user television equipment **22**, user computer equipment **20** (e.g., over the Internet or a private network, etc.), or user telephone equipment **32**. Racing videos may also be provided by routing them through transaction processing and subscription management system **24**. If a cellular telephone or portable computing device has sufficient display capabilities to support moving images, racing videos may be displayed. Such videos may be provided using any suitable path, such as a direct path from racetracks **12**, a path through video production system **14** or other suitable video processing equipment, through a hub such as transaction processing and subscription management system **24**, etc. Racing videos may be provided in real time or may be recorded for later distribution. Videos that are not provided in real time may be downloaded by user television equipment **22**, user computer equipment **20**, a cellular telephone, or other suitable user

equipment at a lower data rate than would otherwise be required and may be downloaded in the background, if desired. Such videos may also be provided to the user at real-time video rates for direct viewing by the user.

[**0080**] Although the features of the present invention are described herein in the context of providing multiple television feeds to user television equipment **22** (e.g., a set-top box). This is merely illustrative. Multiple television feeds may be provided to user telephone equipment **32**, user computer equipment **20**, or any other suitable platform. For example, multiple television feeds may be distributed to a cellular telephone that has appropriate hardware and software resources. Interactive wagering applications may present users with cellular telephones with racing videos on multiple screens or layered menus.

[**0081**] Racing data and other information related to the interactive wagering service may be provided to users over paths connected to transaction processing and subscription management system **24**. For example, racing data and other data for the service may be provided to user computer equipment **20** over path **44***h* using a modem link. Path **44***h* may be a private network path or an Internet path. Path **44***h* may use telephone lines, digital subscriber lines, ISDN lines, wireless data paths, or any other suitable type of communications links. User television equipment **22** may receive data for the wagering service over communications path **44***i*, which may be a telephone line, digital subscriber line, ISDN line, or other suitable type of communications path and which may use a private network path or an Internet path, etc.

[**0082**] Data for the wagering service may be provided to users of the interactive wagering application via communications path **44***j* and paths **44***f* and **44***d*. Communications path **44***j* may be provided over a private network, using the public telephone network, using satellite links, or any other suitable type of links. Data from paths such as path **44***j* may be routed to paths such as paths **44***f* and **44***d* directly by associated television distribution facilities **18**, or may be buffered at television distribution facilities **18**, if desired. Paths **44***f* and **44***d* may include coaxial cable and use of paths **44***f* and **44***d* may involve the use of cable modems or the like. If data is provided over path **44***j* and paths **44***f* or **44***d* using an Internet protocol, a web browser or similar software running on user television equipment **22** or user computer equipment **20** may be used to access the data. Such software may be integrated into the interactive wagering application or may be used separately. Software may also be used to view videos and may be used on other platforms (e.g., advanced cellular telephones), if desired.

[**0083**] The communications paths **44***k* that are used to connect various other components of the system typically do not carry high-bandwidth video signals. Accordingly, paths **44***k* may be telephone-like paths that are part of the Internet or a private network. Such paths and various other paths **44** may be dedicated connections for security, reliability, and economy. User telephone equipment **32** may receive information for the wagering service via path **44***m*. If user telephone equipment **32** is a standard (non-cellular) telephone, such information may be in the form of audio prompts ("press 1 to place a wager") and audio racing data ("the current win odds for horse 2 are 5-1"). Transaction data processing and subscription management system **24** may contain interactive voice response equipment that provides such information to the user and that responds to touch-tone signals from the user when the user responds to prompts by pressing buttons on the user's telephone.

[**0084**] If user telephone equipment **32** is a cellular telephone, racing data and other information for the interactive wagering service may be provided to the user by using a cellular wireless connection as part of path **44***m*. Users with cellular telephones may be provided with audio prompts using an interactive voice response system located at transaction processing and subscription management system **24** to which the users may respond by pressing cellular telephone buttons to generate touch-tone signals.

[**0085**] Racing data and other information for the interactive wagering service may be provided to cellular telephones in the form of alphanumeric messages. Such messages may be transmitted to the user by using paging or other alphanumeric messaging formats or any other suitable data communications scheme. If desired, data may be provided to the cellular telephones over the voice channel and decoded by the cellular telephone using modem circuitry or other suitable circuitry. Data may also be provided using any other suitable cellular or wireless path. Regardless of the way in which racing data and other information for the interactive wagering service are provided to the cellular telephone, such information may be provided to the user by displaying it on the cellular telephone display screen or by presenting it in audible form through the speaker of the cellular telephone.

[**0086**] Racing data and other interactive wagering service information for the users may be provided in one or more continuous data streams, may be provided periodically (e.g., once per hour or once per day), or may be provided using a client-server arrangement in which data is requested by a client processor (e.g., user television equipment **22**, user computer equipment **20**, user telephone equipment **32**, or any other such equipment) from a server (e.g., a server implemented using computer equipment **26** at transaction processing and subscription management system **24** or computer equipment at another suitable location). Videos may also be provided using any of these techniques.

