



# DX NEWS

*the magazine of the  
National Radio Club*

— SINCE 1933 —

Volume 54 Issue 4 Monday, October 27, 1986

**LOGBOOK.** Latest status report as of today. Still at the printer, we will let you know the moment it is in the mail. Stay tuned.

**About your Mailing Label.** We've been getting alot of calls and letters all saying basically the same thing. "I've renewed and yet how come my label still says this is my last issue?" That's because there is about a 2 week delay in the time you guys send in your checks and the time the mailing department has the change in the computer. If you don't get your issue THEN get excited, otherwise please be patient. Somethings we do, we still do the old fashion way, we use the mail.

Back into the Lake. Found laying on my desk is the header for page 11 of the last issue. So if you would, please take a pen or pencil on write on the top of the page "Volume 53 Index", while I go into the lake.

**FM Antenna Filter.** I wanted this device to appear during the time we ran the FM columns but I had forgotten about it till now. For those that were at the Convention, you got the chance to try out one of these. The rest can only read about it here. More details on this device can be obtained by sending an SASE to the address found on page 8. Also I'd like to thank those that participated in the FM column. ERC has done a good job as editor, even sent more columns then we can use. Again thanks to all those that participated.

**DXChange** As I had mentioned last issue, Tom Farmerie has volunteered to do the DXChange column. We will do the column here for the November 10th issue, so you should still get your material into HQ by November 1st. And if you did send any items to Tom, he will forward them here by the 1st or use them in his first column, in any case your item will see print.

## CPC TEST (Times listed are Eastern Local Time)

- Nov 3 WDKN-1260 Dickson, TN 0200-0230 Test will contain periods of tones during the programming. A polite reception report, along with a 22 cent stamp to: Oscar Eubank, CE, Radio Station WDKN, 106 E. College St., Dickson, TN, 37055. Arranged for the NRC by Carl W. Dabelstein.
- Nov 15 KSIV-1320 St. Louis, MO 0200-0230 Test may consist of MOR music or Saturday religion, with tones. A polite reception report, along with a 22 cent stamp to: Jeff Bean, Radio Station KSIV, 2735 Bompert Ave., St. Louis, MO 63144. Arranged for the NRC by Carl W. Dabelstein.
- Nov 17 KSVB-1470 Sierra Vista, AZ 0300-0330 Test will consist of C&W music, Monday NAB Standard Test Tape and Station IDs. A polite reception report, along with a 22 cent stamp to: Andrew Hansis, CE, WB4MKA, Radio Station KSVB, 3514 Kings Court Dr., Sierra Vista, AZ 85635. Arranged for the NRC by Carl W. Dabelstein.
- Nov 17 KLPZ-1380 Parker, AZ 0300-0330 Test will consist of Beach Boy music Monday and test tones. A polite reception report, along with an SASE (per station): Mark Roberts, PD, Radio Station KLPZ, 816 Sixth St., Parker, AZ. 85344. Arranged for the NRC by Carl W. Dabelstein.

## LOOK INSIDE:

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# AM SWITCH

Jerry Starr, c/o WHOT Radio, 401 N. Blaine Ave., Youngstown, OH 44505

## CALL LETTER CHANGES

OLD CALL:	NEW CALL:	OLD CALL:	NEW CALL:
600 KXSX CA REDDING	KHTE	1310 WNIC MI DEARBORN	WGMT
610 WVAI VA WINCHESTER	WUSQ	1330 KVOL LA LAFAYETTE	KRKR
640 WMSO TN COLLIERSVILLE	WCRU	1340 KNPA ID NAMPA	KSGR
730 KTOX ID BOISE	K1ZN	1400 WROZ IN EVANSVILLE	WKY
750 WYHV NY CANTON	WNYS		WBLO
1050 KCCA MT KINSEY	KMTA	1490 WRNB NC NEW BERN	WLOJ
1090 *NEW MN FERGUS FALLS	KJKK		KEYI
1120 WMKS GA GORDON	WOXM	1500 WPTC GA MACON	WDEI
1170 *NEW FL ST. AUGUSTINE BEACH	WAIA	1590 WALY KY GRAY	WKYZ
1240 KXYL TX BROWNWOOD	KZZE		

## APPLICATIONS FOR NEW STATIONS

670 NY SYRACUSE: 2500/2500 U2
VA SURRY: 10000 D3
1090 CA OAKHURST: 330 D1
CA SOUTH LAKE TAHOE: 5000 D1
1520 TX CYPRESS: 500 D3

## GRANTS FOR NEW STATIONS

NONE

## APPLICATIONS FROM EXISTING FACILITIES

550 WICE RI PAWTUCKET: 5000/3900 U4
680 KLDY WA LACEY: TO 670 KHZ WITH 250/1000 U2 (REAPPLICATION)
760 KBCB KS OVERLAND PARK: POWER TO 6000 WATTS (REAPPLICATION)
890 KPOT CA CITRUS HEIGHTS: 50000/250 U5 (CORRECTS POWERS FROM LAST ISSUE)
1090 WJKM TN HARTSVILLE: CHANGE CITY OF LICENSE TO LEBANON, TN
1220 WLPO IL LA SALLE: NIGHT POWER TO 500 WATTS, ANTENNA TO U1*
1380 WOLA PR BARRANQUITAS: POWERS TO 1000/1000
1430 WRCD GA DALTON: POWER TO 5000 WATTS
1570 WOBNS IN NEW ALBANY: NIGHT POWER TO 412.4 WATTS*
1580 WAMJ IN SOUTH BEND: ADD 500 WATS NIGHT (REAPPLICATION)

\*SEVERAL OF THE ABOVE REFLECT STATIONS APPLYING TO RAISE THEIR PREVIOUSLY AUTHORIZED MEXICAN CLEAR POWERS. WE CAN EXPECT TO SEE A LOT MORE OF THIS IN THE NEXT MONTHS.

## GRANTS TO EXISTING FACILITIES

1310 WLOB ME PORTLAND: CHANGES IN DA PATTERN
1390 KPPL CO DENVER: RELOCATE XR, CHANGES IN ANTENNA SYSTEM (SEE OTHERNESS)
1450 KFLS OR KLAMATH FALLS: CHANGES IN ANTENNA SYSTEM
1530 KSMM MN SHAKOPEE: POWER TO 8600 WATTS, ANTENNA TO D3

## OTHERNESS

650 WGNZ FL CHRISTMAS: GRANTED EXTENSION OF CP FOR NEW STATION TO 2-7-87
730 K1ZN ID BOISE: SILENT AS KTOX, IS BACK ON WITH C&W
800 WVAL MN SAUK RAPIDS: REQUESTS EXTENSION OF CP FOR MOVE TO 660 KHZ
820 WRFA FL LARGO: MOVED HERE AFTER SEVERAL DELAYS ON 9-22, STILL DAYTIME ONLY, FULLTIME EXPECTED "SOON"
1020 WPJC PR ADJUNTAS: GRANTED EXTENSION OF CP FOR NEW STATION TO 5-20-87
1030 WFXZ MI STERLING HEIGHTS: GRANTED EXTENSION OF CP FOR NEW STN TO 5-4-87
WNOW NC MINT HILL: REQUESTS EXTENSION OF CP FOR NEW STATION
1060 KAHU HI HILO: STATION IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION, EXPECTED ON IN NOVEMBER
1160 *NEW NJ OAKLAND: THIS CP IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION, EXPECTED ON "SOON" HAS NOT YET APPLIED FOR CALL LETTERS
1180 KDAN AZ WILLIAMS: TEMPORARY TECHNICAL PROBLEMS, SILENT FOR SHORT TIME
1200 WFLZ FL THONOTOSASSA: REQUESTS EXTENSION OF CP FOR NEW STATION
KYOO MO BOLIVAR: HERE NOW, EX-1130 KHZ
1210 WBSI TN STATIC: NEW STATION IS ON THE AIR, STUDIOS IN BYRD TOWN, TN
1390 KPPL CO DENVER: STILL SILENT BUT EXPECTED BACK ON SOON WITH SS FORMAT
1440 WBIS CT BRISTOL: REQUESTS REINSTATEMENT OF EXPIRED CP FOR MOVE TO 1120 KHZ. STATION IS PRESENTLY SILENT BUT IS FOR SALE
1550 WGAB CT BLOOMFIELD: FULLTIME IS ON BUT WITH NIGHT POWER OF ONLY 723 WATTS WHILE FCC IS CONSIDERING THEIR APPLICATION FOR A VARIANCE IN THEIR NIGHT DA PATTERN, HOPES TO HAVE 2300 WATT NIGHTS SOON
1600 KWOW CA POMONA: CLAIMS THEIR APPLICATION FOR CALLS KMNY WAS PREMATURE, AND THEY REMAIN KWOW WITH OLDIES AS PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED. THEY WILL REAPPLY FOR KMNY AND INITIATE THEIR NEW ALL FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS FORMAT WHEN NEW OWNERS TAKE CONTROL. THE SAGA CONTINUES

## ADDRESSES OF NEW STATIONS

770 KCHU AK VALDEZ: Box 2085, 99686
1170 WHZ1 AL HANCEVILLE: Box 290, 35077
1210 WBSI IN STATIC: Box 316, BYRD TOWN, IN 38549
1400 WBLO PA ERIE: c/o GEAC, 9TH AND PEACH STREETS, 16500

NO AM SWITCH FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKS. IT'S VACATION TIME! AFTER A TRIP THRU KY, TN, GA, FL, SC, NC, VA AND WV, WE'LL RETURN IN ISSUE #7 WITH A LARGE COLUMN. NO INFO WILL BE MISSED.

73 AND GOOD DX.

*Dmy \$BKF*  
JERRY STARR & BUFFALO K. FOONMAN

## How a 1,000 Watt Daytimer Beat San Francisco

*KOFY-AM, San Mateo only got a 1.8 but it was higher than powerful competitor KYA-FM. Higher than KFRC-AM. And seven-tenths of a share from equaling the ratings of KIOI-FM - once sold for millions by the new owner of KOFY-AM.*

When radio veteran Jim Gabbert signed on March 15 with his new radio station in the San Marco/San Francisco market he had a lot of surprises in store.

One was the immediate ratings recognition - in the Spring 1986 San Francisco Arbitron book (April 3-June 25), Gabbert's station pulled a 1.8 share. Oldies competitor KYA-FM is full-time and fully in the city coverage area. It only got a 1.6. KFRC-AM could only do a 1.6.

In fact, Gabbert sold KIOI-FM, San Francisco - for millions and millions - to Price Communications KIOI-FM could only beat KOFY-AM's ratings by seven-tenths of a percentage point.

But there's more to the story. Gabbert had a lot going against him: His station KOFY is an AM daytimer. Only 1,000 watts.

It was off the air from January until the March sign on. Before that, it was a Spanish-formatted station. And it is licensed to San Mateo.

