



DX NEWS

*the magazine of the
National Radio Club*

— SINCE 1933 —

Volume 55 Issue 17 Monday, February 1, 1988

DDXD-East I see a few of you noticed a slight mess up in the address again. Well, seems I thought I had thrown away all those headers with the wrong (2610) address in them away. Well, as you can see over the past few issues a few snuck in. Once again the correct address (2160) is shown on this weeks header and all headers from this point on. Now back into the lake for me.

From Ray Cole, "URGENT. Your assistance requested. If you have a Digital Readout Receiver and are among those complaining about inaccuracies, please monitor the frequency on which it occurs several times a day for a week or more, keeping a record of dates, times and readouts. IF the readouts vary, it probably is NOT your receiver, and please send your record to me. This is exactly what we are finding here on an earthquake fault and are trying to develop into an earthquake warning system. And we are not using digital receivers. Thanks for your help." Ray Cole, Route 3, Box 304, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701-9543

1988 Frequency Check List is currently be compiled by Dave Schmidt and John Malicky. If you have any information that would be of use to the Frequency Check list then drop a line with the station info to Dave Schmidt, 42 Chelwynne Road, Castle Hills, New Castle, DE 19720-3516

Page 16 contains just a few of the many many articles we received on the WBZ antenna problems. Thanks to the 48 of you that have sent all those articles. It was one of the biggest responses we've gotten in a long time on one subject. Keep up the good work troopers.

DXChange

For Free: 5 miles of wire, on a wooden spool, 2 conductor 16 gauge copper coated steel insulated wire, yours for pickup. (Bill Swiger, Route 1, Box 142A, Bridgeport, WV 26330 or phone (evenings only): 304-842-4635).

Wanted: 1987 Edition of Broadcasting Yearbook. Will pay up to \$15 and postage. (Bill Hale, DDXD-East Editor).

Wanted: Latest (and probably last) edition of Vane Jones N.A. Radio & TV Guide, must be in excellent condition. \$10 + postage. (Bill Hale, DDXD-East Editor).

Wanted: Anyone out there with Commodore 64 computer DX programs. (Bill Hale, DDXD-East Editor).

Wanted: WRTVH 1986 or 1987, in good to excellent condition. Will cover Postage fees or you can trade for cassette recordings of his area stations. (Musa S. Ahmed, Box 194, Gyadi - Gyadi Province, Kano State - NIGERIA) [This info via PLAY-DX - Italy]

Got something to sell, trade or want? Drop us a line and we will place your request or item in DX NEWS.

LOOK INSIDE

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| 6....DDXD-West | 7....IDX | 9....Stn Profile-WTSJ-1050 |
| 11....Western Wisconsin | 18....Musings | 23....NRC Products |
| 24....43 Hot Chocolate with Bananas and Marshmallow Recipes | | |

AM SWITCH

Jerry Starr, c/o WHOT Radio, 4040 Simon Road, Youngstown, OH 44512

CALL LETTER CHANGES

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| OLD CALL: | NEW CALL: |
| 1280 WWZZ FL SARASOTA | WSGX |

APPLICATIONS FOR NEW STATIONS

700 WA CAMAS: 25000/1000 U4 (REAPPLICATION)
 1160 AZ CAVE CREEK: 25000/1000 U4 (AMMENDING POWERS IN ORIGINAL APPLICATION)

GRANTS FOR NEW STATIONS

790 NS BEDFORD-SACKVILLE: 10000/10000 U4
 1200 ON SAULT STE. MARIE: 9000/9000 U4
 1350 BC WILLIAMS LAKE: 1000/1000 U2
 1570 MB MORDEN: 10000/10000 U4

APPLICATIONS FROM EXISTING FACILITIES

740 WLVG MA CAMBRIDGE: POWER TO 2500 WATTS, ANTENNA TO D3
 860 WTEL PA PHILADELPHIA: ADD 500 WATTS NIGHT, SEPARATE NIGHT XR SITE
 1000 WTAK AL HUNTSVILLE: REDUCE POWER TO 5000 WATTS, ANTENNA TO D1
 1570 WPEP MA TAUNTON: INCREASE MC NIGHT POWER TO 500 WATTS

GRANTS TO EXISTING FACILITIES

NONE

OTHERNESS

540 KDFT TX FERRIS: STATION DID NOT MAKE THEIR ANNOUNCED 12-25 DEBUT, NO NEW TARGET DATE ANNOUNCED
 790 WRUM ME RUMFORD: SILENT STATION IS BACK ON THE AIR
 840 WHGH GA THOMASVILLE: NEW STATION IS ON THE AIR WITH BL/GOS FORMAT
 1000 KBIB TX MARION: NEW STATION HAVING ZONING PROBLEMS WITH ANTENNA SITE, A CONSIDERABLE DELAY IN THEIR TARGET DATE EXPECTED
 1010 KKGZ CO BRUSH: STATION IS SILENT
 1140 WEFI MA EASTHAMPTON: WE HAD PREVIOUSLY LISTED THIS NEW STATION CP AS BEING ON 1160 KHZ, AN ERROR FROM INFO SOURCE. 1140 CORRECT
 1320 CFGM ON RICHMOND HILL: MOVE TO 640 KHZ EXPECTED "SPRING 1988"
 1490 KVOZ TX LAREDO: HAS NOT YET MOVED TO 890 KHZ DESPITE PERSISTANT REPORTS, NOW EXPECTS TO MOVE "IN A MONTH OR SO" AS SOON AS THE SALE OF THE 1490 FACILITY IS COMPLETED

73 AND GOOD DX, *Jerry & Bick* JERRY STARR & BUFFALO K. FOONMAN
 THANKS TO NRCERS WAYNE HEINEN & EDWARD LENDZIOSZSK FOR OTHERNESS CONTRIBUTIONS!

FORMATS

Tony Fitzherbert, 356 Jackman Avenue, Fairfield, CT 06430

Here are the latest format changes courtesy of the M Street Journal, Charlie Taylor, and my DX'ing. The next column will feature a look at metropolitan Seattle radio, courtesy of members David Bailey and Wayne Heinen.

Before we get to the formats, I received a note from Stan Morss, of Boxford, Mass., who notes that, in reference to the WINZ-940 Station Profile, the station began as WFUL. This call lasted for two weeks, when the FCC assigned WWON. 940 was WWON for a week, when the FCC found out that they had assigned that call to Woonsocket, RI. The WINZ call was then assigned.

Here are the formats for this time.....note the new format "New Wave". What next????

540 CJSJ ON Ottawa - "54 Light Rock" Soft rock(TF).
 610 WIP PA Philadelphia - Now sports talk(M).
 630 CJET ON Smiths Falls - CWM, CBC feed, "CJ Country"(TF).
 790 WRUM ME Rumford - Back on the air with SMN CWM, never put the religion format into effect(M) and TF).
 790 WETB TN Johnson City - PMN Breeze New Age(M). What?????(TF).
 860 KOSE AR Osceola - Now oldies(M).
 910 WORD SC Spartansburg - UC, "Power 91" (M).
 930 KTLD CO Granby - //FM, CWM(M).
 930 WSEV TN Sevierville - CWM//FM(M).
 1010 WQYK FL Tampa - Returns to air, CWM(M).
 1050 WPZA MI Ann Arbor - Ex-WPAG, AC(M).
 1130 WGGY MN Minneapolis - Transtar CWM(M).
 1260 KAYJ TX San Angelo - Ex-KSQA, Transtar oldies(M).
 1280 WNPT AL Tuscaloosa - AC days, Talknet 6PM to 6AM(M).
 1280 KSNE MN Minneapolis - The folks that brought you all weather, black programming, and adult standards all in one year now tackle an exciting new venture PMN Breeze New Wave(M) and (TF).

1290 WPTG AL Sheffield - Contemporary Bristian(M).
 1320 WILS MI Lansing - Black(M).
 1330 KDRQ ND Wishek - CWM, Polkas, oldies(M).
 1340 WORQ TX Abilene - Oldies(M).
 1380 KFLJ CO Walsenberg - Silent(M).
 1380 WSFL NC New Bern - (Trent Woods CP never made it) is repeater of WSFL - 1060, oldies, on just enough to keep the license(Charlie Taylor). Maybe they ought to try New Wave (TF).

1400 WSTC CT Stamford - Music of the 50's, 60's and 70's, ABC News(TF).
 1440 KKIP AR Lowell - New station, oldies(M).
 1460 WFVY FL Jacksonville - SMN Z-Rock(M).
 1480 WQXS KY Hoplinville - Black(M).
 1490 WABJ MI Adrian - AC(M).
 1520 KOLM MI Rochester - Oldies(M).
 1540 WXZE GA Sylvester - Oldies(M).
 1550 WKVL TN Clarksville - Silent(M).
 1550 WORL TN Oak Ridge - Ex-WKNF, now rel(M).
 1590 WIZD AL Atmore - Ex-WSKR, AC//FM(M).
 1600 WSNX MI Muskegon - CHR// FM Sunny 104.

A short but interesting assortment. Thank you for your contributions. And for the rest of you....when Kfi airs "New Wave", be sure to let the rest of the members know....in your formats column....73's

Three teens held in string of thefts

By Paulette Haddix
 Correspondent

GRIFFITH — Griffith police said Wednesday they have connected 10 crimes to three Gary teen-agers apprehended at the WIND-AM transmitting building earlier this week.
 Equipment and vehicles valued at nearly \$50,000 were recovered from the suspects' homes, Lt. John Mowery said.
 He said three counts of burglary have been filed against Joseph R. Zaborski of 2531 Stevenson St. and Jamie M. Fox of 7032 W. 23rd Ave.
 One count of burglary has been

filed against Harry E. Koonce, 2613 Stevenson St. All three youths are 18.
 Police said they apprehended the three while investigating a burglary at the WIND transmitting building in the north end of town after officers responded to a burglar alarm there Sunday night.
 Mowery said police have tied Zaborski and Fox to two auto thefts and a burglary at the AT&T service center in Griffith, a bur-

glary at the Griffith Golf Center, a burglary at a WNDZ radio station facility in the Portage Mall in Portage and an attempted burglary at a radio station in Hobart. WNDZ is based in Lansing, Ill.
 The crimes had been reported since Nov. 2.
 "These are three pretty busy individuals," Mowery said.
 He added \$30,000 in property belonging to AT&T has been recovered, as has \$5,000 to \$10,000 in sophisticated electronic transmitting equipment.

(INDIANAPOLIS)- SERVICES WILL BE TOMORROW IN MADISONVILLE, KENTUCKY FOR INDIANAPOLIS DISK JOCKEY GEORGE 'TED' WORK. THE D-J FOR W-T-U-X DIED YESTERDAY AT THE AGE OF 58 AFTER A LONG ILLNESS. WORK... A NATIVE OF WASHINGTON D-C... HAD WORKED AS AN ANNOUNCER AND REPORTER AT SEVERAL RADIO STATIONS AROUND THE COUNTRY. HE JOINED THE INDIANAPOLIS STATION A YEAR AGO. U P F 1-4-88 VIA W P F - Westville, Indiana

DOMESTIC DX DIGEST - EAST

William Hale

2160 Farm To Market Road, Johnson City, NY 13790

MEDIUM WAVE RAMBLINGS

■ Robert Kramer of Chicago checks in with some excellent mid-winter DX plus four Chicagoland stations' Silent Periods. Should be of interest to those in the area and others who look for such openings. They are in Special, below. Thanks Robert.

■ A big DDXD-E Welcome to new reporter Ralfe Luton of Elizabeth City, NC. A member since 1947, he checks in with some recent DX.

■ Kind of a small column this time. Course, anything is small compared to Issue 15's record-setter. With the cold weather reaching well into the south, the DX should be ripe for the picking. C U next week...