[**0087**] A return communications path between the user and the interactive wagering service may be used to allow the user to place wagers and otherwise interact with the interactive wagering service. For example, a user with a standard telephone or a cellular telephone may interact with the service by pressing touch-tone keys on the telephone in response to audio prompts provided by an interactive voice response system at transaction processing and subscription management system **24**. If desired, users may call customer service representatives at customer service facility **36** and place wagers with manual assistance. The user of a cellular telephone may interact with the wagering service by selecting menu options and otherwise interacting with information displayed on the cellular telephone. When a selection is made, software implemented on the telephone may be used to assist the user in transmitting appropriate data (e.g., wagering data) to the wagering service. Such data may be transmitted using any suitable technique. For example, data may be transmitted using a wireless data link that is separate from the cellular voice channels. Data may also be transmitted over the voice channel (e.g., using a modem built into the cellular telephone, by automatically generating touch-

tone signals that may be recognized by the interactive voice response system at transaction processing and subscription management system **24**, or using any other suitable arrangement). These approaches may be used even if the user receives racing data and other information for the service using a platform other than a telephone-based platform.

[**0088**] Users with user television equipment **22** may interact with the service by sending data (e.g., wager data) to transaction processing and subscription management system **24** using path **44***i* or using paths **44***f* and **44***j*. Users with user computer equipment **20** may send data (e.g., wager data) to transaction processing and subscription management system **24** via path **44***h* or paths **44***d* and **44***j*. Users at any user equipment may send data for the service to locations other than transaction processing and subscription management system **24**. For example, the user may provide information directly to customer service facility **36**, etc.

[**0089**] If desired, the user may send data to the service at transaction processing and subscription management system **24** using different paths than those used to receive data from transaction processing and subscription management system **24**. For example, racing data may be received at user television equipment **22** via paths **44***j* and **44***f*, whereas data may be sent by the user from user television equipment **22** to transaction processing and subscription management system **24** using path **44***i*, etc. Moreover, the paths used to receive certain video information may be different from those used to receive racing data. For example, user television equipment **22** may receive racing videos using path **44***f*, but may receive racing data using path **44***i*. These examples are merely illustrative. Any suitable combination of paths may be used to distribute racing data and other information for the interactive wagering service, any suitable combination of paths may be used to receive videos, and any suitable combination of paths may be used to send data to the wagering service.

[**0090**] If desired, the user may interact with the wagering service using more than one platform. For example, the user may place a wager using a cellular telephone while the user is driving home. When the user arrives home, the user may determine the outcome of the wager by watching a video of the race on user television equipment. Later in the day, the user may check the user's account balance using a personal computer. This is merely an illustrative example. The various wagering platforms may be used in any suitable combination.

[**0091**] Although system **10** has been described in the context of a system that supports multiple wagering platforms, system **10** may support fewer platforms, if desired. For example, aspects of the invention may be implemented using a system **10** that only supports cellular telephone wagering or wagering using handheld computer devices. If desired, system **10** may be configured so that it does not support personal computer wagering, wagering with standard telephones, or wagering with user television equipment. The system may support cellular telephones and/or handheld computing devices such as personal digital assistants, palm-sized computers, etc., in combination with any other suitable platform.

[**0092**] The features of the present invention are sometimes described herein in the context of an interactive wagering application implemented on user television equipment. This is only illustrative. An interactive wagering application implemented on any suitable platform (user computer equipment, user telephone equipment, etc.) may be used to provide such features, if desired. In computer arrangements, onscreen options may be selected by clicking on them using a mouse pointer or other pointing arrangement. In set-top box arrangements, on-screen options may be made larger than they appear in computer-based arrangements to accommodate the greater viewing distance from which televisions are typically operated. Options may be selected by highlighting them using remote control arrow keys and by pressing an appropriate key such as an OK or enter or select key. In cellular telephone arrangements and handheld computer arrangements, options and information may be displayed using smaller screens than are typically available on personal computer or set-top box arrangements. To accommodate the smaller screen size, options that might otherwise be presented on a single screen may be displayed using multiple screens or layered menus. Options may be selected by highlighting them using navigation keys and pressing an appropriate select button on the cellular telephone or handheld computing device or by using a pen-based interface or the like.

[**0093**] The interactive wagering application may be implemented using application software that runs primarily on user television equipment, user computer equipment, user telephone equipment, or other local platform or using a remote server or other computer that is accessed from the local platform. Arrangements in which interactive wagering services are implemented using software on remote computers that is accessed on-demand from local platforms may be referred to as client-server arrangements. Such client-server arrangements may be used to allow client processes on set-top boxes or other platforms to access server processes running on servers located at cable system headends or other television distribution facilities **18** (**FIG. 1**). Regardless of the type of system architecture or platform used, the software that supports the interactive wagering service features described herein may be referred to as an interactive wagering application.

[**0094**] In a set-top box environment, the system may allow the user to launch the application by selecting a menu option in an interactive television program guide or other set-top box application or menu. If desired, the application may be launched automatically whenever the user tunes to a particular channel (e.g., the wagering-related television channel). After the user has tuned to this channel, the system may display an interactive icon on the user's television screen that indicates that the interactive wagering application is available. If the user presses an "OK" remote control key, the system may launch the application (as shown later in **FIGS. 8 and 9**).

