



DX NEWS

*the magazine of the
National Radio Club*

SINCE 1933

VOLUME 53 ISSUE 18 February 10, 1986

Robert W. Gorsuch
Cedar Rapids, IA

Passed away January 21, 1986 from a short illness.

He was 71 and retired from Rockwell-Collins Radio where he had been a design engineer for 35 years before his retirement five years ago. Anyone wishing to send a note to his wife and family could send it to:

Ruth Gorsuch
2509 D Avenue, NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52042

Thanks to Len Kruse for the information.

Page 17 contains the AfR Graph, the top graph is from June. Apparently we forgot to publish that one....sorry people, but then, thanks for letting us know we goofed up. Keeping us on our toes is fun!

CPC TESTS — Times listed are EASTERN Local Time

You'll get better returns if you include an SASE with your report

- Feb 10 WDCT-1310 Fairfax, VA 0100-0200 Program will consist of tones, IDs and music.
Monday 1000w ND 0100-0130, 5000w DA 0130-0200. Reports to: Dave Schweikart, WDCT
Radio, Box 1310, Fairfax, VA 22030-1310. Arranged by Dave Schweikart himself.
(Thanks Dave - HQ)
- Feb 10 KURL-730 Billings, MT 0200 - ??? Test will be run with Proof of Performance
Monday test. Reports to Mr. Clark D. Prim, CE, KURL Radio, Box 31038, Billings, MT
59107 Arranged by Wayne Heinen and Ken Chatterton for the NRC.
- Feb 11 WIFX-1000 Jenkins, KY 0200 - 0400 Program will consist of tones, music, IDs.
Tuesday Prepaid Calls only to: 606-832-4655. Reports to: Don Mussell, CE, Box 312,
Jenkins, KY 41537. Arranged by John R. Malicky for the NRC.
- Feb 17 WVVW-1570, St. Marys, WV 1000w 0100-0130 with voice IDs, tones, music.
Monday Reports to: Robert Eddy, Owner/GM. All correct reports will be verified by
letter, SASE requested. Prepaid calls ONLY, 304-684-3400, NO COLLECT CALLS.
Arranged by Kermit Geary for the National Radio Club.
- Mar 31 KPCR-1530 Bowling Green, MO 0300 - ???, Voice, Code ID's, and music will be
Monday used. Reports to: J. Paul Salois, President, KPCR Radio, Box 1, Bowling Green
MO 63334 Arranged by Wayne Heinen and Dan Bartek for the NRC.

LOOK INSIDE:

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THE WORLD'S OLDEST AND LARGEST ALL MEDIUM-WAVE DX CLUB

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

CALL LETTER CHANGES

Old call:	New call:	Old call:	New call:
700 *New TX Tomball	KTBT	1380 KBAE WA Everett	KRFE
780 WYAI MS Ridgeland	WLRM	1400 KMKK CA Truckee	KHTX
900 WEAK KY Eddyville	WWLK	KDTA CO Delta	KPLG
950 KRSI MN St. Louis Park	KJJQ	1450 WQCA SC Charleston	WLNK
990 KTRM TX Beaumont	KGIC	1520 WXPQ GA Eatonton	WDBS
1000 KMLO CA Vista	KKOS+	1540 KBXM MO Kennett	KNNT
1250 KLAZ AR Little Rock	KOKY		

*Another station playing musical call letters, they applied for KKOS, then had it set aside. Now that they have changed the calls of their sister FM station in Carlsbad, CA from KKOS to KKOS-FM, they are again changing the AM to KKOS. Isn't this fun?

APPLICATIONS FOR NEW STATIONS

1090 CA Oakhurst: 500 D1
1160 GA Sandy Springs: 10000/400 U4 (reapplication)
1480 LA Independence: 500 D3

GRANTS FOR NEW STATIONS

1200 CA Eureka: 25000/1000 U4
1360 AK Wasilla: 5000/5000 U1
1520 MO Camdenton: 2500 D3 (600 CH)

APPLICATIONS FROM EXISTING FACILITIES

1110 WMMX OH Xenia: move to Fairborn, OH, power to 1100 watts
1310 KIOT CA Barstow: reduce power of nighttime CP to 500
1410 KBAL TX San Saba: power to 1000
1440 KITA AR Little Rock: add 500 watts nights, antenna to U2
WRHX VA Herndon: power to 600 D3, relocate XR

GRANTS TO EXISTING FACILITIES

590 KSSK HI Honolulu: relocate XR
WLVA VA Lynchburg: day power to 5000
660 WCRR VA Rural Retreat: power to 550 watts
710 WKJB PR Mayaguez: night power to 750 watts
830 KIKI HI Honolulu: relocate XR
1010 WYST MD Baltimore: relocate XR
1240 WHIZ OH Zanesville: changes in antenna system
1310 WTL KY Madisonville: day power to 2500
1430 WBUG SC Ridgeland: power to 880 watts
1480 WLEE VA Richmond: relocate XR (also affects WBL which uses WLEE's XR)
1490 WSFB GA Quitman: 1000/1000 U1
1500 WIXR SC Mount Pleasant: to 1480 kHz, 800 watts D1
1540 WQCC NC Charlotte: relocate XR

OTHERNESS

640 WWJZ NJ Mount Holly: requests extension of CP for new station
660 KTNH AZ Window Rock: requests extension of CP for new station
720 WII PA Shiremanstown: requests extension of CP for new station
740 *App WA Auburn: application for new station returned again
830 WTII FL Hialeah: requests extension of CP for new station
880 WBOZ PR Sabana Grande: requests extension of CP
890 *App NM Bernalillo: application for new station returned
1040 KKR CO Monument: requests extension of CP for new station and files to relocate proposed XR site
1050 KBBV CA Big Bear Lake: relocate XR application DISMISSED
*App CA Wasco: application for new station returned
1100 WQDQ TN Thompson Station: requests extension of CP for new station
1230 KESE AZ Bisbee: formerly silent is back on with country format
1300 KWKW CA Pasadena: application to raise night power returned
1310 WJRA AL Priceville: requests extension of CP for new station
WXMC NJ Parsippany: application for fulltime returned
1340 WBLB VA Pulaski: despite the notation in the FCC Database that their CP for 1340 was cancelled, this station has actually been here for several years. We confirmed this the day after AM Switch was mailed to HQ and called asking that the entry be removed before publication. For some reason it wasn't. Back into the lake, Mike! Anyway, they ARE on 1340 kHz on the station

1400 KITZ WA Tacoma: formerly silent as KPMA is back on with oldies format
1450 KATJ UT St. George: should be on soon using vacated KDXU facility with adult contemporary/country mix format
1460 KARR WA Kirkland: station is silent
1510 KOSC MO Marshfield: application to raise power returned
1520 WCSP MS Crystal Springs: application to move to 590 kHz returned
1560 KJUW CO Colorado City: requests extension of CP for new station
KARP WA Summer: now on the air on frequency vacated by KFWY's deletion in 1984, had REL format, is a totally new station, not a reactivation of KFWY
1590 WARV RI Warwick: 5000/5000 U4 CP is on the air

ADDRESSES

890 KQLX ND Lisbon: 1206 South Main	58054
1000 KKM CO Hayden: 127 Jefferson Street	81689
1170 WCXN NC Claremont: Box 909	28810
1180 WSAF GA: Trion: Box 680, Summerville, GA	30747-0680
1460 KZUE OK El Reno: 2715 South Radio Road	73036
1600 KNWA AR Harrison: Box 850	72601

Thanks to Neil Zank and Bill Prater for the above QTH changes

That's it for another AM Switch. However, on another subject, elsewhere in this DX News you will find a copy of a letter I received from CBJ-1580 after inquiring about their unusual practice of running 400 cycle tone all night every night. None of the other CBC stations do this. It really ruins 1580 for DX in this part of the country. After reading the letter and their "explanation" I would be very pleased to hear from anybody who can tell me what it means. I am left with the distinct impression that we don't have the real answer here yet.

73 and Good DX,

Jerry Starr & BKF

Jerry Starr & Buffalo K. Foonman

DOLLAR SIGN ON AND OFF...
FCC field office bureaus are about to start issuing \$500 fines to stations that fail to identify themselves properly, according to the Commission, which says compliance is "at best marginal." Station IDs must occur at sign-on, sign-off and hourly—and should include the call letters and the first community of the license.

Interference compensation. FCC Mass Media Bureau has found Sudbrink Broadcasting Co., former licensee of WWSM (AM) South Miami, Fla., eligible for \$113,271.44 to compensate for expenses incurred in modifying its transmitting facilities to offset effects of Cuban interference. Such compensation was authorized by Radio Broadcasting to Cuba Act.

Broadcasting Museum Planned for Chicago

Veteran Host Donates Vintage Programming to Project

BY MOIRA MCCORMICK

CHICAGO More than 42,000 hours of vintage radio programming have been donated to the proposed Museum of Broadcast Communications here by veteran radio host Chuck Schaden. The museum staff is scouting for a location, and hopes to have the facility open within the next 18 months, according to executive director Beverly Kennedy.

Schaden, formerly of news/talk WIND-AM (which recently switched to a Spanish-language format), has been hosting the old-time radio program "Those Were the Days" weekly on classical WNIB-FM for nine years, as well as a simi-

lar show, "Radio Classics," doing Monday through Friday on news/talk WBBM-AM since December.

Schaden's collection, along with material from the Broadcast Museum's radio archives, will be presented in two of the museum's six "decade rooms," according to Kennedy. Each room is to be set up as a living room tailored for each decade from the '30s to the '80s, with programs presented on vintage radios and televisions from their corresponding eras.

Programming is to include tapes of Jack Benny, Edgar Bergen and Charlie McCarthy, the Lone Ranger, Red Skelton, Orson Welles and others. Also spotlighted will be net-

work shows that originated in Illinois, such as "The Smith Family" on WENR (later "Fibber McGee & Molly"), and "Amos & Andy," who began their careers on WEBB as Freeman Gosden and Charles Correll.

Midwest performers, producers, writers and broadcasters will be the subject of special focus, Kennedy adds. The Museum of Broadcast Communications would ideally be headquartered in a facility of 20,000 to 22,000 square feet, according to Kennedy. The entire project, she adds, is likely to run into seven figures.

Arthur C. Nielsen Jr., of the A.C. Nielsen Co., is chairman of the museum board. Bruce DuMont of public television station WTTX Chicago is president.

Chicoutimi, January 14th, 1986



WHOT RADIO 401, North Blaine Avenue Youngstown, OH 44505

To the Attention of Mr. Jerry Starr

Sir,

Our Engineering Head Office asked me to give you an answer concerning the 24 hour operating system of a high power AM transmitter all night long with a 400HZ tone.

First, it is a less expensive operation and here are many explanations about that:

- 1- The Hydro-Quebec charged us about the highest peak of consumption at the same cost.
2- Also with this practice, we save on the overtime of our staff with the reducing of the early call.
3- The stability of our equipment is better without early wear.
4- The tone is necessary. It is in confirmation with D.O.C. rules. We cannot have the authorization to switch on another CBC Network with this transmitter.

We hope these informations will give you satisfaction.