SPECIAL

- 580 WIND IL CHICAGO - SP is alternate PMs, 0100-0600 (RK-IL)
- 840 WHGH GA THOMASVILLE - 1/1 1830-41 new station hrd WUC format, lcl ads mentg Thomasville; CLs not hrd this time, but confirmed as WHGH per a subsequent reception @ 1300 on 1/3 WBLK/GOS format & call to stn; I spoke WQuirts Thomas, who sez WHGH has been on since 12/15; mailing address: POB 2218, Thomasville, GA 31789; Mr Thomas sez they are running 10 Kw; they can be hrd in daytime here on my South Beverage (KVJ-GA)
- 870 WTKN PA PITTSBURGH - 1/12 the ave has dropped, owners decided to drop tik for OLDies & change CLs back to WSN sometime early in Feb as you read this; CLD from the 50s & 60s on AM, CLD from the 80s & 70s on FM; simul on AM drive; reason: ratings decline for TRN (JM-PA)
- 1000 WJUP IL CHICAGO - SP is PM 0100-0600 (RK-IL)
- 1440 WZYX TN COVAIN - 12/31 2115 Franklin County's #1 R. Stn; umm here, but noted unusual s/off time (KVJ-GA)
- WSEL MS FULTON - 1/5 0853 & 1/8 2110 Wlcl ads, apparently is fulltime now; puts a fairly good signal up here, so must be @ least 500 watts (RK-IL)
- 1480 WFXW IL GENEVA - SP is nightly until 0600 (RK-IL)
- 1480 WFNA IL OAK PARK - SP is SM 0100-0500 or later (RK-IL)
- 1600 WNGA IL ZION - 1/8 1700 good WSS mx, SS & EE Ids; ex:WJUR (RK-IL)

EMERGENCY BROADCASTS

- 880 WHNC NC HENDERSON - 1/8 0831 v/good WLS Wnx & info from heavy snow that hit South & NE U.S.; operating WFederal Emergency & early 3on; The Rhythm of the City, C-89 (JM-PA)
- 1550 WSER MD ELKTON - 1/8 0604 strong WAC, snow nx, closings, etc & please don't call stn (mentioned to the public) (but OK for DXers, hi-WRH) (JM-PA)
- 1580 WCHD MD LA PLATA - 1/8 0600 good, fading in 9QXR Wsnow nx, NWS report, etc (JM-PA)

UNIDs & UNIDs ID

- 700 UNID ?? - 12/29 0600-0920 in FF, WvLW/WPNS (RL-NC) (Mebbe from the Caribbean or points South??-WRH)
- 840 UNID ?? - 1/6 1345-1400 FF Wmuch WNIS splash (RL-NC)
- 1080 UNID ?? - 1/2 1758 strong on South Beverage Wstrange-sounding FF language (possibly patois); several ads noted, incl one mentg Sunset Avenue; any ideas? possibly WVOG Wforeign language pgm?? (KVJ-GA)

TIME & INFORMATION STATIONS

- 529 TIS IL CHICAGO - 12/25 0719 v/weak WNOAA wx rebroadcast; apparently runs wx on weekends & holidays, & trfc info @ other times (RK-IL)

MIDNIGHT TO MIDDAY

- 580 WJLS WV BECKLEY - 1/11 0800 WCBS Nc, C&W mx (RL-NC)
- CFOS ON OWEN SOUND - 12/29 0653 good Wlcl ad,tamps in T & F, ID & CW mx (JM-PA)
- 580 WKSK NC WEST JEFFERSON - 12/29 0630+ v/good Wfades to WHP/WCHS; lcl ads, PSAs, CWI (modern!) mx; AP Speline; new, but not improved! (JM-PA)
- 680 KSKY TX BALCH SPRINGS - 1/11 0721 Christian Classics 66 k-SKY; due to time, I wonder if they were on their listed 500 watt PSA? good signal (KVJ-GA)
- 680 CBF PQ MONTREAL - 12/29 0800-0815 Wtlk (RL-NC)
- 830 WLND OH CORTLAND - 12/27 0750 tuned-ID, then gone (RK-IL)
- WHMI MI SHEPARD - 12/27 0800 fair in WCZE-820 slop Ws/on (RK-IL)
- CFJR ON BROCKVILLE - 1/4 0800 Wnx, wx (4 degrees) (RL-NC)
- WADU LA NORCO - 1/8 1115-1230 LA NET;Goldrush Radio; phone # 851-8238; v/good (RL-NC)
- 880 WYAT LA NEW ORLEANS - 12/28 0330 WOLD & full ID (RK-IL)
- KGTH TX WICHITA FALLS - 12/28 0136 fair WID; mixing WvNYR/WNOX/WYAT (RK-IL)
- 1070 CHOK ON SARNIA - 1/17 0820-22 female Wwx summary & 4cast; CLs>CHR, then fadeout back into mess (WRH-NY)
- 1200 WAYD AL OZARK - 1/3 0745 i/o WWOAI Ws/on (RK-IL)
- 1340 WTIF GA TIFTON - 12/22 end news 0708, Shoney's/WTIF Birthday Club Show; much wanted here (KVJ-GA)
- WTYS FL MARIANNA - 12/22 0700-40 mixing WWTIF @ times, WWTYS Morning Magazine show; CBS Nc/Spa, birthday show (KVJ-GA)

- 1380 WOGL FL JACKSONVILLE - 12/27 0600 fair Ws/on (RK-IL)
- WGNW GA LAWRENCEVILLE - 12/27 0600 fair Ws/on, no SSB; right > WOGL (RK-IL)
- 1440 WAJR WV MORGANTOWN - 1/5 1045-1100 WYear In Review (RL-NC)
- 1480 KLED KS WICHITA - 1/10 0108 Music Of Your Life format, Wpromo for Sunshine Express trip to Phoenix, AZ;A1 Nc (KVJ-GA)
- 1480 WMRN OH MARIION - 12/20 0800 on top WID & Nc (KDF-IL)
- WFXY KY MIDDLESBORO - 12/27 0400 fair in mess Wfull ID (RK-IL)
- 1550 WNTN MA NEWTON - 12/29 0700 strong WSSB, Ws/on mentg power, owners, location, wx advisoryWsubstituting DJ (JM-PA)
- 1570 CFOR ON ORILLA - 1/16 0608-10 deep in mess, then quick fade in for something like CFOR-Your all gold stn, the music being brought to you by (sponsor list)> a quicker fadeout; xint while there; new (WRH-NY)

MIDDAY TO MIDNIGHT

- 540 WACS PA CANONSBURG - 12/31 1755 Wnx, CLA mx (RL-NC)
- 840 WCRV TN COLLIERSVILLE - 12/31 1731 noted Wgood signal, ID & CBN Net Nc (KDF-IL)
- 700 WPNS MA ATHOL - 1/6 1430 no details (RL-NC)
- 830 WLND OH CORTLAND - 1/8 1230 Wwx (20 degrees); mentg Treasure Chest (RL-NC)
- WADU LA NORCO - 1/8 1830 weak WKBOA Wnx, ID WADU-830-AM (KVJ-GA)
- 850 WPF2 TN FAIRVIEW - 1/5 1802 Wnx, dual-city ID: Fairview-Franklin (KVJ-GA)
- 880 WQIS MS LAUREL-HATTIESBURG - 1/7 1815 WAM 890 (RL-NC)
- 980 WAPF MS MC COMB - 1/2 1906 WvCNN Nc, Jazz pgm (KVJ-GA)
- 1080 WSSI MS CARTHAGE - 12/21 1635 Central MS's WSSI, AC Mx, lcl ads (KVJ-GA)
- WVOG FL CORAL GABLES - 12/21 1705 The All-New WVOG, Money Line tik pgm, ad for jeweler advertising \$10,000 Rolex watches for only \$695 (KVJ-GA)
- WFIV FL KISSIMMEE - 1/2 1740 s/off > C&W mx, incl complete studio/XR link info (KVJ-GA)
- 1080 WKII FL PORT CHARLOTTE - 1/2 1751 Stardust NOS format, IDs as W-K-Eleven; 1800 s/off ments studios/offices/XR in Punta Gorda and 0715 s/on time (KVJ-GA)
- 1100 KXLL MO WEBB CITY - 12/20 1744 GOS/Christmas mx, promo for REL pgm (KVJ-GA)
- 1130 WBBF FL BARTOW - 12/21 1718 end of lcl nx, Alan Archer Wx (isn't he one of the Accu-Wx crew?-WRH), pgm Insights & Outrages Wstn prez Tom Thornburg (KVJ-GA)
- 1180 KGOL TX HUMBLE - 12/17 1820 fair in linenoise Wadd, promo (RK-IL)
- 1200 KYOO MO BOLIVAR - 12/20 1800 good WWOAI WC&W mx, Bolivar-SpringfieldIDs, lcl ads, SNN Nc (KDF-IL)
- 1230 WCHA MS CORINTH - 1/5 2300 fair in mess WID (RK-IL)
- 1280 KTTS MO SPRINGFIELD - 1/2 1840 C&W mx, Radio Ranch slogan; is this CL change, or a facility swap WKBGF? (KVJ-GA)
- 1320 WAGG AL BIRMINGHAM - 1/5 1852 good WREL call-in contest (RK-IL)
- 1340 WDME ME DOVER-FOXCROFT - 1/4 1708-13 w/spa, wx, ID & ad cluster; dominant stn on frequency; 1st time hrd (RUGG)
- 1350 KTXJ TX JASPER - 1/9 1827-30 WC&W mx>Woff; ment of ...your entertainment spot, endsWSSB (KVJ-GA)
- 1370 WOCA FL OCALA - 1/10 1830 Soft-Rock format (KVJ-GA)
- 1400 WCLB GA CAMILLA - 1/2 2145 C&W, 1400-WCLB, femme anncr; believe 1st time hrd here since switch from 1220 (KVJ-GA)
- 1410 WQVQ FL LEESBURG - 1/7 1830 WOLDies>nx; slogan:from Orlando to Ocala, you're listening to 1410-WQVQ Leesburg (KVJ-GA)
- 1420 WOOJ PA COATSVILLE - 12/29 1828 WCOJ ID (RL-NC)
- WDBF FL DEL RAY BEACH - 1/8 1834 NOSTalgia format, ad for Del Ray Car Wash, promo for Marvin Herman Financial Update pgm, ment of CBS net (KVJ-GA)
- 1430 KNSPT MN STAPLES - 12/30 1818 tent WvIRE Wlcl community anncs & ads for Staples & Todd Cnty; no ID hrd (KDF-IL)
- WGFS GA COVINGTON - 1/5 1847 WHS BKB, ID, lclads (RK-IL)
- 1440 WRRO OH WARREN - 1/11 1552 no details (RL-NC)
- WREY NJ MILLVILLE - 12/29 1810 WC&W mx, sports (RL-NC)
- 1540 WPXZ PA PUNXSUTAWNEY - 12/29 1845 WC&W mx, sports (RL-NC)
- 1580 WINV FL INVERNESS - 1/9 1705 WNBC Nc>OLDies (KVJ-GA)

THE SUPER SIX REPORTERS + ONE:

- RUGG Andy Rugg//Nuna Island,PQ//R-360A + 120 ' LW
- KDF-IL Karl Forth//Chicago, IL//HQ-180, IC-R70 + Spiral Loop
- KVJ-GA Karl Jeter//Stone Mountain, GA//W-150, east beverages, incl the recently revived FL Pipeline
- RK-IL Robert Kramer//F-1000, W-1201 + F. West Loop, Electronics Signal Enhancer Peak Notch Filter
- RL-NC Ralfe Luton//Elizabeth City, NC//SP800 + Big Loop
- JM-PA John Malicky//Pittsburgh (don't drink the water), PA//Superadio .73,
- WRH-NY Bill Hale//Johnson City, NY//Ailing Superadio

SOME ABBREVIATIONS & SPECIAL SYMBOLS USED IN DDXD-E

TT: test tones OC:open carrier TC:time check QM:interference QN:location SID:staging ID CID:code ID jr:jingle lcl:local lgl:legal
 ex:mx: news v:viewer w:weather sp:sports HS:high school FB:football B:baseball BB:baseball HT:hockey >:after <:before
 =:equal with or equal to |:parallel with \$:over/under \$:over/under W:with V:very :O: on the hour :to or into
 SS:Spanish FF:French EE:English POL:political GSG:goepl REL:religion or religious BBD:big band OLD:oldies ROK:rock 'n' roll
 EZL:easy listening CW:country & western AC:adult contemporary UC:urban contemporary tik:talk Cont:Contemporary Christian
 CHR:contemporary hit radio AP:Associated Press Radio WPI:United Press International BBS:Metel Broadcasting System HBR:Motor Racing Net
 USW:United States Radio Net MCM:Music Country Radio WBC:Star Spangled Banner LK:Larry King BW:Bruce Williams PH:Paul Harvey
 s/on:sign on s/off:sign off SR:sunrise SCS:sunrise skip SS:sunset SSS:sunset skip LSS:local sunset

Nancy Hardy, 2301 Pacific Avenue, Aberdeen, WA 98520

where is everyone this week??? If you live in the Mountain or Pacific time zones this is where to send your catches. Help someone else hear what you log!