[**0095**] In a computer-based system, the user may access the interactive wagering application by browsing to an Internet web site or a site on a private network.

[**0096**] Systems based on cellular telephones or the like may be launched by selecting an appropriate on-screen menu option presented on the display of the cellular telephone.

[**0097**] As television transmission capability advances, the ability to transmit an increased number of television feeds to a user's set-top box is possible. For example, rather than

receiving only a single racing coverage channel, a user may currently receive multiple racing coverage channels. Moreover, the users may or may not be aware that multiple feeds are being transmitted to the user's equipment by using virtual channels.

[0098] Virtual channels may be positioned at any desired location in the channel-tuning sequence. For example, a virtual channel may be positioned between the lowest channel number and the highest channel number, such as a virtual channel 0. The virtual channel may appear to be a conventional channel to the user. However, it requires no additional bandwidth as a carrier. The virtual channel may be, for example, digitally produced at the transaction processing and subscription management system or included in a blanking interval in an existing bandwidth frequency. In this manner, the virtual channel is accessible by using the remote control. When accessed by the user, the virtual channel functions like a channel. Virtual channels are further discussed in Miller et al. U.S. Pat. No. 5,585,866, which is hereby incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

[0099] Illustrative user interface approaches are described below. While the approaches are described separately, their features may be combined in any suitable way, modified in accordance with the other approaches, or performed instead of or in addition to the features of the approaches. Any suitable combination, substitution, or exchange of features between the interface approaches described herein, or with any other suitable interface approach, may be used. Also, although the illustrated embodiment of the user interface is directed to wagering on horse racing, it should be noted that this user interface could be modified for any type of wagering event.

[0100] In some embodiments of the present invention, the user may be provided with multiple feeds to a single channel. In one approach, virtual channels may be used with the interactive wagering application. **FIG. 7** is a flowchart illustrating some of the steps involved in allowing the user to view another television feed on the same channel. As shown in process **700** and as illustrated by **FIGS. 8 and 9**, the user may tune to a channel, such as a television channel. The channel may be associated with horse racing or gaming. The user may be provided with a television feed, such as racing coverage of a particular race, at step **705**. However, the user may desire to view another television feed (e.g., race) at step **710**. User indicators to view another race are received by, for example, video production system **14**. At step **715**, when the user selects another television feed, the user may be provided with another feed on the same channel by, for example, video production system **14**, television distribution facility **18**, or any other suitable system.

[0101] **FIG. 8** is a flowchart of illustrative steps involved in displaying a television feed that is related to the wager created by the user. The television feed may be related to the wager by race, horse, jockey, horse number, jockey colors, horse colors, horse name, etc. At step **750**, the interactive wagering application may provide the user with an opportunity to create a wager. At step **755**, the interactive wagering application may provide the user with an opportunity to select to view one of a plurality of television feeds that are related to wagering that is available through the system. For example, the user may select one of ten available television feeds from a racetrack. In response to the user selecting a television feed, user may be presented with a display from a television feed that the user selected to watch a race that is related to a user's wager at step **760**. At substep **765**, in response to the user selecting one of a plurality of television feeds, the user may be presented with the selected television feed. For example, the user may be presented with different camera views or angles of the race related to the user's wager.

[0102] In screen **800** of **FIG. 9**, the user is presented with racing coverage of a particular race. Screen **800** may include any wager information, such as racing coverage, betting information, etc. Screen **800** includes feed indicator **830**, which indicates that the user is currently viewing a race live from "AQUEDUCT." Screen **800** includes indicator bar **806**, which may include racing menu **804**, channel indicator **808**, logo **812**, and/or time selection **814**. Indicator bar **806** indicates that the user has tuned to the "TVG" channel and that the channel is currently showing horse racing. As shown, racing menu **804**, channel indicator **808**, and time selection **814** may be changed by using the remote control. Racing menu **804** may be a menu bar, drop-down menu, or any other suitable graphics or animations for allowing the user to select another race.

[0103] As shown, racing menu **804** is a drop-down menu showing other races that may be available to the user. Racing menu **804** includes tracks **825** (e.g., "Pimlico,""Gulfstream," and "Churchill Downs"). The user may make on-screen selections by using the remote control or other suitable user interface to place a highlight region such as highlight region **820** on top of a desired selection and pressing an "OK," enter, or select key on the remote control. For example, the user may place highlight region **820** on top of racing menu **804**. Upon pressing the select key, the user may change the racing venue by pressing the up and down navigation arrow keys on the remote control. Highlight region **820** may correspond with the user pressing the up and down arrow keys on the remote control. As shown, the user has placed highlight region **820** over the "Gulfstream" track. To change channels, the user may press channel up and channel down arrow keys on the remote control. Channel indicator **808** may reflect the changes as the user presses the channel up and channel down arrow keys.

[0104] In one approach, the "TVG" channel may be a virtual channel and the available races may be fed into the channels using multiple feeds. As shown in display **900** of **FIG. 10**, the user is presented with racing coverage of another race. Screen **900** may include similar features as display **800**. As shown, display **900** also includes feed indicator **930**, indicator bar **806**, racing menu **804**, channel indicator **808**, logo **812**, and/or time selection **814**. Feed indicator **930** indicates that the user is viewing a race live from "GULFSTREAM." While race menu **804** of screen **800** presented the race live from "AQUEDUCT," race menu **804** of screen **900** reflects the user's decision to view the race live from "GULFSTREAM" on the same channel (e.g., the "TVG" channel).