Yours truly,

René Moreau Société Radio-Canada 1200 rue Warren, CP. 1298 CHICOUTIMI, Qué. 67H 5G7

RH:vf c.c.: André Watier - Montréal MARC

KYMN NORTHFIELD - 1080 P.O. Box 201 Northfield, Minnesota 55057

Tony Fitzherbert, 356 Jackman Avenue, Fairfield, CT 06430

With the Christmas lull over, radio is doing some strange, even bizarre things. First the industry specialized with all news radio (a sage gamble, with beaucoup profits and careers made), and then ethnic radio...and then comedy, and then CHILDREN'S Programming. Now we bring you TIS (Travelers' Information Service) radio on 1170kh, and ALL HORSE radio (yep, see below).

While talking to the Promotion Director at KLIF-1190 about profile data, she mentioned that as of January 22, the former "Mighty 1190" has gone to an all talk format. Competing with a country music format with three Dallas FM's plus WBAP was a bit difficult, so KLIF rests its success on a talk format.

Contributer Pete Nolan has sent along his Evolutions Column, which he puts together for the Radiophiles group. WWLD-1170, of Pine Castle, FL., is now banking on a mixture of adult standards and travel information for visitors to Orlando and Disneyworld, using the slogan "Visitors' Information Station". What some PD's will not try when the ratings slip!

Jerry Starr advises that ex-WWKY is back, as WHRS-1380. WHRS stands for Horse, and the format on this 2500 watt outlet is news and information for The horse industry, which of course, centers in the Winchester, KY area. WHRS is a daytimer, and its owners are hoping that the idea works wekk in an area whose primary industry is breeding thoroughbreds and harness racers. A regular programming day includes a summary of the previous day's race results, along with news and sports in the morning. The afternoon is filled with race results, news, and recaps. In the near future, the station has plans for live calls of races, and a talk show, which will present views from horsemen. I wonder which will be the first station to go to the dogs? (Sorry, but I could not resist it! - TF).

FROM our contributors Jerry Starr and Pete Nolan, here are the hopes and dreams of the radio profession this week.

- 900 WILC MD Laurel - Ex-WLMD, now Spanish(PN).
980 WLPQ KY Pittsburg - Now silent(PN).
1000 WIXI FL Jupiter - Drops Black programming for CHR(PN).
1080 KASH AK Anchorage - Ex-KTNX, now modern country(PN).
1160 WFEN MI Fenton - New station, Ad. Con.(PN).
1170 WAVS FL Davie - Drops Black programming for Spanish format.
WWLD FL Pine Caslte - TIS, plus adult standards(PN).
1190 KLIF TX Dallas - TALK(TF).
1220 WFAM FL Jacksonville - Now a non-commercial JAZZ station, ex-WKTZ, with adult standards(PN).
1290 WCCC CT Hartford - Now CWM, was AOR(PN).
1380 KAUL AR North Little Rock - Now Childrens' Programs(PN).
WHRE KY Winchester - ...and the horses just keep on coming!!!!(JS).
1420 KESY NE Omaha - EZY, simulcasts w/ FM.
1430 WBRB MI Mt. Clemens - Back on the air w/ EZL(PN).
WLAU MS Laurel - Now silent(PN).
1500 KBJC AR Jacksonville - Black oldies(PN).
1530 WTME ME Auburn - Ex-WRXV, now religion.(PN).
1580 WSLI MS Centerville - Silent(PN).
1590 WCZN PA Chester - CWM "Country Cousin"(PN).
1600 KCRG IA Cedar Rapids - Ad. Con(PN).

Thank you very much Pete and Jerry for a most interesting column. And for the rest of you, when you hear programs on worm breeding on WWVA-1170, do write, as all of your fellow members will want to know.

73's.



KRWB

P.O. BOX 130 ROSEAU, MINNESOTA 56751

DOMESTIC DX DIGEST

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Dave Schmidt, 42 Chelwynne Road, Castle Hills, New Castle, DE 19720

Here is the NRC column which matches the excitement of the latest bowl game, the Salad Bowl from Mustard Green, TN. When sending your items in, please use one side of the paper, type or neatly write, EST, not less than a month old, etc. DDXD East, we'll take AST, EST, & CST time zones, MST & PST go to Nancy. Here we go:

SPECIAL

- 740 WQSF VA WILLIAMSBURG - 1/6 1700-1709 good in CBL's null w/news, Satellite Weather Watch, ad, standards, ID'ed as Soft 96, soon lost to WMBL. (KG-PA)
- 1040 WJOR TN ST JOSEPH - 12/30 1st noted and every AM since w/ID, CW music, fair w/WHO nulled. (JFH-OK).....1/15 1748-1800 Fair in WHO's null w/gospel music, female anc'r, full data s/off w/musical accompaniment, to return 0800.(KG)
- WJTB OH N RIDGEFIELD - 1/10 thru 1/15+ seems to be a few hundred hz off freq., noted bad low het here til their s/off then gone when carrier is cut. (JS-OH) Hello Laurel?
- 1310 CIWW ON OTTAWA - 1/7 1115 noted w/new calls, ex-CKOY. (NC-ON)
- 1270 KWPR OK CLAREMORE - 12/27 1826-1900 fair w/KSSA, AM 1270 & legal ID, mixed music, news. Returned 12/17 per call. (JFH)
- 1540 WNIO OH NILES - 1/15, 1/16 don't know what gives here but this local has been on til 1800 w/reg. sked, should be off at 1715. There are NO PSSA's on 1540, can only assume this is illegal but can't believe they'd do it, will check it out further. (JS-OH)

DX TESTS

- 1000 WIFX KY JENKINS - Heard by WPT-DC.....1/14 0202-0300+ good after WCFL s/off w/dial tone, bluegrass music, ID's after each selection, some deep fades and a Mexican also noted. (KG-PA).....1/14 0200-0307 good after WCFL quit TT, many ID's and music, mostly all female vocals. Gave phone # but never mentioned calls!(JS)
- 1370 KFJM ND GRAND FORKS - 12/16 0104-0147 good w/TT, 3 ID's noted. (JFH-OK) You may have been the only one to hear any!

MIDDAY - MIDNIGHT

- 560 WIS SC COLUMBIA - 12/22 2302-2316 good w/Holiday Bowl, ID's, weather into Christmas music. (DV-NY)
- 570 WWNC NC ASHEVILLE - 1/7 1720-1745 strong in WMCA's null w/CW music, weather, ads, local news at :30. (KG-PA)
- 640 WWLS OK MOORE - 1/4 2248 rock oldies music, ID. (RP-MN)
- 680 KKX TX SAN ANTONIO - 1/2 1846 good w/Paul Harvey, promo, CW music, no sign of KFEQ. (JFH-OK)
- 710 KGNC TX AMARILLO - 1/7 1818-1845 w/WHB nulled, fair w/MoR music, news, talk, ads, ID. (JFH-OK)
- 760 WCHP NY CHAMPLAIN - 1/13 1636 100% copy o/looped WJR w/area church news/anc'ts, s/off 1641, minute of piano music til carrier cut 1642, a couple of minutes early. (JS)
- 810 CJVA NB CARAQUET - 1/17 1804 fair u/WGY w/French talk. (WPT-DC)
- KBHB SD STURGIS - 12/24 1836-1906 fair/good at times in KCMO null w/Christmas music, ID w/KRCS 93.1, Twins Radio ID, Christmas Mass. (JFH-OK)
- 860 KNUJ MN NEW ULM - 1/13 1800 good o/looped CJBC w/ID, news. Think they should have s/off 1800, likely running new nite power but level didn't seem to drop. (JS-OH)(RP)
- 870 KUUY WY ORCHID VALLEY - 1/12 1910 CW music, concert info, ads.
- 890 KBYE OK OKLAHOMA CITY - 1/8 1845 gospel hymns, s/off. (RP-MN)
- WQIS MS LAUREL - 1/7 1800-1815 good in WLS null w/pop music, clustered ads, no data s/off, Q89 slogan. (KG-PA)

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- 900 WDDT MS GREENVILLE - 12/12 1731-1758 fair w/news, music, ads, faded before s/off. (JFH-OK)
- 980 WONE OH DAYTON - 1/12 2005 news, weather, CW music. (RP-MN)
- 990 KRKS CO DENVER - 1/11 1025 local/national news, weather into religious program. (RP-MN)
- WNOX TN KNOXVILLE - 1.12 2130 weather, ads, CW music. (RP-MN)
- 950 WSBT IN SOUTH BEND - 1/12 2130 ID into Spanish program. (RP-MN)
- 1000 WXWY AL ROBERTSDALE - 12/19 1810-1817 fair/good w/CW music, ads, local news, Country Power slogan. Per call, was 30 minutes late on power change. (JFH-OK)
- 1030 KTOK OK OKLAHOMA CITY - 1/10 1902 sports/talk on OK football.(RP)
- KTWO WY CASPER - 1/10 1858-1900 weather, ID, o/WBZ til pattern change. (RP-MN)
- 1050 CFYN ON SAULT STE MARIE - 1/12 ID, oldie. (RP-MN) Time?
- 1070 KFDI KS WICHITA - 1/12 1826 weather w/ID. (RP-MN)
- 1090 CHRS PQ MONTREAL - 1/13 1758 good o/WBAL w/French talk. (WPT-DC)
- 1130 WISN WI MILWAUKEE - 12/27 1711-1715 fair w/local mention, 2 ID's, faded during song. (JFH-OK)
- 1180 WJF RI HOPE VALLEY - 1/15 1627-1644 noted weakly u/WHAM w/ID, CW music, actually faded up at s/off to loud level, no SSB. (JS-OH) !!!
- 1200 WAGE VA LEESBURG - 12/21 1630 good w/weather, ID, news. (DV-NY)
- 1210 WADE NC WADESBORO - 1/13 1705-1707 w/local bulletin board program, Paul Harvey, solid atop WAGE. (JS-OH) Hey, WAGE is 10 khz down or off freq. (DS)
- 1230 WJOY VT BURLINGTON - 1/5 1703 briefly atop w/CBS news, ID, local weather. (DV-NY)
- 1260 WNDE IN INDIANAPOLIS - 1/5 1900 ID, NBC news. (RP-MN)
- 1290 WHIO OH DAYTON - 1/5 2152 w/ad, ID, weather. (RP-MN)
- WIRL IL PEORIA - 1/1 1954 w/ID, rock oldie. (RP-MN)
- WFBG PA ALTOONA - 1/13 1427 rare day catch w/ID in Call For Action show, no sign of WBNF. (DV-NY)
- 1360 WGEE WI GREENBAY - 1/15 1635 atop w/CW music, ID. (DV-NY)
- CKBC NB BATHURST - 1/15 1704 faded up w/news, local weather, area school report. (DV-NY)
- 1370 KGNO KS DODGE CITY - 1/10 1844 sport news, local mention, noted u/KDTH. (RP-MN)
- KDTH IA DUBUQUE - 1/6 1904 ad, weather, news. (RP-MN)
- 1380 WQHK IN FORT WAYNE - 1/10 2322 sports news, ID, CW music. (RP)
- KGLD MO ST LOUIS - 1/1 2002 w/rock oldie, ID. (RP-MN)
- 1430 WIRE IN INDIANAPOLIS - 1/5 .200 w/rock music, NBC news. (RP-MN)
- 1470 WTZE VA TAZEWELL - 1/5 1730 good in WXXW's null w/full data s/off and closing music. (KG-PA)
- 1500 WPTC GA MACON - 1/2 1735-1745 way o/WTOP w/BFL music, short s/off. (DV-NY)
- KDFN MO DONIPHAN - 1/12 1832 w/ID, s/off. (RP-MN)
- 1510 WAUK WI WAUKESHA - 1/15 1745 s/off noted o/WLAC, no SSB. (JS)
- 1520 WWKB NY BUFFALO - 1/3 2105 noted w/new calls. (DV-NY)
- 1540 WMYF NH EXETER - 1/13 1602 x/nt w/ID, local news. (DV-NY)
- 1560 KQYX MO JOPLIN - 1/5 1833 CNN news, ID, talk. (RP-MN)
- 1570 WFBZ WI MINOQUA - 1/14 1850 polka music, local mentions, ID.(RP)
- 1580 KPIK CO COLORADO SPRINGS - 1/8 1900 Spanish music and talk, ID in English, USA Radio net. news then power cut.(RP-MN)
- 1600 WNST WY MILTON - 1/12 1606 fair/good in WINX null w/CW music, ID, local weather. (WPT-DC)