KOFY-AM was only on the air for 20 days during the ratings sweep.

Gabbert is convinced his station earned the 1.8 share by breaking

many of the "rules." Here's how:

■ **Employed no research.** That's a must, says Gabbert. Stations can be over-researched and it may not always give a true picture. And they also over-react to ratings.

■ **No structure-format.** At any other station, the "Nifty 1050" would be golden oldies. Gabbert cringes at that description. People don't like to be told they're old - and a station is doing that when it calls the music they love "oldies."

And the younger listener doesn't want to be associated with anything that "old people listen to." Thus, the double whammy of calling something "oldies." Adds Gabbert, who started as a DJ in 1957: The 50's are trendy today. Kids are getting flat-top haircuts.

■ **Banned playing more than two records in a row.** Gabbert says conventional research indicates people don't want to listen to commercials.

He notes that is what people "think" they feel. Actually, well-placed national spots, for example, will make a radio station seem classier and more exciting to listen to.

Another KOFY-AM rule: Always announce every record you play. Never go into one cold.

■ **Jocks can play what they want from a "loose" playlist.** Each DJ has his or her own special colored pen to "X" out the date next to a song title. That way, Gabbert can keep track of how often a song is played.

■ **Only toe-tappers or hand-clappers are played.** It ranges from the 1950's to the 1970's. Some of the breed that appeal to Gabbert: "At the Hop," "Blueberry Hill" and "Hound Dog."

What he avoids: syrupy songs. And many Motown tunes that don't fit the strategy. However the Supremes are a big exception.

■ **Brought back the old jingles.** They're a series of PAMS jingles the jingle producer put together for the old Collier stations, including KEWB-AM, Los Angeles and KEWB-FM, San Francisco in the 50's (Series 18). PAMS used the original music and jingle themes inserting KOFY-AM's calls.

■ **Kept promotions and contests low key and low in cost.** Like giving away a six-pack of Coke or a \$1 lottery ticket. Gabbert says it isn't the munificent prize that attracts the listener. Rather, it's getting the listener involved with the radio station.

When a listener calls, Gabbert jumps to get them on the air. He's the morning man for the station. His only advertising is done on KOFY-TV, Channel 20. It was a deal he couldn't refuse. He owns the TV station.

The TV campaign shows people lip-synching oldies, such as a young kid doing the bass part in an old song.

He also sells his advertising in combination with the television station.

KOFY-AM's first book shows a strong male, 25-54 audience skewing in the older end of the range - all as would be expected. But Gabbert expects the station to include people as young as 18 as it becomes known.

Part of the promotion: two 50's dance parties, Saturday morning and Saturday night, on KOFY-TV. Those attending range from high schoolers to grandparents.

Gabbert's station had a low-power problem: only 1,000 watts. But Channel 20 carries the radio station on its stereo signal (viewers can listen to the station on Channel 20's secondary audio program).

That gets the "Nifty 1050" into every home reached by the television station.

When the treaty is signed with Mexico to free up some AM frequencies, KOFY-AM will be able to broadcast full time at 50,000 watts. -By Neil Borowski



KOFY-FM owner Jim Gabbert (with co-hosting dog Cody) previously sold KIOI-FM for millions. Now he's within less than a point from beating them with a 1,000 watt AMer.

# VERIFICATION SIGNERS

Wayne Heinen, 4131 S. Andes Way, Aurora, CO 80013

Catch "AM Interlude" on HCJB Saturday nights.

530	CJFT1b	William McDougall CE	HH	1230	WCWA	Denny Moon	FV
550	CFNB1h	Don Weeks CE	BH	1240	WRTA1	Greg Lance P	JM
550	WSVAqlh	Ellsworth Neff CE	BH	1240	WVCO1m	Frank Jankowics E	BH
560	WHND	Tom Gardull DoE	FV	1250	WOBG1	Joyce McSherry	JM
560	WHYnq	U/U	BH	1260	WCLC1	Howard Ray Cravens OpM	BP
590	KCSU1m	Larry Roberts P/GM	PT	1260	WIBV1	Peter W. Cervasio CE	PT
670	WMAQF	Michael Bock DTop	PT	1270	KOZQ1	Keith Greenwood	PT
690	KSTLq	U/U	JM	1270	WLBR	Glenn Waybright CE	JM
690	WYIS1mb	Jose L. Rivera GM	PT	1270	WMPM1	Carl Lamm GM	BH
720	RJRq	U/U CE	BH	1270	WORLp	Dennis Sloatman CE	ERC
730	KWREq	Vern Kasper	PT	1280	WGBF1h	Martin L. Hensley	GM
730	WCPT1	John P Bisset CE	HH	1290	WNBFpu	Larry Hodge CE	JM
730	WOHS1	Harold R. Watson GM	GM	1300	WFFG1z	John West PD	ERC
740	WPAQ1	Lucy E. Bowman Bkr	JM	1300	WLXGb	No Verie!	BP
750	WPDx1m	Charles Snoderly DoE	GM	1300	WMTM1	Douglas J. Turner O	ERC
760	WCPS1	Janis R. Harper GM	GM	1310	CIWWF	Stan Harrison CE	BH
770	WYRV1	Kenneth Rasnake Co-M	GM	1310	WBFDLm	Robert May CE	GM
790	WAKY1	Mark Strauss PD	PT	1310	WGH1rm	Steven B. Johnston CE	JM
799	WNAZ1	Steven J. Callahan CE	ERC	1310	WGSAlm	John Arndt CE	JM
800	WCHAlb	Lisa Kirkpatrick TrfD	JM	1310	WSSJ1	Dean Paul DJ	BH
810	WEKGfb	James Hay P/M	JM	1310	WXMC1bzx	Robert Coppinger P	BH
810	WSJCq	Walter Hearn CE	BH	1314	R. Norway	U/U	HH
830	CFJRI	J.A. Radford M	BH	1320	WGET1	Rod Burnham GM	GM/JM
830	KBOAl	John R. Newton E	ERC	1320	WJAS1mbz	Yvonne Sacipant PrD	JM
830	WCCOq	U/U	PT	1320	WKIN1b	Bob Gordon PD	GM
830	WNYCq	Ernie E. Dachel	BH	1330	WADJ1mb	Ron Lorence O/GM/CE	JM
850	JBC1	B.C. Barovier Dir	BH	1330	WESR	U/U	GM
860	WAMOlh	Robert C. Haberkost CE	JM	1330	WKRE1m	Bill Le Cato PD	ERC
880	WCBSq	U/U	PT	1330	WVHI1	Maurice L. Green DJ	BP
900	KFAl1	Steve Beeny GM	PT	1340	WLEW	Jack Thomas CE	FV
910	WSBAq	Dave Flenner CE	JM	1340	WNBH1	Christine E. Lodge GM	BH
920	WGNU1	Charles Geer Nx/PD	PT	1350	WOYKq	Floyd K. Daisey CE	JM/GM
920	WHJf	S. Craig Healy ACE (NRC)	JM	1360	WEBBq	U/U	GM
920	WKVAqm	Paul Bryan OpM	JM	1360	WPPAlm	Jim Thompson GM	JM
930	WVNHcub	Freddie D. MxD	JM	1370	WALK1b	Marvin Holverstott CE	JM
940	WCIT	Ray Allen CE	FV	1370	WKMCf1m	U/U CE	GM
940	WVLV1b	Elaine Evans	JM	1370	WSPD	Bill Rossinni	FV
950	WBjW1	Don Anglin CE	ERC	1370	WVMR1	Sean Milliner OpM	BP
970	WKLs1m	Robert Helbush CE	ERC	1370	WXXI1	John M. Proffitt	GM
980	KSGM1	Craig Michael O	PT	1370	WXXI1b	Lois Tipton Trf	JM
1010	WGUN1	Randy Johnson MxD	BP	1380	WAMS1	John S. Simpson CE	JM
1020	KBCQq	U/U	PT	1380	WAYZ1	Tom Ankerbrand	JM
1030	KKJc1	Randal J. Pennington CE	PT	1380	WAYZ1b	Tom Ankerbrand	JM
1030	WBZEL	Steve Brisker GM	BP	1390	WMPOL	John E Kerr Jr. M	GM
1030	WBZEL	Jeff Bennett PD	BP/GM	1410	WHLN1	Kevin Myers SxD	GM
1030	WBZEL	David W. Schweikart	BH	1410	WOTTp	Gary J. Belch GM	ERC
1050	WADC1	Randy L. Greene	JM	1420	WACK1	Ted Bertot PD	GM
1050	WDZ1	Kevin Grindstaff GM	PT	1420	WCED1	Dave Anthony M	GM
1070	WHYZ1b	Ray Slatton CE	BP	1420	WCOJ1m	Donald G. Kimes GM	GM/JM
1070	WKMBrs	U/U	BH	1420	WTCR1	Mark Jesse GM	GM
1070	WNCT1m	Jeff Masingill OpM	GM	1430	KSKSf	Mark A. Goff AE	PT
1080	WEEP1b	David A. Budjanec PD	BH	1430	WVNC1mbq	Stanley M. Carman PD/CE	JM
1100	WYKR1	U/U	WIZ	1440	WGCB1	Geneva Stamper VP/GM	JM
1120	WYNOLz	James D. McLin ChOp	KJC	1440	WMERf	Kevin A. Smith AE	GM
1130	WCXI	Ralph Hunt CE	FV	1450	WJER1m	Donald Graff CE	JM
1130	WEEO1m	Bill McCarrrey CE	JM	1460	WDOG1mb	H. Carl Gooding P	ERC
1140	CJTren	Claude Bolduc PD	BH	1460	WVWG1mb	Sue Bahner VP/GM	BH
1150	KRMS1	Larry Heaberlin	PT	1470	CHOW1b	Gordon W. Burnett P	GM
1150	WIMA	Rick Corcoran CE	FV	1480	WADRfmb	Dann Miller OpM	BH
1160	WCCS1	Ray Goss M	WIZ/JM	1480	WSHP1	Steven O. McDaniel M	JM
1160	WCCS1	Fred Shetler CE	GM/HH	1490	WGCHq	Chris Lucas PD	BH
1170	WJCC1	Karen M. Brunelle TrfD	BH	1490	WIEZ1	Ken Hart CE	JM
1190	CJMRqm	U/U	ERC/JM	1500	WCZY	Paul Goodpaster E	FV
1200	CFGOLmq	Liane Craig PA	WIZ/JM	1510	WAHT1m	Dorothea Sullivan M	JM
1200	CFGOLmq	H.F. McRae CE	WIZ/JM	1510	WMRE1b	Marc Gordon E	BP
1200	WAGEf	Paul C. Draisey GM	BH	1510	WMRE1b	Mark Bastoni PD	BP
1200	WKOXq	U/U	BH	1510	WNLC1mb	Bob Perry OpM	BH
1210	KLDF	Chris Heck CE	PT	1520	WDBS1b	Dale Smith OpM	BH
1220	WGNy1b	Bob Krieger	GM	1520	WKZQ1b	Bill Files CE	BH
1220	WJUN1m	Dave Suplee M	JM	1520	WRS11	Cal Smith P	BH