SPECIAL

1390 KMDK CO DENVER - Per phone call to station, will begin broadcasting on Jan. 25 with Health Talk format. Mostly phone-in shows, also syndicated features from Mutual & other nets. Hours will be 6am-6pm (0800-2000ELT) with 500w. Ex-KPPL. (ØW-CO)

MIDDAY TO MIDNIGHT

- 730 UNID ?? ??? - UnID Spanish eves around 1800-1900, IDs as "Radio Mexicana." Loops E-w. Maybe KSVN finally changed calls to KXEQ? Rough in QRM; heard "UPI Radio Noticias" at 1855 one eve. (ØW-CO)
930 ???? ?? ??? - UnID is Spanish 1/7 1903. Ranchera music, woman DJ with dedications, requests. Poor in QRM. Looped N-S. Suspect U.S. rather than Mexican. KCCC?? (ØW-CO) (Maybe the new KRIA-TX?--NH)
1590 KMTI UT MANTI - 12/31 1808 program note for "Saturday Nite Gold," local ads. Good with KXY-1600 splatter partially nulled. (ØW-CO)

MIDNIGHT TO MIDDAY

- 580 CKY MB WINNIPEG - 1/4 0318 good in QRM with modern version of "California Dreamin'"; woman DJ with weather ("high of minus 26...") more pop music. Not too common here. (ØW-CO)
780 WJAG NE NORFOLK - 12/24 0906 area weather, ads, "News Watch AM." Poor with fades, WBBM/KROW/KAZM QRM. New, NE #34. (ØW-CO)
1330 CJYM SK ROSETOWN 12/31 0000 Broadcast News, then "Coast to Coast" syndicated pop music program. Good on peaks, long fades. New, SK #18. (ØW-CO)
1340 KTOQ SD RAPID CITY - 1/5 0255 Music Country Net; 0300 ID & NBC News. Fair over QRM with local KDEN off (usual MM SP). (ØW-CO)

REPORTER

ØW-CO/John Wilkins, Wheat Ridge, CO/R1000, R390A, 4* loop

Chuck Hutton, 1237 Lanier Blvd., Atlanta, GA 30306

404-873-2785. BEFORE 2300 ELT

Times are GMT For ELT subtract 5 hours. Deadline: Monday

The Renfrew Cuban list....

- Rebelde 550, 600, 670, 680, 690, 710, 5025
Reloj 590, 700
Progreso 640, 660, 690

Jim notes the contrast between this list and the recent list that ran in DX News. To this I add that the Cubans have a long standing habit of using one net to fill in for another on an individual station. This sometimes is only a late night thing (Reloj on a regional Cadena Agramonte or somesuch), sometimes is full time for a day or so, and then there are the times when suddenly a station totally switches networks for ever and ever until the next switch. This stuff happens fairly often. End result is that if you suddenly hear a new network on a frequency, its probably the same old transmitter - Chuck

- 640 CUBA CMBC Guanabacoa presumed 1/16 0007 in SS with news by man mention of R. Rebelde which surprised me as I believe CMBC is R. Progreso, brief instrumental mx, then into more talk with male and female commentators and mentions of Habana. There was another SS under them ID'ing as R. Nacional - possibly Guatemala although I heard them mention Venezuela. (Sorensen) Guatemala is the only Nacional that I'm aware of - Chuck
650 DOMINICAN REPUBLIC "El Universal, 92 FM and 65 AM, 24 horas" and mentions of Santo Domingo, 0100 1/19. Last heard 1983. (Renfrew)
660 HONDURAS HRN rose up from under R. Progreso with "HRN" repeated twice slowly 0330 1/17. Faded out almost immediately. Not bad for 1 kW. (Renfrew)
680 CUBA R. Rebelde heard with sports broadcast 0350 1/17 u/WPTF. Weak, but parallel to other outlets. (Renfrew)
700 COLOMBIA R. Sutatenza heard shortly after s/on 0910 1/15. Very weak, better on 810, xlt on S 5095. Its great to have solar/magnetic conditions that almost gets me to the equator! (Renfrew)
700 CUBA R. Reloj heard with voice and code ID's at 0750 1/17 u/WLW. No idea where this is from. WRTH shows Rebelde in Guantanamo. (Renfrew) Your guess is absolutely 100% just as good as mine or anybody else....Chuck
700 VENEZUELA "Radio Popular, el sonido nacional" heard with lottery ads 0120 1/19. (Renfrew)
705 ST. VINCENT unusually good audio for this one noted 0148 1/16 with man introducing program "UN at work in the Caribbean". Unneeded, tuned out 0150. (Moore)
730 MEXICO XEX heard with full ID 0400 1/15. At times surpassing CKAC with SS music and talk. (Renfrew)
730.5 UNID LA distorted, strong signal with man in SS 1/16 0145. Didn't wait for ID. (Moore)
760 MEXICO XENY Nogales, Sonora 1/3 1203 XE anthem, s/on anct then pgm "Domingo Romantico" (romantic songs). Gave addr as Av. Obregon 38 altos in Nogales. Very good on peaks w/WJR deteriorating. New, XE #75 for me. Ex 1270. (Wilkins)
770 COLOMBIA R. Cadena Nacional heard with sports u/WABC 0405 1/17. Is this the same stn as R. Tequendama which I've heard before or something new? (Renfrew) WRTH says HJKH is RCN so this is the same old stn - Chuck
780 VENEZUELA Ecos del Torbes heard with half hour of news progrms // 4980 SW 0130 1/19. (Renfrew)
790 MEXICO XERPC Chihuahua, hihuahua 12/16 0230 MoR SS pops, 0233 ID "Estas XERPC, R. Ranchito, 790 KHz, 5000 watts de potencia, 1000 watts .. (probably night power) ...", then local PSA. O/u QRM. (Wilkins)
800 NETHERLANDS ANTILLES Bonaire PJB 12/20 0400 good with instrumental mx then man wished listeners "a blessed holiday season from Trans World Radio, Bonaire". CKLW nulled. (Sorensen)
825 ST. KITTS R. Paradise, Basseterre 12/26 0300 fair in EE w/program annc'ts by man into carol "The First Noel". Noted again 0357 in SS with man talking about Bible, mention of San Juan, Puerto Rico, brief instrumental x, back into EE at 0400 with prayer and more Christian religious programming. ID if any not heard. This one is no longer audible at my Milton QTH because of local CHAM 820. (Sorensen)
825 ST. KITTS R. Paradise xlt with English preacher 0110 1/17. (Renfrew)
850 COLOMBIA Caracol Bogota heard through the mess with a few ID's 0245 1/17. Heard the whistle soud that I remember hearing on R. Centro - 1030 Mexico City. Parallel with 4945 SW, which wasn't much better. (Renfrew)

TOWER TIP IA-2 KXEL - 1540 50,000 WATTS WATERLOO, IA
WATERLOO (≈22 MILES)
IA-2
IA-8 KXEL-1540* IA-8
Dysart Iowa
WHAT TO LOOK FOR: Two modest height towers in a N-S alignment just north of Dysart, Iowa on Iowa Route 21.
CONTRIBUTED BY: Doug Beard, Springville, IA
Send information about a.m. broadcast towers in your area to John D. Bowker, 14 Canoe Brook Drive, Princeton Jct., NJ 08550.

Tony Fitzherbert, 356 Jackman Avenue, Fairfield, CT 06430

STATION PROFILE - WTSJ - 1050, Cincinnati's Christian Connection

- 900 MEXICO EW heard with full ID 0500 1/15 as "Equis Eh Doble 00, La Voz de la America Latina". Chime tones, frequency, address, local time 11 PM. "Buenos Noches, Buenos Dias" program followed. XInt over CHML and WEAS. (Renfrew)
- 940 MEXICO XEQ Mexico City 1/15 0259 good in SS with ID mentioning call letters and District Federal - also said "Esta es ... (missed last word)". Usual CBM missing as a result of auroral conditions. (Sorensen)
- 940t MEXICO XEUV Mexicali 1/8 0200-0755 six hours of monitoring and not once did they use call letters, just "Onda 94" slogans after each song. Used to be the XE stns had to give legal ID's on the hour and half hour. Many Mexicali ads, TC's in PST, finally s/off at 075 w/XE anthem. Fair on peaks, but long fades and K10A GRM. (Wilkins)
- 1060 MEXICO R. Educacion EP heard with nice Jazz program featuring music of Stephane Grappelli. Complete ID heard at 0840 and 0900 1/17. Good signal all evening, but at this time KYW was only transmitting an open carrier. Another unid SS was underneath. (Renfrew)
- 1100 COLOMBIA Radio Noticias Caracol Bucaramanga heard with all news format 0650-0710 1/15. I think this is listed as Socorro in WRTH (next city down the road from Bucaramanga?) Ideas? (Renfrew) Not knowing where Socorro is, I'd think this would be either Relej in Bogota or Tropical in Barranquilla, both of which are more common than Bucaramanga - Chuck
- 1160 BERMUDA USB3 quite good at times with cyclical fading 2227-2300 1/2 w/pop mx format and ads. Lady ID'ed 2300 as "1160 AM USB3". AAlso noted briefly on car radio 0040-0047 1/4 w/similar format. (Rugg)
- 1140 CUBA R. Taino heard with s/on and NA 1200 1/2 through the mess while in Raleigh NC. (Renfrew)
- 1260 MEXICO XEOG jinaga, Chihuahua 12/23 0241 ranchers mx, Radio Ranchito slogans, ad for local doctor. Strong on peaks, o/u KVSF. (Wilkins)
- 1386 USSR Kaliningrad noted 0245 1/16 with opera, soprano vocal, again at 0352 man and woman in EE. Hope everybody realizes this is a separate country per most country lists. (Moore) Ray points out that I usually list everything as USSR - hope this doesn't cause confusion that I use layman type designations instead of the possibly more useful ARRL designations - Chuck
- 1413 UNID AA music and chanting 1/16 0248 and 0406. I'd guess Yugoslavia which is not what I'm looking for on this channel. (Moore) Yeh, they fool everybody who then think they heard Oman - Chuck
- 1475 UNID African noted 2210 1/14 with weak audio. At one time both Benin (1475.1) and Congo were on this old freq. WRTH lists only Congo here but they always did even when Benin was known to be here. Anyone know true current status? Other Africans noted on old freqs same evening on 1502 and 1349 KHz, should make that African carriers. (Moore)
- 1512 BELGIUM BRT heard at poor level 2202-2208 1/4 w/EE nx. (Rugg)
- 1539 WEST GERMANY Mainflingen strong 0307-0319 1/16 with great polkas and later 0333 woman in GG. Nice tape for file. (Moore)
- 1555 CAYMAN ISLANDS R. Cayman 12/2 0256 fair with oldie "Unchained Melody", possible ID into world news in EE at 0300. Also noted 0327 - 0333 with instrumental mx. (Sorensen)
- 1570 TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS Atlantic Beacon 1/15 0400 poor with partial ID mentioning British West Indies, into EE religious program with female giving mailing address ending in "55953 USA". Also noted 1/15 at 2355 fair mixed with CFOR/CHLO in EE with "Faith Radio Seminar" with Caribbean accented preacher giving mailing address in Nassau, Bahamas. ID 0000 "This is the Atlantic Beacon from The Turks and Caicos Islands, British West Indies". A new country for me on MW after trying for them for a year or so. (Sorensen)
- 1580 ANTIGUA VOA 1/16 0002 fair in EE with news by male announcer, report on Iraq - Iran war with reporter from VOA news, Cairo. Auroral conditions completely eliminated usual CBJ. (Sorensen)
- 1593 WEST GERMANY Langenberg heard at poor level 1/4 w/man talking in GG 0603 and later with orchestra 0623. Also noted same day at fair level w/man talking in GG 2201, heard easily on R390A at 4 KHz setting without any need for filtering. (Rugg)
- 1611 VATICAN booming in 1/16 with man in Slavic lang. 0329 IS per WRTH repeated 3 times. 0330 man "Laudetur Jesus Christus...Radio Vaticano". (Moore)

| | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| Ray Moore - Walpole, MA | homebrew |
| Jim Renfrew - Rochester, NY | HQ150, SM1 |
| Andy Rugg - Nun's Island, Quebec | R390A, LW |
| Morris Sorensen - Milton, ONT | ????????????? |
| John Wilkins - Wheat Ridge, CO | ????????????? |

THE CHRISTIAN CONNECTION

Adult contemporary Christian programming - is the format of WTSJ - 1050, Cincinnati's only Christian AM station - a welcome companion in many Queen City homes, as thousands of listeners tune to their favorite ministries or Christian music.



WTSJ began in 1947 with the catchy call WZIP. A 1000 watt daytimer, it offered a middle of the road music format - which never really caught on, as the station was overshadowed by the stronger full time competition. Country music was phased in in the late 1960's, and in an effort to realize significant impact in its market, Christian programming was added in the late 1970's. The station simulcasted with WZIP-FM, 92.5 which was later sold.

WZIP was bought by Jacor Communications, who presently owns local powerhouse WLW-700 and WEBN - FM. Jacor Communications sold WZIP to Terry Jacobs, who established as the primary business objective to professionalize the Christian radio image. In 1981, Mr. Jacobs applied for more appropriate call letters, WTSJ, standing for The Sound of Joy.

WZIP began operations in a small complex in the Gwynne Building in downtown Cincinnati. It inhabited this suite until April, 1987, when the station received permission from the FCC for unlimited hours of operation. This required more staff and more room. Additionally, space for the studio and offices was expensive, so the station moved to a new, modern office condominium at 800 Compton Road in the northern suburb of Finneytown.

WZIP's transmitter, feeding a 225 foot self supported tower, was located in Covington, KY., about 2 miles from downtown Cincinnati. The tower, in a playground adjacent to Interstate 75, is used today, and the transmitter building, housing the station's Harris 2500 watt transmitter, with new CRL Audio System, is located under the tower. This tower was almost demolished in a tornado in 1986. The twister did damage the station's signs on the tower. The tower is in a bowl, and I-75 was built over the ground system, which hurts the quality of the groundwave.

The new studio facility houses two production studios, a control room, and offices and meeting space. It is a bright, roomy, and cheerful arrangement, opening up onto woods and a grassy field in the back.

WTSJ broadcasts a delightful blend of contemporary Christian music in the afternoon, and through the night seven days a week. Petra, Amy Grant, Bill Gaither, and Sandi Patti are but a few of the artists on the WTSJ playlist. On Saturdays, "Cincinnati's Christian Connection" airs Christian rock, on a show called "Beacon", popular with the area's teens.

WTSJ has added extensive local sports coverage, by hiring Sports Director Gary Ball, who, with Randy Wilson and ex-Cincinnati Bengel Anthony Munoz, presents accounts of local high school football and basketball, and the trio will also broadcast live play-by-play from school games. For the thousands of alumni in metropolitan Cincinnati, WTSJ carries University of Kentucky football.

Three full time D.J.'s and five part timers tend the board. One of these is Mike Horn, National Radio Club member, who works nightly from 10PM to 6AM. Mike is blind - yet his impairment has not hurt his ability to run the board. He uses a braille tabler, to label the carts and albums. Mike has learned every switch on the board, and knows it by heart. Mike loves radio, and is willing to come in early to braille his copy and the weather forecast, and to line up his records and programs.

Mike's boss, Operations Manager Chris Roberts, is pleased with Mike's performance. For eight hours, Mike is responsible for the board, and he is expected to do everything that the other announcers do. And he does it; his listeners do not realize that he is sightless. Mike's determination proves that anyone can do anything, if they try hard enough.

When Christian music is not aired, teaching programs carry the Lord's Word. The most popular program is Dr. Jim Dobson's "Focus on the Family", followed by Chuck Swindal's "Insight for Living". In the afternoon, a satellite-fed call in talk show is heard. CNN news is broadcast on the hour.

On September 1, 1986, WTSJ went fulltime with 278 watts at night. An application for 500 watts was returned by the FCC.

WTSJ is a delightful, stimulating contemporary Christian station, staffed by committed Christians who have successfully brought high quality Christian radio to Cincinnati.



AM 1050

CINCINNATI'S CHRISTIAN CONNECTION



The editor is very grateful to Chris Roberts, WTSJ Operations Manager/Program Director, who is a former DX'er who enjoys "Talking Radio for hours!". Chris commented that he has received reports from Indiana, Michigan, and Columbus, Ohio. He notes that CHUM predominated in Cincinnati after sunset when WTSJ signed off the air, before his station went full time. Chris, a true friend of the NRC, wants reception reports, which are to be sent to him at Unit 33, 800 Compton Road, Cincinnati, OH 45231. We thank Chris for all of his help and interest.

[HQ NOTE: We received this article from John in the fall of last year and had temporary 'lost' it (buried under a bunch of 'to be filed' stuffs. We have since recovered it and would like to run it now. Some of the stations have changed since this was written however the main theme of his article is still quite intact.]

Several months ago, you might have read an article I wrote called "AMazing Wisconsin". That article contained a lot of information on AM Radio stations throughout the Dairy State. Of course, the catch was after you read the several pages and got to the second last paragraph, you found out that the "trip" was taken at home! I just turned on the radio, and more or less hit the dials and mentioned what I could about stations I could hear in Wisconsin.

Well, this article is different! I did actually hop in the car and GO! When the forecast is for 45 degrees (fahrenheit) on March 4th, and the sun is shining in this part of the world, and I have a day off from work, I'm going somewhere! The four walls drive you up a wall all winter! Of course this winter in Southeast Wisconsin has been BEAUTIFUL! Hardly any snow, but mild temperatures, sun shining, and I'm ready now to go out and mow the lawn-hi! We have had lousy winters, but this is not one of them!

At 8:15am I hopped into my 1977 Pontiac Sunbird. The odometer read 70842. A quick stop at McDonalds for a few Sausage McMuffins with Egg and a soda. Well, naturally "pull ahead and your food will be ready in a few minutes" was what I heard. You kind of get used to this. As usual, the soda had ice in it, after I requested no ice, but I wanted to GO! The gas tank was 3/4 and as a taxpayer, property owner, etc., I was going around the State of Wisconsin just to see what was going on-hi!

The trip would go I-94 from Milwaukee to Madison, then I-90/94 Madison to Tomah, I-90 to LaCrosse, Minnesota 61 to Wabasha to Minnesota 60, back into Wisconsin on Hwy. 25 to Durand on Hwy. 85 to Eau Claire, and back to Milwaukee via I-94. Usually, I like to take US 10 from Osseo, off of I-94 to Appleton, and down US 41, but there were time restraints! I really don't mean to sound like the state tourism director, because I'm not! I am a bus driver and drive for Milwaukee County Transit. If you ever are in Milwaukee and see a bus going 60MPH in a 30MPH zone, guess who is driving! There is something to having 10-14 tons under your feet-hi! But, back to an earlier thought, Wisconsin, Minnesota and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan are nothing less than spectacular for views. Twisting roads, hills, lakes, and much more abound! I've been to 26 states in my 34 years, and there is a reason this is called "Gods Country!"

Leaving Milwaukee, I knew when I would get back later that night something would be different. 1250 WEMP Milwaukee had a mass firing and all jocks were fired except AM drive jock John Gardner. The station would dump its live and profitable oldies format in favor of the Oldie Channel from Transtar! The Beer City AM radio band is rapidly changing for the worse. Since the AMazing Wisconsin article there have been more changes. 1250 WEMP Milwaukee is Satellite oldies, 1290 WMVP Greenfield-Milwaukee is still Satellite "Heart & Sout" for the time being, 1340 WLZR Milwaukee (formerly WBCS) within the past month switched format from country to album rock. The station bills itself as "Laser 103." So, the Milwaukee AM bank is much different than only a few years ago, or even weeks ago. And more changes will occur as 1590 WAWA West Allis moves to 1200 kHz, and 1290 WMVP under new owners will drop the "Heart & Soul" format. They are under contract until September with this. 920 WOKY Milwaukee also, in the past two months, has dropped all of the newer AdCon songs and gone to a more NOStalgia sound. The ratings dipped. The other Milwaukee stations are basically the same. 620 WTMJ heavy on talk and personality, 1130 WISN Milwaukee is talk mid-days, and at night, with AdCon music in other segments. 860 WNOV Milwaukee is still black, but black gospel in the morning.

At this point a quick look at the Milwaukee AM dial is in order, if only to look back in a few years and see where the stations were in March 1987. 540 WYLO Jackson/Milwaukee is ETHnic/GOS/REL. All time brokered. Sign off: midnight, local. 620 WTMJ talk/AdCon, sports, 860 WNOV black. Sign off: Midnight, local with super low power from SSS to Midnight. 920 WOKY is NOStalgia, 1130 WISN AdCon/talk, 1250 WEMP (satellite) oldies, 1290 WMVP (satellite) black AdCon, 1340 WLZR FM simulcast AoR, 1510 WAUK Waukesha/Milwaukee is country. Still a daytimer, 1590 WAWA West Allis/Milwaukee is black with GOS mid-days. Daytimer with a CP for 1200 kHz.

A quick look above leaves one with NO LOCAL AM ORIENTED PROGRAMMING on 1250, 1290, 1340 (except 1250 in AM drive) at all! 1510 and 1590 sign

(12) off! This at night all you have is 540 REL, 620 TALK, 860 BLACK and signal problems, 920 NOS, and 1130 local TALK and Larry King. 620 is Talknet after 9 p.m.

Considering only in 1970, 1340 WRIT and 920 WOKY were fighting for the number ONE position! FM was only a thing of the future.

Milwaukee FM right now is 93.3 WQFM AOR, 94.5 WTKI Top 40, 95.7 WBGK Soft AOR, Jazz, folk...."Ecclectic rock", 96.56 WKLH Classic Hits, 97.3 WLTO Light AdCon, 98.3 WFMR Classical, 99.1 WMYX AdCon, 100.7 WRKR Top 40, 102.1 WLUM Black, 102.9 WLZR-FM AOR, 103.7 WEZW, 106.1 WMIL Country, 107.7 WJCY Religion.

95.7 WBGK will switch to a high personality format by June under new owners, 102.9 just switched to AOR from country under new owners, 1250 WEMP just went satellite oldies under new owners. As I said earlier WMVP will die come September. WMVP is WBGK's AM outlet.