MIDNIGHT - MIDDAY

- 810 *UNID 12/24 1102-1240, 1359-1401 $\frac{1}{2}$ TT in KCMO null, WSJC very weak, suspect new WJXL but sorta early. (JFH-OK)
- 890 WQIS MS LAUREL - 1/10 0803-0830 Q89 ID's, B/Sol music, funeral & church events anc'ts, good w/WLS nulled. (JFH-OK)
- 1030 *UNID 1/12 0115-0200 TT noted, faded down. ID's noted on KTWO and KBSM so not they. (JFH-OK)

- 1040 WHBO FL PINELLAS PARK - 12/26 0620-0748 good in Wh0 null w/old rock format, similar to local KGTO, many ID's. (JFH)
- 960 KCGS AR MARSHALL - 12/14 0750-0830 gospel music, ads, weather, ID, fair/good. (JFH-OK)
- 1200 CFGO ON OTTAWA - 1/7 1105 ID, adult rock music. (MC-ON)
- 1250 WOBG PA YORK - 12/29 1100-1300 fair in WMTN's null w/church service, ABC news, MoK oldies, clustered ads, many jingle/ID's. (KG-PA) This is one of my f/c clients, call listed as WOPG, what's right? We'll find out!(DS)
- 1290 WJBR DE WILMINGTON - 12/21 0610 alone w/MoK, ID, ads. (DV-NY)
- 1370 WALK NY PATCHOGUE - 12/28 0625-0630 on top w/NY state news w/ female anc'r, ad, LI weather, hasn't changed calls yet. (KG-PA) The anc'r may have been BILL ANDRES? Hmm?
- 1440 WCDL PA CARBONDALE - 12/29 0638-0650 good w/Christmas music, ID, local ads, late s/on of WSGO helped. (DV-NY)
- 1490 WPEX VA HAMPTON - 1/8 0046 good w/ID then faded. (WPT-DC)
- 1520 UNID 1/15 someone off freq. about 1000 hertz, making nice steady TT type sound. (JS-OH)
- WCHE PA WEST CHESTER - 1/28 0600 early s/on w/snow info, school closings. Normal 0730 s/on this month. (DS-DE)

OUR TWISTERS

MC-ON/Marshall Cubitt, Smith Falls, ON
 JS-OH/Jerry Starr, Hubbard, OH/HQ180, SM2
 WPT-DC/Bill Townshend, Washington, DC/Portavision, TRF
 RP-MN/Ron Purdue, Byron, MN/FRG8800, LW, Loop
 KG-PA/Kermit Geary, Walnutport, PA/HQ180, R389, LW, Loop
 JFH-OK/John Herman, Vinita, OK
 DV-NY/Don Voorhies, Oswego, NY/DX300, LW
 DS-DE/Dave 'Don't Call Me Chuck' Schmidt, New Castle, DE/HQ180, SM2

And that's it for this week!

73's - Fair/Good DX!

Synchronous AM Transmitter Set For Nevada Test

The FCC last week authorized the nation's first experimental use of a "synchronous" AM transmitter - a second, distant transmitter broadcasting a station's signal on its licensed frequency. Allowing such repeater AMs is one of the steps the Commission is considering in its search for ways to shore up the AM band.

The test will be conducted at a new 10 kw AM station (1 kw nights) coming on the air in Laughlin, NV on 870 kHz. The licensee, Laughlin Roughrider Broadcasting, will be allowed to duplicate its programming on a synchronous transmitter 60 miles away in East Las Vegas, also on 870 kHz.

Filling Coverage Void

The second transmitter will be limited to 300 watts nondirectional during the day, and 500 watts directional at night. The Commission said the second operation will let Laughlin Roughrider "provide uniform coverage in the primary service area of the authorized Laughlin facility without requiring the use of a second radio frequency."

The Commission placed no time limit on the experiment, but gave the station the standard 18 months to build and put the new operation into service. The station will be asked to submit regular reports to the Commission on field measurements of its signal, and any reports

it receives from listeners.

According to Gary Thayer in the FCC AM Branch, Laughlin Roughrider applied for the experimental

"Allowing such repeater AMs is one of the steps the Commission is considering to shore up the AM band."

authorization after Mass Media Bureau Chief Jim McKinney recently began floating the idea of synchronous transmitters as a way to help struggling AMs improve or extend coverage while minimizing costs.

Eliminating Time Lag

In authorizing the test, the Commission noted that "today's sophis-

ticated control circuits and highly stable frequency elements permit the use of two or more transmitters locked on precisely the same frequency and can compensate for the program propagation delay between the primary and synchronous slave transmitters."

INTERNATIONAL DX DIGEST 9

Chuck Hutton, 437 Hardendorf Ave., Atlanta, GA 30307

Times are GMT

For ELT subtract 5 hours.

Deadline: Monday

Got a super-duper column this time as some real honest to God TA openings hit the East coast. Actually this is two columns as I was out of town all of last week.

- 530 COSTA RICA Cartago TICAL Rumbos ID'ed at 0648 w/pop mx for dancing on New Year's Day. (Objio)
- 540 NICARAGUA R. Corporacion, Managua ID'ed at "9 minutos a la 1 de la madrugada" (nine minutes to one in the early morning) at 0650 on 1/1. (Objio)
- 550 COLOMBIA R. Nacional, Medellin w/Colombian mx, ID'ed with gongs at 0655. (Objio)
- 580 PUERTO RICO WKAQ San Juan w/news at 0700 on 1/1, R. Reloj SID. (Objio)
- 610 COLOMBIA Em. Nueva Grenada, Bogota w/local mx at the New Year 0705 on 1/1. (Objio)
- 670 COLOMBIA "la musica no se detiene con RCN" (the music does not stop with RCN) this all I heard as no ID was heard at 0715 on 1/1 between records. Supposed to be R. Calidad, Medellin, the only Colombian on the freq. (Objio)
- 675 NORWAY NRK Bodo 12/27 0238 noted w/light classical mx // 630, 1314, maybe these are all 24 hrs NSP, 1314 is. (Vernon)
- 680 USA a stn with Larry King show. No ID heard at 0718 on 1/1. (Objio)
- 700 COLOMBIA R. Sutatenza, Cali very good, IDing at 0433 on 1/6, then pop mx. (Objio)
- 705 CUBA on New Year's morning, 1/1 the 710 monster had slipped to about 705 KHz with a solid signal. (Cooper)
- 710 CUBA this powerful station is really tearing up WOR here in the wee small hours, often topping WOR. (Cooper)
- 711 SOUTH KOREA KBS HLKA Sorea 12/25 1652 male and female KK annrcs, 1654 KK rr mx, good signal, for short time. (Vernon)
- 738 USSR unid FE 12/25 1803 USSR anthem, 1804 woman annrc then Moscow Program One, news sounder 1804, poor asignal, obviously the first Soviet s/on of the day (12/26) Orbita-1, Program Two // 720, QRM from Chelyabinsk. (Vernon)
- 738t ISRAEL Tel Aviv 12/22 1751 non-stop AA mx, no pips or ID at 1800, good signal past 1812+. (Vernon)
- 750 NICARAGUA HTA750 Managua 1/10 0210 SS mx, SS talk. (Purdue)
- 792 FRANCE France Culture Limoges 12/23 0505 AA mx // 837, 864, rare here. (Vernon) Even rarer here! Chuck
- 801 USSR Leningrad 12/27 0158 chimes, not noted before, then male annrc w/possible local ID then FS IS, Moskova ID, bells, anthem etc. (Vernon)
- 825 ST. KITTS no ID heard at 0729 in EE on 1/1, supposed to be this one. (Objio) 1/1 0214 religious programs and hymns in EE. Weak. Splatter from WCCO. (Purdue)
- 830 BELIZE R. Belize 1/6 0314-0329 faint with female annrc in EE. Numerous time checks. Obituaries at 0319 and promotional announcements for "World in Review" and "Science and Health" programs. (Carpenter)
- 855 WEST GERMANY RIAS Berlin 12/27 instrumental rr mx, 0027 male GG talk then GG mx, 0030 "RIAS Berlin" ID, news sounder then nx to 0035, clear audio but RNE dominates the channel here. (Vernon)
- 882 EAST GERMANY DDR1 Konigswusterhausen, 12/26 guitar mx, 1759 female annrc briefly, pips, silence, more pips, 1800 male w/nx. Rare here, BBC usually dominates. (Vernon)
- 891 ALGERIA Algiers 1/20 2128 AA talk, good on car rx in Arlington/Lexington area. (Connelly)
- 891 UNID 1/14 0237 het on WLS-890, heard several times until 0330. Used ECSS mode. (Purdue)
- 892 COLOMBIA Santa Marta R. Galeon 1/5 0406 time check "23 horas 6 minutos", Cuban and Colombian mx. Moved or drifted from 895 and now here nightly. Good. (Wood)
- 900 SAUDI ARABIA Qurayyat 12/25 1946 AA mx // 1440, poor signal. (Vernon)
- 900 USSR Kazakhstan Alma Ata 12/29 1759 FS IS, 1800 woman w/CC talk, then lost to male w/AA talk at 1802 (Saudi). (Vernon)
- 910 COLOMBIA La Voz del Rio Grande, Medellin w/some QRM from other stations but heard ID'ing at 0524 on 1/6, pop mx for the holidays. (Objio)
- 936 USSR Kazakhstan SSR Fort Shevchenko etc. 12/22 1839 noted w/opera mx // 918 Program Two, signal better than on 900 KHz. (Vernon)
- 940 MEXICO Mexico City DF XEQ 1/4 0253 "Buenos Noche" by male, rancho mx. Fair o/u CBM. (Townshend)