# DOMESTIC DX DIGEST - EAST

William R. Hale, 9823 N. Meadow, Converse, TX 78109

*WOW WEE*	900	CJER	PQ	ST JEROME - 10/4 1341-1403 relaying CKLM-1570 w/Boite A Musique pgm. Most IDs were "CKLM-1570". At 1400, gave temps for Montreal & St Jerome, then NTR Nx. At 1403 had dual ID for CKLM-1570/CJER-900. All in FF. "Radio Laurentide" format has been dropped. Now "Reseau NTR". (RUGG-PQ)
	1020	KDKA*	PA	PITTSBURGH - 9/28 0040 off again! Only SS (JM-PA)
		WRIX	SC	HOMELAND PARK - 10/1 0730-0817 KDKA actually OFF w/technical problems. S/on fading to GOS mx, lcl ads, psa, SC nx, wx & ID "H.P.-Anderson, SC, WRIX, AM-1020, your gospel connection". Fair/good w/noise; per helpful address & correct info from Starr (JM-PA)
	1250	WTAE*	PA	PITTSBURGH - 9/24 0125+ surprisingly off, but only CHWO in (JM-PA)
*DX TESTS*	830	KUYO	WY	EVANSTON - 9/15 Not heard (BH-NJ) Did this on go as scheduled? Did anyone hear this? (WRH)
*MIDDAY TO MIDNIGHT*	540	CJSB	ON	OTTAWA - 10/4 1953-2001 o/CBEF w/MOR mx; ID & nx, @ 2000. Poor in WGR & CJFT slop (GC-NY)
		WDMV	MD	POCOMOKE CITY - 9/25 1902-1914 good w/CWM; slogan "Country 54"; lcl ads & jingles (BH-NJ)
	600	WSJS	NC	WINSTON-SALEM - 10/4 2310 briefly o/WCAD w/wx & ID (GC-NY)
	630	CJLA*	PQ	LACHUTE - 10/4 silent on pass-thru. Has switched to FM only (RUGG-PQ)
		CJET	ON	SMITHS FALLS - 10/4 1406-1412 w/CWM, wx, IDs & PSAs. IDs as "C-JET Country". With CJLA silent, this one rools the roost in E. ON during the day (RUGG-PQ)
	710	CJRN	ON	NIAGARA FALLS - 9/5 2221-2308 fair in Cuban null (WOR off w/ apparent problems (see column in V54,11) w/Blue Jays BB, postgame show, nx, bumper sticker contest (BH-NJ)
		CKVM	PQ	VILLE-MARIE - 9/5 2239-2304 fading u/CJRN w/DIS mx; DJ in FF live from lcl club (BH-NJ)
	840	WHAS	KY	LOUISVILLE - 9/30 1310 T40 mx; ID by male. Fair (WPT-MD)
	860	WDMG	GA	DOUGLAS - 9/25 1954-2013 weak in CJBC null w/TOP 40 mx; dual AM-FM ID (BH-NJ)
	920	KDHL	MN	FAIRBAULT - 9/10 2334 barely readable w/election returns & sports (DLH-IN)
	950	WXLW	IN	INDIANAPOLIS - 10/7 1956-2000 good o/u/WXYT w/REL pgm, 2 ads, Lord's Prayer & quick ID (JM-PA)
	960	WFIR	VA	ROANOKE - 9/10 2200 ID into nx; then gone (DLH-IN)
		WFIR	VA	ROANOKE - 10/6 1957 Talknet; To Your Health; IDs as 'Count on us, WFIR'; CBS nx @ 2000 (RCW-MI)
	1110	WVAM	VA	NORFOLK - 9/30 1913 fair w/GOS mx, s/off in WKEG null (JM-PA)
		CHPR	ON	HAWKESBURY - 10/4 1415-1436 in FF. Blend of FF & EE mx & regional ads. IDs as CJLA-FM, le son de Mirebel. Noted on pass-thru relaying CJLA-FM (RUGG-PQ)
	1130	WASP	PA	BROWNSVILLE - 10/4 1837 ID; CWM u/WCXI; 1st time here (GC-NY)
	1160	WCCS	PA	HOMER CITY - 10/4 1839-1845 poor in slop from CKOC; ID as Stereo 11-60; promo for Top 30 countdown; lost @ 1845 (GC-NY)
	1200	CFGO	ON	OTTAWA - 10/3 1919 ID snared thru WOWD's splatter. Vry poor (DLH-IN)
	1230	WBOW	IN	TERRE HAUTE - 9/24 2300 ID caught thru jumble at nx break (DLH-IN)
	1250	WYKM	WV	RUPERT - 9/30 1928 fair s/off. Caught ID in WTAE null (JM-PA)
		WGL	IN	FT WAYNE - 10/5 1856 CNN Radio Nx, lcl ad for Short & Associates, 'Talkradio Weekend' w/Jerry Carroll. Atop channel (RCW-MI)
	1260	WNDR	NY	SYRACUSE - 9/30 2007 OLD, several mentions of 'Great Gold 12-60, WNDR'. Several deep fades mixing w/WTAE (RCW-MI)
	1270	WCMR	IN	ELKHART - 9/17 1932 ID; crimestopper show. Poor. Much wanted (DLH-IN)
	1300	UNID	??	- 10/6 1938 OLDies; IDing as "The Oldies Channel" on the Tom Murphy Show. Probably satellite fed (RCW-MI)
	1310	CIWW	ON	OTTAWA - 9/22 2015 IDs as "Solid Gold-W-1310", Gary Thiel Show, on 'Stupid Joke Night' (no kidding) and OLDies. Ex-???? (doing this at work and can't remember) (RCW-MI)
	1320	CFGM	ON	RICHMOND HILL - 9/22 2001 w/lcl nx, Dan Ryan Show. CWM (RCW-MI)

1360 WHBG VA HARRISONBURG - 10/7 1936 strong, out of U.S. Stations news & "continuous (CW) music" (JM-PA)  
 1400 WHGB PA HARRISBURG - 10/4 1900 ID by male. Fair atop GY pile (there's a new one-WRH) (ex-WFEC) (WPT-DC)  
 1460 WBUC WV BUCKHANNON - 9/29 1931 briefly atop channel w/s/off (GC-NY)  
 WBUC WV BUCKHANNON - 9/19 1930 s/off by male; then SSB. Good(WPT-DC)  
 1480 WRDW GA AUGUSTA - 9/16 2340 just o/din w/Urban Cont & wx (DLH-IN)  
 1540 WSIV NY E. SYRACUSE - 10/4 1847-1903 Family Rosary Hour show until 1900. ID as Love 105 (WOIV 105.1 DeRuyter, NY), w/WPTR, o/KXEL (GC-NY)  
 WBNL IN BOONEVILLE - 9/17 1929 lcl ads; poor in lcl clutter (DLH-IN)  
 1560 WTNS OH COSHOCTON - 9/29 1919 u/WQXR; ad for Coshocton County Fair, wx, ID as WTNS Coshocton (GC-NY)  
 1570 WFLR NY DUNDEE - 9/10 2051 Mets BB; lcl ads, ID (DLH-IN)  
 1590 WCBG PA CHAMBERSBURG - 9/29 1847 ads, ID, into TalkNet atop channel (GC-NY)  
 WUSJ TN JOHNSON CITY - 9/28 2000 fair w/U.S. 99 ID (AM-FM) & CWM (JM-PA)  
 1600 WSTL KY EMINENCE - 9/16 1903 lcl ads, nx; poor, just o/WARU (DLH-IN)  
 WUNI? WV WHEELING - 10/3 2017 Oldies, "16 Carat Gold" slogan(DLH-IN)  
 CHRN ON SIMCOE - 9/22 2034 Top 40 mx, mentions of CHNR, lcl wx, virtually non-stop mx. U/WAAM (RCW-MI)

## \*MIDNIGHT TO MIDDAY\*

530 CJFT ON FORT ERIE - 10/1 0037 spot for Colonial Furniture; ment of Niagara Falls. Fair (WPT-DC)  
 560 WFRB MD FROSTBURG - 9/11 0604 good w/wx & CWM. "Your Tri-State Country Leader" (DLH-IN)  
 590 UNID ?? - 10/5 0005+ SS talk & mx way o/CKEY. Cuba? (GC-NY)  
 770\* WABC NY NYC - 9/15 0308 on w/OC & TT. No KOB (DLH-IN)  
 WYRV VA CEDAR BLUFF - 9/11 0734 fair w/promos & POP mx (DLH-IN)  
 800 WDEH TN SWEETWATER - 9/30 0645 good in CKLW null w/ad, b'day annct's, CWM (JM-PA)  
 830 WLND OH CORTLAND - 9/29 0810 ment of Marietta during nx; ID by male. Fair (WPT-MD)  
 850 WKBZ MI MUSKEGON - 10/3 0731 lcl ads, nx in KOA's null (DLH-IN)  
 860 CJBC ON TORONTO - 9/15 0248-0316 good w/Urban Contemp mx; ID'd as "790-CKMW". Probably a test (BH-NJ)  
 870 WSOC NC CHARLOTTE - 9/29 0805 wx report (65f) by male. Fair. (ex-930) (WPT-MD)  
 900 WCOR TN LEBANON - 9/30 0706 fair w/nx, wx, ID & jingle. All alone w/CWM (JJR-WI)  
 930 WBCK MI BATTLE CREEK - 10/8 0859 ID, promos; quickly lost to WKCT (DLH-IN)  
 WFMD MD FREDERICK - 09/29 0648 MD Farm Bureau Show; lcl spot w/Charles Osgood of CBS Nx promoting WFMD's 50th anniversary, CBS nx. Lost Signal due to pwr change of WBCK. Well atop channel until then RCW-MI  
 940 WCIT OH LIMA - 10/8 0720 v/good w/ad, wx & OLD (JM-PA)  
 WECO TN WARTBURG - 9/30 0630 xint w/s/on mentioning owners, power etc. TC, where are you? (JM-PA)  
 950 WROL MA BOSTON - 10/5 0617 briefly o/WWJ w/wx & ethnic mx; fair in slop from WBEN & WEBR (GC-NY)  
 990 WTIG OH MASSILLON - 9/27 0612 fair w/(likely) HS FB & MLB scores; faded (JM-PA)  
 1030 WBZE MD INDIAN HEAD - 9/25 0649+ xint w/KDKA slop & WXSS; "AM Stereo"; ment of "Contemporary Christian Mx", ads, more. Much stronger at SRS (JM-PA)  
 WBZE MD INDIAN HEAD - 9/11 0754 GOS mx, ads, concert info. Sorta late for EC stations here (DLH-IN)  
 WXSS TN MEMPHIS - 9/25 0653 good; fading o/top of WBZE w/"The Worlds Best (BLK) GOS Mx w/Thaddeus Mathews"; 9/26 0704 fair w/2 ads (JM-PA)  
 KCTA TX CORPUS CHRISTI - 9/27 0653-0730 v/good at times in KDKA/WBZE nulls; found this while looking for WXSS! w/Cont CHR mx quoting scripture; annct's; ID (JM-PA)  
 1050 UNID ?? - 9/15 0248-0316 someone here in CHUM null (WHN off) w/CWM, Country Music Leader slogan (BH-NJ)  
 1110 KFAB NE OMAHA - 9/30 0708 strong in WKEG null w/police blotter update (JM-PA)  
 1150 WELC WV WELCH - 9/24 0710-0716 fair w/psa, word-for-worded(?) car wash ad, AdCon mx, no IDs, lat locations helped locate them on map (JM-PA)  
 WCRK TN MORRISTOWN - 9/11 0810 fair w/lcl ads & HS sports (DLH-IN)  
 1180 WLDS IL JACKSONVILLE - 0817 sports, contest results. Fair→Good (DLH-IN)