[0105] **FIGS. 9 and 10** may also include prompt **802**. After the user has tuned to this channel and selected a desired race to watch, the system may display an interactive prompt on the user's television screen that indicates that the interactive wagering application is available. When the user presses an "OK" remote control key, the system may launch

the application and initiate a user interface. The user interface may provide the user with on-screen betting opportunities.

[0106] Some embodiments of the present invention may provide the user with options to select the feed to be viewed by the user. **FIG. 11** is a flowchart of illustrative steps involved in providing a television feed based on the user's selection. As shown, at step **1005**, the user may be provided with an opportunity to create a wager with the interactive wagering application. While navigating through the interactive wagering application, the user may select the desired television feed at step **1010**. The desired feed may include a particular camera view or any other suitable feed. As shown in FIGS. **12-14**, the user may select a feed by selecting the "setup" option.

[0107] **FIG. 12** may provide the user with an illustrative interactive wagering menu **1105** that may be displayed with video or application region **1110** on screen **1100**. Menu **1105** may include user-selectable options such as "Probet" option **1115** (e.g., an advanced wagering interface), "Build-a-Bet" option **1120** (e.g., a novice wagering interface), "Handicapping" option **1125**, "Track info" option **1130**, "Player info" option **1135**, and "Setup" option **1140**. User-selectable options may be selected when the user desires to create a wager or find information (e.g., handicapping information, track information, etc.) relating to placing a wager. Option **1140** may allow the user to adjust setup options. The user may place highlighted region **1145** over the desired option using the remote control or any other suitable approach. The user may select option **1140** or any other option displayed in menu **1105**. These options may appear in any order and may be rearranged or modified according to user preference.

[0108] **FIG. 13** is an illustrative display providing the user with setup options screen **1200**. A user may select "Setup" option **1140** from menu **1105 (FIG. 12)** to access setup screen **1200**. Screen **1200** may include "Player Setup" option **1205**, "System Setup" option **1210**, "Track Selection" option **1215**, "Default Bet Setup" option **1220**, "Graphics Options" option **1225**, and/or "Camera Options" option **1230**. "Camera Options"**1230** may establish settings related to displays such as screen **800** of **FIGS. 9 and 10**. As shown, the user placed highlighted region **1235** over the desired "Camera Options" option **1230** using, for example, the remote control.

[0109] An illustrative camera options screen **1300** that may be displayed for the user when the user selects option **1230** of **FIG. 13** is shown in **FIG. 14**. The "Camera Options" option **1230** may allow a user to select a television feed (e.g., camera view) for the user to view. For example, the user may select to view one of eight available cameras at a selected track. Each of the eight cameras may show a different view of the race. In screen **1300**, choosing "Camera 1" option **1305** will correspond to a feed that is generated displaying the entire racetrack. "Camera 2" option **1310** may correspond to a feed showing the horses coming out of the gate, "Camera 3" option **1315** may correspond to a feed showing a view of the finish line, and "Camera 41" option **1320** may correspond to a feed showing a view of the user's selected horse. The view of the user's selected horse may be, for example, from a camera on the user's selected horse, from a camera looking forward on the horse directly behind the selected horse, from a camera looking backwards on the horse directly in front of the selected horse, or any other suitable view. The user has chosen option **1315** as shown by indicator **1330**. The user may highlight or select any option on screen **1300** by using the remote control or any other suitable approach. Any other suitable arrangement may be used if desired, for example, other on-screen buttons, drop-down menus, audio options, etc. The arrangement of screen **1300** is merely illustrative.

[0110] Virtual channels may be used to direct a user's selection of a television channel to one of the available television feeds. In one approach, each feed may be provided on a physical television channel making each feed available on a single channel number on a television or set-top box by redirecting one of the physical channels to the virtual channel number. Some embodiments may provide the user with racing coverage or different feeds corresponding to the user's racing information using virtual channels.

[0111] **FIG. 15** and **16** are flowcharts illustrating some of the steps involved in providing multiple feeds based on the user's wager information. Upon selecting prompt **802 (FIGS. 9 and 10)** or "Build-a-Bet" option **1120 (FIG. 12)**, the user may create a wager with the interactive wagering application at step **1405**. The user may be led through a series of screens **1500-2300** (FIGS. **17-25**) to place a wager. Upon placing a wager, the user may be provided with a television feed corresponding to the user's wager at step **1410**. For example, the set-top box may transmit the name of the user's selected horse to television distribution facilities **18**. Television distribution facilities **18** may access a table that matches all horse names at all available races to appropriate specific television feeds. Television distribution facilities **18** may determine the corresponding television feed and provide the television feed to the user through user television equipment **22**. The user's wager may include wager information, such as the horse, the racetrack, the type of wager, the total amount of the wager, the time of the race, etc.