AM KVFC
 746
 VOICE OF THE FOUR CORNERS

2402 East Main • P.O. Box 740
 Cortez, Colorado 81321

- 945 FRANCE Toulouse 1/20 2214 FF-sounding talk, poor in sloop from extended daytimer local WR0L-950. (Connelly)
- 945 USSR Rostov-na-Dona 12/26 instrumental mx, 0310 woman w/possible ID then male w/talk, probably news to 0319. Woman again briefly, then instrumental mx, think this was a local program, Mayak IS at 0329, will send a report. (Vernon)
- 954 TURKEY TRT1 Trabzon 12/25 female AA singer at 1846, xint sig, // 1017 which is very poor here now, noted also // 891 at 1850, so no Qatar here yet. (Vernon)
- 963 INTERNATIONAL WATERS R. Caroline 12/22 2346 male w/mention of 963 plus contest, 24 winners to go to Arabian Sands Holiday Village in Africa, no mention as to where in Africa, phone Epsom 44.44.1, winners announced 10 AM to 6 PM Christmas day. This stn goes into DD and R. Monique at 0500 on 963. (Vernon)
- 981 ALGERIA Algiers 1/20 2207 bits of AA mx, fierce het against CKGM/WTRY/remnants of phased semi-local WCAP on 980. (Connelly)
- 1008 JAPAN JONR Osaka 12/25 1650 woman w/JJ talk and many mentions of ABC which is the ID, stn has very good signal now. (Vernon)
- 1020 VENEZUELA "En Margarita 1.14 hora mundial" R. Mundial Margarita, La Asuncion IDed thisw at 0514 on 1/6. (Objio)
- 1026 USSR Byelorussian SSR 12/22 1729 noted w/Mayak IS, poor signal. (Vernon)
- 1053 ROMANIA R. Iasi 12/23 0355 IS then anthem, 0400 pips, woman announcer w/news to 0405, massive choir mx noted past 0427, nice to listen to. (Vernon)
- 1055 COLOMBIA stn heard belonging to the Caracol net, ID'ed at 0350 on 1/5, program w/pop mx. I did not understand the ID very well but mentioned freq in SW as 4865 and the only HJ in that freq is LU del Cinaruco. Signal was cut off at 0252 also cutting NA before ending. (Objio)
- 1070 COLOMBIA R. Santa Fe, Bogota w/pop mx and ID at 0510 on 1/6, it seems that the famous program of tangos "Buenos Aires Medianoche" is no longer on the air as the kind of music was different. Sorry. (Objio)
- 1070 HAITI R. Soleil, Port-au-Prince with talk in Creole and some female chorus at 0358 on 1/4. (Objio)
- 1098 CZECHOSLOVAKIA Bratislava 1/21 0332 w/woman in Slavic lang. Xint at 0345 w/light mx. No positive ID. (Eckman)
- 1116 UNID 12/25 1819 AA wailing type mx, suspect Iraq but possibly Iran also. (Vernon)
- 1125 BELGIUM R. Hainaut, Mons 12/23 0537 to 0545, FF mx w/male announcer, poor signal, picked out no ID's but is listed w/local pgm in WRTH. (Vernon)
- 1134 INDIA AIR Calcutta 12/22 1748 Hindi mx, xint sig 12/26 1730 pips noted w/J00R, nothing else. (Vernon)
- 1134 UNID 12/25 male w/unid talk, then males shouting rather than singing, xint sig, 12/29 1829 malewith talk, very brief mx at 1832 and 1834 various announcers. Don't believe India is on this late, maybe Kuwait? (Vernon)
- 1134 YUGOSLAVIA Zadar 1/21 0315 outstanding w/annct by man mentioning Radio Zagreb. Truly local like signal w/mx at 0343 but bothered by SAH. (Eckman)
- 1152 ROMANIA Cluj 1/21 0333 assumed w/OC, TT at 0352 and s/on with anthem at 0359. Xint w/woman in slavic language at 0412. (Eckman)
- 1160 CUBA CM?? R. Turino heard at 2115 w/SS music and frequent EE promos and tourist info making Cuba sound like paradise. News headlines at 1627 by Mike Donovan. Also occasional SS announcements. (Atkins)
- 1161 BULGARIA Stara Zagora 1/21 0249 assumed w/het ripping 1160. Outstanding w/march mx at 0335 and slavic talk. (Eckman)
- 1179 ROMANIA Bacau 1/21 0221 noted w/strong carrier, apparently OC. Light mx at 0354 but bothered by SAH. Slavic talk at 0404 at xint level. (Eckman)
- 1179 SWEDEN Solvesburg 12/28 1831 male w/EE talk, signal still very good this winter. (Vernon) 1/15 2244 outstanding w/pgm in SS. RSI interval signal and multilingual ID at 2300 followed by pgm in EE // 9695. A strange opening - seemed to be very geographically limited (carriers on 1269, 1359 and 1386 still believed to be of northern European origin. (Eckman)
- 1180 VENEZUELA Ciudad Ojeda R. Petrolera YUNJ 1/1 0403 apparently on late for New Year's. Complete ID: "YUNJ 1180 KHz OL (Onda larga-CH) y YUNF 6140 KHz OC (Onda corta-CH), banda de 49 metros. Radio Petrolera de la Ciudad Ojeda en el 86." Dominant. (Wood)
- 1188 HUNGARY Szolnok 1/21 0337 w/strong carrier. Male in slavic lang at 0351 followed by mx. No positive ID. (Eckman)
- 1190 COLOMBIA R. Eco, Bogota "Sonido Todelar" station heard with a program of tangos at 0445 on 1/6, did not mention location, not Radio Eco, Cali on 940 KHz. (Objio)
- 1190 MEXICO Guadalajara XEWK 1/14 0600 vocal anthem "Mexicanos al grito de guerra" and apparent s/off; not // XEW 900 which had no anthem then. O/u KEX. (Wood)

- 1197 IRAQ Nineva 12/25 1820 male w/angry sounding talk about Mr. K. in Iran, xint sig, best from Iraq here, 1035 has been non-existent here this season. (Vernon)
- 1200 COLOMBIA R. Principe, Cartagena, s/off at 0504 w/Colombian anthem on 1/6, a move from 1510. (Objio)
- 1200 VENEZUELA R. Tiempo, heard on the same freq when R. Eco s/off at 0506 on 1/6. (Objio)
- 1220 MEXICO XEB Mexico City 1/1 1758 mentions of Mexico, ID, nx in SS. (Purdue) 1758? That's 11:28 AM local time for you...Chuck
- 1251 LIBYA (boo!) Tripoli 1/20 2158 AA mx clobbering WKBR et al on 1250. (Connelly)
- 1260 SPAIN SER unid 12/23 0528 xint sig, male w/tele-talk, 0529 jingle bells instrumental, 0530 pips, then went into tele-talk again, no local pgm darn it, signal was local-like. (Vernon)
- 1269 WEST GERMANY Neumunster 1/10 0117 very good w/light mx. Very strong later in evening at 0632 w/man in GG. (Eckman)
- 1269 WEST GERMANY Neumunster 1/21 0117 very good w/light mx. GG talk also heard. (Eckman)
- 1278 UNID 1/21 0247 very good carrier here w/approximately 1 Hz SAH but no audio. (Eckman)
- 1280 BRAZIL R. Tupi, Rio de Janeiro Id'ed at 0402, singing ads by girls in PP and talk by a man then mx sang by a man 1/5. (Objio)
- 1287 CZECHOSLOVAKIA Prague 1/21 0246 noted w/OC-TT. Later at 0404 xint w/woman in slavic lang. (Eckman)
- 1296 BULGARIA/UNID 1/21 0325 noted a strong OC-TT w/lively mx underneath. The situation appeared reversed at 0403 w/potent signal w/woman in slavic lang over a second station. No sign of BBC FS which is sked on at this time unless it was the OC noted earlier. (Eckman)
- 1314 NORWAY Kvitsoy 1/13 0534 to 0713, fair signal with some fading. Did not get any definite ID but with the Nordic-sounding language I deign it to be Kvitsoy. Had man and lady talking with a lot of jazz and EE music. At 0631 there was an IS, too weak to make out. At 0700 there were about 30 pips, followed by a newscast. Signal reappeared at 2248 1/13 to 0107 1/14 at same level with male announcer and EE mx. Country # 62 logged here. (Rugg)
- 1314 UNID 1/20 2156 apparent FF talk by man. Strong carrier, but mushy audio and heavy sloop. (Connelly)
- 1323 EAST GERMANY Leipzig 1/10 0133 tentatively the one with man and woman format very similar to 1386. This is listed as a Radio Moscow WS freq but could not establish a definite // with 1386. Very good level but out by 0200. (Eckman)
- 1332 ITALY Roma 1/10 0626 assumed the one here w/man in apparent II at good level. (Eckman)
- 1350 UNID 12/27 0203 anthem type mx, 0205 male announcer, sig very poor then lost, 0207 male singing with piano, only thing listed is Georgian SSR. (Vernon)
- 1359 EAST GERMANY Berlin 1/10 0644 tentatively the one with man in what I believe was GG. Albanian FS also listed here so will have to wait for a more positive ID. (Eckman)
- 1377 UNID 1/10 0123 strong carrier apparently w/TT in between St. Pierre-1375 and 1380 domestics. Off by 0140. Lille? (Eckman)
- 1386 USSR Kaliningrad 1/18 0510 xint sig in, of all things, FF // 7240 KHz Radio Moscow International program. Began weakening by 0622 but still in as late as 0643. (Eckman) 1/21 0414 slavic w/man in EE w/R. Moscow WS pgm but bothered by GMS. (Eckman) Tentative, heard 1/18 0517-0641 fadeout. Some music, much talking in what sounded like a slavic tongue, female with assumed news from 0600-0611, then ten minutes of music, then talking by a man and woman. Tentative report sent. (Cooper) 1/10 0112 surprisingly good w/man and woman speaking. Largely unreadable but EE words did come up occasionally together w/a solid "Radio Moscow World Service" ID at 0141. Almost in the noise by 0200. After years of trying, finally an ID on this freq. (Eckman) 12/23 0658 woman w/goodbye in FF, IS then carrier cut at 0659, didn't seem to come on again, IS was beginning of a popular Russian tune, not FS IS. (Vernon)
- 1404 FRANCE Ajaccio 1/20 0557 noted good w/mx // Lille-377. (Eckman)
- 1404 GUINEA Conakry 1/14 0610 typical pling-plong music on single string instrument (not a kora? Chuck). Quite good, lowish modulation. First opening to west Africa this season. Unids on 765 (doubtless Dakar), 999 (Ad-Dakhla in the disputed territory of western Sahara is listed) and 1223 (Ziguinchor, Senegal listed) also then. (Wood)
- 1413 OMAN BBC Masirah Island 12/28 1844 sounded alot like Hindi mx, but listed w/Persian service. (Vernon)
- 1413 SPAIN 1/20 2153 poor w/SS talk by man. (Connelly)

IT'S ABOUT TIME THAT AM CAR RADIOS SOUND GOOD
By: Fred Vobbe, Editor DX Audio Service

As a person who is often annoyed at receiver manufacturers and those in the broadcasting business who have no right to even set foot in a radio station, I was pleased by a recent article in Radio World magazine written by Mark Persons.

Mark, who is an engineering consultant and president of M. U. Persons Associates of Brainerd, Minnesota, wrote the article in the January 1st edition of Radio World about the Pioneer's KE-A433AM car radio. Although I can't pass judgement on this radio as I haven't heard it, nor played with it, I feel that Mark's article bears some forefront notice. Here are some excerpts from his article.

"Pioneer has been making good aftermarket car radios for quite a while. The Pioneer KE-A433AM car radio is, in my opinion, one of the best car radios built. It is a microprocessor controlled, digitally tuned C-QUAM AM Stereo, FM Stereo, and Stereo Cassette unit. I ordered one to try out. Before installing it in my car, I took a peek inside. The radio is well built and repairable."