1210 WSBI TN STATIC - 9/30 0710 poor w/wx, school lunch menus o/WILY.. "WSBI-AM 1210" (JJR-WI)  
 1240 KBIZ IA OTTUMWA - 10/3 0025 up o/mess w/BBD show & station promo incl. address & ZIP code, which really helped ID this one! Poor (JJR-WI)  
 WWVC NC WILKESBORO - 9/24 0200 up w/ID "...the All-Night AM with the area's best variety of mx.."; AdCon mx (JM-PA)  
 1270 WORX IN MADISON - 10/8 0700-0702 just missed v/good s/on catching city & "WPJC-FM" into IN nx & agri wx, back into jumble (JM-PA)  
 1310 CIWW ON OTTAWA - 9/28 0009-0103 strong w/Solid Gold #1310. IDs, CFL scores, LOTERIO #s, wx 4cast, Nx Radio Report, no legal ID! (JM-PA)  
 1340 WBIW IN BEDFORD - 10/7 0100 just popped up, catching part of ID"... country WBIW, Bedford, IN"; into ABC-I nx; gone (JM-PA)  
 WLAV MI GRAND RAPIDS - 10/7 0200 fading out of mess w/ID into possible ABC nx (JM-PA)  
 WGRV TN GREENVILLE - 10/8 0200 10/8 0200 fading out of mess w/ID into NBC nx (JM-PA)  
 1350 WLOU KY LOUISVILLE - 9/29 0615+ v/good w/"Classic Hits AM 1350"; Urban Cont mx; sports, check-in line..."The Fresh Mx Station" (JM-PA)  
 1360 WHNS NY OLEAN - 9/27 0631-0646 fair w/lcl nx, sports, lottery #s, wx; AdCon Mx (JM-PA)  
 WMOV WV RAVENSWOOD - 9/27 0620 good w/2 ads, jingle, & CWM (JM-PA)  
 1370 WELV NY ELLENVILLE - 10/5 0629 o/WKMC w/ID Sounds of swing in the Hudson Valley. Mention of FM 99.3 (GC-NY)  
 WPAZ PA POTTSTOWN - 9/25 0559-0608 v/good o/u/WSPD; best reception yet w/s/on "serving 3 counties"; "one of America's 12 Great Radio Stations"; lcl nx, promo, ad, wx watch; EZL mx (JM-PA) Tape sent!  
 1380 KCNW KS FAIRWAY - 9/13 0235 On ET w/GOS album, ID between sides. Anyone have a current address? The P.O. Box in Shawnee Mission didn't work as letter was returned (DLH-IN)  
 1400 WBAT IN MARION - 10/7 0108-0110 good o/din w/lcl nx, wx, then gone (JM-PA)  
 1450 WEYZ PA ERIE - 9/11 0058 snared ID during wxcast. Poor→Fair(DLH-IN)  
 1500 WTOP DC WASHINGTON - 9/21 0616 w/nx, IDs as Newsradio 15; lcl ads. O/WCZY (RCW-MI)  
 1570 UNID ?? - 10/5 0709 briefly o/mess w/ID as 160. Letters poss. WCCQ or WCQQ? o/& u/CFOR & possibly XERF. Any help? (GC-NY)  
 WKOL NY AMSTERDAN - 9/6 0622-0640 good w/ROK Oldies; female DJ; promo for Elvis Hour (JM-NJ)  
 1580 WKUN GA MONROE - 10/3 0657 wx, ID, lcl ads. Fair→Good. Verie rec'd (DLH-IN)  
 1600 WNST WV MILTON - 9/27 0623 auto racing promo, ID. Just o/mess(DLH-IN)

## TIS and other...

530 CFYZ ON TORONTO - 10/2 1900 T.I.S for Pearson IAP, briefly o/CJFT (GC-NY)

## Reporters

JJR-WI John J. Rieger S. Milwaukee, WI RF2900 w/R. West loop; R-1000 w/Kowalski loop  
 GC-NY Greg Coniglio Clarence, NY Panasonic RX-SA70 AM-FM Cassette Walkman or Toshiba RT-1505 FM/MW/SW portable Cassette Recorder  
 JM-PA John Malicky Pittsburgh, PA Superadio II  
 BH-NJ Bob Harrison Union, NJ GE Superadio  
 WPT-DC Bill Townshend Washington, DC Realistic Patrolman-5W60 (12-779) Realistic TRF (12-650)  
 WPT-MD Bill Townshend DXing at work (DXing at WORK!?-WRH)  
 RUGG-PQ Andrew Rugg Nuna' Island, PQ Delco caradio 'tween Montreal & Ottawa  
 DLH-IN Dave Hascall Fortville, IN DX-400/Sanserino Loop  
 RCW-MI Robert W. Walker Walled LAke, MI ICF-2010 w/Radio West loop

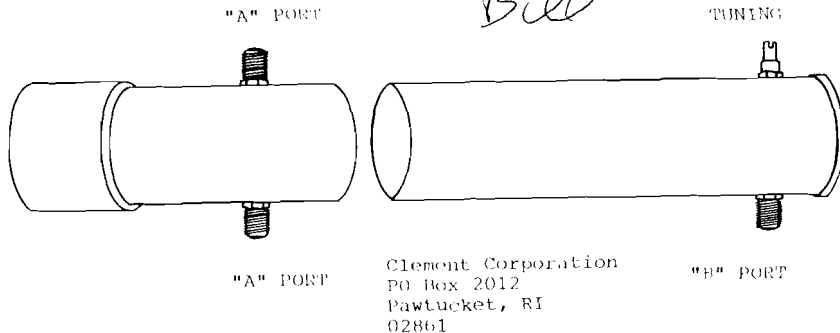
**KPNW**  
**T20AM**

**\*News and Views\***

From Dave Hascall... "The TIS in Chicago is 10 watts--'thanks' to Rob Kramer for info"

Artie Bigley reports that he heard Ray Briem mention that he was going to devote either the entire show or a portion of it to DXing on his December 4th/5th show (Friday night/Saturday morning.) Ray had a blind caller one night and gave the *NRC* a real nice plug, including the tape service. I imagine it will be another *all-band* show, but *MW* will be included this time. We'll probably hear more on this in the next month. I still haven't come up with a way to shorten-up "sports". I don't think "ax" is the answer. Any suggestions? Also, to make it easier on these old eyes, if not typing, print large enough to see, OK? And put your name on each piece of paper. Also, I would like to hear the reason(s) why this column is divided into Midday-Midnight and Midnight-Midday. If there aren't some pretty good reasons, I propose changes. 1) Change the two category's to, say 0600-1800 and 1800-0600 or just lump all the loggings together, or 2) see reason #1. What say, gang. Send comments with your reports. Many thanks and

73. *Bill*



CF-98 FM Antenna Filter

The CF-98 is a precision device designed to pass a desired FM station and reject others. This will lower the amount of interference generated by strong local stations in your receiver. It is American made using all copper parts (no aluminum) and has a quality E.F. Johnson tuning capacitor. It is water resistant and can easily be totally waterproofed for outdoor use.

The CF-98 is designed to work with 75 ohm systems and requires RG-59, RG-6 or other cable of 75 ohm impedance. Standard type "F" connectors are used. An outside antenna is recommended, preferably directional.

Your antenna is connected to either "A" port. They are identical. Two different antennas can be connected to the "A" ports. Phase and amplitude differences will greatly affect the results. This will be strictly a trial and error process for best results.

The receiver connects to either the "A" or "B" port. Use the one that works better in your application.

The tuning control is used to peak the desired signal for best reception.

**WARRANTEE:**

The CF-98 is warranted against all defects with the following exceptions:

1. Obvious physical damage from abuse or mishandling.
2. Disassembly or modification.
3. Overtightening of tuning capacitor mounting nut (20-22 INCH-pounds).
4. Burnout caused by transmitting through it. It is designed for receiving use only.

No other warranties or guarantees are offered or implied.

Other frequency ranges, modifications on application.

# DOMESTIC DX DIGEST - WEST <sup>9</sup>

Nancy Hardy, 2301 Pacific Avenue, Aberdeen, WA 98520

DDXD-West is back this week--but just barely! Come on everyone, where are your reports? Deadlines are Saturdays. Please let us know what you are hearing.

**TIS:**

- 530 TIS BC VANCOUVER - 10/2 2229 fair & alone, Expo song "Something's Happening Here," then full-data s/off and instrumental "God Save the Queen." 2230 s/off continued into October even though Vancouver sunset is now 2130. (BH-WA)
- 1600 TIS BC VANCOUVER - 9/30 2225 finally logged on regular schedule, over & under KEED with Expo information. 2229 began full-data s/off with positive "Expo Information Radio" ID's, but quickly faded under KEED/KGST. (BH-WA)
- 1610 TIS WA STEVENS PASS HIGHWAY - 10/2 2149 atop at times with male voice, construction info for "Highway 2, Stevens Pass." Mentioned town of Index, and Washington State Dept. of Transportation. No call letters given (this is new so possibly none assigned yet). Anyone know where this is located? (BH-WA)
- KNHD262 WA DISCOVERY BAY - 10/2 2150 $\frac{1}{2}$  topping Stevens Pass TIS with female voice, Hood Canal Bridge info every 25 seconds, call letters. (BH-WA)
- WNDR946? WA BELLINGHAM - tentative 10/2 2152 female voice atop other two TIS with quick mention of Expo 86, matches format heard while driving past it, but not positively ID'd from home yet.
- WNDR946 WA BELLINGHAM - definite ID 2142 $\frac{1}{2}$  over/under Stevens Pass TIS. Usual border crossing information. Got this just in time, 10/11, because it will cease to operate on 10/13! (NH-WA)

**RFPORTERS**

BH-WA/Bill Hardy, Aberdeen, WA/FRG-7, Radio West loop

NH-WA/Nancy Hardy, Aberdeen, WA/FRG-7, Radio West loop

## Station Builds Audience By Word Of Mouth

*One AM station found a simple route to the top of the ratings: more talk, less music.*

*By David Kinney*

**H**e wanted the phones to ring. That's why Bryan McIntyre hired Bob Kwesell for WPTF's new midday talk shows. But Kwesell wasn't getting all the calls. The telephone in McIntyre's office rang from the time he came to work to the time he left.