[0112] In **FIG. 16**, some embodiments of the present invention may record television feeds so that a user may interact with the television feeds at any time subsequent to transmission as is possible at the time of transmission at step **1415**. At step **1420**, the user may be provided with an opportunity to view the recorded television feed. The television feed may be recorded automatically from, for example, television distribution facilities **18** or video production system **14**. Television distribution facilities **18** or video production system **14** may record the selected television feed when transmitting the television feed to user television equipment **22**. In another approach, the user may request that the television feed be recorded. For example, the set-top box may send an indication to television distribution facilities **18** or video production system **14** that the user desires to record the television feed. Any suitable approach or any suitable combination of approaches may be used.

[0113] At step **1425**, the user may be provided with additional features such as the ability to successively play a segment of the recorded television feed at different vantage points. For example, the user may desire to view the crossing of the finish line from a different perspective.

[0114] It will be understood that the series of screens **1500-2300**, as illustrated in FIGS. **17-25**, are exemplary and that additional screens may be added and some of the

screens may be omitted or modified. Interactive wagering using set-top box wagering interfaces are discussed in, for example, the above-mentioned Marshall et al. U.S. patent application Ser. No. 09/330,651, filed Jun. 11, 1999. As discussed, the present invention may provide a novice interface as illustrated in the Build-A-Bet mode shown in FIGS. **17-25**.

[**0115**] An illustrative menu screen **1500** that may be provided by the interactive wagering application is shown in **FIG. 17**. Screen **1500** and the screens shown in FIGS. **17-27** are examples of screens that may be displayed on a set-top box or other user television equipment **22**. The format and contents of such screens may be modified to accommodate different platforms such as user computer equipment and user telephone equipment platforms if desired. Moreover, the information and options of the screens of FIGS. **17-27** may be provided using audio prompts to accommodate telephone-based wagering from touch-tone telephones.

[**0116**] As shown in **FIG. 17**, menu screen **1500** may include a number of different options. For example options may be provided to place a bet, to view a bet history, to view handicapping information such as odds, to view race results, to view a list of the user's wagers, to move to the next player (when multiple players are wagering at a single session), or to obtain help. Screen **1500** may be displayed as an overlay on top of a wagering-related television channel provided, for example, by video production system **14** of **FIG. 1**.

[**0117**] The user may make on-screen selections by using remote control keys or other suitable user interface to place a highlight region such as highlight region **1510** on top of a desired selection and pressing an OK or enter or select key on the remote control. As shown, the user has placed highlight region **1510** over the "Place a bet" option.

[**0118**] When the user selects the "Place a bet" option, the interactive wagering application may display a screen such as racetrack selection screen **1600** of **FIG. 18**. As shown in **FIG. 18**, the racetrack name field for each selectable racetrack option has a corresponding information area (e.g., information area **1635**). In the example of **FIG. 18**, the content of information area **1635** (sunny; track dry) corresponds to the current weather and track conditions at the track listed in racetrack name field **1605** (Gulfstream). This provides the user with easily-accessible information on current track conditions before the user decides to place a wager at a particular track. Information areas may contain any other suitable information.

[**0119**] Screen **1600** may contain a wagering ticket **1615**. Indicator **1620** may be used to visually indicate which portion of the wagering ticket **1615** is currently being filled in. In the example of **FIG. 18**, the user is selecting a desired racetrack for a wager. The user may select desired racetracks using highlight region **1625**. When, for example, the user highlights the racetrack option for the Gulfstream track, the code **1640** for the Gulfstream track (GP) may be added to ticket **1615** and the name Gulfstream may be displayed in region **1610**.

[**0120**] After the user has selected a track, the interactive wagering application may present a screen such as race selection screen **1700** of **FIG. 19** to the user. In screen **1700**, the user may move highlight region **1705** on top of a desired selectable race option. In the example of **FIG. 19**, the user has positioned highlight region **1705** on "Race 5." Race description field **1710** contains information describing "Race 5" (i.e., it is a maiden claiming race for $20,000). Information on various types of races may be included in the race description field for each race option. For example, information may be included in the race option that identifies the race as being an allowance race, a claiming race, a maiden claiming race, etc. Each race description field in screen **1700** has a corresponding information area. For example, race description field **1710** has corresponding information area **1715**. The information areas may be used for any suitable content. For example, the information areas may contain information on the length of the race and the post time of the race. In the example of **FIG. 19**, "Race 5" is described in information area **1715** as being a race of 6 furlongs in length and having a post (start) time of 2:30 PM.

[**0121**] When the user highlights a desired race, the race number may be added to ticket **1615** in region **1720** and indicator **1620** may be positioned to make it clear the user is selecting a race. The race number for the currently highlighted race may be displayed in region **1725**. The description of the race may be displayed in region **1730**. The race length may be displayed in region **1735**. The time until post (e.g., 15 minutes in the example of **FIG. 19**) may be displayed in region **1740**. If desired, the user may scroll to additional races using, for example, a remote control down arrow key, as indicated by arrow **1745**.