A little commentary and then we will continue on this trip I began talking about 50 paragraphs ago. 1250/99.1, 1290/95.7, and 102.9/1340 basically had the same owners for YEARS. Deregulation has ended any sense of service, community loyalty, etc. 96.5 WMGF was owned for 9 months and sold to become WKLH 95.7/1290 were just bought in June 1985. After 18 months, the station is already being sold. And naturally every new owner comes in with their "HOT" ideas, "research," etc and switches calls, formats, fires all personnel, and brings in the bird (satellite). The sad thing is you really can't build station loyalty if formats are being switched every other week. Its no wonder 620 WTMJ, 103.7 WEZW, 94.5 WTKI, 920 WOKY, and 93 WQFM are highly rated! Each has had its respective format for YEARS and DECADES in cases! A little fine tuning can be done to a stations format to make it work, and stay profitable. Besides it seems quite apparent that the new breed of station owners just want to take the money and run anyway. So there-hi!

Please remember, before we go on this trip, that these are really only "thumbnail sketches" of the radio stations mentioned. Also, quite obviously, when one is driving at 60 MPH and twisting dials for basically a 13 hour car ride, several stations can and will be missed. I'm only human gang!

Leaving Milwaukee, westbound on I-94 then, 1580 WTTN Watertown had a long newsblock at 9 am. However, one of the funny things about WTTN was the news reports. All reports were by John Reddy, and it was funny to hear "John Reddy reporting in from Oconomowoc", "John Reddy in Ft. Atkinson," "John Reddy in Waupum." Quite obviously, this guy read these "reports" out of the morning paper, but to have one "reporter" in 6 different cities sounded funny anyway! WTTN plays AdCon, with polkas on Saturday morning. "The Hometown Station" and "AM 1580" are slogans used quite often. The station is 24 hours, simulcasting 94.1 WMLW Watertown-Oconomowoc is AdCon, and calls itself "mellow 94."

1480-WTDY Madison had quite a bit of talk on the air when I noted them at 9:30am. This station musically is still AdCon, but airs many news and talk segments. "Today Radio" is bland. 1550-WHIT Madison played at least 5 in a row without talking. Oldies formatted and non-personality. 1070-WTSO Madison is country while 1310-WIBA Madison is AdCon. 970-WHA Madison is talk all day long. Public Radio.

The FM Side in Madison had 92.1-WMAD-FM Sun Prairie-Madison playing "classic hits". This station has had many formats over the years. It should be noted that it is competing with at least 5 50,000 watt FMs! WMAD-FM is only 3000 watts! 94.9-WILV Baraboo-Madison is BFL. This station too, has had more than a few call and format changes in recent memory. 98.1-WMGN Madison is AdCon and bills itself as "Magic 98 FM". 101.5-WIBA-FM Madison is AOR. 102.5-WNWC is religious. 104.1-WZEE Madison is Top40. "2104" plays 10 in a row every hour. 106.1-WQMM-Middleton-Madison "Q106" is continuous country, 4 in a row, no talking, etc., vs WTSO which is heavy on personality and rated number 1. The latest entry into the Madison market is 96.7 WSEY Sauk City -Madison using the Transtar 41 format of soft AdCon geared heavily toward women. They have jazz nightly at 8pm. Why--I don't know. "Sunny" radio.

1190-WMAD AM Sun Prairie-Madison is MYL, and I must admit, had very good sounding, mature announcers. Jingles abounded. 1240-WIBU Poynette was once a player in the Madison market. In the middle 70s when NBC had their News and Information service, WIBU had billboards all over town. They also went to a high energy Top40 around 1980, only to drop that a year later. The Top40 audience was already on FM. The current format is a very local, small townish AdCon, with polkas played at night. WIBU signs off nightly at 10pm! They were once the AM outlet to the very successful "Love Stereo" 94.9-Baraboo. I'll never know why they sold the 50000 watt FM and kept the 1000 watt local channel AM!

Earlier I was speaking about billboards, and I only saw two when in Madison. WNWC promoting their morning show, and 107.3-WSJY Fort Atkinson-Janesville-Madison with their "Joy 107" billboards promoting their beautiful music. That station has been beautiful even in 1967 when

(13) I began DX'ing. It was known then as WFAW-FM. The station has a Big Band show Sunday mornings.

One more tiny bit of trivia. WIBU signed on the air in 1925, and used a windmill until 1948 or so for generating power! The calls WIBU stand for Wind Is Being Used!

940-WFAW Fort Atkinson has a lot of very local programming. ABC information news. Format is AdCon with many oldies. 990-WNNO Wisconsin Dells is country, with not much personality. In listening to this for over 15 minutes I never heard any IDs, slogans and talking at all! What a way to get ratings. Don't tell anyone who you are!

If I can add something here, I'd like to. The drive from Milwaukee to Madison is a straight shot west. However, leaving Madison and through the rest of Wisconsin, the hills, rivers, and rock formations abound. Radio is nice, but also the beautiful scenery is mind boggling! The fresh air, clean skies, and the ability to take this all in!

740-WRPQ Baraboo is satellite AdCon, having gone so just earlier this year. Quite disappointing, but possibly the farming money and small town businesses don't generate enough money for a staff. Somehow, I don't believe that. WRPQ in recent months sounded quite good. Small town radio doesn't mean it has to sound small townish!

107.1-WNNO-FM Wisconsin Dells is verry, very bland in approach with "FM 107" IDs, and Top40 format. Although this one could cross the AOR line. Along the road, I also locked into 107.9-WYCO Wausau. This station has only been on the air since 1985. Transtar AdCon is used. However, there was a promo for "Super Gold" nightly 7-12M. I think this could be a sign that while satellite programming saves you some money, local programming is desirable. Hopeful, WYCO will add more local programming, and dump the bird!

Some other stations noted in brief description. 106.7-WLJY Marshfield is BFL. 104.9-WNFM Reedsburg was taped country, with ABC information news. 103.3-WJRW Wisconsin Rapids is still taped AdCon. 102.3-WVRQ-FM Viroqua was taped country. 1400-WROB Reedsburg was AdCon, while 1320-WFHR Wisconsin Rapids seemed older AdCon. 1370-WCCN Neillsville is really small town country at its best! The station is simulcast with 107.5, and that is still in MONO. 104.7-WAXX Eau Claire is country radio at its best! I hate country but I like "wax"! There is something about this station. Whether the nigh news commitments, actual personalities, or playing the record that #39, and not sticking to the Top10 songs over and over, there is "hometown" and not "hokey" radio. Some of the best, and I do mean best country stations I have ever heard are 107.5-WCCN FM/AM Neillsville, WI, 104.7 WAXX Eau Claire, WI, and 92.3 WJPD FM/AM Ishpeming-Marquette, MI. These stations don't really dabble in over-research and so many other things that make major market radio rather bland. They also, in all honesty, have the powerful signals to back up what they do! Where do you let an elephant walk? Anywhere he wants to! So it is with a 50 or 100 Kw FM signal, as opposed to a 1kw AM or 3kw FM signal. True?

97.9-WSPT Stevens Point sounded terrible! This Top40 outlet had way, way, way too much personality. This station in the past was one of the slickest, tightest Top40 outlets anywhere! The call letters being said first, shotgun jingles, and cue-cards have given way to something that, quite simply, sounds like some type of format thrown together by someone who knows nothing about how GOOD radio can sound! WSPT was easily, far and away the WORST sounding FM outlet in Wisconsin!

97.1 & 1290 WCOV FM/AM Sparta are simulcast country. "Cow Country" ranks as another good small town radio station. Remember, Wisconsin is the dairy state, thus the cow references. 95.5-WIFC Wausau sounded somewhat subdued, but still ok. Call letters were said first out of the records and jingles were played out of each stop-set (commercials). This Top40 outlet has been Top40 since 1970! And the station still sounds good. It really was, to my knowledge, Wisconsin's original FM Top40 station! There were others on FM, but hey simulcasted the AM station. WIFC stood out back then. This station has a heritage!

I'm now nearing in on LaCrosse, so some Minnesota stations will creep in here. "K-G-95" is 95.3 KAGE-FM Winona. The station is live AdCon. Instead of "cage", the stations, both AM and FM are known as "ka-gee". I can still remember when KAGE-FM was called "KG-FM" and one thought "what a nice set of calls!", only to hear the top of the hour ID as "KAGE-FM". 93.3 WIZM-FM LaCrosse had a 6 in a row "power play" beginning at :55 past the hour. "The New Z-93" has one real lousy set of jingles! The station used to use the old Pams shotgun gingle til a few years ago. Now the jingles are sung with voices so high and with chorouses that you really can't understand. I have a "radio ear" and I could barely make out the "Z 93". 100.1 WQJY West Salem was BFL. Formerly AdCon, this station is one of the few dumping any format to go beautiful music! 1490 WLXR LaCrosse was "15 Country WLXR" and was

(14) competing against 580-WKTY for the country audience. They sounded good! 1570 WKBH Holmen is NOS/STDS, and calls itself "Stardust 16 WKBH AM". 106.3 WKBH-FM Trempealeau-LaCrosse-Winona(MN) is also country and bills itself as "K-106". The FM country outlet has personality and jingles too. If you are into country and like radio battles, LaCrosse might be a good place to listen! A 5000 watt AM (WKTY), a 1000 watt graveyard (WLXR-AM), and a 3000 watt FM (WKBH-FM) and they all sound good! This is indeed a treat!

1410-WIZM LaCrosse was running ABC Talkradio. I'm sure they are still AcCon in other dayparts, but are running alot of talk.

1230 KWNO Winona MN has one of the worst announcers I have ever heard in my life. It's funny, some people with good voices sit idle and hope to get into radio, and this guy is on the radio and sounds nothing short of horrendous. Want-ads were aired, and I never heard any other programming.

71098 on the odometer at 2pm as I left LaCrosse. 1050 WISM Eau Claire (not Altoona) bills itself as "Magic 105" or "AM 105" and is either a very hard AdCon or a very soft Top40. At 6pm they play jazz, and drop the audience they took all day to build! 630-KDWB St. Paul was oldies channel. Now, I was passing through Mineska MN, population 132. Wow!

*790 WEAQ Eau Claire is STD and soft AdCon. I heard 4 in a row without any talking. A far cry from the Top40 "79Q" that was #1 in the 1970s! 920-KDHL Fairbault MN was country and had the worst audio I've heard on the trip. Everything sounded "in the mud", really terrible. 1130 WDBG Minneapolis is country. The station on several occasions into commercials never said call letters at all! Who programs these stations??? Call letters should be said so you have a CHANCE at ratings! This was a case where major market radio sounded like small market schlock!

1190 KWMB Wabasha MN was "1190 Country KWMB" and this little daytimer sounded good for its market size! The station was sold

recently, and one always thinks automation, satellite, or a call change will occur. Happily, this isn't always the case.

1150 WAYY Chippewa Falls is oldies! They sound quite good with a wide variety, 50s-70s, and a toned down presentation. 1220 WTCN Stillwater seemed to be STD. "WTCN AM 1220". 1250 KCUE Red Wing, MN was country.

At 3pm, I heard "51 degrees at (1270) KWEB Rochester(MN)", I thought, wow I wish I went there.... that is WARM. Remember, this was March 4th! I flipped the radio upward to the next loud AM signal and heard "its 50 degrees at WJJK Eau Claire" going into Mutual news. The news on 1400 WJJK Eau Claire was on a tape delay. It ran at 3:01. Eau Claire was the next city on my journey, and I was now glad I had short sleeves and a light jacket. WJJK is AdCon.