"People called to say they had been lifelong listeners but would never listen to WPTF again," recalls McIntyre, now the Raleigh station's general manager. "They said they had stopped when Kwesell went on the air. Then they would proceed to tell me what he'd said last week that made them mad, followed by an account of his latest outrage that very afternoon."

Bob Kwesell — whom even his boss describes as "a wild man, loud-mouthed and obnoxious" — had them talking. More important, he had them listening. Since he went on the air 10 months ago, WPTF has climbed back to the top of the Triangle's radio ratings. Last fall's Arbitron ratings showed the station's average share of listeners from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. had almost doubled, from 5.1 to 9.4, since the spring sweeps.

That, plus demand, has enabled WPTF to charge 20 percent more for air time on Kwesell's show than on the music programs he replaced, McIntyre says. Dropping midday music angered some people. Kwesell's right-wing bluster offended even more. But for every three listeners the station lost, research showed, it gained seven.

"Give me all the credit you want; give me none," Kwesell says. "All I know is, I go in there and the phone lines light up."

When McIntyre came to the station as operations manager last year, WPTF was hurting. Like many of its older listeners, the station appeared to be in its declining years: Its average share for 6 a.m.-midnight Monday-Friday had dwindled from 15.2 in fall 1983 to 6.5 in spring 1985. The station's heavy emphasis on news, sports and information, leavened by mild-mannered music, had little appeal to younger listeners reared on FM rock. Even worse, people's business — some. And my advertiser doesn't care whether I have them all day or not." He also spotted a hole in the news and information market for WDUR,

the AM station he owns in Durham. It won't be going up against WPTF; it'll be tailored for black audiences.

"If I had an AM station in Charlotte, I would play all classical," Curtis says. The reason: Charlotte doesn't have a commercial classical music station. "I think you'll wind up in a market the size of Charlotte with a classified station — nothing but classified ads.... You take what the market will give you. And right now the splinters are what's left."

Broadcasters' creativity and their ability to spot and pluck splinters are not the only answers. (As Bernie Mann says: "There isn't one truth, one answer.") Even the government believes it has a role to play. Alarmed by what is happening, the Federal Communications Commission recently issued a report on the state of AM radio.

"The idea being that it is the commission's desire to make everyone equal," says Tom Albers, chief of the FCC's AM Radio





Chuck Hutton, 437 Hardendorf Ave., Atlanta, GA 30307 (404) 378 8215

Times are GMT

For ELT subtract 4 hours.

Deadline: Monday

All from Richard Wood this time...

- 738 THAILAND Bangkok Ror. Tor 9/26 1550 Thai nx. mentions of Pakistan, Afghanistan. Good w/Papeete.
- 780 ALASKA Nome KNOM 9/30 1555 plane departure skeds to Dnakleet and Shishmaref. Very good on new 1750 foot Beverage beamed at 45 degrees and terminated with 560 ohm resistor, 6 foot ground rod and 2 200 foot radials.
- 910\* ALASKA Galena KIYU 10/1 1540 relaying KSKA 91.1 Anchorage "Morning Edition" from NPR, 1540 Anchorage weather, KSKA ID, 1550 again local weather and ID. New on air; according to Finnish sources this is only a relay of KSKA. Any local ID or organization? Anyone have address? Good.
- 920 ALASKA Soldatna KSRM 9/27 1515 weather forSoldatna, Kenai, Homer and Anchor Point; country mx. Good
- 1062 WESTERN SAMOA Afiamalu 9/20 1555 ID "This is R. 2AP, the time is 5 minutes away from 7, this is Lionel Richie on a Saturday". Very good, // 1251 good also.
- 1080 AUSTRALIA Hobart 7HT 9/26 1600 news, spot "The Sunday Tasmanian investigates", good.
- 1121\* IRAN Bandar Lengeh 9/16 1550 slow Qur'an recitation, Farsi ID for Tehran. Fair. According to New Zealand sources this is ex 1116, probably to avoid Iraq there.
- 1125\* NEW ZEALAND unid RNZ, 9/16 "Sara,Sara" 1557, 1559 ID "RNZ", spor for motor camp, 1600 TC for 4 AM, into nx, good. New, unlisted. Anyone know call and location? Sorry to see this as 1125 used to be a South Pacific clear channel (for Australia and NZ) and Vanuatu is still unheard here.
- 1134 KUWAIT Sulaibiyah 9/16 1535 Arabic 2nd program, ID, AA mx. Fair under Calcutta and JOQR.
- 1188 SOUTH YEMEN Al-Hiswah 9/30 1600 AA ID, AA mx. Quite good.
- 1296 AUSTRALIA Brisbane 4BK 9/15 1555 ID "At 1296, 4BK", US oldies. Good.
- 1310 WEST MALAYSIA Mersing 9/20 1559 choral NA, off. Fair.
- 1323 AUSTRALIA Gosford NSW 260 9/20 1600-1615 voice mirror tape advising listeners to retune to new 260 frequency of 801 (unheard) where all central coast listeners would get better reception; offering advice if they can not locate the new dial position. Good, QRM from 3ZM.
- 1335 UNID possible Colombian 10/4 0445-0500 many ID's for R. Super, tropical mx. Nothing listed. Any help? Good. (Nothing here Chuck)
- 1431 USSR Kirghiz synchron 10/6 1559 Mayak 1S, 1600 time pips, nx; QRM from Iraqi style jammer.
- 1440 CHINA Guangxi PBS 9/25 1600 ID, "The Helmsman Steers a Steady Course" anthem, 1602 full local ID by female: "Guangxi Renmin Guangbo Diantai" and off. Good.

Richard passes along that my questions in the 9/22 IDXD about his abbreviations can be answered by referring to the relevant pages of the WRTH. The Thai abbreviations are the station names, etc.

Richard Wood-Hilo, Hawaii R1000, SPR4, 5 Beverages

CONTINUED FROM PG.9.

Branch in Washington. "There is a perception that some of the regulations on the books, as they are on the books, have put AM radio in somewhat of a disadvantage in the marketplace."

The FCC gave FM a boost back in 1961 by authorizing stereophonic broadcasting for FM only. Allowing AM stereo in 1982 did not even the scales, many broadcasters believe. The government did not even establish a standard system for broadcasting AM stereo, saying it would let the market decide.

The new report addresses a host of technical topics and such issues as allowing ownership of two AM stations in the same market. But the proposals could be a double-edged sword for some broadcasters. For example, a rule to cut back clear channels to open the nighttime airwaves to day-timers east of the Mississippi could cause

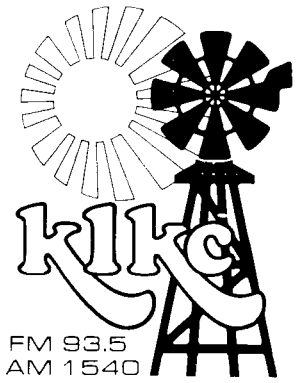
WBT to reduce its groundwave. That, says Jennings, would put it at a disadvantage competing with the giant FMs in the outlying regions of the market.

"As we know it right now," Jennings says, "AM could be different in 12 to 18 months."

"The good operators haven't ruled it out," Curtis says. "A lot of the people who started FM on its way are now saying they see that same opportunity with AM."

Bryan McIntyre, who was assistant manager of a jazz station in Columbus, Ohio, before coming to WPTF, agrees. "AMs will switch, but what can they do right now but paid-religion, black and talk? I believe AMs will become the mode of experimental, ground-breaking radio, just as FM was 15-20 years ago."

Or, as they might say on one of those "alternative" FM stations of that day: "What goes around comes around."



P.O. Box 853 '09' South City  
Pawnee, Kansas 67257

### Texar Inc. says marketplace choice is hopelessly stalled and whole AM service imperilled

When the FCC opted to allow the marketplace to select the standard for AM stereo broadcasting four-and-a-half years ago, it envisioned a "worst case scenario" in which none of the five incompatible AM stereo systems "would be adopted widely enough to sustain AM stereo in the market."

According to Texar Inc., a small Pittsburgh manufacturer of audio processors for radio, the FCC's worst case scenario has come to pass and it's now time for the FCC to do what many believe it should have done in 1982: select one system and adopt it as the national standard.

Glen Clark and David Van Allen, Texar's president and senior design engineer, respectively, flew to Washington last Thursday to file a petition calling on the FCC to choose a standard. They also took time on Thursday and Friday to present copies and talk to reporters, the National Association of Broadcasters, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration and others interested in AM stereo.

"The public and AM broadcasters can no longer be whipsawed by the ongoing, parochial actions of the remaining system proponents [Motorola and Kahn Communications]," the 75-page petition said. "The lessons learned from four-and-a-half years of uncertainty in no way indicate that anything constructive will be gained by extending the period. On the other hand, the establishment of an AM stereo standard will provide an environment conducive to investment and will result in the wide availability of an improved service to the listening public. It will also put an end to the very real danger of losing the existing valuable service that AM provides."

Texar is hoping that others will get behind its petition. How seriously the FCC takes the petition, Clark said, will be proportional to the number of broadcasters, broadcast equipment manufacturers and receiver manufacturers that support the petition in comments to the FCC.

With sufficient support, Texar believes it can get the FCC to act. "This is not a hopeless case," said Clark. "It may be an uphill fight, but it is not hopeless."

Clark and Van Allen were reluctant to say whether they have gotten any encouragement from the FCC. But, Van Allen said, "We get good vibes from the commission."

In fact, the fate of the petition at the FCC may hinge on a report on the state of AM stereo now being prepared by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration. According to NTIA head Al Sikes, the report will try to ascertain how far the marketplace has come in achieving a de facto standard. Sikes said the report will be ready around the end of the year.

Jim McKinney, chief of the FCC's Mass Media Bureau, said that absent the NTIA effort, the FCC staff would have "automatically rejected" the petition because the FCC had tacitly reasserted its faith in the marketplace approach to AM stereo standards in its AM improvement report released last April.

But the staff is now willing to wait and see what the NTIA comes up with before deciding what to do with the Texar petition, he said.