[**0122**] When the user selects a desired race, the interactive wagering application may display a wager type selection display such as screen **1800** of **FIG. 20**. The user may place highlight region **1805** on top of a desired selectable wager type option (e.g., win, place, show, exacta, trifecta, etc.). The wager types are listed in wager type fields such as wager type field **1810**. The wager described in wager type field **1810** is an exacta. A corresponding information area may be provided for each wager type field. In the example of **FIG. 18**, wager type field **1810** (exacta) has a corresponding information area **1815**. The information in information area **1815** is a wager type description for the corresponding wager type listed in wager type field **1810**. If desired, other suitable information may be included in information areas such as information area **1815**.

[**0123**] Wager ticket **1615** may be updated to reflect the highlighted wager type (exacta). This information is displayed in region **1820**. Indicator **1620** may be moved to indicate that the user is selecting the wager type. Moreover, runner indicators **1825** may be provided. The number of runner indicators **1825** that are provided depends on the wager type. For a win wager, one runner indicator **1825** is displayed, because a win wager only involves a single runner. For an exacta wager (the subject of the example of **FIG. 20**), two runner indicators **1825** are displayed, one for the first place finisher and one for the second place finisher.

[**0124**] When the user selects the desired wager type, the interactive wagering application displays a horse selection display such as screen **1900** of **FIG. 21**. As shown in **FIG. 21**, the names of the horses are listed in selectable horse option name fields such as horse name field **1905** and corresponding information areas such as information area **1910** are used to display information on the current win odds for each horse. If desired, other information, such as information on the horse's jockey or trainer, etc. may also be provided in the information areas.

[0125] Horse numbers such as horse number **1915** are provided adjacent to each horse name. As shown in **FIG. 21**, each horse number may be a different color. In particular, each horse number may be displayed using the same colors that are used for that horse's saddle blankets in the actual race. The saddle blanket coloring convention is used to assist users in visually identifying their horse during a race, without being required to discern the individual runner numbers in the race video. Providing this information on the horse selection screen **1900** assists the user in remembering the proper colors for their horses.

[0126] If a betting interest involves more than one horse, there may be a horse number (e.g., horse number 2 in the example of **FIG. 21**) that has more than one associated runner. An indication **1920** (e.g., "multiple runners") may be displayed in the horse name field of the selectable horse option for such entries. Information instructing the user to press an info button or the like may be provided in the corresponding information area **1925**.

[0127] After the user selects each horse, the wagering ticket is updated. If, for example, the user selects horse number 2, the interactive wagering application may display a screen such as screen **2000** of **FIG. 22** in which wagering ticket **1615** has been updated to include information **2005** on the selected horse (i.e., horse number 2). Indicator **1620** points to the current runner position that is being selected (e.g., the first place finisher in the example of **FIG. 22**). In addition, an indicator such as check indicator **2010** may be provided to make it clear which horse has been selected.

[0128] After the user selects a first place finisher, the user may select a second place finisher, as shown in **FIG. 23**. In the example of **FIG. 23**, the user has highlighted horse number 1 and this information **2105** is reflected in wager ticket **1615**. The position of indicator **1620** may also be updated.

[0129] Although selecting a first and second place finisher completes an exacta wager, the user may wish to add additional runners to either the first or second place finisher slots. When the user has finished adding runners, the user may press a remote control right arrow key to move to the next screen, which may be indicated by, for example, an on-screen message. The interactive wagering application may then present the user with a wager amount selection screen such as wager amount selection screen **2200** of **FIG. 24**.

[0130] As shown in **FIG. 24**, screen **2200** may provide the user with an opportunity to select from various wager amounts. Highlight region **2205** may be used to highlight a desired wager amount option. There are a number of wager amount fields **2210**, each containing a different wager amount. There is a corresponding information area **2215** for each wager amount field **2210**. The interactive wagering application may display any suitable information in information areas **2215**. In the example of **FIG. 24**, each information area **2215** contains the results of a calculation indicating how much the user's total wager would amount to after taking into account any multiple runner selection that the user has made. As an example, if the user selects a $4 wager amount by highlighting the wager amount field for $4 wagers as shown in **FIG. 24**, the total amount deducted from the user's account for the wager (not accounting for any possible winnings) will be $8. This is also reflected in wagering ticket **1615**, in which the wager amount **2220** ($4) and the total amount being wagered **2225** ($8) are shown separately. The position of indicator **1620** may be updated to reflect that the user is selecting a wager amount.

[0131] When the user has finished selecting a wager amount, the interactive wagering application may display, for example, screen **2300** of **FIG. 25**. Screen **2300** may list all of the wagers that the user has created but not placed. Options **2305** may be provided to allow the user to create a new wager, view wager details, duplicate a wager, and delete a wager. Options **2305** also include an option to send all created wagers. In the example of **FIG. 25**, the user has used highlight region **2310** to highlight the send all option. When the user selects the send all option, the wagers listed in screen **2300** are submitted to transaction processing and subscription management system **24** for processing.