1430 WRON Durand simulcasts FM country. Small town flavor. 105.5 WCFW Chippewa Falls had AdCon, C&W, and songs I've never heard of in my life. CNN features were aired when I tuned in. 100.7 WB1Z Eau Claire is still Top40, though they sounded rather bland. In other words, I have heard them kick asphalt! But, they were not doing it March 4, 1987! 94.1 WIAL Eau Claire is AdCon and still "I-94". I-94 is the interstate highway that runs through Eau Claire. Clever tie-in.

Now I was leaving the London Square Mall, with 71227 on the odometer. 1260 WVIS Black River Falls had local news with ads for Toms ICA store and the Jackson Country Bank. Sounds better than some of the big names you hear over and over, huh? Format appeared to be C&W and AdCon. "AM 1260" slogans abounded. The last station (or as on Carson "the last envelope"-hi), is 100.1 WDDC Portage with automated Top40, a cute jingle set, and ABC news at :30, on a tape delay. This small town station had sounded consistantly good throughout the years!

If you followed the trip with me, I hope you like it. I really enjoyed the trip, as it gives me a chance to get away. Naturally, some stations were not listed because of my being human. I might have actually been close to a town and forgotten about a station or two, and hopefully the diehard radio critic will forgive me-hi. Odometer reading at 9:30pm was 71527. Whew!

+++

Radio host 'Tiny' Markle dead at 60

(15)

Erwin J. "Tiny" Markle, the provocative master of Bridgeport nighttime radio, died this morning at home after a year's fight against cancer. He was 60.

A service is scheduled for Tuesday at 1 p.m. in Yale University's Battell Chapel at the corner of Elm and College Streets.

Markle's nearly 40-year radio career began when he was a college student in West Virginia and ended Dec. 17 with a broadcast over radio station WICC via telephone hook-up from his home in New Haven.

Markle, a local radio personality for 21 years, could be, by turns, cantankerous, cajoling, argumentative or agreeable — or anything in between — to persuade callers to reach their phones.

Usually, though, his prompting wasn't necessary.

His shows, on both the now-defunct WNAB and, most recently, WICC, were pressure outlets for the emotions of the city.

He picked up the nickname "Tiny" as a 300-pound bass player in his days as a big band leader.

In addition to his talk-show career, Markle continued as the color voice for Yale University football.

In fact, Markle broadcast the season-ending Yale-Harvard game last Nov. 21 after a trying, 30-minute climb to the press box atop the Yale Bowl.

While music and sports were among his passions, it was as the talk show host that he left his mark on the Bridgeport area.

He brought to the show not only opinions on any and all topics, but the diverse background of a well-traveled and informed television and radio sports and newscaster, and former big band leader.

A New Haven native, Markle was born Sept. 26, 1927.

He graduated from Milford Academy and Bethany College in West Virginia, where he began his radio career with the college station.

Before coming to Bridgeport in 1966, Markle held radio positions in New Haven and San Diego as a disc jockey.

While with WAVZ in New Haven in the 1950s, Markle became the leader and bass player with a band that toured New England, opening for headliners like Nat King Cole, Stan Kenton, Count Basie and the Dorsey brothers. The band played numerous dates at Bridgeport's Ritz and Pleasure Beach ballrooms.

His Bridgeport and talk show careers began in 1966 with a two-week stint as the fill-in host of a night talk show at WNAB. He ended up with his own show.

On weekends, Markle worked for radio stations WMCA and

WPIX in New York City and also, in the late 1960s and early 1970s, squeezed in work as a news and sportscaster with television Channel 8 in New Haven.

He also announced Bridgeport Jets semi-pro football games from 1968 to 1973.

Markle married in December 1974. In early 1975, afflicted by a case of "burn out," he switched to a day-time show, and a management position, at WNAB.

In 1982, he moved to WICC, and once again stalked the night airwaves, earphones clamped over his thinning hair, his ample shoulders hunched over a microphone in small studio B at the station's State Street location.

Because Markle's shows were such a barometer of the public mood, every Bridgeport mayor from Samuel J. Tedesco to Thomas W. Bucchi closely monitored it. Its influence on City Hall's subsequent decisions and actions was immeasurable, but substantial.

"I feel a strong sense of responsibility about this show," Markle said in an October 1986 interview. "I don't let my anger or dislike for any particular person affect the handling of the show, or let my own feelings be a reason for bringing the program down on someone's head unless it is related to the radio program's responsibilities.

"It amazes me how many people don't believe in the Constitution and liberty; they don't really understand things like freedom of speech, they don't seem to understand just what that means. And one thing you'll never hear me do: you won't hear me attack the little guy."

It wasn't just the politicians or the "little guys" who listened to Markle.

In 1981, Edward Palmer, a man subsequently convicted of the attempted murder of two Bridgeport police officers and the "bumper

rapist" that had terrorized the city, surrendered to Markle.

And it was Markle who called his own show from Yale-New Haven Hospital last year to disclose that he was being treated for cancer.

In recent weeks, Markle had been doing the show from home via telephone hook-up, broadcasting as long as his strength would allow.

Friends and colleagues said Markle was feisty to the end, vowing "to make as much trouble as I can," before he died.

"He was a giant in the city of Bridgeport," said Ron Ropiak, another talk show host at WICC. "...He could cause controversy, could ignite passion, could scare politicians into doing things. Tiny would get on their case."

William Carroll, 1988 Barnum Festival Ringmaster and a local insurance man, was a friend of Markle for 25 years and was the best man at Markle's wedding in 1974.

"Tiny was a showman," Carroll said. "The stuff he said on the air wasn't necessarily his opinion, he'd do it for the show. But he cared about people, poor people, minorities."

Markle experienced hardship at an early age and grew up poor, according to Carroll. Markle's father died just before he was born, and he was raised by his mother, who died a few years ago.

"He was a very talented guy and his general knowledge of any subject makes him the best talk show host in the East," said Morgan Kaolian, director of Sikorsky Memorial Airport and traffic reporter for WICC.

Said Kaolian: "When he lost his voice (because of his illness), it was like a pianist losing his hands."

He is survived by his wife, Celeste, and step-daughter, Jennifer.

(Staff writers Michael Daly, Joyce Leary and Joanne Pelton contributed to this story.)



Radio talk show host Erwin 'Tiny' Markle at a favorite spot — on the air with his listeners.

Bridgeport (CT) Post
1-31
-Tony Fitzhewitt

Radiators, toilets, toasters broadcast news to town

By ARLENE LEVINSON
ASSOCIATED PRESS

HULL, Mass. — Anne Scully picks up her telephone and hears Diana Ross singing "Stop! In the name of love." News and talk shows resound from her bedroom radiator.

All over this seaside town 25 miles south of Boston residents are hearing voices. From the radiators. From the plumbing. From ovens and toasters and aluminum siding.

It's all courtesy of a pair of high-power radio towers that are transmitting towers down the coast.

when she moved into her house four years ago. But a fire at the base of one of the antennas in early November seemed to worsen the problem and spread it over more of the town.

At first complaints went to New England Telephone because interference most commonly comes over the phone.

"In the past month we've gotten hundreds of calls about problems with telephones," said Carolyn Scully, telephone company spokeswoman. "We've found out there they find that the problems are not of other appliances. It's the radio towers."

Hull residents can't turn off WBZ radio

What Anne Scully hears in her Hull, Mass. home is not the radio she turned on. It's the radio she can't turn off. The source of the problem is a pair of high-power radio towers that are transmitting towers down the coast. The towers are located in the town of Hull, Mass., about 25 miles south of Boston. The towers are owned by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and are used for broadcasting radio signals. The towers are located on a hillside in Hull, Mass. The towers are about 100 feet high and are made of aluminum. The towers are used for broadcasting radio signals. The towers are located in the town of Hull, Mass. The towers are about 100 feet high and are made of aluminum. The towers are used for broadcasting radio signals.



Anne Scully of Hull holds her phone that she does not use because it picks up broadcasts from WBZ radio.

Radio shows radiate from odd sources

Hull, Mass. — AP — News and talk shows broadcast from Anne Scully's radiator. She says she can't turn off the radio. The source of the problem is a pair of high-power radio towers that are transmitting towers down the coast. The towers are located in the town of Hull, Mass. The towers are about 100 feet high and are made of aluminum. The towers are used for broadcasting radio signals.

Residents in Hull can't tune out radio station even with radiators

Radio Continued From Page 1
lens with telephones. When repairs get out there they find that the problem is not the radiators, but the telephones. The telephones are picking up the radio signals. The telephones are located in the town of Hull, Mass. The telephones are about 100 feet high and are made of aluminum. The telephones are used for broadcasting radio signals.

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repair the fire damage this weekend, weather permitting. Every blamed the bulk of the telephone problems on the number and quality of "deposable, cheap" radiators in many homes. "At one time you have an electrician come in and tell you to have a radiator replaced," he said. "The fact is, you have a radiator that is picking up the radio signals. The radiator is located in the town of Hull, Mass. The radiator is about 100 feet high and is made of aluminum. The radiator is used for broadcasting radio signals."

Talking Radiators, Toasters, Plague Neighbors of Radio Tower

HULL, Mass. — Anne Scully picks up the telephone Saturday afternoon, but not to make a love call. She hears Diana Ross singing "Stop! In the name of love."

Hull residents attempt to tune out as radio waves invade their homes

By Jim Gomez
Contributing Reporter
HULL — Anne Scully, a 69-year-old resident, complains that her radiator sings, not with the soft whine of emanating steam but with the voices and jingles of WBZ AM radio. Scully, of Kennerly Street, is one of dozens of Hull residents who say that the radio station can be heard coming out of almost every household appliance they own, from telephones to shower heads. "You wake up and you hear one of those programs going on. It's such an invasion of privacy," said Scully to an interview yesterday. She said that although the problem has been intermittent, the signal coming from the WBZ transmitting towers in the Kennerly area of Hull would never appear to be getting weaker. It goes in to the middle of the night when it is as audible as a telephone on the side of

my bed. I'm hearing it from the telephone. The radiator is picking up the radio signals. The radiator is located in the town of Hull, Mass. The radiator is about 100 feet high and is made of aluminum. The radiator is used for broadcasting radio signals. The radiator is located in the town of Hull, Mass. The radiator is about 100 feet high and is made of aluminum. The radiator is used for broadcasting radio signals.

Talking appliances anger town residents

HULL, Mass. (AP) — Anne Scully picks up her telephone and hears Diana Ross singing "Stop! In the name of love." News and talk shows resound from her bedroom radiator. All over this seaside town 25 miles south of Boston residents are hearing voices. From the radiators. From the plumbing. From ovens and toasters and aluminum siding. It's all courtesy of a pair of high-power radio towers that are transmitting towers down the coast. The towers are located in the town of Hull, Mass. The towers are about 100 feet high and are made of aluminum. The towers are used for broadcasting radio signals.

WTKN changing name, format

By Pete Bishop
The Pittsburgh Press



Diane Sutter Dropping talk for oldies

An old friend is returning to Pittsburgh radio — WWSW-AM. And with an appropriate format — oldies.

Diane Sutter, vice president and general manager of the Shamrock Broadcasting Co. here, announced yesterday that effective next month WTKN (970) will re-adopt its original call letters and drop its all-talk format.

Research Shamrock conducted last fall "showed the oldies potential in this market was huge. The oldies hole in Pittsburgh exceeds the oldies holes in Denver and Kansas City (where Shamrock also has stations). There is a very, very large potential."

In the Arbitron ratings for fall 1987, released yesterday, WTKN was the 12th rated station with a 3.1 share of all listeners 12 and older. These figures represent respective decreases from 10th place and a 3.9 share from fall 1986.

The new WWSW, which will be called 3WS for short, will play hits from the '50s and '60s. Its sister station, WWSW-FM (94.5) — which also is called 3WS — will retain both that nickname and its call letters — will play songs from the '60s and '70s. There will be some overlapping, but there will be no songs from the '80s.