Sikes said that he had considered asking the FCC to set a standard, but, in the end, opted to conduct the study. If, as he hopes, the report is successful in accelerating the workings of the marketplace, it will have been "superior" to the FCC's launching of a "protracted [standards-setting] proceeding that might or might not lead to a standard and that, if it did lead to a standard, might be appealed in the courts."

Motorola's Oscar Kusisto said his company generally favors any attempt to persuade the FCC to set a standard, but that it would want to know more about what methodology the FCC would use before endorsing any specific effort. If the FCC decided to make its selection on the basis of which system has the most industry support, its conclusion would be "obvious," he said. Motorola's C-Quam system has been adopted by 446 broadcasters (foreign and domestic), 32 receiver manufacturers and five broadcast equipment manufacturers, he said.

Despite his relative enthusiasm for the Texar petition, Kusisto was doubtful it would get very far at the FCC. Judging from his informal discussions with FCC officials, he said, the commission is firm in its belief in the marketplace and is not about to intercede.

Leonard Kahn, president of Kahn Communications, called the petition "very irresponsible. The only thing this will do is give Texar a little publicity," he said. "It won't do anything else."

If the FCC opened an AM stereo standards proceeding, it would "scuttle" the service, Kahn said. AM stereo would be lost in the mire of FCC proceedings and litigation, he said.

Tom Keller, NAB senior vice president, science and technology, said the trade association is concerned that reopening the AM stereo question at the FCC might have "a possible negative effect on the market." The FCC could, for instance, initiate a formal standards-setting process that would take a long time to complete and result in the selection of a system other than either Motorola's or Kahn's.

The NAB shares the frustration of AM broadcasters over the lack of an AM stereo standard, Keller said. "But once you are locked in the marketplace situation, I don't know if you can get out of it."

The process of natural selection triggered by the FCC's 1982 decision has winnowed the number of systems from five to two—Motorola's C-Quam system and Kahn Communications' single-sideband system. But the marketplace now seems to have come to a stalemate. Neither Motorola nor Kahn wants to drop out and, despite their best efforts, neither has been able to knock out the other.

According to Texar, the Motorola-Kahn stalemate and the lack of a standard has retarded the introduction of AM stereo. "With station managers and owners frozen in place by the danger of picking the 'wrong system,' the number of new stations transmitting AM stereo has fallen to no more than a trickle," the petition said. "Less than one AM station in 10 now transmits in stereo and the number is growing very slowly."

If the FCC were to pick a standard, Van Allen said, the number of stations broadcasting in stereo would grow rapidly. The Australian government chose the C-Quam system as the national standard two years ago, he said. Today, more than 60% of the country's stations are broadcasting in stereo.

Texar believes the selection of a standard is critical to AM stereo and that AM stereo, by helping to close the gap in sound quality with FM, is critical to the future of the AM band. To make its point that AM radio is "in serious trouble," the petition cited figures showing AM share of total listenership dwindling from 59.1% in 1976 to 31.7% in 1986.

Van Allen suggested that AM needs stereo to keep pace not only with FM, but with just about every other type of audio medium, from compact disks to television. "AM is the only medium not in stereo—except for the telephone," said Van Allen.

In Van Allen's thinking, AM stereo is one of three technical improvements that combined, can make AM indistinguishable from FM for most listeners. The other two: the National Radio Systems Committee's voluntary pre-emphasis/de-emphasis standard, which promises to improve AM fidelity, and continuous tuning radio sets, which would allow listeners to move back and forth between the AM and FM bands without flipping a switch.

The AM stereo standards deadlock is coming to a head, the petition said, because, "with no consumer demand for receivers, receiver manufacturers are beginning to discontinue AM stereo products and abandon the AM stereo market. If the marketplace does manage to select a system at some time in the future, the point will be moot, as receivers will not be available."

Texar made clear that it doesn't care which system gets the nod. "We are impartial," Clark said. "We don't think that is the critical issue at this point. It's more important to get a system we all agree on. We take no sides in this."

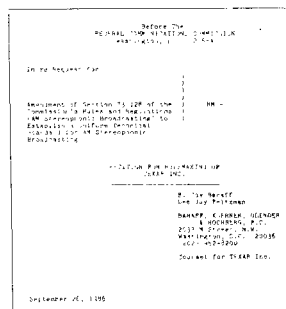
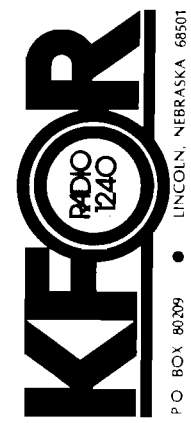
(Van Allen had a connection with one of the system proponents: According to Kusisto, Van Allen was once an independent installer of Motorola C-Quam excitors.)

And the petition offers the FCC no help in deciding how to pick a standard. Texar has "considered, at great length, several possible methods of selection and realized, as certainly the commission did some time ago, that each option has its desirable and undesirable points," the petition said. "There is no ideal solution."

Clark acknowledges that picking a standard would be tough for the FCC. But, he said, the agency makes tough decisions all the time. When five companies apply for a television station, he said, it has to decide which one is going to get the license.

In filing the petition, Texar is motivated primarily by self-interest. "If AM dies and the stations go dark or run marginally profitable, our market has been cut in half," said Clark.

But, on a "personal level," Clark said, he and Van Allen just want to see the medium regain some of its old luster. "A lot of people grew up with AM." □







## CONTESTS

Robert Kramer, 6416 N. Richmond, Chicago, IL 60645

CONTEST STANDINGS  
as of 10/14/86

DXER	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
N. Wolfish, MB	2125	1696	9	5	3	3	84
D. McIntyre, AB	1004	573	4	3	0	0	286
D. Hascall, IN	661	611	2	0	0	0	---
R. Vance, CO	417	291	1	0	0	0	101
S. Goozovat, NY	281	222	0	0	1	1	44
B. Walker, MI	112	62	1	0	0	0	---
me	2222	2047	5	0	3	4	---

SYMBOLS: A= total points, B= state & province points, C= Most wanted loggings, D= Most Wanted Honorable Mention loggings, E= Target Station loggings, F=Auxiliary Target Station loggings, G= Handicap points.

No Reports yet from Bill Hardy, Nancy Hardy, Leslie Carpenter or Mike Hogan.

When reporting your loggings to me, please include the date & time on all items. Also, I forgot to mention this in the rules, but a limited time or specified hours station will count as a daytimer for contest purposes, even if it is heard after the station's local sunset.

There is still plenty of time to enter this year's contest. There is no entry fee. Just send your Most Wanted Lists. Don't let Niel Wolfish's fast start scare you off, it is going to take 3500 or more points to win this contest, and there is plenty of time for you to get that total if you join now.

## POPEYE

## ROCK RADIO: BACK TO THE FUTURE

By PATRICK GOLDSTEIN

Let a rock radio have gone oldies crazy. Let spin the dial and listen for yourself. With the exception of a few popular Top 40 stations, local radio sounds like it's being run by a bunch of program directors whose new toy is a time machine.

KBZT-FM (known as K-BEST) has become KLSX, playing "classic-rock" from the '60s and '70s. KMET-FM plays "Work Force Double Shots" of Janis Joplin tunes. KNX-FM reels in the years with Steely Dan. KLOS-FM opts for "Noontime Nuggets" featuring Pink Floyd and Led Zeppelin. KRTH-FM is playing Jim Croce and the Eagles. Even KROQ-FM is playing old cuts from the Clash.

The official moniker for all this old-time music is "Classic Rock." Others have dubbed it Rock Re-Runs or radio's new Back-to-the-Future format. And it's hardly limited to radio. The entire entertainment world seems to be recycling the past, whether it's revivals on Broadway or sequels in Hollywood.

Whatever you call it, record industry observers say it's one of the most unhealthy new trends they've seen in years.

"It's not a good environment for new music, that's for sure," said Jeff Pollack, a leading radio consultant whose firm handles about 50 rock stations around the country, including pop oldies station KNX and hard-rock outlet KNAC-FM locally. "It's all part of

an incredible conservatism in radio. No one wants kids anymore. They all want the 25-to-34, or even the 25-to-44 listeners, the baby-boomers that advertisers are trying to attract. The problem is that in radio, everything is always over-kill. So instead of having a little bit of this oldies business, we're having a lot."

Needless to say, record company promotion execs—whose jobs hinge on breaking new artists—are particularly unhappy with this oldies explosion. "It's the worst that I've ever seen it in my seven years in the business," said Michael Plon, vice president of promotion at I.R.S. Records. "Classic rock is like a fast-food format; it's the Burger King of radio. It gives programmers a quick ratings fix, but it's ultimately going to burn people out on all this old music.

"Somehow, in the midst of all this, we've managed to break a new band like Timbuk 3 on album-rock stations, but we're looking at a lot of other ways to get exposure for new groups, either through tours, videos or publicity campaigns."

Geffen Records promotion chief Al Coury calls the oldies craze "an act of desperation" by stations that prefer to play cobwebby guaranteed hits than take a chance on a new artist.

"It takes us four times as long to break a new act now than it did a year or two ago," he explained. "You need to get a new record on a minimum of 25 or 30 stations to give it a solid test. In the past, it would've taken two to four weeks to do that. Now, it takes seven or

eight weeks, if you can even get that far. We've done very well with records by Peter Gabriel, Rick Ocasek and Wang Chung, but you have to aim for a much smaller piece of air time. Radio ads for new records are probably down at least 50%, or even more."

What makes this trend even more disturbing is that with fewer openings on radio play lists for new groups, there's less incentive than ever for record companies to sign new artists. "Since you can only break so many new acts, it's going to make it a lot tougher for new artists to get signed, and even tougher to get their records released," said Coury. "A lot of the superstars of today, like Phil Collins and Peter Gabriel, didn't make it on their first record, or even their second or third. And you have to wonder, if they had come out today, with radio the way it is, whether they would have ever made it at all."

□

**KPUR**  
**1440**  
radio amarillo

## STATION PROFILE

Tony Fitzherbert, 356 Jackman Avenue, Fairfield, CT 06430

## WBRL 14

STATION PROFILE - WBRL - 1400, BERLIN, NEW HAMPSHIRE

In Coos County, northernmost county of the Granite State, between the rocky cliffs of 2000 foot high Mt. Forist, and the wooded bluffs of Cascade Mountain, lies the manufacturing city of Berlin. This town of 14,000 people, whose homes, and typically New England wooden three decked apartment houses spread to the bases of these beautiful hills, depends for its livelihood upon the sprawling James River Corporation papermills, whose works straddles several granite cascades in the Androscoggin River. In fact, it was the available water power that gave rise to the huge pulp mills in this location, in the late 19th century. Berlin, New Hampshire, located just north of the majestic Presidential Range of the White Mountains, crowned by 6200 foot Mount Washington, is, perhaps, in one of the most beautiful locations in the entire United States.