[0132] As shown in **FIG. 26**, the user may be provided with a television feed, such as a video of racing coverage, corresponding to the user's wagering information. As shown in the example, the user is currently receiving television feed #2. Screen **2400** includes indicator bar **2405**, which may include wagering ticket **1615** (as in FIGS. **18-24**) and television feed number **2410**. Wagering ticket **1615** may reflect the user's current wager and wager information. Television feed number **2410** may identify the television feed the user is currently receiving. In response to the user's wager, the user's television feed may correspond to the user's wagering information. For example, the user may be presented with television feeds corresponding to horse #2. In the television feed, horse number **2415** shows that the user is currently watching horse #2. In this example, the user placed a wager on horse #2 at Gulfstream. At the start of the race, the user may be presented with a view of horse #2 coming out of the gate (as shown in **FIG. 26**). After a predetermined amount of time, the user may be presented with an overhead view of horse #2 in relation with the other horses. Towards the conclusion of the race, the user may be presented with a view of horse #2 and the finish line. The corresponding feeds may give the user the feeling of being at the race.

[0133] Some embodiments of the present invention may record a television feed so that a user may interact with the television feeds at any time subsequent to transmission as is possible at the time of transmission. As shown in **FIG. 27**, the user may be provided with recorded television feed of the portion of the race shown in **FIG. 26**. The user may be provided with additional features such as the ability to successively play a segment of the recorded television feed at different vantage points. Screen **2500** includes indicator bar **2505**, which may include user-selectable options. Options may include "zoom in" button **2510**, "zoom out" button **2515**, "rotate" button **2520**, and control buttons **2525**. "Zoom in" button **2510** and "zoom out" button **2515** allow the user to alter the magnification of the objects in screen **2500**. "Rotate" button **2520** allows the user to view the objects in screen **2500** from a different perspective. For example, the user may desire to view the crossing of the finish line from a different perspective. Control buttons **2525** allow the user to, for example, fast forward or rewind the recorded feed. Display **2500** may also include a television feed menu **2530**. Menu **2530** may provide the user with an

opportunity to choose any of the recorded television feeds. Display **2500** may also include the name of the race or the name of horse.

[**0134**] Although the displays shown that may be presented to the user have sometimes been described as having been generated by a set-top box or the like, these displays may be generated by any suitable user equipment including user computer equipment, such as a notebook or handheld computer, a cellular telephone with a display, or any other suitable device.

[**0135**] **FIG. 28** is a flowchart of illustrative steps involved in providing wagering services through more that one wagering interface. In some embodiments, wagering services may be provided through more that one wagering interface (user telephone equipment **32**, user television equipment **22**, user computer equipment **20**, etc.) at step **2605**. For example, the user may create a wager using a cellular telephone.

[**0136**] At step **2610**, information about the wager may be communicated to another wagering interface of the user, such as user television equipment **22** (e.g., a set-top box). For example, the cellular telephone may send a communication to transaction processing and subscription management system **24**, which may send the user's wager information to television distribution facilities **18**. Television distribution facilities **18** may send the user's wager information to user television equipment **22** and, for example, inform the set-top box of the wager. When user television equipment **22** receives the user's wager, user television equipment **22** may select a television feed corresponding to the user's wager. At step **2615**, in response, a television feed that is related to the wager that the user created with the application on the one interface may be presented (e.g., automatically presented) to the user on the other interface having the television feeds.

[**0137**] Thus, interactive wagering systems and methods for providing multiple television feeds relating to wagering events based upon a user's selection when using an interactive wagering interface are provided. It will be understood that the foregoing is merely illustrative of the principles of this invention and that various modifications can be made by those skilled in the art without departing from the scope and spirit of the invention, which is limited only by the claims that follow.

What is claimed is:

1. A method for allowing a user of an interactive wagering application to follow wagers, comprising:

providing the user with an opportunity to create a wager with the interactive wagering application;

providing a plurality of television feeds that are related to racing that is available for wagering with the interactive wagering application;

providing the user with an opportunity to select to view one of the television feeds using the interactive wagering application; and

displaying the selected television feed.

2. The method defined in claim 1 wherein a wager contains wager information.

3. The method defined in claim 2 wherein wager information comprises information selected from the group consisting of a race, a horse, a jockey, a horse number, a jockey color, a horse color, a horse name, a racetrack, a type of wager, a total amount of wager, and a time of the race.

4. The method defined in claim 1 wherein displaying the selected television feed further comprises presenting a camera view of a race related to the wager.

5. A method for providing multiple television feeds to a user of an interactive wagering application, comprising:

implementing the interactive wagering application to provide a wagering service to the user;

providing the user with an opportunity to create a wager, wherein the wager includes wager information; and

selectively displaying a television feed that is related to the wager information.

6. The method defined in claim 5 wherein wager information comprises information selected from the group consisting of a race, a horse, a jockey, a horse number, a jockey color, a horse color, a horse name, a racetrack, a type of wager, a total amount of wager, and a time of the race.

7. The method defined in claim 5 further comprises providing the user with an opportunity to select the television feed.

8. The method defined in claim 5 further comprises automatically selecting the television feed corresponding to the created wager.

9. The method defined in claim 5 wherein selectively displaying the television feed further comprises presenting a camera view of a race related to the wager.

10. The method defined in claim 5 further comprising:

recording the television feed; and

providing the user with an opportunity to change a displayed perspective of a race from the television feed.