"A service manual, ordered separately for about \$8.00, provided more than enough information. Large three and four color cutaway views of the circuit cards made component locating easy. Pioneer has even gone to the trouble of explaining how each section of the radio works, and how, for instance, AM stereo is broadcast and decoded. Complete alignment procedures are spelled out as well. Wiring terminates on plugs and jacks. Every wire is shown in the documentation."

How many radio manufacturers can you say take the time to document their products. It took me well over 7.5 hours and \$45.00 in phone and postage charges just to get a simple answer to a question on a Ford car radio! Mark went into great detail on the performance of the radio on the FM band, but let's jump ahead to the AM performance features.

"The AM section of the Pioneer KE-A433AM car radio has some interesting features. First, full electronic tuning eliminates the need for an antenna trimmer capacitor. The AM front end is tuned to the specific frequency of interest. A dual bandwidth IF section gives a user the ability to hear high frequencies on AM like he has never heard before. The specifications say frequency response is 3 dB down at 6 kHz. This isn't bad considering the kind of bandwidth AM radios have traditionally had. The bandwidth must be wide enough, because Pioneer has included a pair of 10 kHz adjacent channel whistle filters at the output of the stereo decoder IC."

The Pioneer KE-A433AM lists for around \$360.00. If any member of the National Radio Club has had an opportunity to play with this radio, and make some comparisons against other radios, both DX and normal consumer, I would welcome your comments, and perhaps a story for the National Radio Club's DX Audio Service or here in print. If you wish to contact Mark for additional details on the Pioneer KE-A433AM car radio you can call him at area code (218), 829-1326.

Fred Vobbe

News/talk radio format to change to soft adult contemporary sound

Los Angeles firm will beam music to WLVS audience

By Tom Walter

Los Angeles Reporter

WLVS-AM 104 will change its format soon. The station is changing its long-time news/talk mixture for a soft adult contemporary sound.

Betty Thornton, general manager of WLVS, said she hoped the format change would come within a month. The station has been testing music at night. She also confirmed the station would be using something called Format 41, developed and delivered by the Transtar Radio Networks of

Los Angeles.

The format is named because it targets listeners whose median age is 41. The format falls somewhere between the type of adult contemporary sound that can be heard on WRVR-FM 104 and a beautiful music station such as WEZI-FM 94.

The format has been available to radio stations for two years, according to Carl Goldman, Transtar's director of programming services. He said the format is played in 22 of the nation's 50 largest radio markets. A total of 60 stations now use the format; another 20 are expected

to begin using it by the end of the month, he said.

Goldman said the format consists of soft hits of the '60s, '70s, and '80s. He mentioned soft Beatles, Simon and Garfunkel and Elton John songs as examples.

The service is delivered by satellite. The on-air talent will be in Los Angeles. "The listener will have no perception that the disk jockey isn't in Memphis. He will think it's done locally," Goldman said.

WMBS-RADIO

82 WEST FAYETTE STREET

UNIONTOWN, PENNSYLVANIA 15401

Tony Fitzherbert, 356 Jackman Avenue, Fairfield, CT 06430

WVNH-AM 1110, SALEM, NEW HAMPSHIRE

The radio profession is festooned with unusual challenges for station owners and their employees. FCC requirements, listener tastes, and fare broadcast by competitors (often with a better signal and unlimited hours) can cause sleepless nights for station managers. The above factors combine to challenge John Hughes, owner and manager of WVNH-1110, Salem, New Hampshire, an outer suburb of Boston. To protect WBT and other stations on 1110kh, WVNH must maintain a very tight pattern, away from an unusually desirable market area. The station's "Touch of Nostalgia" format competes with two full time Boston stations, WMRE-1510, and WXXS-1430, as well as WKBR, Manchester, 30 miles north of Salem. Also, WVNH news and sports must compete with the information blocks from the bigger Boston broadcasters. So the battle for listeners in this bedroom Boston (and Lawrence-Lowell-Haverhill) town, 32 miles north of Boston Common, and right over the New Hampshire state line, is intense. The stations challenges increase, as a former owner developed a big band - nostalgia format, which had built a 7.0 share in the Manchester market, and the subsequent buyer dropped the format in favor of rock music, to get more listeners. The move destroyed the station's cadre of loyal listeners. The rock was dropped after two months, but the damage was done.

WVNH, the Voice of New Hampshire, was born in 1976, on 1110 kh, with 5000 watts' power, after two groups of Salem businessmen competed for the license. The station broadcast from studios in a small building on Pelham Road, three miles west of Salem. The owners' intent was to focus on Salem, population 24,000, just off I-93, the main route to the famous White Mountains. But most of the Salem residents commuted to Boston, the Route 128 high tech belt, or to manufacturing plants in the Merrimack River cities, immediately south of Salem. Thus the original adult contemporary format failed to attract an audience. Old habits die hard, as the commuters continued to listen to the Boston powerhouses. WVNH went dark, and the little studio building in a swamp, and most of its electronic contents were heavily damaged by moisture. One of the station's towers fell to the ground.

A second attempt at success.

WVNH was purchased by J. William O'Connor, a Chicago businessman, who owned 13 stations. He rebuilt the transmitter, and rented space in the attic of the Merchants Savings Bank (now Numerica Bank) in downtown Salem. He initiated a nostalgia format, which cultivated a loyal audience. However, Mr. O'Connor suffered a heart attack, and obeyed his doctors' orders to get out of the stressful radio business.

In 1984, WVNH was purchased by John Hughes, the station's present owner and manager. Mr Hughes decided that WVNH should appeal to a younger audience, and a rock format was tried. It failed miserably. The station returned to its oldies format, "Timeless Radio", and today entertains with a delightful assortment of adult standards, from a playlist of over 1000 titles, and is directed to the 35 to 64 year old listener. At the top of the hour, the station carries via satellite, UPI News.

The music on "Radio 11" stops for an hour each Sunday for the Armenian Show. It is all live assisted. The Armenian Hour appeals to ethnic groups in Lawrence, only five miles away. Some thought is being given to some Spanish programming for the as yet untapped Hispanic population in Lawrence.

On Sunday afternoons, WVNH offers motor car racing from the Motor Racing Network. For the thousands of skiers in the area, WVNH airs frequent "Sno Country Reports" for snow conditions at the many New Hampshire slopes, including the internationally known resorts in the White Mountains.

WVNH's many listeners enjoy the wit and conversation of amiable morning man, and Boston radio veteran, Ned French. Ned began his radio career at the age of eleven, in 1931, singing on WEEI, and he later sang for WNAC, in the days of staff orchestras and singers. He also worked on WHDH, and was a DJ on early rocker WCOP. Ned sang at one time for the Big Brother show on WHDH.

Today, Ned's wry sense of humor and outstanding voice please his audience, and his dedication - he spends at least an hour planning each hour of his show - delights John Hughes, his boss.

Bob Watson occasionally tends the board through the midday hours, and his forte is auto racing - so he is in charge of arranging sponsors for the auto races. Nineteen year old Bill Roberts is the afternoon personality, and WVNH is his first full time radio job.

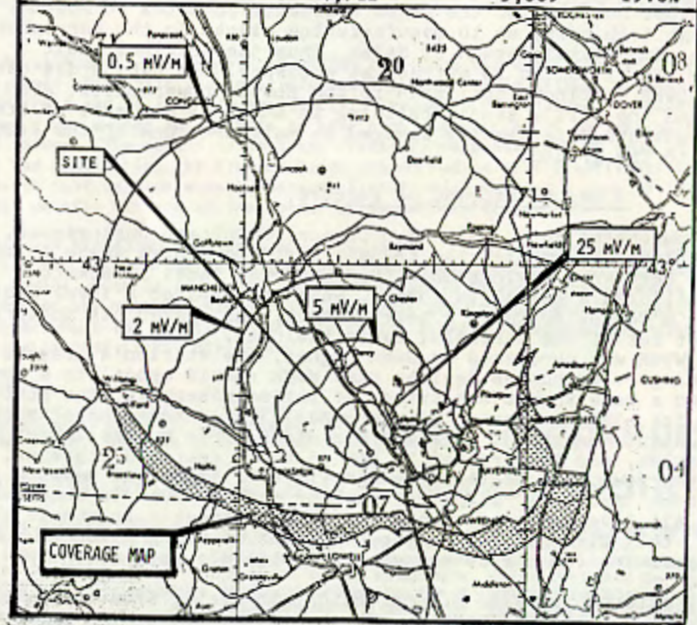
Salem is best-known for Rockingham Park, an old harness racing track. During the 170 day race season, WVNH carries the "Rockingham Express". Hosted by Bob Lemery, it starts with the scratches, the calls for each race, and a summary at the end of the day. Over 6000 fans gather at the track each day, and WVNH provides them with information as they drive to the races.

WVNH's facilities consist of the "Master Control", the heart of the station, a production studio, and office space. The transmitter is located in the former studio building, in a wooded area west of town. The transmitter is an old CSM-2000 watt model, operated at 5000 watts. The unit

16 **AM 1110 WVNH SALEM INFO**

1980 U. S. Census of Population

Population	1970	1980	
Salem	20,142	24,124	19%
Pelham	3,807	4,895	28.6%
Nashua	55,820	67,865	21.6%
Manchester	87,754	90,936	3.6%
Windham	3,008	5,664	88.3%
Derry	11,712	18,875	61.2%
Londonderry	5,346	13,598	154.4%
Plaistow	4,712	5,609	19.0%



feed four 140 foot high guyed towers, in a square, which pushes a very tight pattern northward. This signal goes away from the lucrative million plus population of the suburbs immediately north and west of Boston. The directional pattern hurts the station, as this market goes to shop in the Salem stores and malls. New Hampshire has no sales tax at all, and liquor and cigarettes are very inexpensive. Thus, shoppers come from Mass. in droves to shop in Salem. But WVNH must null heavily into this area.

125 MAIN STREET • BOX 1110 • SALEM, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03079 • 603-893-5708

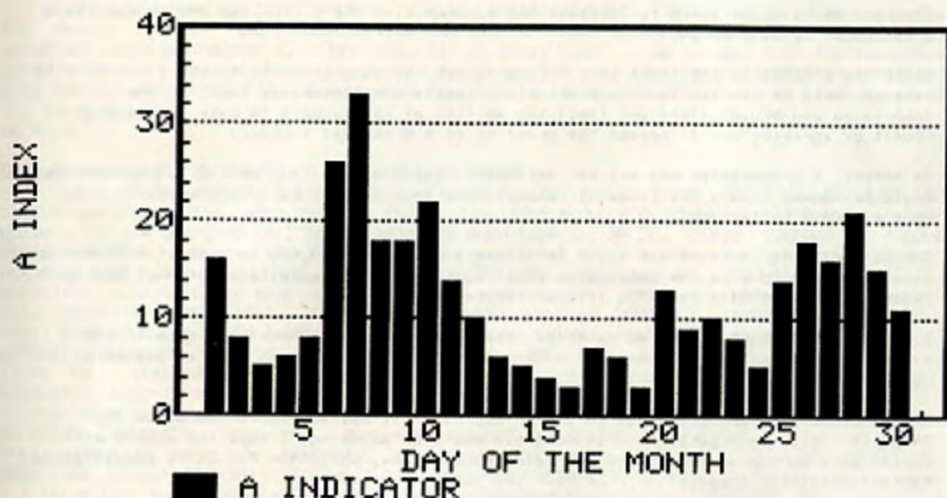
Another problem for WVNH is the lack of a PSA authorization, although the daytime station is allowed 500 watts PSSA, not to exceed 6:00PM. While WVNH does not penetrate deeply into the Boston area, it is enjoyed in the Manchester and Nashua area, with a combined population of over 160,000 people, and is a source of local news and information in the growing Salem area. Plus the music, and air personalities are first class!