Serving Berlin since 1962, and, at present one of two AM radio stations in the entire county is WBRL "Your Radio Station - AM 1400". Interestingly, the only other active AM station in sprawling Coos County is WLTN, Littleton, only 45 miles southwest of Berlin, also assigned to 1400kh!

WBRL, with a call standing for "Berlin", signed on the air in 1962, with a rock music format, and no network, from studios at 40 Main Street, in a building it shared with now silent WMOU-1230 Kh. WBRL, over the years, offered country music, as well as rock.

On September 1, 1982, WBRL vacated the Main Street location, moving to its present modernistic headquarters at 52 Gilbert Street, a building shared with several other businesses.

Two years ago, WBRL management decided to air satellite feed from the Satellite Music Network. The first venture was with the Stardust Music Service, but Tommy Dorsey and Benny Goodman just do not win the acceptance of a market which relishes rock and country music. Listeners let the station know in no uncertain terms that the big band sound was very out of place in down to earth Berlin. Presently, WBRL airs adult contemporary music from SMN, as well as SMN news on the hour.

WBRL live assists music from 6:00 to 10:00AM on Monday through Saturday, and another air personality staffs the board from 3:00PM to 6:00PM, Monday - Friday. On Sundays, Bob Morin broadcasts a French music show from 6:00AM to 9:00 for the substantial French-Canadian population that calls Berlin home. Otherwise, music from the satellite is aired.

The most unusual daily feature is the live weather forecast broadcast from the U.S. Weather Service station atop Mount Washington, which has the most severe weather in the United States. In 1938, a 212 mile gust of wind was recorded at this facility.

The present owners, MetroConco emphasizes local news, and a full time reporter is on call 24 hours daily. Also, all varsity basketball and hockey games played by Berlin High School are aired live. WBRL also carries Boston Bruin Hockey to hockey-enthusiastic Berlin - a town where youth learn to handle a hockey stick and skate as soon as they can walk!

WBRL news staffers have covered plane crashes and major fires right from the studio. As New Hampshire is the first state to hold Presidential Primaries, numerous aspirants for 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue drop into WBRL, while stumping for votes. Among the most notable have been two Kennedys, Dwight David Eisenhower, Jimmy Carter, and President Regan.

WBRL operates with 1000 watts power, 24 hours a day, with the signal being fed by an RCA transmitter atop Cates Hill, overlooking downtown Berlin, to a 160 foot tower. The signal covers Berlin, the tiny villages of Errol and Milan, along the Androscoggin north of Berlin, and the town of Gorham, population 2200 full time residents. Gorham's economy is dependent upon the thousands of vacationers who enjoy the beauty of the mountains, as well as the seasonal activities of hiking and skiing. The rest of the coverage area consists of unincorporated, uninhabited land grants.

WBRL's programming originates in a compact studio outfitted with two turntables and the original board. The production room and news area are adjacent. A sales office and the GM's office are down the hall. WBRL employs eight full time staffers, and two part timers. MetroConco presently holds a CP for an FM station in Gorham, six miles south of the studio.

For years, WBRL competed with WMOU-1230. However, WMOU silenced its AM, and presently offers a CHIR format with NBC News and Red Sox Baseball on 103.7 MHz, FM. WMOU moved several years ago from 40 Main Street to studios on Glen Street. The FM elements are atop the old AM tower, located in a dumping area for slag from the paper mills, north of downtown Berlin.

Earlier this year, 1230 KH was revived by WNHX, in a short lived attempt to bring golden oldies to Berlin. The station broadcast for four months and failed financially. The only other local station is WLOM-FM, an easy listening station broadcasting from studios in Poland Spring, Maine, to its transmitter atop 6280 foot high Mount Washington.

In a town where the nearest daily papers are published in Lewiston, Maine, and Manchester, more than 60 miles away, and whose local newspaper is printed weekly, WBRL provides a valuable service informing the local population, as well as providing a delightful adult contemporary musical mix, to the local listeners who rely upon the station for their news, information, and entertainment.

The editor enjoyed visiting WBRL Radio this summer, and thanks retired staffer Bob Dale (who happened to be at the studio), as well as Tom Kennedy, WBRL General Manager, and Tim Anderson (air name Tim Brian), AM announcer for their time and help in providing the information for this station profile. WBRL serves a beautiful area in which the editor would like to live some day, when he retires from his job in New York. Additionally, Tim advises that DX'ing is great in Berlin after the sun sets!

## Sale of KRQX, KZEW ends era begun under WFAA banner

By Lorraine Adams  
Staff Writer of The News

In that year, the world saw Charles Atlas win a body-building contest. In that year, the world saw King Tutankhamen's tomb unearthed. And in that year, 1922, Dallas heard the first broadcast of WFAA-AM.

Its signal was weak, its message simple. With little more than 50 watts of power, and call letters standing for Working For All Alike, the radio station possessed little of the glamour and none of the mystery of some of the year's milestones.

It was the first newspaper-owned radio station in the Southwest, and it was the brainchild of Walter A. Dealey, a vice president of A.H. Belo & Co. and the elder son of G.B. Dealey, founder of *The Dallas Morning News*. At the time, radio was still considered experimental. It was not, in most minds, the natural line of business for a newspaper.

For 61 years, until it switched to a classic-rock format in August 1983 and changed to KRQX-AM, WFAA-

AM broadcast a compendium of agricultural reports, live theater, "middle-of-the-road" recorded music and, finally, Newstalk, an all-talk format that began in 1976.

Perhaps an era in radio came to a definitive close on Friday. A.H. Belo Corp. announced that it had entered into an agreement to sell KRQX and KZEW-FM — its two Dallas radio stations — for \$20 million in cash. Anchor Media Ltd., a group headed by Alan Henry, former president of the Gulf Broadcast Group, is the buyer.

WFAA marked several "firsts" in Texas radio. It was the first commercial station to broadcast in Texas. In 1927, it became the first to broadcast a state championship football game. It was the first Texas station to join a national network (NBC). And it was the first to air an inaugural ceremony in 1931, when Gov. Ross Sterling was sworn into office.

For almost three decades, through the late 1950s, WFAA was the home of *The Early Birds*, a popular morning entertainment program. Other familiar shows included *The Good Time Hour*, with Jim Lowe, and *Hymns We Love*.

ya: Wally Wawko

### From Page 4

1520 WVOI	Tim Perry CE	FV	1600 KATZ1	Kimberly Ann Milton APRM	GM
1540 WMYF1	Roger W. Brace Jr. COP	BH	1600 WAYC1m	John H. Cessna GM	JM
1540 WSMIq	U/U	PT	1600 WCG01	Anthony Santucci GM	BP
1550 WARD1	James F. Ward P/GM	BH/ERC	1600 WKG01	Ron Brown	BP
1550 WCTW1mbz	Lee J. Freshwater CE	BH	1600 WKJS1	Charles J. Tallend PD	BP
1550 WMLBbx	U/U	BH			
1550 WOKJ1	Phil Scott CE	ERC			
1550 WSES1	Gladys P. Debnam	BH			
1560 WTNs1	Bruce W. Wallace P	GM	Initial Name	Loc	
1560 WKTRp	L.R. Palmer OpM	ERC	-----	-----	
1560 WYZD1	Benny Jarrell SlsM	BP	BP	William J. Prater	KY
1570 WCLer	Tom Rowland GM	GM	BH	Bob Harrison	NJ
1570 WFLRrb	M.G. Tonion	BP	WIZ	Ron Musco	CT
1570 WVVL	Robert Eddy O/GM	BH	ERC	Ernest R. Cooper	MA
1580 WNZT1	Douglas J. Neatroun M	JM	PT	Phil Tallman	OK
1580 WNZTm	U/U	BH	JM	John Malicky	PA
1580 WTYO1mz	Ed Altman MxD	KJC/JM	GM	Greg Myers	VA
1590 KCNN1	Scott Mennen OpM	BP	KJC	Kevin Conover	MD
1590 WALYb	No Veriel	BP	FV	Fred Vobbe	OH
1590 WBHN1b	The Staff	BP	HH	Hank Holbrook	MD
1590 WCBG1	Bob Huff	JM			

# MUSINGS

Paul Swearingen

P.O. Box 4812, Panorama City, CA 91412

The opinions expressed in this column are those of the individual writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Editors, Publishers, or the National Radio Club, Inc., or its subsidiaries. Times are local per Muse.

We'll keep the intro brief this time ... the next Musings theme deadline, for you Yankees, is Oct. 31. We're honoring westerners this issue, and I've stretched the boundaries to include two at the front of the column. And now, on with it ...

Niel J. Wolfish - 867 Wicklow St. - Winnipeg, MAN R3T 0U9

Greetings from Winnipeg, where my middle year of law school is under way. September DX has been fairly rewarding, and the results will be appearing in DDXD. #500 from Winnipeg came in the form of CKQR-760, one of a few stations on new frequencies recently logged. CKDA-1200, CHQR-770 and CHQT-880 also fall into that category. With any luck, I should end the '86-'87 DX season with around 700 heard. Not bad for two seasons, considering it took me about 5 years to do the same from Toronto. (It took me about 20 years in Kansas! -pls) Speaking of Toronto, hometown totals are now at 1074 heard. Most of my DX'ing efforts over the summer seemed to be spent on shortwave, where QSL's were added from Djibouti, Cook Islands, Spanish Morocco, and Syria. Also on the topic of Ontario ... Northeastern DX'ers, and especially Ontario DX'ers, may wish to get a look at an issue of the Ontario DX Association's *DX Ontario*. The ODXA, host of next year's ANARCON, has divided their medium wave column into domestic and foreign columns. I have to admit that the medium wave columns are substantially more informative than from my days as editor (1977-79)!! Of course, it helps not to have to type on Gestetner stencils! The domestic column has focused on many changes taking place to the Ontario (and elsewhere) radio dial, particularly format changes. Quite a bit of information has been appearing only in *DX Ontario*, yet it is relevant elsewhere. For example, how many NRC'ers (or IRCA'ans) realize that seldom heard CPOB-800 Ft. Frances moved to 640 in the summer? How many DX'ers knew about CJFT-530 Fort Erie in March? Well, if you had read *DX Ontario*, you would have known. My hat goes off to Sean McCoy and (NRC'er) Werner Funkenhauser for a tremendous job on editing! Incidentally, it is only fair that an NRC member plug the ODXA ... the columns have plugged both the NRC convention and *Domestic Log* recently. 73's until next time. (Niel, I agree with you on *DX Ontario* ... and let me add that I feel that it is the best-looking DX club publication in the world, bar none. Frankly, I also feel that the DX clubs should work a little more closely in plugging each other's efforts. I've found that too many of the commercial publications regard DX clubs as nuisances and refuse to promote many clubs. One magazine publisher in particular has gone out of his way to blackball a number of clubs to which he has taken a dislike, and another editor has recently made, in print, snide remarks about prominent DX'ers. Criticism is fine, but negativism for the sake of selling magazines is unprofessional -pls)

Richard E. Wood, Ph.D - P. O. Box 5074 - Hilo, HI 96720

With the winter season now in full swing, I have been adjusting and augmenting my Beverage farm. The north-south wire, which proves quite directional to DU, has been extended to 0.8 of a mile, my longest, with a resistor at the end. A new Beverage, my fifth, went up at 45 degrees, to the northeast and proves outstanding to Alaska, western Canada, and the Pacific Northwest; the east coast, with WQXR and booming signals from WJVA and WBZ, is also favored. It is terminated with a 560 ohm resistor, an 8 ft. copper rod, and two 200-ft. radials; thus, my best termination yet. I was lucky to find a hole containing dirt, on this lava plain, to bury the ground rod.