11. The method defined in claim 10 further comprising providing the user with an opportunity to change a displayed perspective of a displayed image from the television feed.

12. The method defined in claim 10 further comprising providing the user with an opportunity to view a portion of a race from the television feed.

13. The method defined in claim 10 further comprising providing the user with an opportunity to change a camera view of a race from the television feed.

14. The method defined in claim 10 wherein changing the displayed perspective further comprises selecting an option.

15. The method defined in claim 14wherein the option is selected from the group consisting of zoom in, zoom out, and rotate.

16. A method for providing multiple television feeds to a user of an interactive wagering system, comprising:

implementing an interactive wagering application on a first wagering interface and a second wagering interface;

providing the user with an opportunity to create a wager with said first wagering interface, wherein the wager contains wager information;

transmitting a communication that is based on the wager information to the second wagering interface; and

displaying on said second wagering interface a television feed from the multiple television feeds that corresponds to the created wager in response to the communication.

17. The method defined in claim 16 wherein wager information comprises information selected from the group consisting of a race, a horse, a jockey, a horse number, a jockey color, a horse color, a horse name, a racetrack, a type of wager, a total amount of wager, and a time of the race.

18. The method defined in claim 16 wherein the first wagering interface is user computer equipment.

19. The method defined in claim 16 wherein the first wagering interface is user telephone equipment.

20. The method defined in claim 16 wherein the second wagering interface is user television equipment.

21. The method defined in claim 16 further comprising corresponding the wager information to the television feed from the multiple television feeds.

22. An interactive wagering system for allowing a user of an interactive wagering application to follow wagers, comprising:

the interactive wagering system being configured to provide the user with an opportunity to create a wager with the interactive wagering application;

the interactive wagering system being configured to provide a plurality of television feeds that are related to racing that is available for wagering with the interactive wagering application;

the interactive wagering system being configured to provide the user with an opportunity to select to view one of the television feeds using the interactive wagering application; and

the interactive wagering system being configured to display the selected television feed.

23. The system defined in claim 22 wherein a wager contains wager information.

24. The system defined in claim 23 wherein wager information comprises information selected from the group consisting of a race, a horse, a jockey, a horse number, a jockey color, a horse color, a horse name, a racetrack, a type of wager, a total amount of wager, and a time of the race.

25. The system defined in claim 22 wherein the interactive wagering system is further configured to present a camera view of a race related to the wager.

26. An interactive wagering system for providing multiple television feeds to a user of an interactive wagering application, comprising:

the interactive wagering system being configured to implement the interactive wagering application to provide a wagering service to the user;

the interactive wagering system being configured to provide the user with an opportunity to create a wager, wherein the wager includes wager information; and

the interactive wagering system being configured to selectively display a television feed that is related to the wager information.

27. The system defined in claim 26 wherein wager information comprises information selected from the group consisting of a race, a horse, a jockey, a horse number, a jockey color, a horse color, a horse name, a racetrack, a type of wager, a total amount of wager, and a time of the race.

28. The system defined in claim 26 wherein the interactive wagering system is further configured to provide the user with an opportunity to select the television feed.

29. The system defined in claim 26 wherein the interactive wagering system is further configured to automatically select the television feed corresponding to the created wager.

30. The system defined in claim 26 wherein the interactive wagering system is further configured to present a camera view of a race related to the wager.

31. The system defined in claim 26 wherein the interactive wagering system is further configured to:

record the television feed; and

provide the user with an opportunity to change a displayed perspective of a race from the television feed.

32. The system defined in claim 31 wherein the interactive wagering system is further configured to provide the user with an opportunity to change a displayed perspective of a displayed image from the television feed.

33. The system defined in claim 31 wherein the interactive wagering system is further configured to provide the user with an opportunity to view a portion of a race from the television feed.

34. The system defined in claim 31 wherein the interactive wagering system is further configured to provide the user with an opportunity to change a camera view of a race from the television feed.

35. The system defined in claim 31 wherein the interactive wagering system is further configured to select an option, wherein the option is selected from the group consisting of zoom in, zoom out, and rotate.

36. An interactive wagering system for providing multiple television feeds to a user of an interactive wagering system, comprising:

the interactive wagering system being configured to implement an interactive wagering application on a first wagering interface and a second wagering interface;

the interactive wagering system being configured to provide the user with an opportunity to create a wager with said first wagering interface, wherein the wager contains wager information;

the interactive wagering system being configured to transmit a communication that is based on the wager information to the second wagering interface; and

the interactive wagering system being configured to display on said second wagering interface a television feed from the multiple television feeds that corresponds to the created wager in response to the communication.

37. The system defined in claim 36 wherein wager information comprises information selected from the group consisting of a race, a horse, a jockey, a horse number, a jockey color, a horse color, a horse name, a racetrack, a type of wager, a total amount of wager, and a time of the race.

38. The system defined in claim 36 wherein the first wagering interface is user computer equipment.

39. The system defined in claim 36 wherein the first wagering interface is user telephone equipment.

40. The system defined in claim 36 wherein the second wagering interface is user television equipment.

41. The system defined in claim 36 wherein the interactive wagering system is further configured to correspond the wager information to the television feed from the multiple television feeds.

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