We deeply appreciate the time which Station Manager John Hughes has taken to share the WVNH story with the readers of DX News. We wish his staff the best of luck with their fine station.

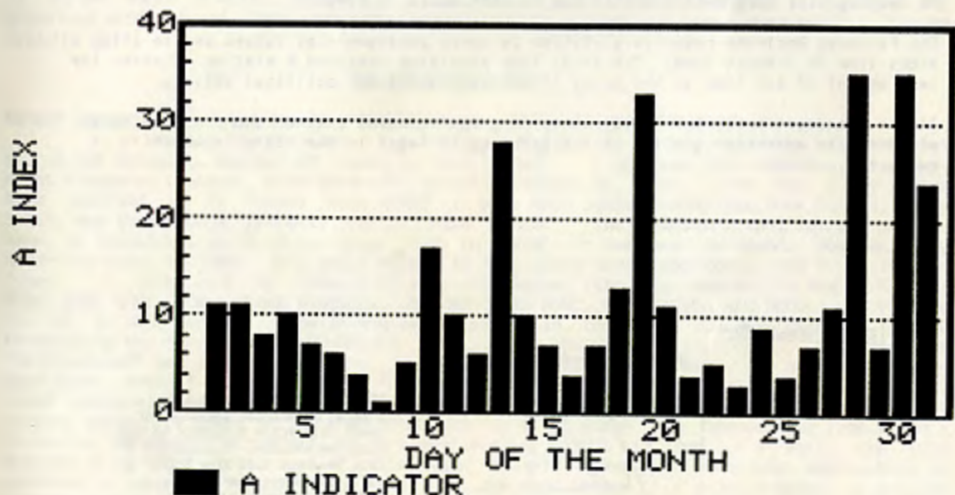
17 **AFR GRAPH**

Russ Edmunds, 753 Valley Road, Blue Bell, PA 19422

JUNE/AFR GRAPH



AFR GRAPH/DECEMBER



BROADCASTING FINE COULD HIT \$1 MILLION

WASHINGTON (AP/DXAS) -- Sweeping changes in parts of the Federal Communications law, including the dumping of the fairness, equal time, and reasonable access requirements on broadcasters, were proposed by the Federal Communications Commission on Thursday, January 30th.

Congress may also be asked to increase the maximum fine the F.C.C. can impose against a broadcaster to \$1 million.

Under the proposals, the right of citizens to ask the commission to revoke a radio or TV license would be limited to reduce frivolous complaints that waste time for the commission and broadcasters and limit the ability of challengers to make substantial profit by agreeing not to oppose the granting of a broadcast license.

In effect, a broadcaster who was not seriously violating the law, or F.C.C. regulations, would be immune from a challenge at renewal time from another party who seeks to prove he could do a better job.

The authority to increase the F.C.C.'s fining power, from \$20,000 to perhaps \$100,000 or \$1 million, would give the Commission clout against rich broadcasters, without having to resort to the ultimate penalty, license revocation.

F.C.C. Chairman Mark S. Fowler said the "notion that the government can come in and padlock a business" is un-American. "Broadcasters ought to be as free as the print media," he said.

F.C.C. officials conceded that no one on Capitol Hill has agreed to introduce the 24-point legislative package. "If Congress won't do anything, I hope the courts will," Fowler said during discussion of the Fairness Doctrine, which the F.C.C. in August found constitutionally "suspect".

The Radio-Television News Directors Association has asked the U.S. Court of Appeals to force the F.C.C. itself to repeal the doctrine, which the F.C.C. invented. But Congress has referred to the doctrine in subsequent laws, which has been interpreted by some as meaning only Congress can repeal it.

Senate legislation to repeal the fairness requirement was defeated in committee in 1984. No hearing have been held since it was re-introduced in 1985.

The Fairness Doctrine requires a station to cover controversial issues and to allow all sides time to discuss them. The equal time provision requires a station to offer the same amount of air time at the price to all candidates for political office.

In the broadcast area, the F.C.C. wants Congress to allow casinos and other lottery promoters to advertise gambling if the gambling is legal in the state in which it is conducted.

+++



LOGSHEETS-BY FREQUENCY 110 sheets, 25 entries possible per sheet with space available to add your own columns. Punched for 3 ring binders, full size 8 1/2" x 11". 110 sheets for \$4.80 [Additional pages available: 25 sheets for \$1.20]

MUSINGS

Paul Swearingen

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

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Times are local per Muse.

We're getting into a rut ... as again a nice turnout for both the theme, "DX Achievements", and overall, especially from NRC'ers living in the midwest, with a couple of Muses on tap for future issues. #21 (deadline Feb. 14) will feature thoughts from past or present broadcast media employees ... #22 (Feb. 21) is Story Time ... we'll hear from the teenagers in #23 (Feb. 28) ... and thanks to Robert Harrison, #24 will feature your favorite s/off and s/on announcements (Mar. 7). Norway-1314 is making it into the U. S., so to find out about it, let's get on with it!

Dave Hascall - 211 N. Merrill - Fortville, IN 46040

Hello again! I hope everyone's season is going great and those "newies" and veries are pouring in. With my total fairly low, just above 400, this will allow me to hear quite a few new stations as I try to allocate more time for MN DX. Since October 1, I have logged 56 new domestic stations plus a few others but no TA's yet - but I am still holding out some hope. The new ones include WILX-620 (Sept./Oct. begins), WKBH-1580, XERED-1110, WUTC-1280, WIBA-1310 (in WMLF null), WBRN-1460, WUIV-1580, WTTN-1580, Grenada-535 (with VOA nx), WBBM-1580, WRIN-1560, CPGM-1320 (now quite regular), WRNL-910, WERG-810 (thru WGRT o/c), KYOK-1000, WALT-910 (verified thru tentative report), WBCA-1440, KMIS-1050, WBBW-1040, WMTS-810, WWS-640, WDXN-540, WDW-770, WEDX-1030, WMBD-880, KRRI-800 (believe it or not, my first U. S. station on 800), KLCN-910, WILY-1210, WARO-540, CKNS-930, WLEN-1410; November: WYDE-850, WCSC-1390, WADA-1390 (both of these NC stations logged together), Antigua-1100 (tentative - at times drilling WWE), WRJQ-1570 (331.1 watts PSSA), WKLB-1290, WCHP-1390, KECA-830, WFUN-970, WBAL-1090, KWXI-670, XET-990, KYDE-1590, WWSG-1140 (EBS - no verie, yet), WIXC-1140, WFBL-1390, KWMT-540, WPEO-1020, CWCU-1080, RMA-960, CHBU-820, WKIN-1320, WBRB-1580, CFYN-1050, CKPC-1380, WLIL-730, WZZX-780, WLBH-1170 (finally), WCRX-1590 (Spanish - I think they have either upped their power or changed their pattern because they now are a regular), WCVL-1550 (WCIV temp. off), WCCO-1270, WIS-560. Total up to 409 with 3 new additions due to recalculations and missed logs. Veries from: WALT-910 (solving a tent. report), WBBM-1580, WRJQ-1570, WUIV-1580, WJMW-770, WKBH-1570, WRNL-910 (he thought I was requesting I. D. verification [?] but he did say "thanks for listening"), WMTS-810, KLCN-910 (they simply returned my letter plus a b/s!), WILX-620 (3 months). (All v/s sent to Wayne Heinen, right??? -pls) Nothing received from WIBA-1310, WBCA-1440, KMIS-1050, WWSG-1140. If anyone wants to write, please do ... but I would like an SASE, please. If you have any questions about local Indy stations please write; or just to "shoot some bull". 73's to all!

On Verie Counting

Ernest Cooper - 5 Anthony Street - Provincetown, MA 02657 (617) 487-9337

Reading Jim Hilliker's explanation of how and why he counts new stations, let me, in not agreeing, expound my theory in this regard. I do count call changes, and do not count frequency changes. Like WSAW-1470 recently changes to WQXW. How can I say I have WQXW verified if my letter ways WSAW? If Miss Mary Jones changes her name to Mrs. Mary Smith, she is no longer properly called Miss Jones. The station's call letters are its name, in actuality, so it is no longer WSAW, but WQXW - it has been re-named. Now let's say WQXW-1190 moves to 1200. It's still WQXW! If Miss Jones moves next door, she's still Miss Jones. I look back on some of my real old veries, like, for example, in New York City, WCAF, WJZ, WQBS, WOV. Those stations evolved into WABC, WABC, WINS, and WADO. A WOV verie is not a WADO verie! Now if you count changes in frequency as new catches, you're re-counting the same station a second time. If WQXW-1560 moved to 1450, it changed its "neighborhood" but it is still WQXW! If Miss Jones moves across town, she's still the same Miss Jones, even if she moved from a "high class" area (1560) to a "slum" (1450). If you count physical changes, wouldn't you have to count a station anew when it changes its antenna pattern or power on the same frequency, or if it moves its transmitter locally to a different address? After all, it is a new facility, isn't it? But, it's still the same station in my book. Does any of this make sense? (Yes - it's the best explanation of counting philosophy I've yet to see -pls) Oh, one more point. I count a change of city of license only if it is to a city in another state, for I file my veries by state. Speaking of which, I finally took advantage of a rainy, windy, Sunday afternoon to file my newer veries and take a count. The total is 4,278 AM's verified, and 388 FM's. My most recent reports seem to have filled on deaf ears, or should that be blind eyes? WAWI-1380, WQXI-1370, WQXW-1170, WQBC-1270, WORL-1270, WJRO-1590, WLVG-740, WDMT-900, and WQXW-1470. Anybody have recent v/s from any of these? Incidentally, I always cut out the verie signers list when it appears, and keep them in a bunch, and when I send off a report, I look through them to see if there is a recent signer's name posted. For that reason, I always hope to find this column on page 23 so as not to partially destroy my DX News of that issue. My recent dialings next ish. Forward - March! (Ernie, as I was typing this an old joke came to mind ... let me paraphrase it: How does a DX'er who has over 4,000 veries qualify and count them? Answer: Any way he wants to! Nevertheless, I must debate you on your philosophy of

NOT counting frequency changes. I counted KRVN-880 as a new station when it changed from 1010 simply because it created a new condition on that frequency (as well as a new facility). And I counted the WEXR-1560 switch a few years back, as more than just call letters were changed. My philosophy is to count stations, rather than changes, and KRVO-1460 changing from KRFB was just the manager's way of identifying the station with his name (McCoy), but nothing else changed. Do we count changes when formats change? I think not. But then I take tapes, not veries, and perhaps I'm suspect already - as more than one traditional DX'er has told me! -pls)