With this pairing, "we can program our stations to the largest available target audience and have the synergy of being a superstation," Ms. Sutter said. "It

5:30 a.m. weekdays. It includes music and pre-recorded time checks and promotional spots but no live disc jockey.

All of WTKN's syndicated offerings — including "The Car Show," "The Golden Age of Radio Theatre," Paul Harvey's "The Rest of the Story," Bruce Williams' advice show and all "Talk-radio Weekend" features — will be dropped, as will the station's only locally produced programs: Scott Cassidy from 6 to 10 a.m. weekdays, Bill Few's "Money Talk" from 4 to 7 p.m. Saturdays and "Comedy Showcase" with Dan Blankowski from 9 to 10 a.m. Saturdays.

"Scott (Cassidy) has other choices within the company (Shamrock) and will be making up his mind what he wants to do. He's on vacation this week but knows all about this. He had been included from the beginning," Ms. Sutter said.

Few, a successful investment counselor, did his program as a sideline and "will no longer be on the station," she said. Blankowski "will probably be moving somewhere else within the station."

Shamrock also is considering adding syndicated oldies features on AM. Ms. Sutter said they have "a couple in mind." 3WS-FM currently broadcasts three such programs: Dick Clark's four-hour "Rock, Roll and Remember" at 4 a.m. and midnight Saturday, Dick Bartley's "Solid Gold Scrapbook" from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday and "Solid Gold Saturday Night," a live, all-request show, also hosted by Bartley, from 7 p.m. to midnight Saturday.

Following the "Morning Zoo," 3WS-AM will adopt the "Live-Assist" format its FM sister station now uses from midnight to

Tuesday, January 12, 1988 John R. Malicky Press

TOWER TIP MI-1 MUSKOGON, MI

GETTY ST. *** WSNX-1600 (4 unlighted towers) US-31

I-96 ("SEAWAY DRIVE") SCALE: 1 inch = 1 mile. North is up.

STERNBERG ROAD

*** WKJR-1520 (9 unlighted towers)

* * * WKBZ-850 (4 lighted towers) PONTALUNA ROAD

WHAT TO LOOK FOR: Note that, at night, only the 4 WKBZ towers have lights!

CONTRIBUTED BY: Philip Boersma, Spring Lake, MI

Send information about a.m. broadcast towers in your area to John D. Bowker, 14 Canoe Brook Drive, Princeton Jct., NJ 08550. Include a simple map (Bowker may re-draw it) showing major highways and any other terrain features near the tower(s). Tell how many towers, how they are laid out, and any other features that will help in spotting them.

Paul Swearingen

3132 S. E. Irvingham Street - Topeka, KS 66605-2948

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.

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A nice turnout of broadcasters for this edition of Musings of the Members! Don't forget ... your next deadline, Feb. 6, is for DX favorites ... programming, stations, whatever. And now ... on with it!

**Philip Boersma** - 15570 Cleveland St. - Spring Lake, MI 49456

Since this issue's Musings are for people in broadcasting, I thought I would send one in. I was an NRC member back in the mid- to late-1970's and rejoined in October of 1987. I am 30, single, and work at WQWQ-FM (Easy Listening) and its AM sister, WKJR-1520 (which has a religious format).

My interest in DX'ing was at its peak during my high school days in the mid-'70's, but recently I have done some "dial turning" again. I can remember some of the "old veterans" in 1975 complaining about crowded dial conditions then ... but compared to now, it was a DX'er's paradise, hi! I cannot believe how jammed even the clear channels are getting: many of the I-B's like WLAC-1510, KXEL-1540, even some I-A's like WHO-1040 and WBZ-1030 now are interfered with at night to some degree, whereas 10 years ago they were completely "in the clear". The regional channels sound like the locals did 15 years ago, and the local (graveyard) channels are such a hash since the 1 kW power increase at night that I have yet to hear anything ID'able. Top that off with the preponderance of Larry King and Talknet at night, and BB DX certainly is much more of a challenge (and I think less exciting) than it used to be. I remember the thrill I got from hearing KEX-1190 one MM (with WOWO off) or KNX-1070, or even hearing KFI-640 regularly during certain times of the winter. No more. I have as much chance now of hearing KEX as I do Outer Mongolia. Sigh.

The broadcasting business has changed, too: as evidenced by some complaints I have read recently about getting verifications from stations. 20 years ago, most stations had someone win a First Phone license, and many of these guys were also hams. Thus, they knew what a "verie" or "QSL" was. Such is not the case now. Most smaller stations have NO engineer of any type, except maybe a contract engineer who comes in when something breaks down completely. The other station personnel have no idea what a "reception report" or "verification" is. Most cannot even tell you why the station must power down at night, or what exactly the station's directional antenna does. I mean it. Most station personnel nowadays - in the smaller markets especially, but even in many larger markets and stations - are technically illiterate when it comes to FCC rules and regulations, AM propagation, and other things that the average DX'er is well-versed in. Thus, when they receive a "reception report" asking for a "verification", they probably don't have the foggiest idea of what it is that is actually being requested - especially if it's from outside the station's market area! Sending something like a v/ppc is probably even more confusing for station personnel under these conditions. If you can't get a v/l or v/g from an initial reception report and a follow-up, it's probably best to assume that the station personnel thought your letter was some kind of a crank thing and threw it out. When writing reception reports, oversimplify and please be VERY clear in what you are asking for. Assume that you are writing to a bunch of "babies" as far as DX knowledge goes. Maybe it will help. 73's.

**David F. Gleason** - Calle E, No. F 1-4, Villanova - Río Piedras, PR 00926

Saludos! I noticed that the theme of the February 1 Musings section was to be former and present broadcasting employees, and that was enough to get me to make one of my all-too-infrequent contributions. I've been an off-and-on NRC member since 1959 and have worked in radio almost the same amount of time. Currently, I do consulting work in the areas of programming, sales, and promotion for Spanish-language radio stations. Here in Puerto Rico, I have a rather unusual situation in that I consult three FM stations, all of which serve the San Juan market. I can get away with this as each is very differently programmed, and the owners do not find a conflict of interest. The stations are WDOY-96.5, Y-96, which programs what is now called "crossover" top 40, meaning no heavy metal and a big dose of dance-oriented music (similar to Hot 103 in New York and Hot 106 in LA), with announcing in Spanish and music in English; second is WSRA-106.9, Sonorama 107, which programs light adult contemporary Spanish ballads and pop music, and the third is a mini network of WPRM-98.5 and WIVA-100.3, known as Salsoul 98 with a 100% salsa format. The WPRM combo is #1 in all Puerto Rico with a 12+ share of 10.6% in an island-wide market that has over 120 AM and FM stations. I also do work for about 15 FM's in other Latin American countries on a less intensive basis and write custom computer programs for music programming and sales management in dBASE, C, and Assembly language.

In the past, I have worked with WUNO, WFID, WEMJ, WELC, WJLL, and WZMT in Puerto Rico. On the mainland, I have programmed WEEZ (now WBMW)-Washington, WEZS-Richmond, WERC/WKXX-Birmingham, KENO-Las Vegas, KRWK, Los Angeles, KTKT-Tucson, KRUX-Phoenix, WFTT-Miami, WSUA-Miami, and WCMQ-Miami. Between 1963 and 1971, I owned a group of 7 AM stations and 4 FM's in Ecuador, all of which were lost in a government change.

DX'ing has been limited in the last ten years to occasional band scans and MW and SW listening for pleasure rather than DX. I use an ICOM R17 with most of Don Moran's Shortwave Horizons modifications as well as added filters. Anyone with an R71 should get Don's fine "R71 Performance Manual", available for \$10 from #61-52152 RRD 210 - Sherwood Park, AB,

Canada T8G 1A5. The annual includes procedures for alignment and useful modifications that can be done with limited technical experience. Together with improved filters, the modifications make a very substantial improvement in the rig's performance, particularly on congested bands.

One DX note. In November, KSEL-950 in Lubbock, TX became KXTQ and changed to an all-SS format, 24 hours. I was the consultant on the change and for the first time did all my work by telephone without ever visiting the station. Over a two-week period, I spent about 40 hours on the phone! So, if you hear SS on 950, it may not be one of the Mexicans. Lubbock now has 3 SS stations: 950, 1420, and 1460.

Here in PR, CP's for 1020 and 890 are still not on. Super-Q in Moca on 1040 was given reduced night power, but I do not know how much. WKVM-810, "AM-81", has its 50 kW on as of mid-'87, and they occasionally simulcast on weekends // co-owned WORO-92.5. WRSJ-1560, "Radio San Juan", is no longer REL, having changed to AC/EZL. WMDD-1480 is no longer part of NotiUno net (originated by WUNO-1320). I often see the 630/910/760 (WQBS-WPRP-WORA) stations called "Salsa 63" which is a name they ceased to use entirely over two years ago in favor of "Cadena QBS." Except for a few hours on Sunday mornings, net is 100% simulcast with mostly merengue music from San Juan studios. Finally, WNEI-1430, which is owned by my client WPRM, was granted 5 kW at night ND. Since increasing power from 500 watts, we have received about 50 DX reports from Europe and Scandinavia. These reports are almost without exception very fine: lengthy personal letters that detail reception and the purpose of the hobby, return postage in U. S. stamps or a \$1 bill (no IRC's), pix of the DX'er and his shack, a map showing the DX location, postcards of the town or city, and they usually contain a cassette of the local reception. Guess who gets to answer them all?

**Eric Bueneman** - 836 Lamplight Lane - Hazelwood, MO 63042-3407

In V. 55, #7 of *DX News*, I detailed a plan to alleviate AM band congestion by reallocating the 2 and 3 MHz shortwave bands and 225-240 MHz to broadcasting. In this Muse I will be detailing the different aspects of such a plan.

**Economic Factors** - One company will most likely make money with only two stations on the air, but it will take at least one year for a station to "break even". If one station (the AM) "makes the break", it will be commercially viable, and if one doesn't "make the break", it will suffer the same fate as WREN. Nowadays, many AM stations have FM affiliates in order to compete. The proof in this theory is that many broadcasting outfits do make money with just an AM station and an FM station. The only thing in the way is that the FCC should adopt a Table of Assignments for AM radio. That can wipe out about 2,500 AM (530-1600 kHz) assignments. That's where AM2 (2300-2500 kHz), AM3 (3200-3400 kHz), and FM2 (225-240) MHz come into play, adding about 1,000 AM2 and about 1,200 AM3 assignments while eliminating about 2,500 AM (530-1600 kHz) assignments, and 3,500 FM2 assignments could be added as well, while eliminating about 2,000 FM (88-108 MHz) assignments.

**Public Relations** - The FCC and the National Association of Broadcasters most likely would be involved in a nationwide P. R. effort to educate the listeners and other broadcasters about these new broadcast bands. They (the FCC and the NAB) would spend upwards of \$10,000,000 on radio, TV, and printed (newspaper and magazine) ads concerning this proposed change. If people have been educated about AM (530-1600 kHz) and FM (88-108 Hz), the should be educated about AM2, AM3, and FM2 as well. That's when massive PR is needed. If people are educated about AM2, AM3, and FM2, the more likely these bands will be successful.

**Cost of Receivers** - As with FM receivers, and as is the case now with good AM stereo receivers, AM/AM2/AM3/FM/FM2 receivers that have continuous tuning and can decode stereo broadcasts will be expensive at first, but good quality AM and FM circuitry will likely be less expensive as time goes on. Some boom boxes currently available already have the 120- and 90-meter shortwave bands on them. The boom boxes that would cover only AM/AM2/AM3/FM/FM2 would be less expensive than a stereo console (with turntable and tape player [8-track or cassette]). Auto radios that cover these bands would also be expensive, but as the person becomes more educated about the new broadcast bands, there will be great interest in this reallocation. As with FM receivers, consumer demand will be low at first, but will increase with time.