This Beverage at 45 degrees is only 30 degrees away from my first North American Beverage, beamed to northern Mexico and the U. S. south at 75 degrees. Overall reception is not all that different, but the two similar Beverages are ideal for use with the Connolly panning unit. My locals KIPA-620, KPVA-670, and KHLO-850 are already shaky on the 45 degree, with mainland signals just under them, or in the case of KHLO, KOA often over it. The added gain on the well-grounded 45 degree Beverage also makes quite a difference at sunset and sunrise, when signals are weak. The most typical new log is KIYU-910 Galena, OK, which relays KSKA-91.1 Anchorage; reported to Galena, but it KIYU proves to be an unannounced relay, I may have to send another report to KSKA if I can find its address. That rounds up - for about two years I have been advertising to try to buy a recent issue of *Broadcasting Yearbook*, with no response. Situations like this again make my need for a recent BY urgent, so can any member help?

Am working on an unID SS on 1335, many ID's as R. Súper; music is tropical and might be a Colombian; the name R. Súper is popular in Colombia, but nothing listed.

Since it hit the air, non-ID'er CIOF has donated 1040 here; call letters not yet heard, only "1040 AM stereo." On either North American Beverage there is little or no sign of KLIH-1040 HI under it. Construction of the well-guyed tower for c.p. KAHU-1060 in downtown Hilo is well-advanced, and I expect it to hit the air within a month. Programming will be Hawaiian music and culture with audience input, perhaps similar to KCCN-1420 from its treehouse studio in Waikiki. Whether there will be any spoken Hawaiian language on it remains to be seen. Operating hours will be 6 am-midnight, and at 1 kW I don't expect it will upset my DX'ing here. Congrats to the CPC on arranging the tests for 10-77, which

stand a good chance of being heard here. Keep them coming! Aloha.

**Paul Swearingen** - Canoga Park, CA

Am typing this in my 10th day of vacation ... which has done wonders for me and many unfinished projects. KWOW-1600 remains KWOW; no call letter change. I've been hearing carriers on a few split frequencies and plan to investigate them this weekend during a DXpedition to the Ironage Road site. Will report any interesting stuff next week. 73.

**Gerry Thomas** - P. O. Box 2036 - Pensacola, FL 32513

Boy, it's been a long time since I've written in to this column! Radio Plus+ is going fine and taking up huge chunks of time, which explains my absence from these pages (and from DX chasing). After a year and a half in business I can say unequivocally that the customers are GREAT but the suppliers can be a giant pain in the patoot! Case in point: I am presently trying to recover my deposits from a printed circuit board manufacturer which, after months of delay in delivering the Phase One and Superloop circuit boards, finally filed for bankruptcy in May. To make matters worse, I re-submitted the order to another company which promptly delivered defective boards in July. Right now the frustration level is so high that I want to abandon the whole manufacturing scene. To those of you who wished to be notified of the availability of the Phase One and Superloop, I can only say I'm still up in the air (hopefully an upcoming weekend in the Smokies will settle me down a little). Meanwhile, the Sony JCF-2010 continues to be the hottest seller by far and is, in my opinion, easily the best portable general coverage radio on the market. (When Sony or another manufacturer incorporates AM stereo and FM stereo into a quality general coverage receiver like the 2010, you can save one for me! -pls)

On the local radio scene, WCHZ-980 is now WXP ("The Fox of Pensacola"), dropping Talk Radio in favor of "the heart and soul of rock and roll" which is mostly '60's Motown. Before the change, they announced they would be upping their power to 10 KW, going NSP, and adding stereo ... no sign of any of these changes yet. That's about it from here. 73's and best DX. GP.

**Lynn Simons** - Rt. 4, Box 631A - Gadsden, AL 35901

It has been quite a while since I sent in a Muse so here goes. Summer is drawing to a close here in Alabama with wonderful warm weather extending well into Oct. DX this summer has not been great. I have one QSL report out to Radio Cayman on 1555 kHz - no reply as yet. Early one Saturday morning about a month and a half ago I was tuning around and noticed a new station on 1580 kHz. I listened for a while and found that WPCJ in Morningside, MD was running a transmitter test. The DJ gave a phone number with a request for listeners to call in and let him know how well the signal was being heard. When I called he immediately asked me where I was and on hearing "Alabama" became excited. He said that I was the first call he had gotten. At the end of the test he thanked his two callers: one from Gadsden, AL and one from Champaign, IL. I later sent him a letter with information about NRC and IRCA and told him that if he would let the editors know when a test was scheduled they might publicize it, thus increasing his audience. I have sent a QSL report to him but no return yet.

With the beginning of football season I have been able to log a few new stations which have stayed on late to carry local high school football games in their areas. These have been mostly in Louisiana.

I would like to make a comment about all the new talk shows that have cropped up. When I first started logging AM stations 15 years ago, the few stations that had talk shows like WBZ had their own productions with plenty of ID's present. Nowadays with the syndicated shows like Talknet, etc., I get very frustrated tuning several frequencies right at the hour trying to ID as many as I can in short microseconds ... hi ... hi. And as Murphy would have it the majority of those stations fade into the mud right on the hour! I would really like to see those stations have frequent station ID's. It would surely save me much frustration.

Well, enough of the soap box. I am sure looking forward to the winter months ahead and many hours of great DX'ing. So, until next time, 73's to all and good DX.

**Harry J. Hayes** - 9 Henry St. - Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

Well, it's DX season once again. A little re-intro of myself: I'm 33 and have been DX'ing since the age of 17. I am now self-employed as a commercial artist, working out of my home. It will be this self-employment situation which will be most responsible for keeping me away from the dials this season; that is, if I stay as busy as I've been going all summer. I also like to devote some time to outside painting when my job allows; that is, painting outside my profession, not outside outside. (Say what?! -pls) Now that I've confused you readers I will proceed to tell of my DX'ing activities since last Musing, which was a long time ago. The most recent, or I should say prominent, DX event was the NRC Convention. Thanks, Dave, for a great convention. I won't go into a detailed description of the Convention other than to say that I was my usual well-behaved self.

As far as MW DX'ing goes, I have not put forth much effort this September due to the above-mentioned work situation and the fact that I put a new 9-element antenna in my attic for FM. The FM season has been really bad here this year. I thought things would pick up

in the fall but so far they haven't. Cx on MW sound a whole lot better so I am hoping for a good October and November like in 1984. Last season didn't impress me all that much. Cx this fall so far have been showing good cx to the northeast and west. Noise problems are at least two continuous buzz sources which seem to be dimmers in neighbors' houses. I live in a city neighborhood, so my neighbors are just feet away on both sides of me. These apparent dimmers never seem to go off at night either. Fortunately my SM-2 does a good job at nulling them, and it nulls them in the position that favors South America. Now for a good South America opening and I'll be in business. DX of interest: 9-28: CKLY-910 Lindsay, ON coming in strong tonight at 2000 thru semi-local WGBI. Locally WILK-980 continues with T-40 during the day and Talknet at night. WBAX-1240 has an expertly-arranged format of popular music from the Big Band era to the present. They have an enviable format, especially for a Class IV. WKRZ-1340 continues with these calls and the oldies format which keeps sounding worse each day. They over-modulate like crazy and are often heard with dead air. They also have a habit of running tone tests at any time of the day, unannounced. This outlet really does not deserve the channel nor any of the advertisers they get to advertise here. The station's a disgrace and apparently nothing more than a tax write-off. More next time.

## 'Ray Hill Prison Show' a hit on radio

### 'Rattling down' the inmates' bars

By RUTH RENDON  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOUSTON -- It's 3 o'clock on a Sunday afternoon and Bobby Bare is singing "Back Home In Huntsville Again" as Ray Hill sits in front of a radio station console to speak to a captive audience.

"It's time for you to rattle down the bars, the 'Prison Show' is on the air," says cohort Shan Donaldson.

The "Ray Hill Prison Show" to be exact, a five-year institution on KPFT-FM, a public station not affiliated with any prison, and touted by its participants as the only show of its kind in the nation.

The two-hour program, aimed at thousands of Texas prison inmates and their families and friends, can be heard at 12 of the 26 Texas Department of Corrections units, most around Huntsville, 90 miles from Houston.

Hill, 45, an ex-con, started the program in 1981. Its popularity soared after a woman on her way to visit her imprisoned son

called Hill and asked if he could give her son a message on the air.

"She said 'I haven't seen my son in two years and I finally managed to go visit him. I've been listening to your show and he listens to your show and we've been in an automobile accident and now I can't go (visit),' " Hill recalls.

"After that, the phones were ringing off the hook from family members," says the show's co-producer, Hugh B. Callaway, also an ex-con.

Friends and relatives of inmates telephone the show and give their messages personally.

"We get calls from literally all over the world," Hill says. "They take about 12 to 20 seconds each."

The program's first hour consists of criminal justice news and interviews and tape recordings from inmates, followed by an hour of phone calls.

"A lot of these individuals need to know there is someone who cares about them," says Callaway, 30, who served four years for a robbery conviction.

While state prison inmates in Texas are not allowed to make calls, inmates of city and county lockups do have telephone access and call the show.

The station also offers editorials against

gangs, violence and prejudice, Hill says. Warden, prosecutors and attorneys are frequent guests.

"I frequently make appeals to inmates for racial harmony," Hill says.

Many inmates look forward to the program, especially since most of them have recreation time or visiting time on Sunday afternoons, says Charles Brown, a Texas prisons spokesman.

"I think Ray does a good job," Brown says. "The inmates enjoy it quite a bit. They try to project something good for the inmates."

Hill, who helped start the station five years ago after being released from prison for commercial robberies, does most of the talking on the program. Callaway, Ms. Donaldson and 88-year-old Ethyl Hodges are regulars.

Ms. Hodges also writes 30 to 40 letters to prisoners each week, and visits one prison a week.

Letters written by inmates to the station, as many as 30 a week, often provide the show's topic of discussion.

"We read all the mail," Callaway says. "We watch for a general pattern that will appear. Sometimes we get mail where they tell us about problems that are similar at different units."

#### ===== SPECIAL OFFER =====

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