John Herman - P. O. Box 171 - Vinita, OK 74301-0171

Greetings and a happy 1986 to all. First, I gotta mention the weather of the last month around here and a large part of the country as well. For a few nights the lows have been as much as 14 degrees above the normal high temp. One night last week it was 56 at midnight. Now on to radio matters. '85 was a good year with 60 new logs, with 10 of those being Cubans. I ended my boycott of them, but I have yet to send a report to one. I'm glad I don't live on the east coast; the Cubans are not too much problem here. Haven't bagged a new state since number 35 on 1-17-82. Got the DDX one day early and saw the KURL pop test, so maybe #36 will make it to the log this winter. 3 new ones since my last DDX report: QMCW, Radio Cadena Habana-1120 at 2012 on 1-14 and at 2100 the same evening, R. Guama, QMAP-1020. QMCW was giving KMOX some trouble but Guama was all alone, not a sign of KDKA. Number 765 made the log on 1-15 at 1804 (these times ELT). ID, mentions of Clinton, local ads. A better copy on the ID later showed it to be WJWZ-1120, and I had to null KMOX as much as possible to get that. Nulling KMOX is no easy job, but lately I've been getting KCLE, Cleburne, TX, a lot better. Hope I can get enough for a report in the near future. As of 12-31, 760 stations logged. This does not include call changes, but does include power changes and frequency changes. Location changes also except metropolitan stations moving to a nearby suburb. I have sent reports to 340 of these stations and have veries from 203. Return rate 59.7%. 33 of the 35 states logged are verified. 10 countries other than the U. S. and Canada, but reports out to only one. Sent one to ZNS-3 in Freeport, Bahamas, but no verie after 11 mo. Of the 760 logged, 680 are U. S., 40 Mexicans, 10 Cubans, 22 Canadians. One each from Belize, Netherlands Antilles, Nicaragua, Guatemala, Antigua, Anguilla, Costa Rica, and the Bahamas. Last but not least, one from Wash., D. C. Enough on achievements. In a verie received 1-18, KAFR-1270, Claremore, OK, says they have plans to go to 10,000 watts and purchase an FM station, upon FCC approval or feasibility. (Not on 1270, I bet -pls) If I didn't mention it last time, their address is 615 W. Ramm Road - Claremore, OK 74017. Randolph Scott there seems to be interested in our club, so I'm going to keep in contact with him. (Sign 'im up! -pls) Finally, I received a verie from Kelli Stewart, Traffic Director, WBBZ, for a report sent on 2-28-84. The report had been misfiled along with one from Grand Rapids, MN. In its 58th year, WBBZ is one of only 2 stations west of the Mississippi, with a "W" call. At least that's what they said. I think they forgot WLS and there is the new WJCR. (WDAP, WHB, WREN, WMBH, WCV, WJAG, WNPX! -pls) Enuf for now. 73's and gud DX.

Red River DX Report

Niel Wolfish - 31 Southlawn Stroll - Winnipeg, MB R3T 5E9 (204) 261-9481

The latest DX from the junction of Manitoba highways 75 and 100, all times ELT. 1-11: KLDI-1210 before SSS with local high school basketball. Previously logged these guys in October as KOJO-1490. KBUF-1030 at 6 pm with "Holcomb-Garden City" (dual community) ID and ABC nx. 1-13: CKWA-1210 heard (for the first time) at 1 am with broadcast nx, local wx, and country nx. 1-15: Fantastic daytime reception today on the Superadio. WRIG-1390, KASI-1430, WTDY-1480, WAUK-1510, WHIT-1500, WFRL and WGBH-1570, all heard between 11 am and 1 pm ... a definite trend towards Wisconsin. 1-16: Camped out at SSS and bagged a bunch: WLNZ, WDNQ, RTSS and KCHA-1580 all before 6 pm. Then, KPTT and KGA-1510 at 6:30 pm. KGA makes the 4th WA logging for me here - that's 4 more than I ever heard in then years of trying in Toronto! On the subject of difficult states, Oregon was likely missed on 1-14. Woke up at 6:30 am unintentionally, and heard KMOX-1120 signing on. I'm sure I would have had a good shot at KPNW had I been on the frequency a few minutes before 630. The Winnipeg totals now are at 394 heard and 1, KKGZ, verified. Toronto, currently stagnant, is at 1053 heard, 312 verified, and 500+ taped. 73's. And to Bob Walker, Good Day, Eh!

(My apologies to Gary ... somehow this Muse did not get into the Unusual Antenna issue -pls)

Gary Atkins - Rt. 9, Box 115 - Macon, GA 31211

Hello once again from Middle Georgia. Thanks to John Malicky for updating the calls for me on the bandscan which appeared in #13. At the time I didn't have a new log nor had I been making recent changes. One correction - Warner Robins on 1600 should be WVIJ. Still can't pull in an ID on 740 although one afternoon I got a rather solid signal from KRMG. Still no sign of Montgomery AL which I logged 3 years ago. Additions to the daytime list: WNEG-630, WMSO-640, WRPE-690, WKLS-970, WXSS-1030, WIXC-1140, WMAC-1360, WLOP-1370, WMAA-1390, WLAQ-1410, WWSG-1430, WPNX-1460, WRGA-1470, WZMQ-1520, WXZE-1540, and WRS-1590.

In the preface to my bandscan it was mentioned that I had an UNID on 1200. It turned out to be a spur from local WDDO-1240. Two other interesting mid-afternoon loggings were KBOA-830 and KCMO-810 plus a one-time only local-like signal from Cuba-1160 around noon. The next day WJJD was coming in at that time. Normally I get WFTN or nothing. On another occasion on 1580, rather than the usual WKUN/WEAM I got a strange mixture of WBBR, WSKT, WEXY, and WENO at 1 pm, with the latter being dominant. I have a very crude long wire strung up for occasional SW'ing, and one day I inadvertently left it attached while switching to AM. What a shock. Discovered seven new stations that are completely inaudible on the loop, some with semi-local type signals: WOOP-560, WBIJ-580, WHIA-990, WNZ-1050, WTIF-1340, WNNW-1550, and WMS-1570. Seems to be very directional to the south. How crude is this longwire? It is a piece of cheap hookup wire about 50 feet long. The lead-in is almost as long as the antenna and runs half the length of my trailer, into the door, and back towards the antenna to the receiver. (Do you use shielded cable for your lead-in, Gary? -pls) I had planned to erect a more conventional longwire but I want to check out this strange configuration more before I do so. My schedule still precludes any evening and SSS DX. I work 3-11 and we've been on a 7-day a week schedule, sometimes 12 hours a day. So, all of my DX is done between 8 am and 2 pm for the time being. 73.

Neil G. Zank - 623 Lyncrest Dr. - Lincoln, NE 68510

As I have often times been disappointed in the Musings turnout in DDX this season I guess I had better help produce my share for the cause. So, Forward Muse. This season started out slow in quantity but not quality in DX for me with one of my best catches ever arriving on 11-25-85, namely, Norway-1314 kHz heard 2:15-3:15 am ELT on this date. A big surprise and thrill here. (Nice catch, Neil -pls) On to 12-11 when CHAM-820 Hamilton, ON heard for first time on new freq. with csw mx fair around 1:30 am, last heard as CJJD on 1280. 12-26 had test from WSJC-810 Magee, MS with fine signal much of the time, over KCMO at best with good csw tunes and short TT period. On 1-2-86 SSS brought KLDI-1210 Laramie, WY with local wx and ID's about 6:25 pm followed up by WBIU-1210 Denham Springs, LA with csw mx and ID around 6:45 pm. 1-14: Close study of my tape revealed that the test from WIFX-1000 Jenkins, KY was in there weakly after s/off of WCFL at 2:00 am with test ID noted at 2:05 am followed by what sounded like music from a Linda Ronstadt album, another ID gleaned in the 2:15-2:20 am section. I consider that a good catch here, KTOK is one of my bigger pests. 1-17 at SSS heard WSJP-1130 Murray, KY for the first time 6:30-6:45 pm with ID's, a couple of 5 min. Ag Net programs and local spots. And 1-19 produced one which I have missed for a long time in KBMK-1130 Bismark, ND with ID's, csw mx, local wx 5:50-6:10 pm. That brings DX up to date. It was good to see old friend Gary Atkins' name appear in Musings again a few issues back. One question which pops into my mind is over the choice of skip week in DDX for the holidays. It seems that it provides a publisher's skip week early and then requires a publication right during holidays for masthead date the week of New Years. Perhaps the publishing is set up a week early for the week of New Year's masthead?? (No, I believe the original skip, which goes back several publishers ago, was to avoid mailing a bulletin during Christmas week when everything gets lost in the blizzard of Christmas mailings. I used it this year to unpack after I moved -pls)

Ken Onyschuk - 9739 Oak Park Ave. - Oak Lawn, IL 60453-2139

Let's start this New Year's Muse with the Chicago Fall '85 Arb. to wake readers up: 1. WGN 8.0, 2. WEMX-FM 6.4, 3. WGCI-FM 5.3, 4. WLOO-FM 5.2, 5. WBBM 4.5, 6. WLS 4.1, 7. WLUP-FM 4.0, 8. WBBM-FM 3.7, 9. WLAK-FM 3.4, 10. FM's WUSN and WCLR at 3.3, 12. tie, AM's WJJD and WIND, FM's WJMK, WKQX at 3.2, 16. WFPY-FM 3.1, 17. tie, WMAQ and WGGT-FM 2.6, 19. WAIT 2.2, 20. WLS-FM (to be WYXZ 1-20) 2.0, 21. tie, WQJO-FM and WCKG-FM 1.9, 23. WNET-FM and WVON 1.6, 25. WPMI-FM 1.5, 26. WGCI 1.0, 27. WCFL 0.9, 28. WJPC and WNIJ-FM 0.8, 30. tie. WJOL and WYCA-FM 0.4. Well, after all that, Mr. Feder reports that despite the popularity of the Chicago Bears and related programs, WGN attracted its lowest overall ratings in nearly 4 yrs, for the fall period. They're down nearly 2 pts. from the summer and the Cubbies had a disastrous season after May. WLS's Larry Lujack got his wish and works PMD now. Wally Phillips on WGN will trade slots with Bob Collins July 6. And the 2 BLK outlets WEMX/WGCI fight it out for top dog here. On to other topics. Enjoyed Bob Mielcarek's Muse. After a few days, I was nearly worn out straining to hear stns on 560. Days it was very hard to ID anything here. I couldn't find my Select-A-Tenna. I think I hrd WEND or WLS but never ID'ed them. I recognized R-oldies but lack the ID to legally log it. The ground was bare, making cx more difficult. It was frustrating not hearing more than I did. I congratulate Bob on his loggings, tho I am envious I wasn't as lucky as he was. I was up to 12 pm once and up at 6 once to take my wife to work that Sat. I did send a tape of the cx to KUSA-550 St. Louis. They were hrd very well in daylight. And WNAK-570 SD did make it here audibly at over 400 miles days. Sorry, Jerry Starr, I failed to log WKEN at all. WILL-580 was pretty strong and made 570 DX'ing a pain at times. Now it is sad, not to be able to listen to WIND any more, after 58 yrs service to its listeners. One less EE stn in the area to tune to. Sorry, Paul, I'm not learning Spanish. I did work my last lengthy job with SS people, and I didn't like the idea of them being in America and refusing to speak English to me. (Now you know how they feel about the turistas who shout slowly at them in EE to be better understood south of the border -pls) I will just ignore them and

their stns and let live. I am working a temporary job now as a mail clerk for Time, Inc. in nearby Hoogkins. Hopefully by the time you read this, I'll have a fulltime job for an electronics firm nearby. It's very tiring constantly applying for work, the collecting unemployment. My old job at Blitz Corp. is questionable now. I just learned my old foreman and his boss were canned - economics. One thing briefly, I don't remember referring to Dave Schmidt as Chuck; a mistake, perhaps (or my typo, hi -pls). He does a good job with DDXD. That WCZY article was great. Just renewed for a 15th year. This DX'er is 37, married, with 3 children and trying to be able to join a few other DX clubs when he can afford to. See you in Gurnee, hopefully.