I think that this has been covered to enough detail. This can be a success if enough NRC'ers write the FCC and send the photocopy of your letter to the FCC and to the ITU. 73.

**John R. Vodenik, WB9ALJ/8** - 6511 Sherman Terrace - Mason, OH 45040

Happy 1988 and good DX. In response to the broadcasters theme, let me introduce myself.

I presently work for the VOA at the Bethany relay station. I spent 3 years in Laredo, TX as CE of Channel 13 TV, and I was on contract to KJAR, KRRG-FM, KFIX-FM. I filled in at KVOZ and KOYE whenever their CE was out of town and finally helped build Channel 27. Before that, I was engineering supervisor at Channel 26, in Chicago, and did 5 months at the WIND transmitter site. This is not to mention the 5 AM/FM stations I took care of in Nuevo Laredo, Mexico.

I haven't been DX'ing since I was in NRC and IRCA way back in 1981-82. I have tried from here, but WLW has a BROAD signal. The band is useless from about 360 to 880. They have the POOREST signal of any major market 50 kW'er I have ever heard! My QTH is only 1 1/2 miles from their tower, but a lot of people here at VOA have problems 25 miles out. I had to go to Indianapolis just to hear WGN on 720.

About the only DX I have heard this season is CJFT on 530. I noticed that KJAR and

KWQZ haven't been reported for quite a few years. If you do catch them, then I think you have real DX. KWQZ uses a tired old Gates transmitter and single tower. They are trying to move to 890 with 5 kw. KJAR uses a newer Continental 1 kW rig and 3-tower array. About 50% of KJAR's ground system is gone, due to the crews pulling it up, and their nearness to the U.S.-Mexican border, and the poor economy in Mexico.

**Jerry Starr** - c/o WHOT Radio - 4040 Simon Rd. - Youngstown, OH 44512-1320

Greetings. Interesting question raised by the final comments in Ernie's Musing in the 1-11-88 DKN concerning the use of "bogus" calls by stations after hearing KWOS ID as "KOST". It appears that this is legal under strict interpretation of FCC law. As long as a station gives its licensed call at the top of each hour as is required, it can use any "call" during programming since it is considered a "slogan". If this call was given at the "legal" ID time WITHOUT the licensed call, then it would be in error. This isn't new. WAKR-1550 for several years has been calling itself "WKRP". A few years back a station in TX with an All-Beatles format called its "KBTL", although this was not its licensed call. Within the last year a small FM station in central PA took to calling itself "WHOT". I even have one of their bumper stickers on the wall over my desk with the calls. It would appear that the use of these "bogus" calls is outside the scope of the FCC's ability to regulate, and any actions to cause a station to cease this practice would be a civil action that might be tested in court. Such action could only be initiated by the legitimate licensee of the call being used and would probably involve the grey area of copyright infringement. As it stands now, station are free to indulge in this practice, no matter how repugnant it may be to us DX'ers. As far as the FCC seems to be concerned, KWOS calling itself "KOST", for example, is no different than WYMF calling itself "Y-103." As a DX'er, I don't like it either, but it appears to be within the letter if not the spirit of the law. 73. (KOST-103.5 is actually KFI's FM sister -pls)

**Paul Swearingen** - Topeka, KS

Now, anyone who has been in radio (except Jerry Starr) can testify personally to many stations' "revolving door" policy ... that you can go out as easily as you can come in ... that's fired ... canned ... terminated ... zapped ... tossed out ... GONE. But no one has, so far. So let me be the first to testify personally, since it's been some time since I've spent any significant time in the electronic media, and I have no axes to grind now.

I've been fired from every station I worked at, except the very first, and a short-term job at an educational station, for many reasons, none of which really had much to do with my on-air abilities, although my bosses could have invoked that reason. My first demise was caused, allegedly, by my not boosting the power on a graveyard at sunrise right on time ... within 15 minutes ... a couple of times. Turns out the real reason had to do with summer cutbacks before the return of the college kids. The second zap came after I refused to go to work early (I had an evening board shift in addition to being the news director) to cover the station manager's wife's dinner-meeting presentation (the station secretary called 15 minutes before the meeting, just as I was hauling out of bed). The third thumbs-down came as the on-air staff was trying to unionize; I was the example. The station never went union; management gave the employees a couple of nickels per hour more salary, and that was that. And the last out-the-door was last January, after a brokered program producer (a chiropractor who exceeded a 15-minute occult program) decided to drop his Sunday-morning program. Guess who was the last one to play it?

I've always found it fascinating that station managers cannot usually find viable reasons to get rid of their people when they find it necessary, for one reason or the other. When I was a personnel manager, I was required to follow a standard procedure and provide a reason in writing when I had to terminate someone. Most radio people probably never get a straight answer from their bosses before they depart ...

To a non-radio topic. Several Muses have asked me what kind of computer equipment I use, hoping to be able to provide electronic Muses. Unfortunately, I do not have an IBM-compatible that many do; I'm still using the same old Commodore-64 (with an MSD SD-2 drive and Juki 6100 printer) and the Mirage Word Processor program. I'd rather have a Macintosh SE, as I've fallen in love with the one our school's journalism department has acquired (today I carried 6 pages of our newspaper out to the printer on one disc, for example). But (sigh) until I find a pot of gold, I'm making do with the C-64, the keyboard of which is about worn out. If anyone out there has a non-working C-64, or just the keyboard assembly, that they'd be willing to part with cheap, let me know. Oh, and if you should send me a Musing on disc, using Mirage, I'll return your disc with radio programs on it; I have enough to fill two discs. 73.

**Greg Hardison** - P. O. Box 5396 - Mission Hills, CA 91345-0396

Just thought I'd sneak a few lines in for the "broadcasters" issue ... yes, some of us do choose to make our livings in this business; which is a lot of fun for those with the passion for it. I've spent the last five years at KABC-790, where the official title is "Program Coordinator" - which puts me in charge of the on-scene producing of the Ira Pistell and Ray Briem shows, heard nationally on ABC Talkradio. I'm sure some of you heard the recent "DX Special" hosted by Ray; I'm also sure some of you are sharpening your tomatoes to throw for not being able to get in chat with us. It's all quite understandable - we never seem to have enough time during these specials. But! - there is a way around this, of course. Ira conducts and "Open forum" talk show five nights per week, 12 m-3 am EDT; Ray usually does the same thing each morning past 5 am EDT - sometimes, the whole show is wide

open, regarding subject matter. So why don't more DX'ers call in to talk about it all?? Obviously, Ray carries an interest in such things - and Ira does as well, having gained his interest in radio from a childhood habit of tuning around in search of distant baseball games while growing up in Chicago. I'd sure love to hear some of y'all call in to plug the ABC, IRCA, WFFDA, etc. - and believe me, the public responds to such things. I get calls and notes year-round from people who hear the January specials on Ray's show - and itch to know more! It may not seem like your call, individually, makes a difference - but it you don't call in to promote DX'ing, who will? And, if out of the potential millions who could hear your call, if 100 got into DX'ing, joined clubs, etc.; we could eventually see some real growth among our ranks. Ira Pistell and Ray Briem are heard on WABC-770 and WSB-750, among others; Ray's also heard nightly on KQA-850, covering areas from the Mississippi River to the Pacific Coast ... and plenty of potential DX'ers! I do want to thank our own pls for checking in during the 1-9 "DX Special", by the way. (My pleasure! -pls) We also heard from Alan Weiner, purveyor of R. New York International - who announced his plans to set sail later this year, once again taking to the airwaves off the Long Island coast. It seems the Justice Dept. didn't take kindly to the FCC's tactics in busting up the operation a few months back - the case was apparently thrown out of court, as a result ... My other duties here at KABC-790 include some work in the news department, along with occasional "stringer" work for ABC Radio Network News - a good bit of varied work, and I can't imagine enjoying one's work more than I do! (Let me tell you about teaching ...! -pls) I've also come up with some time for DX'ing lately - most notably during the weekend just after Xmas, which I spent in the Mojave Desert, about halfway between Barstow and Mojave. A 2100-foot unterminated wire along the ground was apparently pointed at downtown Havana. Excellent copy was noted of the new Moscow relay on 1040 off the wire - but not a sign of it on the Radio West loop, though also the Cuban on 640 was clobbering KFI, on the wire, until 8 am EDT! Not uch in the way of TP's that night - oddly, the only TP's on MW were on 828 kHz and 837 kHz, each with JJ's atop jumbled audio. Nothing else noted on MW of note, just a few Russians on LW (153 // 193 kHz; also 180 was in). The only thing of note during daylight hours was CFFR-660, in u/KINN with ads, ments of Calgary at 5:53 PM EDT - a cool two-plus hours before ISS. New "Locals" have wiped out the days when WBAF-820, KRNV-880, and KQYN-1210 could be heard in the desert all day long - respectively, KEYX-Mexicali, KRMC, and KPRZ/KQTL have seen to that! KREG-1280 and KNWZ-1270 are both running fulltime now, night powers unknown ... the dial ain't what it used to be!! 73's.

#### The Inland Spill or How I Spent My First Week of '88 DX'ing

**John R. Malicky** - 995 Shadycrest Road - Pittsburgh, PA 15216-3023

Hello again. As reported by KDKA and WTAE radio and TV, plus various other services, on Saturday, January 2, the Pittsburgh area suffered the worst inland oil spill in the country's history. Today, Thursday, with all the great volunteer and cooperative effort, things began to return to normal. Though I wasn't in the critical area, my part of the city still fell under the "conserve" group and was told to use less water. On Sunday, the day after, I did check the faucets which still ran and could smell the diesel fumes outside from the river five miles away. Fortunately, much of the city relied on water from our third river, the Allegheny, which was not contaminated. Of course, I listened more to the talk shows which were buzzing of who, when, where, why, and how. An oil company spokesman at first said the tank was new, but later mentioned it was 30-40 years old, moved in from Cleveland in 1986 and just put into service again. A welder told Phil Musik on WTAE radio that this was not a good practice of moving an old tank somewhere else and a couple of other things, which prompted Musik to say, "I've learned more from you than from everyone else in the past three days!" On KDKA's Mike Levine's "Captain Radio" show, he mentioned to conserve by taking a "Navy shower" and using the "brick in a toilet tank" trick. Other than that, things on the radio were pretty boring including the DX that I never did hear - hi!

A side note: I wish to thank Dave Schmidt for veries some months ago of f/ups from WINX-1600 D, WDOV-1410 DE, and WMBT-1530 PA. 73's.

#### Radio Roundup

**Pete Kemp, KZLZ** - P. O. Box 73 - Bethel, CT 06801

Greetings, all ... Del DeMontreau has signed on as the new morning man on WPAT. He had formerly been with WHN, first with MOR and on through its tenure as a c&w station ... "The Comedy Show", with Dick Cavett, has moved from WMCA to WABC in the Big Apple .. Gene Klavan has modified his Saturday morning hours to 6-10 am on WNEW ... The Casper Citron Show, for many years heard on WMAC, has moved to WOR ... KZZI Utah has dropped its Aryan Nations Hour after just a two-week run. The station's program host has received death threats, and the station had begun to lose advertisers ... KMBZ in Kansas City is cutting back again, this time the casualties including longtime newsmen Neil Poindexter and on-air personalities John Dolittle and Larry Ross. It has also picked up the ABC Talkradio from KBEA ... KSNE is now programming with the satellite-fed Progressive Music Network ... With Group W's purchase of WMAQ Chicago, a number of changes are on tap. With the station's change to all-news, they have signed an agreement with NBC Radio for their audio feed. They are also expected not to renew their sports programming contracts ... Dayton's WING gave its listeners a special Christmas Eve treat, having its DJ's play all the parts for Dickens' "A Christmas Carol" ... WWWE has hired on Bruce Drennan to replace Pete Franklin, as the sportstalker ... WRMR is now programming the "Music of Your Life" format ... CKGM's morning