Ray Arruda - 47 Burt Street - Acushnet, MA 02743-1939

We start this long overdue Musing by wishing all NRC'ers and their families a very happy New Year. Thanks go out to all who sent holiday cards and letters. A brief re-intro: I'm 37, married ten years to Arlene, no children, one dog, and I work for New England Telephone (16 years) as a telephone repairman. I've DX'ed since 1963 and started sending for QSL's in 1966 with the first one being KSL-1160. 1985 highlights: The Labor Day NRC Convention turned out to be a fine weekend with Craig Healy putting together a first-class time. As usual, our annual Thanksgiving GIG 11-30 in The Lower Deck was a success with approx. 18 attendees from the northeast and Canada. Arlene and I are most grateful to those who came from far and near and hope you'll be back again this year. 1986 started out in fine fashion as Andy Rugg, Arlene, and myself toasted the New Year, raising our glasses at midnight in The Grand Ballroom of The Queen Elizabeth in Montreal ... Thanks for the great week, Andy! The month of January has been busy DX-wise. Currently I'm in the process of recounting and recopying my log book, a slow job. 23 reports out the first month of the new year with v/l's back from WICE-550, WHP-760, WFR-850, WEX-1150, WJJP-1180, and a v/g from WKOX-1200. 1-14: WIFX-1000 DX test noted weak with csw mx and ID's 2:21 to 2:37 am, tx John Malicky! Noting the 3 1/2 day WIND-560 SP during management change, we have had a similar situation here with WNK-1410 Brockton, MA being silent pending call letter and management change to WAIT ... first several days of January making 1410 a gret DX spot in eastern MA both for sunrise and sunset DX. Several new ones have been logged on 1410 with include WDOE, WELM, WOTF, WGFN, WLSH, and WDOV. 73.

Mark Connelly - 30 William Road - Billerica, MA 01866

Greetings. Just thought I'd start out the New Year with a Muse. First, some local tidbits: The new 1120 kHz Concord, MA station (supposedly WQCC) was heard in late November testing with unmodulated carrier around 4 pm EST while I was pulling out of the parking lot at GenRad in W. Concord. The signal remained fairly strong as I proceeded eastward on Route 2 to the junction of 128 in Lexington. Signal level decreased and WNEW-1130 skip sloop "horned in" on the frequency as I headed northward to Burlington, MA on Route 128. As of today (14 JAN), I have not heard any more testing on 1120. I drive through all parts of Concord, but I haven't spotted a tower site yet. If I were putting a station on in Concord, I'd site the tower(s) in one of the board open wetland areas next to the Concord River or in the high-conductivity/low-horizon marshland and farmland where Route 2 crosses the Nashoba Brook at the Acton line (next to WLEVT's gargantuan ham antenna facility). Alternately, a northward-beamed array in the Sudbury River swamp next to Route 27 (Sudbury/Wayland line) would ram a ferocious signal through Concord all the way up to Lowell, Lawrence, and probably Finland (hi). WKOX-1200 has a much better signal at night here now; power might be up to 5 kW or more, or perhaps 1 kW and a more favourable DA pattern. Still, at my folks' house on Cape Cod, Latin Americans run the show on 1200 at night. Most of my actual DX'ing has been one-night-a-month visits to their QTH. Technical tinkering is the main DX-related pursuit at home in Billerica. Does anyone know where Neil Kazaross is? (No, hi -pls) I sent a Christmas card to his old Main QTH; it got forwarded (as expected, but then it was returned as undeliverable. Congrats to Rich Eckman on his upcoming move to England - I'm sure he'll keep us abreast of European/African broadcast happenings on what statesiders and Canadians are making it across the "pond" to the UK. I recently sent an MWDK-4A phaser to Ben Peters in Holland; he seems happy with it. Perhaps phasing will gain popularity with European MW DX'ers. I'm working out a deal with Gerry Thomas to get one of his Phase One units; by springtime I may have a DX review of this new "Radio Plus" product. Veries by a DX'er that have been appearing lately really have my curiosity piqued; either he's got the world's greatest DX set-up or he's been "smoking his lunch". For now I'll presume that the receptions are legitimate; I'd just like to know what equipment, antennae, DX techniques, etc. were used. THAT would make a heck of a Musing or feature article, indeed! (Why don't you write to him directly and ask, Mark? -pls) 73 and the best to all in 1986.

Is This the End??

Bob Harrison - 166 Renner Avenue - Union, NJ 07083-8839

Did you see that article in Issue #14 about the NAB experiment to eliminate the "largely useless" skywave signals? Will they succeed? Would this be the end of the medium wave DX hobby? Will we soon be listening to WLS on cable? Save those veries! By the year

2000 no one will believe you when you tell them you used to pick up Chicago on a clear night with your little old portable AM radio! Well, anyway, this has been one heck of a great DX season so far. Even though I've been twisting those dials a lot less lately, the log book continues to fill up. Conditions have been very good for the most part, and my biggest local pest, WNRJ-1430, has pulled up stakes and moved out of town, opening up two more frequencies, 1420 kHz and 1440 kHz, for sunset-skip DX'ing here. Little by little, newies are popping up on the so-called "clear channels"; WAGE-1200 VA is now a regular here at night. Hurricane Gloria helped boost the totals here as well this past autumn by knocking quite a few daytime regulars off the air and giving me a shot at some stations I thought I'd never hear, such as WNYG-1440 NY and WJIC-1510 NJ. So the DX keeps on rolling in. Let me close for now with an idea for a Musings theme: how about "my favorite sign-on and sign-off announcements"? (Done! -pls) I'm sure we've all heard some pretty clever ones. Meanwhile, good DX! (No one seems to sign off out here, Bob, hi! -pls)

Robert Smolarek - RD #1, Box 63 - Whitehouse Station, NJ 08889

My DX shack got a needed boost January 13 when the Kowalski loop I purchased from Steve Bohac arrived. It greatly amplifies the signals I receive and it nulls out the locals well, thank you, Steve. Now, I wish a good aurora would hit. I have noticed a frequent mistake in DDXD. People keep sending in WBRW-1170 Scererville, NJ when their city of license is Bridgewater; it has been for the last few years. (How do they ID, Robert? -pls) Try finding Bridgewater on a map; you won't find it! It is a township with about 30,000 people that borders on Scererville. WBRW's studios and towers are located in the Funderne section of the township. What TV show had 3 NRC members appear on it in 1985? The Uncle Floyd Show on channels 23, 50, 52, and 58 here in NJ. Paul Mount, Dave Schmidt, and I all appeared last year. The last two nights, Jan. 12 and 13, I have noticed a signal on 1314; I think it is Norway. It was producing a high-pitched noise on both 1310 and 1320. I enjoyed seeing the loggings by the midwest members with WIND off. It's great they had a silent period between owners, but now midwest listeners will pay the price for the silent period with WIND's new programming. Another great American station passes on. I have never heard WIND here, usually just a weak WFIL on 560. 73. (And now my trivia question: What network radio program recently had at least seven NRC'ers on the air? Answer: Including the phone-ins, Ray Briem's DX Special on ABC TalkRadio! -pls)

My
turn



Bob Hansen

"In the early 1920s there were very few radio stations in the Midwest and at that time one had to wind coils and experiment with what he had made, talking to others and getting ideas on what might work."

"A crystal set was used for reception and it did not have much pulling power. Days would go by without being able to receive anything."

Such is the recollection of Walter O. Ducommun, who recently completed a lengthy and interesting era in Sioux City as radio engineer, repairman and businessman.

He owned and operated Duke's Radio Co., for nearly 55 years and before that was engineer for the first two commercial radio stations in Sioux City. He also was student engineer of a pioneer radio station at Morningside College.

Ducommun, or "Duke" as he is widely known, recalls that by the middle 20s radio tubes came into use for homemade sets, increasing reception possibilities. Duke relates that most of the crude sets were made by experimenters. Factory-made receivers were yet to come.

"Transmitting stations also were more or less experimental," according to Duke, "and were laboriously constructed, step by step."

As a Cleghorn, Iowa student at Morningside College, Duke became interested in radio through extensive reading and by observing the work of a nearby ham radio operator.

By the year 1924 he had designed and built equipment for a radio

station at the college which he says was located in the basement of the main hall. The call letters were KFMR and it operated on a frequency of 1153 kilocycles.

The small college station began operation on a power of only 10 watts but by the time it concluded service in 1926 it had a power of 100 watts, Duke remembers.

"We strung wires to the gymnasium and broadcast athletic and other events and we also broadcast the chimes from Grace Methodist Church on the college campus," Duke adds.

Duke left college in 1926 to become engineer for downtown commercial station WEAU which was located in Davidson Bros., department store at Fourth and Pierce streets (the present Younkers).

That station, which had as its slogan "The Heart of the Cornbelt," broadcast on a frequency of 1090 kilocycles and had a power of 100 watts.

It was while he was engineer at that station that he met his bride to be, a Sioux City girl who was piano accompanist for musical groups that came to perform at the station. Duke and Vera were married in 1928 and now are only a couple of years away from their 60th wedding anniversary. Vera also encouraged her husband to complete his education at Morningside. He received his bachelor's degree in 1932.

Duke muses "that the early stations like WEAU spent much of their time trying to get listeners to respond by mail to the quality of reception and reporting the greatest distances from the station." "People going to work in the morning would greet one another by asking what stations they were able to receive the night before," he reflects.

In 1927 Radio Station KSCJ went on the air in the old Journal building at Fifth and Douglas streets, at that time occupied by Meyer Bros. Saddlery Co., and Duke was its first engineer. The station had only a staff of three. In addition to Duke it included Charles W. Corkhill as manager and Bertha Reese as

program director.

By the late 1920s radio was more than a novelty with Midwest cities such as Minneapolis, Chicago, Omaha, Yankton, Des Moines, Lincoln and Sioux City all boasting radio stations. Again, as Duke recalls, the stations were assembled piece by piece in rather crude construction.

According to Duke, there was little advertising on radio in those good old early days but there were a number of informative programs such as stock and market news, as well as weather reports.

Duke says he believes the first network program into Sioux City was around 1930, a one-hour period on Saturday night with the Paul Whiteman Orchestra.

In 1930 Duke opened his own radio business, locating on the second floor of the Bekins Building. He moved later to a street-level shop in the same building, before moving permanently to his own building in 1947 at 209 Sixth Street. He retired from his business last year.

As a charter member of the National Electronic Distributors Association he was honored in 1982 for 45 years membership in that organization.

My warm relationship with Duke began as a boy when my father would bring radios from our hometown of Emerson, Neb., to Sioux City for Duke to repair. When I returned to Sioux City from military service and college to employment in the former Radio Station KTRI here, our friendship was renewed.

The years that followed have brought the genuine respect of my family and a host of others for Duke as the "Mr. Radio" of Sioux City.

Bob Hansen is night city editor of The Journal.

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